

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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50 cents per year.

THE NEW KINGDOM

Part 5. The Overthrow of Babylon and Tyre.

By Elder Everett Wilson

We want to put this article here to show how literally the prophecies have been fulfilled concerning the overthrow of these two powerful, rich and grand cities. The future view in Scripture is just as clear and in as minute detail as the historian is able to write it, now, since the cities have both fallen and their ruins stand in silent testimony of the fulfilled prophecy. The spade has uncovered evidences of Divine forecasts, so that we stand now and look back with wonder at what once was the greatest works of men of all ages; we speak today of the seven wonders of the world, which at one time were as common to the people of that day, as the automobile and other late inventions are to the people of the present generation. So many of us would love to go to these countries and view the ruins of Babylon and Tyre. Cities that, because of the awful sin that prevailed there, caused the Holy Spirit to speak and write, by the prophets, the judgments God would mete out to them.

Let us look first at Babylon. I am going to give some information here copied from the Defender Magazine of a few months ago. The writer of this article had a friend who spent hundreds of dollars investigating the ancient site of Babylon and secured the data.

Babylon was a great and extremely rich city. All the gold, silver, diamonds and rubies were gathered there. The city was fifteen miles square, surrounded by two great walls, the outer wall was 350 feet high, 450 feet across the top and 750 feet through the base. 200 feet back from this wall was an inner wall 250 feet high and 400 feet through at the base. Between the walls was a deep canal filled with water. This inner wall was built for a safeguard in case an enemy broke through the outer wall, they could be trapped between the walls, for a regiment of soldiers was stationed on the inner wall with a melting pot of hot lead to pour on the heads of the in-coming enemy. This outer wall was so wide fifteen chariots of horses could run abreast on the top of it for a distance of sixty miles.

There were 25 main streets running north, south, east and west through the city, down the center of these streets were canals through which all the transportation into Babylon came by boats and canoes.

The feast of Belshazzar was an annual affair, and the 1,000 lords and their wives came down the street canals in canoes glistening with gold and silver. This feast night was to be one of riotous pleasure.

Little did they think the time had come when God would meet out their judgments as He had spoken by the prophets. If they knew of these things at all they laughed at them in their carnal security behind such great walls, and too, they were the world conquering nation, with armies of the best trained and equipped men on earth; and why should they fear? If these Scriptures were ever mentioned at all among the Babylonians, they were not taken literally. Belshazzar did know of God's dealings with Nebuchadnezzar, for Daniel said he did (Dan. 5:22). Such preparation as had been made to make this a most satisfying time to gay pleasure loving people! Every decoration that would appeal to the eye, wine and delicacies to satisfy the appetite, singing and music were provided in abundance.

Inside the city was an image of Baal, built of solid marble resting upon 150 pillars 88 feet high. This image was 40 feet wide and 30 feet high. Before this image 10,000 handmaidens would bow, and weep broken hearted, because their virtue had not been sold, so low had humanity sunk. Moral standards are always low when a judgment is meted out to sinful kingdoms or generations. Sodom and Gomorrah had gone to the last level in carnality when the fire fell upon them (Jude 7). The stage is surely and beautifully set for the final act in the city of Babylon.

The dining hall in which the 1,000 lords and their wives met was 1,650 feet wide in the narrowest place, and one mile long. At the lower end of the dining hall was a sunken orchestra pit. This orchestra was similar to ours and to our instruments, but such a vast number of them, on this special occasion there were 50,000 singers and players. About 32,000 instruments were tuned in for this great feast, such as 10,000 cornets, 5,000 saxaphones, about 5,000 special musicians, and besides these, harps and many other instruments.

Inside the dining hall were 4,500 pillars around the wall, made of huge stone elephants 16 feet wide and 30 feet long. On the head of each elephant stood a bronze slave 125 feet tall. Each slave held in his hand a chain which connected with the hand of the slave on the opposite side of the hall. On these chains hung garlands of beautiful flowers. Rare perfume filled the dining hall that night.

Each lord had from 100 to 500 wives, so there was a vast crowd. Belshazzar had 349 wives, the last one a colored woman, who would not marry him until he built her a mountain in his sacred city to resemble the landscape of her homeland to keep her from becoming lonesome. It took 105,000 people over three years to build this mountain to please her. They carried the dirt in bags and sacks, and

brought palms, firs and cedars from Lebanon. All for the love of a woman.

The tables that night were set in the form of a horseshoe. Each lord had his own table. Around the dining hall was a small rail track, upon which were little cars, drawn by trained peacocks of gorgeous beauty, and trained to stop at certain tables to unload wines and delicacies prepared for the feast.

It was a great night to Belshazzar, as he sat upon his throne, king of the whole world. He had forgotten that God was looking down and taking notice of every act, and heard every word, as toasts were given to Belshazzar, and flattering things said of him. They were drinking freely and were fast going into a drunken stupor, which was to be the sleep of death. The king ordered the golden vessels which rusalem. They strewed some of these sacred vessels Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the Temple in Je-up and down the dining hall and used them for trash receptacles and spittoons. This was not enough, he then sent for the communion set, and used them to drink wine from. This was the last act and the curtains fell upon his sinful life, and God began to move by sending the fingers of a man's hand to write the doom and fall of Babylon upon the walls of the great dining hall.

After all the wise men of Babylon had failed to read the hand writing on the wall, Daniel was called in before the king, and he told him the end had come. Too late to change now, the gates were open and God was filling Babylon with men as caterpillars as He had said He would leave the gates open, and Cyrus was leading his armies into the city and found the guard all drunk and left them sleeping a perpetual sleep. Read these Scriptures, they are all in your Bible: Isa.44:28; Isa. 45:1-7; Jer:50:38-43. Jer. 51 tells how the posts or messengers met each other as they ran to bring the king word that the city was taken. Oh, the thrill of such prophecy, how one's heart leaps with joy as he realizes he is serving such a mighty and wonderful God who knows the end from the beginning.

Today Babylon is a desolation. Once the pride of nations, now a den of wild beasts, no joy or song within her great walls now, which are all in ruins. Excavation parties are uncovering and revealing past glory and secrets to the world of what was a world conquering nation, but she could not endure without God. It surely seems a great price to pay for a night of revelry, but lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God must come to judgment, and God's judgments are just as real as His grace, and grace rejected must come to judgment.

Just as ancient Babylon went down, so will Babylon the Great, the city that sits on seven hills, meet her judgment in time to come. Feasting and riches are now found in her, and she sits a queen upon many waters, but for all she is so grand she can never cover the blood of the many saints who have been killed within her borders, and their blood cries from the ground for vengeance, and God is sure to hear it and answer soon (Rev. 6:9-11). Sin has but one course, you may educate it, try to refine it, but it grows more and more and the monster that no man can handle, and will head up in a master man of sin, to sit a world emperor, surrounded by the nations and armies of the world (Rev. 16:13-16). and at the height of his power must meet the master

man of righteousness (2 Thess. 2:3-8), "for the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).

High society of our time could not spread such a feast as the feast of Belshazzar, in fact they are satisfied with much less, but the hearts of the people are as far from the Lord as the hearts of the great king and his people and lords were in that night when they were weighed in the balances and found wanting. Rich and lacking nothing, yet miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked, and know not that they are weighed and found wanting. So much form of godliness too, but mere form will never do, only adds fuel to the fire already kindled. Oh, that professing Christians would heed the cry of John the Baptist, and repent and bring forth fruit, meet for repentance, and not say we belong here or there as the Jews who tried to dodge the real issue by saying, "We have Abraham to our father" (Mat. 3:8,9).

Just a glimpse at Tyre in closing. The name of this city means rock. We will turn to a few Scriptures now. Ezek. 26:3, "I am against thee, O Tyre". (Latin form for Tyre), and all because she had said against Jerusalem, "Aha" (v.2). Not much to bring the judgments of God against her, and cause many nations to come up to her ruin (V.3), but so it is, and so look out my sinner friend in raising your voice against God and His chosen city and people. Don't laugh at their judgments, yours too will come unless you repent (Luke 13:1-5). v. 4, "I will break down her walls and scrape off her dust and leave her like the top of a rock." All this has been done and as in V.5, she is a place where a few fisher folk spread their nets. v. 12, "And they shall make a spoil of thy riches, and make a prey of thy merchandise: and they shall lay thy stones and thy timber and thy dust in the midst of the water." Look up the history of Alexander's conquest of Tyre and see for yourself if history can make it any plainer than the prophet does. Read the entire 27th chapter, see the nations God raised up against her. Read chapter 28, and from vs. 11-19 you will see the God of this world who worked in the king of Tyre and who will empower the coming man of "craft" (Dan. 8:25). How the administration wants a man now who can make "craft" a success, how the world is calling for him also, and he is coming, but not by his own power (Dan. 8:24), but as the king of Tyre was endued with power from the "prince of the power of the air," so will prosperity come by the hand of him who will meet the coming of the New Kingdom on the battle field of Armageddon.

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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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WHY THE GEM IS LATE

It is not because we have been idle that the Gem is late this time, but we have been unusually busy.

We have been printing a book, "The Life Story of Emmett Vestal," and had to get it off the press before we could begin on the Gem for September. We finished the book August 27th and started to set the type for the Gem.

But on the 29th we got a wire from St. Joseph, Mo. that my son was badly hurt in a car wreck, and not expected to live. The message came about five p. m., and, of course I must go to St. Joseph at once. There was no train or bus leaving here that evening; so Bro. John Swaffar said he would take me; and in about an hour we were on the way. We stopped at Iantha and my daughter, Esther, went with us. We drove all night, reaching the hospital at 4:30 Thursday morning, and were told that Melvin had died at 9:20 the night before.

The funeral was conducted the next day (Friday) at our Hannon church, by Bro. W. H. York, and the body was laid to rest in Barton City cemetery, by the side of his mother.

We are very grateful to our many friends and brethren of the Hannon church for their kindness and help in our time of sorrow and grief. And through the kindness of Brothers Davis and Allred of the home community Mrs. Brown was provided a way to Hannon for the funeral.

We are now back at the Gem office working, but we are away behind with our work, and not able to work extra time to catch up. —The Editor.

UNBELIEF AND MODERNISM

It has come to pass in these days that many professed Christians, including many preachers, do not believe the Bible, and some of them call themselves Free Will Baptist.

If there is a greatest sin, it is unbelief. To fail or refuse to believe the Bible, or any part of it, makes God a liar. When God speaks—and He speaks in the Bible—He means just what He says; and men should be careful to take God at His word, for taking God at His word is faith, and without faith it is impossible to please God.

Many people pray as the Lord taught His disciples, "Thy kingdom come" (Matt. 6:10), but some do not believe the kingdom will ever come.

It is written, "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom" (Dan 2:44), but some don't believe it.

It is also written, "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst" (Zech 14:4), but some do not believe this will ever be.

It is written, "And the Lord shall be king over all the earth" (Zech 14:9). but some say there will never be a kingdom on earth after the Lord takes the church away.

All Christians believe that God is now taking out from the Gentiles a people for His name; but some do not believe that Christ will return and restore the tabernacle of David (Acts 15:14-16).

Modernists do not believe the Bible, and have denied every fundamental truth of the Bible: unbelief is a mark of Modernism. The Editor.

REPORT OF QUARTERLY MEETING

The Douglas County Quarterly Meeting convened with Brushy Knob Free Will Baptist church, at Brushy Knob, Mo., July 27, 1934

Introductory sermon was preached by Elder A. M. Halford. We organized as follows:

Eld. C. J. Smith was elected moderator, with Eld. O. L. Claxton as assistant moderator.

Moderator appointed the following committees:

Credentials—Elders T. B. Marler, A. M. Halford and L. M. Marler.

Pulpit—Elders T. F. England, Willis Grey.

Business—Brothers John Marler, Jim Rippee and Elige Peters.

This quarterly meeting had an unusually large delegation from the churches of the quarterly meeting, there being eight of the nine churches represented. Upon the call for enrollment the following members enrolled: Ten ordained ministers, ten ordained deacons, two licensed ministers, one church clerk, and fifteen delegates.

Most of Saturday and Sunday morning was spent in discussion of the topics which had previously been assigned by the program committee. All the topics were passed by satisfactory, except one, which was laid over until next quarterly meeting.

Saturday evening was spent in the regular routine of business. The next quarterly meeting was voted to be held with Breeden Free Will Baptist church, west of Ava, Mo. Introductory sermon to be preached by Elder Austin Wright, with Elder Elza Owens as alternate. The report of the S. S. missionary, Eld. O. L. Claxton, was called for, and Bro. Claxton gave the following report: Held a Sunday school convention at Lone Star church, and was well pleased with the co-operation. Prospects are good for the organization of a new church soon.

Brothers Elza Owens and Austin Wright were ordained to the Gospel ministry at this Q. M. This makes three ordinations so far this year.

A letter was prepared to send to the Union Association, with Brothers Halbert Haynes and Floyd Matney as representatives from this Q. M. We also gave deacons' wives the right to vote in this Q. M.

Saturday night at eight o'clock services we had our regular Lord's Supper and feet washing service, which were well attended.

The quarterly meeting ended with the eleven o'clock service Sunday, and the delegates departed to their homes, thankful that the good Lord had seen fit to bless us with another good quarterly meeting, and we were also thankful to the good people of the community for their wonderful hospitality shown to us.

We wish to extend to all who can come an earnest invitation to come to our next quarterly meeting, which will convene at the Breeden F. W. B. church, at three o'clock Friday, Sept. 27, 1934. We also ask that the whole Gem family will pray for the advancement and improvement of our quarterly meeting.

Claud J. Smith, Moderator,
Arthur Lund, Clerk.

BRISTOW, OKLAHOMA, Aug. 17, 1934.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

With thanksgiving and a heart full of praise to my dear Master, I will give a report of our revival at Liberty Hill church, at Princeville, which began July 22, and ended August 5, 1934.

Bro. W. H. Carter of Tuskegee, Okla. did most of the preaching. Bro. Carter is a good preacher, a real man of God and is loved by all.

Bro. West of Tuskegee was with us the first week with some real sermons. Bro. West is a young preacher and on fire for God. May the Lord bless him and may he press on toward the mark of the high calling which is in Christ Jesus.

It was a good meeting. Four souls were saved, four reclaimed, and three were baptized. The interest was good, and the church was greatly revived.

We held a grove prayer meeting each evening before church service, in which souls were made happy and drawn closer together in brotherly love.

We, in this community, love the prayer meeting and have glorious times together and believe it is the power house of the church, but not such a large percent of the church attends prayer services. If there ever was a time on the earth that we children of God should be praying, it is now.

Pray for us that we will live a life that we can have a closer walk with God. God bless our editor and all Gem readers.

Stella Prince.

OUR COMING STATE MEETING

I am sure we are all looking forward with much interest to our State Association in October, and we should be, for it is to the interest of us all. I am writing this the ninth of August, and to my knowing definite plans are being laid now by the people of Jones Chapel church for its promotion. A good tabernacle has already been engaged in which to hold the meeting; it will comfortably seat 600, and has good siding to use in case the weather should be disagreeable. A cook is also being hired to cook the meals on the ground. I know the Jones Chapel people will do a splendid job for I have seen them tried before. You will meet some fine people at Jones Chapel; I pastored there seven years and I think I know them. Bro. Swaffar is their pastor now.

Let's not forget that the time allotted to the mission and league workers this time is Monday night and Tuesday; I hope all workers can be there on-time. Sister McAdams preaches for us on Monday night. I am praying the Lord, that our state gathering this time will be another long step in even greater victory than we have known before.

Remember the Jones Chapel Church is located twenty miles west of Purdy, and about six miles south of Stark City, and three miles N.E. of the little town of Stella, Mo. five miles west and one mile south of Fairview. Stark city and Fairview are on highway 97 and the M. and N.A. RR. a good highway leads from Purdy west to Fairview, and also from Neosho east to Stark city, and the country roads out to the church are not bad at all. Let's pray for the meeting.

Winford Davis.

TORNADO, W. VA., August 16, 1934.

Dear Editor and Gem Family:

I attended the quarterly meeting at Kanawha Fork church, in the Kanawha Conference, on Friday before the fifth Sunday in July. We had a real meeting, and on Friday night we had four conversions and two seekers at the altar. I can't tell all the good things, as I left on Saturday evening, but I hope some one else will report.

I am sure glad Bro. Brown is able to be back on the job again. I am sorry that I have no new subs to send in this time, and I wish more people would read the Gem. I love to read all the good items the good brothers and sisters send in.

We have some sickness in our neighborhood. And

We have some sickness in our neighborhood. And

Our pastor of the Newfountain church here at my home is planning a revival to begin next Sunday, Aug. 19th. I ask all the Gem readers to pray for the success of the meeting, that much good may be done.

Yours for much good for the work,
F. V. Nicholas.

ENON, ARKANSAS, August 19, 1934.

Dear Readers of the Gem:

I will try to write a few lines this morning, as we have so many things to be thankful for. I am so thankful for our rain we got, for we needed it so badly, and I am thankful for health and strength, and best of all for salvation. I am glad I can say that I am a child of God and feel the love of Jesus in my heart. I pray God that soon my loved ones in my home, and around in my community will turn from their wicked ways of sin and come back to the Lord, and those that are strangers to him will accept him as their Saviour before it is too late.

There are so many things to lead the young Christians off; I hope how soon more will be called to ministerial work. Our pastor, Winford Davis, did work so faithfully and so long for our church at Blue Eye; we never can forget him, and the work he did for us. May God bless him with the richest blessings, is my prayer to God. I love our little church, Mt. Olive, and am really glad Bro. Davis and Bro. Waterman brought the Free Will Baptist doctrine into our community. It was the first I ever knew of the Free Will Baptist. I never did believe in close communion, once in grace always in grace, and I must have been a Free Will Baptist all the time. I ask that all the Christian people pray for me, that I may grow stronger and be a help in leading others to Christ. May God help us all to follow in his footsteps in the path of righteousness, is my prayer.
—Birtie Youngblood.

REPORT OF ASSOCIATION

We have just returned from attending the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptist, which convened with Hickory Grove church, in Cass Co., where Eld. Kenneth Turner has been pastor the past year.

We are glad to report a wonderful time. There certainly was a real Spirit that prevailed throughout the meeting.

Bro. Tom Lewis was elected moderator, Sister Edith Mayfield assistant. Bro. Lee Hammonds was elected clerk and Eld. Noel Turner assistant.

Several churches were represented both by delegates and letter.

One young preacher was licensed to the gospel ministry, Bro. Boyd Thornton from the Hannon church.

A lot of good things were said and done during the association.

Brothers Kenneth and Noel Turner had been in a good revival there for three weeks running up to the association. We secured thirteen subs for the Gem while there. The association took a very firm stand in favor of the Gem and a lot of good things were said from the floor in its behalf. We certainly do appreciate the subs and the way the Central Western association cooperates with the paper.

We had to leave early Saturday morning. I am sure you had a good day Saturday, would love to have stayed, but couldn't.

May the Lord bless our dear work in that part of the field.

Winford Davis.

OGLESBY, OKLAHOMA, August 26, 1934
(Free Will Baptist Church Notes)

Dear Editor and Gem Readers.

Here I am sending you some more news about our little church at Oglesby. We are proud of it. I am always glad every month to send the news about our church and let the people know what we are doing at Oglesby.

Brother D. W. Stinnet has been with us for the last three Sundays and delivered us some wonderful messages. Brother Lester McDonald and Brother Bingham were with us August 19th and left a wonderful message. We sure enjoyed having them with us, and we are glad to have other brothers and sisters with us.

We are still having our prayer meeting on Wednesday night and Sunday school every Sunday, and have good attendance. We haven't done much in mission work this summer. Sister Swanks has been sick this summer and I have been gone most all summer, so we haven't done much, but we are still holding on to God.

I spent two days at the Yearly Meeting at New Home church last week, and sure enjoyed being with the brothers and sisters in Christ.

May the Lord help us all to live closer to Him. Pray for me.

Mrs. Jessie Huff.

Desloge Church Notes, Desloge, Mo.

We failed to get our report off in time for the August number of the Gem, so will get busy and be on time for the September number.

Elder B. F. Brown and Elder John Swaffar of Purdy, Mo. spent two weeks of July in the Lead Belt. Bro. Brown conducted a very successful twelve days' "School of the Bible" while here, at the Flat River church. Those who attended from Desloge pronounce Bro. Brown a No. 1 Bible teacher. Both these brethren visited our church and preached for us, which was enjoyed; also Bro. Swaffar's

song numbers were appreciated very much.

At a conference of the church July 23rd Sister Tommie Franklenn was called to pastor the church another year.

Our church entertained the quarterly meeting Thursday, August 2nd. All the churches of which it is composed were represented by delegates, with encouraging reports. Good services throughout the day. Elder Jarvis of Wortham was ordained to the full Gospel ministry, and the license of several preachers were renewed; also Sister Abernathy was recommended as a Sunday School Missionary for the city of St. Louis.

Every one enjoyed the hour of the "Question Box," afternoon when topics on church government were discussed by the ministers present.

The ladies of the church served a bountiful dinner at the noon hour.

Another Free Will Baptist church has been organized in St. Louis since our last Q. M., with Elder Newbern as pastor.

Our League convention met with the Third Free Will Baptist church of St. Louis the evening of July 31st. Seventeen delegates attended from our church; they report a good time and a worth while meeting.

Our Sunday school was well represented at the Sunday School convention at Flat River, Sunday, July 29th. Quite a large crowd was present to enjoy the program.

God has been blessing our church in regular services. At our evening service, July 29th, we received three new members, all heads of families. We are looking for greater things in the future.

Miss Anna Reed, Reporter.

SCIPPIO, OKLAHOMA, July 8, 1934

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I have been a reader of this dear little paper for several months, and just want to write a few words.

I am just a young preacher, two years and eight months in this service, but I started in this work with all of my might, and God has wonderfully blessed me with 586 conversions that I positively know of, and about all the Scripture I knew when I began preaching was the third chapter of Matt. But I just trusted in God, and He has done the preaching. I have so many calls I can't fill them all in six months. Now, please don't misunderstand me, for I am not boasting, though I am proud of this, and only hope I can fill all the calls. But I see one thing very plainly, we have too many preachers who are ordained and all they do is stay at home, or around in their community, and tell people God has called them to preach. For the Lord's sake, and for the sake of lost souls, if you readers have any of them in your community, get behind them with prayer and words of encouragement. The harvest is ripe and laborers are so few; and souls are going into eternity without God. It is sad to my heart to see so many people in sin and so many preachers idle. Come on, brethren, let's step out on the promises of God, our old preachers are wearing out; we must work, and work! Now, you don't have to hunt a place to preach, if you will start at the first place and keep preaching, the people will hunt you and God will bless you.

I wish we had this little Gem where we could get it once a week, I love to hear what our brothers and sisters are doing for the Master. I just read Bro. John West's letter about our meeting at Tuskegee, and our grove meetings; may God bless you, Bro. West, also dear old Bro. Carter and the people of Tuskegee. I guess this is enough. Every reader remember me and mine in your prayers.

Yours for the Master,

Elder Geo. McLain.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETING REPORT

Picher, Oklahoma, July 29, 1934

The fifth Sunday meeting of the Free Will Baptist churches met with South Picher church, with all four churches represented: North Picher, Fairview, Notch Mound, and several visiting churches were represented. There were eleven ministers present.

Sunday school was called at 9:45, with attendance of 143. At the eleven o'clock service, hymn No. 92 was called for. Sister Reed led in prayer. Then followed a wonderful message by Bro. Judd, taken from the fourth chapter of Galatians. After the message we had an old fashioned basket dinner.

At 1:30 p. m. we all gathered in the little church and sang that old hymn, "Amazing Grace." Prayer was offered, especially for the sick, led by Grandma Koonce of Treece, Kansas. Also had several special songs.

Bro. Curry led the afternoon service, followed by visiting ministers, with only ten minutes for each; so they sure took advantage of those few minutes, and gave us some very good thoughts, mostly on the kingdom. We also had a testimony meeting, led by Sister Bond. I think every one got a real blessing from the Lord and all went home feeling better for having been there.

The next fifth Sunday meeting will meet at our Fairview church in Kansas in September.

Meeting was closed with an old fashioned handshaking.

May the Lord bless the Gem family and all its readers.

Elder Paul Pursell, Moderator,
Grace Lollar, Clerk.

DRUMRIGHT, OKLAHOMA

Hello, all you good Gem readers. This morning we come to give in our monthly chat with you. It is too hot to talk much, but God has been blessing us so wonderfully down here that we are just running over. We didn't have a large mission circle meeting last Friday, August third, because so many of our folks are having revivals, and some have day services, so that cut our circle short.

We met at the Jennings church, and Jennings gave in a good report. They have been having cottage prayer meetings, made 25 sick calls, and had 250 service hours. They also gave grocery and clothing showers for some that were burned out.

No one from Drumright was present, but they sent a letter. They gave one grocery shower, one stork shower, have paid \$5.00 to help fix the house for their new pastor, have made a number of sick calls, also have quilted another quilt.

Cushing was not present.

Arbordale didn't get to come, but their pastor was there and reported that they were still busy.

Vance Chapel wasn't present, but their pastor was there and said they were still at work. I am sure they will all come in with big reports for our next meeting.

Bro. Epperson brought a good message. Subject, "Patience."

We want to tell you folks in this letter why we are so overjoyed. We have been going every Sunday night and Tuesday night to a little school house about ten miles from home for the last eight months. We preached on Sunday night and on Tuesday night we had prayer meeting. It was one of the worst places there was in the country, but we kept going, and God would bless us with one, two and three being saved; so we built a big brush arbor right on highway 33; and the third Sunday in July we started a big revival. We got Bro. Harry Staires to come and take night about with us in preaching, and for three weeks we labored hard for God, and he sure did bless us. Sixty-seven (67) souls were saved, and all except two or three were grown people, fathers and mothers. We sure did have a meeting!

We organized a Free Will Baptist church with forty-eight (48) members, and we had a big baptizing and baptized 38. We preachers call Monday "Blue Monday," but even our Mondays were not blue. We had something like five hundred people on one Monday night, and every one was so good to help us. The Sunshine quartet from Drumright was out three nights and sang for us. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Cecil Thompson from the Hartford music company were teaching a school at Pleasant Hill, so they came over one night and brought their school and sang for us, then the colored folks came about three times and sang for us. And all the pastors and preachers, all around, helped us in every way they could; and how we do thank them!

We have nothing now but this small school house to worship in, but we are getting ready to build. We are still in our arbor, but hope to have our new church house, so we wont have to go back into the school building. The school building is off the road, but our new church building will be at Silver City on highway 33, between Oilton and Manford. I was called as pastor for this church; and will serve till we can get a new church house and everything going, then we want to go out in the by-ways and hedges again. There is lots of work there to do. You preachers, when passing, we will be glad to have you stop, look us up, pray for us; we need your prayers.

May God bless you all in your great work.

Yours in Christ,

Hattie Newman.

PLATTSBURG, MISSOURI, August 14, 1934

Dear Readers of the Gem:

We have never sent a report to the Gem yet, but the Northwest Yearly Mission Meeting has been going since October, 1933. All five churches of our Association are now participating in this wonderful work. Our president is Sister Luella Kerns of the Union Third Fork church, near Hemple. Secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Milford House of Mt. Zion church, near Plattsburg.

July 29, 1934, we met at the Philadelphia church, near Santa Rosa, and had another fine meeting. Bro. W. R. Rush is pastor there. They had a nice report this time. They are doing a great deal of charity work, as are the other circles. They are helping in the paying of the pastor, which is greatly appreciated.

Union Third Fork was present with a good report. They are giving showers for the needy. Bro. E. T. House was their pastor. The circle also helps with his salary.

Center Point and Mt. Zion were also represented, but neither had reports. We feel sure that both are doing their duty.

Sister Melba White and Bro. John McKown delivered the eleven o'clock messages, which were soul-stirring and inspiring. Sister White is the State field worker for the mission and league.

A special program was given in the afternoon by the different churches.

Our next meeting will be at Mt. Zion church.

We ask an interest in all your prayers.

Mrs. Milford House.

STAR CITY ARKANSAS August 20, 1934

Dear Brother Brown and Gem Readers:

We don't have a very large report this time, but just want to let you folks know that York Town church is still on the firing line for Jesus, trying to do something that will bring lost souls into the fold of God.

A great number from this church is attending the meeting at our neighbour church, Pine Hill, which is being conducted by our pastor Brother W.M. Guinn. We are thankful that God has seen fit to save nine young ladies up until this writing, and just pray that He will continue to save, as He has always done. We read in the blessed book where He is the same yesterday, today and forever and if people will just humble themselves in the sight of the Lord He will lift them up; cleanse them from all sin and unrighteousness and make them ready to meet Jesus should they be called away at any time.

A baptizing is to be done to-morrow with some five or six from this church and the converts from Pine Hill, all to be baptised together.

May the grace of God be with you. Pray for me.

—Marie Moore.

OGLESBY, OKLAHOMA

Free Will Baptist Church Notes for July

Dear Brothers and Sisters who read the Gem:

I will try by God's help to write you a few lines this morning about our church at Oglesby. We are still working for God, we still have our church and Sunday school and prayer meetings.

Brother D.W. Stinnett is not with us at the present time, he is visiting his brother in St. Joseph Mo. But he left Bro. Lester McDonald with us while he is away. We all enjoy having Bro. McDonald with us. Bro. Crouch from Vera delivered us a wonderful message last Sunday and Sunday nite, he visits with us often and we enjoy having him with us. Bro. Williams has been holding a few days meeting here. We are glad to report good interest and that God is answering prayer.

—Mrs. James Huff.

GREENTOP, MISSOURI, June 25, 1934.

Dear Gem Readers:

This morning I am impressed with a thought taken from Luke 5:1-11, "Cutting the shore lines," or "Launching out."

The people of God are living beneath their privilege; too many are living close to the edge in the sea of God's love. You can tell the ones who are living close to the shore; they throw mud. Mud cannot be found out in the deep water; neither can ruts be made out in the deep. Those who live out there are in God's safety zone, where spiritual disease cannot reach them. Those who stay close to shore are thrashed against the edge with waves until the life boat is destroyed.

No one can go deep enough into the sea of God's love to drown. The farther we go from earthly things the better. If we are far from the shore we cannot be anchored at the shoreline. Everyone must want God and salvation so deeply rooted in his heart that he is willing to pay any price for them. God can use people like that.

There are several shorelines to leave: one is spiritual laziness. We must work for God, and if we are willing workers He will keep us busy. God said "Go into my vineyard and work." Another shoreline is selfishness, another unbelief. Nothing is impossible to him that believes, for God will send his power into our lives when we are ready for it and ask Him for it.

Pride is another shoreline. We must be proud of ourselves only as we are proud of the person the Lord has made of us. Self-pride must not exist in our lives.

Another shoreline to cut is one which causes us to hold small, petty grievances against someone else. A Christian life cannot contain or retain an unforgetting spirit.

We must cut the shoreline of the cares of this life. We cannot let them get us under in shallow water, but in deep water they float on God's promises with us.

Our league is still alive and growing.

Elaine Buchanan.

EL PASO, TEXAS, August 16, 1934

To The Gem Family:

I can't express in words just how proud of our paper, which is the Gem, I am. I am so thankful for so many good letters published in the Gem, which I have the pleasure of reading. I am truly thankful to hear of so many souls that have been saved. That leads me to know that we have some faithful workers for the Lord. I was truly proud to hear through the Gem that the Lord had called Brother and Sister Sam Stafford to preach His word. I feel sure they will do his will, as I have been with them in the Lord's work, I pray God that they may become greater soul winners for the Lord.

I was deeply touched by a piece which I read in the paper the other day, which called to mind a passage of scripture found in Matt. the tenth chapter and the sixth verse: "But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." So you see it was to the lost sheep that the Lord sent his apostles to preach,

and it still holds good with us today. The sheep that has wandered out from the fold is one of our greatest tasks of to day, as there is so much false doctrine preached, but let us, as Free Will Baptist, be as the good shepherd, willing at all times to lend a hand to bring the sheep back to the fold. I love the old song that says, "If a man falls down help him up, lend him a hand and help him to stand." Don't try to keep a good man down, for I am sure that there is some good in all of us. I want to farther say, that it is the Lost Sheep that are leading the lambs astray.

I was talking to a man the other day about some mission work, and he said, "I will come over and see if I can get those children in Sunday School." And I said to him, "Brother, that is fine, but we want the parents to come and bring the children." I want to say that it is the sheep that we need to work and pray for, if we can lead the sheep to Christ, they will bring the lambs.

Here is the poetry to which I referred:

"'Twas a sheep, not a lamb, that had strayed away,

In the parable Jesus told;

A grown-up sheep, that had gone astray,

From the ninety and nine in the fold.

Out on the hillside, out in the cold,

'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd sought,

And back to the flock, safe into the fold,

'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd brought.

And why for the sheep should we earnestly long.

And as earnestly hope and pray?

Because there is danger if they go wrong,

They will lead the lambs astray.

For the lambs will follow the sheep, you know,

Wherever the sheep may stray:

When the sheep go astray, it will not be long

Till the lambs are as wrong as they.

And so with the sheep we earnestly plead,

For the sake of the lambs today;

If the sheep are lost, what terrible cost

Some lambs will have to pay."

A. F. Pierce, %Western Gas Co., Plant No. 3

GREENTOP, MISSOURI, August 28, 1934

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem Readers:

I have been silent for some time. The Lord has wonderfully blessed us the past year, and we have witnessed several professions and additions to two of our churches.

Elder Geo. Scott, Jr. of Mountain Grove, Mo. was with us in a two weeks' meeting. We didn't have any conversions, but the soul-stirring sermons Bro. Scott preached brought about a revival in the church. We were indeed glad to have Bro. Scott with us. We never will know how far reaching will be the seed that was sown.

We attended the Northwest Missouri Association last week, which convened with the Mount Zion church, near Plattsburg, Mo. Elder E. T. House is the pastor there. They sure did give all the delegates a hearty welcome. Elder Charlie Phillips and I were there from our Association. We met Elder Dauber of Mt. Grove there, and he came home with us Saturday; and will be with us for our Association,

which convenes with our church at Sublette, beginning Thursday, August 30th. We would that some of our brethren in the south could be with us.

We are looking forward to the State Association with great anticipation. We ask that all you that know the worth of prayer, pray for us.

—Elder Sam Mareum.

REPORT OF INDIAN CREEK ASSOCIATION

The Indian Creek Association has just closed, and is pronounced by all to be one of the very best, if not the best we have ever held. It was held with the Free Will Baptist church in Monett, and let us say here the church did a splendid job entertaining the association in every way. Bro. O. T. Allred is pastor of our church there.

Credentials were granted to 35 preachers, nine were granted a license to the ministry for one year, and three were ordained, namely: Elders Paul Purcell and Lester Judd of Picher, Okla. and Eld. Everett Wilson of Monett. Bro. Wilson has been ordained for many years in the Northern Missionary Baptist, but our association passed on his ordination he having carried license with us for one year.

About 150 delegates and ministers were present, and dinner was served to 312 on last Friday. Every active church, 12 in all were represented by letter, and all of them by delegates but one. Two new churches were taken into the association this time: the Aurora church and the Happy Hill church, S. E. of Verona.

The same staff of officers were held for another year as follows: Eld. Cecil Campbell, moderator, Eld. O.T. Allred assistant, Eld. Noel Turner, clerk and Evelyn Jefferson assistant. Eld. J.B. Rollins was elected member of the Executive Board for a term of three years.

Many interesting and helpful discussions were held as the committee reports were turned in, and one thing we are thankful for is that perfect peace, harmony and love prevailed throughout the entire Association—such wonderful fellowship and demonstration of power are seldom seen. The house was packed to its capacity each evening, and the crowds were no great lot smaller during the day sessions.

About 35 subscriptions were secured for the Gem and much more interest in the paper and its purpose was manifested than usual. The Association unanimously voted to take a more definite stand for the defence and support of the Gem than ever before.

The messages from time to time were very powerful and inspiring, and the singing was such as would really stir your soul.

Nearly \$50.00 budget money was turned in by the different churches, half to go to the state and half to Indian Creek Association.

A number of visiting ministers were with us, and the Old Mt. Zion Association in Ark. and the Central Western Mo. Association were represented with us, for which we were very glad.

The Association meets next year with the South Picher church, Picher Okla.

Winford Davis.

OUR ENEMY, THE FREEWILL BAPTISTS

A Clipping from a Missionary Baptist Paper

The Freewill Baptists were founded by Benjamin Randall in 1784. As a rule they are very illiterate and unlearned people. There is no logical consistency in their doctrine. They believe in immersion for baptism, but as a rule think it not really essential to church membership. They stand for open communion and are about the loosest in their doctrine and practice of any denomination.

I have told them that they have no excuse for their existence, as they stand for nothing distinctive.

All of them who could not be Baptists could be Methodists, or something else; and why cumber the ground with the Freewill denomination?

They believe in the doctrine of apostasy, and seem to think that their good behavior will enable them to get to heaven. For that reason they are weak on the doctrine of grace, unless it is the grace of God that brings regeneration. With that work of grace they seem to think grace stops short off, and from the day we are born again we must live right or we shall fall from grace and go to hell.

They have no strong preachers, there is not an outstanding thinker among them. They are very weak in numbers and influence. They live mostly in the backwoods and are very weak even there.

There is no good that comes out of Free Willism; we have been told many times that if Baptists would not be so strict, and especially if we would drop the unpopular doctrine of close communion, we would take the world. We can answer this by calling attention to the Free Will Baptists. They are not strict on any doctrine and they practice open communion, and yet they have not been successful in building up even one congregation of respectable size. This example of looseness and indecision on doctrine and practice shows that growth does not come that way. Wherever Baptists have been the strictest and have adhered rigidly to close communion they have grown; sound doctrine and practice insures a healthful growth.

Signed: Ben M. Bogard.

AN ANSWER

By Elder T. H. Dixon of Hichita, Oklahoma

I want the readers of the Gem to know that Ben M. Bogard is a big gun among the Missionary Baptists. Yes, he is one of their debaters, he is supposed to be a wise man, but he has betrayed his ignorance by trying to tell how little the Free Will Baptists amount to. O yes, Mr. Bogard is one of the hard boiled kind, and he really thought that this would pass unnoticed, but the Elder is not going to get by with this dope. Mr. Bogard missed it four years on the origin of the Free Will Baptists. Benjamin Randall organized the Free Will Baptists in 1780.

If Mr. Bogard was some ignoramus we could look over him, but he is rated as one of the biggest debaters the Missionary Baptists have in the South. When Ben M. Bogard said the Free Will Baptists had no learned men he knew we had a college at Ayden, N.C. Mr. Bogard knows that the Free Will Baptists have as good churches as any denomination.

Oh yes, Elder Bogard knew while he was writing that stuff, that Eld. W.C. Austin a Free Will preacher took his hide in strips six inches long years ago

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OBITUARY

Evans—Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Evans, widow of the late John M. Evans, passed away Saturday, July 21, 1934, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Della Hudson, in Flat River, Mo., aged 64 years, nine months and fifteen days.

Mary Elizabeth Umfleet was born in Mine La Motte, Mo., Oct. 6, 1869. When eighteen years of age she was united in marriage to John M. Evans. To this union was born ten children, six of whom preceded her in death. The husband and father died twenty-four years ago.

She is survived by two sons, Tillman and Robert Evans of St. Louis, Mo. two daughters, Mrs. Della Hudson and Mrs. Mabel Porter of Flat River; also three brothers, Jeff Umfleet of Fredericktown, Henry and Charles of Mine La Motte, Mo., one sister, Mrs. L. E. Green of Leadington, Mo. and nine grandchildren, besides other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Monday at 1:30 p. m., at the Free Will Baptist church of Flat River, of which she was a long time faithful member, conducted by her pastor, Elder Jas. F. Miller.

Interment was made in the Mine La Motte cemetery, with arrangements in charge of Caldwell Brothers, undertakers.

Raymond La Brot.

IN MEMORY

Just five months ago, August 9th Sister Martha Dodgen passed away. How shocked, how grief stricken, were our hearts when the message came, "Sister Martha is dead!" So hard to give up! Dead! gone from all earthly contact with those who loved her, no more to enjoy her sweet words of counsel, sympathy and condolence in times of afflictions, for she was ever ready to help in any way possible, those who needed help, denying herself many comforts that others might enjoy more fully, seeking her happiness in the joy of others; conscientious in all her dealings in her church work and with friends, ever manifesting an humble Christian spirit in all the walks of life.

As we stood and looked, with eyes blinded by fast falling tears, upon her dear form cold in death, she could not offer words of sympathy to us in her own behalf, but

we remembered those spoken on former sad occasions and we could say from the depth of our hearts, "Though dead, she yet speaketh." Death to a Christian is sweet sleep, and when they awaken from those peaceful slumbers, they shall be in the likeness of Christ.

Sister Martha gave plenty of sweet evidence that her soul had been redeemed and made whole by the blood of Christ our Savior. She bore her suffering with patience and fortitude, enduring to the end. Her place in the hearts of those who loved her cannot be filled but we thank God that it was our blessed privilege to walk and talk with her in sweet communion, and our lives will be better for having known her.

Helpless we stand upon the brink of the silent land of death, with no power to deliver. The dead body was helpless, but no more so than those around it, so far as regaining life was concerned. God alone can give life to the dead and resurrect the soul or body from death. Her obedience to the gospel rule only evidenced the gracious work of the Lord in her heart, "That He had begun a good work, which He would perform until the day of Jesus Christ."

"Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

We would not disturb the peaceful slumbers of our sainted dead. They now rest from their labours only for the night, and in the morning God will awaken them.

Peace to their silent dust, joy to their ransomed souls. Soon we shall meet them, God has promised and His promise is sure.

One who loved her,

Mrs. Lizzie Shipman.

Brown—Melvin Phillip Brown, son of B. F. and Orpha Brown, was born near Maitland, in Holt County, Missouri, January 4, 1901, and departed this life August 29, 1934, being at the time of his death 33 years, seven months and 25 days old.

Melvin's death was due to injuries received in an automobile accident, which occurred in St. Joseph, Mo., Tuesday evening, August 28th, while he was riding with another young man. Another man coming around a street car,

disregarding the traffic rules, made a short left turn and hit their car center, throwing them against an electric light pole. Melvin was crushed between the car and the pole. The accident occurred about 9:00 o'clock P.M. Tuesday, resulting in his death at 9:20 P.M. Wednesday, August 29th, at the Missouri Methodist Hospital in St. Joseph, Mo.

He was married to Miss Pearl Mayfield in 1921, and to them was born one daughter, Dorothy.

Melvin was converted when about fifteen years of age and united with the Free Will Baptist church at Hannon, Mo., and so far as is known he lived a consistent Christian life. He was highly spoken of by those for whom he worked and by his friends and associates.

When Melvin lived in the Hannon community he was loved by all; he possessed those sterling qualities of fine character, always cheerful and of a friendly winning way.

He leaves to mourn his passing his father, Eld. B. F. Brown of Purdy, Missouri, one daughter, Dorothy, one sister, Mrs. Esther Williams of Iantia, Missouri, one brother, Francis H. Brown of Oakland California, and many other relatives and friends. His mother was taken by death in 1906, when Melvin was not yet six years old.

Funeral services were conducted at the Hannon church Friday, August 30th, at 2:00 P. M. and Melvin was laid by the side of his mother in Barton City cemetery.

Konantz Undertaking Co. in charge.

Combs—Dona Combs departed this life Sunday, July 22, 1934, at the age of 63 years, nine months and four days. She had been in poor health for some time, but was feeling better just before her death. Death was sudden.

She was converted at the age of 16 and joined the Free Will Baptist church. She lived a faithful Christian life unto the end. She was always willing and ready to help any one in need. She will not only be missed by her family and relatives, but by all who knew her as well.

She leaves to mourn her death a husband, Mr. J. C. Combs, six children, Mrs. Lucy Wetsel, Couch, Mo., Mr. Oba Combs of Myrtle, Mo., Wellie and Gordon Combs of

Couch, Mo., Mrs. Alta Crase and John Combs of Couch, Mo., four children having preceded her in death, thirteen grandchildren, three sisters, Mrs. Lucinda Hefner and Mrs. Sallie Cantrell of Thayer and Mrs. Minnie Justice of Texas, one brother, Jim Barton of Thayer.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Billy Rogers, July 23rd, with a large crowd present. The remains were laid to rest in the Cotton Creek cemetery.

Mother dear has gone and left us,
From this earth to Heaven above,
But some day we'll go up and join her,
Where all is peace and love.

THE PRICE OF SUCCESS

By C. M. Dauber, Mt'n Grove, Mo.

"For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?" (Luke 14:28).

Our ideals are the blue prints of our lives. The blue prints are only a guide to the builder and are not the structure. It takes material to build a tower, and material costs money. Therefore the wise builder will sit down and figure the cost of the material, the cost of the labor; and compare that to the value of the building when completed. If the building will repay the builder, after it is completed, by a profitable margin, then he will proceed with the building.

Too many buildings are started and never finished, because the builder started the building without considering the cost.

A tower usually has its objective at its peak. A water tower has its tank on top in order that the pressure or gravity will distribute the water to the hydrants. A light tower has its beacon light at its peak, that it may give out the light to a greater radius. A windmill has its wheel at its peak that it may come in contact with a greater current of wind and thereby produce more power.

In the building of a Christian life, we have the responsibility for our own tower, and therefore it is important for us to consider the cost.

You may say, "The cost has been paid on Calvary, therefore salvation is free." Tremendous was the price that purchased our redemption, but when we are

commanded to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling," we share the cost in many ways.

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me" (Mt. 16:24).

"So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:23).

We cannot build a Christian life upon any other foundation than Jesus Christ. Once we get founded upon the solid Rock, Christ Jesus, we begin to build the tower, which should have as its objective a life of service.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Ye are the light of the world." Again He said, "I am the light of the world." With the light of Jesus Christ in us, we are responsible for the construction of the tower which contains the light. As previously stated, the objective is usually at the peak of the tower, so the light will give its radiance to the lost, sinful, degraded world in proportion to the height of the tower.

In the building of life the construction work is going on at the foundation, and raising the light in proportion to the cost or sacrifice. The light is holy, therefore the tower which contains the light must be holy, and the cost to us is to "keep ourselves unspotted from the world."

"I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Rom. 12:1).

We have a lot of towers in the churches that are so low down, that the world can never get even a ray of light out of their lives.

The world will offer its pleasures to the church as "No harms," and the church will, in many cases, accept them as such, and thus that light which was in it becomes darkness, and "how great is that darkness."

Persecution costs the Christian a lot of sleepless hours, while the world may be laughing and scoffing, but "They that will live godly shall suffer persecution! Oh, what cost! probably you said, 'Lord if you will save me, I'll do whatever you want me to do.' The Lord saved you, and then He said, 'Confess me before men.'"

You thought about the evil associates and said, "Oh, what cost!" He might have said, "Go join thyself to his chariot," as He said to Philip, only changed the words to, "Go speak to that friend about his soul," and you shrank back and said, "What cost!"

He might have said, "Go preach the gospel," and you said, "I can't the cost is too great; I have a family to support and I cannot leave the farm or business."

"If any man will come after me, and hate not his father and mother, and wife and children, and brethren and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:26).

The cost of stewardship is a cost in sacrifice.

The cost of holiness is a consecrated life.

The cost of heaven is a continual war against the flesh and the devil, but have you counted the cost, if your soul should be lost?

"What shall it profit a man if he should gain the whole world and lose his own soul,"

THE ALL-POWERFUL GOD

"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is there any thing too hard for me?" (Jer. 32:27).

Dear Gem Readers:

In Jer. 32:27, God asked his people this question: "Is there anything too hard for me?" In Luke 1:37, He answers it by saying, "For with God nothing shall be impossible." Christ said, "All things are possible to him that believeth." God is still asking His followers that question. But the way some trust God for spiritual and temporal things in this life, surely indicates that they don't realize He is able to do great things for those who fully put their trust in Christ; who is all powerful. Let us each ask ourselves this question, "Do we believe all things are possible with God?"

I am sorry to say it, but we have ministers of the Gospel who, if you would testify to the divine healing power, would sneer and make light of it. If you would ask Christian people if they believed the Bible they would say, "Yes." What's wrong when God's people deny the healing power of Jesus Christ? If you

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CAN A MAN SERVE TWO MASTERS?

By Gene Chance, County Line, Oklahoma.

Jesus says "No" some preachers say, "Yes;" who are we to believe? The preacher says to the drunkards, thieves, fornicators, and all other ungodly men and women that claim they have been born again and have at one time lived a Christian life, that they had better come back to the Lord, the Lord will give them a good spanking, and that they will lose their influence and can never expect to win anyone to Christ; that they won't lose their souls, but will lose the joy of salvation.

Now, God's word says, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the Kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. (1Cor. 6:9-10).

Some call this kind of people Christian backsliders, but Jesus says, "By their fruit ye shall know them. Do men gather grapes from thistles?" Did you ever see a fruitful liar, or an honest thief, a virtuous adulteress, or a sober drunkard?

God's word says, "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit." Even trees that do not bring forth good fruit are hewn down and cast into the fire. They say that our evil works will be burned, but our souls will not. Jesus says that a corrupt tree will be hewn down and cast into the fire; He does not say the fruit.

A man said to me the other day, "If it be possible for us to fall, then Jesus lied, because he has promised us everlasting life." It is true that we have that promise, but only to us that endure unto the end. Jesus says, "Ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake; but he that endureth to the end shall be saved" (Matt. 10:22).

"And many false prophets shall rise up, and shall deceive many, and because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold; but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matt. 24:11-13).

Jesus knew that there would be false teachers as there was in the days of old. Even from the time of Adam and Eve, when the devil told Eve that they would not die if they sinned, and the serpent said unto the woman: "Ye shall not surely die."

May God have mercy upon a man who preaches or teaches such dangerous doctrine as that. I do not see how ministers can expose souls to hell by telling them that there is no danger of them being lost, when God's word is so plain, that we must endure to the end if we receive the crown.

Some seem to think that they receive the crown the minute they accept Jesus as their Savior; but read what Paul says, "For I am now ready to be offered and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous Judge shall give me at that day, and not to me only, but unto them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

Paul didn't say that he had already received the crown of righteousness, but that it was laid up for

him, because he had fought a good fight and had kept the faith unto the end. Paul didn't do as some are doing today, when a little trouble, trial, or temptations come along, they yield to Satan. No, he said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Paul had started out to win that crown; and he knew that he must fight Satan and keep the faith of Christ Jesus. It seems that some Free Will Baptist preachers, when preaching to backsliders, try to smear a thin coat of sugar on their sermons, afraid they will hurt some one's feelings, telling them that they have grown cold and indifferent, to come back to the Lord and enjoy their salvation. But if you have gone away from the Lord, and are not serving Him, then you are serving Satan; you have no salvation to enjoy. I do not believe there is a middle ground, you are either a Christian or a sinner. You are either serving God or mammon and God says, you can't serve both.

Christians don't like to say anything to hurt anyone's feelings, but read what Paul says, "For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet please men, I should not be the servant of Christ" (Gal 1:10).

I pray that God may use these few words to help us all to realize the value of a soul, and that we might strive to please God rather than man; and that we might ask God to help us, that we may not be over come with evil, but overcome evil with good.

"Wherefore rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if you do these things ye shall never fall" (2 Peter 1:10).

"Fear none of these things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried: and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).

Pray for me, that I might keep the faith and be faithful unto death.

JACOB AT BETHEL

Weary and worn with his journey,
He places a stone for his head,
And under the sky, star-spangled,
Lies down on his lonely bed.

He sleeps in the dewy darkness—
But lo! To his dazzled sight
The heaven is opened above him,
Revealing its glory and light.

He sees the wonderful ladder
Connecting the earth and sky,
And the angels coming and going,
Or on white wings hovering nigh.

And he hears the voice of Jehovah,
In marvelous words of grace,
Renewing the promise of blessing
To the nations of earth through his race.

And he cries out in wonder and joy,
"How hallowed and dreadful this spot,
God's house and the gateway of heaven!
He was here and I knew it not."

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE REPORTS

REPORT OF PLEASANT HILL LEAGUE

Crissie Cravens, Reporter

The Free Will Baptist league at Pleasant Hill reports an active membership of about twenty-two, with other members that do not attend regularly. There have been several of our members moved out of the community. It seems that we have been handicapped in many ways the past few months, and have not accomplished as much as we should have; but the majority of our members are still interested in the work. We need the prayers of all you Gem readers, that we may be able to stand under the difficulties.

We certainly enjoy meeting with the other leagues in our quarterly programs. They are a great help in getting young folk to take an active part in the work of the Lord. We are now looking forward to what should be the best program we have ever had. It will be given at the yearly meeting of Free Will Baptist to be in our church at Pleasant Hill.

The officers of our league are as follows:

President, Verba Claxton
Vice President, Luther Cravens
Sec'y-Treas., Dorothy Hickman
Quiz Leader, Oleva Hickman
Junior Sponsor, Pauline Wynn
Yours for better league and church work.

NORTHWEST PICHER LEAGUE REPORT

Mrs. J. E. Wingfield, Reporter

The league of Northwest Picher Free Will Baptist reports as follows:

At the election of officers the following persons were put in office:

President, Cecil Womae
Vice President, Mrs. Perry Anderson
Sec'y-Treas., Miss Aretta Smith
Reporter, Mrs. J. E. Wingfield

There has been several joined our league this summer. League is in good standing at present, and the members are enjoying the wonderful lessons and God's Word.

Minutes of the Northeast Missouri League Ass'n

Mrs. Mabel Montgomery, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by the president, a song was sung, after which the secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the reports of the represented leagues. The leagues that had reports were: New Harmony, Greengrove, Low Ground and Sublette. Low Ground and Sublette are newly organized leagues.

New officers were then elected as follows:

President, Miss Esther Peterson, Greentop, Missouri
Vice President, Miss Helen Lawson, Stahl, Missouri
Secretary-Treas., Mrs. Mabel Montgomery, Stahl

After the election of officers, a very interesting program was given, which follows:

Song, Green Grove league
Pantomime, Low Ground league
Song, Girls' quartet, New Harmony
A short play, Martinstown league

Song, Congregation
Reading, Annabelle Buchanan

This concluded all of the business meeting and the program, so the meeting was turned over to the Mission workers, and the rest of the evening was devoted to their service.

REPORT OF S. E. MO. LEAGUE CONVENTION

Raymond La Brot, Sec'y-Treas. S. E. Mo. Leagues

Following is a report of our last quarterly League Convention, which was held with the Third Free Will Baptist church of St. Louis, at 1405 S. 7th St., July 31, 1934, beginning at 7:30 p. m.

We all left Flat River for St. Louis in open trucks and in cars, to attend the convention, a distance of about 70 miles. All enjoyed the trip fine. We were given a hearty welcome by the good people of the St. Louis church, and all had a good time.

There was a number of good speakers present for each topic, and a number of songs and some good spiritual singing, and good advice to the leaguers.

The enrollment was taken as follows:

Wortham League,	11,	Desloge League,	17,
Flat River League,	9,	Leadington League,	14,
St. Louis League,	41,	Visitors,	40,
Total number enrolled,	142.		

The contest of our various leagues was taken care of, with Flat River, Desloge, and Wortham winners of a blue ribbon for having a 100% league. Leadington and St. Louis having a 90% league.

Bible chapters read for quarter:

Flat River,	3172 chapters,	Membership	75
Desloge,	3354 chapters,	Membership	48
Leadington,	3341 chapters,	Membership	40
Wortham,	4707 chapters,	Membership	32
St. Louis,	632 chapter,	Membership	39
Total chapters,	15,206.		

Sick calls for quarter:

Flat River.....	537,	Desloge	778
Leadington.....	213,	Wortham	50
St. Louis.....	108,	Total sick calls	1,686.

We have started another league year beginning the first of July, which we hope will be a better year than this, since the drouth seems to have broken some and the weather is not so hot, we are expecting to have a better report for next quarter, pray for us, as in James 5:16 it is written, "The prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

NEW HARMONY LEAGUE REPORT

Esther Peterson, Reporter

We enjoy reading reports from other leagues, our New Harmony league is still trying to work for Jesus. We visited the Sublett church Sunday July, the eighth.

As Sublett had no league we organized a Free Will Baptist League with eight members. Officers elected were,

President Ralph Gregory
Vice President John Peterson
Sec.-Treas. Mrs. John Peterson
Group Captain John Peterson, Jr.
Quiz Leader Harold Kelsey

The people at Sublett are very interested in league work, and I believe the league will be a great help to them.

TO THE LEAGUES

By Winford Davis, President

Dear Leaguers: Well, how are you all by this time? I am still enjoying health, for which I am thankful, and trying to do my bit in God's service. Are we going to get to see you at the State meeting this fall? I know we are away down here in the south west corner of the state, but don't let that keep you back, God will provide a way for you if you make an effort.

You will meet some real leaguers at Jones Chapel. Have you anything new to bring before the body of state workers this time? If you have I wish you would write and tell me about it. As the associational year nears a close, it makes us think back of what kind of a worker we have been the past year, doesn't it? If we haven't done anything this past year we had better get busy, for this year will soon be a matter of history, little as we think about it.

BLUE EYE LEAGUE REPORT

Reported by Mrs. Alice Taylor

We have not seen the Blue Eye League report in the paper for some time, but I am glad to say that we are all alive yet and working for the Master.

We are glad to report that our league is still growing in membership as well as in interest. Our four group captains are trying to see that they have a good lesson every Sunday night. We have something special on the program that is sure good to hear. I just wish you league members could see our fine bunch of young folks, they are so true and faithful to God's work; the house is almost full sometimes just with young folks, although we have some older ones too who never miss league.

When you pray, we earnestly ask that you remember of the Blue Eye League band.

REPORT OF THE LEAGUE RALLY

Held at Monett, Mo., July 29, 1934.

This is to report the splendid program we enjoyed at our last league rally, held with Monett church. Besides the Monett league, there were Macedonia, Aurora, Merl's Chapel, Jones Chapel and Carterville leagues present. The Blue Eye league had two representatives present, and several visitors rendered good parts on the program.

Here is the program nearly as it was rendered:

Two songs	Congregation
Prayer	Elder Cecil Campbell
Welcome Address	Elder O. T. Allred
Response	Elder Cecil Campbell
Mixed quartet	Carterville
Blalock's quartet	Merl's Chapel
A talk on tithing (Ruth Davis)	Macedonia
Duet	Carterville
Rally song	(Juniors)
Blalock's quartet	Aurora
Duet (Oleta and Winford Davis)	Merl's Chapel
Playlet, "Count Your Blessings"	Macedonia
Reading (Dotty Brittenham)	Monett
Duet (Opal Boyd and Helen Stretch)	Carterville
Quartet	Macedonia
Play	"Chooses"
A talk on league work (Jewell Lewis)	Jones Chapel
Reading (Della Jane Ricketts)	Monett
"A Kiss that was Told in a Cross"	Aurora

Reading (Mary Lee Lewis)	Jones Chapel
Twin City Quartet	Webb City-Carterville
Play, "Go Ye Into All the World"	Monett
Duet	Oleta Davis and Hazel Black
Reading	Lola Brown
Song	Carterville
Reading, "Count Your Money"	Julius Hunt, Monett
Reading	Deleena Brown
Quartet	Carterville
Reading	Macedonia
Two songs	Maxine Davis
Duet	Macedonia
Two songs,	Twin City quartet
The next League rally will be held with the Jones Chapel league, September 30, 1934.	

Elder W. K. Weston, President
Elder John B. Rollins, Vice Pres.

AN ANSWER

Continued from page nine

in —county Ark, and within two miles of there the Free Will Baptists have a church with two hundred and fifteen members, which I myself pastored for a number of years. Yet Mr. Bogard says we haven't built up one congregation of any size. Of course Mr. Bogard would be glad if the Free Will Baptists did not amount to more than he said they did, but Ben M. can tell a different tale when he meets the Free Will Baptist in joint debate, Mr. Bogard may cause some of his brethren to believe his dope but they will not all believe it because they know better.

I wonder what his own people think of the Elder. Only about 75 percent of his own brethren believe the doctrine the Missionary Baptist teach. The Missionarys have some fine people and they have done a lot of good in the world, but their preachers have done lots of evil in the world teaching their young converts, "Once saved, always saved." You know what that means. It means to do any old thing and you will go home to Glory, according to Mr. Bogard.

Mr. Bogard said the Free Will Baptist depend on their good deeds getting them to the Heavenly home. Amen. "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Rev. 22:14). The Bible says some shall depart from the faith; Mr. Bogard says they cannot depart.

Elder Bogard when setting the Lord's table, calls for his brethren and if there be a good Christian of some other order there he must stay away. The Scripture says, "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat." Missionary Baptists are the judge in the matter.

If it were not asking for too much space in the Gem, I would like to tell the readers of the Gem my objections to M.B. doctrine. I shall not use the space to do so at this writing. I don't want the readers of the Gem to think I class all Missionary Baptists with the one who has tried to hurt us.

I have preached in their churches, I have been preaching in the Missionary Baptist church here at Hitehita, they made me welcome to their house while we were building our church. We have a church house that any town can be glad for yet we shall not boast in the least, we mean to serve God and give Him the honor.

THE ALL-POWERFUL GOD*Continued from page eleven*

want to make the devil mad, just testify of something God has done for you. After God had healed my body and I testified that I was healed, some said, "It is the work of the devil." Some made light of it, and one man said, he had noticed divine healing for 60 years, and no one held out 60 days." Those were testing times. The devil said, "There you are, you wont hold out 60 days." God said, "My grace is sufficient," and that He would not allow us to be tried more than we were able to bear. To the glory and honor and praise of God, I will say: It has been two years last April since my body was healed. He has so wonderfully blessed me, that I have never taken a dose of medicine. Jesus is so precious to me, yet no more to me than to anyone that will trust him. Christ is the Great Physician for both soul and body, for which his mission was on earth.

I was redeemed from sin through His precious blood 28 years ago last June, and 2 years ago June 13th, I was called to preach the unsearchable riches of God's word. When I do my best it seems so little that I can only say "We have just done what was our duty to do." Thank God for those who did believe God and helped strengthen in time of trials.

It is not what people say about us, but it is what Christ knows about us; and through believing and trusting faith, we have in Jesus that we receive what we are seeking for whether it be salvation or healing of the body, or anything you might be in need of and ask God for. We must lose sight of everything except Christ. God's word say's "The just shall live by faith." I fear too many are trying to walk by sight. We complain too much.

I feel that God's people need to get humble and sincere and cry out with tears, "Help thou mine unbelief," as the man that brought his son to Jesus to be healed. He said to Jesus, "If thou canst do anything have compassion and help us." Jesus said, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." The father cried out with tears, "Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief." He realized he needed

help and was very humble. Through faith, obedience and trusting God, we have a right to His great store house, which is rich with power that is sufficient for every human need. He has promised to supply all our needs according to his riches in glory, in Christ Jesus. As Jesus commanded us to "Love one another, as I have loved you," my prayer is that I might be able through Christ to win many precious souls for Him.

Pray for me, that I might be true to the great cause of Christ. Your sister in the Lord's work.
Edith Mayfield.

The Lord's Day

This is the day the Lord hath made,
He calls the hours His own:
Let heaven rejoice, let earth be glad
And praise surround the throne.

Today He rose, our glorious Head,
And death's dread empire fell:
Today the saints His triumph spread,
And all His wonders tell.

—Thomas A. Arne.

THIS TIME OF DISTRESS

"Ye see the distress that we are in" (Neh. 2:17).

There is no doubt about the distress that the world is in. As I go from place to place, preaching, I hear on every hand, "We are in distress, don't see how we can hold out this winter." Their hearts are full of fear of that which is upon us. "The whole land is made desolate, because no man layeth it to heart" (Jer. 12:11).

"Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard."

Where is the old time preacher today, that speaks as he is moved upon by the Holy Ghost? that loves his charge? that feeds them upon that Manna of Heaven, and loves them, yea as his own life? that tells the sinner to repent and call upon God for mercy, and unless he repents he will go to HELL? and that tells those of his church, that are lukewarm, that God wants them to be either hot or cold? (Rev. 3:15).

God pity a lukewarm church and their compromising pastor, that has taken away the altar,

and fawns upon the world for filthy lucre's sake. May the Lord have mercy on them, for God will spue them out of His mouth (Rev. 3:16). It is enough to make any child of God sick at the stomach, let alone God.

In distress? Yes, and no wonder! we have trodden God's portion under foot (Jer. 12:10). We have plowed up our cotton, while millions are without clothing; destroyed hogs, and children crying for meat; cut the wheat and corn, and a famine for bread; wasting the benefits of God, and in distress! Why? Because we are robbing God (Mal. 3:8).

Millions for pleasure and sinful amusements, from the Century of Progress Fair down to the cheap hurdy-gurdy that graces the streets of almost every town and city, with its hellish influence, stealing the chastity of our girls and debasing the character of our young men and boys.

Century of Progress! My God, in what way? It is the way to hell, with all the nations that forget God. "Lovers of pleasure more that lovers of God" (2 Tim. 3:4). The wealth of the world for pleasure and sin, while the cause of Christ has no place to lay its head.

In distress! Is not the meat cut off before your eyes? Have you meat in your home for this winter? Yea, joy and gladness from the house of our God? Not much shouting any more, very few good old time revivals, with shouting and praising God. And because we don't, "The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered. (Have you plenty of corn?) How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate. (Do you know, or have you heard of anything like this lately?) O Lord, to thee will I cry: for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame hath burned all the trees of the field. (Have you prayed for rain lately?) The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness" (Joel 1:17-20).

Have you heard of cattle starving for water and being shot or

killed by the Government to stop their suffering? Do you see the distress that is upon us, or are you blind, and cannot see afar off? or perhaps you may be ignorant as to the prophecy of God's Word. But that will not stop the wrath of God that is upon us, as a sinful nation, for God has said, "I have withheld the rain three months before the harvest. I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword. I have overthrown some of you as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah; yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord. Therefore I do this unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God" (Amos 4th chapter).

Are you ready to meet Jesus? He is coming. Behold, your redemption is near; then there will be no more distress or sorrow to see. —Elder J. E. Phillips, Leslie, Arkansas, R1.

REST

By Elder Claud Smith

The Lord said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Wonderful words of a wonderful Savior to the people of this world, on which the soul of man can find rest and peace.

It is a present rest, a gracious rest, and an eternal rest. The Lord has been the means of rest and peace through every age of the world and I thank the Lord for the promise that He will be with us even to the end of the way.

He says, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me." It is sad to know that there are people in our country that don't know God.

My dear reader, hast thou found that rest which is found in the blood of our blessed Lord? or are you seeking rest and finding none? The Lord says, "Come unto me, and I will give you rest; take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

So many people act like the service of the Lord is a burden to them; and with some it is, for they are trying to serve the Lord without having on the Lord's yoke. But through every trouble and temptation, that we encounter, the Lord will make a way for our

escape. There is a wave of rest and peace that breaks on the believer's soul. The good Lord said, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light." And again he said, "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely." And again he said, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son; and God shall wipe all tears from our eyes."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The announcement of your Association, Yearly Meeting, Quarterly Meeting 5th Sunday Meeting, or any other important meeting should be announced here. If your announcement is not here, send it in so it can be printed in the Gem.

MISSOURI STATE Association will meet with Jones Chapel church, near Stella, Mo., beginning on Monday night before the third Sunday in October, 1934.

Sister McAdams to preach the introductory sermon for the Mission and League workers on Monday night.

Elder Homer Smith to preach the Introductory sermon for the Association on Tuesday night, Elder Jas. F. Miller alternate.
Winford Davis, Clerk, Monett, Mo.

OKLAHOMA STATE Association will meet with Ada church, at Ada, Okla., beginning on Tuesday night before the fourth Sunday in Oct., 1934. Eld. B. F. Rogers, Clerk, Denison, Tex.

THE CO-OPERATIVE GENERAL Association will meet in its seventh Triennial Session, with Denison Free Will Baptist church, on West Hull St., Denison, Texas, November 6 to 9, 1934.

Elder Winford Davis to preach the Introductory sermon, Eld. B. F. Brown alternate.
Eld. B. F. Brown, Clerk, Purdy, Mo.