

# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
FOR FREE WILL BAPTISTS EVERYWHERE

Vol. XII, No. 12

Monett, Missouri, December, 1940

50 cents per year.



## The Free Will Baptist Church Louisa, Kentucky

This church was organized September 27, 1940 with 14 charter members. There is a Free Will Baptist church in every town in the valley of the Big Sandy river.

The Lawrence County Conference met with this church October 12, and 13 and enjoyed the greatest meeting in its history because of the smiling approval and blessings of God and a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

At the Sunday morning service, four knelt at the altar of prayer, and five were converted Sunday night.

A revival continued for two weeks with D. A. Hayes, Arla Blackburn, with the pastor, Wm. W. Moore (and others) in charge in which there were 24 conversions and 35 additions to the church making a total of 49 members on the firing line for Jesus Christ.

## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of  
The Free Will Baptist Church

Published Monthly at Monett, Mo.

John B. Rollins ..... Editor  
Herbert Henderson .. Associate Editor

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## TERMS

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

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

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## Foreign Mission Fund

Niangua church .....	\$2.60
Amity Church .....	2.00
Mt. Olive (Neo'a) Mission Circle ..	2.00
True Blue Class, Mt. Olive S. S. ..	1.60
Happy Circle Class Hazel Creek ..	2.00
Union Sunday School .....	2.55
Independance Church .....	2.55
Mt. Zion Church (N. W. Mo.) ..	4.00
Mountain Valley League .....	1.00
Emma Thomas, Hannon, Mo. ..	20.00
Desloge Church .....	1.76
Shibley's Point Church .....	2.64
Pleasant Grove Church .....	.86
Carterville League .....	15.25
Flat River Church .....	2.00
Amity Church .....	2.00
Oak Grove Ch. (of State Ass'n.) ..	4.15
Verdella Church .....	13.50
Hazel Creek Union Church ....	1.50
Mine La Motte Sunday School ..	5.00
Curtis M. Royse & family ....	1.00
Mt. Olive (Neola) Mission Circle ..	1.60
Union Third Fork Sunday School ..	1.13
Shibley's Point Church .....	3.00
Hannon Church .....	10.00
Winford Davis, Monett, Mo. ..	2.56
Macedonia Church .....	1.55
Pleasant Grove Church .....	9.15
Hazel Creek Union Church ..	2.00
Oak Grove Ch. (of State Ass'n.) ..	.21
Carterville League .....	4.00
Merl's Chapel Church .....	

## Educational Fund

Mo. State Home Mission Ass'n. ....	\$5.00
Mt. Olive (Neola) Church ....	2.05
Turned in by Rev. Frank Linton,	
Branch, Missouri .....	20.75
Niangua Church .....	3.20
Raymond and Thelma Hawkins,	
Gower, Missouri .....	1.00
Mrs. William Newcomer,	
Greentop, Missouri .....	1.00
Leroy Miller, Bonne Terre, Mo. ....	14.00

Macedonia Church .....	1.20
John E. Bough, Stockton, Mo. ....	1.00
Winford Davis, Monett, Mo. ..	10.00
Gladys Keeland, New Castle, Calif. ....	2.00

## Publishing House Fund

Mo. State Home Mission Ass'n. ....	\$5.00
Mo. State League Ass'n. ....	5.00
Mrs. W. S. Mosby, West Line, Mo. ....	.50
O. T. Allred, Monett, Mo. ....	1.00
G. Buchanan, Greentop, Mo. ..	1.00
W. I. Jemes, Fredericktown, Mo. ....	1.00
Alta Powell, Monett, Mo. ....	1.00
Harold Hoover, Hannon, Mo. ..	1.00
M. H. White, Plattsburg, Mo. ..	1.00
Glen McCarty, Chetopa, Kansas ..	1.00
Levi Jemes, Niangua, Mo. ....	.25
William Newcomer, Greentop, Mo. ....	.50
Collection at State Association ..	44.77
Winford Davis, Monett, Mo. ..	10.00

State Association  
Entertainment Fund

Mt. Olive (Neola) Church ....	\$10.00
Mo. State Home Mission Ass'n. ....	5.00
Independence Church .....	4.35
Merl's Chapel Church .....	3.58
Macedonia Church .....	5.00
Amount reported by Niangua	
Church Finance Committee ..	349.42

## Budget Fund

Flat River Church .....	\$7.75
Northwest Missouri Association ..	1.00
Green Ridge Church .....	2.25
La Clede County Association ..	3.00
Jane Nease Malone .....	2.50
Harmony Association .....	2.00
Stahl Church .....	1.00

## State Ass'n. Charter Fund

Merl's Chapel Mission Circle ..	\$1.00
C. B. Dees, Desloge, Mo. ....	4.25
Amity Church .....	5.25
Oak Grove Church .....	2.85

—Winford Davis, Sec'y.Treas

## The 13th Anniversary for the "Gem"

THIS issue of the *Gem* marks the close of its twelfth year of publication. On this thirteenth birthday, we stop long enough to count our blessings, and to see if the standard of efficiency of our *Gem* is what it should be. In this case, we had rather trust the judgement of the *Gem* readers than our own. Our best gauge is the subscription list, and it has increased 400 strong within the past two months. This is the greatest

gain of any corresponding period in the twelve years of publication.

The map reveals the present standing of the circulation of the *Gem* on November 20, 1940 as checked by states. There is a total of 1541 paid subscribers living in 34 states. The figures in the map represent the number of subscribers in the respective states. This map speaks for itself, showing an unbroken chain of readers from coast to coast and border to border, presenting a solid front from the Gulf to the Great Lakes.

Several subscriptions have come in since the map was made, making our mailing list virtually 1600, which is within 100 of the 1700 the Editor has been asking to put the *Gem* over.

The states of the Ohio Valley, and the extreme West, together with the Atlantic sea board states have come to the front in a remarkable way since last summer. This is not mentioning our own Missouri who stands as a challenge to the Free Will Baptists of the nation, and Missouri only offers a ratio of 1 to 10—one subscriber to every ten members.



B. F. Brown

We stop here to pay tribute of honor to our worthy, benevolent former Editor, Bro. B. F. Brown, who with faithful Mrs. Brown labored untiringly and even sacrificially for 11½ years at the head of the paper. These devout servants of Christ and His Church so patiently trained the present Editor and Bro. Brown must be remembered as being far superior in editorial abilities.

We look hopefully forward with this prayer, "Oh God, bless the *Gem* only as it strives to advance the Cause of Jesus Christ. Amen."



John B. Rollins



Relief Map of the United States showing the circulation of the *Gem*

## A Challenge to Missouri

The Flat River Church, with its pastor, Damon C. Dodd, is offering a real challenge to Missouri supporters of the *Gem*. They staged a campaign and sent in 64 subscriptions as a result.

A plan has been suggested that Missouri pastors seek to have every Free Will Baptist family taking the *Gem*. Damon and Sylvia Dodd and the workers of their church have certainly made a wonderful mark of achievement in doing their part.

Bro. Dodd's personal letter is herewith printed. Also, we are printing the picture of Damon and Sylvia again. They are just human beings like the rest of us, but look them over, and accept their challenge.

The circulation of the *Gem* is climbing higher and higher which means a better *Gem* in the making.

Let's go over the top for a better *Gem*!

Flat River, Missouri  
November 11, 1940

I am sending a challenge to the Free Will Baptist churches of the state of Missouri in the form of 64 new *Gem* subscriptions. At our State Association, we saw the motion picture of the *Gem* force at work, and then we heard the financial report read and a special appeal made for our subscription list to be raised to 1700. We came back home and went to our St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting and began to lay plans for securing a part of these subscriptions.

We set aside the month of October as "Free Will Baptist Gem Campaign Month" and we have been working at Flat River in the interest of this program. We are issuing a challenge to other churches in the state to surpass our record, not because we think it can't be done, but because we are interested in the *Gem* and its welfare.



Damon and Sylvia Dodd

We are anxious to hear of other churches and other communities putting forth a special effort along this line. We do not hesitate to go out with the Saturday Evening Post, the Farmers' Wife, Ladies' Home Journal, etc., to sell; then why not take the *Gem*, our own church paper to sell? To me, there is much more in one copy of our paper than in a dozen copies of these other magazines. So let's get busy, Free Will Baptists, and give Bro. Rollins 2,000 subscriptions.

Yours for Christ,

— Damon C. Dodd.

## You May if You Wish

THE SCHOOL OF RELIGION LIBRARY of Vanderbilt University has inaugurated a new service to ministers of the South—a Circulating Library specializing in books of social and religious problems but also including books of general interest. This service was made possible through a grant from the Carnegie corporation.

The library now contains more than 2,000 new books and others are being added daily. Besides these, the 10,000 volumes in the School of Religion Library are available when not in use by the school.

It is hoped that Librarians of the South will feel free to refer ministers to this library for material *which the local library is unable to supply*.

Any minister of the South—irrespective of denominational affiliations—who signs the application card is eligible for the service. Annotated book

lists are mailed regularly to all ministers who are active borrowers. Lists on special subjects are compiled upon request.

Ministers are invited to make suggestions for purchase.

Borrower is asked to submit a list of several books he desires, arranged in the order of his preference. He will be sent from this list the first book (or books) available, upon return of which, others will be mailed.

### Rules for Borrowing

Books may be kept for three weeks and are subject to one renewal upon request, if not in demand elsewhere. The only expense to the borrower is return postage— $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound *anywhere*. In order to get this special rate, the *return address label* enclosed in each package of books must be used.

### Fines

"Date due" at the library is stamped

on a slip in the back of book. A fine of two cents a day is assessed for each overdue book. Stamps will be accepted in payment. These should be placed inside book pocket when returning book.

In case of loss or damage beyond reasonable wear, borrower will be asked to reimburse library for such loss or damage.

Send for application cards to:

Grace N. Teague, *Acting Librarian*  
Vanderbilt School of Religion  
Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, Tennessee

I hope you understand, when you write for an application card, you will get a list of available books to select from, or you may write and ask for books on special subjects as: Prayer, Missions, Christian Education, Faith, Revivals, How to Conduct Revivals, etc.

Please note that the books are here for your use that you need.

Prayerfully,

Rev. Robert B. Crawford.

# Denominational Enterprises

## Our Missionary Activities

### A Letter from Bessie Yeley to Mrs. Bicknell

Dear Mrs. Bicknell:

I have been quite a long time answering your letter, but for a time I was so undecided to know what to do, as my health was so that it seemed that I must give up living in the tropics and go home altogether and stay there. In answer to prayer, the Lord has been pleased to touch my body, and I shall be staying on a while longer. I am rejoicing in the fact, for it certainly is not easy to leave the work, which is so dear to your heart and where you are needed so badly.

I am to be located here in Upata for the time being, with Miss Grace Bennett. This was my first field and also dear to my heart, although I felt very badly to have to leave my flock in Tumeremo with new missionaries who have so little Spanish at their command, but it seemed best that I be placed here and perhaps sometime in the future we will be opening up a new station and it will fall to Grace and me to do it. Then Upata has so much better climate and plenty of water for our shower baths which are so necessary here in the tropics, and while I am recuperating it is much better that I stay here.

We have just gone through the ordeal of moving. The Lord has seen fit to give us a larger and better house; one that is so much better for our services and better for us to live in. We also have some fruit trees and now can get some orange juice which is very necessary to give us vitamins that we need. We get very few vegetables, and owing to the long drouth we have had very little fruit, but we do praise the Lord for the way in which He is providing and for the way He will provide in the future. I am just bubbling over with joy because He is permitting me to stay here in Venezuela and work among the lost sheep here.

I am looking forward to going to some of the villages near here and give out the Bread of life. I am expecting, the Lord willing, to go to El Jobo on Monday and stay for a

week or perhaps longer. This is a two hours journey on horseback up among the coffee plantations. There are many hungry hearts up there and we are planning to go often as there are more workers here now. I am going to try and be more faithful in writing to the papers than I have. I want to write for the Gem again soon. I subscribed for it before coming to the field but I haven't received a paper since December and I didn't even get to see my article in print. Now my subscription will have been expired; I think in September. I still get the *Free Will Baptist*, however.

You asked me about the picture rolls. Yes, I could make use of them if you would care to send them. I teach children and am always glad for any helps. Be sure to mark them "printed matter" so there will be no trouble

about duty as here they are very particular and surely charge plenty duty, but there is none on books and printed matter. I have told the people at home never to send me any packages unless they are books.

Well, I don't have time to write very much this time as it is Friday Afternoon and I have to be getting ready for Sunday. I am very much behind in my correspondence and despair of ever getting caught up. We are kept very busy here and find ourselves busier every day, but we are happy to be busy in service for our King.

I ask your prayers for our work here, and also for my health, that I may improve much and be able to stay on and on if that be His will for me. I thank you for your interest in our work here.

Editors Note—Miss Yeley's subscription to the Gem expired last fall, but we placed her on the honorary list and have been sending her the paper each month. Her address has changed without our notice and for that reason she is failing to receive her Gem. We express our sorrow.

## Motion Pictures for the Lord

By Kenneth Turner, Monett, Missouri

"And God said, let us make man, .....; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea; and over the fowls of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, .....," Gen. 1:26.

I HAVE Always felt that God permitted all inventions to be brought into existence, as He gave man dominion over all things. In this

gift of dominion, I can see that God gave man intelligence, wisdom, and power; which has enabled him to figure out our modern day inventions.

The automobile is an invention spoken of by the prophet Nahum (called the chariot; Nahum 2:3). The majority of them are not used to glorify the Lord; however, they should be dedicated to Him and used in His service. Thank the Lord there are some being used to glorify Him.

The airplane is spoken of in the Bible. God permitted the invention to be made, and why can't they all be used to help spread the Gospel as the one that our brother, Rev. Floyd Hitchcock, of Springfield, Mo., has bought, and dedicated to God. He uses it to carry him to preach the Word. But think of the airplane in general. The devil is using them to carry out his plan. Think of the war, how they are being used to



Kenneth Turner

bring death to thousands of lives.

The radio is another invention which could be used to help advance the cause of Christ, and a few perhaps are.

The motion picture invention was placed here at the permission of God. And, like all other inventions, man has turned it over to the devil. He is calling people to the theater by the thousands and poisoning their mind with ungodly ideas; and keeping them away from the services. Why can't it be used in the service of God? It could be, and I believe God intended it to be.

For that reason I have been impressed to purchase a small (8 m. m.) camera and projector, Keystone product; not being able to buy one larger and more expensive. However, this one cost something over \$100.00 (one hundred dollars). It is dedicated to the Lord to be used in connection with our church work. We have been keeping it quite busy. Our pictures are nothing to boast about, as we were inexperienced at such a work, and we are having to learn as we go.

We had our camera with us on the bus trip to our National Association, at Paintsville, Ky., last July, 1940, and we are thanking the Lord for the pictures we were able to get on that trip and at the Association.

We have pictures of the happenings that took place at our Missouri State Association in September which is to be treasured much. We also have pictures of our local Indian Creek Association, taken at Blue Eye, Mo., September, 1940.

Bro. Rollins, our editor, spoke through the *Gem* a while back of our "Gospel Machine" and how we had taken a picture of the Gem Office, with its office force putting out an issue of the paper. We sure do enjoy doing such for the glory of the Lord.

A few weeks ago we were asked by the Monett church to come over and taken pictures of them as they carried on in the service of the day. We were mighty happy to do so. This shows everyone in the different Sunday school classes, the superintendent in charge, the choir singing, the pastor in the pulpit, etc.

In the past few weeks we have been visiting our churches (any who give us an invitation) and giving them a service; showing the pictures, and trying to advance the cause and introduce the different interprises of our denomination. Bro. Rollins was with us each time and explained our

national organization, speaking of our foreign and home mission, our educational program, and also making a drive for subs for the *Gem*. This effort is proving a success and the Lord is blessing.

So far we have visited only a few of our local churches; Cartersville, Hannon, Neola, Independence, Granby, Aurora, and Monett. The results are that we get a few subscriptions and get the programs before our people's mind; hoping to get their support in offerings and prayers in behalf of the work of our entire denomination.

We will be glad to come to your church for a service of this kind if you desire us to and if it is possible for us to get there. Just now, we are in revival efforts; but in the spring we plan to pick up our Gospel machine

and go again. We must have the service where we can contract an 110 volt electrical power line.

Remember, this is an effort to help our people to understand our work better. There are no admission charges, only a free will offering to help with our expenses. The people have been mindful, so far, and made it possible for a service with them.

We would be glad to come and take pictures of your church and congregation in service, or anything pertaining to the work of the Lord. Just write and ask us about it. It will not cost you anything except the film and expenses, which will be reasonable.

May the Lord help us to work for Him, and advance the cause in any way that we can.

## Superannuation Birthday Celedration

Mrs. J. E. Simpson, 1310 Fatherland Street, Nashville, Tennessee

# STOP!

PICK UP YOUR RECEIVER

# LISTEN!

## "SHARE WITH OTHERS"



IT'S NATIONAL BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

DEC. 29, 1940.

DON'T ALLOW TO REMAIN

YOUR STATE AS IT IS NOW.

LINK UP WITH US

LET'S PAY THAT DEBT OF LOVE

DON'T BE THE MISSING LINK

Figure 1 Represents Participation In First Celebration  
 Figure 2 Represents Participation In Second Celebration  
 Figure 1 & 2 Represents Participation In Both Celebration

HELP YOUR STATE TO BE 1, 2, 3 - OR ALL THREE THIS YEAR

TIME \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Leaguers:

The National Superannuation Board of Free Will Baptists, in a meeting at Paintsville, Kentucky, agreed to ask our Free Will Baptist Leagues to sponsor the "National Superannuation Birthday Celebration" again this year on December 29.

Whether or not your league has celebrated before, we appeal to you to join us this year and become a link in the chain.

The plan is simple and you have your celebration in connection with your regular League service. You may secure a little playlet on National Superannuation from the Free Will Baptist Press at Ayden, N. C. if you wish, which gets the message over very nicely I think.

We urge that you ask not only your league members but every member

of your church to attend your celebration and bring a penny for each year old they are. The proceeds will go to our National fund for our aged and dependent ministers.

This is a little thing we are asking of our Free Will Baptist Leagues; but if all will co-operate with us in this effort it will swell our treasury surprisingly.

I wish I were able to make this so impressive that no league could be able to resist it, and I believe with my whole heart that our young people will do their part to make the celebration a success again this year.

Carry the matter before your Leaguers and just drop me a card saying, "I want to become a link in the chain of the National Superannuation Birthday Celebration," and you will

become link number one if your request happens to be the first to come in or your number will correspond with the number of requests received at the time of its arrival.

Now Leaguers; Don't fail me, I am counting on you.

Find enclosed poster. Please place in your church where it will attract attention and leave it up as a reminder of the occasion.

Wake Up; Pep Up; and join with us. Don't be that missing link.

A souvenir will be given to each Leaguer taking part in the celebration who is a member of the League that is first to send in the proceeds of the celebration: Time will be determined by Post Office mark on your envelope, (distance will not interfere).

Anxiously awaiting your answer.



## Christmas Sermons



### "The Word was made Flesh"

By Rev. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.

**D**ID YOU Ever try to imagine just how every thing would seem, especially in the religious world, had Jesus never come? Had we lived in the days previous to His birth? Under those circumstances the only conception we could have of God would be as a God of power, a God of wrath and judgment. But since the Word was made fesh and dwelt among us we have an altogether different conception of God. We now know something of the love of God, and not just of His wrath and power only.

Jesus expressed God.

Jesus displayed God.

Jesus manifested God.

Jesus made God tangible—

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled of the word of life" 1 John 1:1.

Jesus brought God near. —

"But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ" Eph. 2:13.

Jesus said, "He that hath seen me hath seen the father" St. John 14:9.

The prophet Isaiah said, "His name shall be called immanuel which being

interrupted is God with us." I was once sitting in a home and the little girl who was looking at some pictures said, "Look mama, here is Jesus with a little sheep in His arms." I thought of what the prophet said that God would be with us.

The story is told of the little girl whose father was an atheist. He said, "God is no where." His little girl said, "Daddy you take the 'w' from the word 'where' and place it with the word 'on' and it will say 'God is now here'."

Many things are a mystery to us until we become to understand their inside working parts. This is especially true of many of our modern day inventions. When we can better understand the working of them they become much more reasonable. Jesus made God understandable, feasible, and reasonable. How wonderful to think the God who placed whirling planets and blazing suns out into space, also sat on the well and was tired.. The God who said, "let us make man" also became man. The God who destroyed the antediluvian



Winford Davis

world in His wrath also picked up little babes in His arms and blessed them, and wept at the death of a friend. The shortest verse in the Bible, "Jesus Wept," is by no means the least in meaning. It is rich in eternal truth. It further teaches the fact that our God is a God of sympathy, and that God's heart may be touched by the feeling of our infirmities. "For as much then as we are the offspring of God we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold or silver, or stone, proven by art and man's device" Acts 17:29.

At this Christmas season we co-

memorate the great event when the Christ became incarnate and was manifested to us in human flesh. How marvelous to think the birth of one little babe would so influence the entire world. Even the unbelievers, the most skeptical, can't dodge the fact of the hustle and bustle of Christmas time. In commerce, in transportation, in the postal department, everywhere men are definitely influenced one way or the other by this greatest of all commemorations, and it is all because "the word was made flesh and dwelt among us."

At this glorious season, let us strive to keep the Christ in Christmas.

## The Christ Child

*By Gweneth Talley, Aurora, Missouri*

Luke 2:8-20; Matthew 2:1-12.

**B**ETHLEHEM was the city of David. The word Bethlehem signifies "house of bread." It was also the home of Ruth and Boaz. Christ had to be born in Bethlehem to fulfill the prophecy of old. It was not at Nazareth of Galilee, where His mother, the Virgin Mary, lived. The prophet Micah had foretold that the event was to take place at Bethlehem (Mic. 5:2). And so it came to pass, at Bethlehem Christ was born.

He was of humble birth; born and laid in a manger. Christ the Lord, a babe! The Savior of men, a helpless infant! What a mystery and what a glorious wonder! Christ might have descended from Heaven as a mighty archangel, clothed with brilliant glory and gorgeous apparel. He might have come into the world in a manner more befitting a prince and a king. He might have come into the world as a full grown man as Adam. But He came in an altogether different way, as a helpless babe, the object of a tender mother's care.

Christ was born among us, that

He might have the right to redeem us, for it was only the kinsman who could redeem the lost inheritance (Lev. 25:25; Heb. 2:14).

Christ was born for us, for He was manifested in human nature that He might die for sin; hence, He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself (Heb. 9:26).

In Luke the announcement is not of a king of the Jews, but of a Savior. The news was not brought to the wise and great, nor to the chief priests and elders, but to the shepherds who were keeping watch over their rocks by night. Let us notice we have here a hint that the news of a savior was to be proclaimed to the poor (Luke 4:16-18). This was so from the beginning and should be carried out today. While the shepherds were faithfully attending to their duty, the angel of the Lord came unto them suddenly and unexpectedly. The glory which shone around about them was the

Shekinah glory of old—the glory which betokened God's presence (Exod. 40: 34-35). This made the shepherds sore afraid. Sinful man has reason to fear the appearance of a Heavenly messenger.

The angel quieted their fears by assuring them he had a joyful message. It was not only good news to them, but good news in general. The birth of Christ was the most marvelous event that had ever taken place.

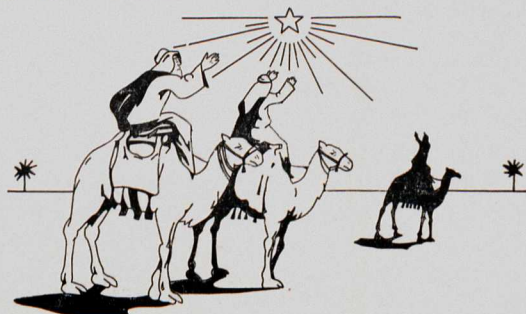
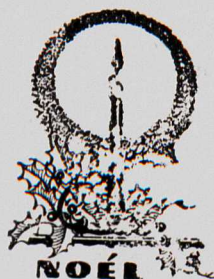
The shepherds realized that something wonderful had been revealed to them, and they knew it was from God. They were not indifferent to the news the angels brought them. They may have been uneducated men, but they were truly wise men. They went at once, in haste, to see what had come to pass. There they found "Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger."

A manager! A babe! Swaddling clothes! What a place for a king; the long expected Messiah! "They found the Babe" (Luke 2:16). The shepherd found Him before the wise men did. They did not go to Bethlehem to verify the message of the angels, but to realize it. They hastened! They found Him! So may we find Him—in the manager, a babe; on the cross, a Savior; in the glory, an Intercessor; coming in the clouds, a king!

The shepherd had "heard" and had "seen" what God had spoken unto them. They had an experimental knowledge of all that the angel had told them.

They returned to their flocks shouting and praising God. The journey that is begun in faith will usually end in praise.

Let the Christmas spirit of "good will toward men" show itself through us all at this glad Christmas tide. Not in narrow, selfish, giving and receiving, but in big-hearted and self-denying gifts, and efforts to take the good tidings of the Savior to the whole world for which they were meant.



# Christmas and General Poems



## CHRISTMAS DAY

Mildred Milligan, High and Park, Mich.

The star in the East  
Showed the wise men the way,  
To the Babe in the manger  
On Christmas day.

There with His mother,  
He lay on the hay;  
A gift from our Father  
On Christmas day.

What a wonderful gift  
In our hearts to stay;  
Our loving Savior  
Born Christmas day.

Let us ever be humble,  
While on earth we stay;  
Instead of much "folly"  
On Christmas, lets pray.

Though He died on the cross,  
He's living today;  
So lets be more thankful  
For this Christmas day.

## OUR HELP

By Gertrude Bowe, Cattlettsburg, Ky.

We're not always on the mountain-top,  
But often in the valley deep,  
But there is one that we can trust,  
We know that He our soul will keep  
Unspotted from this world of sin:  
I'm glad I surrendered all to Him.

Suspended there on Calvary  
That you and I might live,  
He suffered untold agony  
Eternal life to give.  
Why should we ever doubt the one  
Who prayed, "Not my will but Thine  
be done?"

Sometimes it's hard to understand  
These trials that we have to bear,  
But Jesus lends a helping hand  
When the way is dark and drear.  
He is my Friend in time of need,  
You, too, dear friend, He wants to  
lead.

He's our help in toil and strife,  
Always hears our humblest plea,  
He died to give Eternal Life,  
He died for you, He died for me;  
Why not come to Him today.  
He will lead you all the way.

## Peace On Earth

By R. L. Cannady, Durham, N. C.

Peace on earth, good will to man,  
Our Lord was born this day;  
Our hearts are glad for ever more,  
May nations sing with praise.

While kings of earth in glory slept,  
Surrounded by their fame;  
Our Savior lay in a manger cold:  
Salvation, born in shame.

The star that led the shepherds  
To the manger where He lay,  
Will shine and shine forever more;  
Let's bow in praise this day.

Let's sing and shout all glory to God,  
How sacred is this day;  
Our hearts are warmed with love divine  
May sorrow flee away.

Our hearts are glad in one accord  
This blessed Christmas day,  
And dear Lord, may we not forget  
Our neighbor along the way.

And as the wise men brought their gifts  
Composed of myrrh and gold,  
We bring to thee, oh Lord, our God,  
Our all, our life, our soul!

## LIFE'S SUNSET

Mrs. Roy Lee Hancock, Haddam, Kans.

I'd like to travel and see the world,  
I have often heard folk say;  
But did they ever stop just once, to  
watch

A sunset at end of day?

A lovely, fleecy, soft cotton cloud  
Stands up high into the East,  
It is silver grey, and snowy white,  
And that's to say the least.

As I look again at that huge cloud  
Lo, I see there are still more,  
One on the right, and one on the left,  
And, my heart just thrills me o'er.

In the West the sun is sinking,  
Soon a miracle is performed;  
For the clouds turn pink, red, and  
crimson,  
They are handsomely adorned.

As I view that scene impressive  
And thoughts flash into my mind,  
I thank God for such a vision  
And to me He's been so kind.

Friends of mine, we are fast approach-  
ing  
Our life's sunset in the West,  
Will we be ready at that last time  
When we sink into our rest?

Will our life be a bright one,  
And lived in such a way  
That its reflection will help others.  
At the sunset of our day?



## God's Christmas Gift

Mrs. Roy Lee Hancock, Haddam Kans.

Perhaps, on this Christmas night,  
We'll see many a sad sight,  
Of children in a poor home  
With no Christmas of their own;  
Many a child has a costly gift,  
Whose parents do not consider thrift,  
Some child may look with a wishful eye  
At costly presents, giving a sigh.

We feel sad at the absence  
Of these lovely Christmas presents,  
In humble homes of the poor,  
And the beggars at our door;  
But dear friend, stop now and think,  
And give the traveler a drink,  
Just show the gift that was given,  
Years ago, sent down from heaven.

Help them to see and understand  
They too can go to that happy land,  
Where poverty won't enter there,  
And everything is wondrous fair:  
They are welcome to this precious gift  
Just as much as the rich,  
For God sent His precious Son,  
A wonderful gift, to everyone.

## I Would Like To Be

By R. L. Cannady, Durham, N. C.

I would like to be a preacher,  
Not the kind you never see,  
Only when you're on the golf course  
Or at the movie he might be.

I would like to be a preacher,  
Bold and strong for others be;  
To my flock I'd often visit  
Just in case they might need me.

I would like to be a Deacon,  
Tried and proven in and out;  
Not the worldly kind of deacon  
That the devil smiles about.

Deacons live for Jesus  
And they live it in and out;  
Nor they never will deny Him  
When the Devil's crowd is about.

I would like to be a teacher  
And to live just what I teach,  
Not the worldly type of teacher  
Where their weekly like does leak.

I cannot be a preacher  
Or a deacon by the way;  
As a teacher, I am a failure  
But I am all for Christ each day.

## Go Ye Into the Vineyard (Matt. 20:4)

By Elsie M. Curtis, Herrin, Ill.

"Go ye" softly spoke the Master,  
"And you shall not go alone,  
For I'll never, never leave thee  
"Till you stand before my throne."

Wonderous thought! Oh, blessed comfort!

As I view the harvest fields;  
Power from our Savior given  
Will produce a gracious yield.

Men are lost and souls are dying,  
Those for whom the Master bled;  
Saints of God go forth in power  
By the Holy Spirit led.

The way is rough and storms are raging,  
Lightenings flash and thunders roar;  
But if Jesus stays beside me,  
I will not ask for blessing more.

When at last the labor's ended,  
Heaven's near and earth grows dim,  
I shall pass through pearly portals  
Safe at last in Heaven—with Him.

## Disciples of God

By Dorothy Myrl Lovell, Cassville, Mo.

God wants us to be His disciples,  
And labor through toil and strife;  
And when our labor is ended,  
We, like Paul, can have a crown of life.

He not only wants old disciples  
But young ones as well,  
To tell of His wonderful matchless love  
And of His spirit that in us doth dwell.

He wants us to labor  
From morn until night,  
And be victorious  
In that real Christian fight.

So disciples, let's all labor for God,  
And always be led by His Spirit;  
Then in the final ending—  
Great shall be our merit!



## Giving to Others

By Mrs. Beiva Zinn, Bristow, Okla.

When God gave birth to this good earth

And put a people here to live;  
Thus He spoke, "Thou shalt not take  
But give, give and give."

Turn the pages through the ages,  
Read the story when  
Knights of old, with hearts of gold,  
Helped their fellowmen.

With clashing mail and faces pale,  
A brassy bugle call,  
A battle planned, united we stand,  
Divided they would fall.

Columbus tired before he died,  
To find a new homeland;  
He sailed the sea, met victory  
For he had a helping hand.

Abe Lincoln stood for all that's good,  
He set the old slaves free;  
He fought the fight for equal right,  
For them as you and me.

Throughout this life there will be strife.

No matter how we labor;  
The Lord's own will, we will fulfill,  
So, brother, help thy neighbor.

# General Sermons

## Launching the Gospel Ship at Pentecost

By W. R. Spurlock, Bonnie, Illinois

Text: John 16:8.

**T**HERE ARE Passages of Holy Scriptures that rise so far above the common level of the Sacred Book that their summits are lost in the glory of their author. Divine prophecy throws light beyond the gates of heaven. The sermon on the Mount grasp the beatitudes of holiness, and the intercessory prayer of our Lord lifts man into oneness with the God-head. The subject and text before us gleams with the Divine presence until language fails to transmit more of the Divine glory.

There is a very close connection between this text and Pentecost, and therefore as we proceed, it will soon be discovered that it was not an accident that the Holy Ghost came on the day of Pentecost. He came on the very day that had been observed for many centuries, and foretold in the Jewish calander. There-

fore, He could not have come a day sooner or a day later. His coming on that day made it the crowning and culminating event of the Jewish dispensation, and the inauguration day of the Holy Ghost dispensation.

This most important subject must be looked at from two standpoints: First, the doctrinal; second, the experimental. The experimental cannot become the full blessing so keenly desired and longed for unless the doctrinal ground for it is very clear and correct; for the simple reason the promise of the Father is received by faith. Gal. 3:2 "Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law or by the hearing of faith?" Gal. 3:14, "That ye might receive the promise of the SPIRIT through faith." Luke 11:13, "How much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him."

Let us, therefore, search the sacred cannon, that we may know, not only

with the apostles experienced, but what they taught us. Not only how they (Apostles) received the Holy Spirit, but how they instructed others by precept and example, after Pentecost, to receive Him. I mean this, if our understanding of the Scriptures in regard to how we can enjoy the fullness of the Holy Spirit is cloudy and misty, our experience will be the same, for the good reason that He is received by faith. Let us keep this in mind that no one ever receives the Holy Spirit without knowing it. Of this one thing we are certain: Our God is waiting in all readiness to send down floods of blessings upon us as soon as we begin to obey His plain instructions. We need no new doctrine, no new movement, no key, no expensive course to show us the way. It is before us as clear as the noon-day sun.

## Past History

Through all the ages past, the promise of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit in a special manner was in the Divine mind preparing for fulfillment. Today, as we look back and view the past history, we can

see the highway the Lord made, and set up fingerboards so plain that only preconceived human opinions, theories, theologies, and darkening of counsel could cause us to miss it so grievously as some seem to have done.

### Pentecost

Pentecost is mentioned by name only three times in the New Testament and but once, is it named in connection with the baptism of the Holy Spirit and then only as designating the time when the *way was opened up* (*Jesus Glorified*, John 7:38-39) and the Holy Spirit took up His *permanent administrative position* in the already existing church, which is called the *body* of Christ, I Cor. 12:12; 14:20; Eph. 4:4.

When Pentecost was fully come—This was a Jewish harvest festival which took place *fifty days* after the Passover, therefore, the meaning of the word is fifty. The *types* were fulfilled—After the lamb was slain in Egypt, (First Passover) the *fiftieth day* found Israel at Mt. Sinai (First Pentecost), where they received the law written on tables of stone. Those *two outstanding events*, were celebrated annually throughout the history of National Israel. The *fiftieth day* from the time the Passover Lamb (Christ, the *Antitype*) was put to death, found the disciples (Spiritual Israel) in the upper room, where they received the law written on the tables of their hearts, which is the *antitype* of this Jewish festival called Pentecost.

### The Church

The Church, under the human and visible control of our Lord, was the preparation for the coming Church. Members were gathered, facts happened, truths were taught; but the Church did not yet possess the *permanent*, and *abiding power* by which she was to move the world in this age. During the three years of our Lord's ministry on earth, she was as a ship in building. On the day of Pentecost, she was launched, and a ship is not at home until she rides upon the sea. The four Gospels give us, therefore, the story of the Church with Christ present in human form—not the normal condition of the Church, but a special constructive state; which will soon end. The Acts of the Apostles give us the story of the Church, in the *power of the Spirit*, and that is the *normal condition* of the Church, that should never end.

The four Gospels are the story of the dockyards: the Acts, the story of the launching and voyage. Our



Lord had no intention of abandoning the Church when He ascended to the Father, from Mt. Olivet. Neither did the disciples surrender their loyalty to Him when they ceased gazing up into Heaven and went back to Jerusalem. They had orders from their Lord, and they obeyed them. They did not stir from the city, for He had said "Tarry, wait, I will send *Him*." The Gospel ship was kept upon the dock motionless for ten days. The Divine hand held her. Why did they not try to launch the ship? They had the facts—the *death* of Christ, His *resurrection* and *ascension*. It is true they had the *facts* and *machinery*, but real old-time, God given Christianity is more than facts and machinery. It is *Divine fire*, enthusiasm, *it is power*, and they had not the power to wield those facts and face the hostile world. Miserable defeat awaited them, or any one else, if they attempt to do the work of the Lord with human power. "Not by might, nor by power (human), but by *my Spirit*, saith the Lord." The first meeting, the second, the third did not get any answer, but they all *continued in one accord*.

I wonder if there ever were before or since, ten meetings of the Church where the same members were present every meeting. Great events in the Church are made dependent upon the element of *continuance*—its presence succeed; its absence means failure. Had the disciples not continued the ten services, they would have missed their Lord. What a blessed scene is that group of disciples waiting for the Holy Spirit to take up His *permanent abode* in the church (Read I Cor. 12:12, 14, 20; Eph. 4:4) which is the *body* of Christ. Had not the Lord told them, (John 14:16-17) "I will *pray* the Father, and He will give you (the Church) another Comforter, and He will *abide* with you (my body) forever; the Spirit of truth; whom the *world cannot receive*."

### Things to Remember

Though we believe and teach that on the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit took up His permanent administrative position in the Church as a *body* (see I Cor. 12:12; 14:20; Eph. 4:4), we do not imply that He ceased to be in *Heaven*. The Holy Spirit is not finite like man, His arrival in one

place, does not necessitate withdrawal from another. Just as a thought which we embody in speech and send forth from the mind, yet remains in the mind as really and distinctly as before it was expressed. The Holy Ghost during the present age is in office on earth; and all spiritual presence and Divine communion of the Trinity with men are through Him.

He is likewise in Heaven, in communion with the Father and the Son from whom He proceeds, and from whom, as co-equal in the Godhead, He can never be separated any more than the sunbeam can be disassociated from the sun in which it has its source.

Another truth we need to remember is, the Holy Spirit is a *person*, not an influence emanating from God. This is shown by the following group of texts: He speaks, Acts 1:16; He works miracles, Acts 2:4; sets ministers over the church, Acts, 20:28; He commands and forbids, Acts 11:12; He bears witness, Rom. 8:16; He prays, Rom. 8:26; He can be grieved, Eph. 4:30; He can be blasphemed, Mark 3:29; He can be resisted, Acts 7:51. Such language as the foregoing would be meaningless unless applied to a person.

And last but not least, let us keep in mind that the Holy Spirit was in the world before that special pouring out at Pentecost. He was the Divine agent in creation, and in the illumination and inspiration of the Patriarchs and Prophets and Seers of the old dispensation. A few examples: Spirit of wisdom for work, Exo. 31:3; As the Spirit of Prophecy, Num 11:25; To qualify for leadership, Num. 27:18; Judges 3:10; 6:34; 13:25; For witness bearing, 2 Chron. 24:20; Came upon Saul, 1 Sam. 10:10. We could give many more if we had space in this brief paper. The contrast between *this period* of His working and that of the New Testament is that He filled no permanent administrative position in the affairs of the people of God. His coming on the other side of the cross was temporary, but *His work* in many respects was the same. The wording of the text, "When He is come;" and the statement found in John 7:39, "For the Holy Ghost was not *yet* given," should not lead us to conclude that the Holy Ghost was not in the world, or that He did

not have a work to perform on the other side of the cross. In this same verse we are told distinctly why the Spirit was not given up to that time, *because Jesus was not yet glorified*. As we have already learned, He was the agent in creation and all down the different ages performed His work in the world and among the Lord's chosen people. When Jesus was glorified, *the way was opened up* for the Holy Spirit to take up His abode in a different official capacity in the body of Christ. The inspired record has shown us, that all down the ages from Adam to Christ, the Holy Ghost came on this one, and that one, but *found no abiding place*, until Jesus of Nazareth, the perfect man came. Then we hear the wilderness preacher saying, (John 1:32) "I saw the Spirit descending like a dove, and He *abode upon Him*."

There is a symbol of this past and future work of the Spirit given in the story of Noah's dove, when the earth was submerged with water, the dove was sent out, and brooding over the face of the waters, finding no resting place, returned to Noah; then sent out the second time, returned with an olive twig, showing she had found a place on which to alight, but not a place where she could abide permanently; thirdly, was sent out again, and returned no more, for she had found an abiding place.

It is true that Christ existed before He lay in the manger at Bethlehem. He was in the beginning with the Father, and by Him all things were. But on the day of His birth He became incarnate, that in the flesh He might fulfill His great ministry as the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, manifesting God to man, and making Himself an offering for the sin of the whole world. All through the ages past, the Holy Spirit was in the world, but on the day of Pentecost, the way was opened up, for the Holy Ghost to enter in His official sphere, into the body of Christ, which is the Church. This was fulfilled at Pentecost, when the first two persons of the Godhead took up residence in the Church, through the Third.

### Miraculous Signs

As we look at the type, or the first Pentecost, where the law was given, at Mt. Sinai on tables of stone, we see there were miraculous signs; thunder, lightnings, etc. Surely, we would not expect less in the antitype. They suddenly appear: listen to that *noise* as of a *rushing tornado* which *shakes*

*the building*, but does not shatter it! Look, will you, at those *flames* which come floating down and wave like plumes upon their heads, but no one is burned or scorched! Is that all? *Noise, fire*, disturbance in the external world, and does that launch the ship of Zion? It does not, for that is nothing more than the rustling of the garments of our Lord as He comes on board. Nothing but the vibration of His steps. It is only a wonder in the physical world, but showing beyond all doubt, that the God of the Church and the God of nature are one and the same. There is another wonder, and greater yet: when the

\*  
God  
may shut  
every door  
about us, but He  
never shuts  
the door  
above  
us.  
\*

disciples go out to preach to the multitudes who had gathered from many nations, they find themselves able to speak their many languages. Was that the climax, and so are they ready now? No, that was a great mental miracle. As at the tower of Babel, our Lord gave new tongues to confound and scatter the sinful race of man, now He gives new tongues to unite and bind the race in common sympathy.

### More Than Physical or Mental Wonders

They were waiting for something more than physical or mental wonders; and *He comes*. Let us remember Elijah on Horeb. There was an earthquake, cyclone and lightnings, but *the power* was in the still small voice. At this time my text was fulfilled; *He had come*, and they were all *filled with the Holy Ghost*.

The noise passed away, but God could send it again if He so desired. The visible flames passed away at that time, but our Lord could bestow them if he wished. The speaking in foreign languages at this time (understood by sinners) was a fulfillment of old Testament Scriptures where it said, God shall speak to *this people* (Jews) by men of other lips and other tongues, and yet they (Jews) will not believe (as a whole). The unbelieving

Jews could fully *understand* what they said, but never dreamed it was a fulfillment of prophecy concerning national Israel. In Paul's letter to Corinthians, he said, the tongues were a sign (not to the believer) but to the unbeliever (the Jew). The Gospel today is printed in almost every language or dialect under the sun; yet we know and believe, the God of all creation could, if He so desired, bestow the gift of language, as of old; for there is nothing too hard for Him. The Disciples were not waiting for signs, but for *Him* whom Jesus said would come.

### Power of the Spirit

We read in Acts 1:8, "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." This has been true in the past history of man; and is true today. This is the crying need of the Church of these inflated times. If we are to have a proper understanding of the relationship of the Holy Ghost to the Church of today, we must learn to distinguish between things that are different. God's gift is one thing and our appropriation of that gift is quite another thing. God gave His Son to the world; but each individual *must accept* that gift by repentance and faith, if they ever enjoy salvation. Christ gave the Holy Ghost to the Church as a Body, (1 Cor. 12:12; 14:20; Eph. 4:4) and it is their birthright; but if the individual wants the indwelling *power*, he *must appropriate* that Spirit by a personal act of *faith* and *consecration*. If we are walking with God, every step is a step of *faith*, and we *must be agreed* with Him. This *active faith* of the progressive Christian *sees, hears, stoops* and *appropriates*, and his *hungry soul* is strengthened with *might* (power) by the Holy Ghost. He is in the world, working in the Body (the Church) striving to bring its members to that *unity* that Jesus prayed for that the world might believe, (John 17:21). It is one thing to have the Spirit (Rom. 8:9) and quite another for the Spirit to have all of you. It is a fact, that if we are saved that we were *convicted* by the Holy Spirit, *born* of the Spirit, *chastised* by Him, and if *obeyed* will lead us into a *state of complete consecration* of our physical body (Rom. 12:1-2) which is our *reasonable service*. I feel certain that there are many of the Lord's children, with whom this is the one thing they lack, the *living faith* to reach out and claim the promise of the Holy Spirit as an *indwelling person*; equal

to every emergency, and only waiting to be admitted to a *more entire possession and more complete control*. So many of today are surrendering first principles, or at least dicker with the world. Many are cowards and afraid of being behind these inflated times. There is a blessed endowment of power awaiting God's people as soon as they get over their fear of what the world will say.

At Pentecost the way was opened up (John 7:38-39) and the teaching of the New Testament seems to be that the *outpouring* at Pentecost was the historic beginning of an *era* which was to be characterized by a *continuous pouring out* of the Holy Ghost. This *inflow* without *outflow* means stagnation; and *outflow* without *inflow* means emptiness. We dare not cease from faith, thus the *consecration* of our life is only the *beginning* of a *life of Consecration*.

It was not an easy task which the

ship faced when she was launched upon the sea at the first; and it is not an easy task now. The sea is rough and the waves of unbelief are rolling high, and the waters (world) filling the ship. I am expecting the waves to get higher and *higher* until Jesus comes and rebukes the sea, then there will be a great calm.

The Church began in *power*, moved in *power*, and moved so long as she had *power*. We are so hopelessly outclassed by the world's superior strength that, for us, it means either the *power of the Holy Ghost* or sure defeat.

We know from the Bible and experience that the Gospel ship is not propelled by human power, not by eloquence; not by logic; not by argument, but in the *power of the Holy Ghost*, and by no art of man, and now holds her true course *only* where *prayer and obedience* is at the *helm* and the *Holy Spirit fills her sails*.

at the head or the foot, they were to keep the bed on a level.

It has been my sad experience, and I know that of others also, to find those who were willing to carry the bed if they could carry it alone. If they could not carry it alone they would at least want a position at the head. Some will help carry the load until the load gets heavy, then they will let their corner down. But if these four men had given up, or even one of them, this poor man may never have found Christ.

We not only see co-operation, but we see determination. These four men were not satisfied to get their friends to the place of preaching, but were determined that he come in personal contact with the Christ. Many have been the followers of Christ while the following was easy, but when obstacles confronted them, they would go no farther. After all, we serve Christ by serving our fellowmen. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" Matt. 25:40.

The real test of our faith is, not in our willingness to co-operate, but rather, in our determination to get the lost to Christ. Sometimes it involves personal suffering, as in the case of Paul, in the Philippian jail, but through this suffering, the Philippian jailer was brought to a saving knowledge of Christ; and not only he, but his household was saved. Other times, it involves separation from loved ones, as in the case of our missionaries. Nothing short of a passion for souls would cause one to actually leave all the advantages of our land, all the luxuries of our home, all the fellowship of the Church, and say good bye to those dear to our heart, and go in a strange land, among strange people, to endure hardships that others may know the Christ. To others, who have money, it involves the sacrifice of this upon the altar that ministers and missionaries may be sent.

The paramount object in Christian service should always be to get the lost to personally accept the Christ as their Savior.

## The Palsed Man Healed through Co-operation and Determination

By C. M. Dauber, Hemple, Missouri

Mark 2:1-5.

**P**REVIOUS TO The time of the text, Jesus was going about Galilee preaching His gospel of salvation, healing all manner of sickness and diseases, and causing multitudes to seek Him. To carry out His mission to the world, He must not confine His ministry to one city, or even one country, but go into other towns and countries to spread the good tidings.

After coming into the city of Capernaum, it was soon noised about that He was in the house, and straightway many were gathered together. The multitudes, perhaps, consisted of many curiosity seekers. Through publicity they had heard great things about this man, now they would go out and see whether these things be so. There were, perhaps, another large group, that after hearing much about this man actually healing diseases, made every possible effort to be there for physical healing of their own bodies. Perhaps, there were a few maybe many, who sought Him primarily for the forgiveness of their sins, or the establishing of their faith.

We find at least four who had an unselfish motive for being there, but rather, through their efforts, helped



C. M. Dauber

some needy person to find the Christ for forgiveness of sin, and the healing of his body. We see in these four, not only a desire to help someone, but a splendid example of co-operation. Each must carry one corner of the bed, and whether their position was

## Publicans & Harlots Go into the Kingdom

By Mrs. Earnest Griffith, Ashland, Ky.

"Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you" Matt. 21:31.

Some will say, I thought you had

to be this or that to get into the kingdom of God. Well let's see why publicans and harlots go in before who.

Jesus was speaking to the chief priests and the elders of the people.

When they had asked Him by what authority He taught. He asked them to tell Him if the baptism of John was from heaven or of men, and they feared to say from heaven for fear He would ask why they did not believe, and feared to say of men because of the people; they said, we cannot tell. Jesus said unto them, "Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things." Then He came back at them with the parable of the two sons. When one was asked to work in his father's vineyard and said, "I will not; but afterward he repented and went," and the other said, "I go, sir: and went not" Matt. 21:23-30.

"Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That publicans and harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it ye repented not afterward, that ye might believe him" Matt. 21:31-32.

Here were the chief priest and the elders of the people. These held the high offices of the temple. They represented the people. Like our churches today, there are many who are in the same place these were in. They claim to know God and hold offices and even stand in the pulpit and make speeches (they call it a sermon) and yet the publicans and harlots will go into the kingdom of God before them (don't get scared we still say you must repent) because they repented and these high minded won't. These are the people who "have a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" 2 Tim. 3:5.

On another occasion Jesus said, "For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. But all their works they do for to be seen of men" Matt. 23: 4-5.

"For you neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in" Matt 23:13.

Yet we have this same class today who claim to be children of God but their works prove them not. They say and do not. "Be not a hearer of the word but a doer for not the hearer is justified but the doer" James 1:22-25.

Some will say all you have to do to be saved is to believe. No, my friend, you must repent. Didn't Jesus say that ye repented not that you might believe. That proves that ye must repent before you can believe.

These folks Jesus was speaking to were supposed to know the law and to be leaders of the people, yet they would not accept Jesus and denied Him as the Christ and crucified Him. It is the same as people are doing today. Those that are supposed to know the gospel are teaching the doctrines and the commandments of men. Matt. 15:9. They are turning their ears away from the truth unto fables. How many fables do you hear from the pulpit? Isn't that proof that the time has come that people will not endure sound doctrine but have turned after their own lust to fables, which Paul said "Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies" Tim. 1:4.

This same class of people say "I am so and so, I have my name on the church book, and I can do as I please if it doesn't condemn me." The name

on the book, or card, or shaking hands with the preacher won't save you. Jesus told Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again" John 3:7. Be sure you have repented of your sins and have been born of the spirit of God, and live a true Christ-like life unto the end and you shall be saved. Be sure your name is on God's Book.

It doesn't matter if you are a harlot or a publican, or whatsoever, or how far in sin you may have gone. Jesus' blood can cleanse you from all sin; not a few but, praise God, all. The reason Jesus said that publicans and harlots go into the kingdom before you was because they repented and believed and these failed to repent. "Repent ye, and believe the gospel" Mark 1:15. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" Luke 13:3.

Let us, as Christians, the ones who are supposed to be teachers and examples to the sinner, let our light so shine that men can see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven. Have you repented and been born again? Or will the publicans and harlots go in before you?

## The Holy Zeal of our Founders And Missionary Remrks

*T. H. Willey, the Missionary*

I HAVE Before me a book that has caused me to more deeply appreciate the spirit of the early founders of the Free Will Baptist denomination. The book is "A Brief History of the Liberal Baptists," and is published by, The Liberal Baptist Book and Tract Co., Pocahontas, Arkansas.

The following is a discription from a few pages of the book:

"These old time veterans cared not for the criticism of an enemy or the taunts of skeptics. They determined to 'know nothing but Christ and Him crucified.' Filled with the love of God, prompted by the Spirit of Christ, and fired with a zeal only to spread the Gospel of a free salvation over all the earth as the waters cover the sea, they went 'everywhere preaching the Word.'"

They laid special stress on knowledge of the Bible. In contrast of the preachers who were supported by the state, who thought very little of giving "a thus saith the Lord" for what they said and thought more of telling their hearers of the news of

what was transpiring in the world than of Christ, the fearless ministers gave special prominence to the necessity of the believer having a personal subjective knowledge of the Scriptures for what they taught.

They attached a deeper significance to conversion than most religious people of their day. "To them conversion meant a deep sense of sin, guilt, condemnation, of cries to God, of struggle and victory followed by a profound sense of peace, communion with God, love for Christians and a joy in Christ and Christian duties." "Christian truth if apprehended were sure to stir up the soul." Especially ought the Christian minister not only to know the grace of God in Christ, but to be deeply affected thereby, and to be burdened in spirit over the lost condition of men. He was expected to know both that his sins were forgiven and just when and where this great transaction took place; and, because he had thus proved for himself the promises of God, to be able to preach with power. The Christian

Correspondence will reach us at any time if sent in care of Dr. Lydia Mason, 120 N. W. Eighth Avenue, Miami, Florida. This is my sister's home and all mail will be forwarded on to us.

## Jones -- Ragsdale

A wedding of much interest took place Friday evening, November 8, at the Free Will Baptist church of Flat River, Missouri, when He'len Ragsdale, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theo. Ragsdale, was united in marriage to Fred Jones, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Jones of Desloge, Missouri.

The wedding party gathered at the Ragsdale home and from there went to the church.

The church was beautifully decorated with vases of chrysanthemums with a background of red and white chrysanthemums and rose buds.

In soft candlelight, the bridal party entered the church to the strains of Lohengrins wedding march, played by Miss Doris Byrd of Flat River. Before the wedding ceremony, Mrs. P. R. McHenry of Flat River sang, "Dearest," accompanied by Miss Byrd.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a floor length dress of eggshell satin, made princess style, with long sleeves and a long trailing train of white lace.

The bride carried a bouquet of Bonvordia.

Miss Nadine Currington, a friend of the bride, was maid of honor. She wore a dress of wine taffeta with tan accessories and carried a bouquet of Old Rose Hilderbrand roses. Miss Maxine Hetzel and Jewell Slinkard,

bridesmaids, each wore floor length dresses and carried a bouquet of white Tillarny and yellow souverir roses. Miss Heltzel wore a green taffeta with brown accessories. Mrs. Slinkard wore a wine velvet dress with black accessories.

Ray Giessing of Farmington, Mo., was best man, and G. B. King and James Ragsdale were attendants. Little Darrell Gene Pirtle was the ring bearer.

The simple ring ceremony was read by Rev. Damon Dodd, pastor of the church.

Percy Henson and Thomas Graf were ushers.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at the bride's home, with about 200 guests present.

Refreshments of cake and cocoa were served.

Mr. Jones is a graduate of the Desloge High School with the class of '36 and a graduate of the Flat River College with the class of '38. Mr. Jones is now employed with the St. Joseph Lead Company.

Mrs. Jones is a graduate of the Flat River High School with the class of '38. Mrs. Jones is now employed at the Missouri Brokerage.

The happy couple will make their home in Arkansas, where Mr. Jones will be stationed with the National Guards for a year. Mr. Jones is a Sargent in the National Guards.

expect to be moved to the Surgical building, here, in the near future. Of course, there is a large number that are also on the list for operations, so I will just have to await my turn. Please pray for me that I may go through with it successfully. My little daughter, Ruth, has been discharged and left yesterday to stay with my father and mother. I do, indeed, greatly miss her but I am so very thankful she is able to go, since I have to go to a different building and we would have been unable to remain together. I thank the Lord that He has put His healing hand upon us both and I only hope and pray that He will continue to be with us.

We had the privilege of spending a two weeks vacation in the home of our parents recently. We left September 28 and returned October 12. Although I spent a large part of my time in bed I enjoyed my visit greatly and have felt better contented since being privileged to spend a few days with my loved ones. Ruth also enjoyed it very much. We had a large number of visitors while there and certainly enjoyed meeting with old friends once more. My brother, Winford, was at home the last three days we were there, so we had the privilege of visiting with him.

We enjoyed a short visit a few days ago with Rev. Frank Linton. We were indeed glad to meet him and we hope he will call on us again sometime.

We want to take this means of congratulating our good editor, Rev. Rollins and wife, on the arrival of their new son. We are sure they are indeed very proud parents and we pray God's blessings upon them and their son.

I feel that our denomination has done a very good deed by placing the *Gem* here in the hands of the patients, and they do seem to enjoy it very much.

I will come to a close by again asking the earnest prayers of each and everyone of you, and I ask God's richest blessings upon you all.

In His Name,

— Mrs. Opal Frazier.

## Minutes of National Association Now Ready

I have mailed Missouri's proportionate part of the National Minutes to the various associational clerks for distribution. If you want a National Minute, then see you local association clerk.

These minutes are of the Association held in Paintsville, Kentucky, last July.

Rev. Winford Davis,  
Secretary State Ass'n.

### MT. VERNON, MISSOURI State Sanatorium

Dear Gem Family:

Greetings in Jesus' name! I will again endeavor to write a few lines to the paper. When there are always so many other good articles and letters of interest, I am inclined to feel as if my letters do not rate very high,

but there have been so many tell me they enjoy my letters and insist on my writing. By the help of God, I'll do the best I can and at least let you all know I'm still trying in my weak way to serve the Lord.

I am feeling fine and am now ready for the Thorocoplasty (rib) operation. I have been trying for the past 17 months to get in condition for it. I

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# Reports of Church Activities

## The Free Will Baptist Church DRUMRIGHT, OKLAHOMA

*Rev. Harry Staires, Pastor*  
*Ollie Hopkins, Reporter*

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

The Free Will Baptist Church of Drumright thought it about time we sent in a letter.

We have started a drive to finance the brick veneering of our church. We saw that our church needed it since our Sunday School had increased that we had to construct another class room. We have fourteen classes represented each Sunday.

We have also started a Cradle Roll class. In our class we have a place for the children to sleep in case they fall asleep. We think that children are never too young to know about Christ. We read and talk about our Sunday School cards. We feel that the Cradle Roll class is not in vain. The children don't disturb their parent's class by crying or continous moving about. The children disturb no one but are happy and well cared for. We feel that the Cradle Roll Class has made a great improvement for our church.

We are more than happy to say that our young people are still living close to God. The Young people presented their idea of a "Model Church." We elected our pastor, Raymond Lee; deacons, Amos Shonfield, Jack Rolland and Gale Horn; ushers, Willis Reed, and Tuck Moore; choir director and accompanist, Bill and Leotah Fincher; song distributors, Clara Broadstone and Kathryn Forest; devotional services led by Ollie Hopkins. We are still old fashion enough to want to tell the world about God in a devotional service. The rest of the young people filled the choir and sang God's praises in song. We felt the power of God in our services while Brother Talbert, our evangelist, preached that some of us came very close to shouting. We young people are trying to show our host of friends that there is a great deal of happiness in serving the Supreme being, God. We have had a cottage prayer meeting at an invalid brothers's house. We are happy serving God and strive to show all that

they can't be mistaken in accepting Him as their Savior.

Brother Talbert was here for a few nights. He preached some wonderful doctorinal messages. We enjoyed his messages and visit with us very much.

We want to express our appreciation of our dear pastor and companion, Rev. Harry and Sister Glenna Staires for their devotion and leadership in God's sight.

May the Lord bless each one is our prayer. Remember us in your prayers. We are looking forward to having you visit us during the National Association next July.

## Bristow Church News Bristow, Oklahoma

Dear Gem Readers:

I am sending in a report of our work here in Bristow, Oklahoma. Our church is getting along very nicely and is increasing in number. We have a nice league, with about 35 members. Most all of them are Christians.

This church has been organized a little over a year. It started with 14 members; now the membership is 90. We are planning on building a new parsonage in the near future.

We have seen about 50 conversions here since we were called for the pastorate.

There is close to \$100.00 going through our church treasury each month.

We ask the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ that we will stay in the center of God's will. Pastors have a great problem today with so many things to scatter the flock. But Christ said, "Upon this rock I'll build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

So let us stay in the fight.

— F. C. Zinn.

## Highland Park F. W. B. Church Highland Park, Michigan

*Rev. Raymond Riggs, Pastor*  
*V. S. Versmick, Clerk & Reporter*

Just because we haven't written is no sign that we are not busy in the Lord's vineyard here in Highland Park, Michigan. Most of you know by now who we are. You saw us and our

little church in the October issue. Highland Park, as probably some know, is a small city within the limits of Detroit, so the field here is plenty large. We need workers and more workers. It is true that there are plenty churches here, as everywhere else, but so many have drifted too far from the original teachings of Christ and are modernized to the extent that they have no faith left.

The Lord has blessed us in a mighty way since we organized here. Many souls were saved, far more were blessed and strengthened by our work here, for which God only deserves praise. Most of our congregation has been very faithful. Many workers, some of the very best we have, haven't, as yet, for some small reason entered in the fellowship, but just the same are in every service and always ready to help. May God bless them and show them the proper thing to do.

There are many people of our own faith here in Detroit that are in other churches. Some found what they were expecting, others did not. May I ask here that if any of you know of any, or have some relatives here, that you would let me have their name and address that we may contact them.

We feel that it is our duty to do this. From experiences of many here, we find that many stop going to church when they come to the city, and in no time they drop into a life of sin once more.

Our time is well filled in the service of the Lord. Services throughout the day on Sundays, regular Wednesday night prayer meeting, Bible study on Thursday night, and cottage prayer meetings on Saturday nights. We feel the more we are in the Lord's service the less chance we leave for the devil to work on our souls.

Our pastor has moved within a block of the church and is working full time in the church work. Our church is a praying and also a paying church. Many have had the revelation that 10% of our earnings are His and are returning unto Him. How much greater our blessing is when we go all the way, then if the Holy Spirit tells us to do so, but we hold back part for ourselves. Let us turn to Acts 5 and see what happens to such. The Lord has many

ways of taking what belongs to Him. We know that He will bless if we obey all His commandments.

On Monday night, October 28, the Dixie Jubilee Quartet, from Louisiana and Mississippi, were at our church to give us the word of God in song. The program was filled with good old negro melodies and hymns presented in such a way as never before. Four young negro men and women saved by Grace, just the same as you and I, going through the country spreading "thus the word of God." What could be sweeter? Trusting the Lord all the way; no contracts or salaries, just trusting the Lord. And He does take care of His own. If we all had such faith! We should all place our lives into His care and not try to solve the problems ourselves.

May God bless everyone is our prayer here in this little group of God's children in this great city that is full of sin and strife.

### Wea'herby, Missouri

It is not often that I see anything in the *Gem* from this part of the country, so I thought that I would write a few lines about our Association, the Northwest Missouri Association. It met last August with our Union Third Fork church. We had a fine Association. There was a good delegation present, and there was a lot of business transacted in peace and in harmony.

Eld. C. M. Dauber was elected as Moderator. There was one preacher ordained to the Gospel ministry, namely, Elder R. L. Hancock of Haddam, Kansas. Bro. Charles Ballanger of Utica, Missouri was licenced to preach the Gospel for one year.

One church united with our Association, the Hickory Grove church of near Haddam, Kansas. We now have six (6) churches in our Association. All have pastors and evergreen Sunday Schools.

Elder C. M. Dauber came to us from the Northeast Missouri Association and settled with his family at Hemple, Missouri. He is preaching for our Mt. Zion and Union Third Fork churches. The Elders Mr. and Mrs. Wellbaum have also come to us from the Northeast Missouri Association and live now in Santa Rosa. They are preaching for our Philadelphia or Muddy church, and our

Center Point church. Elder W. R. Rush now lives in Santa Rosa and has a general store there. He also preaches for two of our churches in the Northeast Missouri Association. Namely, the Stahl and Bethel churches. Elder John McKnown of Lock Springs is handicapped by sickness, and can't get away from home to preach as he would like to, but he goes and preaches and works for the Lord every time he can. The writer is getting old, over 70 years of age, and is also badly afflicted and can't get out in active work of the Lord like he used to do, but he does a lot of work for the Lord. Almost ever since ne has lived in this part of the country, nearly 10 years, he has been preaching for the church at Carlow. There are several members of this church that take the *Gem*. Elder Roy Lee Hancock, whom we lately ordained, is preaching for our church at Haddam, Kansas.

As far as I know there is none of our churches that have held revivals lately. But we hope and pray that they will all have good revivals before long and many souls saved.

Your Brother in Christ,

— Eld. T. C. Ferguson.

### Montgomery Sunday School Greenup County, Kentucky

Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" John 12:32.

The Montgomery Sunday School was organized May 26, 1940, in a little one room school in the hills of Greenup County. The enrollment was 47 with the collection of \$3.32; and Bro. Jack Beam as superintendent, with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Geyer and Mrs. Howes as teachers. There has been an average attendance of 62 over this period of time. The school has bought and paid for 40 song books and its Sunday School literature, and at the present there is \$7.72 in the treasury.

We believe in paying honor unto whom honor is due. We believe that the honor of this school and respect should go to a man of God who has let the Spirit lead him, and that is our honorable brother, Elder Henry Geyer, who so faithfully labored with Mrs. Howes, a Godly woman of this community, to establish this school.

The first time that preaching service was held at this place, Brother and Sister Geyer were the only Christians present. There has been preaching services after each Sunday School.

Bro. Fred Copley has alternated with Brother Geyer to bring the message of Christ to these people. Since these services have been going there have been two saved and four baptized. Remember Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." There is a spirit of conviction working through this congregation of people that gather from Sunday to Sunday. We are trusting God for the souls of these people.

When this school was organized there was no one to sing. Later a few would try, but were very timid in their efforts. But we thank and praise God that now we have a choir of young people who are putting their hearts into the work and are rapidly advancing in their efforts. We thank God for these young people who, though they are sinners, are willing to labor for the Cause.

There has been some, from time to time, from the Sandy City Church, of which Bro. Geyer and Bro. Copley are members, that have come and helped to bear the burden. We thank God for these and all who have contributed in any way.

Sinners were so interested that they asked that this school be organized and that someone come and preach to them. Again, we ask the prayers of every child of God.

In Jesus' Name,

— Gertrude Bowe, Reporter.

### Tug River Association of West Virginia

The best meeting that ever was held in the mountains of West Virginia was the second session of the Tug River Association. At least, this was the opinion of many who attended these meetings.

The Introductory Sermon was preached on Thursday night by Elder C. S. Pennington. This session was held with the Poplar Grove Free Will Baptist church at Micco, West Virginia. We had a wonderful meeting on Thursday night. Several gave their hands for prayer and one precious young wife fell at the altar and prayed very earnestly with all the church engaged in her behalf. But she failed to get through.

On Friday morning the Association was organized by the Clerk, C. S. Pennington. We elected Elder J. B. Cox as our Moderator, and the business was carried on successfully and

everything was done in peace and harmony. God seemed to stamp his approval on everything that was done and we had a wonderful time throughout the 4-day's meeting. There were several preachers present and a number of good sermons were preached.

On Saturday night we had a love feast by a good many testimonials and all enjoyed the love of God. It was capped off with a wonderful sermon which was delivered by Elder T. H. Scraggs from Practerville, Ohio. We had a wonderful out-pouring of the Holy Ghost.

Our next Association will be held with the Farley church at (or near) Delbarton, West Virginia on Pigeon Creek. The Introductory Sermon is to be preached on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1941. The Association will be organized at 10:00 a. m. on Friday.

This Association was organized with two conferences, the Tug River and Mingo County Quarterly Conferences, and as it covers territory in Kentucky, West Virginia, and Virginia, we have not yet decided just which State Association we will take membership in. But we are glad to know we have fellowship with our Heavenly Father, and we believe that is the most important of all anyway.

— Eld. C. S. Pennington, Clerk.

### Brotherhood Quarterly Meeting Hurricane, West Virginia

I wish to give a brief report of our Brotherhood Quarterly Meeting which convened with the Pleasant Valley church near Ona, West Virginia, Oct. 4, 5, and 6, 1940.

Friday evening at 2:00 p. m., the ministers' meeting opened by singing "Won't It Be Wonderful There." Scripture, James 4:1-18; prayer by Eld. Lewis Ellis.

Motion carried that Eld. A. A. Collins be Moderator. He took charge, after a short talk, called for the reading of Minutes which was approved as read.

Business committee was elected. Ministers and deacons reported and approved. A good spirit of fellowship prevailed in this session. Sermon by Eld. Elmer Tucker, Teays, W. Va., text, "I am that I am." This was a wonderful sermon by one of our young ministers, who is filled with the zeal and Spirit of God; concluded by Eld. Earnest Byus, pastor of the entertaining church, a great demonstration

of the Spirit was enjoyed.

Called to order at 7:30 p. m. Devotional by the pastor, Eld. Earnest Byus. The introductory sermon was brought by Eld. A. A. Collins of Milton, West Virginia, a sound doctrinal sermon well delivered; concluded by Eld. A. C. Berry of Milton, West Virginia, a real blessing from the throng. Handshake and benediction.

Saturday morning at 9:30 p. m. Song "My Last Moving Day." Prayer by Eld. Jay Duvall. Lesson, 4 verses Luke 14. Elected J. M. Henson to serve as moderator. Business committee elected as follows: Eld. Jay Duvall, chairman; Eld. Andrew Workman; and J. C. Wilcox. Letters read and approved; eight churches reported with \$13.73. Adjourned for preaching by Eld. L. W. Ellis; concluded by Eld. Andrew Workman. A real good spiritual meeting. Dismissed for lunch.

Met back at 2:00 p. m. Saturday. Song, "I have found the way." Lesson, 2 Timothy 4. Prayer by Deacon H. C. Keaton. We were happy to have with us Bro. Davis and Bro. Booth from Guyan Valley Quarterly Meeting. Eld. Eldon Polley and Eld. L. W. Ellis from Logan Quarterly Meeting, and Eld. Jeff Thomas from Boone Quarterly Meeting. We elected the following as messengers to other bodies: Logan Quarterly Meeting, Elders Andrew Workman and J. M. Henson; Guyan Valley, Deacon E. B. Legg and Eld. J. C. Wilcox; Boone Quarterly Meeting, Bro. Morrison; and Kanawha Quarterly Meeting, Eld. J. M. Henson. Reports of committees received and disposed of in proper steps. An ordaining service was called to order to ordain Bro. John Dale of St. Alfans, W. Virginia. The next session voted to be held with the Thomas Memorial Free Will Baptist church, Fifth and Buffington St., Guyandotte, W. Va., with Eld. Andrew Workman to preach the next Introductory sermon.

At 3:00 p. m. preaching service conducted by Eld. J. C. Wilcox; subject "Who is He?" Sermon concluded by Eld. Eldon Polley; a great rejoicing at the close of the service. Moderator took a free will offering to be divided between home and foreign missions, amount \$3.12. Handshake by all and dismissed for supper.

Saturday night at 7:00 p. m. the meeting opened by singing. After several songs and prayers, Eld. J. M. Henson brought the message; concluded by Eld. Jay Duvall, both of which were connected with God. The

power was behind them, text Eph. 2:8. One soul came for prayer and found Christ. Several came for prayer. It was the beginning of a revival. The meeting was continued for two weeks by Earnest Byus and Eldon Polley. Pray much for us for we need your prayers.

— Sister Mary Henson, Reporter

### Revival at Hannon Church Hannon, Missouri

We began our fall and winter revival work with the Free Will Baptist church at Hannon, Missouri. The meeting continued three and one-half weeks, with 31 professions, 18 additions to the church, and 19 baptized. Rev. Cecil Campbell, who is the present pastor, was with us the last week of the meeting, and assisted with the receiving of members and in the baptizing.

I have pastored this church in the past and have held several revivals with these good people; but it had been about four years since I had been with them. It was indeed a treat to me to go back and be with them again. We had splendid crowds from far and near, and at one time 13 souls were saved in one service. It just seemed a repetition of some of the glorious times we used to have at Hannon. It was always a pleasure to work with these folks. We are praising God for this precious victory.

Sisters Alice Dickey and Marie Thomas both acknowledged their call to the ministry in this meeting. We are certainly praying for their success. The Hannon church has voted to have them licensed soon. May the dear Lord make of them great powers in His work.

Our next revival will be with the Neola church, which we are pastoring near Greenfield, Missouri. We desire your prayers for this meeting, and for our evangelistic efforts throughout the winter.

— Winford Davis.

### Allen Chapel Church Batesville, Arkansas

We, the people of the Allen Chapel church, have been so wonderfully blest spiritually, in the last few weeks, that we are anxious to tell others of our blessings.

Our beloved pastor, Rev. H. A. Lewis, filled his regular appointment

here the fourth Saturday night, Sunday morning and Sunday night, delivering wonderfully inspiring sermons on each of these occasions.

Sunday morning about seven o'clock, Ralph Pierce, a young man of our community, for whom we have been praying for four years, was saved at his home with only his wife and little daughter present. He came to the eleven o'clock service and gave a splendid testimony. He was baptized by Bro. Lewis in White River at two o'clock in the afternoon. Brother Jess Long, who operates a school bus, took his bus filled with people to the river.

After the baptizing Bro. Long took a bus load of people to Weaver's Chapel, about 15 miles from here, where another church service was held and where Bro. Lewis preached a splendid sermon on Heaven. He described the future home of the saved so vividly that we could almost see it and each of us were filled with greater determination to press on in the service of the Lord, that at the end of our earthly existence we might be allowed to enter this wonderful place.

We returned to our own dear little church where the junior league was conducted by the capable sponsor, Mrs. Jess Long. Allow me to say here that the little folks are so interested in their league that, although we omit senior league on Sunday nights when we have preaching, we always allow the juniors to have their league as they are so keenly disappointed if we do not.

After junior league, Bro. Lewis preached again to a full house. All in all it was very full week-end, and physically we were very tired but spiritually we were strengthened and made to rejoice.

Last Sunday we were made to rejoice again when at Sunday school it was announced that Mr. and Mrs. Coy Haynes, very active members of our church, had received a letter from their son, Loyd, who recently enlisted in the army, telling them that he had been saved since entering the army. He told them that he did not want them to worry any more about him as he was rejoicing in the Savior's love and ready to live or die for Him. More proof that the Lord hears and answers prayers, for we have prayed many times for both Ralph and Loyd. There are still others for whom we are praying and who really need the

Lord. Christian friends, please help us pray for the young people of our community who know not the Lord and also a few fathers and mothers who are still in sin.

We are looking forward with prayers anticipating to the meeting of the State Association at our church next October. We have already made some preparations for taking care of this meeting. A finance committee composed of Cleo Manuel, Lyle Cartwright and Mrs. Jess Long have been chosen. Jim Prentice, Coy Staggs and Rupert Leonard have been elected as a Committee on Arrangements. We expect to have every detail of the arrangements complete so that we may all enjoy the meeting fully. We are hoping for many spiritual blessings during this meeting.

— Mrs. O. V. Tadlock, Reporter

### St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Co-workers:

Good morning everybody out there in "Gem Land!" We would like, so much to meet all of our kindred in the Lord throughout this glorious country that God has given us to enjoy. But since we can't, we must still resort to the method of writing through the columns of the *Gem*.

We are glad to report victory in two short meetings with dear Bro. Jones and his people.

It was our privilege to attend the state meeting of Illinois of the Free Will Baptists. There we met with Bro. Jones again. After talking with him and hearing his needs for his two churches, we took the matter to God in prayer and after earnest communication with Him, who does all things well, we were led to go and do our best. The first church was Union church where we were two years ago. This neighborhood is well worked up. We only had three men saved. We then moved the meeting to Mt. Zion, two miles away. This was a fine place to work, but we found a new oil field just opening, which attracted great attention and time of the people. But we got busy doing personal work from house to house and also visited the school. We do want to make mention of the wonderful service with the boys and girls at school. Eleven were converted. When the call was made eleven came without being urged. A glorious out-

pouring of the Spirit was felt. We had 13 conversions at Mt. Zion and four additions to the church.

One man, who was greatly afflicted, joined the Union church. He had lived alone and we visited him five times before we were able to lead him to Christ. The Union church gave him a nice Bible, and when it was presented to him he wept like a little child and said it was the most precious gift he ever received in his life. He united with the church at the water's edge. The sight was beautiful.

While in these two neighborhoods, we visited several churches and by the help of the Master we organized five new auxiliaries. Now dear Mission workers, come on and may each president of every local auxiliary, district and state, urge each local auxiliary to get a "Jehoiada Chest" and get ready for the November Thanksgiving drive — only \$1.00 at a time to send from each chest. Of course, if you want to send more than a dollar on Thanksgiving you can; we won't try to stop you. If each president will, she may appoint some lively young lady in the circle to take charge of the chest and solicit the different church members to contribute just a few pennies from each one. If you have 100 members in your church, that would only be a cent apiece. How easy it will be. Try it!

November is the first month. We are trying to get a monthly system for national work and this plan will not interfere with any part of your work. It is only one additional blessing to what you already have. We are giving names of some that have already purchased chests:

From Missouri the Fredericktown church and Flat River church. From Illinois the Rescue church, Union Grove church, Union church and Mt. Zion church.

Let's make this the very best year yet. You see with the small amount of \$1.00 monthly, going into National headquarters, from each local auxiliary, we will have a large sum when we meet in Drumright, Oklahoma, next July. Send your monthly offering to Mrs. Fannie Polston, 318 Woodland Street, Nashville Tennessee.

Yours for Jesus,

— H. M. and Lizzie McAdams.

## Report of Revival Carterville, Missouri

On the first Monday night in October, we began a revival meeting at the Carterville Free Will Baptist church. From the beginning, we had nice crowds and good interest. We enjoyed a good spirit all through the revival. The meeting continued almost three weeks and we had five saved and the church revived in a great way. One young man consecrated his life and answered the call to the ministry. We feel that this revival was the answer to many earnest prayers in behalf of our church and town. Again we were permitted to see the demonstration of the old time convicting power of God.

We ask an interest in the prayers of God's people that the church here may continue to be more definitely established.

Yours for a nation-wide revival,  
— Rev. Cecil Campbell, Pastor.

## Eld. Sam Marcum's Report Oroville, California

To our Free Will Baptists and Gem Readers everywhere: Greetings!

In our last report we were in the midst of a revival in Huntington, Oregon—the results of which were reported in the October issue of the *Gem*.

From Huntington, we went to Lime, Oregon, where we held fort for two and one-half weeks in a school house. Here, we truly had a good meeting. Several from Huntington attended at Lime, adding much needed help in every way to the meeting. There were three professions during the meeting, a Mrs. Phillips and John Stonman and wife. God wonderfully blessed us in these services. There is no organization at Lime, but they have a real good Sunday school. We found some of the salt of the earth there and they provided for our temporal needs while in their midst. God bless you dear people at Lime and Huntington.

After a few days with our dear mother, brother and sister, at Huntington, we left for sunny California.

After three days across the prairie and rugged, wooded mountains, we arrived at Oroville, California; 617 miles from Huntington, Oregon. We drove to the home of our friends, Bro. Orville Davis and wife. Here we found a hearty welcome and have

been enjoying the beauties of God's great handiwork. We have attended church service several times and have preached once since coming here.

From here, we plan to go to Porterville, California for meeting at the new Free Will Baptist church; having accepted an invitation from the pastor, Bro. C. D. Findley, whom we knew when he lived in Wright County, Missouri.

We are billed for a street service in this little wicked city next Saturday night. We desire the prayers of God's children.

— Sam & Daisy Marcum.  
Home Address: Cameron, Mo.

## Mission and League Field Report

Since our last report, we have reorganized the Senior Mission of the Flat River church, under the National rules. We also organized the young people into a Mission Circle, and it was our happy privilege to visit the League. We have a splendid group of young people in our League at Flat River who are interested in the Lord's work.

We visited the Leadington church, where we reorganized their Mission work under the National plan.

We, also, visited the Desloge Mission and League.

Several from the Flat River church, and their pastor and wife, went with us out to visit the Wortham church. We had a fine service and reorganized their Mission under the National plan. They have a fine group of young people and a fine league. It was their League meeting night, but they kindly turned their services over to us for a Mission and League talk.

The Richwood church, was our next appointment where we found a people eager to learn more of God's word and how to be better equipped for service in His vineyard. They wanted their Mission reorganized under the National plan, so we were glad to help them to accomplish this worthy work.

We had three services with these dear people and visited their League and made them a talk on how to make our Leagues more interesting. The last night, three precious souls came up and asked us to remember them in prayer.

We attended the League convention at the Fredericktown church, which was well attended and a wonderful spiritual feast was enjoyed by everyone. We also attended part of the

Madison County Meeting services. We greatly enjoyed fellowshiping again with these dear people who have been so kind to us and helped us so much. May the good Lord bless each one is our prayer.

It has been our happy privilege to attend the revival at the Third Free Will Baptist church in St. Louis, Mo., which was conducted by Bro. and Sister McAdams. We enjoyed, very much, meeting with these dear brothers and sisters in Christ, who are real servants of God. We believe with all our heart, there is a wonderful future for this little church to grow and prosper, for the Lord is blessing their work. Their good pastor, Bro. Mark Lewis, and his wife are good consecrated servants of God.

They are planning to build a new church building, so help them pray that the Lord will help them answer their prayers by sending the finance.

We visited their Mission which is organized under the National rules; also visited and talked to the League which is progressing nicely.

We are now visiting the Berkeley church where Bro. and Sister McAdams are in a revival meeting. We meet with the Mission one day this week; also the young peoples' League.

May the Lord bless all the Mission and League workers we have visited; also may He bless all we haven't got to visit yet. May we work as never before to promote the Mission and League work while it is day for the night cometh when no man can work.

Yours for Jesus,

— Melba White.

## Green Forest, Arkansas

Dear Gem Readers:

I want to tell you of the seventieth session of Union Association of United Baptists, held with New Bethel Church, about five miles southwest of Green Forest, Arkansas. The united Baptists are so nearly like the Free Will Baptists that near the lines of the two Associations, there is an interchanging of preachers; the preacher of one denomination moderating a church of the other denomination and we represent in the Free Will Baptist State Association.

A great deal of business was carried on which will, no doubt, be for the upbuilding of the work the coming year. We feel that we are going into the next year's work better equipped and with more determination than we had during the past year.

Interest ran high throughout the meeting and on Saturday night, Elders Everet Bland and Cecil Garrison, of Old Mt. Zion Association of Free Will Baptists, brought the message and I would estimate 80 or more took part in the communion and feet washing.

On Sunday morning the service opened at 10:30 a. m. and continued until 2:30 p. m. with Bros. J. E. Stampfill and Jake Page preaching. At this meeting, seven came forward to seek salvation and four prayed through. Of all the crying, shouting, laughing, and praying congregation you ever saw, that was one of them! Did you ever notice that Christ talked to the multitude in day time and to the disciples at night?

Brothers, the work has started at New Bethel, and we are hoping and praying that it will continue throughout the revival. Bro. Gage is conducting the revival there and will be our evangelist for the coming year.

On Saturday night Bro. Bland preached on Josh. 13:1; "Thou art old and stricken in years, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed." It was a tribute to the old preachers and a call to the younger ones. Brothers, let us go on and possess it!

—A. H. Camp.

### Cross Roads Church Drynob, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers:

People are asking why we have been silent in the *Gem*. Well, if you had been over at the Cross Roads church the past four weeks, you would not call it silent. Words cannot tell how God has blessed us.

The first Sunday in October, Bro. Butts, from Climax Springs, came over and he and our pastor began a revival. It was a success from the very beginning.

These old hills were made to ring with prayer and praises to God. People were heard going up the roads shouting praises to God. One man, who was working in the woods with a sinner when the hour of prayer came, fell down upon his knees and poured out his heart's desire to God in the presence of the sinner, and arose praising God. He had a wonderful meeting with the sinner and God.

There were some wonderful messages delivered when the preachers got a chance before someone came to the altar or someone began shouting. Some say preachers don't shout; well, these certainly did. There were 32

conversions. Bro. Butts only stayed 14 nights because he had to go to another appointment. Our pastor and Bro. Bob Reid then labored on, rejoicing as souls were yet being born into the Kingdom. There were 20 added to the church and baptized by the pastor.

After the revival, our pastor went to the New Hope church to conduct a revival. He reported an extra good meeting there. He is now at the New Home church with Bro. Butts in a revival.

May God's richest blessings rest upon our good Editor and wife, and the precious angle God has left in their tender care.

—Alpha Jane Wilson.

### Tulsa Free Will Baptist Church TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Melvin Eingham, Pastor  
T. J. Cope, Reporter

Hello Neighbors, Brothers and Sisters:

After an absence of some two months, we will endeavor to give you some news from our church. We are all very happy after such a wonderful series of services at the State Association, which convened at the Tulsa church, some few weeks ago. We really enjoyed meeting all the good ministers, delegates and visitors. There were 88 who registered, beside the several who did not register. All in all, we had a good time in

the service of the Lord. Several inspiring messages were brought by the various ministers. In fact, they were all full of inspiration.

Our new church program is well under way, and each week our bulletin board shows a nice increase of funds from the previous week.

Our league work is making real progress, and our young people seem to eagerly await the Monday night's singing and the Friday night's league work. The interest our good pastor, Bro. Bingham, is taking with them is showing marked results. We are proud, indeed, to boast that we have a group of young folks second to none in the state.

Bro. Bingham and others were at Oklahoma City, November 17, for the dedication of Bro. Morris' new church there. All reported a good time in the Lord.

Bro. Oliver Lindell, one of our young ministers of Tulsa, brought the message Sunday morning in Bro. Bingham's place. We are all very proud of our young preachers everywhere or anywhere they might be.

This week (11-18-40), a revival meeting is starting at the Free Will Baptist Church at Turley, Oklahoma. Bro. O'Donald will be conducting the services, and knowing Bro. O'Donald as we do, we forecast a wonderful time.

Well, good bye friends until next month and remember us in your prayers.

## Obituaries

FRYMAN — Paul Fryman of River Mines, Missouri, died Sunday at 2:15 a. m., in St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Granite City, Illinois, as the result of injuries he received about four o'clock Saturday afternoon while unloading a truck load of railroad ties at the Midland Greosote Company plant in Granite City, Illinois. Paul was being assisted by a helper, Vernon Montgomery of Fredericktown, who was the only witness at the inquest. He stated the ties began rolling off the truck, one of which struck Paul on the head causing a skull fracture.

Caldwell Bros., of Flat River, Mo., went to Granite City Sunday evening for the body and after preparing it for burial, it was taken Monday to the home of his parents-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pirtle of Esther. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon

at 1:30 at the Flat River Free Will Baptist Church where he had been a member for seven years, conducted by the pastor, Rev. Damon Dodd and Rev. James Miller of Novinger, a former pastor. Burial was in the Underwood Cemetery east of Fredericktown.

Paul Willard Fryman, son of Lee and Myrtle (Davis) Fryman of near Fredericktown, was born on May 9, 1915, at Fredericktown, Mo., and passed away on October 27, 1940, at the age of 25 years, 5 months, and 18 days. He was united in marriage on October 7, 1934 to Miss Christine Pirtle of Esther who with their two children, Paul Jr., aged five years, and Walter Lee, aged ten months, survive; also his parents; one sister, Virginia; one brother, Charles Edgar of Fredericktown; his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fryman, his

maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Davis of Fredericktown; and a number of other relatives and friends who are made sad by his untimely death.

McCLURE — Elija Robison McClure was born February 9, 1874, in Russel County, Virginia, and departed this life November 19, 1940; being 66 years, 9 months and 10 days old.

She was united in marriage to James S. McClure September 10, 1891. To this union eight children were born; four preceeding her in death, in infancy. Besides her husband she is survived by four children: Mr. Dorsey McClure, Mrs. Sadie Hyder, Mrs. Lena Anderson of Stockton, Mo., and Mrs. Mattie Louis of Clovis, California. She is also survived by eleven grandchildren and one great-grandchild, and two brothers living in Virginia.

She joined the Methodist church in 1899 in Texas County, Missouri. Later she came to Cedar County, Mo., and joined the Independence Free Will Baptist church near Wagoner.

She was a kind and loving mother, and a friend to everyone.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Kenneth Turner at the Wagoner church; burial at the Wagoner cemetery with W. C. Davis & Co. in charge. Mother has only gone before us

Like a dove through heaven blue,  
And she'll wait beside the gate-way  
To be the first to welcome you.

SPANN — Gilbert Spann was born August 1, 1886, in Henry County, Tennessee. He departed this life Tuesday October 29, 1940, at 11:00 o'clock a. m., at his home in St. Louis, Missouri. At the time of his death, he was 54 years, 2 months and 29 days. He was the son of William and Mary Spann. He was married to Mrs. Ava Ferguson, Buffalo, Mo., August 24, 1934.

He leaves to mourn his death, his wife and step daughter, Josie; one brother, Wesley of Puryear, Tenn.; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Bro. Spann had a wonderful experience, spiritually, that meant more than all the other good things that could be said about him.

About two weeks before his death, his sister-in-law, Mrs. Clarence Ferguson, asked us to go with her to Bro. Spann's home, as his wife was very anxious about his spiritual condition. We went to their home the next day for lunch and Brother

and Sister Ferguson met us there. After a nice lunch with them, we went into a season of prayer. One of the sisters-in-law was reclaimed and brother Spann was wonderfully blessed. He said, "I never have been so happy." He had been converted years ago but, like many, had drifted away. To say it all in a few words, heaven was let down into the room. After it was all over he mentioned how he would like to come to the meeting but as he was a night watchman, he could not come. On Saturday night, he and his good wife came and both united with the church. He was anxious to be baptized.

The following Tuesday morning, he came in from work, had breakfast, and was setting on the side of the bed. His wife asked him if he was feeling good. He never spoke, but passed on to be with Jesus. His passing was a great shock to all of us.

The funeral was held at the Free Will Baptist church. The presence of the Lord made it a great service. Everything was sweet and beautiful, with the glory of the Master. Hearts were comforted and some touched to live better lives. The funeral was conducted by the writer. In Bro. Spann's case, it is good night here but good morning in heaven.

— Lizzie McAdams.

LETTERMAN — Francis M. Letterman, son of Frank and Virginia Letterman, was born May 22, 1861, about two miles southeast of Niangua, Missouri. He was the third son of eleven children.

On December 18, 1881, he was married to Nellie Nease. To this union were born three daughters; one daughter, Vida Filmer, preceded her father in death twenty-one years ago. The other two, whom survive, are Mrs. Polly Davis of Lebanon, Mo., and Mrs. Virginia Mathis of Niangua, Missouri. Nellie, his wife, died August 1, 1889.

In August, 1891, he was married to Jessie Tyler. To this union were born nine children; three of whom preceded him in death. Those who survive are Mrs. Edith Thomas of Niangua, Mo., Leslie A. Letterman of Conway, Mo., Winsor M. Letterman of near Marshfield, Mo., Francis Letterman Jr., and Alvis R. Letterman, both of Niangua, Mo., and Arba E. Letterman of the home.

He was converted a good many years ago, and joined the Free Will Baptist church at Niangua, Mo., where he was a member and deacon until his death. He always loved to go to church and do his part as long as he could hear good.

He passed away at his home early Saturday morning, September 21, 1940, after a long illness. He was 79 years, 3 months, and 29 days of age. He was never out of the state of Missouri during his life.

Besides his wife, Jessie, and children, he leaves to mourn his death, one grandson, Lawrence Fillmer, whom the family reared from infancy; 4 other grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; 4 sisters, Mrs. Mary Knight of Niangua, Mo., Mrs. Etta Mathis of Oklahoma City, Okla., Mrs. Martha Eutts, Marshfield, Mo., and Mrs. Lora Eldridge of Windsor, Mo.; 3 brothers, G. W. Letterman of Marshfield, Mo., Jake Letterman of Phoenix, Ariz., and Ed Letterman of Niangua, Mo.; also large number of other relatives and friends.

The five sons, and the grandson they had reared, were pall bearers, and the grand daughters were flower girls.

Funeral service were conducted at 1:00 o'clock, September 22, 1940, at the Free Will Baptist church at Niangua, Mo.; Rev. Selph Jones of Mansfield, officiating.

Scripture lesson was read by the pastor from John 14:1-2, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions: I go to prepare a place for you."

Special songs that were sung were, "Amazing Grace" which was one of his favorite songs, "Where We'll Never Crow Old," "Will the Circle Be Unbroken," and at the grave "Till We Meet Again" was sung.

The funeral was in charge of Rainey Funeral Home of Marshfield, Mo., and burial at the Niangua Cemetery by the side of his mother's grave who preceded him in death ten years ago.

P. S.—The Letterman family desires to thank all who gave their assistance and help, and the many flowers in time of sickness and death of our husband and father. We also thank the Rainey Funeral Home for their many deeds of kindness.

— Mrs. Francis M. Letterman.

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