

Eld Kenneth Turner R-2 B58

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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

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DAWNING OF THE NEW KINGDOM

By Elder Everett Wilson

This is to be a series of talks on the coming of the New Kingdom, and on the signs of the closing of the Gentile age, and the gathering back of the Jews to their home land, given to their fathers, and promised to the Remnant of the Jews by the Lord Himself. The Jews have never as yet possessed the entire land promised to their fathers, because of their disobedience to the Divine Law of God. But the time is drawing near when they will inherit all that was promised to them, and they will "sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree." Read Micah 4:1-4. The prophet surely sees a time and a kingdom that has not yet been, where there will be no wars or rumor of war, no famines, no pestilences, and, "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord" (Isa. 65:25).

My object is not to debate over this view of the Scriptures, and any one with a different idea is welcome to his or her interpretation. I will confess that I am a Literalist, and have lived long enough in this time of rapid fulfillment of Prophecy, that it has been proven to me that the Lord has made clear and plain His plan as to the coming New Kingdom. He is soon going to set up on this earth. He does not give us the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man is to come back to Reign over the Jews in their own land, but there are many signs promised by Jesus Himself, so that His people might know when the time is drawing near. Read Matt. 24 and Luke 21. "Watch and pray," says Jesus, that you

may be accounted worthy to escape the terrible things that are to come upon the earth in the closing days of the Gentile age and to stand before the Son of Man (Luke 21:36).

Many writers have had visions of the New Kingdom. Some put it in the past, even the bloody reign of the Anti-Christ is over, they say, and that God is now overthrowing the kingdoms of this world and is setting up the New Kingdom. Others say, the world is getting better, and will soon be so good that Jesus can come and take control. Even others figured out the time by measurements found in the Great Pyramid, and forgot to preach the approaching end time as given in the Bible, but the end is not yet and we are still watching.

Many earnest Bible students seem to feel that the 2520 years given to the Gentiles as their time of controlling the affairs of the different nations of the world will close about 1935 or 1936, if the Lord counts the seven years of the reign of Anti-Christ in the 2520 years of Gentile rule, and if not, then it will be by this way of reckoning seven later or about 1942 or 1943. This seems a very reasonable way of figuring the End Time, as we will show in some articles to follow. But we must know the Mind of the Lord in these things or we will miss the mark again, and so we say again, "Watch and Pray." I fear we will find it hard to find the point of beginning, as God knows it; and so we will not try to set a time, but study the signs of our times so we will not be taken unawares. The time matters little if we are ready. We will find more comfort if we believe the Prophets and Apostles on this subject, for they all agree in their writ-

ings, but writers of the different views do not; so we will turn to Inspired Word of God, and study the Visions and Dreams of these Godly Men of old, as they were revealed by angels or by the Son of God or the Holy Spirit moving upon these men who were set for the defense of the Gospel, with no creed to defend, or doctrine to advance. If we believe His Word, the coming events of the End time will no doubt unfold before our eyes, and we shall feel anew the thrill of the Holy Ghost as He shows us the glories of the New Kingdom.

For a starting point, let us look at Isaiah 27:6. "He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with fruit."

This promise to the Jews has not as yet been fulfilled, and can only be brought to pass by the establishment of a new kingdom. The world, as it is today, is Gentile, with only about 18,000,000 Jews in it, and they are so scattered and in so many countries, hated above all people, and as far as I know there is no nation where the Jew is not a by-word. In the Jews of today seems to be the fulfilling of Deut. 28:15-68. Some countries deprive them of being on equal rights with other people, in spite of the fact of God's promise to Abraham, That He will curse them that curse Abraham, and He will bless them that bless him (Gen. 12:3). Happy is the man or nation that will receive this blessing. Several movements are already organized against the Jews, but this is not new. In the days of Daniel and his fellow captives, they were hated. But the highest offices in the land were given to them. Joseph was hated and sold as a

slave, but reigned as a king. Haman wanted to hang Mordecai and kill all the Jews, but was hanged on his own gallows, and his people were destroyed by the ones he wanted to kill. They spoiled the Egyptians when Moses led them out of the land of bondage, and the nations began to fall before them as they approached land promised to Abraham and his seed. Now as they turn back to that same promised land, which they did not get because of disobedience, and because God allotted a time to the Gentiles in which to repent, that they by Grace might be heirs with faithful Abraham, and now as that time closes and the Times of the Gentiles are fulfilled, and the Jews going back to Palestine, taking the gold and silver with them (Isa. 60:9-10). Why should there be a time of depression upon all the world but the promised land and the Jews? Surely under the blessing of God this will be a glorious Kingdom.

Look now at Jer. 30:10-11, "Therefore fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the Lord; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity: and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid."

"For I am with thee, saith the Lord, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished."

Again, Jer. 46:28, "Fear thou not, O Jacob my servant, saith the Lord: for I am with thee; for I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee: but I will not make a full end of thee, but correct thee in measure; yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished."

These Scriptures are sure strong language, and no nation will be able to stand when God stretches out His hand over them to gather His people back to Jerusalem. A few Jews will be left to go back, for He says He will not make a full end of them, but a FULL END OF ALL NATIONS where the Jews have been.

See Amos 9:8, "Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will de-

stroy it from off the face of the earth; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the Lord."

This sinful kingdom we will trace through the Scriptures as we study this subject later. Sinful Kingdom, end of the Image in Daniel 2, iron and iron and clay. Destruction of the fourth beast of Daniel 7. End of the Scarlet Woman in Revelation 17. Each one of these will receive our careful consideration as we come to them in our articles to follow.

No place being found for the Jews during the reign of these kingdoms, it is sure there will be a New Kingdom to follow the overthrow of these old ones. The Jews are now buying all the land described in the following Scriptures: Jer. 32:36-44. In the next article, Signs of the End, we will go more into detail of this Scripture. Now see Jer. 33rd chapter, verse 7, "And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and I will build them, as at the first." And Jer. 30:24, "The fierce anger of the Lord shall not return, until he have done it, and until he have performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it."

Jer. 23:20, "The anger of the Lord shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly." All these and many other Scripture are for the latter days, or closing up of the Gentile age and opening of the New Kingdom.

Now again in Jer. 31:27-28, "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast."

"And it shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over them, to pluck up, and to throw down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them to build, and to plant, saith the Lord."

Such promises are to the Jews, and by One who will do all that He promised them. It seems hard for the proud haughty Gentile to give place to the Jews, and allow God to fulfill His promises to them as He has to us, and to be willing for them to be re-established as at the first, but it will come, and why not? All that we

have that is worth while is of the Jews. Our salvation is of the Jews (John 4:22). And if God did not forget the Gentiles while dealing with the Jews, why should we want Him to forget the Jews and establish us? All the efforts being put forth now to bring in lasting peace and a reign of prosperity by man will only result in the coming of the Man of Sin Whom Jesus will destroy with the brightness of His coming to rule the New Kingdom (2 Thes. 2:1-12). Amen, even so come, Lord Jesus. Remember that in praying for Jerusalem we shall prosper. (Psalm 122:6).

Hosea 3:4, 5, "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim:

"Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days."

Surely these days of the returning of the Jews to God and the Promised Land shows that the Dawning of the New Kingdom is near.

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OPERATION of the SPIRIT

By Elder H. E. Dixon

Dear Brother Brown and Gem Readers: As I read the pages of the Gem, thinking of the Free Will Baptist family, and how we all get into one body; I thought I would write a short article on the "Operation of the Spirit of God."

Some people don't believe the Spirit operates directly on us now-a-days, but we read in 1 Cor. 12:13, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body." I understand the Spirit to be the third person of the God head; so we all, not part, but all are put into the one body by that Spirit; so the Spirit being the administrator of that baptism, all we are the subjects. What I mean is that all we that are baptized are baptized into the one body.

Then we read in Mark 1:4, "John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of

Continued on page thirteen

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

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

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THE JOURNEY OF LIFE

By the Editor

"But go thou thy way till the end be; for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days"
(Daniel 12:3).

In this text there are three points to consider: The Journey, The Pilgrim's resting place and the Pilgrim's Final Home. We shall consider the first only.

THE JOURNEY

Daniel was asking for more light to be shed on the darkened way which stretched out before him, when God said to him, "But go thou thy way." The little connective "but" means, "Trouble not thyself about the things which you can never see, but fill the present with active service." "Go thou thy way." As with all of us, the prophet could see but one step ahead; but that was clear, and all that he should be concerned about.

In making the journey of life there is continual change: we are continually passing something and something is continually passing us. We older people may remember scenes, feelings, beliefs, experiences, and so on, that we cherished years ago, but we can never go back to them. Let us, then, accept the fact that in this life nothing abides with us; and let us not be overcome with regrets or discouragements when we lose that which we hold dear. If life, then, is truly represented as a journey, it is certain that we must leave behind us every day scenes and things we shall never see again.

But while we are continually leaving things behind us, life continues. The road we travel lead to some place or goal, and we travel it step by step. The thoughts, deeds and actions we think and do as we travel on this journey of life, make our characters, and the character each of us builds determines his or her destiny. Then, since everything we do leaves its impress upon our lives, we should be very careful what we do. But what good thing can any of us do without God? If we try to do things in our own strength and wisdom, we shall all be as Paul trying to keep the law in his own strength: "For what I would, that I do not; but what I hate, that I do." (Romans 7:15).

I am often reminded that life is not only a journey, it is a race; and at the end of the way a rich reward is waiting for all who journey with Jesus to the end, for all who run with faith and patience to the end of the way. Daniel was commanded to keep on his way *till the end*, that is, to the end of this life or until death. As we journey, let us remember that we belong to God, both by creation and purchase; and may it be vitally true that we are His by adoption! God's great purpose for all of us is, that we will prepare to meet Him in peace. We have our being that we might glorify God; let our journey, then, be always with Jesus toward the portals of glory. We must return to God, whether in peace or to be judged and banished from His presence into eternal death.

I will close this thought by quoting a poet's idea of life: "To wake beneath the sun, to sleep beneath the sod: A journey short to run, and then return to God."

"Life is real, life is earnest,
And the grave is not its goal;
'Dust thou art, to dust returnest,'
Was not spoken of the soul."

MANSFIELD, MO., April 10th.

Dear Mission Workers:

Another month has passed by and we are still in the Lord's service, organizing Missions and Leagues. We are now visiting the churches in Union Association.

We have been visiting in Bro. Selph Jones' churches, and have made our home with Bro. and Sister Jones. They are real servants of the Lord and have been so kind and good to us. We will never forget their kindness and co-operation. May God bless them and their family.

We first visited the Oak Grove church where Bro. Jones is pastor. It will be remembered also as the place where our State Association met last fall. We enjoyed being back with these dear people once more. We stayed with Bro. and Sister Henry Smith, members of of our Oak Grove church. We also visited Bro. and Sister Lish Owens and Bro. and Sister Ralph Patterson.

We organized a young people's league with twenty members, Bro. Homer Smith, Pres.; Bro. Alva Rainey, vice president; Sister Florence Hensley, Sec.-Treas.; Sister Marie Rainey, senior group captain; Glois Patterson, junior group captain.

We next visited the church at Hartville, and reorganized the League. Officers are: Bro. Will Nickle, president; Miss Jewell Wynn, vice president; Mrs. Parlee Henderson, Sec.-Treas. Membership 14.

We also organized a mission circle with the following officers: Sister Will Nickle, president; Sister Cora Rippee, vice president; Sister Mary Welchel, Sec.-Treas.; Sister Sally Chandler, chaplain.

While at Hartville we made our home with Sister Tillie Pool who was like a mother to us. May God bless the work at Hartville.

We visited Black Oak church on Easter Sunday. Had good services, and organized a league with 23 senior members and 7 junior members. Officers: Juanita Beck, president; Vera Clift, vice president; Warren Beck, Sec.-Treas.; Bertha Clift, senior group captain; Opal Clift, junior group captain. We stayed with Brother and Sister George Clift who are good Christian people and made us welcome in their home; may

God bless them.

We next went by to visit the Niangua church where Bro. Kenneth Turner is pastor, had two services and the Lord blessed.

We made our home with Grandma Blackwell who is a servant of the Lord and makes you welcome in her home. She is getting up in years; is 85 and still loves to go to church. She is a member of Amity church out in the country. May the Lord continue to bless her.

The second Sunday in this month we visited Amity church where Bro. Selph Jones has been pastoring for several years. We enjoyed our visit with these dear people very much. We organized a young people's league with a membership of 16 seniors and 5 juniors. Officers: Sister Willie Blackwell, president; Sister Hazel McKeel, vice president; Sister Vesta Blackwell, Sec.-Treas.; Bro. Robert Johnson, senior group captain; Mrs. Alma McKeel, junior group captain. We stayed in the home of Bro. and Sister John Blackwell who are members of Amity church, and are interested in the Lord's work. May the Lord bless their home.

We will be visiting in Bro. O. L. Allen's churches next, and as many other places as we possibly can, organizing the mission and league work. Pray for us, that the Lord may lead and direct our work and that we may always be under our Lord's leadership.

We will be at the 5th Sunday meeting at Wolf Creek church, if the Lord is willing.

Yours for Jesus,

Melba White.

BLAKELY, GA., March, 1934.

Dear Friend:

It is urgent, as a people looking forward to a more definite aim in our denomination, that we put forth greater efforts to co-operate in a Sunday school program evangelizing the world. Therefore I am asking that you assist me in such manner as you can in preparing a concise report for the consideration of the next session of the General Conference at its sitting in June with the Jakin, Georgia church.

May I ask that you take this matter in due consideration and if you cannot answer please have

one of the officials of your association or conference to give answers as near as possible.

1. Please state the size and name of organization, also the name and organization under which the Sunday school convention operates, giving its membership in schools and scholars enrolled.

2. How often does the convention meet?

3. Does the Sunday School Convention have any special feature projects?

4. What charitable institutions does the organization support?

5. Does the convention encourage the use of the Free Will Baptist literature?

6. Concerning study courses, how many of the schools are fostering study courses for the promotion of officers and teachers?

7. What provisions are made for housing the schools, i. e., how many schools in the convention have Sunday school rooms?

8. To what extent is evangelism carried on by the schools of the convention?

In case the answer cannot be given specifically please give an approximate answer. And if no Sunday school convention has been organized please give approximately the number of schools within the bounds of the association, yearly meeting, or conference

Yours in Jesus' name,

T. B. Mellett,

S. S. Secretary of the Gen. Conf.

KENOSHA, WIS., March 29, 1934

Dear Editor of the Gem:

While visiting a friend in Kenosha, Wisconsin, I saw lying on a table a paper which attracted me at once. It was the Free Will Baptist Gem of which my father was a steady reader years ago. It was the first I'd seen since his death; so I at once picked it up, and began reading it; and I saw some names which seemed familiar to me.

I am the daughter of the late Rev. Jefferson Norman who was at one time pastor of the New Harmony Free Will Baptist church near Greentop, Mo. He was also pastor of other Baptist churches in Missouri, and if I recall rightly, he had a church near Purdy, where your paper is printed.

So I am very desirous to hear from some of father's friends

and co-workers. I wondered if you would be so kind as to publish my letter in your column; as I thought perhaps some of his old friends might be readers of your paper, and in this manner might enable me to get in contact with them. If any of them remembers Rev. A. J. Norman, or Jefferson, as he was commonly called, and would write me direct, or through the paper, I would appreciate it so much. I faintly recall a Rev. Latimer who conducted revivals with my father. As I was young at his death, I have forgotten his first name. Also a Mr. Ferguson I recall him speaking of. I see by your paper there is one on your staff, could he be the one? I wonder?

My father departed this life on a farm near Mendota, Mo., Aug. 26, 1900. The Rev. Posy Veach conducted the services, and he was laid to rest in New Harmony cemetery, and there his churches asked to erect a monument for him, which was granted. Now since I am older, how I cherish their loving kindness, and only wish I could thank each giver personally.

He was a staunch follower of God and loved his churches so much, and died seeking sinners. Like my father, I am very much interested in the Lord's work, and have often wished I could enter the ministry. I have taught in church schools for the past 27 years, and have enjoyed it very much. Am teaching in Kenosha, Wisconsin now. We have no Free Will Baptist church here, just a few members from various states. Have often wished we could establish a church here, as I feel the field is open to a good work.

Well, Mr. Brown, I'll close by saying God bless you and your work, and asking the prayers of your many readers, that I may be instrumental in some way of leading some soul to Christ.

Mrs. Martha McNamar,
S. Kenosha, Wisconsin, R1

FLAT RIVER, MO., Apr. 5, 1934.
Flat River Church Notes for March

Dear Gem Readers:

Today finds us still in services for our Master, with an increase in attendance, and working for souls to be saved. Many have been out on account of sickness, but are back again.

Our Easter Sunrise prayer meeting was pretty well attended Sunday morning, several churches were well represented.

Our pastor, Jas. F. Miller, brot a message Sunday morning, of the Risen Christ. Several songs by the quartet were sung in connection with the sermon. Sunday evening the Sunday school had an Easter egg hunt by the children, and all enjoyed the evening, many being present.

Sunday night the services were well attended, also our cottage and mid-week prayer meetings are all well attended, but no souls being saved at present.

We desire the prayers of God's people.

Raymond La Brot, Reporter.

ST. LOUIS, MO., April 17, 1934.

To the Gem Readers:

It has been some time since I sent in our last report. We are, however, on the firing line, and the Lord is still blessing our work.

We are having additions to the church now and then; had two additions Sunday, April 15th. We have several awaiting baptism.

Our Sunday school is doing good work and holding up fine.

Our league is well attended and is growing.

We have enlarged our place of worship until it is twice as large as it was. We are having good congregations and increasing in interest. We are therefore looking forward to a successful summer's campaign. We are expecting to start a revival soon.

Pray for us, that we may have a real old fashioned, John Wesley, Holy Ghost revival.

Eld. W. C. Hill, Pastor of the 3rd Free Will Baptist church of St. Louis, Missouri.

ABILENE, KANSAS

Dear Brother and Sister Brown and Gem Readers: As I have just finished reading the Gem, I decided to write a few lines with our renewal for this little paper which we love so dearly. It is like getting a letter from home; and we couldn't do without it.

I do thank the Lord for these brothers and sisters who are teaching God's word and the old time religion. Oh, how my heart aches when I see so much sin. If there were more to teach the Free Will Baptist doctrine, instead of so much modernism, I believe the world would be better. Oh, how I long to hear a good old Free Will Baptist sermon again. There isn't any Free Will Baptist church near

here, but my thoughts go back to the dear old days and the wonderful blessings we enjoyed at Merl's Chapel.

I wish to praise God for salvation and the wonderful promise, that, "Who soever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

I praise God for saving father's soul, for while he is still alive, he hasn't long to live in this world, and how sweet to know that he will be at peace with God. We may never meet again in this world, but we pray to God that we will meet in Heaven.

I can thankfully say that I know my Redeemer liveth, and if God be for you, who can be against you?

Praise God and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for ever.

Remember me in your prayers.

There is perfect peace though the wild waves roll.

There are gifts of love for the seeking soul,

Till we praise the Lord in his home so fair;

There is always a blessing, a blessing in prayer.

Mrs. G. H. Graves.

DESLOGE, MISSOURI

Free Will Baptists Church Notes

At our last church conference, Thursday evening, April 19th, I was elected reporter for our church. We have enjoyed the reports from other churches these many months and surely feel that each church should furnish something for the denominational paper.

My heart is made glad many times as I read items of interest from the various churches where I have been in revival work with McAdams', evangelists; and then the good report recently from Hannon church, where I lived and had a part in the Lord's work for so many years, and where I still think of as "Home."

Our church here at Desloge is still doing good work and has never given one inch to the devil, that I know of. He rouses up occasionally, but through much prayer and long-suffering of the saints, is subdued for a season.

Elder Tommie Franklin our pastor is giving out helpful inspiring messages, uses great wisdom in managing the affairs of the church, also has God-given grace to preach against sin and wickedness prevalent in the Lead Belt and elsewhere.

Our Sunday school and league are very satisfactory except as to numbers. Not every one will go to Sunday school, as many members of the church are disinterested. To be a real happy, useful, progressive Christian it seems one should be interested in every department of the church, even the cradle roll department.

30 loyal women compose our Mission. Every member enjoys our league, judging from the regular attendance and interest. Bro. Elmer Stegall is our president.

Sunday evening, April 1st, the league sponsored an Easter program, which was pronounced good, followed by a talk on the "Resurrection" by the pastor.

Our church has voted for a revival to begin about May 20th, if arrangements can be made for that date; so we ask prayers, that it might be a success and result in a great awakening among God's people and many souls be born into the Kingdom.

Pray too, that we may ever be an humble church; if good be accomplished at any time, may we give our God and our Savior the glory.

Anna Reed, Reporter.

A CORRECTION

You will notice in our financial report on the pledges that the \$30.00 given by the State Mission workers and the general offering of \$88.10 seem to be two separate amounts in the report; but the \$30.00 is included in the \$88.10, and it is intended that you understand the report that way. But the way it reads doesn't sound exactly that way, but if you will figure it with the above correction in mind you will find that the figures will all come out right.

The pledges are nearly all paid in; so let's hurry and get them finished.

Winford Davis, State Sec'y.

OUR LINOTYPE INSURANCE

Some few weeks ago we came to realize that the insurance on the linotype was soon coming due, and of course we had no money in the treasury for that purpose; so I just decided I would write a personal appeal to about 27 Free Will Baptist who I thought would respond, asking them for \$1.00 each; and I am glad to say that I have heard from 25 out of the 27, and the 25 heard from have sent in \$22.50, which will nearly cover the insurance for another year. I wish to thank every one of you for your prompt and liberal response in this matter.

As we have invested \$1300.00 in the machine it seems to me it is wise that we keep it insured. I realize it was no more my place to do this than any one else; but I knew some one would have to make a move if it was done.

May the Lord bless all who gave.
Winford Davis.

HERBINE, ARK., April 14, 1934.

Dear Brother Brown and Wife and Readers of the Gem: I received my paper this morning and can say, I sure was glad to get it, and surely enjoyed every letter in it. It was just like going to church and being with a happy crowd of Free Will B.

When you are born again you are always wanting to do something for your Savior. I do enjoy working for my blessed Master Jesus Christ.

Our Ladies Aid willing workers will meet the first Saturday in May. We want to do something for our Master down here in Southeast Arkansas. We have pieced one quilt and it brought us ten dollars.

A quarterly meeting will be held at Pine Hill the 5th Sunday in April; hope they will have a good meeting.

Bro. Moore was with us last first Sunday, accompanied by his wife and cousin Marie Moore of Yorktown. He will be back next first Sunday, and we will have feet washing Sunday night. I wish you all could be with us. I think all of God's children should wash feet. If they would read John 13 they would be convinced. I hardly ever miss a sermon, it is food to Christians, and I think we should get it. The more you go to church, the more you want to go: the longer you stay away, the less you care about going; and we all ought to go to church.

Well I didn't come to preach a sermon, but God being my helper I want to hold out to the end.

Clara Bell Doss.

BOWDEN, OKLA., April 20th.

Dear Mission Workers:

With this beautiful day and with God's help I will try and send in our report for the Eastside Mission circle for the past month.

We met at the New Home church Bro. Harry Staires pastor. We surely had a wonderful time. The Spirit of the Lord was with us throughout the day. It was one of the best rallies we have had; those that were not there surely missed a blessing.

New Home reports a number of sick calls being made, had a week's revival with four souls saved, Junior mission selling extract, and just getting along fine.

Lawnwood reports 3 quilts have been quilted, 2 grocery showers, 37 sick calls, sold 156 bottles of vanilla extract, received 50 calendars.

Blue Bell reports a number of sick calls, 2 stork showers, gave a spray of flowers to Bro. Yocham who has passed to the great beyond. Am't in treasury \$19.26.

Allen reports six prayer meetings, 37 sick calls, one grocery shower to a needy family and one to pastor, also gave him and his wife an electric clock. Am't paid out \$19.93.

Oglesby reports they have quilted 3 quilts and strated the 4th one, and are still trying to do the Lord's will.

Bro. Johnnie Russell and Bro. Stinnett brought the message in the afternoon. Bro. Russell is just a young preacher, of whom we are real proud. Let us pray more for our young ministers. The message was read from the second chapter of Cor. and was enjoyed by all.

Our next rally will be held at Blue Bell the 2nd Friday in May. Pray for us, that we may do the Lord's will and help bring lost souls to Christ.

The Lawnwood church, Bro. Boyd Williams pastor, announces, if the Lord wills, they will start a revival the first week in May; so all who can, come and help. Every one pray that many souls may be saved.

Remember me in your prayers.

Mrs. J. L. Smith.

COWETA, OKLAHOMA, April 21st.

Dear Gem Family, and Bro. Brown: Here we come again from Shahan. This leaves us all in peace and fel-

lowship. Hope all other churches can say the same.

The Free Will Baptist church of Shahan met in regular session March 31, 1934. We had no sickness in our midst, so I think we are wonderfully blessed. Only one call of distress and that was from one of the members whose house burned. This member being a widow, the church made up \$45.00 cash and \$30.00 in groceries, and other much needed articles.

I forgot to tell you dear Gem readers in my first report who our pastor is, so I will tell you now, Eld. H. E. Dixon.

At our last conference the church elected Elder Fred Jones of Wagoner, Oklahoma to hold our revival, beginning the third Sunday in July, to continue two weeks or more.

Our next fifth Sunday meeting will be held at Prairie View church the fifth Sunday in April. Bro. Dixon appointed delegates as follows: Bro. Alvin Baker, Bro. Harlen Evans and Bro. Tom Able.

A beautiful new \$3,000 Free Will Baptist church is about completed at Hitchita, Oklahoma and will be dedicated the first Sunday in May, and the pastor of the new church will be Eld. Thomas H. Dixon.

Hogan Free Will Baptist church is located 12 miles west of Locust Grove, Oklahoma, Bro. Fred Jones being its pastor. This church can boast of 100 members.

Lone Star Free Will Baptist church will be found some five miles southeast of Bixby, Okla. Bro. Hembree the pastor is doing some wonderful work there, his appointment being the 4th Sunday.

Another thriving church is Gap Prairie, 45 miles south of Muskogee. They have fine meetings there. Bro. Chas. Thompson is pastor. Lots of conversions lately, and some additions to the church, which has around 100 members.

Now all the above mentioned churches belong to the Grand River Association, and all are live wires.

I'll tell you more about our many churches in reports later on. We have some of the finest churches in our association, at least I think so, and I think most of you dear brothers and sisters will agree with me.

Remember us in your prayers.

Your humble servant in Christ,
Alta Potter.

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W. VA.

Dear Editor:

I have just been reading my first copy of the Free Will Baptist Gem, and find many interesting things, but fail to see anything from West Virginia. I would like for the people in other states to know that there are some Free Will Baptist in West Va. Just in Kanasha conference we have 22 living churches, and about 35 preachers. We have a quarterly meeting beginning on Friday before each fifth Sunday. Our next quarterly meeting is to be held at Putney in Kanasha County, beginning on Friday before the fifth Sunday in April, and

when I come back from the Q. M., if there no one else to send in a report to the Gem, I will send it in; as I would like for the Gem to be read in every Free Will Baptist home in Kanasha County.

I could write all night on the good and the mistakes of the denomination for I have been an active member in the Free Will Baptist since I was 16 years old, now I am 51. I have seen it grow, and I have seen it drag, but its doctrine will never die.

I will close for this time, but will try to get a report in for next issue.
F. E. Nicholas, 321 5th Avenue.

WETUMKA, OKLAHOMA

Dear Reader of the Gem:

You may be surprised at this letter. I am an old Free Will Baptist, have been for 40 years, and I know of their liberality and fellowship. Now I feel that you will at least read this, as I am going to tell you of our church at Wetumka, Okla.

Our church house was built $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles out of town, and it got partly wrecked some years ago, and got so bad that we have taken it down and got it moved into town, to our lots; now we are in need of money to rebuild; and we feel that the readers would feel our need for help. We are trusting in the Lord; and our prayers are that God will provide a way and means whereby we will be able to go through with the work before us, and that you will be led by His Spirit to lend us help in our need, with your means and your prayers; though we may never meet in this world, God grant that we may meet in the glory world.

Now, brothers and sisters, if you feel that you can help us in this great cause, we will appreciate it. If any church or Sunday school feels like helping us, we will sure appreciate it, and pray God's richest blessings on all.

At present we have our services in a dwelling house. We have a good Sunday school, and doing the best we can; and we ask an interest in your prayers, that God may bless us in our labors for His cause and the salvation of souls.

Any one wishing to help us may send your communication to T. R. Kampllain, chairman of the building committee, Wetumka, Okla. or to Sister Amanda Mayfield, treasurer of Shady Grove church, Wetumka, Okla.

Now, brethren and sisters, I close this and leave this to you, hoping you will give it your prayerful consideration.

Your brother and fellow helper in the cause of Christ,

T. R. Kampllain.

OGLESBY, OKLA., April 14, 1934

Free Will Baptist Church Notes

Dear Readers of the Gem:

I will try by the help of God to write a few lines to our paper. I sure do enjoy reading the Gem paper, as there is so much good news about God's work in it.

Bro. D. W. Stinnett is still with us every two weeks and always delivers

us a good message, at 11 a. m. and at night.

We have a good Sunday school every Sunday, and prayer meetings on Wednesday night. Our Mission meeting is every Tuesday evening.

Bro. Stinnett held a revival at Ochelata and did wonderful work there, and several were saved. There were three new converts came into our church a week ago last Sunday. We are going to start a revival at Oglesby some time in May; and we are praying that God will save many souls.

Last month some of us sisters and brothers attended the Mission rally at Zion Hill church, and this month at New Home church. I always love to meet with new brothers and sisters in Christ.

May God save and bless each and every one of us, is my prayer.

Mrs. James Huff.

MIDWAY, TEXAS, April 18th.

Dear Gem Family:

It seems that everything looks so beautiful this morning after the good rain the Lord sent us yesterday, that every one ought to be happy.

Our good meeting is still going on. We have had 25 saved so far and the power of God coming down. We have had some powerful services, and the meeting is reaching out, people are coming from a distance. Help us pray, for some of our loved are yet out in sin, and we hope God lets the meeting run till every one of our loved ones and friends here are saved.

We were so glad to see Sister Melba's good Mission report in the last Gem. It does our heart good to see our young preachers going right out into the white harvest field. We older preachers should encourage them all we can. We were so glad to read other good reports in the Gem; it was full of such good things last month, and I feel that we have something to be proud of in the line of a denominational paper. We thank the blessed Lord for our good editor and wife who have been so faithful in giving us such a good paper.

Pray for us while down in the south land. We may be here all summer if the Lord opens meetings here.

We are praying for our dear people everywhere, that God will bring our folks together, and give the best year we have ever had.

Yours for Jesus,

H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

GREENTOP, MO., April 19th.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers: Just a line this a. m. We are still in the battle for the King. Oh, brothers and sisters, there is so much work to be done that we sure need to lay aside every weight and the sin that doth so easily beset us, and run the race with patience.

Bro. Davis, your report was fine, reporting the pledges. Of course you couldn't report the debt paid until the pledges were paid. Well, Bro. Davis, I am trusting that it will all be paid in time for a report of the same

in the May issue; come on folks, let's clean the slate. Come on Bro. Davis with some more of the P. T. A. and P. P. A. I will have to say, Amen.

Elder Neal Perkins who recently came to us from southern Ohio held a four weeks' meeting at our Jewel church, with 12 profession. He underwent an operation for appendicitis four weeks ago. We are glad to report he is improving fast and expects to be back on the firing line again soon. Bro. Perkins came to us from the Free Will Baptist in Ohio and we trust the Lord will use him in this field in bringing many souls to Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Elder Sam Marcum.

SEYMOUR, MISSOURI, April 26, 1934

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I will give a brief report of my meeting at Lone Star church, beginning March 4th, and closing April 1st.

Twenty-nine (29) were saved, ranging from 11 to 65 years of age. 27 have united with the church and I know of others who expect to join soon. Our baptizing will be May 13th.

We also have a fine bunch of young people and a good league.

I desire the prayers of all, that we might continue to grow in the grace of our Lord and Savior.

Your brother in Christ,

Elder J. F. Marler.

NOTICE

(At the quarterly meeting)

Preacher—Yes, I'll go to the Conference; put me on.

(Back home)

Preacher—I just don't see how I can possibly go to the Conference. I had too many flats the last time I went, the fence is all down, the gaps are all washed out, the weeds are growing so fast, and I just can't go.

Wife—You know one of the children will get sick while you are gone.

Preacher—Yes, I know, but they put me on the Executive Board.

Wife—That is what you said just as soon as you got home.

Preacher—But they won't need me this time. I thought while I was at the quarterly meeting, and in a big way, I would go. The Association agreed to pay expenses, but nothing has been turned in yet to speak of. I went to my appointments as usual, but I was afraid to say anything; I thought the deacons would say something about the trip.

Wife—Do the deacons know you were appointed as committeeman? Does the church know?

Preacher—No.

Wife—Well, then, don't blame the church. You should let them know. They will be willing to help.

Preacher—Good for you, wife.

(Back to the appointment)

Preacher—Good morning, Brother deacon. Say, I, I, I want to go to the Eastern Conference in June, but as it a long way over there, I guess I will not try to go this time.

Deacon—Well, brother, I wish you would go. I saw Bro. X, and he said

that he was a member of the board. He said that his deacons and church always saw that he went; of course he's on the board.

Preacher—Well, I am too.

Deacon—What! you on the board?

Preacher—Yes.

Deacon—You should have told us. We deacons will see that you get there. The church was just wondering why you never took any interest in the conference like other preachers.

(Back home to wife and babies)

Preacher—Good morning wife. Say, I have fully decided to go to the Conference.

Wife—Just all enthused again. I guess I will just wait till June and see.

Preacher—No wife, really. You know I have found my mistake. I have the best bunch of deacons, and the church seems so good.

Wife—Why? How come? Something is wrong I'm sure.

Preacher—No, no, I just got a little brass on my face and asked them to help me to go to the Conference and they all seemed willing. So I have found my mistake, you know. I have preached all this time, saying, "I don't want your money." So my church is not to blame. I was just reaping the things I had sowed.

Wife—You are just enthused; just a few days and it will all be over as usual.

Preacher—No, no, wife. Even some of the good mothers came to me and said, "As your wife has to stay at home, we are going to send her some nice things to comfort her." They are out in the car now. The church too, gave me enough money to make the trip on, and enough for you to live on while I'm gone.

Wife—Well! Well! Hubbie! I always have regretted I married a preacher until now. Life seems so much brighter and all you lacked to make it this way was just a little brass. Now I guess you will quit sowing seed that won't come up.

Preacher—Just rub it in, wife. This sure has taught me a lesson. From here out I am sure I will get to attend the Conference.

Yes, it convenes June 13th at Jakin, Georgia.

Melvin Bingham, 833 N. Utica, Tulsa.

VERONA, MISSOURI, April 22, 1934

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I greet you all in the name of our Christ this beautiful Saturday, as I go forth to preach the Word. There are many things that I might say concerning Christ's doctrine, goodness and love. As this is the first time we (wife and I and family) have written to the Gem since we subscribed to it.

I want to say to our editor with a hearty voice, "May God bless you and yours with a special blessing from day to day, as you engage in the great work which you are doing; you have my sincere prayers; and may others feel their responsibility of prayer for our patient editor. May God continue to bless you, Bro. Brown."

As I go on my way to preach on the street corner at Cassville this beautiful Saturday, I wish to drop a

few thoughts along the line of Faith and Obedience to our God.

Faul says, "Woe is me, if I preach not the gospel of Jesus Christ." Truly I can say, as does Paul, "Woe is me, if I preach not the gospel." Again we are admonished to preach sound doctrine; and again, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

So, dear brethren, God wants us to teach, to preach, to exhort, reprove, rebuke, with all long suffering and doctrine.

God bless all of His children, and especially all who read this. May our great God send more laborers into the vineyard that will preach God's holy word without fear or favor, toward creed, or partiality toward man.

My heart is made to rejoice today as I venture on to my street service. May God bless you one and all.

Your brother in Christ,

F. Lonberg.

DRUMRIGHT, OKLA., April 23, 1934

Dear Gem readers:

Here we come with just a brief report for this month, and I am afraid we have waited almost too long to get it in the paper. Perhaps I might explain a little, for fear you might think we are sitting down on the great work of the Lord, for we are still doing our best, and the mission work is still going on, and we are still having our good circle meetings each month, but the reporter had to miss again last month and we have been having a time trying to get hold of the report that was taken, so we might send it in. It seems that every minute of our time is taken up. We were called to help Bro. Johnson in a funeral at the Drumright church; so didn't get to be at the rally. One of our dear members of the Drumright church passed away, Grandma Shelle, about 83 years old, a very dear old soul, loved by all, and she had lots of friends, most of whom were at the funeral; so our circle meeting was not very largely attended.

Cushing wasn't there to give in their report, nor was Vance Chapel present. The meeting was held at the Arbordale church where Sister Fincher is the good pastor. They are working hard down there. They are in the chicken business just now, going to try to make some money to help carry on the good work. They have one quilt ready for sale, gave one grocery shower to a needy home, have been having cottage prayer meetings and at one of the prayer meetings, six souls were saved.

Jennings was there with their report. They sure have a fine mission work up there. They have been serving lunch to school children to make money to help them out. They also served to several children who are not able to pay for lunch. They have two quilts on hand, made 50 sick calls, have given two grocery showers and some clothing to the needy. They still have a junior mission there too, and in the last two months they have made 89 sick calls; may God bless our young folks.

The Drumright church reports they just had a bake sale which brought them \$5.20, the mission workers paid \$10.00 to their pastor this month and have given two grocery showers; they have visited in a good many sick homes, also in homes that were not coming to church.

Now we ask one and all who read our report to pray for us, that God will get glory out of our lives, and keep us at the front of the battle, for there is so much to do.

Yours for the cause of Christ,
Hattie Newman, Reporter.

BOONEVILLE, ARKANSAS

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Family:

For some time I have thought of writing a few lines to the paper, just to let you, with the many good brethren that I have met since I have been preaching, know that I am still living.

I enjoy reading the good articles from the different sections of the country, and pray the good Lord to bless each one.

Today has been a great day with me. I didn't have an appointment for today, and wife and I had planned to take dinner with our daughter who has recently married, but just before we started, Bro. Fay Phillips, with Bro. McGee, came after me. They told me that Bro. J. W. West and his wife, Bro. W. W. McGee and wife and Elder Crouch, one of our fine preachers from that section of the country, were visiting my home church. To say that I was glad, is putting it in a mild form; so I accompanied them to the church. Bro. Crouch brought us a wonderful message at the eleven o'clock hour—it was real food to my soul. You know we preachers don't get to hear much preaching and, oh, how hungry we get for spiritual food. I really enjoy hearing a man preach.

I know that the harvest is great and the laborers are few; so I am in the work most of the time, and God is blessing my efforts. We had a wonderful service at Yorktown where I organized a church in December. had two saved and one reclaimed. I never will forget what this poor man said to me. It all happened after the service at the church was over. The brethren came after me after I had gone to bed. They said this man wanted me to come and pray for him. Of course I got up and went to him, and these are the words he said to me, "Bro. Guinn, I am lost and bound for hell, unless I can get relief." Thank God there is relief for every sin-sick soul. I said, "Brother, there is relief in Jesus." While praying he was saved, and his wife with him. So we had an old time revival there in that house.

May the Lord bless the good editor, his wife, and all the Gem family, is my prayer.

Remember I am one of the three evangelists of this state. I have from August 1st to Aug. 15th that my time is not taken up; any church wanting me at that date, I could serve you. I can furnish you a recommendation from our people at different places in this state, not only as a minister, but as a Gospel singer.

Elder W. M. Guinn.

THEY HAVE TAKEN AWAY MY LORD*By Mrs. Asberry Davis*

Poor Mary, disappointed, bewildered, eyes streaming with tears, and an aching heart, while viewing the empty sepulchre of Jesus, she sorrowfully exclaimed, "They have taken away my Lord." But her sorrow was quickly turned into joy, as the resurrected Christ disclosed to her his identity and very tenderly said, "Mary."

Not very long ago a relative, writing to me of a sermon she and her husband had heard while away from home, declared, "We heard a modern sermon today and it made us feel very sad." By the word "modern" she simply meant to say that the sermon denied the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, as well as repudiated one or more other claims of the inspired word of God. It was but another instance, among many others, of an attempt to take away from devout souls their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as the world's Redeemer, through His sacrificial death and His resurrection from the tomb, and the sacrilegious and destructive work goes on. It wouldn't be so lamentable, if the onslaughts were those of open infidelity, but proceeding from the professed friends of the divine Son of God, the fact is the more deplorable and ruinous; but it is a fulfillment of the Apostle Paul's prediction, That grievous wolves would draw many disciples after them, not sparing the flock. Not only are some pulpits converted into Satan's seat, but various colleges and theological seminaries also disseminate rank error, extending even to the foreign mission fields.

One of the most deadly channels through which false teachings are promoted is often that of the secular and avowed religious press periodicals, which coming into the homes of the people are among the mightiest forces in molding the opinions and lives of the family, especially is this true of some who are not well instructed in Bible truth and not deeply rooted in Christian experience.

There are some avowing the virgin birth of the Lord Jesus by way of explanation, and they declare they want to be fair to both classes, but are they fair to their professed Lord and Master? Do they not rather assist in increasing the number of those who possibly might have the Lord taken away from them? What a dreadful responsibility they assume in allowing the divine Savior to be crucified afresh and put to an open shame, and that too in the house of His friends! Is it scriptural to say that it were better for such a one to have a millstone hanged about his neck and that he were drowned in the depths of the sea? It is far better for any of us to lose our natural life than to put a stumbling or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

THE PRIESTHOOD EXPLAINED*By Elder P. H. Coffman*

There are two lineages of the Priesthood to consider: One that terminated when Christ was crucified, the other is eternal or everlasting. Christ was born King and was made a priest. Now consider how great this man was—Melchisedec—"Without father, without mother, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life."

Now I am sure there are many that have wondered how such a man as Melchisedec could be, having neither father or mother. I want to say that this 7th chapter of Hebrews explains it all. Melchisedec had a father and mother as well as you or I according to the flesh; but he did not have father and mother in the priesthood, because he was priest of the most high God. Now his priesthood has no end because Christ was made a priest after the order of Melchisedec, and Christ is still our High Priest at the right hand of God.

Aaron became the first priest under the Levitical law. Priests were born unto Aaron, so Aaron's sons had to be priests because they were born of a priestly family.

Christ was made a priest by an oath (Heb. 7:21). "By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament" (Heb. 7:22). "For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing of a better hope did: by the which we draw nigh to God" (Heb. 7:19). "For it is evident that our Lord hath sprung out of Judah; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood" (Heb. 7:14).

So we understand that Hebrews 7:3 is not speaking with reference to father and mother after the flesh, but with reference to the priesthood.

101 W. Hull St., Denison, Texas.

THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT*By Elder Walter E. George*

This is a very deep subject, but with close study of the Bible and the help of others, I believe that we can get an understanding of this matter. I have studied this different ways, and I am sure the Bible will hold us up. If I am wrong, I would like for some one to show me my error and show the Bible, and I will not get mad, but I would thank any one for helping me any time.

Now, here we go. When God placed man and woman in the garden they were pure, with all the happiness that God gave them, and only one law was given them: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:17). Now this tree does not mean a tree that grows apples or peaches or plums that people gather fruit from and eat. Both good and wicked men are called trees in the Bible. "And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season: his leaf also shall not wither" (Psalm 1:3). Here we have man compared with a tree that brings forth fruit, and has leaves. "The axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire" (Matt. 3:10). Here we are compared with trees. The judgment of God hangs over our heads ready to seize upon us if we be barren or do not bring forth good fruit.

I do not mean to say that the tree of knowledge was a man, but it was in his likeness. "Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made" (Gen. 3:1). We must not look at the beasts in those days as being like they are today, for they were not wild like they are today or after man was driven out of the garden. (Now turn to page ten).

F. W. B. LEAGUE REPORTS

(Come in later.)

PLEASANT HILL LEAGUE REPORT

By Truman Jones

I am sending in the report of the Pleasant Hill league of Union Ass'n.

Our league is small so far as membership is concerned, but most of the members are regular attendants.

March 31st we elected the following officers:

President Alva Hickman
Vice president Ferguson Hickman
Sec'y-Treas., Virginia Claxton
Chorister Alice Jones
Reporter Truman Jones

The writer believes the officers will do their best to make the league as lively and as interesting as possible.

Truman Jones, Reporter.

BLUE EYE LEAGUE REPORT

Alma McMonigle, Reporter

We are glad to say our league is still in the fight for God.

We have just recently reorganized the league, and the following officers were elected:

President Chloe Buell
Vice president Lenna Butler
Secretary Margaret Pascoe
Quiz leader Veta Garrett
Reporter Alma McMonigle
Group captains: Celeste Collier, Alga Carr, Edna McFall, Violet Butler.
Junior quiz leader Nola Atchley
Junior group captains: Wynoka Collier, Edna Lee Butler, Lucile Pascoe, Josephine Garrett.
Junior sponsor Mila Butler.

We have a membership of about thirty seniors and twenty juniors.

We earnestly ask an interest in your prayers, that each leaguer might co-operate with our officers and do more work for the Master.

THESE PRESENT TIMES

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

Just a word this cold snowy morning. I have just come home from our quarterly meeting, and I'm thinking of the times we are living in now, and the things that are destroying both soul and body of our rising generation.

It takes real regeneration to stand. There are many professors, but where are their fruits? The Bible says, "By their fruits ye shall know them."

It seems to me that these scriptures apply to us.

"The great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Rev. 6:17). I hear the Lord say, "Who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor" (Psa. 15:1-3).

I hear John say in Rev. 6:8, "And I looked and behold, a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was death,

and hell followed with him. And power was given unto them, over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with the sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth." And when we look and see these awful times, let us ask ourselves Who shall be able to stand?

"This know also, that in the last days, perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, untruthful, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, dispisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God" (2 Tim. 3:1-3).

"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Tim. 3:5). If there ever was a form of godliness, it surely is today; therefore, he that thinketh he standeth, let him take heed, lest he fall. Brother let's stand for the truth. Pray for us.

Elder W. H. Carter.

THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT

Continued from page nine

Now, because the Bible says, Serpent, it does not mean a snake. Turn to Rev. 20:2—"And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan." you see here he is not a snake, but he is the Devil. We have to study the Bible close to understand it.

The word subtle, what does it mean? It means beautiful, having a fine structure, delicately formed (real fine). The Devil used some beast of beautiful form to tempt Eve, and that beast is now going on its belly. And he said to Eve, "Ye shall not surely die." The Devil is wise, and he knows our weakness, and how to tempt us, for he was once an angel and in heaven. Read the 12th chapter of Rev.

I do not believe the Devil gave Eve an apple to eat, do you. Let us read Gen. 3:6, "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat." Notice also, they took of the fruit, not an apple, but the fruit that the serpent bore. We are known by our fruits, whether good or bad, and the same kind of fruit is damning the world today. Is it apples or peaches? No, it is sin. Now read verse 7, "And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked." How did they know that they were naked. Because they had done wrong,

they had sinned. When are our eyes opened? When we reach the age of responsibility, or to know right from wrong, it is then that we are naked before God. But He is ready to clothe us if we will let Him.

"And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons," not clothes, but just aprons. Why didn't they make clothes? Because they knew what they had done and they made aprons to hide that part of them. They did not stop at that, but hid themselves among the trees of the garden. Now God placed a curse on the three of them. "And the Lord said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field: upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life" (Gen. 3:14). Here is where the charge came from a fine looking being to a snake. Read what he said to the woman, verse 16, "Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee." See the charge or curse God put upon the woman? God is making it a sorrow to her. No doubt the same thing that God told them not to do; and they sinned when they broke the law. God speaks along the same line, because God said, "In sorrow thou shalt bring forth children," and become a servant to her husband, instead of a helpmate.

Verses 17 to 19—"And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee: and thou shalt eat the herbs of the field; in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread till thou return unto the ground." Because of that sin death was passed on all men. Death means separation anywhere you see it. At death the soul is separated from the body, the second death is where all that are lost will be separated from God for ever. Some people try to get the Adamic sin removed by a second definite work of grace, but if they could get it removed, they would not die, but we all will die.
1520 W. Atlantic, Springfield, Mo.

OBITUARY

LOWEN—Charles F. Lowen, son of John and Martha Lowen, was born June 16, 1897, near Trenton, Mo., and departed this life, March 20, 1934, at his home near Sublette, Mo., being at the time of his death, 36 years, nine months and 26 days old.

He was united in marriage March 12, 1921 to Neoma Moss of Trenton, Mo. To this union were born three sons, Francis 12, Paul 10, James 8.

For the past ten years he has been a blacksmith at Willmathsville, Sperry and Sublette.

His father and mother preceded him in death some years ago.

He was a member of the Free Will Baptist church at Sublette.

Surviving are his wife and three sons, one brother, Harry Lowen of Willmathsville, besides these are other relatives and friends.

His wife has lost a devoted husband, his children a loving father and the church a faithful worker and the community a friend and neighbor.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Sam Marcum, Wednesday afternoon at Willmathsville and burial was made in the cemetery at Willmathsville.

SPARKS—Stella Sparks, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Dickson, was born September 3, 1907, and departed this life April 6, 1934, at the age of 26 years, seven months and two days.

She was united in marriage to Noah Sparks, December 24, 1923. To this union four children were born.

She professed a faith in Christ in 1924 and united with the Free Will Baptist church at New Harmony.

Those surviving are her husband, four children, father and mother, two brothers, besides other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Sam Marcum, April 7, 1934, in the Green Grove Free Will Baptist church, and burial in Green Grove cemetery.

In Loving Memory of our Dear Mother, Mrs. Mary Boyer, who Departed this Life April 21, 1933.

It was on one April morning,
Near the hour of three,
As I lay on my pillow,
I heard her voice calling me,
And I hastened to her bed.

I took her in my arms,
And clasped her to my heart,
And this is what she said,
Just before we had to part.

"Dear child, be good,
And tell all the rest to be,
For I'm going home to Jesus,
And my soul will soon be free."

Now, when evening shadows gather,
And we rest from the cares of the day,
Then I feel the presence of our dear loving Savior,
As I kneel by my bedside to pray.

There is a voice more dear than mother's,

That can dry all our tears away,
And we now are trying to walk,
In that straight and narrow way,
And praying Jesus to help us,
To be what He would have us be.

Written by her daughter, Mrs. Ona Dummitt.

In Loving Memory of our Dear Father, Mr. Frank Boyer, who Departed this Life March 26, 1927.

Dear daddy, we miss you,
In the dear old home today,
You are still as sweet in our memory,
As the day you went away.

Today I gathered Easter lilies,
The flowers you loved so well;
And these little flowers can always
to me,

A sweet story tell;
For we placed them on your casket,
For the one we loved so well.

We miss your kindly presence,
As we journey on through life;
But we all must share this passing,
As we share the day and night.

Written by his daughter, Mrs. Ona Dummitt.

NEWTON—Cloyce Lee Newton was born in Barry County, Missouri, July 19, 1924, and departed this life March 18, 1934.

He leaves to mourn his departure a father and mother, three brothers, and five sisters. They are: Marvin, Cad, Jerry, Carl, Dorothy, Mary Susan, Nanna Jean at home and two sisters, Mrs. Mona Leemaster of Newtonia, Mo. and Mrs. Thelma Garner of Granby, Mo., besides a host of other relatives and school friends.

All his class mates and school friends will miss him. But blessed are they who die in the Lord.

Cloyce Lee was accidentally killed by the discharge of a revolver which entered just below the left eye; death was instant.

Funeral service was conducted by Elder Winford Davis, at the Jones Chapel Free Will Baptist church and interment was made in the Jones Chapel cemetery.

COLLIER—William Andrew Collier, age 66 years and five days, died in the Nethrow Sanitarium at Eldorado Springs, Missouri, where he had been for treatment the past six months.

Mr. Collier was a member of a prominent pioneer family of Carroll county, and was born at Osage. When a boy he moved with his parents to the Orrell community, near Green Forest, Arkansas, where he lived until some fifteen years ago, moving from there to Blue Eye, Mo., where he lived until some two years ago, when he and Mrs. Collier moved to Berryville, Ark. He was a prosperous farmer and stockman.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ophelia Collier, his mother, Tennessee Collier, one son, Bert Collier of Blue Eye, three daughters, Mrs. John Mayes of Berryville, Mrs. John Emmett of

Green Forest, and Mrs. Alpha Baughman of Blue Eye, four brothers, Ben, Ed, John and Alex Collier, all of the vicinity of Green Forest, Ark., five sisters: Mrs. Abe Walker of Rule, Ark., Mrs. Riley Orrell and Mrs. Chas. Hulsey, both of Green Forest, Mrs. Price Shipley of Kaw, Okla., and Mrs. Martha Dooling who lives in Kansas. He is also survived by three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist church in Green Forest, Arkansas, Thursday afternoon, March 29, 1934, by Elder C. H. Sherman, pastor of the Berryville church and Elder Winford Davis, pastor of the Blue Eye Free Will Baptist church.

At the time of Mr. Collier's death he was a member and a faithful deacon of the Blue Eye Free Will Baptist church. The lack of his wise council and loving presence will be keenly felt by the Blue Eye church and community.

Interment was made in the Odd Fellows cemetery of Berryville, Ark. Nelson Undertaking establishment in charge.

LIGHT—Mrs. Kate Light was born in Illinois, February 22, 1854, and departed this life March 27, 1934, at the age of 80 years, one month and four days.

Surviving are four sons, Cleve of Tulsa, Okla., Orville of Cleveland, Okla., Charlie and Wess of Summerville, Mo., two sisters, thirteen grandchildren, four great grandchildren, other relatives and a host of friends.

She died at the home of her son Wess Light.

She was converted at an early age and lived a constant Christian life until her death. She was a member of the First Free Will Baptist church of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Funeral services were conducted at the Baptist church in Summerville, Mo., Elder Melvin Bingham officiating.

MATTHEWS—Elder E. J. Matthews was born at St. Joseph, Mo. 72 years ago, and departed this life March 22, 1934.

He married Melinda Davenport in the state of Missouri. To this union ten children were born, seven daughters and three sons. After the death of his first wife he married Mrs. Laura Rockwell.

For nearly half a century he was a Free Will Baptist minister; knew his Bible, his God, and how to preach, pray and work.

Surviving are Mrs. Matthews, six daughters: Mrs. Meadows, Mrs. Hood, Mrs. Barnett, Mrs. Stokes, all of Tulsa, Mrs. Wright of Eldon, Mo., Mrs. Bledsoe of Conroe, Texas.

Bro. Matthews was a member of the First Free Will Baptist church of Tulsa, also the founder and organizer of the church. He was not able to attend church regularly on account of ill health, his health failing him for some time, but labored faithfully until the good Lord called him home.

He had a desire to depart this life and be present with the Lord.

Funeral services were conducted at the Tulsa Undertaking Company, Eld. O. M. Stallings officiating.

SISEMORE—Floyd Sisemore was born January 18, 1905, departed this life April 22, 1934, at the age of 29 years, three months and four days.

Surviving are his mother, Mrs. Nancy Blackwell, father, Mr. Lee Sisemore, five brothers: Butler, Daniel, Willis, George and Arthur Sisemore, one sister, Mrs. Thena Tehee.

He told his mother a few days before he died that he was ready to go.

Funeral services were held at the First Free Will Baptist church of Tulsa, Elder Melvin Bingham officiating.

CHETOPA, KANSAS, R2

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I am sending in a few lines in memory of my dear mother, Malinda Olive Mayfield, who passed away May 7, 1933. Pray for us, that we may live a consecrated life for our Savior, and be ready to meet Him when the last trump shall sound, and there we shall also meet our loved ones where there will be no more partings.

I wish to thank the Gem readers who knew my mother that three more of mother's children have been saved and are on the way to meet mother.

Our prayer is that we may live a life that we may influence others to turn and seek this Savior which we have found, also we will not forget the other friends who have given their lives to the Lord. We just want to thank God for sending two of His messengers, Bro. Rollins and Bro. Swaffar, to Fairview church.

I am thinking today of my mother, And almost a year has gone by Since she left us, so lonely without her, But to follow her footsteps we'll try.

She has gone to her home up in heaven, A far better place than this, Where all is joy, peace and gladness, In that home of eternal bliss.

Her sweet presence forever has left us; There's a vacancy where're we roam, But in our hearts is the memory Of a Christian mother and home.

A Christian mother's memory, Through ages of time will live on; And help to bring her loved ones to Christ, Though years have passed and gone.

Oh, brothers and sisters, heed the call; Turn not the dear Savior away, But heed a loving mother's prayers, And come and be saved today.

We are marching down the valley; May our hearts turn to our God; Let us not forget the pathway, That our loving mother trod.

Let us run our race with patience, To our mother's God be true, Let us put our trust in Jesus, He will guide us safely through.
—Mrs. Lula Sexton.

COFFMAN—Doris Lorene Coffman was born May 15, 1923, and passed from this life to the Great Beyond, February 28, 1934, being ten years, nine months and thirteen days old. She was always a child who delighted

in going to Sunday school and studying the teachings of the Lord.

Saturday morning, February 17th she was severely burned by her flaming clothes. With the aid of the loving hearts of friends she bravely fought the battle of death, which she lost February 28th, at eight o'clock a. m. The night before she died consisted of a struggle, departing from this sinful world to the home where she has gone to dwell in peaceful rest. There with outstretched arms she can greet her loving brother and sister who have gone on before.

She leaves behind her a father and mother, two sisters, five brothers and a host of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me; and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God."

Funeral services were conducted by Elder Selph Jones, burial at Oak Grove cemetery.

NOTICE

(To the preachers and churches)

Any minister or church that wants me in their church to hold meetings should notify me as soon as possible.

I would like to hold some revivals in Missouri. I have pretty well covered the states of Oklahoma and Arkansas in the past few years, but my health broke down on me over a year ago; but now I am able to get back on the field again.

Any one desiring the old time gospel preaching, and believes in sinners getting down in repentance and praying through to victory, can secure my services by writing me at Boswell, Oklahoma. —Elder J. R. Edwards.

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ON WHICH SIDE?

By Mrs. I. B. Leonard

On which side will you stand, oh my brother?

On which side of the throne will you stand?

Will you be with the ransomed in glory?

Will they place you upon the right hand?

Do your sins separate you from heaven?

Will you hear Jesus say, I know not you?

Or will you be found with the faithful, And with those that to Him have been true?

Do you realize the danger, my brother, Of not seeking the Lord in thy youth? Oh, come to Him while there is pardon, Do accept His sweet promise of truth, Oh, why will you linger, my brother? Step out in the light and be free, Throw off sin's dark chains that now bind you, List, Jesus is pleading for you.

Will you stand on the right side, my brother,

Or be cast out in darkness and woe? For God judges us by our actions, As we travel this life here below.

Jesus said, And behold, I come quickly And my reward I shall give every one; Will your life have been spent, oh my brother,

That His answer to thee be, Well done?

AT THE CLOSE OF DAY

Contributed by Mrs. J. B. Kaighn

A little more tired at the close of day, A little more anxious to have our way;

A little less ready to scold or blame, A little more care of a brother's name.

And so we are nearing the journey's end, Where time and eternity meet and blend.

A little more love for the friends of youth,

A little less zeal for established truth;

A little more charity in our views, A little less thirst for the daily news, And so we are folding our tents away, And passing in silence at the close of day.

A little less care for bonds and gold, A little more zest in the days of old; A broader view and a saner mind, A little more love for all mankind, And so we are faring adown the way, That leads to the gates of a better day.

A little more leisure to sit and dream, A little more real the things unseen; A little nearer those ahead, With visions of those longloved and dead.

And so we are going where all must go, To the place where the living may never know.

Anonamous.

F. W. B. LEAGUE REPORTS

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MONTHLY REPORT

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

Well Leaguers, another month has passed and we are one month nearer the end of the race. I am just wondering if we have been loyal to our league, and all of God's work. If we have, there is a reward awaiting us; if not, we are falling short of what God expects of us; and what a sad thought to be a disappointment to God, when we consider what He is to us.

If any of you leaguers are sometimes late, or absent altogether, when you are to render a part in league, just think how you miss the officers of your league when they are absent. Then consider that your presence is just as much to your officers as theirs is to you.

We have a report of a Free Will Baptist league organized at Amity church by Sister Melba White.

N. W. PICHER LEAGUE REPORT (Blue Front)

Helen Beam, Reporter

Thank God we still have a progressive league.

We had an Easter egg hunt, Easter Sunday, at the farm of Elder Paul Pursell. Prizes were awarded. After the egg hunt, dinner was served, and services were held later in the afternoon, Elder Paul Pursell had charge.

Every one had a good time. It was dismissed at four o'clock and league was called at six-thirty o'clock.

An Easter program was given by the three classes combined, and every one seemed to enjoy it.

After the league program Elder Paul Pursell preached a good sermon, and one precious soul was saved.

We request the prayers of God's people, that we may always be found working for God.

OPERATION of the SPIRIT

Continued from page two

sins." We see that the baptism of repentance remits sins, that the Spirit is the administrator, the people who are baptized by the Spirit are the subjects, and repentance is the element of that baptism; so the Spirit performs the operation.

We read in Col. 2:12, "Buried with him in baptism wherein also ye are risen with him, through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." God does the operating, and not man.

We read again in Gal. 3:27, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ."

We read in Romans 6:3, 4, "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." We see again that God does the operating, and not man; and we are baptized into His death, not into water. This is the baptism that makes us Christians, and of course Free Will Baptist too.

We read in Eph. 4:5, where Paul said, "One Lord, one faith, one baptism." Now, he said, "One Lord," that is, it takes one Lord to save, and one faith to save, and one baptism to save, and John preached that baptism that was the baptism of repentance; so I thank God that with "the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:10); and when we believe and confess, the Lord will forgive and save us.

"For whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21; Rom. 10:13); the Spirit comes to sinners as a reprover (St. John 16:8); He comes to all men (Titus 2:11); the Spirit washes us (Cor. 6:6-11); the blood cleanses us (1 John 1:7; Eph. 1:7). God pardons (2 Chron. 30:18; Isa. 55:7).

Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

DETERMINATION

By Elder Edna Crain

As I write a few lines on this subject, I feel that it means much in a Christian's life to have a determination, and then to carry it out. An unsaved person must be determined before he can find the Lord. Jesus said, "He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek

him" (Heb. 11:6). Believing is first and finding is second.

So many folks, when they were converted, promised God that they would do anything for him, but fail to carry out that promise. The greatest cause is neglect of duty. Your intentions may be ever so good, but if you fail to do your duty, you will fail, and you may find yourself without the Spirit of Christ. Oh, if every Christian could feel just how much we are indebted to Christ! He gave his all for us, but what are we doing for him?

The Bible says that faith without works is dead; and I believe that a great big determination without works is dead also.

The three Hebrew children were determined they were not going to worship the idol god. They put their works with their determination, and God brought them out of the fire with Jesus by their side.

The Apostle Peter, as recorded in St. Matthew 26:35, said to Jesus before the trial of Christ, "Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee." He was intending to do the right, but failed. Why?

Jesus took the disciples out to the garden of Gethsemane and said, "Sit ye here while I go and pray yonder." When he came back from prayer he told them to watch and pray lest they enter into temptation. He also told Peter personally, "Watch and pray, lest ye enter into temptation;" but he slept instead. Then when Jesus went to Pilate's hall, Peter followed afar off. The reason why he denied him instead of confessing him was simply because he failed to pray.

The reason why so many Christians fail is because they fail to pray, and if you fail to pray, you will be very likely to fail other ways, too.

The reason why so many churches are failing is because so many of their members are like Peter, they sleep on the job with their hands folded, instead of praying and doing their duty.

I pray that God will stir us up and help us to see there is much more to be done, more souls to be saved from a burning hell, and that there are greater victories to be won.

Free Will Baptist, let's go over the top for God! I'm sure we will if we keep trying, as God directs.

117 B & 3rd, S. W., Miami, Oklahoma.

JOHN'S BAPTISM

NOT CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

By W. J. Edens

The Missionary Baptists claim an unbroken line of ministerial ordinations and of baptism from John the Baptist to the present time. However church history does not substantiate the claim. There is a period in the Dark Ages that is covered by no authentic record of the church. But if the claim to continuity could be established, it would not warrant Missionary Baptists in claiming to be 'the church' for the reason that John's baptism was not the Christian baptism.

TELL ME, JESUS, IS MOTHER OVER THERE?

A song composed by Mrs. Mattie Epperson in Memory of her Mother who died thirty-nine years ago.

When I was but a little girl, so many years ago,
My mother left this world of sin and sorrow here below,
She's singing with the angel band, she's shouting over there,
Oh, tell me Jesus Savior, is my mother over there?

CHORUS

Is mother over there, in the city bright and fair?
Oh, Jesus! tell me, Savior, is she there?

I long to see her blessed face, I'd like to see her now,
And feel her arms in warm embrace, and press her
loving brow,
I'd tell her of my struggle here without a mother's care,
Oh, Jesus! tell me, Savior, is she there?

CHORUS

Is mother over there, in the city bright and fair?
Oh, Jesus! tell me, Savior, is she there?

Though I was often lonely without a mother's prayer,
To help me through this world of gloom, and gain a
home up there;
But then I hear the voice of Him in tones of sweetest care,
Yes, daughter, your mother is up here.

CHORUS

Tell mother I'll be there and heaven's glory share,
Oh, Jesus! tell me, Savior, is she there?

I know her work on earth was done, she's living over there,
With all the saints of God on high, who've gained the
home so fair,
So let us all be true to Him who answered mother's prayer,
And meet with all the loved ones, in heaven's beauty share.

CHORUS

Tell mother we'll be there, in heaven's beauty share,
Oh, tell her, precious Savior, we'll be there.

So, children, listen to our prayer, and don't forget to pray,
That when you leave this world below, that you may
find the way,
And on your mother's God you'll call, and He will an-
swer prayer,
Tell mother, Jesus Savior, we'll be there.

CHORUS

Tell mother we'll be there, in that morning bright and fair,
Oh, Jesus! tell her, Savior, we'll be there!

JESUS GIVES PEACE

By Mrs. Lizzie Shipman

"My peace I give unto you" (St. John 14:27).

All the dear Lord's people who walk in love and peace, and are in order, need each other so much. The cold, dark frowning world should not have charms for them.

We should be a separate people, and love each other better than the world. We should not only love and do good to each other, but we should love and do good to our enemies. "Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God" (Matt. 5:9). It is a great thing to be a peacemaker, to be a child of God, to be called a pacifier and to so live that we will be called the children of God.

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you" "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." Jesus left His peace with us, and if we are not at peace with each other, then it cannot be on account of what Jesus left with us, but that which he did not leave. Jesus did not leave with us anything to destroy our peace and love. "My peace I give unto you," is not this a wonderful gift? A gift which the world can never give. A peace, not with the world, but a peace with God. If we live in his peace and love, we are at peace with God and with each other. Wonderful peace! We would not exchange this peace for peace with the world.

Jesus' peace is not a mere formality, but a real blessing. It is of such a nature that the smiles of the world cannot give it, and the powers of the world cannot take it away. The peace which Jesus gives is infinitely more valuable than anything the world can give.

The world's peace begins in ignorance, consists of sin, and ends in endless trouble. Christ's peace begins in grace, consists of no sin, and never ends.

"Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." If we are in peace with God and with each other; the world may go wild and run mad after pride and the things of the world, but our peace and love are with God, and not with the world; therefore we should not be troubled in heart, nor afraid, for God is our all and in all.

Paul, when he came near the end of his journey, wrote the Corinthian brethren and bade them farewell, saying, "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of peace shall be with you" (2 Corinthians 13:11).

"Ye that love the Lord, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked" (Psalm 97:10).

So let us all live in peace and love, be kind, loving, peaceable, honest, noble, truthful, and do all things in praise and honor to God.

Deep in every loyal heart,
There burns a tiny flame,
That glows with added brilliancy,
At the mention of a name.

Its tiny beams make light the path
Of weary feet that roam;
And brightens up the winding road
That leads to home, sweet home.

ONE THING NEEDFUL

By Miss Elsie Keeton

"Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing" (Luke 18:22).

The context of this scripture verse tells us that a rich young man, having authority as a ruler, had lived a life of the moral man. Perhaps he had lived a life before men that was beyond reproach. He could say what few Christians can say, that he had kept the commandments from his youth up. And yet Jesus said these words, "One thing thou lackest yet;" and it seems to me that our Savior,

the same today as yesterday, is still saying, "One thing thou lackest," as well to Christians perhaps as to the unsaved.

The thing this man lacked was to sell his goods and feed the poor, and follow Jesus. Few of us need to be concerned about the first part, as we have no riches, but we do need to be concerned about following Jesus. You notice that He said, "One thing thou lackest;" and there is just one thing lacking in the unsaved, and that is the atoning blood of our Savior. But after our sins are covered by the blood, there may be things lacking, such as faith, meekness, temperance, and love. Paul said, "This one thing I do . . . I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Let us, as Christians, take this for our motto and strive to get closer to our Father and follow our Savior each day, so that there may be nothing lacking in our lives.

THE WILES OF THE DEVIL

Ephesians 6: 11

By Elder Winford Davis

Do you believe in a personal devil? I do. You know some folks are like the two little boys; one said, "Do you believe there is a devil?" "Naw, that's just like Santa Claus, he's your dad."

Well, that was well said relative to some folks. Some say, "Why doesn't God kill the devil?" If He should, there would be an awful lot of fatherless children running around, and God has always had pity for the orphans.

The word "wiles" means tricks; if ever we saw the trickery of the devil displayed, it is in this present day and age, and he is fooling lots of folks.

The devil is so cunning and deceitful, no wonder he is called a serpent. One of the saddest things is that the devil has found his way into every phase of the church work—he is in the pulpit as well as in the pew. The devil comes as "an angel of light" as well as "a roaring lion," just in that way that is the most advantage to his cause.

The devil has plenty of imps and they are all busy. He always has an agent ready to take advantage of your case any time. The devil is causing many of the ministry to soft pedal the Gospel, he is drying up the tear dimmed eyes, taking away the shout, removing the altar, and as a result we have the cursing blight of Modernism; it is just one step then to agnosticism, and the next step is to down-right atheism.

Another thought that might help us to keep from being deceived by his trickery is this; everything that God's power does the devil hatches up something to appear just like it; there is even a counterfeit trinity mentioned in Rev. 13th chapter: The Dragon, the beast and the false prophet. The Dragon is anti God, the beast is anti Christ, and the false prophet is anti Holy Ghost.

When Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses they made things to appear like Moses did; but it was through satanic power. Some church members will run to fortune tellers, and spirit mediums, etc., but do you know when you do so, you are just going to the devil's prophets? It would be well for us to remember too, in these days of deception, that it isn't everybody that wears the name of a preacher

that is a God-called preacher; but you know in these days of unrest and adventurous experimenting just anything can get out and halloa "Whoopsie" a time or two and get a big following; but all is not gold that glitters. There is the assurance tho that there couldn't be a counterfeit unless there was the genuine; the man of experience can very readily detect the difference between the counterfeit dollar and the genuine dollar by the ring of it.

Let me say, If we have had an experience with the Lord, and are under the blood, we are not very easily led astray by something false.

"Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By Elder T. H. Dixon

1. Why can the Free Will Baptist doctrine be so easily defended?

Ans. Because it is easy for truthful men to tell the truth about the Bible, and when it is told, Free Will Baptist doctrine is set forth. When other doctrines are put up beside it, folks can easily see the truth, and, therefore it is easily defended.

2. Do Campbellites teach the truth?

Ans. No, there never was anyone saved by the doctrine of Campbellism. That don't mean that no one in the Campbellite church is saved; some folks in that church are saved; and these, when they hear a debate between Campbellites and Free Will Baptists, quit their church and are no more lined up with the Campbellites.

3. Why don't Free Will Baptist practice close communion?

Ans. Because the Scripture doesn't teach it.

4. Why don't Free Will Baptist grow faster?

Ans. Because not so many people want the truth; but want to join some church that will let them do any old thing and get by with it.

5. Why is it that other orders fight the Free Will Baptist?

Ans. Because we have the truth, and when they get on us we have the doctrine to whip them with.

6. Are there folks in other orders that believe the Free Will Baptist doctrine?

Ans. Oh yes, but they don't join us because papa and ma don't belongs to that church.

7. Can any church trace its doctrine back to the apostles?

Ans. Yes, the Free Will Baptist church.

8. Do Free Will Baptist believe in debating?

Ans. Some do and some do not. Those that do not usually are convinced when they hear one of the right kind.

9. Do Free Will Baptist believe in paying their preachers?

Ans. Oh yes, they believe in paying the preacher, but not too much.

10. Do Free Will Baptist like to go to church?

Ans. Oh yes, that is, if they haven't worked too hard, or something else is in the way.

11. Do the Free Will Baptist believe we need a paper?

Ans. Oh yes, but they are slack in their support of it, because it takes money to do that.

Could the Free Will Baptist have a weekly paper?

Ans. Yes, if one-half of them would help support it.

The baptism of John was a baptism unto repentance. It applied to Jews only, for during John's life time the Gentiles were "without hope and without God in the world" (Eph. 2:12); and salvation was not offered to them until just before His ascension, when Christ gave to His disciples the great commission—"Preach the Gospel to every creature"—which of course included the Gentiles. The Lord was baptized by John, not unto repentance, but to fulfill the righteousness of the law of Moses. John's message was addressed to the "lost sheep of the house of Israel," those renegade Jews who had strayed away from the law of Moses, warning them to return to the fold. His was a baptism intended for the Jews who were regarded as having been "baptized unto Moses in the sea and in the cloud," and neither John's message nor his baptism was appropriate for Gentiles who had never been under the law of Moses and therefore could not have strayed away.

A further proof that John's baptism was not the Christian baptism is the fact that it was not administered in the name of Christ. This will be seen when we consider the language of Paul when he asked the disciples of Apollos if they had received the Holy Ghost since they believed. When told that they did not so much as know that any Holy Ghost had been given, Paul asked them, "Unto what then were ye baptized?" and proceeded to tell them that John verily baptized unto repentance and that it was necessary for them to believe on the Christ. The account says that, "When they heard this" (which shows they were not aware that it was necessary to even believe on Christ), they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Thus it will be seen that the baptism of John was not only not the Christian baptism, but was not even performed in the name of Christ. Who would say a baptism in any other name would constitute the Christian baptism?

That the baptism of John was not the Christian baptism is further attested by the fact that not until three years after the crucifixion was the first Gentile baptized. Much of the confusion respecting John's baptism is due to the failure of disputants to note that the Mosaic dispensation was in force to the cross: while the Christian dispensation was actively ushered in at Pentecost. Thus it will be seen that if Missionary Baptists are a link in an unbroken chain from John the Baptist to the present, they are not the church that was established at Pentecost nor do they practice the Christian baptism.

Baxter Springs, Kansas, April 15, 1934.

REJOICE EVERMORE

By Elder Lloyd N. Weese

"Rejoice in the Lord alway; and again I say, Rejoice." (Phil. 4:4)

I should like to know that all the readers of the Gem are as happy in the Lord as those whose writings we

find in the Gem from time to time appear to be.

Our beloved paper carries lots of cheer for those who, like myself, stand so much in need of it; I hope most, if not all of you can be cheerful. Christ said to His disciples many times, "Be of good cheer," "Be of good comfort," "Rejoice and be exceeding glad," etc.

I confess that I could better face the problems of life, I could provide better for my devoted wife and children if I could always heed the admonition of the beloved Apostle—"Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

Anyway I'm made to rejoice very often (if not constantly), because we have a prayer hearing and a prayer answering God—And I'll say right here that Bro. Ralph Staten's prayer in the March issue of the Gem was a good one—I thank God that Jesus is such an One as may "be touched with the feeling of our infirmities" (Heb. 4:15).

I thank God for men like David who could rejoice even though God's will was not his own (2 Sam. 12:20). Such as him have gone on before to lead us on in our heavenward journey. I thank God for our beloved Christian brothers and sisters who remain in the world for the express purpose of carrying on the cause of rejoicing.

We are made to rejoice because we have a living and ever present Savior. "For I know that my Redeemer liveth and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth" (Job 19:25). Oh, glorious thought! that Christ lives and ever intercedes for us, that He arose victorious over death, hell and the grave, that we might not be overcome thereby.

I think it would be the ideal past-time to practice rejoicing in this life. Really it will be a good thing to get acquainted with Rejoicing; if we hope to reside in the Eternal Heaven, which is made up chiefly of Rejoicing (Rev. 19:7; 21:4).

I am made to believe from Christian experience, that where a soul is filled up with rejoicing, there is no room for sin; where a person is busy with rejoicing there is no time left idle in which to commit evil; and where we are constantly rejoicing in Jesus there is no chance for boasting of one's own self.

I wish I might forget poor little, insignificant self; and let Him rule "Who went about doing good . . . Who doeth all things well."

"Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice!"

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