

Lucille Mahony

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1941

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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

Vol. XIII. No. 5

Monett, Missouri, May, 1941

50 cents per year.

The Heavenly Vision

What means this sudden blinding light,
Far brighter than the noonday sun?
I cannot see! I stagger — fall —
Why am I blind — What have I done?

Ah! ne'er shall I forget the day
That wondrous vision came to me,
And in the silence that ensued
The sweetest voice that e'er could be.

Said — "Soul, why persecute me thus?
I shed my precious blood for thee!
Arise — go to Damascus — and
It shall be told thee, things to be."

I was not disobedient to
The heavenly vision of my Lord;
I rose — obeyed His blest command
According to His holy word.

I've told the story — how He came
To lift all men from dark despair;
I've fought the fight, I've kept the faith —
And now a crown of life I'll wear.

— Cora E. Bateman, McCune, Kans.

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

50 cents per year, cash in advance.
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scription expires.

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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Missouri Sunday School Contest

Local Convention

Letters from any member of a Free Will Baptist Sunday School belonging to the Convention shall contain from 150 to 200 words on the subject, "An Ideal Sunday School Convention" and be mailed to the secretary of the Convention to which he belongs.

Rules

1. All entries must be received on or before 15 days prior to the Convention date.
2. All letters will be copied on typewriter, word for word as written, omitting writer's name. Letter will be given to a committee of three, selected by the Convention.
3. The Convention Committee will select 5 letters, first and second receiving prizes. All five will be entitled to a place in the State Convention.
4. Letters winning prizes must be accompanied by writers at the Convention, prize to be given to the one present. The absent winners are still entitled to the State Contest.

State Contest

The five letters from each Local Convention, chosen by the local contest above, and letters from individuals who are members of Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools in the state where there is no Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention, shall contain from 150-200 words on the subject, "An Ideal Sunday School Convention" and shall be mailed to the State Secretary, Miss Milda Huggins, Fredericktown, Missouri.

Rules for State Contest

1. All entries must be received on or before September 10, 1941.
2. All letters will be copied, word for word, on typewriter omitting writer's name, then the judges will not know the writers of the various letters. The winner will receive a nice reference Bible sold by our Gem editor, second prize will be a less expensive Bible of good quality.
3. The winning letter must be accompanied by the writer at the State Convention. If the writer of the winning letter is not present, he will be awarded one year's subscription to the "Free Will Baptist Gem".

Now let's everyone that's interested get busy! Start thinking of what you will write. Everyone is urged to lend a helping hand in making our work a great work. If you can not attend our Conventions, we would appreciate your letter on the chosen subject, as we are not only interested in giving the prizes, but are deeply interested in a more perfect Sunday School Convention. Your letter may be the one we are most in need of to make our Convention a success.

The above rules will be on a fair basis. Handwriting or spelling will not be considered only the words as an expression of your personal idea. The winning letter of the State Convention will be published in the Gem.

State President, Rev. William Reeves
Fredericktown, Missouri
State Secretary, Miss Milda Huggins
Fredericktown, Missouri

Editorial View-points

BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

The summer Christian's Training Institute to be held in Monett, July 20 to August 1, is drawing feelingly near, and we can hardly wait.

We have secured three of the best teachers available, and I know you will want to attend. They are:

Rev. L. R. Ennis . . . Goldsboro, N. C.
Rev. J. R. Davidson . . . Bryan, Texas
Laura Belle Barnard, returned Missionary from India.

Only a few of our Missourians are acquainted with Bro. Ennis, but if any can appreciate deep consecration, love the fire of devotion, profit by sound intellect, and desire to be trained in CHRISTIAN SERVICE then he needs to come to Monett and sit at the feet of Bro. Ennis.

Bro. J. R. Davidson is known and loved by a good many Missourians. He is an attraction to those of us who are aspiring to greater service. Bro. Davidson is a former student of Bro. Ennis.

We are told that Miss Barnard will set our souls on fire with her deep passion for lost souls. We are glad to hear it, and we Missourians are not "too green" to be set afire, I trust.

We will have students, too, as well as teachers. We have a few responses from our request last month. Here are their sentence testimonials:

"You may look for the appearance of my mug at the summer school in Monett"

—Rev. C. E. Mann, Queen City, Mo.

"I'm planning to attend the Institute this summer. I'm anxious for that time to come."

—Rev. Miss Marie Thomas, Arcadia, Ks.

"I certainly am planning to come."

—Rev. John Swaffar, Niangua, Mo.

"I have always had a desire to attend such a school. Please send me an application blank."

Rev. Miss Melba White, Plattsburg, Mo.

"It sounds like a little taste of heaven to me, send me an application blank."

—Rev. Mrs. Alice Dickey, Liberal, Mo.

"I too want to be one of those 50."

Rev. Mrs. Roena Thomas, Arcadia, Ks.

I'm glad that the ministers recognize the fact that we CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS this opportunity. I'm confident we will have our full quota of students, however, it is not necessary that all the students be ministers.

Bro. Ennis will furnish us with an outline course of studies to be taught in the Institute in the very near future. We will send these, with application blanks, and other material, all over Missouri.

Bro. Ennis also asked that Bro. Winford Davis or myself be president of the Institute. Bro. Winford wants to be president, but now I do too, so we are going to have a fight then we'll announce who is president.

MISSOURI BOARD MEETING

By the authority of Bro. B. F. Brown, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Missouri State Association; and by the authority of Bro. Jim Miller, Chairman of the Publication Committee of the Missouri State Association, a joint-meeting of these two Boards is called to meet at the Gem Office at one O'clock p.m., Tuesday, May 13th.

The purpose of this meeting is of high importance as here listed:

1. Consider proposals for publication made to our Editor by our National Executive Secretary on behalf of the National Woman's Auxiliary Convention.

2. To provide adequate equipment in the Gem Office to care for the ever increasing business. Prospects for business are brighter than ever and our present equipment is actually unable to care for our present business.

3. To consider a change in the business management in the Gem Office.

4. To consider the discoveries made by the Editor relative to incorporating the Missouri State Association.

These are some of the more important items to be considered. Our future depends on the outcome of this meeting. A majority of each Board must be present or no business can be done.

The National Board of Education will meet in Nashville, Tennessee, May 6th & 7th.

ABOUT THE NEW TREATISE

As chairman of the Treatise Revision Committee, I wish to express our regret for the delay in getting the Treatise out. But yet we are glad to be able to present them to you at this time. The fault for the delay lies in no certain one. It has just been some of those inevitable things of which Bro. Rollins will explain more fully elsewhere in this issue of the *Gem*, I am sure. We, (and by saying we, I mean the committee and Bro. Rollins) were determined to not let the Treatise go on sale until it could go forth in first class shape. I am sure you would rather it be delayed a little while and go out in first class shape than for it to have been otherwise. We have done our best under all circumstances and we hope you will be pleased.

I feel the Free Will Baptists have a Treatise to be righteously proud of and one that will command the respect of the public anywhere. May the Lord bless the use and sale of the same, and may it be a means toward the further unification of our great national work throughout.

Hoping that we will experience one of our greatest National Associations at Drumright, Oklahoma, in July, I am your brother and Co-laborer.

—Rev. Winford Davis.

NO POSTAGE STAMPS

This is to advise that postage stamps will not be accepted as legal money in payment for Treatise.

ORDERS FILLED

All orders for Treatise are filled. More than 300 copies left our office the first few days after they were ready. If any have failed to receive his order, kindly notify our office at once.

Our people have been without Treatise for more than two years. Now we have them so send an order at once.

Price: 25c each; \$2.50 per dozen

Subscribe to the "Gem"

Will History Repeat Itself?

By John B. Rollins, Monett, Missouri

AS I ask the above question, I have in mind the history of our own Free Will Baptist denomination. I have studied the history of our church from a nation wide stand point until I have it generally well in mind, and to be sure, it is certainly a history of many "uprisings and down-sittings". Cf. Ps. 139:1.

The first Free Will Baptist Church in America was organized about 1727 by Rev. Paul Palmer in North Carolina. This work grew rapidly, but through proselyting influences, most of the churches were persuaded to join the Calvinistic Baptists.

Uprising No. 1

During the height of this usurpation by the Calvinistic Baptists, Benjamin Randall arose, in 1780, as a hero, and rallied the cause then in defeat and has been held as the establisher of our denomination.

The denomination grew by leaps and bounds and in permanency of establishment. It would require volumes to laud the glories of past achievements, but give me space only to say that *WOMEN—Our Noble Women*—were the underlying secret, the basic principal, the fire of devotion which brought these glorious achievements to pass.

The *WOMEN* of the past literally *PUSHED* the denomination into the missionary business, both home and foreign.

During the first 53 years of our foreign mission work, our denomination supported the work with a total contribution of \$3,937,058.15. There were enough missionaries spending enough years on the mission fields to equal one witnessing voice from the time Columbus discovered America until this very hour.

The home missionary activities of the Home Missionary Society ranged from Nova Scotia to the Mississippi valley. The printed records show a total expenditures of \$294,564.42 during the first 50 years of its activities.

The *WOMEN* were so modest and in keeping with the philosophy of the day of "Let your women keep silent in the church" that they secured a man to preside over their meetings. They did not arise and give public addresses in their meetings; they wrote their messages and secured de-



vout men to read them to their women's meetings. So the women labored under such difficulties, but they became mistress of their labors, and prospered and grew, playing an important part in the great achievements of the past.

Downsitting No. 1

The Civil War tore our denomination to smash! It rent it asunder, and stopped the whole works. Strife, envyings, malice, hatred, and war over the slavery question was the "bone of contention" everywhere with no peaceful settlement anywhere. Missionaries were forced to come home, and everything was at a stand-still.

Uprising No. 2

When no workable plan could be found, the Woman's Missionary Society arose to the occasion of the hour, and went forth to preach the Gospel to the black freed race of the South. Hatreds were quelled, missionaries returned to their foreign fields. For the second time, the *WOMEN* put our denomination into the missionary business, both home and foreign. The work moved on to the very height of our glory in 1910.

Downsitting No. 2

What happened in 1910? With one stroke of a pen, our denomination actually threw itself away. We were swallowed up of the Northern Baptists. We lost our colleges and schools, we lost our publishing houses, we lost our mission stations, we lost all! I choose to discuss it no further, here, but I am certainly capable of doing so. The most lamentable day in our history was in 1892 when the General

Conference (the national body) incorporated. I am preparing an article for the *Gem* on "Incorporation of Denominations" when I shall discuss strategic points of law regarding State and Church.

Uprising No. 3 ?

It is no longer a question! Thank God! Lo, these many years have elapsed, when finally in 1936 we found ourselves again and organized the National Association of Free Will Baptists. But far superior to the organization of the National Association, and even preceeding it, the Free Will Baptist women of America organized the National Woman's Auxiliary Convention which is the most modern, up-to-the-minute organization, freed from "standing Boards" who stand around and do nothing; the most spiritual, most inspirational, most envisioned, most fundamental, true to the Gospel order, the best and most idealistic organization that I ever saw, heard, read, or dreamed about is the Woman's Auxiliary Convention. I mean every word I'm saying!

The National Association copied the plan of organization from the Woman's Auxiliary Convention, and it is good, of course, but it is not such a "hot" job of copying after all. It is a good plan, I say, good enough for us, maybe, but the fact remains, our women are ahead of us.

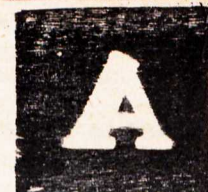
I asked the question in the title of this raging storm-burst, "Will History Repeat Itself?" Twice, the women of our church put our denomination on its feet, and in the soul-saving business. Will they arise to the occasion of the hour a third time? I will leave that question with you and Old Father Time. I could give you a good hint, but I'm afraid it will knock you down.

Beginning on page five of this issue, there are five pages devoted to the work and program of the Woman's Auxiliary. Hereafter, they are asking for only four pages per month to publicize their activities and programs until the National Association in July when a basis of agreement will be submitted to the Missouri Publication Committee, who control the *Gem*, for a permanent feature in the *Gem* regarding this work. May we enlarge our borders!



WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Mrs. J. E. Frazier, Tennessee, Editor



Editorial Outlook

These pages are being prepared especially for the information and inspiration of our Free Will Baptist women and young people. The Woman's Auxiliary Convention, auxiliary to the National Association of Free Will Baptists, provides for the cost of the printing these two trial issues. After that, we are expecting subscriptions to the *Free Will Baptist Gem* to take care of all expenses necessarily attached to the publishing of these pages.

For a long time, some of our women have felt the need of more information concerning our plan of work, our denominational program, study courses, circle programs, our missionaries, etc., but until now this has only been a dream. With your *co-operation* and *support* it may be a reality in 1941.

Then all of us can, by exercising our motto, "Laborers together with God" (1 Cor. 3:9) and with our new watchword "That thy way may be made known upon the earth" (Psa. 67:2) at our circle meetings really encourage our women to bring an increasing number of the world's people out of darkness into the Light of the Cross.

Too, our desire to really be an auxiliary to our National Association by helping it accomplish its program of education, missions, and evangelization, if we read and put into practice the information gleaned monthly from these pages as they appear in the *Gem*, will be a reality.

Our Plan

It is our plan to stress, monthly, more fully whatever aim of the Woman's Auxiliary is being emphasized that month. Then if the local auxiliary meets more than once each month, as a great number in the cities do, there will be program material suitable for the other meeting, or at least more program material than has been possible to have in our annual Year Book of Programs. A special message from the national vice president, whose department is sponsoring the program, may be looked forward to by our women in the fifteen states comprising our National Convention. Thus, the state, district, and local vice presidents should send in to their national department chairman any program material, successful ideas, problems, questions for help, or sugges-

tions that would be helpful to our auxiliaries everywhere so that these monthly pages may really be a source of help.

Furthermore, the plan in this new endeavor of your literature department is to give each of us more information about our Woman's Auxiliary, its aims, its program of work, and its accomplishments. Such information, we believe, will lead to inspiration that will produce more activity, beginning in our local auxiliaries and on up through the district, the state, and last to our National Convention.

Our Desire

Recently a leader in our National Association said to a group of auxiliary women, "You have the only near perfect organization in the Free Will Baptist denomination. Your organization is far superior to the National Association's organization." Of course, such remarks make us swell with pride when we think of our organization, but on the other hand, when we see how little we have done through this organization, we are made to hang our heads in shame. Our Standard of Achievement says: "Be A-1 and not be A-shamed."

Our desire is to be A-1 for the Master. We are satisfied with Jesus, but the question comes to us, "Is our Master satisfied with us and our fruits we come bringing?"

A perfect machine is of no use unless people use it. So invest 15c in Auxiliary Manual of Methods and another 15c in a Standard of Achievement Wall Chart on which to keep right before your eyes a record of some of your fruits.

We desire every woman member of the Auxiliary, no matter what the name of it now is (society, circle, aid or what have you) to own one of these little manuals, and read and study it thoroughly.

Another desire is that every local auxiliary within the bounds of our national convention invest 15c in a wall chart on which is kept a monthly record of your achievements.

Last, but certainly not least, we desire every woman member of any auxiliary within the bounds of our national convention, to subscribe to the *Free Will Baptist Gem* in order to be a well informed member of your auxiliary, as well as a well informed member of your denomination.

When we know, we do. We desire "doing Christians."

—Subscribe to The Gem—

Send all manuscript for publication in these pages to the National Auxiliary Chairman of Literature and Publications, Mrs. J. E. Frazier, 1624 Cahal Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee.

Send all offerings for all causes sponsored by the National Auxiliary Convention, to our National Auxiliary Treasurer, Mrs. Fannie Polston, 318 Woodland Street, Nashville, Tennessee. Then send a record of your offerings to your department chairman, but all money to Mrs. Polston.

Our Request

We solicit your contributions to these pages which is a new undertaking in the Woman's Auxiliary work. Any interesting project, or plan, that you have carried out in your auxiliary, let other women know about it by sending it to them through these pages. Pass on to others the good ideas used in your Auxiliary. It will do you good to share with others.

Any suggestions about what information you think will be most helpful to your Auxiliary will also be very welcome. Your literature department is anxious to serve you and, of course, to be able to serve you we must meet your needs. So let us know them!

An Important Meeting

The National Auxiliary Convention will soon be convening in Drumright, Oklahoma. May we all purpose to be more in earnest and more enthusiastic about our Auxiliary program, and annual reports, this year than any year in our history. Never has there been a greater need for reconsecrating and rededicating ourselves to the causes we women are sponsoring. Our work must press on. With faith in God, with lives reoffered, we will go ON!

For Our Information

1940-1941 OFFICERS

of

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Texas

Fourth . . . Mrs. G. F. Barnes
North Carolina

Fifth . . . Mrs. C. B. Thompson
North Carolina

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Huntsville, Texas

Stewardship . . Mrs. Georgia F. Barnes
Lucoma, North Carolina

Benevolences . . Mrs. C. B. Thompson
Ayden, North Carolina

Aims of Woman's Auxiliary

We are "laborers together with God"
as we
"Launch out into the deep"
of

I. ENLISTMENT

The Woman's Auxiliary, in an effort to bring in a greater missionary conscience to many Free Will Baptist women and young people, puts special emphasis upon enlistment, and has, therefore, made it one of the chief aims of the auxiliary. Can you doubt that there is a great field white already to harvest with few laborers? Is it not a sacred duty to prevent failure in the Christian life begun, and for the training of the young people into the highest type of Christian service? Then enlist every unenlisted Free Will Baptist woman in your community—"That my Father's house may be filled." Enlist them not only in membership, but also into the activities of the auxiliary. Every worthwhile task is a challenge. Work worth doing calls for the best effort in doing it. Always remember that prayer is the greatest ally of enlistment.

The Woman's Auxiliary, in any church, could promote a month of family enlistment. Go, two by two, into homes for definite enlistment purposes. Go for enlistment, ask for enlistment, and expect an enlistment.

The world is at its worst; Christians should be at their best. If we approximate our best, we must enlist every

woman member of our church in this evangelization program.

This work is done in your auxiliary under the supervision of the first vice president of the local Auxiliary.

"Guard that which is committed to thy trust" first vice presidents!

II. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Woman's Auxiliary is vitally interested in promoting and supporting Christian education. Jesus, who is our example, recognized the futility of sending out, as a disciple, one who had received no training. First, He called His disciples, then He trained them. So today Woman's Auxiliary, realizing the need of specially trained workers, whether in places of lay leadership, pastors, or missionaries, have made Christian education one of our chief aims. We want to help provide a place where God's disciples may be trained, and where they may "study to show themselves approved," and "that men may see your good works."

Realizing too that "wisdom is better than weapons of war" Eccl. 9:18, Woman's Auxiliary strives to encourage Bible study and family altars in the home; study class and activities among the youth of our church that we may assume our rightful responsibility for the children and young people of our churches, stimulating in their young hearts the missionary spirit, and the grace of giving. Woman's Auxiliary believes if we would rear a world-visioned generation of youth it will be because we, as mothers, as teachers, as counselors train them to be such.

The second vice president is responsible for all this work. She is chairman of education.

"Guard that which is committed to thy trust," second vice president!

III. MISSIONS

Someone has said that Jesus' first command was "Lift up your eyes and look", the second was *pray* and the third was *go*. Obedience to the first command prepares the Christian for obedience to the second and third. It was said of Jesus that, when He looked upon the suffering multitude, He suffered with their suffering. He did not turn away from them or their need, He did something: He fed them. He healed their diseases, He taught them. He ministered to their every spiritual need. Woman's Auxiliary believes the Lord Jesus expects us to look with intelligence upon our world, near and far, and do something about the wrong things we thus see. Did He not say, "As the Father hath sent me even so send I you"? It is His plan for bringing in His kingdom. As He ministered and taught and loved, so must His disciples do. That we

may continue to carry on His mission program, "Go ye" is the purpose of this our third aim. We know that Jesus lays upon each individual Christian a clear and definite responsibility for making Him known to the world, that men everywhere may come to know and walk His way. This is Jesus' program of missions. This is God's plan of world evangelism. This is the privilege which Christians have of being "laborers together with God" for the salvation of a lost world.

The third vice president's duty is to see that this work is well done.

"Guard that which is committed to thy trust," third vice presidents!

IV. STEWARDSHIP

God recognizes the importance of money, time, and talent in the affairs of men and the extension of His kingdom. One cannot read the Bible without being impressed with the attention given to these things; thus Woman's Auxiliary has stewardship for its fourth aim.

God *owns* everything; therefore man *owes* everything. In His beneficence, however, God claims, as His own, only one-tenth.

One great purpose of this department of Woman's Auxiliary is to enable Christians to rid themselves of the deadly sin of covetousness which eats into the soul, and robs the life of its greatest spiritual blessing. Woman's Auxiliary, through its stewardship department, strives to lead people to think of their money in the following way:

1. My money represents my *time*. I have given minutes and hours of my life in order to hold money. With all my hours in my keeping—hours that can not be recalled—I have exchanged these sacred hours for dollars.

2. My money represents my *work*. The sweat of my brow has been expended, and my tired muscles and aching head are rewarded by this money. What I spend that money for is the distillation of the energies of my body.

3. My money represents the investment of my thought. My mental processes which could have been turned toward a thousand objectives have been centered on things that eventuated in money.

Thus, we might continue to analyze what our money really represents, but Woman's Auxiliary, through this fourth aim, wants to influence our spending of money, which ought to be in keeping with the efforts expended in getting it; for what we get in return is the expression of our love, our desire, our gratitude, our sense of obligation. Money is no *good* unless used as a means to *good ends* and for *good* purposes.

May the day be hastened when Free Will Baptists will, with their tithes and offerings, remove all financial shackles from the gospel!

Striving to hasten this day, Woman's Auxiliary conducts training classes in stewardship, practices stewardship, believing that people so trained are the hope of the church, the hope of the world, and the hope of the Kingdom of God.

The fourth vice president assumes the responsibility of the stewardship program in each auxiliary. Look to her for guidance.

"Guard that which is committed to thy trust," fourth vice presidents!

V. BENEVOLENCE

Carrying out the aim of this department, Woman's Auxiliary serves personally those in its own community who need it. We thus strive to meet the physical needs of those around us with a ministry that brings spiritual results.

First, the orphanage work, which has been the opening wedge into hundreds of churches, and brought them into co-operation with all the work of the kingdom, is heartily supported by Woman's Auxiliary.

Second, a neglected home or church is bad, but to Woman's Auxiliary the most pitiable and sadly neglected thing in all the world is the servant of God, worn out, and neglected by the people and churches he served all the best years of his life. So to prevent our forgetting our duty to these old soldiers of the Cross, Woman's Auxiliary has as a part of our fifth aim, relieving these aged ministers or the family that is in our community and minister to them now. Because their influence is the most far-reaching of any class of men in the world, may we never "pass by on the other side", but always minister to their physical needs as gladly as they did to our spiritual needs.

Third, engaging in personal service is a normal activity for any true Christian.

Realizing that God uses human instrumentalities to do His work, Woman's Auxiliary has a medium through which He works—personal service. It is a miracle how He has used such weak vessels, yet Christian women in their own individual ways have been sharing the Gospel story and all other riches of His grace. No records are kept in our organizations of such services, but if recorded, what a story they would tell!

By heeding our Master's injunction to "do unto others" Woman's Auxiliary indeed finds joy in personally serving those in our community.

It is the duty of the fifth vice president and her personal service com-

mittee to see that these three phases of benevolent work is done by the Auxiliary in her community.

"Guard that which is committed to thy trust," fifth vice president!

A Message from our National President of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Mrs. J. C. Griffin, New Bern, N. C.

As the next session of our National Auxiliary Convention draws nearer, I become more anxious about our work, as a whole. I am praying that each officer realizes the importance of being constantly alert to the great needs, as well as to the opportunities lying out ahead of us in the support and promotion of Christ's kingdom, through the departments of which we have been made responsible. There is urgent need that we be much in prayer, that God will direct us in and through the right channel of service. Our work is growing—greater interest is seen and deeper conviction is felt relative to plans by which our women may launch out in a more progressive movement. I hope our vice presidents are preparing themselves in a more thorough way, to present to our next convention, plans whereby we shall be able to secure a greater number of un-enlisted women to line up with us during the following year.

We hope to be able to put before our women, a more progressive and constructive program than we have yet undertaken. To do this, each officer must study carefully and prayerfully, the most urgent needs of their several departments, and with God's help, plan how these needs can be taken care of, to bring the best results. We shall do this, largely, by studying the masses, not the unit or individual needs.

We must bear in mind that the majority of our enlisted women are located in rural districts throughout our National Convention area, therefore, our greatest interest should be how their needs can best be met. Plans that might succeed with our women in cities and towns would, many times, be entirely inappropriate for our rural women. I hope we will keep this in mind as we plan our work for another year.

We want to work out a larger scale of activities, but we need to be aware of the danger of launching out too extensively. We want workable plans, that will be attractive and in keeping with our Lord's will concerning us.

It may be that we shall need a

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"A task without a vision is drudgery. A vision without a task is a dream. A task and a vision is Victory."  
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larger, and perhaps better plan relative to our present Year Book—one consisting of a more concrete and progressive standard, in which Missions, Stewardship, and Christian Education, as well as all phases of our program can be given a wider field in which to launch out in a more effective way than we have yet attained. However, great care must be observed and consecrated, earnest endeavor, must have the sanction of the Holy Spirit in this, as well as all other plans of improvement, else, we fail miserably, and God's Cause be made to suffer. We want to be ever mindful of our responsibilities to each other. "Am I my brother's keeper?" is a question we can apply to our work, because many times we fail to reach out the helping hand to our weaker sisters.

We need to stress, particularly, our Mission program, and be able to set a goal in the interest of all our Missionary activities. We should know more about Stewardship. The Educational program of our church must not be neglected. In fact, if we are good stewards, we will take our place in the ranks of the men and women who are laboring so anxiously and valiantly for this vital cause.

We need constructive literature, bearing on these subjects, that our women may prepare themselves more thoroughly, and to visualize more definitely the part we must take in the progress of our Church life. There is no question but that the great harvest field of God is suffering for want of skilled laborers—men and women who stand so much in need of becoming "approved workers". May each of us put our lives in complete surrender to God. Let us pray much that His Holy Spirit shall lead at all times and through us, get victory unto Himself.

We are looking forward to our fellowship together at the coming convention and praying that whatever is best for the promotion of the kingdom work of our Master, will be put into effect at that time and that we shall be able to render a more humble, consecrated service during the coming years.



Lizzie McAdams, Texas

"The field is the World . . . Go ye . . . Preach the Gospel"

What is Missions?

Missions started in Jerusalem, it is true. But the gospel spread on through the Roman world into all Europe and Asia and down through the ages to America. If we read our daily papers and magazines with open eyes, we can see behind the stories of wrongs and childishness the men and women for whom our Lord gave his life. Not mine strikes alone but men begging bread, men whose problems would be solved if the world heeded the Man who said, "If thy brother hunger, feed him"—little children without a chance for health and strength and vigor, children like those whom Jesus set in the midst of His disciples when He would speak of the kingdom of heaven.

Crime, with all its consequent ills, personal and social, that can be wiped out only by the Man of whom it was said, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus, for it is he who shall save his people from their sins." War, social maladjustment, envy, and greed, for all of these Jesus Christ offers the remedy of a new birth that transforms the life and reaches out to everything with which it comes in contact.

THAT IS MISSIONS

Needs of Free Will Baptists

I. VISION

First, a vision of a world lost in sin; second, a vision of Jesus as the only Saviour from sin; third, a vision of the obligation of the church to witness for Him.

Who should have this vision? The pastors, Sunday school superintendents, teachers, auxiliary presidents, Free Will Baptist League officers. Where there is no vision on the part of the leaders, there is little chance of developing a church with any vision.

II. MATERIALS

David said, "Give me understanding and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart." When Free Will Baptist people understand their obligations to God and their opportunities of serving him daily, surely they will be more interested in mission work.

There are many sources of information and an abundance of helpful ma-

terial. The pastor, Sunday school superintendent, and the auxiliary president should make a wide use of it in informing their people. Some available material is listed here: (1) the denominational papers, (2) special day programs, (3) books, (4) regular Sunday school lessons.

III. TRAINING

In Proverbs 24:5, we find these words, "A man of knowledge increaseth strength."

(1) Training Schools—a certain month should be used to emphasize missions in a definite way. It seems that every church could use one week out of 52 to have a training school and study missions. October would be a fine month to study Stewardship. Every church worker should be urged to attend these classes.

(2) By preaching Missionary and Stewardship sermons because missionary and stewardship sermons will lead to missionary and stewardship practice.

Suggested Program

for Woman's Auxiliary--May

Program Theme: "Make Missions Real"

Songs—"The Kingdom is Coming" and "From Greenland's Icy Mountains."

Prayer—"Thy Kingdom Come"

Announcements, records and reports.

Song—"I Love to Tell the Story"

Scripture—

1. Marching Orders, Matt. 28:19.
2. The Imperative Reason, Acts 4:12.
3. Somebody Must Go, Rom. 1:14-15.
4. Somebody Must Send, Rom. 10:15.
5. Everybody Must Help, 3 John 5:8.

School of Missions—Conducted by a group of young men and women.

1. Add—To your faith definite knowledge of missionary work, 2 Peter 1:5.
2. Subtract—From your mind ignorance and prejudice against other nationalities, Matt. 21:43.
3. Multiply—Your interest in missions by Bible study, stewardship, prayer, and mission study, Mal. 3:10.
4. Divide—With the lost world the Word of Truth, 2 Tim. 2:15.
5. Equal—Every lost soul should

have an equal chance, Acts 10:34-35.

Talk—John 3:16, 3rd. Vice President
God so loved the world that he gave his

Only begotten

Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not

Perish, but have

E-verlasting

Life.

Special Song—

Prayer—That we may witness both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

The church that forgets itself in its passion for others will in that forgetfulness find itself.

Magnify Missions

Next to the Master himself, Paul was the master missionary. He planted the gospel at strategic points upon two continents. Out of the missions he started have gone influences that to this day are being felt around the world. And John, the beloved disciple, fulfilled a great ministry in Asia Minor, and from the Isle of Patmos was permitted to behold and to report the greater mysteries of earth and heaven.


With the lives of these star characters before us and with their thoughts fertilizing our minds and hearts, we can but magnify Christian missions in our modern world. Let us do so by prayer and proclamation, by gifts and influences, supporting and strengthening the hands of missionaries at home and abroad. One fine day—and may God hasten that day—the whole round earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the deep.

—Selected

God wants His people to be missionary people—some to go, some to stay, pray and pay.

God has opened the door and it is our privilege to go in. —Selected.

All the world is my parish. — John Wesley.



The Hour for Prayer---May, 1941

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

How much meaning do these words really have for us? Have we allowed them to become like a coin grown smooth with much use on which we can hardly decipher the inscription?

Let us imagine that it is the first time that we ever heard these impressive words! We are kneeling or bowing our heads in the pew at the end of the church service. The minister is making the closing prayer. Suddenly he stops; there is a moment of silence, and then very impressively come the words:

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you," and then the response, soft as from a distance, by the choir singing, "Amen, amen, amen"! But what does this prayer really mean to us? Does it bring us a deep spiritual feeling and sense of blessing? Do we have a deep realization of the truth that the grace of God was mediated to us through which God's saving love and care have been revealed to us?

But we do well to ask another question. What will it mean to our lives if the grace of Jesus "be with us"—in our hearts—and goes with us as we go from the services out into a harsh world to serve Him? Perhaps it will help us to put it this way: "The graciousness of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all." What a new light this lets in upon this closing prayer!

Whatever else and whatever more the word "grace" means, it certainly includes graciousness, and how gracious Jesus was! It was not a gracious age in which He lived. His own people, to a large degree, were dominated by hatred of Rome, contempt for other races, and a harsh legalistic religion.

How the graciousness of Jesus shines out in the gospel story! We can almost hear the kindly tones of His voice to Judas, even in the very act of betrayal, and even to those who crucified Him: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

It is not a gracious world we live in today. The purpose of this page, as it comes to you from month to month, is to help us to be more kindly toward one another, to pray one for the other, to incorporate into our lives some of this graciousness. As a monthly suggestion for your daily devotion, we will list things for us all

By Mrs. Fannie Polston

to pray for. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. Because if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." So we want this number, and more, to gather together daily for these petitions.

Thursday, May 1

That God's people may walk humbly before Him this convention year.

"That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations" Psa. 67:2.

Friday, May 2

Mrs. J. C. Griffin, President of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention.

"The Lord give thee understanding in all things" 2 Tim. 2:7.

Saturday, May 3

Rev. J. R. Davidson, Educational Director. Rev. L. R. Ennis, Executive Secretary of National Association.

"Underneath are the everlasting arms" Deut. 33:27.

Sunday, May 4

Mrs. Lizzie McAdams, National Chairman of Missions of the Woman's Auxiliary.

"The Lord shall guide thee continually" Isa. 58:11.

Monday, May 5

Rev. and Mrs. Willey, Missionaries in Cuba.

"The Lord redeemeth the soul of His servant" Psa. 34:22.

Tuesday, May 6

Miss Bessie Yeley, Missionary to Venezuela, South America.

"For a greater door and effectual is opened" 1 Cor. 16:9.

Wednesday, May 7

That Woman's Auxiliary may cooperate in every department of the general program.

"For we are laborers together with God" 1 Cor. 3:9.

Thursday, May 8

For faithful preparation for the observance of special days and weeks of prayer.

"The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh

Him" Lamentations 3:25.

Friday, May 9

That President and all government leaders will seek divine counsel in these days of world wide distress.

"He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God" 2 Sam. 23:3.

Saturday, May 10

That Christians in Europe may remain faithful amid persecutions.

"Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land that they may dwell with me" Psa. 101:6.

Sunday, May 11

For Sunday school teachers and all personal evangelists.

"The Holy Spirit shall teach you" Luke 12:12.

Monday, May 12

For blessings on our district, state, and annual sessions of Woman's Auxiliary work.

"I will guide thee with mine eyes upon thee" Psa. 32:8.

Tuesday, May 13

"For power and wisdom upon all pastors and their assistants.

"Great is our Lord and mighty in power" Psa. 147:5.

Wednesday, May 14

Miss Laura B. Barnard (on furlough from Kotigira, India) and her need for more missionaries and necessary funds to establish the work in India.

"For thou Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee" Psa. 9:10.

Thursday, May 15

For our publications and literature; for Mrs. J. E. Frazier our National Literature Chairman.

"If ye shall ask anything in my name that will I do" John 14:14.

Friday, May 16

For a revival of soul-winning among us that we may feel our indebtedness to God for our own salvation, and do our best to reach and win others to Him.

"He that winneth souls is wise" Prov. 11:30.

Saturday, May 17

For more stewardship and mission study classes, especially for the youth of our churches.

"If ye love me ye will keep my commandments" John 14:15.

Sunday, May 18

That our church may give the foreigners in our country the Gospel.

"He that loveth his brother abideth in the light" 1 John 2:10.

Monday, May 19

"For more faith and courage that our school shall be established this year" Joshua 3:1-17.

Tuesday, May 20

For our Educational Chairman, Mrs. J. R. Bennett that some plan may be given her to enlist all local auxiliaries for this cause.

"I will bless Jehovah who has given me counsel" Psa. 16:17.

Wednesday, May 21

More Christians to use all they have of strength, time, talent, money, in ways that please God; for more tithers. Malachi 3:10.

Thursday, May 22

For leaders of young people in our churches that there may be a revival of interest in the training of youth by parents, teachers, and leaders the world over.

"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" Gal. 5:25.

Friday, May 23

That our churches may develop the Christ-like qualities of courage, moral and physical; Christ's program for world service; for soldiers in camps.

"Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help" Psa. 146:5.

Saturday, May 24

For a world wide revival; a deeper devotion to Bible study, individually, in the family, and in the church.

"Workmen that will be approved" 2 Tim. 2:15.

Sunday, May 25

That we here at home, may by our lives, prayers, and efforts remove the barriers of the Missionary across the sea by Christianizing our own America to whom all nations look for an example of Christ's saving power; for our Home Mission Board.

"Oh continue thy loving kindness to them that know Thee" Psa. 36:10.

Monday, May 26

For a great number of young men and women to offer themselves unreservedly to do Christ's work at home and abroad in our generation.

"He that loseth his life for my sake shall find it" Matt. 10:39.

Tuesday, May 27

That our whole denomination may desire and experience a new unity in Christ; for our leaders in all departments of the local, state, and national work that they may be true to their calling in the face of discouraging conditions.

"Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of Grace" Heb. 4:16.

Wednesday, May 28

For increased power in soul-winning among Free Will Baptists.

"He is a rewarder of him that diligently seek Him" Heb. 11:9.

Thursday, May 29

That we may become so burdened for the cause of temperance that all will pray and work to make it prosper.

"God.....doeth great things and unsearchable marvelous things without number" Job 5:8-9.

Friday, May 30

That the lesson of stewardship for young people may be faithfully taught by each Auxiliary; for Mrs. Georgia F. Barnes, as chairman of this department.

"The statutes and judgments that ye may learn them and keep and do them" Deut. 5:1.

Saturday, May 31

For our National Board of Education and that our school may through their efforts and ours be established in September, 1941. God has commanded us to be filled with the Holy Spirit. May we claim His promise now in faith, fulfill the conditions laid down in the Word and He will not disappoint us.

"I will go in the strength of the Lord God" Psa. 71:16.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE GEM

"Declare His Praise in the Island" Isa. 60:9

Missionary Letter by Mabel Willey

Jaruco,
Havana Province,
Cuba.
March 22, 1941

PERHAPS many of you remember the little adage the Lord gave us in Panama when we went to live in the mountains, and in a mud hut.—"Two men looked from behind prison bars, one saw mud, the other saw stars." This adage is also adaptable to our home here in Jaruco. Though we do not live in a house made of mud, yet we do literally look from behind bars. How strange, you say, to have bars on your windows! You will not think it strange when you know that we do not have glass in our windows to look through, only shutters. The bars give one a comforting sense of protection and privacy. We have not been able to ascertain why the houses have been built thus in Cuba, but tonight as I opened the window in the chil-



Mrs. Mabel Willey

dren's room to let in the cool fresh air, so fragrantly scented with orange blossoms and night blooming flowers, I was thankful that the bars were there.

Our little home is only three blocks down from the mission station. There is quite a hill to climb, and each time we walk up or back I am tempted to pick up at least one stone and throw

it out of the way. The street is thickly settled. Our first week here was one of great curiosity to its inhabitants. Each time we passed the whole family would rush madly to the windows to see the Americans. We could hear the children calling, "here they come," then the heads would pop out from everywhere. Some would reply to our greetings, others would grunt, or say nothing. But now the little street knows us, the women do not so quickly leave their washings, or the men their duties to satisfy their curiosity. The children, however, still gaze as if we are strange beings. We are beginning now to visit each of these homes to leave a Gospel portion and some tracts. Won't you pray with us that we might be able to win their hearts, and that there might be some who will receive the Word gladly.

You will perhaps be interested to know about our home. We have a

little frame house of six rooms. There are three good size rooms and the others are small. We have only thirteen door in the house and seven windows. I have been puzzled a few times as where to place things to miss a door. Our floors are all of tile, which is very cheap here; this helps to keep the house cool in the heat. The ceilings are about twenty feet high, this gives us good ventilation. The walls are not plastered, but just plain plank with a fairly good white wash over them, however, these have a tint of blue. The doors are all painted a light blue. We have had to buy our own furniture here for the house, but fortunately one is able to buy very good second hand furniture and have it refinished. Thus, we have a very nice suite for the "sala", the front room, of solid mahogany; we paid only twenty-three dollars for this. In Cuba, one is judged by their furniture in the front room, so we were told, thus we hastened to get ours in order to receive visitors. Our dining room is furnished now, also, with the same type furniture. The children have their separate beds and a wardrobe for their clothing. A closet is found in only the best of homes. I doubt if there is one in Jaruco, a town of three thousand or more. When one rents a house here you merely rent the shell, we had to even buy our own light fixtures and plumbing. We do not complain even if the water goes off at seven and that the lights are poor, we are too grateful that we have them at all. Our bed room is still quite incomplete; a large refrigerator box answers the purpose of a clothes closet for us. The kitchen is commodious with its pots and pans hanging on the wall, and the fine shelves my husband built for the things one generally puts in a kitchen cabinet. The room we are saving for a study is still waiting for its desk. How happy we shall be for this needed room. We are so happy and comfortable in our little home, and grateful that we have it, as houses are scarce and hard to get in this town.

The houses are built right on the side walk so we do not have a front yard, but we do have a large back porch, called a "patio". Then in the small yard in the back we have a large mango tree and two orange trees. The students have dug for me, two lovely flower beds, and if the neighbors chickens and cats do not dig them up we hope to have some roses with other flowers in a few months.

I would like to introduce you to our

little Cuban woman who works for us. She is not quite as tall as Tommy, but such a worker! She is fifty-three years old and heard the Bible read for the first time in her life the first day she came to work for us, at our family worship. She didn't know how to act when we prayed. But now she eagerly looks forward to the daily devotions, and the times we are in the kitchen together she will recite scripture verses to me that she has been learning. Won't you pray for Julia, that as she grows in the knowledge of the Word, and the way is made plain to her, that she will repent of her sins and accept our Savior.

Tommy and Barbara are quickly adjusting themselves to the Cuban life. The language has quickly come back to them. We do want each of you who prayed for Tommy when he had his accident and broke his elbow. The break was so serious that the doctor told Mr. Pain that if it was ever normal it would only be God. This doctor is not a Christian. But as he gently lifted it from the cast and began to turn it, then to bend it back and forth, he exclaimed, "This is certainly rare." Though he can not put the arm out perfectly straight yet, the doctor said this was more than he expected for eight months. With a bit of daily exercise it will be normal. This accident has been the means of quickly giving us acceptance in many Cuban homes, it has been one of the "all things."

I have taken up most of this letter about our home and family but now we want to leave with you a few prayer requests. Pray for us in our intensive language study, and the teaching. Mr. Willey has two classes in English with some of the finest men of the town. Most of these men, I'm sure I'm safe in saying it, believes

perhaps in God, but that is all. The Latin men are fast becoming atheists. Please definitely pray that with this contact we shall be able to win some for Christ. Then pray for Alberta, a fine young man who has been coming to our house much of late and is interested to know more of the gospel. Then pray also that there might be some way open that we can reach the girls.

We are so grateful for your prayers and interest. We are conscious many times that someone, somewhere is holding us up. Sometimes,—ah, little do we know How often we prevail Trough God's remembrances alone, When strength of ours would fail! O, faithful, hidden hearts that plead For others night and day, May living streams from founts above Refresh you as you pray!

As I sit here writing to you this Sunday afternoon, the air is full of yells from a cock fight. In this island that waits to praise Him, there are not only hearts living behind barred windows and doors but in the gross fetters of sin, ignorance and superstition. The vilest that I have ever witnessed prevail here in this island. One at times, it seems, can almost cut the power of darkness. Yet there are two million people here in Cuba, so near, yes, but they have not heard a Gospel message as yet. A Cuban said to us, only a few nights ago, that he worked in a town in the States, Hershey, Pennsylvania, not nearly as large as Jaruco, and in it are twelve churches. He says, "Why, we only have one". Yes, and there are many, many more very much larger towns without a single evangelical witness. Oh, dear hearts that pray, this island waits to praise Him. We won't fail them or Him, will we?

The Normal Christian Church

Rev. T. H. Willey, Missionary in Cuba



READ the following Scriptures for a history of this early church: Acts 11th and 13th chapters.

The normal church is the church that is keenly awake with a vital message for a needy world. Antioch was the first center of established foreign missionary work.

A Model Missionary Church—the first to lead in world wide missions.

1. A WITNESSING CHURCH

It came out of persecution. These

Christians were scattered abroad and went witnessing and preaching the Word of God. A live church is one whose members have a testimony and are willing to go on the witness stand for Christ.

2. AN EVANGELISTIC CENTER.

Every normal church should be a soul saving center.

"And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord" Acts 11:21.

Observe that today in the age of apostasy in the churches the people are flocking to evangelistic centers where Christ is lifted up and the people have a joyful testimony.

The salvation of the unbelievers was a result of their witnessing.

3. SPIRIT FILLED MEN WERE PLACED AT THE HEAD OF THIS CENTER.

When tidings of the great revival came to the church at Jerusalem, they sent Barnabas "For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord" Acts 11:24.

That church can only be a success that honors the Person and work of the Holy Spirit. That church which fights the Holy Spirit has cut every blood vessel and nerve center that causes the organs to function and thus has died.

4. THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH WAS A TEACHING CHURCH.

Acts 11:26, Paul and Barnabas spent a year teaching in this church. I am of the opinion that we need more teaching and less of what we call preaching. Much preaching today is but beating the air with mental-physical phrases. Preaching can be in the nature of teaching also. A preacher-teacher is an ideal setup for the spread of the Gospel. The only way people can be indoctrinated is to be taught. We find masses of people, members of a church, and they do not know what they believe or what their denomination stands for fundamentally.

5. IT WAS A DEEP SPIRITUAL CHURCH.

They were Spirit led.

"As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, (not the deacons or the preacher or the official board) "Seperate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them."

This brings us to the only success-

ful foreign missionary program we have any right to consider; also the type of missionaries that should be sent out.

We must have the strongest and best equipment.

There is no place for men of weak faith and mental deficiency. Paul was a giant, mentally and spiritually. It took men of great faith filled with the Holy Ghost to meet the problems and heathen wickedness they had to face. Paul left his mark upon the Christian world as no other man. It was given to him to write under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, a large part of the New Testament.

Men among heathen people must, like Paul as described in Acts 13:6-12, meet Santanic opposition such as we never meet in the United States of America. They must be men who are willing to suffer, to deny themselves, and to risk their lives for the sake of souls in darkness.

The missionary movement is undertaking the great unfinished work of the church and calls for all there is of us and the best there is in us.

Fourteen Reasons Why I Believe In Foreign Missions

By William A. Brown

1. Every book in the New Testament was written by a foreign missionary.
2. Every epistle in the New Testament that was written to a church

was written to a foreign missionary church.

3. Every letter in the New Testament that was written to a community of believers was written to a general group of foreign missionary churches.

5. The one book of prophecy in the New Testament was written to the seven foreign missionary churches in Asia.

6. The only authoritative history of the early church is a foreign missionary journal.

7. The disciples were called Christians first in a foreign missionary community.

8. The languages of the books of the New Testament is the missionaries language.

9. The map of the early Christian world is the teachings of the missionary journeys of the apostles.

10. The problems which arose in the early church were largely questions of missionary procedure.

11. Of the twelve apostles chosen by Jesus, every apostle except one became a foreign missionary.

12. The only man among the twelve apostles who did not become a missionary became a traitor.

13. Only a foreign missionary could write an everlasting Gospel.

14. According to the apostles, the missionary is the highest expression of the Christian life.

Will a Man Rob God?

V. S. Versnick, 18020 Fleming Street, Detroit, Michigan

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." The seventh commandment is "Thou shalt not steal". Jesus said to the disciples, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." On another occasion He said, "I did not come to break down the law, but to fulfill the law." The commandments were the law.

Are we keeping the commandments when we hold back part of what rightfully belongs to Him? Can our lives be a blessing to us and others when we are selfish and cheat our Creator? We say that we love Him, yet we would not cheat our fellow man. How can we, if we love Him, cheat in our giving back to Him of the blessings that he has, so abundantly, showered

upon us? He says that all is His. We are His stewards. A steward is one that has charge of another person's goods. Are we faithful in our stewardship?

The word of God is full of promise. Mal. 3:10, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, said the Lord of hosts, if I will not open unto you the windows of heaven, and pour out a blessing, that there will not be room enough to receive it.

Here is a challenge: We say we have faith; we say that we trust Him. Do we have enough faith to take His word for it, trusting that He will see us through, regardless of what our obligations may be, that He will provide all necessary things of

life, give us health and all? He is able, are we? It is tempting to use the part that belongs to Him. It is in our power to use just the same as was the money that Annanias and Sapphira held back, and what happened to them?

Rev. 21:7-8 says, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the second death." Can we overcome that great temptation in order to be included in the first group? Or are

we the fearful and unbelieving that do not believe His promise in Mal. 3:10 and fall in the lost group?

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, this is worthy of our consideration. Let's pray about it and do as the Holy Spirit directs and not as the will of man. We are blessed with the opportunity to earn money through His will; not ours. We are what we are because He made us so. He gave us the talents. How did He deal with the servant that buried the talent given him? Let us pray for more faith and more trust in Him. Let us go with Him all the way. He goes with us regardless how far we may have drifted, still calling, calling, calling.

"If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of his law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear that glorious and fearful name, **THE LORD THY GOD**; then the Lord will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sickness, and of long continuance." Our God never changes. He is the same God yesterday, today and forever.

This world's goods does not make people happy; if so, why do rich people kill themselves?

Proverbs 15:16, "Better is little with the fear of the Lord, than great treasure and trouble therewith."

Proverbs 22:4, "By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honor, and life."

Psalms 2:11, "Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling."

Psalms 33:8, "Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand awe of him."

Psalms 25:14, "The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant."

Proverbs 3:7, "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord and depart from evil."

Heb. 3:7-8, "Today if ye hear his voice, harden not your hearts." Sinner friends, fear God now while He will hear and answer your prayer. There is coming a day when men and women will fear God and pray but their prayers will be too late. Oh, those words, "Depart from me I never knew you" will then be fearful words. Let's consider them now.

Isaiah 40:8, "The grass withereth; the flower fadeth, but the word of our God shall stand forever."

The Fear of God

Gladys Keeland, New Castle, California

In these days of turmoil and strife, most people are fearing man rather than God. Heb. 4:1, "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you (us) should seem to come short of it." Yes, we hear great sermons on the love of God but not very many on the fear we should have of God. I am sure I would never have been saved had I not feared God to the extent that if I didn't obey I would go to hell.

God is love, true, but some may have the idea because God is love we can do as we please, or as we think is right and get by. A loving God will not send a soul to hell. No, thank God, but we have our own free choice. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve." Job. 28:28, "And unto man he said, Behold the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding." Deut. 28:7, "The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face."

We have a great and all-powerful God. Let's get humble, fear God and put on the whole armour of God, that we may be able to stand. Deut. 28:58, "If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, **THE LORD THY GOD**."

Psalms 19:9, "The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether." Proverbs 15:33, "The fear of the Lord is the instruction

of wisdom; and before honor is humility."

But, the fear of man causes men and women to commit suicide, murder friends, and do all kinds of sin. Let's fear God. Matthew 10:28, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Heb. 5:7, "Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared." The word of God should be, and is able to make people fear God. Listen to what God says will happen to any people who fail to observe his law: Deut. 28:58-59,

Abounding Grace

By Rev. John W. Francis, 1143 Hodiament Ave., St. Louis, Missouri

Text: Rom. 5:20b, "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

PAUL wrote this letter from Corinth. He was soon to visit Rome and he wanted to send his own statements of the great doctrines of grace. This doctrine of grace was very bitterly assailed by the legalistic teachers. It is still true today. People want to introduce human efforts to reinforce the grace of God. Paul says in our text there is plenty of grace abounding. Let us notice first:

Law and Grace Stands in Contrast to Each Other

In John 1:17 it says, "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." Moses stands as head of the law. It was he who went up on Mount Sinai to meet God, and God talked to him while the lightning flashed, the thunder roared and the mountain quaked, Exo. 20:18. God explained to him how he had brought Israel out from Egypt on eagle wings, Exo. 19:4. God gave Moses the law written on tables of

stone. Righteousness was demanded of man. However, man failed under law. The time came when God was displeased with burnt offerings, so law gave way to grace.

Since grace came by Christ, He is the head of grace. Just as the law was connected with *Moses* and *works*, so is faith connected with *Christ* and *grace*. The law blesses the good and punishes the bad. Grace saves the bad and makes them good.

Good works will not bring us in favor with God that we might be saved. Titus 3:5 "Not by *works* of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost." We cannot mix law and grace because they serve two different periods of time. Today we are saved by believing or faith. In John 6:29 Christ says, "This is the *work* of God, that ye believe." Gal. 3:26, "For ye are the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." Now our Christian works will follow since we have *believed* to the saving of the soul, Heb. 10:39b. We find in James 2:19, "Thou believest that

there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." The devils believe there is one God, and they know this God will bring their doom, but devils are nowhere said to possess faith.

Why Did the Law Enter?

The law entered that grace might abound, Rom. 5:13. Sin is not imputed when there is no law because sin is the over-stepping of the law. Without the law we would not be able to see our sins. The law served as a schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ that we might be justified by faith, Gal. 3:24.

Abounding Grace

Since Adam and Eve fell into sin in the garden of Eden, sin has not ceased to reign. The first children born were Cain and Abel. Cain was a herdsman. They both brought their offering to God. Abel's offering was a lamb. Cain's offering was grain, but God did not like bloodless offerings. Then God said to Cain, Gen. 4:7, "If thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door." But the Greek reads, "If thou doest not well a *sin offering* lieth at

the door." The people lived in tents with stock all about them. He could have obtained an offering acceptable with God; but he became angry and murdered his brother Abel.

There has been many murders since that sad day. We have had many wars with people killed in large numbers.

People have gone pleasure mad and forgotten God. They go to different places of amusements on the Lord's day instead of meeting for worship in God's house.

Hatred, malice, and strife have run rampant in the world. We are selfish and care little for one another.

This picture of fallen man is very dark. It is true man's sin has covered the earth. Yet we get a ray of light, and a glad note of hope from our text. But as sinful as man has been there abounds more than enough grace to cover his sins and to save him from them. "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound." We make use of this grace by trusting Jesus Christ to save us. They that come unto Christ, He will in no wise cast out.

Can a Child of God Apostatize and be Lost?

The following Scriptures were used in a Sermon preached by

Rev. M. L. Hollis, Red Bay, Alabama

TEXT: "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" 1 Cor. 10:12.

ADAM was a son of God. "Which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God" Luke 3:38.

"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth" Gen. 1:26.

"But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die" Gen. 3:3.

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" Rom. 5:12.

"For until the law sin was in the

world; but sin is not imputed when there is no law" Rom. 5:13. III

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ" 2 Cor. 11:3.

Paul said, "I fear". Fear what?

"When a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die" Ezek. 18:26.

"When the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall even die thereby" Ezek. 33:18.

"Again, when a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die; because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless if thou warned the right-

eous man, that the righteous sin not and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul" Ezek. 3:20-21.

"And the Spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded: And he went out to meet Asa and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The Lord is with you, while ye be with him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him he will forsake you" 2 Chron. 15:1,2.

"And thou, Solomon, my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind; for the Lord searcheth all hearts, and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts; if thou seek him he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off forever" 1 Chron. 28:9.

I now call your attention to king Saul, whom God anointed to be King over His people.

"Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and

kissed him, and said, Is it not because the Lord hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?" 1 Sam. 10:1.

"And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him, and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them" 1 Sam. 10:10.

"And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day" 1 Sam. 10:9.

"And Saul said, unto Samuel, I have sinned; for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord, and thy words: because I feared the people and obeyed their voice" 1 Sam. 15:24.

"Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the Lord is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?" 1 Sam. 28:16.

The Lord's people can forget Him.

"And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and forgot the Lord their God, and served Baalim and the groves" Judges 3:7.

"Then beware lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage" Deut. 6:12.

"So are the paths of all that forget God; and the hypocrite's hope shall perish" Job. 8:13.

"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God" Psalms 9:17.

"Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver" Psalms 50:22.

"Therefore, behold, I, even I, will utterly forget you, and I will forsake you, and the city that I gave you and your fathers, and cast you out of my presence" Jer. 23:39.

"Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? Yet my people have forgotten me day without number" Jer. 2:32.

"Because thou hast forgotten the God of thy salvation, and hast not been mindful of the rock of thy strength, therefore shalt thou plant pleasant plants, and shalt set it with strange slips" Isa. 17:10.

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope" Rom. 15:4.

"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come" 1 Cor. 10:11.

"This is thy lot, the portion of thy measures from me, saith the Lord; because thou hast forgotten me, and trusted in falsehood" Jer. 13:25.

"But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure; for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall" 2 Peter 1:9, 10.

"Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear; For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God; on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off" Rom. 2:20-22.

Some say that works do not count anything in God's sight; but listen to what the Bible says about what a Christian must do.

"Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief" Heb. 4:11.

"Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some" 2 Tim. 2:18.

"Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck;" 1 Tim. 1:19.

"Having damnation, because they have cast off their first faith" 1 Tim. 5:12.

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" 1 Tim. 4:1.

"By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain" 1 Cor. 15:2.

"For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end" Heb. 3:14.

"If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached, to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I, Paul, am made a minister;" Col. 1:23.

"Receiving the end of your faith even the salvation of your souls" 1 Peter 1:9.

"For what is our hope, or joy, or

crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?" 1 Thes. 2:19.

"And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away" 1 Peter 5:4.

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;" 2 Thess. 2:3.

"Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled" Heb. 12:15.

"For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them" 2 Peter 2:20, 21.

"The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself" Prov. 14:14.

"O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. Take with you words, and turn to the Lord; say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: So will we render like calves of our lips. Asshur shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses; neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, Ye are our gods; for in thee the fatherless findeth mercy. I will heal their backsliding. I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him" Hosea 14:1-4.

"O Lord, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the Lord, the foundation of living waters" Jer. 17:13.

"Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness" 2 Peter 3:17.

"Now the just shall live by faith; but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul" Heb. 10:38, 39.

"Thine own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee; know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter."

that thou hast forsaken the Lord thy God, and that my fear is not in thee saith the Lord God of hosts" Jer. 2:19.

In Romans 8:13 I read, "If ye live after the flesh, ye shall die." Now let us have that simple statement, that's talking to brethren. Well, how do I know? That cannot mean physical death because you the going to die physically no matter how you live. Well, it cannot refer to the sinner, because he is already dead. Then to whom does it apply? Of brethren in Jesus Christ.

"Then believed they his words; they sang his praise. They soon forgot his works; they waited not for council: But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert" Psalms 106:12-14.

Now notice this; verse 12, "They believed his words," and the next thing we hear of them they have forgotten God's words, they have turned away from God. What became of them? The Bible says that God overthrew them.

"For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the holy Ghost. And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame" Heb. 6:4-6.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit" Romans 8:1, 4.

In conclusion, I want us to notice something about *Eternal Life*. There is much said in the Bible about eternal life. John 3:16, "Whosoever believeth on him should.....have eternal life;" John 3:36; 1 John 5, etc. Now there are numbers of passages in the Bible that say that the believer has eternal life. There are numbers of them that seem contradictory. Paul said in Titus 1:1, 2 ".....In hope of eternal life," and then Paul said in Romans 8:24, "For what a man seeth why doth he yet hope for?" In Mark 10:39, Jesus said, "In the world to come eternal life." Now, there must be some harmony. One passage says we have it: the other says it is in the future or we are in hope of it, and it will be received in the other world. Now, shall I just array one of these passages against the other? No, sir. Well, what can be done? I shall read you John 10:27, 28, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they

follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father which gave them me is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hands."

Now what are the statements here made? My sheep first hear my voice; second, I know them; third, they follow me; fourth, I give to them eternal life. Now when? Matt. 25:26, "When the great last day is come, and the separation is made, these shall go away into everlasting life." But again you ask now, "What is the harmony in it?" 1 John 2:25, get it, and see just the beauty of all God's word harmonized rather than one passage arrayed against the other. John said, "And this is the promise that he has promised us." What is it, John?—eternal life. So, how does a child of God have eternal life? Has it in promise; has it in prospect. Who said so? John did. Well, all right then, "He that believeth on the son hath everlasting life," has it in promise! I stand in hope of eternal life. There is no contradiction in it. That is the way to handle the Bible.

I believe that the child of God has eternal life. Has it now? Has it in prospect just as John said, has it in promise; and there is no man that has left father and mother, son or daughter, wife or houses for my sake

and the gospel, but he shall receive now in this time those very things a hundred fold—now watch it—and in the world to come eternal life. When do I get in real possession of it? At the last great day. "These shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal." When is that? When the Son of God shall come and sit upon the throne of His glory.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord" Rom. 8:35-39.

Here is the answer from God's Word:

"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear; But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear" Isa. 59:1-2.

These were God's children.



A HAPPY ANNOUNCEMENT

Rev. and Mrs. Raymond Riggs of 217 Gerald, Highland Park, Michigan, announce the birth of a son, Kenneth Howard, on March 30, 1941.

Congratulations!

OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION

The Ohio State Association will be held with Union Church, near Portsmouth, Ohio, beginning in the morning of June 3, 1941.

Rev. W. J. Shepphard, of Sciotoville, is the moderator.

The Editor of the *Gem* is planning to attend this Association on a "Goodwill" visit. The Ohio State Association is a new organization, convening in its third annual session.

VIRGINIA STATE ASS'N.

Our Virginia State Association of the Free Will Baptists will be held with the Dante Church, at Dante, Va., June 13, beginning at 9:00 a. m. We invite all of our friends to visit with us.

—Rev. J. A. Boatright, Moderator,
Verdi, Virginia.

P-r-a-i-s-e G-o-d A-l-w-a-y-s

By Eld. A. J. Jenkins, McArthur, Ohio

This set of letters probably won't mean much to you as they appear, but they are directions for all Christians that cannot be dispensed with and be happy.

They are also the key that unlocks the soul, inspires for service, and the window to God's waiting blessings.

The person who makes daily and hourly use of these words is promised happiness, health, and spiritual riches.

Use them to be wise, practice them to open the skies, and laud them if you want to rise.

The letters are grouped six, three, and six; and acclaim the highest honor to God the Saviour.

The first six spell "Praise"; the next three spell "God"; and the last six spell "Always". Altogether the sentence is, "Praise God Always".

Let's look at these words again. This time leave off the "P" and we have "Raise God Always". This is a much needed service today and would give God the chance to bless us as He wishes to do.

Let's look at these words again. This time leave off the "Pra" and we have "I see God Always".

Look one more time at the words and leave off the first six letters and we have "God Always".

Now let's add a long sentence of short phrases, using the words "God Always" first.

Here are a few; you make many: "God always has right of way in my life; God always lives in my soul to bless and help; God always loves and fills my soul with His Spirit to keep me right; God always does more for me than I am worthy of".

When you have completed your phrases making your sentence, learn these by memory; repeat every hour of the day, beginning with "Praise God" and add your phrases, and you will be surprised, in a few days, beyond measure how different you are. Your best friends will see in your life the glory of God in beams and streams of joyful spirituality they never dreamed of.

There isn't anything magical about this, but the writer has discovered this plan in a more perfect way than

known before, and it really does bring the blessings that are according to God's plan, but in such a supplying way that the individual feels they have found God in a new and better way.

I said in the second paragraph that these words are the key that unlocks the soul, inspires for services, and the window to God's waiting blessings; and here is the proof. No one that has tried this way of honoring God has been disappointed; but all have reported that, beyond measure, they were surprised, until they really thought of this as being God's full plan for mankind.

Here is a practical example of this

high class service, honoring God: A man 67 years old said he had been a seeker after God's forgiveness for ten years and all efforts had failed; all instructions had failed; all prayers for him had failed. At last, one in possession of this new light said to this man, "Have you ever thought of all that you should praise God for?" He replied that this thought had never come to him, neither had he been instructed to praise God for his life, his opportunities, and his rights to praise God for these blessings, but was told to believe God and all things would be in his favor. He began about one o'clock to praise God for every blessing he could think of and at three o'clock, the same day, the light broke in. God's blessing of forgiveness was given him, the Holy Spirit flooded his soul, and he ran all over the neighborhood praising God and telling others about the new life. Thank God it works.

Our Concern for the Lost

Eld. Cecil Garrison, Clifty, Arkansas

AS I attempt to write on this subject I trust that the good Lord will lead by His Spirit and that it will help someone along the way. In Luke 19:10, we read, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." I am so glad that Jesus proved his concern for the lost by leaving us an example to follow.

In Luke 15, we find that publicans and sinners drew near to hear Him. "And the Pharisees and scribes murmured saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them." Then He spake a parable unto them, "What man of you having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doeth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness and go after that which is lost, until he find it?" Dear brothers and sisters, are we proving to the good Lord our concern for the lost like He would have us do?

Jesus knew the people would search for the lost sheep and put forth great efforts to find it, and they knew that too. Then we should search for fathers, mothers, boys and girls that are lost in sin's dark pathway. As these men would search for the one sheep that was lost and oh, the rejoicing it brings when we see the

lost come to Jesus. Then they, too, can sing the verse of "Amazing Grace". I once was lost but now I'm found.

Do you remember how glad the prodigal son was and what his father did for him? He prepared a feast and said, "Let us eat and be merry, for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And it was meet that we should make merry and be glad for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again and was lost, and is found." It may be that you have an earthly brother or sister that is dead in trespasses and sin.

May God help us to work and pray and prove our concern for the lost in a way that will be pleasing to God. I am still trying to prove my concern for the lost by pointing sinners to Jesus who, when He finds them, puts his arms of love around them.

When your good is evil spoken of, when your wishes are crossed, your taste offended, your advice disregarded, your opinions ridiculed, and you take it all in patient, loving silence—**THAT IS VICTORY.** — Selected.

Whose Servants Are Ye?

Ye Are Servants to Whom Ye Obey

Rev. Raymond Riggs, 217 Gerald Avenue, Highland Park, Michigan

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" Rom. 8:1.

WE want to analyze the above quotation and make some applications which we trust will be of benefit to everyone of us. First, let us realize that we must take God's word just as it is without any of the four fundamentals in arithmetic. I hear John say in Rev. 22:18-19, "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book. If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book; And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life and out of the holy city, and from the things that are written in this book."

It seems to be a hobby of some so called preachers to use only that part of God's Word that will coincide with their own opinion and man-made theory. For instance, in 1 Peter 1:5, "Who are kept by the power of God....." Many, many times have I heard that used—only in part, and never complete the inspired statement. The full thought of any sentence cannot be complete and correct until the end of the statement has been reached. Now don't get me wrong. I believe God has the power to keep us—and He does keep us—but He keeps us because we exercise our faith in his dear Son. Yes, we have a part to play. Now let us begin at the first of that sentence and take it as God intended for us to do. Well, bless your heart, if you want to please the devil, you just start using bits of God's Word here and there—a little patch here and a little patch there. Why you can prove any lie that Satan has started. But let's take it straight. The sentence begins at verse three, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God



Raymond Riggs

through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

Another pet scripture of those who are deceived by the heresy that you can be saved by the grace of God, and still go ahead and lie, cheat, gamble, drink, live in adultery and all other sins of the world, is Eph. 2:8. A man was talking to me one time about his experience. He was once a devout Christian, saved by the grace of God in an old fashioned country Baptist church. But he left the church and community and came to this great city of Detroit, and, like hundreds of other young prodigals, he forget his church and let Satan lead him down the road in sin. The beer gardens was his church, the theatre and dance hall was where he spent the most of his time; he was easy prey for the professional gambler. Talk to him about holiness and clean living and he would call you a fanatic. I asked him if God should call him away in the state he was in, would he be saved? He said, "Sure, yet so as by fire." He will be saved alright, but if he doesn't repent and take hold of faith, he will be reserved to be cast into a lake of fire. Why? Because no such shall inherit the kingdom of God, Gal. 5:21.

Many will say, "By grace are you saved," and put a period after saved. We know that God's grace is sufficient, but we must obtain it and retain it if we expect to inherit the promise. If man had nothing to do with the receiving of the wonderful grace of God, it would be a universal salvation,

and everyone would be saved. Why? Because there is no limit to God's fountain of grace. Then too, it would do away with the will power of man, when we have the privilege of choosing whom we will serve and as John says in revelation, "Whosoever will, let him come". So it is by God's grace that we have the opportunity of exercising our faith unto salvation.

Faith in what? Faith in the Son of God and in His blood to cleanse. Lord, give us more faith. "By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works lest any man should boast."

Now listen, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus." Many will stop there and say, "There is no condemnation resting on me because I am in the church, or I've been baptized, etc." Others will say, "I once had an experience and was in the Lord, so I am not condemned for anything I have done." I asked a young father, a few days ago, if he was a Christian. God had just taken his little baby home and he was more or less concerned. When I asked him the question he said, "Well, I am a member of a Baptist church down home." Folks, I believe if we are in Christ we can know that we are saved. I'm not so much concerned about you being in a local or organic church, they are mostly man made anyway, but we need to be IN CHRIST.

Well, who is in Christ? Let's finish our sentence, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit." Are you in Christ if you walk after the flesh? No. Rom. 8:8, "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God." Rom. 8:5, "For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit." Also, Rom. 8:9, "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

How do we remain in Christ? Gal. 5:16, "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." Gal. 5:25, "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

Our Father in heaven, we ask Thee to bless this message and use it to make Christians better Christians, and to help bring someone to the realities of being in, and living in Christ who is our only refuge in this hour of trial. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Revivals, Activities, & Praise

Free Will Baptist Church Drumright, Oklahoma

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

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

Again the Lord has carried us through another month of His goodness and blessings.

Our State Evangelist, Bro. George McClain, and Bro. Harry E. Staires have been in a revival at Seminole, Oklahoma. They have organized a Free Will Baptist church down there with thirty-two charter members to carry on for the Lord.

We have been in a good revival for the past two weeks. We are having a wonderful meeting, and souls are being saved every night. There has been thirty-five souls surrendered to God, and a number more are interested in becoming Christians. If we keep on praying I know we shall see them born into the kingdom of the Prince of Peace. God has been very good to us by sending Sister Elda Crain from Miami, Oklahoma, to hold this revival. Sister Crain has really delivered messages that contain power from on high. We are proud of Sister Crain for her stand against the Devil and his assistants. The Lord hasn't told us just when this revival would end, but by God's help we are going to meet Sister Crain and all you readers on that glorious day of the resurrection.

One night during the revival, we saw a real fight between the Lord and the Devil; the Lord won the victory as usual. The Lord touched a little girl's heart, and her father, in a backsliden condition, went up to the altar to bring his daughter away. Just as the father got to the altar, he stopped. The daughter prayed through to victory over sin. The next night the father and the mother came up the isle shouting the victory. Now, isn't it foolish for any human to serve a master who can be defeated, when we can, if we only ask, serve a master who defeats all opposing powers. This is just one of the many wonderful victories over sin that has taken place in this revival.

We would like to report that the young people came home from the young people's rally last Sunday with the program banner. We young people

have grown much closer to the Lord since the revival started. A person just can't backslide when he is with Christian people day and night, but thank the Lord, for giving all the young people the kind of religion that makes us shout. We love the old fashion religion that our parents and friends have.

Today is Easter Sunday, and our church members displayed a number of lilies in honor of their loved ones that have passed on to Glory. One thing for which we are thankful is the reuniting of fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, and all of our loved ones in the great beyond, but above all we will meet our dear Savior. Won't it be wonderful there?

Are you ready to come and visit us in July? My, but we hope you are. We'll have a glorious time when we all get together here, in just three more months. It will be nothing compared with the gathering on the other shores, but we think you will enjoy yourselves. We are looking and waiting for you to visit with us.

Remember us when you pray and we shall remember you when we kneel in prayer. Let's all pray for the world situation that there may still be hope for peace. God be with you till we meet again in the Gem.

Revival Meeting at Aurora, Missouri

Our meeting at Aurora was a wonderful success. We started on Wednesday night, February 19, with prayer services and continued until the following Monday night when Brother Winford Davis arrived to begin the meeting. He certainly did some real good preaching. The Holy Spirit began His work; people, hearing of the good services, decided to come and see for themselves. Many came from other places to be with us—a number from the Monett church, a group from the Neola church, and some came from Crane, Mo., a few nights.

We thank the Lord for bringing Bro. Davis to Aurora for this meeting. The earnest efforts he put forth while there resulted in 31 professions, with 17 uniting with the church. There was a wonderful baptismal service with as large a crowd present as our

people had witnessed in this part for some time.

Near the close of the meeting some things were accomplished that had been needed for some time. Some new church officers were elected to help carry on with the Lord's work. A deacon was ordained, another trustee appointed, a new church clerk, and a treasurer were elected; also two ushers were chosen. Two of the members received were granted licenses to preach the gospel, Miss Gladys Moonyham and Mrs. Virgil Carter.

At the close of the meeting the members came together and organized a Woman's Auxiliary, which is to meet twice each month for mission work.

Bro. Davis presented the plan of the envelope system to the church which was adopted as a means to finance the church work. I wish all our churches would do this, because they would find it much easier to keep the Lord's work going. A goodly number of the members pledged themselves to carry out their part of the penny-a-day plan to help on our Nation Educational Program.

I had to miss out the last two weeks of the meeting due to sickness. Monday night, March 24, I had an attack of acute appendicitis and was taken to the Stella hospital for an operation. But the dear Lord was so merciful and proved his promise, that He would be with us in time of need. And the people were so kind, and I must say I had two of the best doctors; Dr. Elburn Smith, of Monett, and Dr. Cardwell, of Stella, to whom I feel very grateful.

I want to take this means to thank everyone who remembered me while I was sick. I received so many nice cards from over the state of Missouri and some from Michigan. The people from the Third Fork community, near St. Joseph, Mo., sent me a nice robe, which I appreciated so much. I received a nice box of fruit from my Verdella church where I have been trying to pastor the past three years.

To my surprise, while in the hospital, one of the good sisters from the Aurora church, Sister Ramsey, while visiting, presented me with \$31.00, which was made up by the people who had attended the services

at Aurora. Others also remembered and contributed to help us out. May the dear Lord bless you all, and I ask the prayers of all that I might continue to recover so I can get back into the work again.

Though I had to be away, Bro. Davis continued right on with the meeting, and when I came home I found that so much good had been accomplished by his efforts. I feel that any church who needs an evangelist to revive the work makes no mistake by calling Bro. Davis. He certainly revived our work at Aurora.

—Rev. Kenneth Turner, Pastor.

Sandy City F. W. B. Church
Catlettsburg, Kentucky
Rev. L. E. Colliver, Pastor
Gertrude Bowe, Reporter

Dear Gem Readers:

We want to report, again, some of the good services we have been having and have been attending elsewhere. Since the last time we reported, our Sunday school and other services have been holding up well, considering the weather and other things. Now that the weather is opening up we expect our attendance to grow.

The Young Ladies' Bible Class has been having some good meetings under the leadership of their teacher, Sister L. E. Colliver, and president, Sister La Vena Gray. Sister Lillian Hunt is vice president; Miss Hazel Geyer, secretary; and Sister Thelma Copley, treasurer. This class has a class meeting every second and fourth Friday of each month. These girls meet in the homes of the members, and they, as a rule, have a large number present. They not only have a good number out on their class meeting night, but they have an equally large number present on Sunday morning for Sunday School.

The Ladies' Bible Class meets each first and third Friday of each month. The writer has attended the last three meetings, and there has been shouting and testifying, and some real good singing. The last meeting was held in the home of Sister James K. Maynard, and it was a real meeting. The meeting, as usual, was opened with songs by the group, followed with prayer. The Riverside Four Quartet, consisting of Bro. Gordon Craig, R. P. Colliver, James and Charles Prince, was there, and their singing was enjoyed by all. Also, a trio, Rev. Henry Geyer and daughters, Hazel and Betty; and another trio, Sister H. C. Fisher, Sister Laura Ann

Prince, and Sister Gertrude Bowe, sang several numbers. Little Miss Helen Hicks played an accordion solo. The officers of this class are Sister Zella Brown, teacher; Sister H. C. Fisher, president; Sister James K. Maynard, secretary; and Sister Henry Geyer, treasurer.

The last time we reported, Brother Colliver was on his way to Paintsville, Kentucky, to hold a revival. This was a two weeks' revival, closing with five conversions.

The first Monday night in February, Bro. Colliver went to the Scioto Dale Free Will Baptist Church, Scioto Dale, Ohio, for a three weeks' revival, which closed with twenty-one conversions. Rev. Earl Rankin is pastor there, and one night during the revival he came to Sandy City and preached for the Sunday evening service. The choir from this place went down one night, and we enjoyed being in the services with the people there.

After a week's rest, Brother Colliver went to the Antioch Free Will Baptist Church, Lyra Station, Ohio, for another three weeks' revival. Rev. Bill Sheppard is pastor there, and Rev. Sullivan Purcell's church united efforts at this place, where 23 souls were saved. The Sandy City Choir went down three nights to sing, and took advantage of the hearty welcome extended to us by these good people.

Last night (April 6), Bro. Colliver entered another revival at the Enterprise Baptist Church, Ashland, Ky. We are trusting this will be a great meeting, and ask an interest in the prayers of God's people everywhere.

May God's richest blessings rest upon you all.

Castroville, California
April 1, 1941

To the Gem Family and our many friends: Greetings in Jesus' name!

At the time of our last report we were in the midst of a revival here. There were six who professed faith in Christ. Three of these, two mothers and one father, were cigarette smokers, and thanks to the good Lord they all quit the filthy habit.

One of these women, which is the mother of three little boys, told my wife and me that she smoked as much as two packages of cigarettes a day, at eleven cents per package. At that rate, for one year, it would amount to \$76.25. Then in the face of these startling facts, many professed followers of Christ, and some even preachers, would have the nerve to

tell us we should not preach against the tobacco habit. But when I read Rom. 12:1, Eph. 5:3-4, and 2 Cor. 7:1, "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God", I can not help but cry out against it.

After three weeks we closed the meeting. Then on Tuesday night we began a meeting in the Pentecostal church here. After an invitation by their pastor, we preached thirteen nights with no professions, but many real stirring services.

We find many good Christian people out here, but very few Free Will Baptists. My wife and I are enjoying the blessings of the good Lord, though we both have had the flu.

May God bless all of you that we have labored with and all of our big Gem family, is our prayer. We are getting home sick for Missouri. Please remember us in your prayers.

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

Ninth Week of Missionary Tour
H. M. and Lizzie McAdams

Dear Co-workers:

Greetings in Jesus' name! It is with great joy that we give our kindred in the Lord this report. Since coming to North Carolina, we have visited 43 churches, and placed in 37, both of the wonderful plans called "The Jeholada Chest Plan" and "The Penny-a-day Plan". We are carrying, each week in the *Baptist*, an honor roll of the churches that have accepted both plans. We have visited some weak churches that had no auxiliary work, and in one place we went back and organized. We will go back to Piney Grove, where we were last night, and organize.

We want to make mention of a Union Prayer Meeting, which we visited in Kinston last week; one which the Lord enabled us to organize 20 years ago during a ten weeks' revival conducted for Rev. E. C. Morris, while he was pastor in the city of Kinston. During the wonderful campaign, prayer groups met in various parts of the city, and at the close of the meeting, faithful women from different churches ask that they be organized into a Union Prayer Meeting. For twenty years, they have met every Friday afternoon and prayed for the pastors of the city, and have done a wonderful

work in caring for the sick and needy. They took a "Jehoiada Chest" and will join us in sending \$1.00 per month to Sister Fannie Polston, 318 Woodland Street, Nashville, Tennessee. If these noble women from the various churches are stirred to do mission work, should it not give us a new vision of the white harvest field. May God ever bless and let His approval be on these precious women.

We understand that Bro. Ennis had a wonderful tour in the west, and many took "The Penny-a-day" plan. What a wonderful thing it would be to get the "Jehoiada Chest", and all that have the chest and penny banks could send us the number of families co-operating, and we could run an Honor Roll in the *Gem* for the western people. Then by the time of the National Association, we could have a wonderful financial system worked out for the national work.

Now dear auxiliary workers, you that have the Jehoiada Chests, be sure to send your Easter offering to Sister Polston. You that don't have the chests yet, how nice it would be to sacrifice something that you expect to wear this summer and send the value of it to be put in the national treasury for a great program. Let's hold Bro. Ennis' hands up as our national secretary and help him put on the great penny-a-day program, which will soon be bringing in thousands of dollars yearly.

It is just a little early, but a word to you third vice presidents of the states, be sure to get your reports to me by July first. That will give me plenty of time to make my report, then we won't have to make reports after we get to the convention. We will have the best report this year as third vice president that we have ever had, and we would like for every state to get their report to us so we can be one hundred per cent.

Yours for Jesus,

H. M. and Lizzie McAdams

Bear Point Church Sesser, Illinois

W. R. Spurlock, Pastor
Emily Malone, Reporter

Dear Gem Readers:

It has been some time since there has been a report of our little church here, in Illinois, sent in to the *Gem*. Our reporter has moved away.

It makes our hearts rejoice when we receive our *Gem* each month and

read the many good letters and reports from all over the United States. We, too, want to tell the *Gem* readers how the Lord is blessing us, here, in Illinois and what we are trying to do for Him in our weak way.

The Lord is blessing us in a wonderful way. We have been remodeling and enlarging our church, and the Lord has surely been with us for we will soon have it completed.

We are indeed praising God for the Spirit and fellowship we have with one another. The power of God is really felt in our church services and also in our prayer meetings. Our prayer band meets each Tuesday night in cottage prayer meeting and each Thursday night at the church. We have been seeing souls saved in our cottage prayer meetings. Bro. Arlie Robison is our prayer band leader now. He has only been a Christian about one year, but he is really on fire for God and is working for Him in a wonderful way.

Our Sunday school is still going along nicely.

We have a woman's auxiliary in our church. We haven't been organized very long and the work is all new to us and we all feel our weakness very much. We are praying that God will lead us on to great victory. We believe there is a great work for the woman's auxiliary in our churches.

Our auxiliary put on a pre-Easter program at our church passion week. We had a different preacher and special singing each night. Each service was full of love and power from the very first night. One soul came weeping her way to the altar and was gloriously saved.

We have a group of fine young people that are really working for God. We have felt, keenly the last two months, the absence of some of our young soldiers, as they have left to find employment. We are praying that God will open up a way so they can soon come back home and be with us in all our services from which we miss them so much.

Our regular preaching services are the second and fourth Saturday nights, Sunday and Sunday nights of each month. Rev. W. R. Spurlock is our pastor and we thank God for our good shepherd and pray that we may be worthy of his leadership. We want to ask all praying people to pray for our church that it will continue to grow and prosper in the work of the Lord, and that we, as His children and servants of Jesus Christ,

will always be found doing His will.

I attended the last Franklin County Quarterly Meeting which was held at Ina, Illinois, beginning on Friday night before the fifth Sunday in March and continuing over the week end. It was a quarterly Meeting that will long be remembered by all those who attended because of the smiling approval and blessings of God and a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

I want to ask, again, that you all pray for us and all the Free Will Baptists in Illinois.

League Rally of First Mission Association of Oklahoma

Dear Readers of the *Gem*:

It seems like a very long time since I have written to the *Gem*. We have had such a grand young people's rally that I must tell you about it.

The Young People's League of the Free Will Baptist First Mission Association met with the Bluebell church on April 6, 1941. At the last rally Rev. Evert Kiefer, Tulsa, Oklahoma, was elected to bring the eleven o'clock message at Bluebell, but in his absence Rev. Harry Staires, Drumright, Okla., took the stand. Rev. Staires' sermon was directed especially to the young people on the subject "Life's Highway". It was really a powerful message and touched hearts. There were three conversions at the end of the service.

At the beginning of the afternoon service Rev. Staires and Rev. Hattie Newman discussed the youth camp that is to be held in connection with the Annual Camp Meeting in August. The discussion was mostly concerned with money to be raised to finance the camp and the dormitories to be built on the camp site. Seventy-three dollars were donated by people who are interested in seeing these plans for a young people's camp become a reality. Also to get the work really advancing, a motion was made that ten dollars be taken from the Associational League Treasury to be placed on the girls' dormitory and ten dollars be paid on the boys' dormitory. This motion carried.

Altogether, the afternoon service was one of the most interesting we have ever had. Perhaps it is because the leagues and the rally are growing so fast.

The song service was led by Raymond Lee, Drumright, Okla., and Norma Dell Smith played the piano for the singing. After a prayer by Rev. Evert Brown, the minutes of the

previous meeting was read and approved. A welcome was extended the visiting leagues by Doris Rogers, of Bluebell, and Norma Dell Smith, of Drumright, responded. Petitionary letters and letters of reports were submitted by the various leagues. These letters of reports are really a summary of the activities and accomplishments of the leagues since the last rally. A motion was made that each league pay ten per cent of its collections and offerings into the associational league treasury. After a through discussion this motion carried unanimously.

When the time arrived to decide on the next meeting place, several churches requested that the rally meet with them. Silver City, Tuskegee, Sapulpa, Liberty, and Bristow were all anxious to be host to the young people, but by popular vote Bristow was the place set.

Sister Purcell was elected by acclamation to bring the message at the next meeting.

Representatives were there from the following churches: Tuskegee, Silver City, Tulsa, Liberty, Bluebell, Vance Chapel, Sapulpa, Antioch, Drumright, Bristow, Clive, Pretty Water, and Tecumseh. Most of the leagues presented programs and when the judges' decision was given, Drumright was awarded the program banner. Of an attendance of probably over five hundred, Tulsa league had the most representatives, therefore, they were awarded the attendance banner.

Our league rally is growing so much that we know God is in the move.

First Free Will Baptist Church Tulsa, Oklahoma

Rev. Melvin Bingham, Pastor
T. J. Cope, Reporter

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Readers:

We will endeavor to give you some of the glad tidings from the Tulsa church. First I wish to do some bragging regarding our Sunday school. We are steadily growing regardless of the inclement weather of the past few weeks. On Sunday, April 20, our attendance was 247 for which we are thanking the Lord.

Right here and now, we want to offer an apology to our mission mothers. We stated in the last *Gem* that they had paid \$51.00 on the new building fund. This amount should have been \$91.00. At this time they are far over the \$100.00 mark.

A grand surprise, and very much appreciated, was offered Sunday April

13th by the Soul Winners Class. A donation of \$21.00 to the building fund was presented to the pastor by their teacher, Bro. Reniger. The Lord is wonderfully blessing our church in many ways. We now have just a few dollars less than \$700.00 in cash paid in. Bro. Reniger has it that some of the other Sunday school classes are going to go far ahead of the Soul Winners Class regarding the donation. We are hoping the different classes will strive to out do each other.

We are, at this time, enjoying one of the best revivals ever experienced at our church. Bro. Winford Davis, of Monett, Missouri, has been conducting services only one week, and to date something like 23 precious souls have been saved and reclaimed. How thankful we are that the Lord sent Bro. Davis our way. We already feel that we will have a far better report next month.

Last Sunday night, April 20, our church was filled to its capacity; some standing, proving our need for a larger building.

Well, we are a little late with this report, but hope it gets there in time. Pray for us. Be sure to stop and visit us when passing this way.

Cottonwood Church Muldrow, Oklahoma

Rev. Don Bias, Pastor
Evelyn Burris, Reporter

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

We have not written for some time but we are still on the firing line for God. We have been having some wonderful services. Our Sunday School has grown almost five hundred (500) per cent in the past ten months.

We have just been in a quarterly conference at Mineral Springs. We had a wonderful meeting and some wonderful sermons. The next quarterly conference will be with the Cottonwood church.

Our Sunday School is going to visit with Mineral Springs Easter Sunday for a program and Sunday School services.

We have made a great deal of improvement in our church since we last wrote you. We have papered the house and got some new seats. Our choir has doubled since our Sunday School was organized. Our choir is eagerly looking forward to a singing school soon.

Continue praying for this church and if you are ever in this section of the country, visit our church.

Report of District Evangelist of Old Mt. Zion Ass'n. of Arkansas

Dear Bro. Rollins and Gem Readers:

As I haven't written for some time, I will give a brief report of our council meeting and of the work I have done for the Lord from the fifth Sunday in December to the fifth Sunday in March.

On the fifth Sunday in March, our council meeting met with New Hope church near La Rue, Arkansas. We had a good service. Some fine subjects were discussed and we met brothers and sisters that hadn't been with us in the council for some time. It did us much good to meet them again.

On account of sickness I didn't do very much work. I conducted one revival, preached 25 sermons, witnessed 3 professions, conducted 6 funerals, traveled 450 miles, expenses \$15.95, money received by offerings \$16.88, money received on 10c fee at council \$28.50.

Yours for Jesus,

— Eld. Cecil Garrison.

S. S. CONVENTION REPORTS

Dear Sunday School Workers of Missouri.

Our year is drawing to a close and I am anxious to know of the work accomplished in each section of the state. We are hoping to receive a good report from each convention secretary, and also from our field workers where we have no convention.

June 30th closes our fiscal Sunday school year and we are looking to you for a yearly report. We will furnish you the blanks. Please mail as soon after July 1st as possible. We are thanking you in advance for your reports.

Miss Milda Huggins, Secretary,
Route 4, Fredericktown, Missouri.

Indian Creek Sunday School Convention

The Indian Creek Convention of Free Will Baptist Sunday Schools met at Granby, Missouri on April 20th. A good time was enjoyed in the discussion of the topics in the Sunday School Manual and the program which was given.

Our convention is entering the state contest. Judges were appointed. Letters must be sent to Rev. O. T. Alfred, Monett, Missouri, not later than July 5. See page two for rules.

OBITUARIES

HEMPHILL—Jefferson Monroe Hemphill was born June 8, 1887, in Parker County, Texas, about twelve miles west of Weatherford. He departed this life April 13, 1941, after an illness of about two years, at the age of 53 years, 10 months, and 5 days.

He was converted at an early age and united with the Free Will Baptist Church at New Hope near his home.

On April 26, 1931, he was married to Mrs. Katheryn Higgins Griffin. To this union was born one son, Monte Eugene, who preceded him in death.

He leaves a wife and two foster children, Royce Edalyn and James Lee; five sisters, Mrs. Mary Whitiker, Mrs. Mattie Hill, Mrs. Cora Melton, Mrs. Beulah Taylor, and Mrs. Stella Blackabee; also a host of relatives and friends.

He served his church as deacon for a number of years, and was always faithful and loyal.

Bro. Jeff spent his entire life in the same place. He made many friends in the county, who greatly miss him.

On account of rain and bad roads, his funeral was held in the Cotton and Braton Funeral Chapel at Weatherford, Texas, by his pastor, Rev. J. A. Brooks and Rev. T. H. Newsom. He was laid to rest in the New Berry cemetery.

He lived many years in this country
And made many friends on his way.
He was a good husband and father,
And we loved him more every day.

And now that he's living in heaven,
In his beautiful home in the sky,
He'll get everything ready to meet us,
And welcome us all by and by.

—Tommie Ral Brooks.

MEINDERS—Berend B. Meinders was born in Reison, Germany, September 3, 1866. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Peter Toppe, 203 Titus Ave., Des Moines, Iowa, January 16, 1941.

He came to America when he was thirteen and lived near Bevington, Iowa. At the age of twenty-one he became an American citizen.

He was converted in 1934 and joined the Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist church. He is survived by his wife, three children, and many other relatives, some in Germany. Uncle Ben was a splendid friend and neighbor, and we hope to leave a record as good as his has been.

FROST—Jane Stiles Frost was born at Elmira, New York, Sept. 1, 1856. She died at the home of her sister, Mrs. Ralph T. Hoyt, near Thayer, Missouri, on January 24, 1941.

Her life was one of unceasing helpfulness under all circumstances and only loving memories remain.

WOODS—Erma Kerns, daughter of Harvey and Ida Kerns, was born in Buchanan County, May 26, 1907. She departed this life April 8, 1941 at the age of 33 years, 10 months, and 13 days.

She was married to J. D. Woods, on March 26, 1923, and made their home on a farm near Stewartsville, Missouri. To this union were born four children: two sons, J. D. Jr. and Bobby; two daughters, Marilyn Rose and Dixie Lee.

She leaves to mourn her early departure, her husband; the four children; her father and mother of Easton, Mo.; two sisters, Mrs. Silvia Fisher and Miss Mary Kerns of Easton; two brothers, Floyd Kerns of Easton and Clifford Kerns of Stewartsville, besides many other relatives and friends.

She was converted in 1923 and united with the Union Third Fork Free Will Baptist Church. She was a faithful member until her death and will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Funeral services were conducted on April 10th by Rev. C. M. Dauber. Special singing was rendered by the Easton High School, and Mr. Foster of Topeka, Kansas.

Interment was in the Union Third Fork cemetery, with the Lyon Funeral Home in charge.

A Newspaper Clipping

J. D. Woods Jr. and Bobby Woods, farm brothers living near Stewartsville, Missouri, returned home from school to find that their mother, Mrs. Erma Woods, had been butted and pawed to death by a hornless bull that she had attempted to drive into a pasture with a pitchfork. Mrs. Woods, thirty-five years old, apparently had survived the attack long enough to crawl under a fence into an adjoining pasture, according to Dr. J. M. Auten, Stewartsville physician, who was called by the two sons.

The husband, John Woods, was in St. Joseph on business when the animal attacked his wife. Her two small daughters, Marilyn and Dixie

Lee, are believed to have witnessed the tragedy. When the two boys returned from school at Easton, Marilyn told them, "Mother had a fight with the bull."

The bull, still at large when the boys arrived, was stunned by a shot gun charge when it attempted to attack the brothers. Doctor Auten said Mrs. Woods had been dead several hours when her body was found.

Funeral services were held at Freeman's Chapel, west of Stewartsville, with burial in the Freeman's Chapel cemetery.

RUNYON—John Emory Runyon was born June 14, 1878, and died April 11, 1941, being 62 years, 3 months, and 27 days old at his death. He is survived by one sister, Hester Ann Runyon; two brothers, William and Allen; two nieces, two nephews, and a host of friends who will sadly miss him at Sunday school and church.

"Little Johnny", as he was familiarly called by young and old, was badly crippled the greater part of his life, but rain or shine always found him at the House of God. He united with the Sandy City Free Will Baptist church October 14, 1939, and while little in stature, he was one of the biggest members the church had.

His death came as a distinct shock to relatives and friends. He did not know when he testified at prayer service that God would call him in less than four hours, but his testimony was that he was ready to go.

Rev. L. E. Collier conducted the funeral at the Sandy City church, and burial was made in the Williams Cemetery, Ashland, Kentucky, under the direction of the Kilgore and Collier Funeral Home of Catlettsburg.

Little Johnny has finished his journey.
His life on this earth is o'er,
He's begun a new life with Jesus
On Heaven's shining shore.

While here he patiently served Jesus,
And often we've heard him say
He was ready to go when God called him,
And proved it from day to day.

Now that he is gone we shall miss him.
Miss his face at the House of Prayer,
But we know he is happy with Jesus
Where he knows no suffering or care.

Little Johnny has gone and left us,
Plodding on toward Heaven's shore,
But someday we're going to be with him
And Jesus forever more.

—Gertrude Bowe.

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