

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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

Vol. 6, No. 3.

Purdy, Missouri, March, 1934.

50 cents per year.

JUDE 11

By Elder J. B. Rollins

"Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core" (Jude 11).

I am made to say with the prophet, "The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord God hath spoken, who can but prophesy?" (Amos 3:8). Men, very often, disagree, but "God is not the author of confusion, but of peace" (1 Cor. 14:33). Therefore, "Hear ye the word of the Lord."

Upon looking into Jude's letter to the church, we find the central thought is, "Contending for the faith" (verse 3), for Jude also saw the great apostasy (2 Thes. 2:3) of the professing church; "For there are certain men crept in unawares" (verse 4). Jude warns the church of these corrupt men, then he comes (v. 11) with "WOE UNTO THEM!" Woe unto the ungodly, apostate teachers and men who turn "the grace of God into lasciviousness," and "deny . . . the Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 4). "Filthy dreamers who defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities" (v. 8). Woe unto them!

"FOR THEY HAVE GONE IN THE WAY OF CAIN." Cain (Gen. 4:1) is a type of a religious natural man who believes in a God and in religion, but after his own will, and who rejects redemption by blood. Compelled, as teachers of religion, to explain the atonement, these apostate teachers explain it away. But still the Word of God has rung true through the annals of time. "Woe unto them, for they have gone in the way of Cain, AND RAN GREEDILY AFTER THE ERROR OF

BALAAM FOR REWARD." See Num. 22:5—The "error" of Balaam must be distinguished from his "way" (2 Peter 2:15), and his "doctrine" (Rev. 2:14). His "way" was as an hireling prophet anxious only to make a market of his gift (Num. 22:18). His "doctrine" was the teaching of Balaak, king of Moab, to corrupt a people who could not be cursed (Num. 23:8), by tempting them to marry women of Moab, defile their separation, and abandon their pilgrim character (Num. 31:15, 16; 25:1-5). It is this union of the church and the world which is spiritual unchastity (Jas. 4:4). The error of Balaam was, reasoning from natural morality, he supposed a righteous God must curse the Israelites. He was blinded to the Higher Morality of the Cross—the line of Blood; therefore "Woe unto them!" who ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward. "AND PERISHED IN THE GAINSAING OF CORE." The gainsaying of Korah (See Num. 16) was the denying of the authority of Moses as God's chosen spokesman, and an intrusion into the priest-hood, by trying to establish a new priest-hood without divine support. The modern followers of Korah are the Nicolaitanes spoken of in Rev. 2:6 and 15, of which God said, "I hate."

The Nicolaitanes, according to Smith's Bible Dictionary, were a sect of heretics of the apostolic period who believed it lawful to eat meat sacrificed to idols which, of course, was worshipping with the heathens. They intruded, not into the priest-hood, but into the Gospel—into the church, "turning the grace of God into lasciviousness" (Jude 4). They appeared in the first church-age, Ephesus, the one in which Jude warns (66 A.D.). The church hated them, "Thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate"

(Rev. 2:6). Later in the church age of Pergamos the Nicolaitanes made great inroads into the church through Constantine (3rd century, A. D.). The angel said concerning Pergamos, "So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate" (Rev. 2:15). We still have the Nicolaitanes in this last church-age, Laodicean, and will continue to have them until the wheat and the tares are separated at the Great Threshing Floor.

HALLOWEEN celebrations is Nicolaitanism and the seeking of the destruction of Korah—"Woe unto them!" According to history (New International Encyclopaedia, Vol. 10, page 606). Halloween or Hallow-eve—eve of all Hallows' feast was offered to POMONA. Still older are the fires of Halloween survivals of DRUIDICAL ceremonies. POMONA was Italian goddess of fruits and gardens. The early Roman poets presented her in different ways—one called her the wife of that mythical king and prophet who was changed into a woodpecker by another jealous god—another called her the goddess who hated love until the god of transformation changed himself to "a youth full of beauty" and won her "and they lived happily ever after" (New International Encyclopaedia, Vol. 19, page 27). Still older are the fires of Halloween survivals of DRUIDICAL ceremonies. The DRUIDS (Webster's Dictionary) was an order of priests among the ancient barbarian Celts of Gaul (France), Britian and Germany. According to the Encyclopaedia, Vol. 7, page 227, they worshipped the oak, mistletoe, and other trees in the moonlight. This is where we get the heathenistic idea of prowling around on Hallow-eve dressed like ghosts, goblins, and devils. The Nicolaitanes are gainsaying

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MY CHURCH*By Mrs. Lina Claxton*

Dear Editor and Wife and Gem Readers: This being the tenth day of the New Year, 1934, Christmas having passed with all its joys and sorrows.

As I listened to the clock strike twelve, for the last time it would strike for 1933; and as I was meditating so seriously, I thought of Matthew XXV, and of the ten virgins:

"And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. . . . and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage; and the door was shut."

Oh, dear Christian friends, let us strive to live 365 days this year of 1934, all to the glory of God.

"Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh." Again and again the Word of God gives us warning, not to sin. "Shun the very appearance of evil."

I will tell you a little of my experience: Something like 26 years ago, there came to Mt. Olive school house No. 2, a moving picture show. This was where our little church met once a month to worship God. Well, the children wanted to go, and wanted me to go. As it was something new in this part of the country, I said, "If daddy will go, I will go." But he said immediately, "I am not going, I was at one at Lebanon when I was out there, and that will do me as long as I live." My oldest son said, "Mother, I will buy your ticket and you won't have to speak to a living soul;" so I consented to go, and went, but, oh, how queer I did feel. I had been used to seeing dim lights shed by the coal oil lamps, but everything was so different to the worship of God. But I sat and stared with all my might till the third picture came on the screen, and it was so horrible, that I got up out of my seat and stepped backward till I got to the door, then I turned my face homeward and ran most of the way there, and I have never wanted to go to the like any more. You are per-

haps wondering what I saw that seemed so terrible; if I ever see you, and you want me to, I will tell you.

"Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread?" We all know that, in different churches, there are just a few in each church who are willing to bear their part of the expenses of the church. Most of them keep strict account of every penny that goes to the church, but don't say anything about what they spend for luxuries—"Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread?"

If you go to any worldly amusement, as the show, the dance, the card party, and other things too numerous to mention, you spend money; "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread?"

"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger: and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

"If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

My church, before I was born, gave to my parents ideals of life and love which made my home a place of strength and beauty. My church enriched my childhood with romance and religion, and the lessons of life which have been woven into the texture of my soul. Sometimes I seem to have forgotten, and then, when else I might surrender to foolish and futile ideals of life, the truths my church taught me become radiant, insistent and inseparable, in the stress and storm of adolescence, my church heard the surge of my soul and guided my footsteps by lifting my eyes toward the stars. When first my heart knew the strange awakening of love, my church taught me to chasten and spiritualize my affections, sanctified my marriage and blessed my home. When my heart was seamed with sorrow, and I thought the sun could never shine again, my church drew me to the Friend of

all the weary and whispered to me the hope of another morning, eternal and tearless. When my steps have slipped and I have known the bitterness of sin, my church has believed in me and wooingly called me back to live within the heights of myself.

NOW have come the children, dearer to me than life itself, and my church is helping me to train them for all joyous and clean Christly living. My church calls me to her heart, she asks my service and my loyalty, and she has a right to ask it! I will help her to do for others what she has done for me. In this place in which I live, I will help her to keep aflame and aloft the torch of a living faith.

Dear Christian friends, where we made mistakes last year and came short of the glory of God, and as we now have started on another year, let us watch, work and pray, that we may not yield to temptations. As Jesus told Satan to get behind Him; neither should we permit anything to come before us, or in other words, between us and our church; then the angels will come and minister to us as they did to Jesus.

Pray for us.

THE EVER PRESENT CHRIST*By Elder J. E. Phillips*

"Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Mt. 28:20)

I have often thought of the great value of this text and what it assures to the child of God. I count it the last promise of Jesus to those that love Him; and in the promises of Jesus there are no disappointments. How we cherish the last words of loved ones that were spoken just before they passed out into the great beyond; how we respect their last request, and are careful to the last degree, that all is faithfully carried out. Then how much more should we, as children of God, be faithful to the commands of Jesus, not merely a duty alone, but from a heart full of gratitude and love, knowing that he is always present (Acts 17:27). How this should constrain us when the evil influences of the world try to lead us astray.

How we dislike to offend any one or wound their feelings when they are present; then, referring

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Organ of

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Published monthly at Purdy, Missouri.



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

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

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50 cents 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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ABOUT OUR PAPER

By the Editor

I often think of our paper, and of matters or things pertaining to its publication. I often think of our paper's purpose and mission. Perhaps no one will say that it is not doing good, but what can or should be done, that more good might be accomplished? Because we are so deeply concerned for the welfare of our paper and our denomination, and for the cause of Christ, we are, to the limit of our ability, giving all our strength, all our time, and all the money we can get hold of to give you the Gem once a month.

This is issue number three (3) of the sixth (6th) year of our publication. We have given you the paper every month for more than five years, except the month of May, 1930, when we moved from Tecumseh, Okla. to Purdy, Mo. We read quite a number of religious papers, some of them have a large circulation, running as high as 50,000, while others are struggling somewhat like the Gem, trying to to grow big enough to stand alone. We are doing this work willingly and gladly and the Lord is blessing us as we work. We have many things to be thankful for, and not least among them is that we never have to beg for manuscript, some of which is extra good, for which we thank our friends and ask them to continue with us.

It goes without arguing that our purpose and mission are worthy. The Free Will Baptist is a large family, and its members, as in other families, need to have correspondence and fellowship one with another. As this blessed privilege cannot be realized by members who live far apart, the Gem serves to communicate one to another, and those who read the Gem are made to realize their kinship with the multitude of others, and that they are members of this large family. Then the Gem carries messages with spiritual content, which are food to the inner man.

It is gratifying to know that so many appreciate our paper, yet some are indifferent, some complain because the paper is "so small" and some want it to come "every week." It would be nice to have a larger paper and have it issued every week, and nobody desires it more than the editor, but we, wife and I, can't do any more than we are doing, neither can we pay for help to do more; for it takes every cent of our income to keep going as it is now.

No, we don't own nor use an automobile. We must deny ourselves of this, and a multitude of other things that other people have, and think they *must have*. We must meet the expense for the publication of the Gem, but we have kept our publishing plant out of debt.

Now, what can or should be done to relieve matters and make it possible to have a larger, better paper? More subscriptions will help: if you are not a paid up subscriber, why not subscribe and get others to subscribe? If you are a subscriber, why not get others to subscribe? Then some of you have job printing done, why not send your work to the Gem office? We do all the job printing we can get, and need more of it. Several of our friends do send us nice lists of subscriptions, and some send us job printing, which we appreciate very much; we couldn't get along at all without our friends. When this work started and we made our agreement at Mt. Zion church in October, 1929, our goal was 1200 subscribers in twelve months. We didn't reach the 1200 that year, nor have we ever reached it since. If you will help us to get one hundred new subscriptions each month from now till the

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CAMPO, COLORADO, Febr. 6th.

Dear Bro. and Sister Brown and Gem Readers: I have thought for some time that I would write a few lines to my friends through the Gem; so will attempt to do so on this beautiful sunlit morning.

We are now located in Baca County, Colorado. We traded our home in Missouri for land out here. We like it out here very well so far, but sure do miss the good old Spirit-filled sermons I used to hear at Jones Chapel, my home church, they were a feast to my soul.

There are no Free Will Baptist this far west that I know of, my family and I attend regularly a union Sunday school in a rural district, where they have a very active Sunday school, with average attendance of thirty-five during the past three months, but they have a larger attendance through the summer months. There are a number of juniors and beginners but not many young people that attend. Some are away to school.

The second Sunday night after we located here, which was in August, we organized a league, as the people seemed anxious and said they just needed some one to go ahead. So I was chairman, and organized with 33 Senior and 20 Junior members. I was put in as president. It was organized on the same plan we used at Jones Chapel and used Free Will Baptist literature from old quarterlies I brought from Missouri until we could order Union literature. The league went on fine with much interest for a while till the new wore off and cold weather came. It lasted five months and finally died as they wouldn't come to help—only about five faithful adults were there the last night. It almost broke my heart to give it up, as I see the need so plainly for training young people "for tomorrow." But a revival is needed very badly in this community to awaken people to see the need of these good things.

People of five different beliefs attend this Sunday school, but you couldn't tell that they were not all of one belief, there seems to be such perfect harmony. "Behold, how good, and how pleasant for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1).

We have no regular preaching at this place, they let any one preach that wants to.

In electing new officers for the Sunday school first of the year, they put me in for superintendent. I feel my inability to do so, but will do my best to lead it on pleasing to the Lord.

In Campo, a small town ten miles away, they have good preaching and young people's meeting. It has two churches, the Missionary Baptist and Pilgrim holiness. Our Sunday school belongs to a convention, so last Sunday, Febr. 4th, we had the privilege of attending the convention, which was to be at the Pilgrim Holiness church. We had Sunday school, then drove into Campo, and got there in time to hear part of the 11 o'clock sermon. Then lunch was served, which consisted of sandwiches, pie and coffee. As the church was small, they decided it wouldn't seat the people, so we all assembled at the Baptist church, at 1:00 p. m. It is a large building, where we enjoyed the afternoon listening to beautiful singing by a choir made up of the young people from the different Sunday schools, also had an orchestra. Many good talks were made and many good thoughts brought out on the Sunday school work. It being the duty of the superintendents to give talks, I was assigned a subject, "What Are Two Essentials for a Successful Sunday School?" I felt like a stranger in a strange land, up before that large audience, it being my first time to attend services at either of these churches. But I took God at His promises, when He said, "As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee. I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee" (Josh. 1:5). While this subject covers much territory, the two essentials I brought out were, "Regular attendance on time," and "Co-operation." I also tried to impress it upon the parents of their responsibility of going with their children to Sunday school.

I got acquainted with several people of the churches there and feel that I have many warm friends here in Colorado, as I left many in Missouri.

I read in the Gem of the sorrow and deaths in some homes, they all have my sympathy. There is sadness out here too. On Jan. 3rd

of this year, the Campo community was saddened by the death of a young lady only 18 years old. She was a good Christian girl, and was secretary for the Sunday school and B. Y. P. U. as she had been for the past two years at the Baptist church in Campo. Her illness was only a few days of ruptured appendix. It pays to be ready, when Jesus says, "Well done."

I wish some of you good Free Will Baptist preachers would come this way and give these Westerners some real old time religious sermons.

All of you pray for me, that I may be faithful.

—Mildred Ferbrache.

HANNON, MO., Febr. 15, 1934...**To All Sunday School Workers:**

Many times as I read the Gem, and read the good sermons which I enjoy the most of all, as I am personally acquainted with many of the writers, and reports from every department of the church except the Sunday school; I am made to wonder why there are no reports from the Sunday schools. I often wonder if this part of the church work is being neglected in our denomination. I pray that this is not the case.

We, in this community, love the prayer meeting and have glorious times together and believe it is the power house of the church, but not such a large percent of the church attends prayer services.

We look forward eagerly to our regular preaching services when our pastor, Bro. Winford Davis, will come and break the Bread of Life to us so ably. How we enjoy his singing, and are built up spiritually, but unfortunately we only have one appointment each month.

There is a big work left for the Sunday school, which we all love, as it is there that we meet and sing, pray and study God's Word together, and teach the younger folks. Our young people are trained for real service in the Sunday school and all respond nobly. I realize that I am late, but will send a report for January. We held our annual election of officers the fourth Sunday in December, as is our custom, and elected the following officers and teachers: G. C. Lewis,Superintendent
Boyd Thornton,Ass't Supt.
Erma Thornton,Secretary
Mrs. Ina Bicknell, Cor. Sec-Treas.

Alta Deane Wade,Pianist
 Allene Wade,Chorister
 Boyd Thornton, Librarian
 Mrs. Bessie Bunton, Cradle Roll
 Superintendent.

Teachers—

Mrs. Mary Wade, Ladies' Bible Cl.
 L. C. Wade, Men's Bible Class
 Arlie Hoover, Young Married
 People's Class

Chas Trotter, Int. Mixed Class
 Mrs. Frankie Wade, Junior Class
 Sarah Marie Talbott, Primary Cl.
 Erma Mae Smith, Beginner's Cl.

Our attendance is usually good. We were almost stormed out the first Sunday in January, but 39 braved the storm and mud. 113 were present the second Sunday, 106 the third Sunday, 138 the fourth Sunday.

We are having an epidemic of scarlet fever in our community now, which will affect our attendance for a while, but we feel that we are going to continue to have a good Sunday school and know the Lord expects great things of us, as we have so many able and willing workers, both with the old and the young.

I feel sure that many of our dear friends that have worshipped with us will enjoy hearing from the Sunday school "back home" and to those who are strangers we only hope that all Sunday schools will unite their forces a little stronger and be more interested in training the youth of our churches as the work falls only too soon on the young people.

We thank God tonight for the old soldiers that have kept the banners unfurled and for the dear young people who so willingly follow in the work they have laid out.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Frankie D. Wade, Reporter.

CASSVILLE, MO., FEB. 13, 1934.

Dear Gem Readers:

I will give you a report of the meeting at our home church, Macedonia. We started Christmas night and ran five weeks. We certainly had a glorious meeting, in which 26 were converted and reclaimed, besides the church was greatly strengthened. I feel sure that, from all appearance, it was the best revival I have ever held there.

We had two baptizings, one was on Monday afternoon while the

snow was falling, but it was a glorious time. The Spirit surely was manifested there in the water and on the bank.

We had some of the most wonderful day prayer meetings in the homes I think I have ever attended. We are certainly thankful at old Macedonia. Bro. Kenneth Turner helped me on the fore part of the meeting, then he had to go away to a Bible school, which he had previously planned to attend.

I am now in a meeting with our Merl's Chapel church, near Cassville, Mo. We have just been going one week and seven have been saved and reclaimed. Prospects are fine for a great meeting.

Bro. and Sister McAdams and Sister Melba White are holding a meeting at the Blue Eye church where I have charge. I am thankful they could be there for me, as I couldn't get time to go there this winter.

I filled my appointment at Hanon last Sunday. Things are moving splendidly there. They have a wonderful Sunday school, also a good prayer meeting. We are receiving wonderful co-operation from the folks of that church and community this year, for which I am praising the Lord.

May the Lord bless you all.

Pray for me.—Winford Davis.

NOTICE

To the churches that have agreed to help pay the expenses of the delegates to Jakin, Georgia:

Please send it in at once to Bro. Bert. F. Rogers, 401 Munson St., Denison, Texas.

This sure ought to be done, and it's up to you that read this to see that it is done.

Eld. E.E. Morris, St. Mod. of Okla.

QUEEN CITY, MO., Feb. 21st.

Dear Editor:

Attended our regular services at Green Grove the third Sunday in February. Fine service Saturday night, with one conversion.

Adjourned the Sunday morning and evening services to join Elder C. A. Phillips, pastor of Bethel church, and Eld. W. R. Rush in a union service at Bethel where they are holding a revival, with souls being saved. Baptismal service Sunday. Two conversions Sunday night. One addition to Green

Grove and two to Bethel Sunday night.

Bro. Phillips will possibly give a complete report of the meeting.

The Lord is leading in the work.

Yours for the Master's work,

C. E. Mann.

MISSION REPORTS

DRUMRIGHT, OKLAHOMA

To All the Good Readers of the Gem: We now come with another report from Mission Circle No. 1. We had a wonderful meeting when we met at Vance Chapel Feb. 2nd. We had one of the largest crowds we have ever had, and all six churches were represented, and a great number from each church. Four pastors of these churches were present and quite a number of men. We are so glad our pastors and good men are boosting the great mission work in our churches. We also had the pleasure of having Bro. and Sister Bean from Earlsboro church with us that day. Bro. Bean brought us a message that morning on Mission work, and Bro. Hillard also gave us a fine talk. Sister Bean read our Scripture lesson. Had a lot of good prayers and lots of singing, then Sister Epperson sang a special she composed herself, "Tell Me, Jesus, Is Mother There?" Bro. Fisher from Cushing sang, "If It Had Not Been for Jesus I Wouldn't Be Here Today."

Vera Randon and Cora Yoakam sang a special, they are Juniors from Blue Bell church. Both Blue Bell and Jennings gave in fine reports this month, may the Lord bless our Juniors in this work.

Jennings reports that they meet in their work every Thursday, have made 55 sick calls since our last monthly meetin, they have quite a lot of work on hands, have more mission work to do than they can get around to.

Drumright reports that they have visited the Poor Farm at Bristow, Okla. and found some there that didn't know God; and they felt that their visit was worth while in telling them about our loving Savior. They have also been visiting some of their church members who have been failing to come to church. They have given one grocery shower.

Blue Bell reports they have made a number of sick calls, helped one family who got their home

burned up, gave quilts, pillows, clothing and furniture, also \$3.00 in cash. They also have given four stork showers, they cleared \$10.78 at a sale they had and have placed it in their saving funds for a new church building, they are busy, too, on some quilts the Blue Bell Juniors gave Bro. Boyd Williams, a quilt for Christmas.

The Arbordale church reports they have one quilt almost done. They have been meeting, not only to work on the church, but they have moved into their new building and have started a revival and six souls have already been saved.

Vance Chapel church reports they meet every Wednesday with good attendance, have made one quilt, another almost done, made a number of sick calls, one cottage prayer meeting, one grocery shower, and bought three sprays of flowers for some loved ones who have gone home to glory.

Cushing reports they have quilted two quilts, made two comforts and pieced seven tops, gave something like \$15.00 worth of stuff to folks that had a burn out. We have only six churches in our circle, and we think they are doing a great work, but we ask the prayers of all you good readers; that we might yet do a greater work, for there is so much to do, the harvest is white and laborers are few.

Sister Fincher brought us a wonderful message, text, "Even Christ Pleased Not Himself." We had a wonderful dinner and every one went away feeling that God had wonderfully blessed us all.

Rev. Hattie Newman, Reporter.

MONETT, MISSOURI

Dear Mission Workers:

I feel impressed to write you a few lines this morning, as I have said but little to the mission folks since you elected me president of Indian Creek Mission work last fall. I am talking principally to the mission circles of Indian Creek Association just now, but the rest of you may listen in if you like, we sure have no objection.

I wish I could visit each of your circles some time, there are lots of things I would like to say that I haven't time to write on paper. I hope you are all still moving and having your regular meetings, etc. I wish you would encourage every one possible to get their uniforms

and badges. I have the badges on hand, they are just 5c each; I will mail them to you any time you order them.

When I was at the State meeting last fall I pledged \$5.00 for the mission workers of Indian Creek Association on the linotype when we were making up money to wipe out the debt. The Macedonia circle and the Blue Eye circle have paid in \$1.00 each on this, the rest is yet to be paid. I would be glad if your circle would send in something on it, and let's get it paid. Everything you send will go exclusively for that purpose.

Let us all be up and about our Father's business during the coming spring and summer months, swell our ranks as much as possible, and be ready for our Ass'n at Monett in September, also the State Association at Jones Chapel in October. I am looking forward to wonderful things the next time our Associations meet.

Let me hear from you any time; I will be glad to help you in any way, if I can.—Winford Davis.

BOWDEN, OKLAHOMA

Report of Eastside Mission Circle

Dear Mission Workers:

I am glad to say that the Eastside Mission circle is still working hard for the Master. Several revivals are going on and many souls are being saved; may God bless the mission workers everywhere, for our first mission is to get souls saved.

Our last circle was held at the Tulsa church. We surely had a wonderful time, the Spirit of God prevailed throughout the meeting. We sure missed some of the churches, which were unable to be present. There was a nice crowd in attendance. Sure did have some good mission talks. Had one more mission added to our side. Tulsa mission gave in a good report, lots of sick calls being made, a number of cottage prayer meetings.

Lawnwood mission has made a lot of sick calls, helping needy families.

Allen mission is getting along fine with their new pastor, have made a start toward their new church house.

New Home mission gave a verbal report. They are still working hard for the Lord.

Mt. Zion gave a good verbal report.

Had a good devotional service in the afternoon. Bro. Othal Staires brought the afternoon message, using as a text, "What manner of persons ought we to be in all holy conversation and godliness?" It surely was a wonderful message, I believe it did us all good.

I just want to say that I really enjoyed reading "The Parable of the Leaven" in the last issue of the Gem.

Pray for us as we go from place to place doing God's work, that we may always put the Master first.

Your sister in Christ,
Mrs. J. L. Smith.

BLUE EYE, MISSOURI, Feb. 21

Dear Gem Family:

You are on our hearts this morning and we want to give a brief report of our work for the last two months. We missed getting our report in one copy of the Gem, so that gives us a larger report for this time.

We visited two churches in Mo. where they have no pastors or organizations, but we had two good meetings with these dear people. The first place was with the old New Hope church, near Santa Rosa. We made our home with Bro. and Sister Tom Jones, two real servants of God. It was real inspiration to hear Bro. Jones teach the Bible, and we praise God for these two dear lives. It rained and snowed, so we couldn't do much, only had seven saved and a number revived up. We believe a real work can be established there. We then went to Fairview church. We never met with a dearer people to work with, we had eight saved the second night, ten in all. We were there a little over a week, and the power of God was in every service. We stayed in everybody's home and visited day and night. We stayed more with Bro. and Sister Kaufman's than anywhere else, and the last night we spent at Bro. and Sister Ray Searcy's, they were members of Center Point church. These two families were sure fine people, and others too, were just as good, but we don't have the space to mention them. Help us pray that a work can be established there, for the people are fine,

and so sweet spirited. About the time we were ready to start to Texas, we received a letter from Bro. Davis, wanting a meeting at Blue Eye, Mo. and, as we were so far behind with our work, we only promised a short meeting. We came by Bro. Matt White's and Sister Melba came on with us as far as Blue Eye. She is one of our promising preachers, and will take charge of our mission work while we are in Texas. We ask all of our pastors to co-operate with Sister White in the mission and league work and help her in every way they can. Our young ministers need help when they first start out. Sister White preached at Mt. Zion, her home church, the night before we started and the Spirit of the Lord was felt in every part of the service.

We then visited our Third Fork church for one night, had a splendid service, and had our farewell visit with Bro. House and Bro. and Sister Walter Kerns. The time in this home was happily spent, and after service Bro. House accompanied us back to Bro. and Sister White's where we found a nice supper prepared for us, before we started on our long journey. By 11 o'clock we were all ready, had a parting prayer, and Sister Melba left the old home to preach the gospel to a lost world.

We reached Desloge the next afternoon and found Sisters Red and Franklin waiting to receive us, had a nice supper, then on to the church where we met a happy band of dear people of God, and a wonderful service was enjoyed.

Then Thursday morning we were off to the St. Francois Quarterly meeting, and it was a wonderful day in the Lord. The meeting was with B.O. Miller and his church at Flat River. We can't mention all, but will say Bro. and Sister Miller are doing a real work in the Lead Belt, along with others. We also found Bro. Charles Miller in a real revival. We saw three souls saved, and they had already had 58 saved up to then. The mission and league work is moving out in that part of the state.

We were off early Friday morning to Purdy, Mo., and spent the night with our Editor and wife, and a number gathered in and we had a precious service at their home.

Then Saturday we were off to Blue Eye where we found one of the most precious people waiting for a revival. We had victory from the first. One dear old man 72 years of age, a brother to Bro. John Scott, was saved. He had never made a profession before. We visited everywhere, both in Mo. and Ark. We made our home with Bro. and Sister John Scott, two real saints of God, we will never forget them. There are many we would like to mention, but don't have the space. We met the mission women and gave them a real Mission lecture, and instead of leaving one circle, we left three. The young ladies are so glad to get started in the work. They have a good league and are doing a splendid work.

Sunday morning the power fell and

old time shouts went up to heaven in the old time way; and we are sure that hearts were made to rejoice that had long been sad. Sunday afternoon we baptized six and eight joined the church. In all eighteen were converted and reclaimed. We thank God for such a victory in so short a time. We regret very much that Bro. Davis could not be with us.

We will be in Texas for two meetings, and maybe longer, on account of Mr. McAdams' health. Still pray for him; he is better, but not yet able to be in the work in full force.

Midway, Texas is our address.

God bless all the dear workers.

Yours for Jesus,
H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

FLAT RIVER, MO., Feb. 12, 1934

Flat River Church Notes for January

We have just closed a thirty day revival meeting, which was a wonderful success, with eighty-two souls saved, twenty-seven have been baptized, and others yet to be baptized.

The evangelist was Bro. Charles Miller of St. Louis, who was with us the last three weeks of the meeting. He preached some wonderful sermons, and souls were made to rejoice, some shouted and praised God, and homes were made happy because of the presence of the Lord.

Our pastor, Bro. Jas. F. Miller, brought a wonderful message last Thursday evening on "The Unpardonable Sin." The services were well attended all the time.

We have a Junior choir of fifty-six, which rendered a great part in the meeting, also the Juniors had their prayer meetings, which were good and well attended, some testified of the love of God in their little hearts, some prayed, and sang spiritual songs.

We had a ten o'clock prayer meeting of the Seniors also, each morning for three weeks, which we believe was a great strength to the revival, some shouting the victory of God, the Spirit working wonderfully.

We are glad to report that Bro. and Sister McAdams were with us during our quarterly meeting, which convened with our church, February 1, 1934. All seven churches of the Q. M. were well represented. Sister McAdams brought the message that evening, it being well attended.

Pray for us, that we may do a greater work, as we have better prospect now than we have had for some time.

Raymond La Brot, Reporter.

TREECE, KANSAS

A REPORT

February 19, 1934—We have just closed a 22 day revival at Blue Front church. Elder Paul Pursell assisted me in the meeting, also Bro. Lester Judd, one of our members who started preaching a short time ago. Art Kirk is another of our members who started preaching a short time ago, but Bro. Art did not preach any during the revival. We had a good meeting, with eight souls saved and reclaimed, and

I feel that the church has been built up considerably.

On the first prayer meeting night after the meeting closed, two backsliders were reclaimed and one sinner saved, which goes to show that the revival is not closed in our hearts praise the Lord!

Elders Paul Pursell and Lester Judd are in a meeting at South Picher now. On Saturday night, Feb. 17th, the Blue Front people went to South Picher. That night Bro. Judd brought a wonderful message and three souls were saved; there was shouting in the camp.

We enjoyed God's blessings in our services Sunday and Sunday night. We are looking forward to the fifth Sunday League rally to be held here with our church.

Elder J. B. Rollins, Pastor.

CARTERVILLE, MO., Feb 16th.

Dear Bro. and Sister Brown and Gem Readers: As there has been nothing written from Carterville for some time, I am writing, that you may know the Carterville church is still in the fight for God and His Kingdom. Certainly glad to report that we are gaining victory over sin all along this highway of holiness that leads from earth to heaven. Through the influence of our pastor, Bro. Cecil Campbell, our church is making great progress and a wonderful Christian fellowship in the church.

Our Sunday school has also improved both in attendance and interest with the help of our faithful superintendent, Bro. Elmer Johnson.

We have a wonderful league, and we have such inspiring lessons. Every leaguer tries to make their topic as interesting as possible. We can always depend on one of our leaguers, Sister Templeton, to give us a talk on the lesson. Her talks always do us so much good, for she has been a good Christian for so many years, and is always praising our Lord for His wonderful blessings. Our older league members are always at league and we younger ones know we have help through them to carry on God's work. We have a group of leaguers that come from Carthage, among them is our vice president, who is always at his post of duty and ready to do anything the Lord calls him to do. Our vice president is Bro. Marion Johnson. We certainly appreciate him and his faithful wife, and their help in our league work. Our Junior sponsor, Sister Helen Strech, is so faithful with our little juniors; we are so thankful that the Lord has given us such a good Christian girl to sponsor the young minds of our little boys and girls.

We have now organized a Mission circle. Our president is Sister Lena Johnson; secretary, Sister Bell Hawkins. We have a president that keeps the mission circle working all the time. We have an enrollment of thirty members, and hope to see the Mission work grow.

Some may wonder why we have so
Continued on page ten

F. W. B. LEAGUE REPORTS

By Elder O. T. Allred, State Sec'y

We are glad of the reports this month, and it is of special interest to note the new leagues that are being organized. The League work is a wonderful place for developing talent as well as being an opportunity to learn more of God's Word, and many interesting facts about our denomination, and noted characters who have been useful in the Master's work.

To get the most from the lesson, each leaguer should read every Bible reading and each topic, then give their topic in their own words. If you haven't been doing this, give it a 30 day trial and see if you do not get much more out of the League.

We want to get in touch with each associational secretary, or president in the near future and get the number of leagues in your Association. We want to be able to report soon the number of Free Will Baptist League in the State.

Yours for the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ,

STATE LEAGUE OFFICERS

President,Eld. Winford Davis,
Monett, Mo.
Vice President,Eld. Wm. Reeves,
Flat River, Mo.
Sec'y-Treasurer,Eld. O. T. Allred,
Monett, Mo.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. Lizzie McAdams, Desloge, Mo.
Term expires 1934
Eld. Noel Turner, Aurora, Mo.
Term expires 1935
Miss Ethel Newcomer, Greentop, Mo.
Term expires 1936

FIELD WORKERS

For Cave Springs Association
Eld. Harry Beatty, R3, Thayer, Mo.

For Niangua Association
Eld. Arthur Bailey,Plad, Mo.

For Union Association
Eld. George Scott, Sr., Mt'n Grove, Mo.

For S. E. Missouri Yearly Meeting
Eld. Wm. Reeves,Flat River, Mo.

For N. E. Missouri Association
Miss Esther Peterson, Greentop, Mo.

For N. W. Missouri Association
Eld. Melba White, Plattsburg, Mo., R1.

Field Worker at Large
Eld. Lizzie McAdams, ...Desloge, Mo.

N. W. PICHER LEAGUE REPORT

Helen Beam, Reporter

Our league is still growing—we have from two to four new members every Sunday, with an average attendance of fifty to sixty. Since the revival has been going on there are more Christians; therefore more new members.

If we keep doing our small duties to God, and keep praying, we will have a one-hundred percent Christian league yet. Every one seems to do their own part and we just get along fine, for which we thank God.

WOLF CREEK LEAGUE REPORT

Eunice Matlock, Secretary

The Free Will Baptist and people of the surrounding community of Wolf Creek met Sunday night, January 21st, and organized a Free Will Baptist league with thirty-one charter members. Three more joined last night, Febr. 4th, making a total of thirty-four members. The work is growing to be very interesting.

Our officers are as follows:
Pres., Eld. Zelda Young, Mansfield, Mo.
V. Pres., Geneva Latimer, Mansfield,
Sec.-Treas., Eunice Matlock, Mansfield.
Pray for us, as the work is new to all of us, that we may prosper and do a great work for God.

MONETT LEAGUE REPORT

Mae Phillips, Reporter

At the beginning of the New Year our league elected officers as follows:
President, Sister Bertha Hunt,
Vice President, Sister Elsie Keaton,
Sec'y-Treasurer, Sister Nellie Galyen,
Group Captains, ..Bro. Weston and
Sister Ricketts.

Our league is improving. Each member seems to have a greater interest in his or her part.

We had a social at the home of Dave Phillips on February 6th. The social began with a song and prayer, after which a very pleasant evening was spent in playing games, readings and songs by Bro. Alvea, and readings by several members of the league.

We desire an interest in your prayers, that our league may grow and glow for God. God bless one and all, is our prayer.

UNION ASS'N LEAGUE REPORT

Lola Mae Burney, Secretary

Our last fifth Sunday meeting met with Pleasant Hill church. After the quarterly meeting was closed at eleven o'clock Sunday, the league took charge.

There were five leagues present: Mt. Pisgah, Mt'n Grove, Brushy Knob, Hartville and Pleasant Hill. Each league gave an oral report of the condition of their league. After the business part was over, a program was rendered by the different leagues, which was very much enjoyed by every one.

We only hope that when we meet with the Wolf Creek church in April, that some of the other leagues will be ready to join the associational league.

We are proud of the interest our field worker, Bro. Scott, Sr., is taking in the work, he sure has the work at heart.

May the league work grow and prosper, and be the cause of helping many of the young people in the Lord's work, is my prayer.

S. E. MO. LEAGUE CONVENTION

Raymond La Brot, Secretary

Am sending a report of our last League Convention, which was held with the church at Leadington, Mo., Jan. 30, 1934, at 7:30 p. m.

Called to order by the president, Chas. Lund, with five of our leagues, out of seven represented, of S. E. Mo. The program was well rendered with songs and topics from each league, there being a number of songs, and several able speakers, on each topic. Business was transacted and some suggestions were offered that we expect to try out, which we expect to be a help to our leagues.

We have a contest in our leagues, which has been a great help to create interest, that is each league having a 100 % league, according to regulations receives a blue ribbon for same.

If this has not been adopted in other leagues, I believe it worth while to try it out.

We would be at a loss to know what to do on each Sunday evening if it were not for league work, which meets just one hour before preaching time.

Flat River has a membership of 98 leaguers at present; Mine La Motte has 74; Desloge 66; Leadington 56; Wortham 32; St. Louis, 1405 S. 7th St. church has 33; Fredericktown needs some encouragement. Our leagues have made 1441 sick calls visiting the sick this last quarter, read 16,855 chapters of the Bible.

The Flat River F. W. B. church is having a revival meeting at this writing, with 47 conversions at present, and many rejoicing in the Lord.

Pray for our leagues, that we may be able to do a greater work in 1934 than we have ever done before.

S. W. PICHER LEAGUE REPORT

Bernice Breeden, Secretary

I wish to tell subscribers of the Gem that the South Picher Free Will Baptist church has reorganized their league. It was reorganized Dec. 5, 1933, and officers elected as follows:
President,Nadine Breeden,
Vice President, ...Charlie Landreth,
Sec'y-Treas., Bernice Breeden,
Group Captain,Pearl Williams,
Quiz Leader, Bill Penny.

We began with six charter members and have increased to 26 members.

Our league was reorganized by Bro. Paul Pursell.

STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Elder Winford Davis, State President

Dear Leaguers: While sitting here in Joplin in my car this morning, waiting for my car to be worked on a little, I am thinking of you, and desiring to talk to you a little through the next Gem. I wonder how you are getting along with your league work, did you have a good league last Sunday evening? and are you determined to have a still better one next Sunday evening? I feel that you are. I would love to attend your league some time,

but don't know if I ever will get to or not, but I will live in hopes of it.

I was just sitting here reading a piece in the "War-Cry," (you know that is the Salvation Army official publication) entitled "Anchors Aweigh." One statement I want to quote to you, "There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." My mind ran at once to our dear young people of the Free Will Baptist ranks of the dear old Missouri State Association. I am concerned about your welfare, spiritually and morally. I believe we are experiencing the coming in of the tide relative to our league work, don't you? You know everything is afloat when the tide is high. You remember we had a season of high tide at our State meeting last fall, wasn't that wonderful? Now is a great time of opportunity; while the tide is high, let's float out to sea, begin sailing, and carrying freight and passengers for God. Jesus said one time, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a draft;" and when they did so they enclosed a great draft of fishes. Let's not be contented to stay close to the shore; but let's lift the anchors, become adventurers, and sail away out to new waters, new lands, new peoples, and great will be the experiences and thrills we will have as our ship moves on.

When some of us were at the coast two years ago there sat a large battle ship, and on the side in large letters it said, "U. S. S. Wyoming." Well, you know when we all get our big ship sailing for God, figuratively speaking, we will have on the side, "F. W. B. Leaguers," won't we? And a way up on the barrel of one of our big gospel guns, we will print our League Motto, "The Kingdom of God First." Praise the Lord for ever! You know this ship will have to be a real battle ship, because it is a warfare to move God's cause. You see when we get away out on some strange sea, a foreign foe is sure to attack us, so we must have on the whole armour of God, and above all we must have Jesus as our captain and pilot. Even though you saw fit to choose me as your leader, I certainly could not pilot the old ship. Bro. Allred is a fine secretary and reporter, but he couldn't pilot it. Our field workers are fine, but they couldn't pilot it. You know to make the voyage safe in every way, we must have Jesus at the helm. I am willing for Him to guide it, aren't you?

Then you know when we get away out thousands of miles upon the high seas of God, of course there will be mighty storms to encounter, but in spite of the storms we will feel so confident in our Captain, and we will see so many wonderful things, new scenery, etc., till we won't want to ever come back, we will just want to go on to the other shore.

A little girl said one time that Enoch walked with God, and when they got away down the road, the Lord said, "Well, we are so much nearer my home than we are yours, I will just take you on home with me." You

know the Bible says, "Enoch was not, for God took him."

Let's think a little farther; wouldn't it be grand if we could get all the leaguers together and charter us a large vessel and all take a voyage? These cold March days we could start out down south among the tropics, out through the Caribbean waters, on down through the West Indies, see the beautiful Island of Puerto Rico, etc. Then maybe across to the mouth of the old Mediterranean Sea, sail along and study the lands of Paul's travels, on over to the beautiful harbor at Haifa, that the Jews are building now, there anchor our ship and take a trip over the Holy Land. We think that would be great, don't we? and it would be, but listen, we can have greater experiences than that right here in our own land, moving the cause of our Savior, and I really believe the opportunity is here; while the tide is high, let's take advantage of it and float out.

Well, I must draw to a close or this will be too long for our league page.

Sister White has turned the league manuals over to Bro. Allred, now you can order them from him, at 10c each.

You remember some time ago our secretary left some matters for me to answer, pertaining to finance and the government of local leagues. I want to say that is largely left up to the local league itself; but you should search the manual for information along those lines; and remember that I, or any of the officers will be glad to help you any time, if we can. Keep in touch with your field worker, because they can help you out.

May the Lord bless you and help you to be loyal to the work in every way. Remember and don't neglect the Gem.

I want you to pray for me.

Your brother in the Lord,
Winford Davis.

REPORT OF MACEDONIA LEAGUE By Oleta Davis, President

We will attempt to report the activities of our league work. A few Sundays ago we divided our Seniors into two groups.

Mrs. Mary Henderson is captain of group No. 1, and Miss Ruth Davis is captain of No. 2.

Since forming the two groups, we are having more interest in our work than at any time during the life of our league, even some who have not thought much of the league work before this are beginning to see its worth.

Pray for us, that we may really do service for God.

AURORA LEAGUE REPORT By Albertus Riddle, Secretary

We are glad to report continuing interest in both Junior and Senior leagues. Everyone seems to realize that he or she has a duty to perform in each and every service.

We have a mighty fine class of

Juniors who are taking so much interest in their league. Each little junior does his part excellently every Sunday night. Every junior realizes that he must perform his duty, so that his league may grow and glow as others do.

We now have a membership of forty Juniors and Seniors in our league who are taking a great interest in the building of our league. We hope that we may say or do something in our league services that will encourage Christians and win sinners to Christ, so we sincerely ask the prayers of each and every reader.

OBITUARY

Peterson—Bro. A. V. Peterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Peterson, was born January 21, 1909, and passed away at his home in Kirksville, Mo., Jan. 16, 1934.

Four or five years ago Mr. Peterson had the misfortune of hurting the big toe on his left leg, which resulted in sarcoma, necessitating the amputation of the limb. The disease spread over the entire system. Bro. Peterson had been bedfast since Thanksgiving day. The disease having settled in the abdomen, spread to the heart which resulted in his death.

Bro. Peterson made a Christian profession in early manhood, was baptized and received into the New Harmony Free Will Baptist church. Three years ago he renewed his profession under the evangelistic efforts of Eld. S. H. Mareum and since then has lived a devoted life for the Master.

He leaves mourn his demise his parents, two sisters, Mrs. Junior Evans of Greentop, Mo., Miss Mary Peterson and a brother Charles at home, and Mrs. Melvina F. Peterson, a loving and heart broken companion who mourns the loss of him whose place no one can fill, except Him who said, "Cast all your cares upon me, for I care for you."

Funeral services were conducted at the Hazel Creek Union church, January 17, 1934, in the presence of a large congregation of relatives and friends, by the writer, assisted by Eld. W. R. Rush of Santa Rosa, Mo.—C. E. Mann.

Owens—Ottie Leroy Owens, son of Alfred and Annie Owens, was born June 25, 1903, and passed from this life January 2, 1934, being 30 years, six months and eight days old.

He was married April 21, 1930, to Miss Thelma Rake, and to this union was born one child, Chester Leroy Owens.

Ottie proved to be a loving father and a loyal husband. He labored hard and faithfully, awaiting the fate of his brother who passed on before him three weeks and six days, little knowing that he would soon follow him.

After much suffering, he was taken to the hospital in Tulare, California and was operated on for an attack of ruptured appendix, but as all care seemed in vain he passed on to the great beyond, January 2, 1934.

He leaves a loving wife and son, a dear father and mother, nine loving sisters, and four brothers to mourn his departure, besides a host of other relatives and friends. All were present at the funeral except two sisters, Mrs. Aurora Schreiner of Los Angeles, Calif. and Mrs. Lizzie Sparks of Kansas City, Ks. and one brother, John Owens of Nampa, Idaho.

Funeral services were conducted at Oak Grove church, Jan. 10th by Eld. Geo. Scott, Jr., and burial in the Oak Grove cemetery.

A precious one from us is gone,
A voice we loved is still,
A place is vacant in our home,
Which no other one can fill.

O, how we miss thee, dear one,
Long to see thy face once more,
But we trust that thou art resting,
On that peaceful happy shore.

We are waiting, loving dear one,
Till our loving Master calls,
Then with joy we trust to see you,
On that bright and golden shore.

Owens—Ruben Gray Owens, son of Alfred and Annie Owens, was born October 4, 1912, and passed from this life Dec. 6, 1933, being 21 years, two months and two days old. Ruben was very unfortunate on Saturday night, November 25th, when he met with a car accident which proved fatal to him. He was taken to the hospital and everything was done that loving hands could do by his brother and sister and many friends, guided by Him from above. He was in California at this time. His body was accompanied to Mo. by a very dear friend, Miss Thelma Box.

He leaves to mourn his passing, a loving father and mother, nine sisters and five brothers, all of whom were present at the funeral

except one sister, Mrs. Aurora Schreiner of Los Angeles, Calif. and two brothers, Ottie Owens of Tulare, Calif. and John Owens of Nampa, Idaho.

Ruby, as he was called, had a large host of relatives and friends, all of which were present at the funeral, all hoping and trusting that our loss is heaven's gain.

Funeral services were conducted at Oak Grove church, Dec. 14, 1933, by Eld. J. E. Burney and burial in the Oak Grove cemetery.

A precious one from us has gone,
A voice we loved is still,
A place is vacant in our home,
Which no one else can fill.

Sad is the day, and lonely the night,
Since our precious one has gone,
But we're trusting some day to clasp
his hand,
In that bright and happy home.

We are longing, yes, we're longing
To once more see your face;
But you're happy with the angels,
In that bright and happy place.

And we trust that thou art waiting,
Watching for us over there,
Till we come and share thy glory,
With the angels bright and fair.

Gregory—William Junior Gregory, son of Mr. Mrs. W. I. Gregory, 303 Logan St., Monett, Mo., was born June 3, 1933, and departed this life Feb. 22, 1934.

William Junior had not been well for several months. The doctors were not able to tell the cause of his illness. Bro. and Sister Gregory took him to the Mercy Hospital at Kansas City about two weeks before his death, but all that skilled hands could do could not stay the hand of death, as it seemed that God had called for his little soul.

Besides the parents there are three sisters, Helen, Thelma and Virginia of the immediate family, besides grandparents and many other relatives to mourn this child's going, yet there is that blessed assurance, that he is safe in the arms of Jesus.

Funeral services were conducted at the Free Will Baptist church in Monett, Saturday, Feb. 24th, by the pastor, Elder O. T. Allred. A beautiful display of flowers was given by the many friends of the family, and the church was filled with friends and relatives, even though the weather was very bad that afternoon. The family has the sympathy of all who know them.

Bunce—Luther C. Bunce, for eleven years a citizen of Mountaincrest, Arkansas, died at his home at that place, January 9, 1934, at the age of 64 years, and was laid to rest in the little cemetery at Mountaincrest, by neighbors who loved him and will miss him.

The funeral service was conducted Thursday morning at the family residence, by Dr. M. A. Stone who had preached Luther's father's funeral sermon. He is survived by his wife, four daughters, and one grandson.

Mr. Bunce was a member of the Presbyterian church of this place, serving for several years as Sun-
Continued on page twelve

CARTERVILLE, MISSOURI *Continued from page seven*

personally spoken of the different ones who have been so much help to the church; we want to tell how we appreciate their help while they are here to know, not wait until they are dead and send a bunch of flowers. We often think as the poet says:

"If with pleasure you are viewing any
work a friend is doing,
And you love him or you like him,
tell him now.
Don't withhold your approbation till
the parson makes oration,
And he lies with snowy lilies o'er his
brow.
For no matter how you shout it, he'll
not really care about it,
He'll not know how many tear-drops
you have shed.
If he earns praise, bestow it; if you
like him, let him know it.
For he cannot read his tombstone
when he's dead.
More than fame and more than money,
is a comment kind and sunny—
The hearty warm approval of a friend.
For it gives to life a savor, and it
makes you stronger, braver,
And it gives him heart and spirit to
the end.
If you think some praise is due him,
now's the time to tell it to him;
Let the words of true encouragement
be said.
Do not wait till life is over, and he's
underneath the clover,
For he cannot read his tombstone
when he's dead.

We certainly enjoy reading our Gem paper, and the letters from the different churches of the work they are doing. We ask the prayers of God's people, that our church may continue in the good work. And we pray God's richest blessings be bestowed upon Bro. and Sister Brown, the editor of our dear paper.

Pray for us, that we may not fail in our duty to God's call.
Esther Broadhurst.

WANT ADS

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RED BAY, ALA., Feb. 15, 1934.

Dear Brother Brown:

Would you be so kind as to grant me space in your paper to let the readers hear from our Free Will Baptist work in North Alabama?

Our people are making great headway in many respects. Several nice church buildings have been erected and many of the old ones repaired. I have organized two churches where there were no Free Will Baptist a few years ago. We have nice new church buildings with good membership at both of these places. Our churches are growing rapidly in membership. It was the writer's privilege and pleasure to see more than three hundred come into the churches under my ministry during the year 1933. We are praying for a greater victory during 1934.

I am preaching to eight churches regularly, and have a number of evangelistic meetings booked for the spring and summer. Our church here at Red Bay is doing a fine work, I preach for them two Sundays in each month. They have a large Ladies' Aid Society, a good Sunday school, young people's league, that is doing a fine work among our people here.

We enjoyed the best session of our State Conference last fall that we have had for many years, the largest number of ministers and delegates present that we have had in several years. A fine Christian spirit prevailed throughout the session. The next session of the Alabama State Conference of Original Free Will Baptist will convene with our Brilliant church at Brilliant, Alabama, beginning on Monday night following the fourth Sunday in October, 1934, continuing for three days.

I have a few of my sermons on "Why I Am A Free Will Baptist" left. They are printed in nice form and may be had for ten cents each, postpaid, or fifteen cents postpaid. Send all orders to M. L. Hollis, Box 296, Red Bay, Ala.

CHARLESTON, ARK., Feb. 18th.

Dear Gem Readers:

One year ago I sent you a short letter. After spending the summer and fall months in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Oklahoma, I am in Charleston now with mother and dad, I. J. Wilson. I pray that what I am writing will sink deep into the hearts of all who

read it. Dear ones, read and meditate upon these few words.

Sometimes I feel that all I do and say is nothing, but we can smile when we can't speak a word. Have you ever thought just what a sweet, kind smile, with the love of God overflowing your heart, might mean to a poor lost soul? someone who is in the "dumps?" Oh, I do pray that God will just fill our hearts with love, and with the same love, as near as possible, that Christ Jesus has for us. We can, if we only will, let Him have first place, and full control of our lives. Well, I could write on and on, but I shall not use so much space.

Value of a smile—It costs nothing, but creates much. It enriches those who receive, it opens in a flash and the memory of it sometimes lasts for ever. None are so rich they get along without it, and none so poor but are richer for its benefits. It creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business. It is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged and sunshine to the sad. It cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, nor stolen. It is no earthly good to anybody till it is given away. If at any time you meet someone who fails to give you a smile, I pray you give him one of your own. For nobody needs a smile so much as those who have none left to give you. Lord, give me courage, that I may face life's stern problems, day by day, Give me full strength to do my part; Let me a little kinder be; Think less of self, and more of Thee.

The poet has said:

"There is a time, we know not when,
A point, we know not where,
That marks the destiny of men,
To glory or despair."

I pray you read Luke 5:32; 1 Tim. 1:15; 2 Peter 3:9.

Pray for me, for I'm sure in these days of temptation I need your prayers.
Mrs. Nora M. Wilson.

CLIFTY, ARKANSAS, Jan. 30th.

Editor of the Gem, Greetings:

Just a few lines to say that we are in the war and are enjoying the battle here at Mt. View, a place deserted and religiously unknown till a few months ago. In September, 1933, we found this deserted place, asked the privilege to organize a Sunday school and hold a revival. The school board were very courteous and have given us loyal support. God gave us gracious revival of old time Holy Ghost conviction, and the first week of our revival we heard the cry of the penitent, and the shouts of the new born. We have a wonderful class of young people, some older ones who are real warriors, a fine Sunday school attendance, nearing the 50 mark, a live Thursday night prayer meeting and preaching each Sunday.

God is in our midst, and we are expecting to see the work go forward—In Jesus' might, we'll stand and fight and drive this battle on. Pray for us.

Tom Pinkerton.
P. S. We are a part of the Hickory Grove church, and are indebted to them and our dear Bro. W. E. Bland, pastor at Hickory Grove.

OGLESBY, OKLAHOMA

F. W. B. Church Notes for February

D. W. Stinnett, pastor of the church, D. Jones, superintendent of Sunday school, which meets at 10:00 a. m.

Preaching service at 11:00 a. m. and 7:00 p. m. by Bro. Stinnett. Special song by Quincy Walton.

Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening, Feb. 17th, led by Sister Huff. Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening, Feb. 24th, led by Sister Parker. Special music at prayer meeting by Miss Parter and Mr. Chew Oglesby and Pleasant Valley school teachers.

Prayer meeting led by Sister Holridge Wednesday night.

One saved at morning service.
Mission meeting every Tuesday evening.

Sister Huff.

WAGONER, OKLA., Feb. 8, 1934

Dear Brother Brown:

I will drop you a few lines this morning, as I am sending you some new subscribers for the Gem. I think every Free Will Baptist ought to read the Gem. I tell folks where I go that they are missing something by not reading the Gem, and seeing what our folks are doing.

I want to report our fifth Sunday meeting, held in December, at Peggs, Oklahoma. We had a good delegation and some fine discussions, which were interesting. I stayed and held a few days' meeting. There was a good interest, but the bad weather and sickness hindered greatly. We had four conversions. I came to Wagoner and held a few nights' meeting, with great interest, but I was taken sick and had to close.

I went to Shahan Saturday night where we have a good church with 143 members. Bro. H. E. Dixon is the pastor. We have a young people's league at Shahan, they are doing a great work. We also have a large Sunday school there, with great interest. Bro. Dixon and I are going to near Choteau, Oklahoma the coming week to start a revival, and we need the prayers of God's people.

Your Bro. in Christ,
Elder Fred C. Jones.

GO, WHEN THE MORNING SHINETH
Contributed by Miss Faye Savage

Go, when the morning shineth,
Go, when the moon is bright,
Go, when the eve declineth,
Go, in the hush of night;
Go, with pure mind and feeling,
Fling earthly thought away,
And in thy chamber kneeling,
Do thou in secret pray.

Remember all who love thee,
All who are loved by thee;
Pray for those who hate thee,
If any such there be;
Then for thyself, in meekness,
A blessing humbly claim,
And link with each petition,
Thy great Redeemer's name.

Anonymous.

OBITUARY

Continued from page ten

day School Superintendent and teacher of the Bible class. Like his father, he has also served as Justice of the Peace, and Postmaster. He was a humble, kindly man who loved his neighbors well and therefore will be missed by by all his friends.

His loved ones sorrow not as those who have no hope. There is the blessed assurance of a meeting in that Home "Where God lives and all is well."

Mr. Bunce was a loved brother-in-law of Editor B. F. Brown and wife.

We wept—'twas *Nature* wept—but
Faith

Can pierce beyond the gloom of death,
And in yon world so fair and bright,
Behold thee in refulgent light!

We miss thee here, yet *Faith* would
rather
Know thou art with thy heavenly
Father.

Nature sees the body dead—
Faith beholds the spirit fled;

Nature stops at Jordan's tide—
Faith beholds the other side;

That, but hears farewell, and sighs—
This, thy welcome in the skies.

Nature mourns the cruel blow—
Faith assures it is not so;

Nature never sees thee more—
Faith but sees thee gone before;

Nature tells a dismal story—
Faith has visions full of glory;

Nature views the change with sadness—
Faith contemplates it with gladness;

Nature murmurs—*Faith* gives meekness,
'Strength is perfected in weakness';

Nature writhes, and hates the rod—
Faith looks up and blesses God;

Sense looks downward—*Faith* above!
That sees harshness—*this* sees love.

Oh! let *Faith* victorious be—
Let it reign triumphantly!

But thou art gone; not lost but flown;
Shall I then ask thee back, my own?

Back—and leave thy spirit's brightness?
Back—and leave thy robes of whiteness?

Back—and leave the Lamb who feeds
thee?

Back—from founts to which He leads
thee?

Back—and leave thy Heavenly Father?
Back—to earth and sin?—Nay, rather

Would I live in solitude!
I would not ask thee, if I could;

But patient wait the high decree
That calls my spirit home to thee!

Musser—Mabel Eliza Musser, daughter of William and Jessie Musser, passed away at her home near Starfield on February 5, 1934, age 15 years, 11 months and 11 days.

Her father died about three years ago. She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Jessie Thompson,

step-father, David Thompson, and two sisters, Reba Musser of the home and Wilma McKisson of Kansas City, and two half-brothers, Roy Musser of Springfield, and Clarence Musser of Kansas City, and a host of relatives and friends who mourn her departure. She was a sweet and loving daughter. She was converted at the Mt. Zion church October 26, 1933, and lived a Christian life. She bore her suffering well.

A place is vacant in the home that never can be filled. We will live to meet you, Mabel, dear.

Funeral services were held at Mt. Zion church, Febr. 7, 1934, at two o'clock, by her pastor, Elder E. T. House.

I have known Mabel all her life and she was an obedient child. She gave her life to the Lord during the revival last fall, which was conducted by Sister McAdams.

She will be missed, but she has a better home prepared by her Heavenly Father.

We extend our sympathy to the bereaved family.

A friend, Melba White.

IN LOVING MEMORY of my dear Mother, Mrs. Laura Hensley who passed away, will be one year ago, March 11, 1933.

Just one year ago today,
My dear mother passed away;
Oh, how we miss her, none can tell!
But we had to say Farewell.
She is gone, but not forgotten,
In a lonely grave she lies.

More and more each day we miss her,
Friends may think the wound is
healed,

But they little know the sorrow,
That lies in our hearts concealed.
Our loving thoughts will always linger
Round the grave where you are laid.

So just rest on dear mother,
You are safe in heaven's bower,
And the day when we will meet you,
Grows nearer every hour.

Sadly missed by her only daughter,
Mrs. Sybil Baker, Hartville, Mo.

IN LOVING MEMORY of my dear daughter, Velma Baker, age 12 years, who passed away one year ago today, March 1, 1933.

Our darling little Velma,
Now has from us gone,
The angels came and took her
To that bright eternal home.

It seems so sad without her,
But, oh, how sweet to know,
That she is now an angel,
In a robe as white as snow.

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

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

It's so sad to stay without her,
But God the Father knoweth best,
And our darling girl will no more
suffer,
She is in the Land of Rest.

She suffered much, murmuring not,
We watched her day by day,
Until at last, with broken hearts,
We saw her pass away.

Little Irving has lost his playmate,
Father and mother their little girl,
Let us live to please our Jesus,
So when our work on earth is done,
We can go to little Velma,
To that bright and happy home.

Sadly missed by father and mother,
Mr. and Mrs. James Baker and little
brother, Irving Baker.

ABOUT OUR PAPER

Continued from page three

State Association meets in October, we will have the 1200 subscribers, and more. Now, we can do this easy, if you will all help, will you help? Remember the Gem is your paper: if you want it to be bigger and better, and reach more people, help it to grow: if you are satisfied that it doesn't need to grow, just think and pray about it.

My dear brethren, think it not strange that I should write in this way, for it is about time our people knew something about the conditions under which our paper is published. Your editor will have to give this work up in time and it may be soon, then what must be done? Get another editor. But it will require some money for equipment, a building to house the plant, etc., and we'll soon need \$28.00 to pay the insurance on our linotype. It would be wise to begin now to build up a fund to take care of the needs of our publishing house, and be prepared for the time of need. You who can, send in your gift to our treasurer, it will be a blessing and the Lord will bless the giver.

We are supposed to print the State minutes, but there is very little, if any money, for that purpose. As you read this, think about it, and see if some money can be raised and sent to our State treasurer, Elder Winford Davis, R1, Monett, Mo.

JUDE 11

Continued from page one

with Korah by intruding into the Gospel and saying it is lawful to eat meat offered to a pagan Roman goddess and to worship with heathen, barbaric Celts; so the church has a masquerade Halloween party, but the Book says, "Woe unto them!"

On CHRISTMAS, the supposed anniversary of the day that God, having so loved the world, "gave his only begotten Son," as Savior and Redeemer of men, our people and the church are guilty of staging the greatest piece of idolatrous worshipping with heathens that the brain of a demon possessed man can devise. The church, in league with the Nicolaitanes who are gainsaying with Core by intruding into the Gospel of Jesus Christ, teach men to disobey "THUS SAITH THE LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen,for the customs of the people are vain.....for one cutteth a tree out of the forest.....with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not" (Jer. 10:1-5). Anyone who says it is lawful and right to have a Christmas tree belongs with those of whom God said, "I hate" (Rev. 2:15; 2:6). God calls it heathenism. Jesus never taught any such heathenism.

Now to finish the deal with heathenism is the idea of Santa Clause (St. Nicholas). This man lived about 300 to 350 A. D. and was a highly popular saint of the Roman Catholic church, revered with still greater devotion in the Russian church. The churches of Constantine were dedicated to him, (this was robbing God of the glory which belongs to Him). The nearness of his feasts (on the supposed date of his death, Dec. 8th) to Christmas led to the confounding of the two, so that Santa Klaus, a Dutch corruption for the name St. Nicholas, brought the presents (New International Encyclopaedia, Vol. 17, page 127). This was the height of divine robbery and no greater insult could be to Heaven than for the church to ignore the Cause of Christmas and to be carried away with worshipping this idol god—the god of gifts—the god from the North

Country (Russia). Doesn't he come from the land of ice and snow?

I am made to say with the prophet, Isaiah, "Who hath believed our report?" Men say it will disappoint the children if we do not do this thing, and besides, it is an old custom; but, Thus saith the Lord, "The customs of the people are vain" (Jer. 10:3). Again men will say, "I don't see any harm in it, if it is carried on in a Christian spirit and everything turns out nicely." I have been fed on that until I'm sick at the stomach—I groan in my soul! I want to know how there can be a Christ-like spirit in a thing that is a thousand miles from Christ. How can it be Christ-like when we disobey "Thus saith the Lord?" and go gainsaying with Core (Nicolaitanes, Rev. 2:6) by intruding into the Gospel with such heathenism?

Written with an earnest prayer, and with love for the Cause, and the Church giving all Bible and history references in detail.

Elder J. B. Rollins, Treece, Kans.

JUST NEGLIGENCE

By Elder Noel Turner

Another year has gone by, and it is now 1934. Our "Gem" is now beginning its sixth year, and it is still growing in value to its readers. I gave my subscription to the Gem before the first issue was ever printed, in January, 1929, and haven't missed a single copy of it that has been printed. There are several others who have done the same thing, but how many are there who neglect, not only the Gem, but other things of vast importance, such as Sunday school, league, church, etc?

Paul said, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (Phil. 2:12). And again, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" (Heb. 2:3). "Watch and pray" (Matt. 26:41). James said, "I will shew thee my faith by my works" (Jas. 2:18).

Then we see that we are to work and watch as well as as to pray and have faith. Let us show our faith by doing something more. Of course we say God is able to do greater things than these, but do we have faith? Then let us

prove it by our works.

I have talked with people who say, "I used to take the Gem, but when my sub ran out, I just NEGLECTED to renew it." Some say, "I used to help with the finance of the church, but lately I've NEGLECTED it." Others say, "I used to go to church and Sunday school, but in late years I've NEGLECTED it." And still others say, "I once lived a life of daily prayer, but now I NEGLECT it."

When these confessions are made to man, you may get by, so far as man is concerned, but when God says, "You have failed," perhaps you'll say, "Lord, I know, but I fully intended to do my part, it was just NEGLECT."

Now turn to Romans 2:1 and see what the answer will be to them; "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man." Aurora, Missouri.

The Church of God or Christ

By Elder T. H. Dixon, Hitchita, Okla.

Continued from February issue

I feel that I have proven the Church of God or Christ is the redeemed in the aggregate, and there are redeemed people in all the branches or denominations, regardless of the name.

Jesus says, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved." How do we get into the church? We enter in at the door (St. John 10:9). "All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers." Then if Jesus is and was the door, men of all ages must have been saved through Him.

Christ has always existed as Savior since God said the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head. And in the 17th chapter of St. John we read the prayer of our Lord: and he said, "Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was."

Paul said, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever" (Heb. 13:8). We see by the Scriptures that Jesus Christ has existed all through the ages, as a savior, and also He has existed as the Foundation (Isa. 28:16). All the prophets and apostles of the Old and New Testaments were on the Foundation. "Other foun-

dation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 3:11). Men have laid foundations of their own, but they wont stand.

"For the bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it" (Isaiah 28:20). I like a bed long enough to stretch myself on it, and I like the covering to be broad enough to wrap myself in it.

John Calvin, in the 15th century taught a doctrine that a certain percent of the human race would be saved, and a certain percent would be lost. John Calvin was a great debater, and, no doubt, many people believed his doctrine. But that did not make it the truth; and those that were honest and had become believers in God and Christ, and repented of their sins, and lived to the very best of their knowledge, I believe are at rest with God. But his bed was too short for all the race: and the cover was too narrow to wrap in it all that Jesus died for. According to Calvin's doctrine, infants would have to go to hell. Do you believe it? No, a thousand times, no! "The bed too short: and the covering too narrow."

And then in 1832, the Calvinites and the M. B. Baptist sawed that bed in two, though it was very short to begin with. But at that date they separated, and so the M. B. Baptist made them a bed: and it was like Mr. Calvin's, so short that they would not commune with other people, no matter how good they were. They also say they are the only people in the world that has the right to administer baptism. If some of their own children were members of some other church, those children could not commune with their own father and mother, that bed is too narrow for me. Why make a bed so short, and the cover so narrow, when we have the pattern to go by? You can't get into their church unless some of their preachers baptized you.—The bed is too short: and the covering is too narrow. They can't be the church of Jesus Christ. Those that are honest, and do their best for their Master, I believe will be saved, but that don't make their doctrine true.

The M. B. Baptist are a good people, with a bad doctrine, their bed is too short. After they and

and the Hardshells separated, the M. B's taught that men must repent of their sins to be saved, but after repentance they drop right back into the old Hardshell line—once saved, always saved; once in grace, always in grace; once a sheep, always a sheep; the bed too short: the covering too narrow. Men say, "You shall not fall:" the Bible says, "In the latter days some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils" (1 Tim. 4:1).

In 1784 Charles T. Russell stirred up a little short bed, and spread some short, narrow cover over it. He taught a doctrine, that men would have a period of a thousand years after death in which to repent, which thing is very dangerous to believe. If the devil could get men to believe that dope, he would sure get their souls. The Apostle Paul says, "He that has come will come, and will not tarry." If he does not tarry, I am sure the Russellites will be disappointed, when they have believed that doctrine, and wait for that period of time to repent.

Oh yes, Mr. Campbell, in 1827, made a short bed and a narrow cover. He, like others, said, "You must come my way, or you will be lost." Campbellism teaches that they are the only church that can possibly be saved—another short bed, and a narrow cover; too short, too narrow, to save all the redeemed, a bed of confusion, a man can't be comfortable lying on it, his feet would stick out from under the cover, over the foot-board of the bed, it would be very uncomfortable. Oh, how pleasant it is to have a bed that is long enough, that a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering broad enough that a man can wrap himself in it. He can rest on a good easy bed. David said his sleep was sweet. Why not make the bed easy, and the cover broad, we have the pattern?

Time and space will not permit to mention all the different beds of confusion men have stirred up, taking the position that they are the only people that are right. I will say this of Mr. Campbell: I think he really believed others would be saved, but his doctrine did not teach it. But now, Campbellites will tell you, Except you get into their hands you will be lost. Oh, what a short bed, and

narrow cover!

Mr. John Wesley, about 1739, made a pretty easy bed. He cut it a little short, by leaving off a few things he should not, and adding a few things that were not the best.

Well, in 1780, Mr. Randall was so uncomfortable trying to lie on a short bed and cover with narrow cover, that he searched for a more comfortable bed and cover, that would cover all who wished to lie on it, and in that search he found a bed that all the prophets, and the apostles had lain on. Well, Mr. Randall went to preaching the comfortable bed and the broad cover. Yes, he taught a doctrine, thank God, that all men could be saved that would look to God and repent of their sins. And he taught that there had been witnesses all through the ages, that stood on God's side, and that no sect or order or man made creeds were old enough to contain the redeemed. His burden was light and his yoke was easy. Yes, he could open his Bible and read his doctrine anywhere from Genesis to Revelation.—A long bed and plenty of cover. Amen. Thank God for such men.

No one of the above mentioned creeds, that claim to be the church and hold to their creed and condemn all others, and teach that all must come their way, can be the Church of Christ or God.

But I admit that there are Christians in all the different branches or denominations.

And I thank the good Lord that I can see the church line through the ages.

SHOULD THIS BE YOUR PRAYER?

Let us take a view of the deplorable condition that exists within the realm of our nation's vast church membership. And while we are doing that, may we not see the real need of a closer walk with God among a goodly number of people who profess to know God in the free pardon of their sins? And most of all, let us not think that we can get too close to, or too humble before God in our prayer for man and for ourselves.

Let us pray: "Our Father who art in heaven, we humbly beseech Thee to hear our prayer. Unto Thee and Thee alone do we cry.

Thou art our Father, our strength, our Redeemer, our God. Thou art our Refuge, our Hightower, our Deliverer. Wisdom, glory and honor are thine.

"Thy loving kindness is our constant preservation. In the multitude of Thy tender mercies are found refuge, comfort, and great joy. The lines are fallen to us in pleasant places; we have a goodly heritage in Thee. Thou hast delivered us from the powers of darkness, and hast translated us into the kingdom of Thy dear Son.

"We come humbly now; for we are conscious of shortcomings and sins. We have known to do good and have not done it. We have walked by opened doors and neglected plain duty. We have ears to hear, and hear not; eyes to see, and see not; mouths to speak, and speak not; hands to work, and we labor not.

"We have fed upon ashes. We have spent our money for that which is not bread, and our labor for that which satisfieth not. We have been moved more by our inclinations than by duty, and followed our own desires more than Thy holy and righteous will. We have asked and have not received, because we ask amiss, that we might spend the things that we desired in our own way and for our own pleasures.

"We are double-minded, unstable in our ways. We have fallen into the ways of minds that are alien to Thee; and have compromised with the world. We are chasing vain and subtle vagaries and wasting our strength and wearing out our lives in keeping up a vain show before men. And we know that we are sinning against high heaven in it all.

"Shepherds have neglected their flocks, and flocks have neglected their shepherds. Some of Thy servants do not declare the whole counsel of God to their people. And Thy people have turned their ears away from hearing the truth. The call of a lost world no longer moves us to compassionate desire and sacrificial giving to win the lost. The throngs pass by Thy house on Sunday and mid-week prayer meetings without serious thought of Christ and His cross, of resurrection and final judgment, of heaven and hell. O Lord, we are headed for destruction.

"We are giving less and less support to the causes dear to the heart of our Savior, and spending

more and more for the things of time for show and pleasure. We are robbing God. Much that is given is given grudgingly, and not cheerfully. And our people face financial bankruptcy because they have forsaken Thee. No longer do we bring the firstfruits to Thee. We have given the lame and crippled to Thee, and kept the best for ourselves. We have sinned, O Father.

"Have mercy upon us, O Lord. Show us the way out of our troubles, and help us to walk therein.

"May we lean not upon our own understanding, but trust in Thee with all our heart. Forgive us of our sins. Revive Thy work in the midst of the years. Hasten the day when Thy people shall engage themselves with renewed zeal and holy enthusiasm in winning the lost to Christ. Renew a right spirit within us. From this day forward may we rededicate ourselves, our service, and our substance to Thee. Hear us, we pray, and grant us this our petition according to Thy own good pleasure. In Jesus' name we pray." Ralph Staten, Pocahontas, Ark.

THE EVER PRESENT CHRIST

(Continued from page 2)

to our text, my brother or sister, how careful we should be not to bring displeasure to the Son of God by yielding to the alluring influences of the world or failing to discharge our duty as a child of God. What great responsibility rests upon the child of God! Look, if you please, to the eleven, dusty and weary, and also discouraged travelers, as they wended their way from Jerusalem to Galilee to keep an appointment that would mean so much to the world and to them. They must have partly understood this, by their going there, though some were slow to believe.

Right here is the weakest point with the church, and with the preacher also. How we hum and stammer, and make excuses, when we have recourse to all heaven and earth. Listen to the first words of Jesus on meeting the eleven on the mountain, "ALL POWER is given unto me in heaven and in earth." What more could be needed? He told them that they would be drawn into the courts, that they would be scourged and persecuted unto death: but you go regardless of

what it may bring from the devil or the world; "and, lo, I am with you always, and my presence brings all the power of heaven to your aid." No wonder Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phil. 4:13), yet they were slow to believe and were fearful; we had them behind bolted doors, afraid of the Jews. I wonder what all passed between them in that room. I am just drawing an imaginative comparison now: Peter may have said, "This city is a hard place to preach, they don't like our doctrine here, did they not kill our Leader?" Luke might have said, "Galilee isn't much better, they have very little faith, and we can't do much there." Then said Peter, "The Gentiles have no right to the Gospel, they don't belong to our bunch, any way they are very common folks, not very clean at the best, and it would have a very degrading effect upon us." (Is this true to form, brother?) Then there was poor old Thomas, who said, "Well they have killed the Leader of this movement and it looks like a hopeless case: but nevertheless, if I can see the nail prints and his side where the spear entered, I am willing to go on, if he will go with me."

And, behold, the Son of God stood in their midst (John 20:19), saying, "Peace be unto you." What a wonderful thought! How the presence of Christ brings peace to the troubled soul! Barred doors, locks and bolts hold no impediment against the presence of the Christ, for, "Lo, I am with you." Paul and Silas were cast into prison and their feet and hands put in the stocks, but as they sang and prayed, the bands were loosened and the place was shaken, and they had a revival, for, "Lo, I am with you always."

Brother, you can have the education which the world gives, if you want it, but give me the presence of Christ, and all will be well.

He was in the fiery furnace, in the lions' den, in fact He goes where a child of God goes, regardless of the danger.—The ever present Christ—No wonder David wrote the 23rd Psalm.

The presence of Christ supplies every need. Our soul may be torn asunder by the rough and uneven journey of life, but his presence restores it to peace and joy. Then when we come to life's darkest hour, when we are called to pass

through the valley of the shadow of death, we need fear no evil, for, "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world." Then we can lean on his staff and find support. No wonder we sing, "Leaning on Jesus." Brother, it makes me want to shout to think of it.

I have a church on Kimbrell creek, near Leslie, Ark. The first time I was there, I saw a very old lady (86 years old) tottering down the mountain a mile from her home, a cane in one hand and a Sunday school quarterly in the other hand; then I thought of this text. Her old and feeble body was leaning on her cane, but her soul was leaning on Jesus. What an inspiration that was to me to press on! Aunt Jane Cotton has passed down the valley of the shadow of death, and Jesus went with her to light life's darkest hour. I am enclosing a poem, written in memory of her, and hope it may give you a greater determination to press on.

Our closing remark is, that in all your undertakings, be sure that Jesus is present. Like the old leader of Israel, when God told him to go into the mountain, Moses said, "If I go, will your presence go with me?" Without this all is a failure: but if we are true to God, and faithful, we are assured of His Divine Presence. Elder J. E. Phillips, Leslie, Ark.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. JANE COTTON
Contributed by Elder J. E. Phillips

There's a lonely house on the mountain,
A house that was once a home,
Near a spring of cold water,
Where the birds and bees love to roam.

Time was when that house had a spirit,
A soul, as it were, of the place,
But missing now is that bent old form,
That kindly, patient face.

Her feet that once moved swiftly
To lighten another's woe;
Her feet that once moved swiftly,
Have long been growing slow.

Her hands that once moved nimbly
To bring ease to another's pain
Are now lying folded and empty,
They will never know pain again.

She was all alone when death struck her;
Alone, but she wished it so.
She had often said that she and God
Were enough when it came time to go.

Her body lies where she wished it to,
By her babe and her husband's side,
But the soul of the one we loved so well
Does now in heaven abide.

Aunt Jane, though we miss you sadly,
We would not wish you back again,
For we know even while we grieve for you,
That our loss is but your gain.

And an oak tree stands like a soldier there,
To guard these graves thru the years,
And God will find them sleeping there,
When the day of Judgment nears.
—Laura Balton.

BEHOLD THE MAN

By Bascom Cassatt, Mulberry, Kans.

"Behold the man," the Pilate said,
When he brought from the judgment hall,
Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
And stood Him by the wall.

They'd put on Him a purple robe,
And the soldiers made a crown;
They plaited it of cruel thorns,
Then on His brow, pressed down.

Murder it seemed was in their hearts,
They cared not for their King,
For they had made a heavy cross,
Which they had our Lord to bring.

He bore the cross as they marched away
To a little plot on a hill,
There He bore the sins of the whole world,
For it was His Father's will.

They stretched Him out on the rugged cross,
With nails through His feet and hands,
While the wicked mob scorned and scoffed,
But the world beheld the Man.

Now nineteen hundred years have passed
Since nailed through feet and hands,
When He suffered, bled and died for us,
Though we still "Behold the Man."

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