

# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST  
AND THE WESTERN GENERAL ASSOCIATION—FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST EVERYWHERE

Vol. X. No. 2.

Purdy, Missouri, February, 1938.

50 cents per year.

## "So Run That Ye May Obtain"

By Eld. Wm. Buster, Thebes, Illinois

In this text taken from 1 Cor. 9:24, Paul admonishes his church to be ever mindful of the prize that they should obtain in the hereafter, if they lived consistent Christian lives. The *So Run* implies that there is a certain way to run (or live), if the prize is to be obtained.

We might learn a lesson by noticing how a track team is trained.

First, in order for a runner to be successful, he must live on a prescribed diet. There is, also, a diet for the child of God. "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples and said, Take, eat; this is my body" (Matt. 26:26). "I am the bread of life, he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst" (John 6:35). If you want to run a good race, eat the bread of life and rinse it down with living water.

They (the runners) have to observe certain rules of training. They have to have a certain time to retire at night and a certain time to arise. They can't drink, or even smoke or chew, because it injures their bodies. Unclean habits will injure the soul too, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ. Let us, at least, be as consistent in our race as an athlete.

Then, too, they are disqualified if they break training. That is something to think about, if we are tempted to go back into the world.

They have to practice—We need to practice what we profess and have action as well as talk!

They have to wear the right kind of clothing; shoes that won't slip on the course, trunks, sweat shirt and helmet. If we have our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace,

*Continued on page eleven*

## The Analysis of God

By Eld. C. E. Kennedy, Stigler, Okla.

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Gen. 1:1).

In this first verse in the grand old Book of God, is the foundation upon which *Theism* stands; and it is a foundation that has never been moved, though *Atheists*, *Infidels*, and other opposing powers have attacked it with all their forces, yet the foundation still stands unmoved.

We as *Theists* accept this first statement in the Bible as truth, and affirm God to be the first cause; all other theories in like manner must settle on some foundation, and affirm some first cause. So the theory, of whatever nature it may be, that denies God, is left without a foundation. But I wonder if we as *Theists* who believe in God, understand what we profess to believe in. To really know a thing, it is necessary to study it, to analyze it, and know what it consists of. So let us turn the divine x-ray upon the word "God," and see what we can learn about the God that we believe in.

We think of God as a singular being, but to understand the word God, we must trace the word to its origin, or the root word from whence it came: for there, and there only, can we get the proper meaning of the word. The word God, according to proper authorities, came from the root word *ELOHIM*. This root word *Elohim* is certainly in the plural form, and is said by the most learned men to imply a plurality of persons in the divine nature, or a unity of powers.

We have the word Godhead in the Bible. See Acts 17:29; Rom. 1:20; Col. 2:9. This word came from the root word *ORELOHIM*, which learned men tell us means a unity of divine powers. We shall deal with this word later in our discussion. Let those who have any doubt as to whether *ELOHIM*, when meaning the true God,

*Continued on page fourteen*

## Christ is Coming Soon

By Arthur Kicenski, Sheldon, Mo.

Dear Gem readers, Brothers and Sisters in Christ: As we are in the beginning of a new year, we do not know what it will bring forth to us, happiness or sorrow. As we think of nations in a terrible conflict, the world in a state of unrest, and "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth" (Luke 21:26), we certainly can see by the fulfilling of God's Word, that we are living in the evening of the last day. But we may ask, How can we be certain that He is coming soon?

Matt. 24:32—"Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh."

Verse 33—"So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors."

Now how do we know when the fig tree begins or began to put forth its leaves? Was it when Jesus came? Was it during the Papal reign? God does not leave His people in doubt. Certainly as the fig tree putteth forth leaves, so in like manner shall prophecy be fulfilled, which points to the return of Jesus, and they began with one sign which God gave to all the world.

At the beginning of His preparation to return, as recorded in Nahum 2:3 "... The chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of His preparation."

Verse 4 reads, "The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways." I thought how true that was when I was in Kansas City recently. Cars, raging in the streets. Now this great invention that God placed in the mind of man has gone to all the world. No doubt in the automobile's infancy it was just a chariot with a motor to

*Continued on page fourteen*

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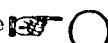
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Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here 

We are always glad to receive articles, letters, reports,  
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 any line that will help the cause.

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## FREE WILL BAPTIST PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

WEATHERBY, MISSOURI, January 11, 1938.

There is a man living in my neighborhood who never fails to come to hear me preach. He brings his family with him, and seems to be quite a religious man. He says that he was born and raised in the country of Syria, and that he was born near the head waters of the Jordan river and not far from Mt. Herman where Christ was transfigured. He has been all over that part of the country, and also the Lebanon hills. He has been at Jacob's well and to the city of Jerusalem. He says that the church and denomination that he belonged to back in his old home is very strong and that their membership runs into the hundreds of thousands, and from what he tells me about his church and denomination and about their church policy and doctrine they are very much like the Free Will Baptist. He says that they trace their church history back to Christ, and the church work in that part of the country was started by one or more of the Apostles. I get this from talking with this man and from others from his old home country. The country of Syria is now governed by France. I am going to try to get this man to attend some of our Associations. This article ought to give us some food for thought in reference to the history of the Free Will Baptist. This man I am writing about seems to be quite an intelligent man, but he cannot read or write our language.

—Elder T. C. Ferguson.

## SERMONS WE SEE

I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one any day,  
 I'd rather one should walk with me than merely point the way,

The eye's a better pupil, and more willing than the ear,  
 Fine counsel is confusing, but examples always clear,  
 And the best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds,  
 For to see good in action is what everybody needs.

I soon can learn to do, if you'll let me see it done,  
 And I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run,  
 And the lectures you deliver may be wise and true;  
 But I'd rather get my lessons by observing what you do;  
 For I may understand you, and the high advice you give,  
 But there's no misunderstanding how you act and how you live.

When I see a deed of kindness I am eager to be kind;  
 When a weaker brother stumbles, and a strong man stands behind,

Just to see if he can help him, then the wish grows strong in me

To become as big and thoughtful as I know that friend to be,  
 And all travelers can witness that the best of guides to day  
 Is not the one who shows them, but the one who shows the way.

One good man teaches many; men believe what they behold;  
 One deed of kindness noticed is worth forty that are told.  
 Who stands with men of honor learns to hold his honor dear,

For right living speaks a language which to everyone is clear,

Though an able speaker charms me with his eloquence,  
 I say,

I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one any day.

Contributed.

## Our Wonderful Bible

By the Editor

Continued from last month

The Bible is the Word of God, has always been the Word of God; that part of it which the Israelites had was the Word of God. God has spoken to men of all ages: To Adam He spoke freely; to Abraham He spoke many blessings; to Moses God spoke face to face; "He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel," and He has spoken to many others. God not only spoke to the children of Israel by His written word, but by the prophets, their kings also inquired of God by the prophets. Since the Word of God came to Israel, they knew what they should do; and since the Word of God has come to us, we know what we should do.

We have seen how Israel (the ten tribes) forsook the Lord and were carried into captivity, from which they have not returned to this day. The Jews of the world now number about 16,000,000, of which more than one fourth are in our own country. They are a problem many nations are trying to solve at the present time, and they are becoming more and more a problem in United States of America. Jews are found in many countries, but they do not readily become citizens as other people do. After nearly 2,000 years, scattered among other peoples, they are still Jews, and are still without a country of their own. Palestine is to be their country, and nearly 400,000 Jews have gone back there, but their rights there are disputed by the Arabs and Turks, and there is continual warfare because the Jews are gathering back to their own land. Israel is still without a king.

More and more the Jews are complaining about their sufferings and troubles (for in most countries they are sorely persecuted), but their sufferings and troubles will be much greater yet. What they are now suffering is only a shadow of what is to come upon them. Great afflictions shall come upon the Jews, so say the prophets, and the "time of Jacob's trouble" is referred to as a great day (Jer. 30:7). But Israel shall receive "double for all her sins," and shall be gathered from the nations, and receive pardon and blessings (Isa. 40:1, 2), and be planted in their own land, and shall "yet plant vines upon the mountains of Samaria: the planters shall plant, and shall eat them as common

things" (Jer. 31:5).

According to the record of Second Kings Judah fared somewhat better than Israel, and remained in their land about five generations after Israel was carried into captivity by the Assyrians. Not one of Israel's kings was said to be good; but in Judah at least four of her kings were said to be good, and "did that which was right in the sight of the Lord." Of these good kings that did right, two of them: Hezeniah and Josiah, took away the high places, and followed the Lord in all things. All the wicked kings built high places and served all the host of heaven, and all the other kings except the two we have mentioned above turned to God, but left the high places. And many even today, when they turn to God, retain many things of the old life, which causes them to fail in their profession, and are soon back in sin as bad as before.

Of Hezekiah it was said, "He trusted in the Lord God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him" (2 Kings 18:5). This good king reigned but 29 years; and following him was Manasseh who reigned 55 years and was the most wicked of all the kings of Judah—he was even wicked above all them "whom the Lord destroyed before the children of Israel." Now read 2 Kings 21:1-18.

Manasseh "built up again the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed," and it was Manasseh that "built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord;" he made his son to pass thru the fire; he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; he "made Judah to sin also, with his idols," so that the Lord brought much evil upon Jerusalem, and God said, "I will wipe Jerusalem, as a man wipeth a dish."

After Manasseh had reigned in wickedness for 55 years, he died and was buried, and his wicked son Amon became king over Judah. He followed in the way of his father, and served idols and worshipped them. He reigned two years and was slain by his own servants in his own house, and Josiah his son reigned in his stead.

The kingdom of Judah was in an awful condition when Josiah began his reign at the tender age of eight

years. Fifty-seven years under a reign of wickedness and idolatry had almost completely turned the people away from God, and they were steeped in idol worship and wickedness. The ungodliness resulting from Manasseh's long reign in wickedness was very great—too great to be overcome during Josiah's reign of 31 years in righteousness—and no good king came to the throne after Josiah.

Hezekiah was the wise and godly father of a wicked ungodly son; and Manasseh was the wicked ungodly grandfather of a wise and righteous grandson; and Josiah was the wise and righteous son of a wicked father. These three kings: Hezekiah, Manasseh and Josiah were outstanding in the history of the kingdom of Judah. If Manasseh had been a good king like the other two, no doubt the history of Judah would have been far different. And if good kings like Josiah and Hezekiah had continued in Judah, who could say that Judah would not be in their land, and ruling in righteousness from Jerusalem unto this day?

Just as wickedness, drunkenness and idolatry prevailed; and "Wine, Women and Song" was the slogan of the leaders or ruling class during the disgraceful reign of Manasseh; so wickedness, drunkenness and idolatry now prevail in our own government, and "Wine, Women and Song" is the battle cry of the "High Ups" at Washington. D. C. Manasseh furnished idols for his people to worship: Roosevelt has provided the NRA, the New Deal, and a lot of other new fangled things, and has provided plenty of drink for all.

If the wickedness in Judah at the time we speak of indicated that their destruction was near, even at hand; should not the nations of today, including our own country, take warning and wake up to a sense of their duty toward God? The prophets have described just such conditions and times as we now have to be in the end time of this age; but as it was in the days of old, MOST PEOPLE CONTINUE IN UNBELIEF.

To have other gods before the Lord, to be drunken, to murder, to steal, to be conformed to the world, and many other things mentioned in the Word of God, bring spiritual death when they are practiced. If indulgence in these things brought captivity and spiritual death to God's people of the old dispensation; what will their indulgence bring to God's people of today?

To be continued

## A CHANCE TO HELP

Dear Co-Worker:

A few of Brother and Sister McAdams' friends have planned a little surprise for them in the form of a small gift to aid them in buying a better car. The one they have is about worn out and we feel sure it will please the Master for us to help them get a better car.

Your gift may be large or small. Any amount will be appreciated.

Send your gift to Mrs. Lizzie McAdams, at 1304 10th Street, Huntsville, Texas.

Bettie Mitchell, Huntsville, Texas  
Mollie Lawlis, Midway, Texas.

### THIRD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH Saint Louis, Missouri

Dear Brother Brown and Gem Readers:

Christmas and jingle bells are past, and 1937 is closed. Now, that we are entering a new year, let's look forward to greater things for the future than we did in the past.

Our Sunday school had a fine Christmas entertainment with songs and plays and good music. (Sunday School officers for the year: Bro. Claude Lincoln, Superintendent; Bro. Chas. Miller, Ass't Supt.; Bro. James Langley, Sec'y-Treasurer. Our Sunday school is improving in attendance, and by the help of the Lord we expect to do greater things this year than we did last year.

The church is getting along fine and services are good. Bro. Hill is preaching good sermons. We have singing and string music and special songs. Bro. Lewis preached the other Sunday evening and brought a fine message. We are having good times with the Lord. If there ever was a time when people ought to be serving the Lord it is now. If Christian people would pray more and live closer to the Lord, He would bless His people and more people would be saved. There is only one thing wrong with Christian people, they don't consecrate their lives to their God. If people would get down and pray like they ought, the Lord would change things and could use His people in service.

The league meets every Tuesday evening, and they study the Bible and meditate about great things the Lord has done. Our league has three classes. Bro. Charles Miller has the Intermediate class, it is a fine class; Bro. Gill has the Juniors, which he has taught for a long time; and Bro. Claud Lincoln has the old people. Every department is working in harmony and everything is doing fine.

Francis McCauley, 1622 Hickory St., St. Louis, Mo.

### GRANBY, MISSOURI, January 12, 1938

Dear Readers of the Gem:

Just a few lines to report the meeting we have just closed at our Free Will Chapel No. 1 Church (also known as Pleasant Ridge Free Will Baptist Church), near Urbana, Missouri. Bro. J. G. Koch of Long Lane, Mo. is the faithful pastor of this church. The good people of the community really deserve honor for their efforts in making the meeting a success. There were large crowds present most every night, people from other denominations seemed to realize the welcome that we had for them.

We were there just about two weeks, and the dear Lord came upon the scene and blessed 18 souls, of which five united with the church and were baptized.

There is a fine group of young people at this place who are really alive in the service.

—Kenneth Turner.

## HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS

Dear Gem Family:

We gave a partial report of our Huntsville meeting before Christmas. The meeting started Sept. 10 and was a glorious meeting from first to last. We had a splendid location for the tent, only one block from the main square and two from the State prison. We never did know just how many conversions there were, but somewhere near a hundred. It was a deep spiritual meeting and we had some large crowds till the weather got cold. We had the privilege of conducting one service in the prison which resulted in 17 conversions among the prisoners. About 200 asked for prayers, but only 17 were saved. The town is a great school town. We need a church in this place for we have Free Will Baptist from all parts of the state who attend this school. We prayed very earnestly about organizing a church and God didn't lead that way now, but we have our tent stored and will go back at a later date for another meeting. We feel it will take it to get the organization. We left a prayer band holding services every week. We closed out Dec. 19th and spent the holiday with our sister who was carried to the hospital Christmas day for a very serious operation. As soon as she was able, we came to Bro. T. W. Smith's church near Henderson for a short meeting. We have had two saved already and the meeting is glorious. After we are through here, we are planning on a Missionary trip east of the Mississippi river. We are planning to get us a loud speaker for our car and hold open air meetings in the different towns. We want to start about the first of February and go to Florida first, then work up through the different states, and we are asking our Missionary women to pray and if God leads, send us \$1.00 on the loud speaker. It is for the Lord and the denomination that we are going and we want to go to the weak places and organize where they have no Mission work, and if any Sunday school or individual feels led to send a small offering it will be greatly appreciated. We want to thank every one who helped on the car. May God bless you abundantly is our prayer. We will be in Huntsville in a few days so send your offering there.

With prayers for a great year in our beloved denomination.

—H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

### BIGGERS, ARKANSAS, January 10, 1938.

Dear Brother Brown:

My son is a reader of the Free Will Baptist Gem. I pray God will help you and your good wife to keep the Gem coming to many homes, it is food for the soul to read your paper.

I have been a member of the Free Will Baptist Church for 48 years and have never thought once of turning from my Savior, but my hope gets brighter all the time. My children are all Christians but two boys. They are living in sin, but I believe God answers prayer, sometimes after we are gone.

I sometimes feel that I can see my prayers floating around the throne of God, waiting to be answered. A Christian life is a wonderful life to live, when we try living it. All the silver and gold could not buy my hope for heaven, which hope means so much to us when sick or in trouble. I sometimes think, Have I done enough for the Lord? Then I think over my life and feel sure of my reward.

—Mrs. J. M. Davis.

## HELPS FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUES

The following items for the Free Will Baptist League are printed and sold by the Free Will Baptist Press at Ayden, North Carolina:

Senior F. W. B. Quarterlies ..... 10c each  
Intermediate F. W. B. Quarterlies ..... 10c each  
Junior F. W. B. Quarterlies ..... 6c each  
League Secretary's Record Book Seven Point

Record System) ..... \$1.00 each  
Individual Member's Report Slips (to be used in connection with the record book) ..... 500 for 75c  
1,000 for \$1.25

Individual Member's Report Envelopes (to be used in place of slips, if desired) ..... 500 for \$1.50  
1,000 for \$2.75

Songs for Free Will Baptist Leagues, 10c each, 12 for \$1.00

General F. W. B. League Manual, 40c each, three for \$1.00  
(A general explanation of the League work; good for every officer. This Manual has 128 pages).

For further information write to the Field Secretary.

Clarence Bowen, Field Secretary N. C. State F. W. B. L.,  
2513 Club Blvd., Durham, North Carolina.

### THE ALKA, KENTUCKY

Dear Brother Brown and Gem family:

This is my first letter to the dear Gem readers, but I love to read the letters from God's children.

Just being in a wonderful meeting this past Sunday, it makes our hearts rejoice to see such deep conviction given by the Spirit from above, and souls come up rejoicing in the new found Savior's love. So let us not be idle, the fields are so white, and numberless sheaves will be lost—they perish for want of more reapers. How awful to think of the cost. Let us not be idle, for time will soon be over, and reaping be ended for this age. Let's gather the lost from the by-ways of sin, to walk in the beautiful way. Let us not be idle, there's no time for repose, our resting is to be over there where all the faithful are in heaven above, and a bright crown of glory to wear. We should help all those in need, showing Christ in word and deed. Let us rather give than take, love and give for Jesus' sake; come and help us heed the call, there is work for all. Jesus needs and calls us too. There is much that each can do. —Rev. F. M. Gamble.

### GREENFIELD, MISSOURI, January 12, 1938.

Dear Brother Brown and Gem readers:

We sure do enjoy reading the Gem so much as I was raised in the Free Will Baptist Church, and my husband has been a member for 25 years and we love so much to read the letters from God's children.

It makes our hearts rejoice to read of so many souls being saved and to know that the good work is going on, and especially Brother and Sister McAdams, and Brother T. C. Ferguson and Brother Winford Davis as they have done so much good here at Neola in past years. I never have written to the Gem so just thought I'd write and let you know how we appreciate it in our lonely hours. If it wasn't for the Gem and our Bible, we could hardly stay here. We go to hear our pastor, Brother Davis, every fourth Sunday and enjoy the sermons so much.

I wish I could write something that would be a help

to some one, but don't suppose I can.. We ask an interest in the prayers of all the Gem readers and wish all a happy and prosperous new year, and want this to be our Motto: Whatsoever we do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus giving thanks to God the Father by Him.  
—Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Green.

### FREDERICKTOWN, MISSOURI, January 10, 1938

Dear Bro. Brown and wife and Gem Family, greetings this beautiful morning.

We are still living and enjoying life if we are getting old and feeble and can't go to church any more, but we are still trusting our great Lord and Master for what he has done for us, knowing that the trials of life will soon be over, and oh, what a meeting yonder in that sweet land of rest where we will know no heart aches, but all will be joy and peace and happiness. Pray for us.

Yours for the Cause,

—Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Miller.

### NIANGUA, MO. Jan. 17, 1938.

Editor, B. F. Brown and Gem Family:

This beautiful winter day finds us rejoicing in the Lord. Wife and I just closed a revival effort with the Amity church near Niangua, Mo. The meeting continued three weeks, resulting in the church being greatly revived and six souls being converted.

The meeting would no doubt have resulted in greater victory had it not been for the cloud of discouragement cast upon the churches through the withdrawal of the Association from the State meeting, a sorrow which we hope will soon pass away and the churches be lined up for a new Association and co-working with the State Association.

During the meeting, we secured two subscriptions for the Gem which we are sending in.

In the meeting, we were blessed with the fellowship and presence of Rev. John Mace, Rev. Thomas and Rev. Selph Jones.

Praying the blessings of the Father upon the Editor and Gem family, we hope to be remembered as—

Yours for the Master,

—C. E. Mann and wife.

### HURRICANE, WEST VIRGINIA, Jan. 7, 1938

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I wish to send in a brief report of the work we are trying to do, by the help of the Lord. We had a splendid revival at the Pleasant Valley Church, just closed recently, with 20 professions. Eld. L. W. Ellis of Getway, Ohio assisted the pastor, Eld. John M. Henson.

Then on Dec. 31, 1937 to Jan. 2, 1938, we had our regular quarterly meeting, beginning on Friday at 2:00 p. m.

Opening song, "When I Can Read My Title Clear to Mansions in the Sky."

Scripture lesson 4th paragraph of Isaiah 34th chapter, Prayer by Bro. S. T. Clark.

Just a few ministers and deacons reported.

No business came up, so we adjourned for preaching.

Eld. Herbert Henson of Chesapeake, Ohio gave a wonderful message for a young man. Concluded by Elder J. C. Wilcox of Huntington, W. Va. Their subject was "Jonah and His Misfortune."

Met back Saturday night at 7:00 o'clock.

Song, "Showers of Blessing."

Prayer by Eld. L. W. Ellis.

Scripture lesson, 24th chapter of Matthew.

Sermon by Eld. A. C. Berry of Milton, W. Va. Concluded by Eld. J. C. Wilcox of Huntington, W. Va. Text,

Matt. 16:18—"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Opened Saturday morning at 9:45 o'clock.

Song, "Watching When the Lord Shall Come."

Prayer by Eld. John M. Henson.

Scripture reading, 16th chapter of Proverbs.

Eld. J. C. Wilcox was elected as Moderator.

Business Committee: Elders T. H. Scaggs, John M. Henson and C. F. Harper.

Next Session: Brothers Clefthon Harbour, R. M. Morrison and Sister A. B. Booth.

Several churches brought in good reports, with 25 additions in the past three months. We have a membership of from 350 to 400 now, 9 churches and 19 ministers. We are gaining a few along, hoping to gain for the Lord as long as we live.

Preaching at eleven o'clock by Eld. C. F. Harper. Text, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." A wonderful message by a young man of God who is giving his life for the cause.

Met back at 12:15 p. m. and transacted business.

Next Session Committee reported that our next quarterly meeting will be held with Kenova Church, Kenova, W. Va., beginning at 2:00 p. m. on Friday before the first Sunday in April, 1938.

Corresponding messengers to other bodies were chosen:

Guyan Valley—Bro. E. B. Legge.

Logan—Eld. J. C. Wilcox.

Clay—Eld. J. C. Wilcox.

Kanawha—Bro. R. W. Henson.

Sciota Co., Ohio—Eld. Herbert Henson.

Union—Elders J. C. Wilcox and C. F. Harper.

Eld. J. C. Wilcox was chosen to preach the Introductory sermon at next Q. M., with Eld. A. C. Berry alternate.

The Business Committee recommended that a council examine Bro. A. B. Booth for the ministry. Council examined Bro. Booth and found him qualified as a minister.

At 7:00 p. m. Elder Fortuner from Logan Quarterly Meeting brought a wonderful message. Concluded by Eld. J. C. Wilcox. This was followed by the Lord's Supper and feet washing, in which a goodly number took part. People of just about all denominations were there that night to take part. We had a good meeting.

Sunday morning Eld. L. W. Ellis of Chesapeake, Ohio preached a wonderful message, followed by the pastor, Eld. John M. Henson. There was a great rejoicing time there that morning, and a large number came and gave their hand for prayer. We sure enjoyed being with those good people, and we pray God's blessings on them and the Pleasant Valley Church.

—Eld. John M. Henson.

## HARTVILLE, MISSOURI, January 17, 1938

Dear Editor, Wife, and Gem Readers:

As I have changed places and have to change the address on my Gem paper (for I don't wish to miss a copy), I thought I would write a few lines.

I am still striving each and every day to live a life for God. I long ago decided I could not live a life to please people, but I am so thankful that man is not our judge. People may say, "So and So is not fit to be called a child of God," but God looks on the soul of man, He is the only One that knows, and O, how careful we should be of one another's happiness! We all have all we can do if we keep ourselves right in the sight of God.

I am happy to tell you that I am now staying in a good old Christian home with Uncle Reuben Young and his wife, and last Sunday we were blessed by having Uncle John Jones and wife come to spend the day with us. We thank God for such good Christian fathers and mothers, and think how proud their children should be to be blessed with such good parents.

O how we wish more people would take the Gem paper, not only take it, but read it. I have an aunt in Calif. and the birthday present I gave her was to send her a year's subscription to the Gem paper, and I know she will enjoy getting it.

Where I am now staying is right across the highway from the old Pleasant Hill Church, where I have heard so

much preaching, and seen so much rejoicing because everybody was happy to meet those they had not seen for a year or more. In those days people had religion and enjoyed their salvation and did not bunch up in little bunches and gossip about one another, but all were happy together, but now it is a heartache to think how the old Devil is working, how he is ruining our churches and communities and causing so many souls to be lost, all because the children of God are letting old Satan tell them things. They listen, and if we are not careful, it will lead us down to woe and misery. O the worth of prayer!

We all more or less fail to pray as we should, and let worldly cares get in our way. How often have we been impressed to kneel and pray, and then the thought came: "I haven't time, I have so much to do and I could have so much done that I would not, if I took time to pray." Now I have been working out for nearly eight years, and I have never seen the time yet that I had so much to do, that I could not spare time to pray at least once a day. May the good Lord help us all to live closer to Him and help us to love one another better as brothers and sisters in Christ, and if we can say nothing good about one another, may we pray the good Lord's richest blessings upon one another.

I do so want to live a life in this world of sin and sorrow, that I won't be a stumbling block in any one's way, and if I could only live a life and be the cause of one soul finding Jesus as their Savior, I could spend my days in happiness; so dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us live closer at the feet of Jesus, that should the call come to us, we would be ready to meet Him.

Pray for me, that I may ever be faithful to the end, and at last gain a home in Glory.

Miss Daisy Raney, Hartville, Mo., R3, % Reuben Young.

## NEOSHO, MISSOURI, January 20, 1938.

Dear Brother Brown and the Gem Family:

I would like just a little space in your paper.

Have just closed a meeting in Neosho with ten souls saved and reclaimed. Some of them were men up in years, and some were children, who came to the altar and prayed through.

A good holiness minister by the name of Friend opened his mission and helped in the meeting, and his people came out and helped and backed us up with their prayers, and we had a wonderful meeting.

We found some Free Will Baptist there that didn't even know that we had a church close enough for them to attend, so I told them of our church at Oak Grove where Bro. Kenneth Turner is pastor.

So we ordered a battle for the Lord against the Devil, and won the victory. When the Lord calls a meeting and His people get a burden for the lost, He is going to fight for us; He did, and we won. —Mrs. D. T. McKee.

## GOWER, MISSOURI, January 12, 1938

Dear Brother and Sister Brown:

I have been reading the "Gem" and I see no reports or letters from Northwest Missouri. I know we are few in number, but there are still some of us serving the Lord. I don't say we are trying to serve Him, but a few of us are really on the firing line for God.

My folks and my husband and I were able to be in a few of the services at Third Fork where Bro. Davis was conducting a revival meeting with their pastor, Bro. Kenneth Turner. We have not forgotten the blessings we received there. My husband and I were two of the consecrations Bro. Davis wrote about in his report to the Gem last month.

The Lord has laid it on my heart to write this letter to you and the good Christian people who read the Gem. I want you all to pray that the Lord will send some one here to our church, Mt. Zion, to revive it. My sister Melba is pastoring the church, preaching once a month, but you know the Bible says "A prophet in his own country is without honor." I am a great believer in prayer, and I have prayed for a revival, so I am appealing to you for help, for an interest in your prayers.

Mrs. Milford House.

## THE REVIVAL AT FLAT RIVER

Eld. S. H. Marcum, Missouri State Evangelist, closed one of the most successful meetings in the history of the Free Will Baptist church of Flat River, Sunday evening, Jan. 23. Back in the early part of September, 1937, we began planning for a revival meeting at Flat River. The first thing we did was to meet at an old fashioned altar of prayer and ask God to direct us in our efforts. We began to have cottage prayer meetings, one and two each week. After several weeks, the church voted to call our state evangelist, Eld. S. H. Marcum, and on Monday, Dec. 6, he and Sister Marcum came and the meeting began. God has blessed from the very first service, His presence and power being felt.

The meeting went along and a few souls were saved. We all prayed not to make any mistake. On New Year's eve, we had a prayer meeting after the regular service, and 66 stayed until after mid-night. We began the new year 1938 on our knees, and the power of God come down and we were blessed.

Some very interesting and outstanding things happened in the meeting. On the first Sunday in January, the Sunday school was broken up and classes were dismissed, and it looked like the whole house had become an altar of prayer—eight souls were saved in the Sunday school. One night before Bro. Marcum preached, seven precious souls came to the altar and prayed through. Bro. Marcum is an old time Gospel preacher, fearless and filled with power. We saw the number of professions increase until there has been 81 souls profess faith in Christ, 72 united with the church, and 46 were baptised. For four Sundays in succession we had baptismal services.

The church was crowded nearly every service the last few weeks of the meeting, and at times people had to go away because there was no room for them.

Sunday, Jan. 16th was the crowning day for Sunday school, there being 410 present. We have been fortunate to have Bro. and Sister Marcum for our meeting, and we are happy to recommend them to any church interested in an old time Gospel preacher.

—Flat River F. W. B. Church

James F. Miller, Pastor

## SINGING SCHOOL

Dear Gem Readers:

Having for some time felt the need of better singing, I took the summer schooling under the leadership of Professor L. E. Edmonds, of Dallas, Tex., last summer. The school was held at Butterfield, Mo. We have a second grade certificate which qualifies us to teach primary music. We have just recently closed a very successful school at Blue Eye, Mo.

We can't all preach, neither can we all sing, but those who can preach need to qualify themselves to preach; and so should those who sing. Without singing, the services don't seem to amount to very much. And I am a great believer in the one who teaches being a man of God, that we might get the spirit out of the songs. We know that we are not smarter than any one else in our denomination, but there seems to be a need among our ranks of learning to sing. I know there will be those who read this that will say, "There comes one of those shape note singers." Well, that is right. And I will ask any of you to be the judge of those who sing shape notes, and those who use round notes, and decide for yourselves which is the best. I can remember when I was a boy, that we had singing conventions, and there would be classes of from 15 to 40, and such singing! They would sing so you could tell what they were trying to say. Modern days have changed the singing until you have to be a good chaser to stay near. It is no wonder that some of our services are cold, the quivering of voices makes us think it is cold.

Some of you preachers remember that at Nashville, Tenn., when we were at the National Association, how those southerners did sing. Well, they were shape note singers.

We would be glad to teach you a school if you should see fit to call us for one. \$1.00 per scholar for ten lessons.

Our address is F. C. Zinn,  
Purdy, Mo.

MYRTLE, MO. Dec. 22, 1937.

Dear Editor and Gem readers:

I feel impressed to write a few lines to our paper which I think is fine, would be glad if we could have it every week, there are so many good articles in it which I enjoy reading.

As we are about to enter into a

new year, we should start it with more courage to live a closer life for our Lord, as He has blessed us in so many ways. How shall we obtain our share of the good things of life? Alas, we do not even know what our just share is, neither do we know for what vocation in life we are best fitted, how hard we should be justly asked to work for our share, or just how much of the good things of life would be best for us. Many have been ruined by too much prosperity, but there is one who knows all these things, God knows just what our talents are, for he gave them. God knows our strength for the daily task, for He provides it and He knows exactly what would do us good and what would do us harm; so let us seek of Him daily, for God is the strength of His people as surely today as in the days of Israel. Jesus came to the world to declare truth, and He knew what it would cost him to be true to truth. Until a man is courageous enough to be true to his convictions, he is not apt to be courageous in any of the deeper situations of life; it takes courage to move into new areas of life; things are changing, we are changing, things were changing in Jesus' time. Jesus said, "It was said of olden times; but I say unto you." All that was good in the past, Jesus revered and held to, but he believed in the adventure of the human spirit, and he dared to move out into new areas of thought and experience and achievement. Have we that courage today? Read Matt 5:21-48.

As time rolls on I thank the Lord for all he is to me, and as I look out over the world and see his people and hear them sing, "I live on." But where are they going? They don't stop to think; so I hope during this next year there will be a better understanding, and let us all pray that our preachers will tell it plainer.

I close asking all who read the Gem to pray for me. Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year

—Mrs. M. B. Cockman.

## REVIVAL AT MACEDONIA

Last Tuesday night, Jan. 18th, I closed a four weeks' revival with our home church, Macedonia. We saw 13 saved, 12 added to the church, and six baptized, besides the many who were revived in the Spirit, and led to a deeper consecration. We saw several men saved in this meeting that we



have been working after ever since I have been with this church; or for the last twelve years.

Some of the best services we had were our young people's consecration services. They seemed to do our young people so much good. It was such an inspiration to see the altar filled with boys and girls. And last night we had a fine young people's Bible study and prayer meeting in the home of some of our workers. I am glad to see our young people forsaking the world, taking up tithing, etc.

We have new song books at the church now, and our people are taking a great liking to them. The singing and pianist were a great help in the meeting. I have always found it very difficult to have a successful revival without good singing and music.

People throughout the country about Macedonia co-operated with us wonderfully, for which we are very thankful. May the Lord bless our workers everywhere, is my prayer.

I ask an interest in your prayers, for I need them so much.

Yours in Jesus' name,

Winford Davis.

### FLAT RIVER, MISSOURI

Dear Gem Family, Greetings in Jesus' Name: At our last writing we were at Merl's Chapel Church, near Purdy, Mo., where we had a good meeting and co-operation among the churches of different denominations. Bro. Bill Weston of Monett, Mo. is the faithful pastor there. We closed the meeting Dec. 5th with 13 professions. God bless those good people.

Then on Dec. 6th, we drove to Flat River, and began a meeting with Eld. Jas. P. Miller and his dear people. We found them anxious for a meeting. They had been having cottage prayer meetings for some time in behalf of the meeting.

Many wonderful things have happened during these seven weeks of meeting, in which eighty-one souls professed faith in Christ. Over forty of these were fathers and mothers. For all this we give thanks and praise unto God. We have enjoyed working with Bro. Miller and his good people. May God bless them all is our prayer.

Our next meeting will begin Wednesday night, January 26th, with the Desloge Church, where Sister Tommie Franklin is pastor. Pray for us.

Eld. Sam H. Marcum and wife. Home address Cameron, Mo., R7.

### FINANCIAL REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSION FUND

Mildred Baker, Stewartville, Mo.	\$2.00
Charlie Stockton, Aurora, Mo.,	1.00
Mt. Valley League, Norwood, Mo.,	
by Homer Smith .....	3.20
Goldia Elsea, Novinger, Mo. ....	2.50
Margarette Metcalf, Monett, Mo.	5.00
Tulsa Church, Tulsa, Okla. ....	4.12
Third F. W. B. Church, St. Louis.	7.00
Tuskegee Church, Edna, Okla.,	
by Edith Brewer .....	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. John L. Wilson,	
Anderson, Mo. ....	1.00
Merl's Chapel S. S., Cassville, Mo.	
by Marjorie Black .....	1.65
Merl's Chapel Sunday School	
by W. K. Weston, Monett, Mo.	3.00
Albertis Younce, Oakland, Calif.	2.00
Eld. Cecil Campbell, Carterville,	5.00
A. W. Hartley, Arcola, Mo. ....	1.00
Mrs. Henry H. Smith, Norwood,	3.00

### FINANCIAL REPORT OF PUBLISHING HOUSE FUND

Eld. J. S. Damon, Ridgeway, Mo.	\$2.00
John Peterson, Greentop, Mo....	1.00
J. W. Atkins, Kirksville, Mo.,...	1.00
J. L. Edge, Bryan, Texas .....	1.00
J. R. Thornton, Arcadia, Ks.,...	2.00
Willie Blackwell, Niangua, Mo.,	5.00
Eld. L. H. Jones, Falcon, Mo.,...	.25

Brethren, we must wake up, November 1, 1938 is getting closer, I fear, than we think.

### Nine Months Until Harvest?

Our Publishing House Loyalty Charts are doing a great work. They have been reasonably well distributed and are being put to use in a hearty effort to reach the goal of \$2500.00. As far as we are able to learn, our people are responding in an extraordinary way to this unique receipt plan of contributing to the Publishing House Fund—we praise the dear Lord!

More churches are waking up and are calling for these charts. Interest in this work is growing. Come on, friends, we only have NINE MORE MONTHS to go—Surely we can make it! Not very much has been given in since last November, but several of our churches are GETTING READY to give in goodly sums.

PASTORS, DEACONS, or laity, if your church does not have one or more charts, please write a card to the Gem Office asking for them. We are anxious to send them.

PRACTICAL THOUGHTS—"Say not ye, there are yet NINE MONTHS and then we will have a new Publishing House! Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look at the great opportunity, for NOW is the time to be preparing to build a new Publishing House."

AND REMEMBER! Every dime you contribute will buy two and one half bricks in a new Publishing House.

—John B. Rollins, Superintendent

### STAHL, MISSOURI

Dear Gem Readers:

I get so much joy and satisfaction from reading our good paper. I look forward to its arrival each month, just wish it came oftener.

I'm still enjoying the blessings of God, and striving to live daily as He would have me live. I want to be ready to go home when He calls. I'm living in life's evening and know the sun will soon be setting for me, but what a joy it will be when my Savior I see, in the beautiful home of the soul.

I would have liked so much to have attended the State meeting this year at Hannon Church, but was afraid I couldn't stand the trip, although my health is very good considering my age. I am living in hopes of attending this coming year, as it will be held in Northeast Missouri, and only three miles from our home church.

This has been a wonderful winter, but I don't get out very much. We hear many good messages over the radio, but they don't take the place of Christian fellowship for me. So I am praying that when spring comes, I'll again be able to attend church services regularly, for God tells us in His word to fail not to assemble ourselves together.

*When I set out for glory,*

*I left this old world behind,*

*Determined for a city*

*That's out of sight to find.*

May God bless every one, and may we all keep the faith, and hold to God's unchanging hand.

—Charity Hedrick.

### LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Dear Gem Family:

May I have a few words? I greatly appreciate your efforts in helping our beloved Brother Brown make the Gem an outstanding religious periodical; it means much for God's children in all denominations to have a means of



communication from various widely separated localities, with other pilgrims of like faith.

#### *From The Free Methodist*

"The thought of the Holy Spirit being a personal friend always at hand is a cure for all loneliness. If the thought of the Holy Spirit as an ever-present friend once enters your heart and stays there, you will never have another lonely moment so long as you live."—R. A. Torrey.

Yet, may I state, and with emphasis, that the Free Will Baptist people are "all tolerance," and are always glad of an opportunity to co-operate with all Christian denominations; and I feel that an exchange of Christian fellowship among Christian people of all faiths will do more to spread the Gospel, to the neglected of all communities, and all nations, than any other one work of faith, which God's consecrated children can perform.

I think of the co-operation which Bro. Willey reports of other ministers along his Foreign Missionary route to Central America, and I feel that this cordiality and fellowship is smiled upon by the Lord.

Pray for me when it goes well with you.

Eld. Lloyd Weese, 2806 Lafranco St.

### **TULSA CHURCH REPORT**

*By Mrs. Evelyn Miller, Reporter*

Tulsa, Okla., Jan. 22, 1938.

Dear Editor of Gem and Readers:

In beginning this month's report, our mind goes back to New Year's eve night, when our Tulsa Church people came together to worship God in song, prayer and Scripture reading in keeping of our annual watch service, thus originating a ten night tarry service in which our people met together each night for one hour of continuous prayer.

God so wonderfully stirred—so wonderfully talked to hearts, even though some stayed at home, and in one case He so graciously talked to parents' hearts and demonstrated His infinite love and power by healing a precious little baby, when seemingly all other aid and hopes had vanished.

We also have much to praise God for, when on the first Sunday in the new year, we saw 189 in our Sunday school classes, as well as a good crowd for preaching when Bro. Melvin took for his text, Matt. 28:7—"Lo, I have told you."

On the following Sunday morning,

we witnessed a very impressive dedication service in which two mothers placed their little ones upon the altar for God. During the altar service a number raised their hands for prayer.

Our Mission Mothers remodeled one of our Sunday School rooms into a nicely arranged nursery, with all the necessities to make the babies comfortable while the parents enjoy the service, for which we are very, very grateful, thirteen babies being cared for last Sunday night by the two volunteer mothers.

This month so far we have had four conversions, two additions to the church, one lettered out to another church, and lost one one good old faithful member by death.

Throughout the month we have been much pleased to have a number of out of town visitors come by and worship with us. We met Mrs. Miller of Broken Arrow, a former clerk of the Grand River Association, and Mrs. Lewis from Bro. Staires' church at Drumright, also Bro. Taylor, a Sunday school teacher of College Hill Presbyterian Church, Tulsa, who gave a most inspiring talk on Sunday school work, and dealing with boys. Bro. Chas. Wilson, pastor of Davis Church and Bro. Ralph Brown brought our morning message last Sunday.

Thirty members of Sister Bingham's Sunday School class entertained in the church basement on January 13th in honor of a three months' attendance contest.

Pray for us and Tulsa Church when it goes well with you.

### **EAST SIDE MISSION REPORT**

Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Jan. 25, 1938.

Dear Bro. Brown and Gem family:

The East Side Mission Circle of The First Mission Association of Okla. met the second Friday in January with our Free Will Baptist church at Sapulpa, Oklahoma.

We are glad to report the best mission rally for months, and it being the first rally of the year, we were truly glad for the good attendance and the number of churches represented.

Bro. Paul Pursell and Bro. and Sister Staires of Drumright were our visitors of the morning, and we certainly did appreciate them, and the good report on mission work given by Bro. Staires. Thank the Lord for pastors who have a vision of mission work as Bro. Staires has and is able

to give an inspiring message to other mission workers that the work may go forward.

Bro. Johnie Brow from Collinsville delivered the 11 o'clock message.

At noon a good dinner was enjoyed by all.

At 1 o'clock, we were called together by gospel singing and prayer, followed by open discussion on mission work. We thank the Lord for our faithful mission workers, and their untiring efforts to help others to care for the sick and the earnest desire to carry the Word of God on to new fields.

We are thinking now of the report of Sister Kukandoll and Sister Hood and the new mission they are working in. May God bless them and keep them in the center of his will.

Sister Esther Miller brought the 3:00 o'clock message. Every one was made to rejoice when the Lord came on the scene in great power. Bro. W. M. Bingham followed in another message. The doors of the church were opened and five precious souls united with the church to take up their crosses and help in the mission work, and there was much rejoicing, and an old time revival began at that place the following Sunday night.

Elders present for the day were: Elders Hillard, our president, W. M. Bingham, Sarah Ross, Paul Pursell, Harry Staires, Esther Miller, Warner, and myself.

The next rally will be held with the new mission at Red Fork, Okla., on the second Friday in February, day and night services.

—Lura Gebhart, Sec'y-Treas.

### **DRY KNOB, MISSOURI**

Dear Gem Family:

Tongue cannot tell, pen cannot write the things I'd love to say this morning. The peace and joy I have in my soul is unspeakable, untold and full of glory; something the world cannot give, and praise God, neither can the world take it from us.

Paul says in Rom. 8:28-39, "Neither death nor life, nor angels, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God." But how easy we can separate ourselves from the love of God by our carelessness, disobedience, and failing to be led by the leadings of the Holy Spirit—"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

Dear friends, do you realize that our daily walks and talks are the only Bible some ever read, and the eyes of the world are ever watching us?

We were to be the light of the world, all that have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, and if we are careless and fail we'll not only land in hell ourselves, but lead others in that path too, and if we are faithful and walk in that way and manner that would please God, we lead others to Christ.

Oh, let's be careful! Do you realize that someone may be following in your footsteps? As far back in my childhood as I can remember, I've had a desire to be like a good Christian woman I knew (Aunt Jane Lewis) and I'm still hoping.

Not long ago when I was in a revival meeting, a young lady was deeply convicted and wept bitterly, but would not go to the altar for prayer. I was told later that it was because her parents were working in the altar, and she doubted their religion.

Oh parents, let's be careful! It is a wonderful thing, that God would leave little children in our care, for Christ said, "Of such is the kingdom of heaven;" then God forbid that we should cause them to miss heaven by our careless living.

It pleased God to call home a mother and leave two motherless children in my care. Pray that I may be worthy of the trust He left me, and may I point them to the Cross of Calvary.

How I miss the dear letters of Aunt Lina Claxton! I never met her, but expect to beyond this veil of tears. I learned to love her through her testimonies in this paper. I met one that talks like Aunt Lina, and used to write, and I wonder why Aunt Jane Hamilton does not let some of her wonderful talks and testimonies creep into this paper.

I do enjoy Bro. and Sister Willey's letters, and am made to weep many times, as I read of their trials. I realize that they are denying themselves many comforts, but great will be their reward; for God has in store many blessings for His children that do His biddings.

We live far beneath our privileges and come short of the glory of God, and miss many blessings we could obtain. If we win in the race, we must keep busy, for

*Six days a week the Devil works,  
Works over time on Sunday,  
And then he's ready once again,  
To go to work on Monday.*

*So if all evil we would shun,  
And keep our conscience level,  
We must begin at early dawn,  
And work just like the Devil.*

We had a wonderful meeting this month over at Cross Roads. On Saturday at eleven, there were five ministers present. The message was delivered by the pastor. Text, "Fear not little flock." Eld. Curtis Wilson reported a good revival at Gardner, Mo., where he has recently been in a revival. He will go to New Home Church the 22nd of this month to begin his duties as pastor for the remainder of the year.

I desire the prayers of God's children, that I may be ever faithful, "And be not weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." —Alpha Wilson.

### SHALL WE JUDGE?

*By Mrs. F. E. Dalton, Indio, Calif.*

The words of Jesus, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," is a comforting passage to me tonight. I keep crossing bridges before I reach them, thereby bearing crosses I need not. In my mind I keep placing myself in a circumstance, and then frame a way to bear it.

As every one knows, California is winter headquarters for "hobos." If there is anything in this universe that melts my heart more than a hungry person, I can't think of it now. After coming to this town, I worked in a house near the railroad station where I was not permitted to give anything away. There, it wasn't so hard to turn them away, as most of them were professionals. But until about an hour ago I had wondered what I would do in my own home, in view of the fact that many are unemployed, not beggars by choice. When a poor half-starved young man asked for a piece of bread, we had no thought of trying to learn more before we gave him food. He was hungry. I sent up a little prayer that the blessing of God might go with what we gave.

Then I began all over again, thinking, "What would you do if he were a professional and sent you more than you could feed?" Then the thought of Jesus' words, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," so I am trying to relax. It was the worry over material things He spoke of. Oh that we had bread for all the hungry, both for their physical needs, and for their spiritual needs!

### CENTER POINT NEWS NOTES

Weatherby, Mo., Jan. 26, 1938.

The Center Point Church has called Mrs. Mary Wellbaum as pastor, and she began the year the 4th Sunday in December. She is an earnest and zealous worker for her Lord and her church. She filled her appointment the 4th Sunday in January with a very inspiring talk, using for her text, Matt. 18:21, "Then came Peter unto him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?"

Bro. Clifford McFee was also with us, and made a short talk at the close of Sister Wellbaum's message, using for his theme, Matt. 18:35, "So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses."

Bro. Dewey Helms held a meeting in December, which meeting was wonderfully blessed with 24 conversions, all young people of our community, who have pledged themselves to carry on the work. They have organized a Bible study, and meet twice a week, Sunday night and Wednesday night.

New officers were elected for our Sunday school the 2nd Sunday in Jan.

Bro. Rex Minor was put in for superintendent, with Hubert Harms as substitute; Ralph Helmes, Sec.-Treas.; Jerald Sweany teacher of the Golden Hours class; Dorothy Huff teacher of Willing Workers class; Lola Mae Huff teacher of Busy Bees class, all are young converts and are carrying the Sunday school on in a way to be proud of; the Lord will surely bless them in their work.

The mission met and elected new officers January 19th.

—Mrs. Stella Harms.

### ARCADIA, KANSAS, Jan. 24th.

Dear Gem Family:

I have been taking the Gem for two or three years, and have just been silently drinking in the good spiritual messages contained therein, and truly they have been real food for my hungry soul.

I am renewing my subscription, for I could not get along without it now. It seems like each message is just like a personal letter, and I am glad to be numbered with the "Gem Family." I miss dear Aunt Lina Claxton's "Bible Readings," they were so spiritual and so helpful.

I look for Bro. Willey's missionary

messages first, when I get the paper. I am glad Bro. Jas. F. Miller wrote that little story about them, for he expressed my sentiments toward them exactly: for of all Christian workers, and those bearing heavy burdens, I do think the Foreign Missionaries have far the heaviest end of the yoke. I thank God for men and women who have the faith and courage to launch out into the deep, and above all things, we should never slack our praying and giving for their support. So many people will give to Home Missions that won't give to Foreign Missions. They say, "It is needed too bad at home;" but Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," and if all we who profess to know Christ had done our

duty along that line, the world should have been evangelized long ago. But I am just as guilty as any one, and I thank God for His long suffering and patience toward us, and pray that He will help us to so yield our unworthy lives to Him that He may use us from this time forth for His honor and glory, and help to rescue the perishing.

And last, but not the least part of this message (especially to me), is that my husband has been truly converted in the last few months and our home is so much happier that I want you all to rejoice with us.

Pray for us, that we may always be found doing His will.

Yours in Christian love,

Mrs. H. E. Claffin.

## Free Will Baptist League Reports

### STATE LEAGUE OFFICERS

President ..... Eld. Cecil Campbell,  
123 Poplar St., Cartersville, Mo.  
Vice President.. Eld. Alvin Halbrook,  
Leadington, Mo.  
Sec'y-Treas. .... Eld. O. T. Allred,  
Monett, Mo.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mrs. Jewell Campbell, Cartersville, 1938  
Anthony Burcham, Flat River, 1939  
Eld. Damon Dodd, Elvins, Mo., 1940  
Field Worker at Large  
Bro. C. B. Dees, ..... Flat River, Mo.

### REPORT OF FIELD WORKER

Flat River, Mo., Jan. 19th.

Dear Leaguers:

I will again undertake to write a few lines of encouragement to you all, through the pages of our dear paper.

As we write this morning, we are really and truly rejoicing because of the wonderful gain that is shown in our league work in the Southeast Mo. League Association.

Last night, Jan. 18th, we had our quarterly convention at the Mine La Motte Church, and there was a good delegation present from all but two of our leagues. We were made happy when we were handed a letter from the Twin Oak League desiring membership in our Association. This is a new league, just organized, with a membership of about 30. The league at Fredericktown was also reinstated, which league has not been functioning for more than a year.

We now have eight leagues in this Association; we are not boasting about the progress here, but just merely passing this along to you, that it might be an inspiration to some one, just like to remind you that regardless of how hard you are working and praying, that somewhere some one else is working too.

We are all laborers together here in this great garden of our Father—some of us must sow, some must cultivate, some must reap, so this morning I am praying that each one of us will find our place and put forth our every effort to help in the building of His great kingdom.

Our league here at Flat River has shown a great gain since our revival started, attendance has more than doubled and there has been a number added to our membership. We have been praying for a long time that we might have 100 at league some time, so last Sunday God answered with 108 present. I might also add that we are having an old time revival here at Flat River. We have seen some 75 precious souls born into the kingdom of God, and there has been lots and lots of shouting around here, though it is now nearly out of style. We have had a baptizing the last three Sundays.

I am hoping that by the next writing we will hear of more new leagues being organized.

Let us give God the praise for all that has been done, and trust Him for whatever may come.

C. B. Dees, Field Worker.

## "So Run That Ye May Obtain"

*Continued from page one*

we'll be able to stay on the right road. Sometimes, when we see professed Christians going to Sunday ball games, we think they need different shoes. For trunks, we must have our loins girt about with the truth and for a shirt, the breast-plate of faith.

Let us pay special attention to the helmet. The old time soldier had eye guards on the helmet to keep out the arrows, darts, etc., of the enemy. We need them to keep us from looking on the things of the world. We need ear guards on our helmet to keep out "Threshing machine stories" and tales about our neighbors and brother church members. They had heavy straps on them to hold them on. We need the strap on ours to hold our mouth shut (read James 3). And last of all it should fit tight to prevent us from having the big-head.

A runner is required to run fair. "And if a man also strives for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully." He is not allowed to trip another. This is a good thing for a Christian to remember before "knocking" on anyone, or carrying tales. Neither is the runner permitted to stop and rest by the wayside. The Christian must keep running.

The runner never attempts to run in a race and carry a load at the same time. Yet people will try to be Christians and carry a load of the world on both shoulders. "Let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us."

The winner of a race must breast the tape line—must run all the way. Often when a runner has put his all in the race, determined to win the prize; he comes to the end of the race, lunges against the tape and falls exhausted, loving friends pick him up and bring him to the judge to receive the prize. The race has been won. When we have broken the tape, our Father will give us our prize (the crown of life) and our friends who have gone on before and the angels of God will welcome us home with a mighty shout.

Then we can have a feast. We may have had to eat sparingly while in training . . . just a few crumbs with an occasional sandwich from the Lord's table; then we can rest in the shade of the evergreen tree and pick fruit from the trees of life.



## MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT



ELD. T. H. WILLEY,  
FOREIGN MISSIONARY  
% AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY  
CRISTOBAL, PANAMA CANAL ZONE.



MRS. T. H. WILLEY,  
COMPANION MISSIONARY,  
% AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY,  
CRISTOBAL, PANAMA CANAL ZONE.

## The Regions Beyond

## Our Missionary's Message

Phillips Brooks has written a great passage that states: "It is the sincere and deep conviction of my soul when I declare that if the Christian faith does not culminate and complete itself in the effort to make Christ known to all the world, that faith appears to me to be a thoroughly unreal and insignificant thing, destitute of power for the single life and incapable of being convincingly true. . . This is a startling challenge to the Church and to the individual. The Church must meet the acid test of its success in the world wide proclamation of the Gospel. The individual must meet the same test. World needs today are so urgent, so universal, that a man who knows a cure-all is a criminal if he is dumb in the face of so stupendous and imperative a demand. Is our Gospel so 'Unreal and insignificant' to us that we only send it forth conveniently on comfortable pilgrimages? Are we kindled with the zealous haste that lingers not for difficulties and waits not for advantageous opportunities?"

I have been trying to have a part in making Christ real in and among those who do not have the spiritual advantages that we enjoy or take as a matter of fact in North America. I have been in the interior of Panama where I made a survey last year. The occasion of my trip was to accompany Bishop Miller of the Northern Methodist Church. Two years ago the doctor's orders were that he should suspend all activity due to a heart condition, but a man like this old missionary could never die anywhere except in his shoes. The Bishop was for many years in Panama, especially in the Union

Churches. He was acting Bishop over Chili, Peru, Panama and Costa Rica. His years of experience down here has fitted him as an authority on Latin America.

The Bishop came to our house to meet Mrs. Willey and myself and to find out if I would cooperate with him. Some groups of Baptists in Latin America have seriously damaged their influence through lack of cooperation with other evangelical bodies. This cannot be done down here, narrow sectarianism must fade out under such stupendous needs as is seen all around here. I am of the earnest conviction that you, my people, would not want our denomination labeled as being non-cooperative, narrow in our sectarian views, placing the church before the Christ the head of the Church. So I felt that this was an opportune time to acquaint a friend not only of the history of the people called Free Will Baptist, but to demonstrate those practices that have marked us as fair in our recognition of our brothers in Christ of other denominations.

We drove out of Panama, and within a few hours we were on the plains, along the mountains where we met a young Panamanian pastor, the only Protestant worker in all the department. Arrangements were made at once for services and by early evening the folk began to gather. It was a joy to sing those old hymns in the Spanish language, then each of us brought a message to them. It was a real blessing to listen to the Bishop as he poured out his heart in a simple and deeply spiritual message, and to watch the intent attention on their faces as they listened to him. While

this man is a Bishop, he had nothing external, other than his noble bearing, to proclaim him of high office. He did not wear a coat, his old silk shirt was rather ragged in the sleeves and torn up the side and for comfort's sake, he wore no collar. His whole concern was for these, a neglected people. I wish it were possible to convey, in words, the hospitality we received. The home in which we stayed was made of mud; the floor was of mud. There were no windows, what light we got came through the doors. There was very little furniture, a small table, two chairs and an old iron bed with springs and no mattress. This bed was given up by a widow for Hermahio (Brother) Willey and El Obispo (the Bishop).

The food we ate was very simple, there was no stove to cook on, no pots and pans such as you have in your home. We were deeply grateful for the kindness of these simple people. Had we driven to some hotel or to some roadside eating place, their hearts would have been grieved and they would not have understood.

One of the high lights of our trip was a visit with an old saint ninety-four years old. We had to drive a long ways across the plains following a mountain path. Then parking our car we wended our way down through a deep valley, crossing a large stream, and then climbing up to the wind-swept mountain where the humble mud hut of this old woman perched. We entered the cabin and met this remarkable old woman. After greetings were over, the Bishop asked her if she had peace in her heart. Her face lit up and her hands raised as she said, "Mas, mas, more, I have joy, great joy." Then she began to praise the Lord, saying, "I am blind, I can not hear, but Jesus is my Comforter,



He is my joy."

Her case is a sample of the work of God in spite of no missionaries or witnesses. Her son was on the beach working and finding in the sand a New Testament, he began to read it. It had its message for him. He then went to the priest to inquire about this strange book. The priest told him to burn it, that he must not read it. He could not burn it, but to the contrary he began to read the more. He went to Panama City and began to ask, "Where is there a church that is not Catholic?" Finally he was directed to the Sea Wall Mission which is conducted by the Methodists here. He confessed Christ publicly, went home and led his old mother to Christ.

We prayed with the dear old woman and she prayed for each of us. While the parting rays of the setting sun touched the distant mountains we descended into the valley to meet another group of people hungry to listen as the simple Gospel story was told. At the close of the service thirteen

were taken into the church and we knelt in keeping the sacraments of the Lord's Supper.

The next morning we left, and those dear ones waved good-bye with tears in their eyes, as we drove out of sight on our way to another valley high in the mountains, called El Valle. I do not know what the results of this visit shall mean to us. The Bishop wants us to work in these valleys as it is impossible for them to man the field under present circumstances. Probably we shall move into the valley and work out into the jungles with the Indians of the Darien, while Mrs. Willey can work with the people of the hills. El Valle would put me a little closer to Panama City, and we could secure necessary vegetables and fruit, milk and eggs.

Pray for the great unreached fields that are all around us. Doors of entrance are hanging upon the hinges wide open for your missionaries.

—Eld. T. H. Willey.

Christ was preached. We need more of that spirit today.

Verse 20. "In my body." One of the glaring fallacies of human thinking is the idea that at some favorable time in the future we shall be able to enjoy life, do mighty deeds, or serve the Lord. For example, parents fail to enjoy their children because they are always planning and looking forward to the next stage of their development. They are always planning ahead thinking how they will enjoy the years to come, and before they know it the children are grown up and gone. The time to enjoy and help our children is now. The time to serve the Lord Jesus is now. The day will come when we will be glorified with Him, but it will then be too late to speak to our neighbor about Christ. It is in the body that we are to serve Him and to glorify His name. The body is to be kept for Him, and it makes a difference to our service how we treat our bodies, how we use them, and where we take them.

Verse 21. "To live is Christ, and to die is gain." Humanly speaking, when a matter is one of life or death, it is a question whether death may not intervene. The hope is that this may not be the case, and every effort is made to prevent it. How different with Paul! He rightly points out that to a Christian death means entering into perfect fellowship with Christ and unlimited service for Him. Every human limitation will then be put aside; knowledge, service, communion, will be perfect and complete.

He would not, however, turn away from his present duty. Since it is God's will that he should abide in the flesh, he will do it in such a way as to make it literally true that to him "To live is Christ." Every life has a purpose, and that ruling passion which controls and directs a life is what should be written into the sentence, "To me to live is . . . ." What is it . . . , money, position, pleasure, sin? Or is it Christ? If He is your life, you may feel assured that your life will be full and satisfying, and gloriously useful.

## CHRISTIAN CONSECRATION

*By Eld. F. C. Zinn, Purdy, Mo.*

Scripture reading, Philippians 1:12-26.

Scripture text, Philippians 1:21.

Consecration is one of the words expressing Christian truth which has been so much used and so often misused, that it has lost its savor. The writer remembers many a consecration service which meant nothing to those present except the fulfilling of a certain formula or program. The purpose of the meeting was excellent, but results were lacking because it had become a mere formality. Paul the Apostle knew nothing of any theory of consecration. He knew and lived and proclaimed such an abandonment of self to Christ and His cause as really required no statement in words—it was his life.

There never was as great a need for full surrender to God as there is today. We first need to think of Sonship, for no one can live until he is born, and no one can live a Christian life until he is born again. We should also consider God's grace in keeping, renewing, guiding, blessing, and communing with his own. All these precious truths call us to devote ourselves to Christ in a glad and full consecration.

Men give themselves to the building of a fortune, to the propagation of a political or social theory, to the pursuit of an occupation or profession. The lights burn late in the rooms of scientists, in the counting room of the business man, and at the political or social gathering. Why should not the Christian give himself in like measure for Christ and His holy cause? Let us consider three points in this lesson:

Verse 18. "What then?" Paul was imprisoned for the Gospel's sake. Did that stop him? No, he made the very guards who were assigned to watch him in his house, into missionaries of the Cross. He won each one as he took his designated period of service and sent him out as a testimony to the whole praetorian guard and to all the rest. What a consecrated life he must have lived! Then, some of his Christian associates, taking advantage of the fact that he was imprisoned, went out to preach just to show that they were as good as he. They made their very preaching an expression of their envy of his popularity, and hoped to heap more on him. Did he get angry and bitterly fight back? No, he thanked God that

**I BESEECH** you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." (Romans 12:1, 2).

## OBITUARY

AYLOR—T. J. Aylor was born in Nevada County, Arkansas, March 15, 1864. When just a boy he moved to New Hope, in Pike County, Arkansas.

He married at the age of twenty-one a girl by the name of Caroline Tollett. To them was born ten children, nine girls and one boy.

Mr. and Mrs. Aylor spent a happy married life until the death of Mrs. Aylor, November 8, 1928.

He passed on to another world on January 6, 1938, having been a child of God for 40 years. We have no doubt as to where he shall spend eternity. He accepted Christ at the age of thirty-two and joined the Free Will Baptist Church at Pleasant Grove.

He left to mourn his death eight children: Mrs. Mattie Whisenhunt of New Hope, Ark.; Mrs. Minnie Alford of Bengin, Ark.; Mrs. Plena Smalling of New Hope, Ark.; Mrs. Florence Turner of Dierks, Ark.; Mrs. Cinda Turner of New Hope, Ark.; Mrs. Annie Dossey of Locksburg, Ark.; Mrs. Della Miller of Athens, Ark.; and Mr. Clarence Aylor of Athens, Arkansas, also one half brother of Seminole, Okla., and thirty-six grandchildren.

The church at Pleasant Grove extend their deepest sympathy to the bereaved family, and the young people of our society join in asking God's blessings on them in their sorrow.

## CHRIST IS COMING SOON

*Continued from page one*

pull it, but from that time till now, God has put forth many amazing signs and wonders before our eyes, and how rapid in the last 30 years! "When his branch is yet tender and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh, so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors."

Zech. 8:10—"For before these days there was no hire for man nor beast."

Never did the whole world meet with so much unemployment as it has since the motor came to its place.

Dan. 12:4—"Many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall be increased." So it is now.

2 Tim. 3:1—"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." Farther in the chapter, We're told just how people will be in the last days, and so they are.

Matt. 24:12—"And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." That is true in this age.

So much vice! Oh, how the world to evil alures! Many have waxed cold, but as we see these things come to pass, let us not get discouraged and hang down our heads, but do as Jesus said, "Look up, and lift up your heads: for your redemption draweth nigh."

Again Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself." Blessed be His name forever!

## THE ANALYSIS OF GOD

*Continued from page one*

JEHOVAH be plural, or not, please read with me, Gen. 1:26, "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." Please note the words us and our. So we see there was more than one person implied. Again, let us read in Gen. 3:22: "And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us." Note again, there is more than one person implied.

Again, we read in Gen. 11:7: "Go to, let us go down and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." We see in this statement that there is more than one person implied.

In Isaiah 6:8, we read, "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Please note that there is more than one person implied, and in many other places in the Bible the word God is joined with adjectives, verbs and pronouns, which proves that God is in the plural form. This is not a new doctrine. If we will only consult our Bibles, Bible Dictionary, and other authorities, we must agree that God is in the plural form, and not in the singular. Then God (*Elohim*) is a plurality of persons, and a unity of powers.

Let us examine this picture again. In this unity of powers, there is more than one unit, united together before there can be a unity. So in Gen. 1:26, when God said, 'Let us make man,' it signified there were more than one unit, or person implied in the work of creation, *Elohim*. This unity of powers has ever stood in unity, and operated in unity, from the creation to this present time, A. D. 1938. To attempt to separate this unity of powers, in any degree, would mean to separate God: for God, *Elohim*, is a unity of powers, and to separate these units, it would cease to be a unity, hence God would cease to be God.

Now if God, *Elohim*, is a plurality

of persons in a divine nature or a unity of powers, I wonder if the divine x-ray, the Word of God, will reveal the number of units there are in this unity. Let's give it a trial. Click, and on goes the x-ray. First John 5:7, "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." This picture shows us that there are three persons or units in this unity, yet but one. In Deut. 6:4, we read, "Hear O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord." Now read with me, Acts 17:29. Here the apostle states that we are the offspring of God, *Elohim*, the unity of powers. Then he refers to the Godhead, which word comes from the root word *Orelohim*, an unity of divine powers.

Again, read with me in Rom. 1:20: The apostle again refers to the Godhead, the unity of divine powers. And again, in Col. 2:9, Paul refers to the Godhead, also to the fulness of the Godhead. So the Godhead consists of more than one unit; more than one power, yet all the fulness of the Godhead, or all the unity of powers dwelt in one person, Christ the Son.

Please read with me in Heb. 13:8, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." So Christ remains the same in past, present and future.

John 1:1-3, Christ the Word was in the beginning; Christ the Word was God, *Elohim*; Christ the Word was Creator.

Now read again Gen. 1:26, "And God said, Let us make man." And in Gen. 1:2, we read, "And the Spirit of God, *Elohim*, moved upon the face of the waters." So the Spirit of God, or the Holy Ghost, and Christ the Word were in the creation in unity with the Father: for these three are one, one in unity, one in power, one in glory, one God. In this picture we see the unity of powers: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost in unity, composing one God. He who cannot see in this picture the doctrine of the divine trinity, and a trinity in unity, is strangely prejudiced, and must have cork eyes and tow-sack brains, and don't want to see and know the truth.

The word trinity does not appear in the Bible. A trinity is a unity of three. The Godhead consists of three divine persons, composing a divine trinity, the unity of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost in one Godhead; and one God, as to substance, but three persons as to individuality.

*To be continued*

## Some Thoughts on Pre-Millennialism

By Eld. W. A. Hearron, Newhope, Ark.

Dear Editor of the Gem and readers:

The doctrine of the Millennium is being discussed by our people, and many erroneous ideas are being put forth by some of our brethren, who, no doubt, are very sincere in their attitude, yet altogether wrong. We have some in Arkansas and Oklahoma who take various positions, such as "The first resurrection took place when Christ arose from the dead and many of the saints arose with Him." Placing the 1000-year period somewhere in the first part of this age.

Now there are a few thoughts in Rev. 20:4-6 that need to be noticed.

First. After the binding of Satan, we are told who was (or who will be) in the first resurrection. Those who died "for the witness of Jesus and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands; And they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." Please note who were in the "first resurrection" as John saw them.

2. The "second death" will have no power over those who are in the first resurrection." And here it is clearly inferred that the "second death" will have power over all those who are not in the "first resurrection." Therefore the first resurrection could not have been in the past. If it was, then all who are living now will be lost, because of the second death.

3. Among those in the first resurrection are those who were "beheaded for the witness of Jesus." Now until the resurrection of Christ there had

been only one martyr in this age, namely, John the Baptist, and he did not die for the testimony of Christ. All who died for the Word of God and the testimony of Christ, did so since Jesus arose from the dead. Even David was not raised from the dead with those who were raised at the resurrection of Christ (Acts 2:29). neither was Abraham, Moses, Gideon, nor Samuel, nor the Prophets, none of these were raised when Jesus rose (Heb. 11:39-40), but they will be in the first resurrection.

4th. Some say that the Millennium is past. If so, then the Judgment is also past. The destruction of the living wicked at the coming of Christ is the chain that binds Satan. They are destroyed "from the presence of God and the glory of his power" (2nd Thes. 1:7-9). They are destroyed; therefore no one is left to deceive. They will remain dead a thousand years. At the expiration of the thousand years, they (the wicked) will be raised from the dead; hence, Satan is loosed, for their destruction bound him, so will their resurrection loose him. Then comes the Great White Throne Judgment. So, if the Millennium is passed, so is the Judgment, and if the Judgment is passed, where are we who are living today? We are this side of the Judgment, without a plan of salvation, without a hope, in a world without the gospel, and without a Savior—a hopeless, miserable, lost people.

Sometimes I will write more fully on this question. Your brother for Truth.  
—W. A. Hearron.

## The Temple of the Soul

By J. M. Doughty, Stratford, Mo.

In the Book of Genesis we read that our bodies are created in the image of God.

In First Corinthians 3:16 we read, "Know you not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"

When we consider the above quotations, should we not consider our bodies sacred? Should not the Christian try to keep his or her body in perfect health? Health is a part of the abundant life that Jesus wants all Christians to enjoy.

It is true that Christians in poor health accomplish for God, but good

health is essential for the greatest service for Christ.

The best school commencement address I ever heard was the discussion of three admonitions of two words each, and they are appropriate in this article:

### KNOW THYSELF

This was a suggestion of a great teacher of ancient Greece. It is very important in the consideration of one's health.

Know the foods that agree with you.

Know the things that are best for your nerves.

Theodore Roosevelt was a frail sickly

boy, but early in life he became acquainted with himself, and determined that he would become strong. He succeeded so well that when he became President and Commander-in-Chief of the army, that he was able to endure the most rigid tests required of army officers.

### CONTROL THYSELF

These were the beneficent words of a Roman philosopher. This makes the individual the governor of his own life. As governor one is to see that the laws of health are enforced.

### DENY THYSELF

These are the words of the Great Physician, that the Angel Gabriel named Jesus.

Jesus expects the Christian to deny himself or herself anything that is detrimental to physical or spiritual health. The real Christian will not take into his body alcoholic drinks or anything that will injure him or her, or interfere with Christian example or Christian service.

Did you ever hear any one who had already eaten too much, say, "I am going to eat some more if it kills me?" Such a person is guilty of gluttony and the author of Proverbs classes him along with drunkards, and said, "The drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty." Yes, poverty of health, if not of funds.

Were not the words of Jesus, "Deny thyself, take up thy cross and follow me?"

I recently read of a young lady that said that she looked on the Cross of Jesus as a plus sign. She felt that denying oneself of injurious things meant blessings added to her life.

Remember God made an abundance of fresh air, and breathing plenty of pure air is a part of the abundant life. Breathe deeply occasionally, that pure air may reach all parts of your lungs and refresh your body and destroy disease germs that have taken abode in the lower part of your lungs. Jesus spent most of His time out of doors. If you can not be out in the open, bring the pure air in doors by means of ventilation.

Dr. Rest, Dr. Sleep, Dr. Proper Food, Dr. Pure Air, Dr. Sweet Temper are all physicians that you will do well to have at your service.

If you have the Spirit of Christ, you will want to keep well on account of others who must care for you when you are sick. Christ expects the Christian to always remember the Golden Rule.



# The Sons of God

By Eld. John B. Rollins, Purdy, Mo.

*"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Rom. 8:14.*

Upon this text is based great Christian doctrines authorized by the divine inspiration of God. Also upon this text is staged great and bitter controversies authorized by none other than the Devil. Human language is exhausted in its attempt to describe the relationship which exist between God and His worshippers. The great Father-hood of God and the son-ship of His created subjects is the highest conception that the limited mind of man can grasp. Jesus taught the disciples to say "Our Father which art in heaven," when they pray to God. John said, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons or God." Paul said that in separating ourselves from the world, God would be a Father unto us and we should be His sons and daughters. 2 Cor. 6:18

In the beginning of this topic, a distinction needs to be made. Jesus Christ is the Son of God, referred to in the singular and with a capital letter, thus S-o-n, the Unique Son, that is, the only Son of his kind which is the only begotten Son. John 3:16. In hundreds of other texts in the Bible, the plural is written with no capital letter to emphasize a unique importance, simply s-o-n-s of God. Who are the sons of God?

Some have misunderstood, and, as a result, have misinterpreted the very first text in the Bible that speaks of the sons of God, consequently the whole subject is a conglomerated jargon to their benighted understanding. The sons of God who looked upon the daughters of men are considered by some to be fallen angels who wooed human women. Such grossness! Angels are spoken of in the masculine gender as is also the Holy Ghost called "he" yet sex, in the human sense, is never ascribed to angels—"In the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven." Matt. 22:30 Cf. Mk. 12:25.

The Hebrew language alone will not admit such an interpretation in error concerning the sons of God.

The Hebrew word for "son" is BEN. The root from which it is derived is BANAH which means "to build," therefore BEN or son is "the builder of the family name." Now that is simple. When my sister got married, she gave up the Rollins name and ceased to be called by it. Her children have a name—and it is not Rollins. Here is the truth, my sister is not BEN of my father for she isn't building our family name. On the other hand, my brother is BEN, for, in his marriage, he retained our family name. In the original language of the Bible, the idea of sex is not included in "sons" but simply "the builder of the name." We mortals have narrowed and limited that language until with us a son is only the male child, for only in the male is the family name propagated, but with God such a limitation does not exist. The sons of God are the builders of God's name in the earth and is not limited to the male, but includes men, women, boys and girls and is qualified in the broad sense in Rom. 8:14 "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the builders of God's name in the earth."

The sons of God who began to backslide and apostatize, of Gen. 6:2-4, were the "builders of God's name" who were descendants of righteous Seth, the son of Adam, whom God had chosen to use for a natural lineage for the birth of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

The sons of God of Job 1 and 2 were "builders of God's name." They came together to worship and as they presented themselves to God, Satan was there. Show me a group of the sons of God who worship today that the spirit and power and influence of Satan is not there! The Devil himself, in spirit and influence, attends every church, he sits in the pew, he stands in the pulpit, he is present at an altar of prayer. I have known and felt his presence at an altar of prayer when the people of God were consecrating themselves to the up-building of the Cause of God. We can whip Satan there by "praying in the Holy Ghost." Jude 20.

I know that Job 1 is interpreted to be a scene in heaven and that the

sons of God were angels, but why draw far-fetched conclusions? Job was not the only man on earth who loved God. There is nothing strange about Satan in his spirit and influence and he himself, if we could see him, coming into the very presence of the Spirit and power of God, for we see that very thing every time we go to church. Sinners are there inspired by the spirit of the Devil. People are there (perhaps only a few) who are led by the Spirit of God and are the sons of God. "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them." That isn't unearthly language, why run off to another world for an explanation when we have it before our eyes in this present world, and we cannot deny it?

I have found only one text in the Bible that speaks of the sons of God which might have been angels, before the world was created—Job 38:7. I admit I have no devnite light on this text, and will not discuss it here only to say they might have been angels.

The sons of God in the Old Testament are definitely stated (with one exception) to be people—Isa. 43:4-7—who had faith in and looked forward to the coming of Christ, the Son of God, in all the power of His atoning efficacy and wondrous saving grace. The sons of God in the New Testament are those who receive Him and His saving grace. "As many as receive him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of man, but of God." John 1:12-13. Those who received him then or should afterwards receive him are given the privilege of a Born Again experience which makes them obedient and true worshippers of God, being led by His wonderful Spirit. They obtain this son-ship, not by virtue of ancestry, nor by any affinity, or connection of human descent, but as a free gift from God.

I trust my articles in the Gem are being appreciated. I try to be fair and to avoid putting a private interpretation on the Scriptures. I study with an open mind and a willing heart to know the truth, and I appreciate constructive criticism. Next month my article will be about "Disinherited Sons," discussing the prevailing Calvinistic doctrine of "Once in Grace, Always in Grace."

## "He Knew What Was In Man"

John 2:25

By Mrs. Myrtle Black, Cassville, Mo.

"... For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" (1 Sam. 16:7).

In giving this text and subject a thorough study, we find so many beautiful thoughts, that we are inspired to write or preach on it. So I will endeavor to preach it with my pen through the Gem to its great congregation or family of readers.

By the help of our dear Teacher and Master, the Lord, I want to pass on to you, dear readers, some of these beautiful thoughts I have found on this subject of the omniscience of God.

Sometimes it is comforting to know that He knows what is in our lives. That is when we are trying our best to please Him. It is good to know that He knows when we are doing our best. And when we have some great trial or temptation that we cannot understand, it is comforting to know that He understands.

And sometimes, too, it might be very disquieting to know that our Master knows all that is in our lives; for there are some things we might wish He didn't know. There are things we are not willing for our neighbors to know. It would hurt our reputation. It might even put a strain on friendship. But yet there is One who knows, who is or should be more important to us than our neighbors. "He knows what is in us," and what is more marvelous, He loves us still.

Didn't He call His disciples *friends*, in spite of the fact that there was one among them that was getting ready to betray Him? (John 6:64), and the rest were not any too loyal, as was proved on that tragic night when the test came. He knew what was in those disciples, yet went right on loving them.

"He knew what was in man," and this means that He knows that sin is there. But He knows also that there is something better than sin in man, something upon which a kingdom of heaven could be built. Therefore, He took the good that He found in the world, whether much or little, and pronounced His blessing upon it.

Some, He said, were as "whited

sepulchers, which indeed appear to be beautiful from the outside, but are within full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness" (Matt. 23:27). And yet He did not lose faith in man. He can see into the cleanest looking cup or platter and see that "within they are full of extortion and excess" (Mat. 23:25). And He can also see beneath the crudest exterior, like a treasure hid in a field, some vestige of His Father's likeness. He appreciated the good and longed to bring it to perfection. He so longed to see man as he could be and as His Father intended him to be. See Gen. 1:26, where God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: . . ."

To Him the good in man is like a bud that gives promise of a flower. But sometimes that bud is hindered and perhaps blasted by the frosts of a cold and selfish world, and that touches the Master's heart. Oh how much the word "whosoever" should mean to everyone! There is no outlaw so desperate, no criminal so notorious, but that his misspent life touches the Savior's heart. Remember how He wept over Jerusalem as He said in the agony of His holy nature, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, . . . how oft would I have gathered thy children together even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." To Him Jerusalem was a blasted flower. Its house was left unto it "desolate."

When Jesus traveled here on earth, from place to place, teaching and preaching in the cities, we read about how the great multitudes of people thronged after Him; and so many times we find the scripture says, "When He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them." To my mind they were just an ordinary looking crowd of people.

But now let's go back to our text and see if we can find the reason for the great compassion the Savior had on them. "For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." Then just try to imagine the picture Jesus saw in the multitudes. He could discern longings and aspirations for something better, hopes that had never been

realized and that could not be realized without His help. Probably in some of the lives in those multitudes He could see the same sad picture as that of Jerusalem, the picture of desolation. Now I must say to the unsaved that the same Savior is looking with the same compassion into your very heart today, and, no doubt, sees the same conditions in some of our lives today that causes His great tender and loving heart to be touched with compassion for us. I can say to you as the woman of Samaria said to her friends, "Come, see a man which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?"

He knew what was going on in the inner nature of man. So, being the same yesterday, today, and for ever, He still knows what is going on in our human hearts. I believe that when He looked, with such compassion on the multitudes of people, He witnessed, as no ordinary eye could witness, the silent battles that rage in the human heart. He knew the heart hunger for fellowship, for sympathy, for spiritual reality—the hunger that cannot be satisfied with forms and ceremonies—and I thank God today that He knows the struggles, the disappointments, the anxieties, and the heartaches that are our common lot.

He knows why it is hard for some men to believe—the obstacles, the unfortunate conditions and the environment in which they were brought up—and all things which war against the soul and become tools in the hands of the adversary.

Sometimes we wonder, when we are called into some great work for Him, why the Lord had to call us for the special work for Him. Why didn't He call some one else who, we think, would be more qualified? Then we ought to stop and consider how He called His disciples; and why didn't He call all His disciples from those who were more qualified, like Saint Paul? "But He knew what was in man," therefore He could see good in the rough lives of the fishermen as well as in the educated Saul of Tarsus. He knew man's possibilities and prized him because of what he was capable of being.

The Lord knew all these things that were in man—He still knows and is ready to help; and His help is sufficient.

# Prophet, Priest and King

By Eld. Kenneth Turner, Granby, Mo.

In thinking of our Christ when He was here on earth, and of His present position, then His future work, we will find Him to be all that is stated in our subject. That is, He has been Prophet, is now Priest, and will be King. Follow us in this study of this subject, and see if there is not sufficient proof for the statement.

## Christ as Prophet

First we must consider the prophet's work and calling, and of course that is understood to be the work of the ministry. One sent out and going forth under the leadings of God the Father, preaching the Gospel and the future plans of Him who is the Almighty God, would be considered a true prophet. And this Christ did. We are all agreed that He filled the mission as a prophet while here on earth.

Let us now read after a few witnesses who called Him prophet:

### The Multitude Called Him Prophet

When the people in Jerusalem asked, Who is this? referring to Christ, the multitude that was with Him said, "... This is Jesus the Prophet of Nazareth of Galilee" (Matt. 21:11).

Again, when He raised the widow's son from the dead, the Scripture says, "And there came fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; ..." (Luke 7:16).

After the feeding of the great multitude with the five loaves and the two small fishes, and having twelve baskets filled with fragments left, the Scripture says, "Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world" (John 6:14).

On another occasion when Jesus was preaching with such boldness of the Spirit and telling the Pharisees that He Himself would soon be gone to a place where they could not come, the Scripture reads, "Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet" (John 7:40).

### A Blind Man Called Him Prophet

After Jesus had healed the blind man, and restored unto him his sight, the Pharisees came to the man and asked, "... What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He

said, He is a prophet" (John 9:17).

### Samaritan Woman Called Him Prophet

There at the well, after the words of Jesus to the Samaritan woman, she said, "... Sir I perceive that thou art a prophet" (John 4:19).

### Christ called Himself Prophet

Jesus, speaking of himself when he was come into his own country, said, "A prophet is not without honor save in his own country, and in his own house." (Matt. 13:57).

### The disciples called Him Prophet

After Jesus was crucified, and was buried, he appeared unto the two disciples on their way to Emmaus, and asked them why they were sad. They, not realizing it was Jesus, told him it was because of the things that had happened in those last few days. "And he said unto them, what things? And they said unto him, concerning 'Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet.'" (Luke 24:19) Notice how they spoke in the past tense, "he was a prophet," who had died.

With all these witnesses; the multitude, the blind man, the Samaritan woman, and the disciples all believed and gave their testimony, with Christ himself, to affirm that Jesus was a Prophet, is enough to cause us to say, "Yes, our Christ was a Prophet."

Now let us see what position he fills after his resurrection and ascension.

## Christ as Priest

Now the work in the priesthood is an outstanding feature. It was the duty of the priest in olden times to take charge of the services. The high priest would go into the Holy of Holies, there where the Cherubims, and the mercy seat, and the heavenly symbols were. There was the presence of the Lord, and the high priest alone went into this place to intercede with the Father. This is the very thing that our Christ is doing now. He has gone into the presence of the Father, there among the heavenly beings and is interceding with the Father. The one difference in the priesthood of the Levites and that of Christ is, with the Levites, the priesthood had to be handed down from generation to generation as the older would pass on in death. But Christ is our great High Priest and

will be as long as there is a need for the office, an unchangable priesthood.

It should be easy to decide that Jesus is in the presence of the Father, because the Scriptures picture it clearly. Paul tells us, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." (Col. 3:1) And again he tells us "when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places." (Eph. 1:20)

Luke tells us, "And he shall send Jesus Christ,—whom the heavens must receive until the times of restitution of all things" (Acts. 3:20-21).

Paul says, "For Christ is not entered into the holy place made with hands,—but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God." (Heb. 9:24).

From the above scriptures, it is to be determined, without mistake, that our Christ is in the Holy of Holies and in the presence of God. Now to notice what his office work is from a scriptural standpoint, we find this:

Paul says, "Wherefore he (Christ) is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." (Heb. 7:25), and again, "It is Christ that died,—who also maketh intercession for us." (Rom. 8:34).

We find in Timothy, "one mediator, between God and man, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Tim 2:5).

In 1 John 2:1, we find, "we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous."

We now look for proof that his title is now Priest.

### Paul Called Him Prophet

"Wherefore holy brethren, partakers of heavenly callings, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus." (Heb. 3:1).

"But this man, (Christ) because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable Priesthood." (Heb. 7:24).

Read also Heb. 2:17, and 5:5-10, and also what David says in Psalms 110:1-4.

We must consider these scriptures and say that our Christ is now a Priest and will be so forever—as long as there is a need for one—until the time of the restitution of all things.

Now let us see what will be his title after the restitution of all things.

## Christ as King

We must remember that a king

who is ruling and reigning occupies a throne, and this is said of Christ, that he would be given a throne. And we feel that he will sit on that throne in due time, though until now it seems not to be fulfilled. Some say it has been fulfilled, at the time of his first advent, and in a spiritual way, the throne upon which he sits is the heart of mankind. We are not disputing the spiritual application of the thought as to individuals; but listen, the angel said to Mary, that she would bear a Son, Jesus, and He would receive the throne of His father David. "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of his father David, and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of the kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:32, 33). The throne of David spoken here is not the heart of mankind.

#### *Christ Talked of His Kingdom*

It is true that Christ said, "The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you" (Luke 10:9), and truly it had, so near that they beheld the One that was even born to be King, but because of unbelief the kingdom was postponed, and the setting up of this kingdom with Him sitting on the throne of His father David, is yet to be fulfilled.

It is true that He said "the kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:21). Did you ever notice close enough to see who He was talking to? It was hypocritical Pharisees, who had not the love of the Spirit in their hearts. So it must be true as the marginal reading says, "Among you," that is, Christ Himself was in the midst to be King of the kingdom. But because of their unbelief the kingdom was postponed.

#### *Paul Says He Will Be King*

If you will read 1 Tim. 6:13-15, you will find it teaches that, "Our Lord Jesus Christ; which in his times shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords." This should prove to us that He was born to be king, just as it was said of Him. But on account of their unbelief He would go back to the Father, and there wait; and in His times He would show that He was the One who would be King of kings.

*John Says He Will Be Called King*  
The latter part of the Revelation is, of course, all future; and the vision in chapter 19 teaches us that Christ shall come back to take His kingdom, with the name written, King of kings,

and Lord of lords.

#### *Jesus Speaks of His Second Coming*

Jesus Himself, in speaking during His first advent into the world, tells of His second coming, and it is clear that His words are concerning a future date, and not to be fulfilled at His first coming. "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matt. 25:34).

Now it seems to me that these Scriptures are sufficient to show that our Lord was Prophet, is now Priest, and will be King.

#### **IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION**

*By Eld. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.*

Recently I received a letter from Mrs. Albertis (Riddle) Younce of Oakland, California, asking me to explain a passage of Scripture for her and her husband, which I am glad to do; but I am going to do so through the columns of the Gem, so that perchance some one else might be benefited. Albertis was one of my good workers in the church at Aurora, Mo. when I was pastor there. We are glad to know you folks are active in the work out there in California.

The Scripture in question is 1 Cor. 3:15, "If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire."

Now the first thing I want you to do is to get your Bible and read carefully the entire 3rd chapter of 1 Cor. You will notice very readily, that which gave rise in Paul's mind to write this chapter was the fact that the Corinthian church was in a divided state over their preachers. As we sometimes say, They had preacher religion. Notice verses 4 and 5, also verse 22, "For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?" Notice verse 6 also, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase." Now verse 22, "Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas . . ."

Bear in mind now that such works as this which I have just referred to is the kind of works Paul had in mind when he wrote this chapter. Other works some people perform pertaining to their church, which is of the same principle as going to church just and only when a certain preacher is going to preach, is that of paying

in to the church just because neighbor John paid and I want to keep up with John, or going to church just because the children begged and hounded you; or the companion kept insisting until you finally went just to please him or her; or to get rid of him or her. Works of such kind, and of such principle, is exactly the kind Paul had in mind when he spoke or wrote the words of verse 15, because such was the general subject of the entire chapter. Furthermore, when we enlarge on that Scripture and try to strain and stretch it to reach out and cover such works as that of the drunkard, the blasphemer, the gambler, and every other work that is carried on by the multitude in the backslider class, we are doing a plain and bold injustice to this Scripture. In the first place Paul was not talking to a people that had given up their experience, or had backslidden, because these people were building on the one and only foundation, which is declared in verse 11 to be Jesus Christ, but they were building amiss. They were building with wood, hay and stubble; when they should have been building with gold, silver, and precious stones. In other words they were building with perishable things, when they should have been building with things imperishable. Don't you suppose many people are doing the same thing today?

Now we can hardly go so far as to say that such as that would send their souls to the regions of the damned, especially so long as they were striving to keep building for God. But it is certain that such works will be of no avail, and will be burned. The performer of such will suffer loss, which perhaps means in eternal rewards, yet he or she will be saved; but only so as by fire; or scarcely, or barely. So Paul says for us to take heed how we build thereon.

The exponents of the doctrine of eternal security, or, as we say, "Once saved, always saved," think they have Scriptural proof here for their doctrine; but to me there isn't the least bit of proof here for it, because Paul was not talking to a people that had quit trying to do something for the Lord, and had just gone back into the world. He was only dealing with their carnality, or their building amiss. It is very easy for church members even to glory too much in men, and that is what these people were doing; hence the words in v. 21, "Therefore let no man glory in men."

# Must We Raise the Price of the Gem?

This question has insistently come to our minds during the past few months, and since it is more and more a problem to give you the Gem at 50c per year, with everything we use costing more and more, we are asking Gem readers the same question. We will just state some important facts about things connected with the publication of the Gem; and ask that you help in solving our problem:

We now print and mail out about 900 papers each month, and it costs us \$50.00 each month to put out the 900 papers.

Of the 900 papers we print each month, a little over 800 are paid subscriptions, the rest are sent out as samples. 800 subscriptions at 50c bring in \$400.00, which is \$33.33 per month.

You can see at once that the \$50.00 monthly cost of publishing the Gem is only partly paid by the \$33.33 monthly income—the income lacks \$16.67 each month of paying the cost of publication. This is the amount your editor must contribute each month to keep the Gem coming to you.

We reduced the price to 50c per year, hoping that we could, at this low price, raise our subscription list to 1600, which would just about pay the cost of publication, and this is still our aim and desire. You see 1600 subscriptions would bring in \$800.00, and we can put out the extra 800 papers for about \$20.00 per month, which would make the total cost per month for publishing 1600 papers about \$70.00; so the income and the cost of publication would just about balance.

There appears to be one of two things to do: Raise the subscription list to 1600, or raise the price of the Gem. To add 800 subscriptions to our present list will be quite a task, but it can be done if each member of the Gem family helps a little. If every one of our 800 subscribers will send one subscription, we will have our 1600 subscribers. You can either get some one to subscribe or make some relative or friend a present of a year's subscription to the Gem.

But we especially appeal to you pastors, for you have the best opportunity of any one to get subscriptions.

There are very few, if any churches in our denomination where the num-

ber of subscribers could not at least be doubled, and there are some churches with not a single subscriber among their membership. It is very evident that there are many more than 800 Free Will Baptist in our territory that ought to take the Gem—there are many more than 800 in Missouri alone.

Help us get the subscriptions and the price of the Gem will not be raised; but unless we receive a major part of the 800 subscriptions to be added by July 1, 1938, the price of the Gem may be raised. Think this over carefully and pray about it, then let us hear from you. Send as many subscriptions as you can; but we want to hear from you, even if you can't send any subscriptions.

The next three issues of the Gem will report the progress of this campaign, and in July the result will be announced. So, come on friends, let's get the subscriptions and keep the price of the Gem at 50c per year.—Ed.

## THE MASTER IS COMING

*Contributed by Mrs. Daisy Marcum*

They say, "The Master is coming  
To honor the town to-day,  
And none can tell at whose house or home  
The Master will choose to stay."  
And I thought while my heart beat wildly,  
What if He should come to mine?  
How would I strive to entertain  
And honor the Guest Divine?

And straight I turned to toiling  
To make my home more neat;  
I swept, and polished, and garnished,  
And decked it with blossoms sweet;  
I was troubled for fear the Master  
Might come ere my task was done,  
And I hastened and worked the faster,  
And watched the hurrying sun.

But right in the midst of my duties  
A woman came to my door;  
She had come to tell me her sorrows,  
And my comfort and aid implore.  
And I said, "I can not listen,  
Nor help you any to-day;  
I have greater things to attend to,"  
And the pleader turned away.

But soon there came another—  
A cripple, this, pale, and gray—  
And said, "Oh, let me stop and rest  
Awhile in your home, I pray!  
I have traveled far since morning,  
I am hungry and faint and weak:  
My heart is full of misery,  
And comfort and help I seek."

And I said, "I am grieved and sorry,  
But I can not help you to-day;  
I look for a great and noble Guest."  
And the cripple went away.  
And the day wore on more swiftly,  
And my task was nearly done,  
And a prayer was in my heart  
That the Master to me might come.  
And I thought I would spring to meet Him

And serve Him with utmost care,  
When a little child stood by me  
With a face so sweet and fair—  
Sweet, but with marks of tear-drops,  
And his clothes were tattered and old;  
A finger was bruised and bleeding,  
And his little bare feet were cold.  
And I said, "I am sorry for you,  
You are sorely in need of care,  
But I can not stop to give it,  
You must hasten elsewhere."  
And at the words a shadow  
Swept o'er his blue-veined brow:  
"Some one will feed and clothe you,  
dear,  
But I am too busy now."

At last the day was ended,  
And my toil was over and done;  
My house was swept and garnished,  
And I watched the dark alone;  
Watched, But no foot-fall sounded,  
No one passed at my gate,  
No one entered my cottage door,  
I could only pray and wait.

I waited till night had deepened,  
And the Master had not come;  
"He has entered some other door,"  
I cried,  
"And gladdened some other home!"  
My labor has been for nothing,  
And I bowed my head and wept.  
My heart was sore with longing,  
Yet, spite of it all I slept.

Then the Master stood before me,  
And His face was grave and fair;  
"Three time to-day I came to your door  
And craved your pity and care:  
Three times you sent me onward,  
Unhelped and uncomforted,  
And the blessing you might have had  
was lost  
And your chance to serve has fled."

"O Lord, dear Lord, forgive me!  
How could I know it was Thee."  
My very soul was shamed and bowed  
In the depth of humility.  
And He said, "Thy sin is pardoned,  
But the blessing is lost to thee;  
For, comforting not the least of Mine,  
Ye have failed to comfort me."—Sel.

## WESTERN GENERAL ASSOCIATION Minutes will go to Press Soon

As soon as this issue of the Gem is mailed, we will print the minutes of our Western General Association.

Eld. John B. Rollins, Clerk.

**L**AST MONTH we asked that manuscript sent to us for publication be sent so as to reach us by the 25th of the month, and we are thanking you for an early supply of manuscript for the February issue of the Gem.

We have some manuscript left, so if your article is not printed in this issue, it will appear in the next issue.

Please continue to send manuscript early, and not later than the 25th of the month.  
—Editor.