

# The Free Will Baptist Gem

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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## ANNOUNCING!

## NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH IDEALS

A series of three articles by the Editor will appear in the January, February, and March issues of the Gem, setting forth the New Testament teaching on

**Church Organization and Government**  
**Church Financing**  
**Church Enterprising**

These revelations are the result of ten years of practical ministry and much earnest studying the Word of God. The principles herein set forth are now in operation in the church of the Editor's pastorate and are bringing great blessings and promises to lead every church in Missouri, if not in the denomination!

**DONT MISS THESE TRUE-TO-THE-BIBLE  
DISCUSSIONS**



# New Testament Church Ideals

## A Special Editorial Feature

### Series 2 -- Church Financing



HERE IS A Most beautiful picture portrayed in the words found in Acts 4:37-39, which describe the state of the Church at Jerusalem. These believers in a new-found faith were in such a state of high ecstasy, and their deep gratitude to Christ

was so boundless that their expressions of worship became most unusual. It was a "heart" worship so overwhelming that all their "treasures" were brought in, and their hearts and treasures were laid together on the altar of devotion to Him who had saved them from their sins.

They sold their houses, lands, and other possessions and laid them down at the apostles' feet. They had all things common; for distribution was made to every person. This is not modern political Socialism — this is the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. Ananias and Sapphira sold a possession and kept back part of the price, which was no act of sin (Acts 5:4), but they met judgement on the basis that they lied to God. The crime revealed the fact that their hearts were not in the Church, because they withheld their treasure.

The Church of the Lord Jesus is suffering today because believers will not accept the noble example of the early church in the act of bringing their treasures into the church. The situation reveals that their hearts cannot be in the Church because their treasures are not in the Church. This would not be true if there were not so many Free Will Baptist preachers, and preachers in general throughout Christendom, who absolutely *refuse* to preach on the last paragraph in the fourth chapter of Acts. Great responsibilities rest upon the ministry, and rightly so, and those who

cannot assume these responsibilities are unworthy of the name. Churches, generally, will respond to *leadership*, and perhaps this is the reason that churches, generally, are so far from the New Testament ideal. It is undeniable that the hearts of the people are where their treasures are (Luke 12:34). When flaming, passionate, New Testament preaching calls upon the people to bring their treasures into the Church, one may rest assured their hearts will be brought in also. One does not come in without the other.

The average church treasurer is a "figure-head"; the church offering is a mere pittance; and the church operates upon a meager and embarrassing basis. When an opportunity for real service arises, the average church is "broke." Civic organizations and lodges arise to the occasion and so receive the honors. Non-Christian men help; even churchmen help in *their own names*, unwilling to crucify themselves, while their church sits reproachfully in the community with its confidence long since departed.

There are other churches which "strive" to live, and it reminds one of "death struggles." In spite of the reproaches they unwittingly pull down upon themselves, they manage to pay their minister a small allowance, which is right (1 Cor. 9:14), and to keep up current expenses. The real joy of abounding in the grace of giving is a stranger to them.

When the Free Will Baptist Church at Carterville, Missouri called me for pastor, my first sermon was Acts 4:32-37 — my "Sermon on the Mount", which set forth the Constitution of a New Testament Church. A decision was brought to bear upon the proposition, "If you don't want this program, you don't want me for pastor."

On a basis of 1 Cor. 16:2, there is only

ONE offering given—our whole offering given to Christ on the Lord's day. We do not "take" an offering for Missions, one for Orphanages, one for Christian Education, and then one for Evangelism, or for anything else—worthy as these enterprises are. (Once a pastor complained to me that his ministry was "such a drag." He was asked to collect conference dues, take offerings for Missions, for Bible Colleges, for Aged Ministers' Assistance: "In fact," said he, "It is to take an offering every time I appear before my people." They walked out on him). The New Testament asks for only ONE offering—a whole offering—and that "laid down at the apostles' feet."

Those who tithe their income bring ALL the tithe for "distribution to be made" while the Church is in conference or worship. Instead of withholding a part of the tithe so as to have "a little" to drop into the "mission collection", or the "collection" for the evangelist, the whole tithe is offered cheerfully, gratefully, and without stint, while the giver is willing to crucify himself in order to let the joy and life of Christ abound in his life. This is worshipful giving. This is New Testament giving.

The month of September, 1942, ended (half of which was under my ministry) with a total income of \$60.00, all bills paid, and \$25.00 left in the treasury. This was most unusual for the little church—everybody was happy. The church, assembled in conference, voted to give ten per cent of its income to the denomination for Evangelism (both home and foreign), Christian Education, and Benevolence. A

check for \$6.00 was sent through our Missouri State Associational Treasury to the Unified Program of the National Association, which allocates its funds to ALL Christian enterprises. That set the church on fire! October ended with an income of \$78.11 and a monthly balance of \$30.01 (total balance \$55.01) and a check for \$7.81 tithe offering sent to the Missouri State Associational Treasury for use in the extension of Christ's kingdom in Missouri as sponsored by the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists.

Confidence was inspired, attendance increased, a revival began to be prayed down, spirituality loomed high. Rev. L. R. Ennis, our beloved National Executive Secretary, has taught us that "where confidence is marred, example has little weight." In the community of Carterville, Missouri, there is confidence in the little Free Will Baptist Church, and there is example, and there are pleasing results.

Our church in Carterville, Missouri; the Free Will Baptist Church in St. Louis, Mo. which is under the ministry of Rev. Mark Lewis; the Highland Park Church, Detroit, Michigan, under the ministry of Rev. Raymond Riggs; and the Davis Church in Davis, North Carolina, which is under the pastoral care of Rev. L. R. Ennis are the only Free Will Baptist churches under the shining sun that is known to be giving the tithe of their income to the denomination for the promotion of the Cause of Christ on a national and world scale. Would to God there were more!

The ideal calls for a "dismissal" of

## CARTERVILLE

### Free Will Baptist Church

#### A Worship Offering to Christ

Name .....

Amount .....

"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him"—1st Cor. 16:2.

"God loveth a cheerful giver"—2nd Cor. 9:7.

The Envelope in Which a Whole Offering is Made to the Lord at Carterville

all treasurers but one, and his books are opened for reports monthly. We have thrown out all collections for this cause and that, and we make one offering each Sunday. When conference times comes, we shall all loathe the practice of going about trying to collect ten cents from each member for dues and then come up short

at the conference. We will take a full quote to our conference from our treasury and will not be ashamed and embarrassed. Furthermore, according to the principle of the real ideal, when an opportunity arises within our community, **WE ARE READY TO SERVE!**



## GOSPEL SERMONS



### Walking With God

Evangelist Elsie M. Curtis, 1104 South 12th Street, Herrin, Illinois

"And Enoch walked with God and he was not, for God took him." Gen. 5:24.

"By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death.....for before his translation he had this testimony that he pleased God." Hebrews 11:5.

**T**HE LIFE HISTORY OF THE Man named Enoch, found in Genesis 5 and Hebrews 11, is very brief, indeed. Only five short verses discuss his life and translation, yet these five verses reveal volumes to the searching eye of the student of Scripture. Many times in writing history, man has penned book after book concerning the doings of a single, illustrious individual; but here we have examples of inspired writers, moved upon by the Holy Spirit, writing the history of this man of God, from the time of his birth, through three hundred and sixty-five years on earth, and in the end, sweeping him into the glorious presence of God without his having to "taste death," and using only eighty-five words in the entire recording.

We have heard the imaginary story told of Enoch taking a walk one beautiful evening, communing with God as he walked along, and never noticing that he had gone far from home until darkness fell around him. As he stood wondering what to do, the Lord said, "Enoch, because of your constant communion with heaven, you are nearer there than to your earthly home: Just come on home with me and stay." This does, indeed, paint a lovely picture of the homegoing; but what of the three

hundred and sixty-five years of "walking" day after day? Not all this time was included in the pleasant evening stroll under azure tinted skies, along a rose bordered path, with the birds singing overhead, culminating in eternal bliss and happiness.

Let us find the key words to the written history of Enoch. "By faith...." "and Enoch walked...." I am convinced that this reveals faith and works, going hand in hand. James, in his epistle, tells us "faith without works is dead." The word "faith" revealed his knowledge of, his acquaintance with, and his belief in the Living God; while the word "walked" portrayed faith put into action. I am persuaded that had not Enoch's *walk* corresponded with his *faith*, his name would never have been inscribed on the pages of Holy Writ. Faith, unaccompanied by works, becomes a dead, inanimate, useless, thing. Faith sees and grasps the truth....works reveal the truth. Faith reaches out. and *takes from God....works freely gives to the world that which is received.* Faith begets experience....works are manifest testimony. Enoch, perhaps, did not need to say so much to loved ones and friends, for his daily "walk" was concrete evidence that he had been with God.

"By faith....Enoch walked with....and pleased God." This does not mean that he was perfect. It would be well for us to remember in studying the lives of those recorded in Scripture, "they were men of like passion as we are." They had their

trials, and hard tests, and griefs and heartaches, times of discouragements, and seasons of failure, moments of regret, and remorse, and confessions to make....they had the same enemy of the soul to battle with; the same fleshly lusts to overcome by the power of God; the same tempting world to live in that never has "been a friend to grace to help us on to God." If Enoch could live "on the other side of the Cross," and walk for three hundred and sixty-five years, pleasing to God, surely we, with God as our Father, Jesus Christ, His Son, as our Savior, and the Holy Spirit as our guide, also may have the same testimony of "pleasing God."

This implies *OBEDIENCE*. Disobedience could never please the heart of God, or let His smile of approval shine through upon the life. Wilful disobedience drove Adam and Eve from the garden of Eden, with the curse of God resting upon an entire creation; it caused Cain to become a murderer; it hurled Saul, the king of Israel, from his throne and it was given to another; disobedience of one man brought defeat to the entire army of Israel at the battle of Ai; disobedience caused Jonah to flee from the presence of God, until as a result he found himself in the depths of the sea, forsaken, utterly undone and helpless, with the walls of the whale's belly enclosing him, mountains of water rolling over him, and the sea weeds wrapped about his head; disobedience caused the rich young ruler to turn sorrowfully away from the privilege and opportunity offered him by the Master to become a follower and disciple of our Lord.

The obedience of Abraham brought to fulfillment the promise God made to him, "In thee shall all nations of the world be blest." The obedience of Moses brought deliverance to an entire nation. The obedience of Solomon brought into existence a Temple for worship, and for the abiding presence of God. Through the obedience of Jesus, a Savior was provided for a lost world. Through the obedience of Paul, the Apostle, and Missionary, the Gentile nations have been made the recipients of the glorious gospel of salvation.

The path of obedience will not always lead by cool, sparkling waters, or through

the green pastures; not always by the way of ease, comfort, and luxury. The way of obedience to God is not always pleasant to the natural man, but it is the way that is "pleasing to God." We do not always understand why the Lord leads in this certain way, and when it seems to be hard, toilsome, grievous, uphill going, we are prone to question the judgment of God, but shall we not "press on" knowing that He knows the way, and has gone before us?

The words "with God" bring to our minds the picture of two, walking together in sweet fellowship, love and understanding. The fullest meaning of fellowship can only be realized where love and understanding exists. What blessed times of fellowship Adam and Eve enjoyed as God, their Creator, came and walked with them in the cool of the evening. David, the shepherd lad, after sweet seasons of communion with God, as he tended his flocks, could write the beautiful words, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want....He leadeth me beside the still waters....He maketh me to lie down in green pastures....Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art *with me*...."

Paul must have known times of precious fellowship, for we hear him confidently say, "for I know in whom I have believed...." Those times of fellowship through the Spirit made him long for that time when "faith would be turned into sight." In writing to the Philippians, he revealed this longing by saying, "...for I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be *with Christ*; which is far better...." Fellowship speaks of friendship, and certainly it is wonderful to know that through the atoning Blood of Jesus, enmity has ceased, and God and man have been made friends. Jesus said, "I have called you *friends*." I love the words of the old song which expresses this thought so beautifully;

"Friendship with Jesus; friendship divine.

O, what blessed, sweet communion,  
Jesus is a friend of mine."

"And Enoch walked with God..." These recorded histories of the lives of men of old have been written for our good, that



we might profit by them. It is possible that these same words may be spoken of you and me. "\_\_\_\_\_ walked with God." A walk of obedience, fellowship, friendship, and communion with the Lord will lead far from paths of disobedience, worldliness, self-will, and selfishness. A walk with God will lead to fullest consecration, to deepest humility, to supreme sacrifice, to earnest desire that the world might know the Christ we love and serve. Heaven has been made a reality by faith, through the testimony of the Word of God, by the dying words of many who, like Stephens, caught a glimpse of the beauty and the glory of that other land. Enoch only realized what heaven was at the end of the earthly "walk."

A dear old lady recently sat in her home, at the end of a life's journey, after many years spent in service and sacrifice for, and in fellowship with, her beloved Lord. She sweetly asked that the pastor read the twenty-first chapter of Revelation at her funeral service. Then she added, "After you read the Scripture, just say whatever you feel the Lord wants you to say." I heard the pastor who had ministered to

her church for about eleven years speak with this old saint of the Lord about times when she was a help, and a comfort, both to him and the church; of the years of faithfulness, and of the prayers they had prayed together, and had witnessed the answers coming; of the battles and hardships, when the church had been struggling for existence, instead of it being a beautiful, prosperous church as it is today. At the end of the way, the tried and tested saint looked back over the earthly walk, and the glow of heavenly light seemed already to have been shining on her countenance. After listening to the conversation, watching the light of joy, and peace, and sweet contentment glow in her face, and hearing the praises of the Lord fall from her lips, I did not need the words of the pastor telling me that this was one who had been faithful and true, in all circumstances, and under all conditions, in her years of service in the church.

When "finis" shall be written to the last chapter of our earthly history, God grant that it may be truthfully said of us, "\_\_\_\_\_ walked with God...and had this testimony that \_\_\_\_\_ pleased God...."

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## Drinking From the Cup

Rev. F. C. Zinn, 405 S. Wood Avenue, Fredericktown, Mo.

"For thus saith the Lord God of Israel unto me; Take the wine cup of this fury at my hand, and cause all nations, to whom I send thee, to drink. And they shall drink, and be moved, and be mad, because of the sword that I will send among them." Jeremiah 25:15-16.

**THE TWENTY-FIFTH** Chapter of Jeremiah contains a message for the Armageddon period. Verses fifteen and sixteen tell of a sword that will be released among the nations. Verse seventeen said that "all nations" will drink of the cup of God's wrath. Having continued in sin, ignoring the pleadings of the Lord Jesus Christ, turning down the mercy of God, living in open rebellion against the kingdom of heaven, the nations of the world provoke divine fury. No country shall escape.

Please notice the roll call of the nations

in the next eight verses. The prophet begins calling; "To wit, Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and the kings thereof ....Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and his servants, and his princes, and all his people; and all the mingled people" which include the mixed races in whose veins Egyptian blood flows. Jeremiah continued, "And all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistine, and Ashkelon, and Azzah, and Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod, Edom, and Moab, and the children of Ammon. And all the kings of Tyrus, and all the kings of Zidon and the kings of the isles which are beyond the sea." Notice the words "all the kings" which implies that no country is to be omitted. Jeremiah goes farther, "Deban, and Tema, and Buz, and all that are in the utmost corners. And all the kings of Arabia. And all the kings of the mingled

people that dwell in the desert. And all the kings of Zimri, and all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes. And all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another, and all the kings of the world, which are upon the face of the earth." The entire face of the earth is covered in the next statement, "I will call for a sword upon all the inhabitants of the earth, saith the Lord of host."

The Scofield Bible foot-notes are undoubtedly correct, "The prophecy leaps to the very end of this age." The language is so far reaching in its application, that it could not possibly be limited to the invasion of Nebuchadnezzar, which Jeremiah also discussed.

Rev. John Quincy Adams, a British Bible teacher, wrote a book entitled "The Doom of Today's Towns and Cities." In it, he outlined prophetically, the fate of modern cities, describing with amazing accuracy their condition under attack from the skies. This seemed unbelievable at the time. His reference to air raid shelters, people burrowing in the ground like rodents to avoid destruction from above, no doubt was read and sneered at. Today, his prophetic deductions are understandable. Mr. Adams referred to the Babylon of Revelation 18 as a type of the end-time. He regarded it as typical of all large cities located in the civilized areas of the world.

Turn now to Rev. 18:11, "And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more." Please read the ration list in Rev. 18:12-13, "And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men."

Let us look at the spices mentioned, are they hard to get today? Oil, how about the oil situation? And fine flour, ask the women about the dainties made from fine flour. And wheat, and beasts, referred to as cattle, go to the butcher shop and ask about beef and other meats. And horses and chariots, never was a time known when there are as few horses in the country as there are today. The chariots can mean nothing but the automobile. Talk to the car salesmen who have been making money



Rev. and Mrs. F. C. Zinn

off of the people trading them used automobiles, they are standing around wondering what they are going to do. And slaves, Scofield refers to them as "bodies" or manual laborers. Think of the laborers there are in the world today when men are frozen to their jobs. And souls of men! Brother, people are selling their souls every day. The craving after the dollar is robbing the church, people are moving away to good jobs and are forgetting the church.

In Rev. 18:21-22, the commercial crash becomes total as the great city goes down. "The voice of harpers and minstrels, and flute players and trumpeteers shall be heard no more in thee." In the city, everything is done to music, fine orchestras play as people eat in fine hotels. Even the boy who shines shoes work accompanied by loud sounding phonograph music or radios, and radio jazz is going from morning till night, then all night, advertizing everything imaginable. All this music shall cease to be heard no more. "And no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found in thee."

In Luke 17:28 we read, "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded." But after this the



"sound of the millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee." Jeremiah 25:10 states "Moreover, I will take from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstone and the light of the candle." So it is, "the light of a candle shall shine no more in thee." This is a prophecy, that all man made power houses shall become still.

How do these cities fall? "And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air. And there came a great voice..... saying It is done. And earthquakes, thunders, lightnings, voices and disturbances in the heavens above, and earth beneath" are associated with the fall of the cities of the nations. (Rev. 15:17).

Read Rev. 16:13-16, "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles which go forth unto the kings of the earth, and of the whole world to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold I come as a thief, Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon."

If you will read carefully, you will find

that Christ comes first, and gathers His church, then He gathered them into Armageddon. The rapture of the saints is described in Luke 12:39 as a visit of a thief breaking into a household. Also in 1 Thes. 5:2 "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night." This statement is followed in the same chapter with the assuring promise that "God hath not appointed us to wrath". Armageddon results from the fact that divine restraint is lifted, thus opening the flood gates of judgement. Hence the wrath of God will be poured out. Paul assures us that Christians are not "appointed to wrath". The removal of the church before the great tribulation period is here inferred.

The thief comes unexpectedly and takes away the best. The world in all its wickedness, and ungodliness, and crime will not be looking for Christ. He will come and take the best away, the church, the "ecclesia" called out, separated, consecrated, holy, born again, prayed up, and paid up Christians. Praise God forever, are you ready?

Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid?  
Your heart does the Spirit control?

You can only be blessed and have peace  
and sweet rest.

As you yield him your body and soul.

## I Stand at the Door and Knock

Rev. William Buster, Thebes, Illinois

Scripture Lesson, Revelation 3:20

**I**N SERMON, THE Text is often applied to the unsaved. It is applicable to the unsaved heart, but the real meaning of the text reveals the position of Christ to the church at the close of the church-age.

The message of the first three chapters of Revelation is directed to seven specific churches, which also represent seven distinct conditions during seven periods of history through which the church is to pass from the first church unto the end of the church-age. The message to the Laodicean church describe the church of the judgment, or the church in operation

when Jesus comes to rapture His Bride out of the world. The rapture of the Spirit-filled will take place just before the last three and one half years of the Tribulation (or in the middle of Daniel's seventieth week). Christ is represented, in the text, as standing at the door of the church in this present day begging in vain for admission.

The present condition of the church is the field of apostacized profession where the Deity of Christ and the atoning power of His blood is either ignored or denied. The prevailing attitude in this Laodicean church period is "just join the church, keep

paid up, and do the best you can." It is to accept Christ from a historical standpoint (head—not heart belief).

The thought that Jesus knocks may produce a variety of emotions. It may produce joy on the part of some in that He still knocks; sorrow on the part of others in that He is not admitted; and wonder on the part of many that He comes back and knocks again after being rejected so many times. Would you return and knock on the door of a professed friend after he had refused to let you in even once? That is the very position of Christ to the modern church. He continues knocking and pleading for admittance even though He is unwittingly and often deliberately shut out!

### Riches

There are three outstanding things that keeps the door closed. Laodicia said, "I am rich and have need of nothing." The church, as a whole, has all the money it needs, and more. It cannot say now, "Silver and gold have I none." It has also lost the power to say, "In the name of Jesus, rise up and walk." Riches have led to worldliness, to pride in fine buildings and equipment, and an educated ministry, music and culture. It is rich materially, but spiritually, "wretched, poor, naked, miserable, and blind."

### Self-Satisfaction

With riches comes self-satisfaction (just another word for stagnation). The self-satisfied church member ceases to "grow in grace," and becomes useless to God. The self-satisfied church loses its vision, its love for lost souls, becomes a "Gossip Club" love for lost souls, becomes a place to play or a mere social center—a place to den Ping Pong or to sell merchandise—a den of thieves instead of a house of prayer. With self-satisfaction comes laziness (a luke warm condition). Souls outside are drinking and dancing their way to hell and the church is too lazy to save them. God help us!

### Secret Interior Conditions

Since the door is closed, why is it not opened? Why doesn't the housewife in- vited company when she is cleaning house and the furniture it topsy-turvy? Simply because of the condition of the house. Why is not Christ invited into the cold formal

church of today? Because there are sins and pet hobbies, division, carnality, mis- trust, hate, greed and worldliness that would have to vanish if He were allowed to come in.

He who is knocking is our Savior and friend. He is accessible, always listening for our prayer, always sympathetic and understanding. He wants to commune with us and have us call upon Him. He wants to gain refreshment for His compassionate heart and also refresh the weary, battle- worn soldier of the cross. "Ho, every one that thirsteth come ye to the waters...." (Isa. 55:1). "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28).

Is He to be admitted? If so, how? How would you invite a friend into your house? Would you wait until he had worn all the skin off his knuckles and exhausted his patience and then drag over to the door and say, "Well, come in," as if you didn't care whether he did or not? If he was your friend, you would rush to the door and bid them welcome to every comfort at your disposal. Some people treat Christ as if He were a door-to-door salesman, and he is respected far less than the delivery boy or the insurance collector!

What does He bring us? Life, He is the source of life; hope, because He is the only hope; salvation, because He is the author of salvation.

Dear friend, He still stands at the door of the church with love. He still wants to come in and cast out the unclean, restore our "first love," set our feet back in "the old paths wherein is the good way," and stir the revival fires and save men from their sin. May we open our hearts to Him and feast at His table, and as a re- sult be enabled to feed the world in these perilous times. The world is looking to the church now as never before.

— 08 —

## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Editor is scheduled to conduct a revival meeting at Rock Chapel near Norwood, Missouri, beginning Monday night, February 1st and continuing half a month.



# The Millennium on Earth

Rev. George P. Avery, Monett, Mo.

It is the plan of God in His great purpose of redemption for the universe to head up all things in Christ, Eph. 1:10. God having accomplished our redemption in the cross, purposes in the ages to come to show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus, Eph. 3:7.

The kingdom of God in the Old Testament is seen as in prospect and in promise. Under the law with its ordinances of divine service it is seen in type and shadow. At present in this dispensation of grace the kingdom is actually being established in its spiritual phase. The kingdom of God is now, even though in its earthly elements and because of Satan's activities to corrupt it, as we saw in the parables of Matt. 13, there is a mixture of good and evil.

There is a distorted dispensational teaching which says that John the Baptist and Christ Himself offered to the Jews the kingdom in outward manifestation and had they accepted Him it would have been immediately set up and the Roman government would have been superseded by Christ's universal kingdom. This teaching further says that in view of the rejection of Christ by the Jewish nation, the kingdom was postponed. This could not have been the import of "the kingdom of heaven" as announced by John, for the cross was in the Plan and purpose of God from before the foundation of the world and it was inevitable.

The terms "kingdom of heaven" in Matthew and "kingdom of God" in Mark and Luke are identical in meaning and importance and refer to this present dispensation of the gospel when the kingdom is being proclaimed, and those who accept enter into the kingdom by the new birth. The kingdom of God is being established in this present time actually and spiritually. But God is not being glorified in the earth as He should be and will be. The Lord's prayer—

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven"—is yet unanswered. But it will surely be answered and the kingdom of God will be manifested outwardly in glory on the earth. This is the period

just ahead of us, the age to come, the millennium.

Millennium means 1,000 years from two Latin words, "Mille," thousand and "annum" year. This period is mentioned six times in one passage of Scripture, Rev. 20:1-7. It is the time when Satan will be bound and Christ will reign on earth. In Daniel's vision of the image and the beasts he saw a succession of four kingdoms or world powers followed by the "stone kingdom" Dan. 2:45; 7:13, 14. This kingdom is set up at the revelation of Christ from heaven (Rev. 19:1-21) to destroy the anti-christ (2 Thess. 2:8) and to judge the nations (Joel 3:9-17).

The earth will be ruled then, not as a monarchy, nor as a great democracy, nor as an aristocracy, but as a THEOCRACY; i.e. God Himself will rule in the person of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. (Luke 1:32, 33; Dan. 7:13, 14).

The world's capital will then be Jerusalem, restored and rebuilt. Then will be actually fulfilled the Psalmist's vision, Psalms 48:1-3; Cf. also Isa. 3:2-4. It is certain that the grant of land promised to Abraham (Gen. 15:15-18) was never wholly occupied by the nation even during the prosperous times of David and Solomon. The original grant extends from the river of Egypt (either the Nile or the wady El Arish) to the Euphrates. If the whole length of the Euphrates is as a boundary, then the whole peninsula of Arabia would be included. Further ground for believing this is seen in the references in Deut. 11:24 and Ezek. 47:18 to the "utmost sea" and the "east sea" which can scarcely refer to the Dead Sea, but to the Indian Ocean. "The desert shall bloom as a rose" is the promise of Scripture and the greatly increased numerical enlargement of Israel during the millennium is prophesied in Isa. 60:23.

In Ezek. 48:1-35 is set forth the apportionment of this territory to the twelve tribes of Israel in broad bands extending from east to west, beginning with the tribe of Dan on the north, ending with Gad on the south. Between the tribes of Judah and Benjamin is a portion to be known as the Holy Oblation. This territory is 25,000

reeds, or approximately 60 miles square, in which will be located the millennial city in the southern area. North of it the temple enclosure is about one mile square.

The passage in Ezek. 47:1-12 has often been spiritualized to refer only to the river of salvation, the waters of the Holy Spirit, etc. However, in its primary significance it surely is descriptive of a literal river flowing out from under the new temple, eastward and emptying into the Dead Sea.

The healing waters of this river cause the Dead Sea to be transformed from its present saltiness so that fish abound in its waters. Fruitfulness in great abundance is produced on both banks of the river. The channel for this river to flow eastward (impossible at present) is doubtless made by the upheaval which occurs at the time the Lord returns to the Mount of Olives Zech. 14:4, causing the mountains to cleave in the midst and to move northward and southward.

The spiritual conditions of the millennium will be in decided contrast to what prevails in the world now (Joel 2:28,29) will have its complete fulfillment in a wonderful outpouring of the Spirit upon renewed Israel and the other nations. Cf. Zech. 12:10; Ezek. 36:25-27. The context in which these verses are found shows that this blessing is to follow the judgments of the day of the Lord out of which the faithful remnant of Israel will be delivered. While the outpouring of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost, is the same in kind as spoken of by Joel, so that Peter could truly say, "This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel." Nevertheless this effusion of the Spirit was not the exhaustive fulfillment in degree or full measure of Joel 2:38-32. This awaits the opening of the millennium.

During the millennium the knowledge of the Lord will be universal (Zech. 8:22,23; Isa. 11:9; Jer. 31:34). As now evil prevails and many nations are still in darkness of idolatry; then righteousness will prevail and all nations will know the name of Jehovah. Cf. Mal. 1:11. Ezekiel saw the glory of God departing gradually from the temple and city of Jerusalem and finally disappearing altogether to the east over the Mount of Olives (Ezek. 9:3; 10:4; 10:

18; 11:23). This was on account of the idolatry, abominations and sin of the nation. Again, he sees the glory returning from the east and filling the millennial temple. Ezek. 43:1-5. The shekinah glory will be continually over the Holy City, Isa. 4:5, 6.

The age to come will be characterized by the absence of the arch enemy of God and man, Satan, who will be bound and cast into the abyss so that he will not be able to go forth and deceive the nations. The heavenlies and the earth also will be cleansed from all external evil influence of Satan and his hosts, Rev 20:1-3; 12:7-12 cf. also Job 15:15. Universal peace will prevail during the millennial period—no taxes, no armies nor armaments, Isa. 2:4; Micah 4:3, 4. Parts of Palestine that have long been a ruined and desolate land will again bring forth abundantly, Joel 3:18; Amos 9:14; Isa. 35:1; Psalms 67:6; Joel 2:33-26; Isa. 55:13; Ezek. 36:8-11.

The ferocity of the beast will be removed and all animals will live at peace with one another, and a small child will be perfectly at home in their midst, Isa. 11:6. Man will again live to a great age, Isa. 65:20, 22; Zech. 8:4. The rays of the sun will be increased in power sevenfold and the moon will shine as bright as the sun, Isa. 30:26. Jerusalem and the immediate surrounding country will be lighted, not so much by the sun and moon as by the glorious manifest presence of God Himself, Isa. 60:19-20.

Like all previous dispensations the millennial time closes in failure, for Satan, when he is loosened for a season, finds a readiness in many hearts to rebel against the Lord; and the final onslaught of Satan and the assembled hosts of rebels against God's chosen city and people is met by the direct supernatural judgment of God from heaven. Satan is cast into the lake of fire there to be tormented forever and ever, Rev. 20:7-10.

### MOST UNUSUAL

The style and subject matter of this issue of the Gem is most unusual. We call it good.



# Little is Much When God is in It

Rev. C. E. Mann, Kansas City, Mo. R.3

"A little that a righteous man hath is better than riches of many wicked."

**H**APPY IS That individual who has learned the value of taking the Lord into his life and plans to be content therein, and who has learned the joy of abiding in the Lord.

Too often people feel that in order to accomplish great things, a great task must be performed as a great service rendered. Those failing to realize life is made up largely by little things.

The disciples saw only the grandure of the temple, while the Master saw the beauty and divinity in the lilies and the sacrifice behind the widow's offering. Andrew saw only a lad with five loaves and two small fishes (St. John 6:9), but Jesus saw a fed and satisfied multitude. Jonathan and his armour bearer possessed only one sword, but intrusted in the hands of a man who believed in the Lord's leadership proved enough to put to flight the Philistine host—giving the victory into the hands of the people of the Lord. Pharaoh saw only a rod in the hand of Moses but used under the direction of the Lord proved sufficient to lead two million people from under the hand of bondage and into a land flowing with "milk and honey." Paul and Titus used the only means at hand—prayer and song—but they were strong enough to shake the foundation of the prison, convert the jailer, and bring about their deliverance. Earth will be filled with surprises when the heavens unfold the story.

One time (under the direction of the Executive Board of the Free Will Baptist State Association of Missouri) wife and I were requested to visit a field of work that had run down. Four times in as many days we were instructed to pack our grips and return home. Inasmuch as we felt the Lord wanted us to stay—we stayed—gave what we had—the Bible, the message, song, music and prayer and within four weeks seventy-five souls sought the Lord and professed being saved.

There are things of greater value than silver and gold. "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches and, loving favor

rather than silver and gold." Prov. 22:1.

Have you ever considered the value of a kind word? Realizing "words fitly spoken are like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Maybe just now you recall the time when someone spoke the word that meant so much to you. Just one word may make the difference in life and death, joy and sorrow, sunshine and darkness. When Christ beheld the cripple who had been afflicted thirty-eight years and asked the question: "Wilt thou be made whole?" it brought forth new hope and gave forth new life. Peter addressing the cripple at the beautiful gate of the temple said, "Look on us." They were only those words, but were the beginning of life and joy in the Lord.

Then too there is the difference in just a hand clasp, or have you ever shook hands with a congregation of people? When Peter was sinking it was the hand clasp of the Master that saved him, and later it was Peter's hand clasp that assisted the cripple in standing, walking, and brought about his praise for the Lord. I have known of people being brought unto the Lord by just a



Rev. C. E. (Uncle Charley) Mann

friendly handshake. Did you ever have any one extend a helping hand when you were in need? If so then you comprehend what I am trying to put over.

There are just so many little things that goes to make life one ray of sunshine. There is the smile that costs so little and yet spreads sunshine and gladness the whole

day long. Then too, it only costs seventy-five cents to have the *Gem* visit your home or the home of a friend twelve times a year. It costs so little compared to the wealth and knowledge it contains.

Why not put on a campaign? Every Free Will Baptist should be a subscriber to the *Gem*?

## Our Lord for Victory

Mrs. Henry Moore, Dodge City, Kans.

**W**E claim to be a Christian nation, yet as a whole there are very few people who are serving God. We are crying for revenge on the Axis, working feverishly to produce more war equipment, buying bonds and stamps. I am not against these things but we have failed to do the thing that is most needed. That is to turn to the Lord. We think of our boys who are losing their lives, of the sacrifices that are being made, how terrible it is. There are those who can't carry a gun but they can work in the factories. There is Red Cross work. Those who give of their own blood. But do we pray? When we pray, do we pray right?

Let us not pray, "Oh, Lord, kill our enemies"; but "Oh, Lord, help us as a nation to turn to you for guidance that you might help us fight our battles as you have helped your children from the beginning of time. Help us not to depend on our own strength but to lean on you, that we might not only turn to you for help but to love and serve you"— Num. 12:5-6. We know that after

the Lord had proved himself to the children of Israel many times they spake against Him and against Moses. The Lord sent firey serpents among the people that bit them and many of them died. They then cried unto Moses saying they had sinned and begged that he pray the Lord to remove the serpents. After praying to the Lord, Moses made a serpent of brass and all who looked upon it were healed. We have sinned against God and we should cry as did the children of Israel unto the Lord and look up to Him. John 3:14-15, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life."

When we quit trying to win the war ourselves and turn it over to the Lord, serving and trusting Him, then will the victory be ours.

Instead of saying V for Victory, let's say "Our Lord for Victory."

## The Christian's Hope

Rev. Orville Dobbs, Kirksville, Mo.

**I**N ST. JOHN 14, we read, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." These words Jesus spoke to His disciples. He was telling them of His death burial, resurrection, and ascension back to heaven. These words

are so comforting to us in this day when our world is in the condition it is. Today the hope of the Christian people is the Second Coming of Jesus to take us out of this old world where there will be no wars, no sickness, no sorrows—only joy, peace, happiness. No one will be hungry, cold, naked, or thirsty. Thank God for those promises!

We have celebrated the birthday of the greatest gift on earth. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten



son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. He has made it possible for us to gain that home in the great heaven of heavens—by believing in Him. Then we read in Acts 1 where Jesus was talking to His disciples outside Jerusalem, He told them to tarry at Jerusalem until they were endued with power from on high, and while He was blessing them, He ascended into heaven and a cloud received Him out of their sight. As they stood gazing into the heavens, two men stood by and said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven,

shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:11. In Matthew 24, we read that before His coming there will be wars, earth quakes, pestilences, false prophets, which are fulfilled today, and the love of many have grown cold. "But he that endures unto the end the same shall be saved." Then immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened and the moon shall refuse to shine, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the Prince of Peace shall come in the clouds of heaven, and He will send His angels into the earth to gather His people out of the earth to ever be with Him.

## The National Association

### Enterprise Department

## The Christian Workers' Institute

Highland Park Free Will Baptist Church, Highland Park, Michigan  
Session No. 2. March 8 to 19, 1943

The Christian Workers' Institute is not a blind venture but an intelligent training service, seeking vigilantly to enlighten and equip Christian workers for the greatest business in the world. It is well past the experimentation stage as a portable Bible School. It has something to offer that is sought by the smallest rural church and the largest metropolitan congregation.

The great industrial City of Detroit will soon feel the impact of the Christian Workers' Institute. The opening date is March 8, 9:00 A.M. Let everyone within reach of this session make his plans immediately to attend.

The Highland Park Free Will Baptist Church of which Reverend Raymond Riggs is Pastor will serve as host to the Institute. The generous hospitality of this fine church and Pastor makes this Institute possible at a nominal charge of \$12.00 for board for the eleven days. Rooms will be provided all students free of charge in the homes of the members of the host church.

The host Pastor, brother Riggs, will serve

as Registrar and Advertising Secretary for this session of the Institute. Students should forward their applications, with \$1.00 registration fee, to brother Riggs immediately. One should state whether he will come alone to the Institute, or with others, and if so, how many.

### Description of Courses

The course of study offered in the Christian Workers' Institute have been arranged in four groups. Upon the completion of any single group, however, a certificate will be granted the student; and, for the completion of the four groups of courses, a normal diploma will be awarded. Each group of courses offered may be finished in a session of two weeks.

**BIBLE DOCTRINE.** This course will treat on the doctrine of the Trinity, with special emphasis on the person and mission of Christ, the personality, office, and work of the Holy Spirit, together with the doctrines of salvation and the Church. The method of treatment will not be systematic, except as applied to the specific

teachings of the Word of God. The student will find this course to comprehend much of that great volume of Christian thought and faith which is essential to stability in personal life and efficiency in service

**BIBICAL SURVEY.** The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the Bible as a whole. An examination of both the Old and New Testaments with a view to recognizing their interrelationship, literary, and historic importance will receive attention. How we come in possession of our Bible, and on what grounds we may be assured of its inspiration and authorship is considered.

**EVANGELISM.** Soul winning is the privilege of every Christian, and no minister or church worker may be considered efficient, evangelistic, or truly faithful who disregards his obligation to the lost. In this course the student will receive vital training in the use of the Bible in personal, pastoral, and professional evangelism. He will be taught how to deal with various classes of unsaved people.

**PUBLIC DISCOURSE.** This course deals with the preparation and delivery of sermons and gospel addresses. The subject will be presented simply, but with a thoroughness sufficient to meet a universal need among ministers and Christian workers who have not had the advantage of homiletical training.

**MISSIONS.** The course in missions is considered of major importance. The subject is treated under four separate headings and will run throughout all four sessions of the Christian Workers' Institute. In the first session the biblical background of missions will be studied; in the second session brief outlines in world-wide missions will be reviewed; in the third session Free Will Baptists in modern missions will be considered; and in the fourth session the recent awaking and present program of Foreign Missions will receive attention. Our Missionary to India, Miss Laura B. Barnard, is the author of this course.

#### FREE WILL BAPTIST ORGANIZATION.

The subject matter presented in this course is contained in the minutes of Free Will Baptist organizations, and in the unwritten customs and traditions of the denomination. Special attention will be

given to the variations of customs and practices of local churches and general bodies. The purpose of this course is to bring about uniformity in organization, practices, and program.

**FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE.** The prominence of youth in modern society lays upon all Christian bodies grave responsibilities. Practically all vocations demand trained men and women. This course is offered in response to a widely recognized need for trained workers in all departments of the church.

**WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.** Evangelical denominations have been spared the reproach of retrenchment, if not a collapse, as a result of the devotion and missionary passion of their women. Woman's Auxiliary is comparatively new to our present generation of Free Will Baptist women; but, it is nevertheless the most highly perfected organization in the denomination. There is however need of uniformity and simplification. This course is designed to inspire and inform pastors of the possibilities of Auxiliary work, and to give essential instruction to women regarding the conduct of the organization.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION.** The Sunday school is fundamentally an evangelizing agency. The latest estimate reveals that seventy-four per cent of those who unite with the churches annually come from the Sunday school. Efficiency in administration will be the theme of this course.

#### Student's Application

Name .....  
 Address ..... Age .....  
 Give name of church of which you are a member ..... Are you a minister?.....  
 Of what church, or churches, are you now pastor .....  
 .....  
 If not a minister, for what phase of Christian work do you desire preparation?....  
 .....  
 Will you pay your expenses for the duration of the Institute, or will your church assist you .....  
 What amount of your expenses will be paid by your church \$..... What amount in excess of your registration fee (\$1.00) are you forwarding with this appli-



cation \$.....  
Please mail your application with one dollar (\$1.00) registration fee to Rev. Raymond Riggs, 13734 John Road, Highland Park Michigan.

Signed .....

Note: All class sessions will be opened to visitors, but those desiring credits for work done will be required to pay the registration fee of \$1.00 each.

The Great  
Commission  
— Our Mission



## Woman's Auxiliary Department

The Whole  
World  
For Christ



The love of Christ constraineth us — 2 Cor. 5:14.

# The Hour of Prayer

Mrs. K. V. Shutes, Cordova, Alabama

Men and women whose lives have been most enriched and bless are those who have learned to come to God in the midst of all their happiness, their disappointments and their problems of life, and have sought His companionship as a son or daughter would seek the companionship of an earthly parent in whose wisdom and ability they have the utmost confidence.

The relationship of the Heavenly Father is not that of an only child, but one of a family whose needs differ in some respects, but in which each member has a share in the Father's love and an equal right to his bountiful gifts. When we ask we should not desire gifts that would impoverish other members of the family, but we should ask for those things which would benefit each member of the family. When we offer our petitions to God we should consider whether the things for which we are asking are for the best; we should seek to know God's will; we should listen to the voice of the Master as he speaks to us. Many times we do all the speaking ourselves, and do not give Him time to speak to us; but we should remember to keep silent before Him while he speaks to us." "But the Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him" (Heb. 2:20). Perhaps the most helpful part of our prayers is when we keep silent, and try to hear the still small voice of the Master as He speaks to us. We should remember that we do not pray to make God willing to give; but to get ourselves in tune for receiving. God is always ready to give good gifts to those who love Him.

Prayer clears the road for us and removes the hindrances of worldly things.

Those who lead a genuine prayer life have continually a consciousness of God's presence and power, and are in a position to receive the good gifts which the Heavenly Father wishes to bestow.

May we all join in prayer this month for our Christian educational program. Pray for the president and each member of the faculty of our national school. Pray for each student that they might study to show themselves approved workmen. Pray for our Free Will Baptist young people; that more of them will avail themselves of the opportunity to prepare themselves for more efficient service. Pray that our people everywhere might catch a vision of the need of more educated workers and supply the means to help carry on the work. "Therefore I say unto you, what things so ever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24).

## BUTLER-DUNN THEOLOGY

Order a copy of Butler-Dunn Theology from The Free Will Baptist Gem. These books are a Free Will Baptist production and were used in the School of the Bible. Since that School has discontinued, the entire supply was sent to the Gem Office. 50% of the sales go to support our present Bible School.

476 pages, Cloth Bound  
Price prepaid, \$2.00



# EDITORIAL



## AN HONOR ROLL

In keeping with the recommendation of the Board of Directors (see page 25), the Editor plans to announce the names of the representatives of the Church Paper, and as they produce fruit for the Master it shall be indicated on the Honor Roll. It would be the co-operative thing to do for everyone to give his subscription to the representative of the Free Will Baptist Gem in his church. This would enable the representative in his church to serve the church, the church paper, and Christ the Head of the Church. It would also cause the representative to stand higher in the Honor Roll. That would encourage team-work within the local churches scattered throughout the land, and that, within itself, would be a blessing to the church. It is the highest ideal and aim of the church paper to be of service and real benefit to the churches. The co-operation from the pastors and people which the Board of Directors is asking will enable The Free Will Baptist Gem to fill its mission.

## TWO PUBLISHING HOUSES

The Free Will Baptist denomination has two publishing houses serving the church people on a nationwide scale. They are The Free Will Baptist Press at Ayden, North Carolina, and The Free Will Baptist Gem at Monett, Missouri. For the information of Free Will Baptists everywhere, a picture of the Free Will Baptist Press is presented on the front cover of the Free Will Baptist Gem; also an article giving the history and vital information concerning the rise and service of the Press is printed on page 23 of this issue of the Gem. The Press is older than the Gem, and is greater and more servicable to the church people. The Gem is valued at \$10,000.00 materially, while the Press is valued at fully three times that much. The circulation of the *Free Will Baptist* is greater than that of the Gem. The volume of business of the Press is fully nine times greater than that enjoyed by the Gem.

While these two institutions strive to serve the church people along kindred lines, there is no conflict in the sphere of operation. These publishing houses are not arrayed in battle one against the other: they are not competitive for they are co-operative. A National Board of Publication and Literature has been created to co-ordinate the activities of the two printing institutions for the general good of our church people everywhere. Competition can *NEVER* enter the field of printing for the Free Will Baptist denomination — it is not needed to spice business, for we are brethren and the ideal of each publishing house is that we may be a blessing.

Speaking in general terms for both publishing houses, a representative of the Press declared on the floor of the National Association last July. "This is not a lion and a lamb lying down together, but these are two lambs."

The following paragraphs were written by the Editor of *The Baptist* in the issue of January 13, 1943:

"The church people should be posted, during the year 1943, concerning the worthwhile things the churches are doing. In order for them to be able to know the progress of the most alert and progressive churches, both in the cities and in the rural districts, the pastors and church leaders should make plans to submit reports of their accomplishments through the columns of the Free Will Baptist Gem at Monett, Missouri, and the Baptist paper at Ayden, North Carolina. With both these church papers circulating widely over the whole denomination operating in different states, a large number of the church people who read them would become informed as to the progress that is being made in many of the churches for the year. Both editors are glad to get the church news, and the campaign drives for certain church projects that many progressive churches will set forth, so that they may give place in the two papers for the benefit of the subscribers."

"In view of these considerations, it would



be of advantage if more reports of church progress were given to the papers for publication. We hope more reports from church organizations will be given to the editors this year for publication than were submitted last year for the church people to read and become informed regarding the progressive things other churches are doing. Moreover, an informed church people become more interested and alert about church movements, because they can see more readily the growing need of advancing the

cause of righteousness, than do people who know very little regarding the needs and the work of the religious field. It is obvious also that the church paper becomes more interesting and of more value to the subscribers when it can be filled with worthwhile things which the churches are doing in the denomination. Let us have, therefore, for publication the church news which will make interesting reading for the subscribers. By so doing, you will be rendering a great favor to the papers and also to the readers of the church papers."



## Our Boys in the Service



In care of the Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

Dear Brother Rollins:

I have been reading and enjoying the Gem so I felt that I should write a line. Since I last wrote, I have had quite a lot of new experiences; some have been very helpful while others have been a test. When I get my Gem it always gives me new courage to go on.

I have the privilege of going to church ever Sunday morning and to Bible study Sunday night. We have very nice chaplains and they deliver very impressive and instructive messages. I realize more than ever that God's promises are true, for He said, "My grace is sufficient." In another place He said "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Each day, my faith is stronger than the day before. This is the time when each believing person should put forth a greater effort to keep the cause of Christ advancing. It seems with the various rationing that makes it harder for us to travel to the different places to service that each of us must spend more time studying our Bibles and on our knees in prayer before God.

I miss the different services there at home, especially the League Rally. Keep the good work going and God will reward you richly. Always remember Our Boys

when you pray, for it is through prayer that we receive our strength.

Yours in the Service—of God,  
Cpl. J. D. Campbell, No. 371999  
Hq. Hq. Co. 532nd Reg A.P.O.3383  
% Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

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### "COMING SOON"

On, or before March the first, 1943, a new Rudiment and Special song book combined, by the Rev. N. P. Gates, will be off the press, prices 35c the copy; \$3.60 per Doz.; \$25.00 per hundred postpaid.

Special offer on all orders received before the above date will be filled at 5 copies for \$1.00 or \$3.00 per dozen. Address all orders to Rev. N. P. Gates Music Pub., Hazel Park, Michigan.

### BLANKS

Ministers' Ordination Blanks ..... 10c  
Ministers' License Blanks ..... 10c  
Deacons' Ordination Blanks ..... 10c

These blanks are 8½ x 11 inches, and are suitable for framing.

We also furnish letter forms for a letter from a church to a Quarterly Meeting, Association or Yearly Meeting; also from an Association or Yearly Meeting to the State Association.

Price 5c each or 6 for 25c

## New Year's Greeting

**Mrs. J. C. Griffin, President National Auxiliary Convention, New Bern, N.C.**

To the officers of our National Auxiliary Convention and to all of our women who are laboring so earnestly for the promotion of our work: I am wishing for each one a successful New Year, in which it will be seen that much progress has been made in all of our departmental interests, and that during the remaining months of our convention year, we shall be very diligent in our prayers for divine guidance and that we shall not lose sight of the fact that He, our Saviour, has promised to be with us "all the way, even unto the end of the world."

May we be a little more co-operative and endeavor to maintain and support our National work in its entirety.

Even though I have not heard from the various officers, I feel so confident of their ability and earnestness in the work, that I have no fear but that each one, from First Vice President down through our various members, are on the "job", so to speak and that they are planning and working toward greater achievements during this year.

We have a very short time now in which to reach the various States regarding any specific work on hand, I hope that each officer will let it be known as early as possible, through the Baptist Paper and the Gem, just what you are expecting the Auxiliaries to do, so that the reports at our annual Convention will be complete and therefore better than ever before. May we recall St. Paul's statement in Phil. 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me," and put forth our very best efforts in applying ourselves to our respective duties.

The Plan of Work, as adopted at our last Convention, should stand out prominently in our own individual efforts to put

them into practice, that we may be able to increase our usefulness in keeping with our theme for the year, "The Great Commission—Our Commission," and that of our Watch Word, "The Love of Christ Constraineth us."

I have no plans to suggest and no comments that would be worth anything to any of our women, but I am vitally interested and deeply concerned in our great need of a deeper, spiritual life, one that makes us forget self and selfish aspirations, one that will enable us to realize that if we would be true witnesses for the Master, self must be crucified, and God must reign supreme in our hearts and lives.

I want us to be very prayerful regarding the election of new officers for the ensuing year, as this next Convention will be the time to select the women who are to lead and labor with us another year, so I am urging the necessity of earnest prayer for guidance from our heavenly Father, that He may direct in all of our deliberations and actions.

There is no time for delay in promoting our Educational Program, our Mission cause and other interests, for each of these demand our very best efforts in order that we may have a share in the on going of these great enterprises. We have so much to be thankful for, that I sometimes wonder how our Lord can bless us so bountifully, when we are continually taking, and we are giving so little.

My earnest prayer is, that we may love one another as "He has loved us," that we may regard ourselves as "members of His body" and that "we, as workers together with God," must, under all circumstances and conditions, be ready to say, "Here am I, send me."

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## Auxiliary Work in Missouri

**Mrs. Eunice Edwards, 1917 Pestalozzi Street, St. Louis, Missouri**

Since the organization in September of the Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, I have been looking forward to the

time when I should be free to pursue the duties and privileges of being your state field worker and first vice president. The

time has come at last and I am more than anxious to be of service to you if I can and may.

To you many Auxiliary workers, I wish to take this opportunity of thanking you for your many lovely cards and especially for your prayers during the illness of my husband. Do continue to pray for us.

In the beginning of this New Year, Christian workers, let's renew our efforts for an "all-out" attack on Satan through the channels of our Auxiliaries.

If you have an unenlisted woman in your church, your ranks are incomplete. You need her somewhere along the line of duty and she needs the blessings that will be hers in working for the Master. So let's work together. Avail yourself of all the literature helps that are ours now, that you would be an informed, inspired worker. There are so many good suggestions contained in these books, namely: Year Book of Programs, Manual of Methods, Working Together, and Working With Our Youth, that there is really no excuse for you to be lacking in ideas for enlistment. These books can be purchased from the Gem Office.

If you are a first vice president of a District Convention in the State of Missouri, will you write me soon of your work and any problems that may have come up? I do not claim to be an authority on any and all Auxiliary work but if we pray and work together we can accomplish more. Can't we?

If you are a pastor of an organized Free Will Baptist church in the confines of the Missouri State Association and you do not have an Auxiliary in your church, will you write me? I am planning, if God wills, to visit some of our churches and may I plan to visit your church too. Not for the sole purpose of organizing an Auxiliary but rather that first you would become informed and inspired to "come over and help us," in this great work. I believe there is no problem so big that God cannot take care of it, if only we will come before Him in sincerity and an earnest desire to be about the Master's business.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you whether you are an Auxiliary or Mission worker, soon.



## Missionary Department



Rev. Winford Davis, Chair.-Treas. National Board, Monett Mo.

### Progress in Foreign Missions

It should be, and surely is, gratifying to every Free Will Baptist to know that our denomination is again coming to the front in foreign mission activity. For so many years we had no foreign mission connection, and no activity or interest manifested along that department whatsoever. But now we have direct connection in both Cuba and India, and our name has been made known in Venezuela, Panama, Liberia, Barbados, and so on it goes. I think we have a right to be proud that our church name has been carried to these far away lands; but we should be far more thankful that along with that has gone the name and glad news of a risen Lord. After all that is the ultimate purpose of it all—that the world may hear

the gospel of our Lord and Savior. A church name amounts to nothing, positively nothing, only as it can be used to glorify God in the heralding of the good news of His Son.

The work in Cuba is continually on the upward trend as you see by the paper each month. Bro. Henry Melvin of Nashville is soon to leave for Pinar Del Rio to help Brother and Sister Willey with the work for a few days. Whether or not anyone is going with him we are not yet sure. We trust the Lord will make his trip of great value to the work.

The work in India has not at all faded away nor entirely ceased to function, although the war conditions have made it



very hard for us concerning India. The work Sister Barnard started in South India near Kotagiri is still going on. The last report we had the great district of Purnea in north east India was still open to us as a denomination. As soon as the war clouds clear sufficiently we hope to be ready to start something there.

Sister Yeley has come home from Venezuela, not to return for reasons best known to her. Sister Yeley will continue to be used somewhere. She is to be praised for the work she has done, but she wants to be working where there are more direct interests for our church, and she certainly is not to be censured for that desire. I can understand that very easily. She has been working under Mid Missions though being supported by our people. Just where she will go next has not been fully determined, but the Lord will lead concerning that.

There has been a splendid increase in foreign mission receipts the last six months. The balance above current expenses has almost doubled since July 1st. We are more than thankful; we cannot tell you in words. Just keep the money coming

in. If the Lord continues to bless the foreign mission department of our denomination as He has been doing, we are certainly going to need a lot of funds with which to prove up on each claim He opens to us. New doors of opportunity are opening continually. Let's make ourselves able to take advantage of each one of them.

The picture herein printed is of the beautiful valley of Vinales in western Cuba. It is in this section that our missionaries are experiencing a great revival wave, and are establishing Free Will Baptist churches, baptizing people in great numbers, are now on the very verge of organizing an association, and are looking forward with great faith to a Free Will Baptist Bible School. I am sure you will agree that this is a beautiful scene. May the Lord continue to get glory unto Himself through the fact that these dear people are hearing the Good News of a Redeemer which is being published by our missionaries. It is hard to imagine people living in this district who have never heard of the man, Christ Jesus, but such is the condition with some in western Cuba only 90 miles across from Key West. Let us pray, give and go as God so calls.



The Valley in Vinales, Cuba



# The Story with the Frontpiece

## See the Front Cover

## The Free Will Baptist Press

By J. E. Wooten

**T**HE RECORDS OF Organized Free Will Baptists in the State of North Carolina show that the denomination has existed as a distinct religious body for nearly two centuries. During the first one hundred years or more, the work was largely a matter of independent local church activities. A few district bodies were formed and entered upon the task of co-ordinating and strengthening denominational work in the state. With no Press and little printed matter, progress was slow, to be sure, but certain.

Thus Free Will Baptists labored in North Carolina during days, and under circumstances, which were unfavorable to growth and expansion. There were men of vision, faith, and determination among the church leaders who were conscious of the fact that in order for the church to grow and extend its influence it must have avenues through which to approach and contact other workers in the field, and the multitudes outside the church. The thought of a printing establishment to serve the denomination mounted in the minds of many of the ministers and leading laymen.

Time passed. About 1870, the Free Will Baptists of eastern North Carolina began the publication of a church paper. For a number of years, the paper was printed irregularly, for it had no financial strength. Space will not permit the mention of the names of all those who were connected with the enterprise during its early days, nor the places where it was in operation while passing through its various stages of development. Men of faith and courage and determination kept ever at the task. They faced many difficulties and overcame them, and came through the trials of uncertain days happy in the fact that they had established an institution capable of rendering an invaluable service to men and God.

Finally, in 1894, while Elder J. M. Barfield was editing the paper and managing the business, the Press was moved to Ayden, where *The Free Will Baptist* has been printed continuously since that date. The business has, at various times, worked under great financial embarrassment and suffered losses, including two destructive fires, but men of God, through their faith and persistent efforts, have built up the establishment from a beginning with no financial backing to the well furnished and equipped publishing house that it is today.

The business today is owned by stockholders: organized groups and individuals, who have purchased one or more shares of stock. It is a non-profit sharing corporation operating under the laws of North Carolina. While it is true that most of the stock is owned by people of the home state, stock has been offered for sale to Free Will Baptists everywhere in the United States. Those of other states have been invited to purchase stock and invest their money in a denominational printing enterprise, and some have responded to a very helpful extent. The chief aim has been to build up a publishing house to serve the denomination in the broadest and most efficient way possible.

In the fall of 1916, the business passed into the hands of its present management. During these years, it has been faced with many difficulties, and has passed through some very uncertain and trying days. With the support of people of wisdom and faith and determination, and with the co-operative efforts of those whose hearts were fixed upon the success of the work, the Press stands today better supported and equipped for service than ever before, and is receiving a greater degree of patronage from year to year.

What has been and what is today, the place of the Free Will Baptist Press in the

work and mission of the Free Will Baptist Church? Is it just an institution or piece of real estate in the town of Ayden to be admired by those who have had a part in making it what it is? Is it an institution to advance the kingdom work in the denomination in a prejudiced or sectional way? Is it to be operated in a selfish way in any respect? In either case it would result in a miserable failure. The desire uppermost in the mind of those in anywise connected with the Press has been, and is, to render the greatest possible service to all the people to the glory of God.

Looking back, it is apparent that the *Free Will Baptist* has rendered an invaluable service in the great work that has been accomplished in North Carolina. Many things might be mentioned in this connection but, for the sake of brevity, we call attention to only two institutions: namely, The Ayden Theological Seminary which accomplished a wonderful work during the quarter of a century in which it was operated, and the Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Middlesex, N. C., which is now in operation as an institution worthy of praise and consideration by the people. The Press, through the printed pages of *The Free Will Baptist*, and other means, has advocated and supported and helped these institu-

tions in no uncertain ways. It might be pointed out also that our Church Paper has served in the work of uniting Free Will Baptists of the various sections of the state into one organized, working body. The printed page serves as no other means can in reaching the different sections and drawing them together into a common understanding.

What the Free Will Baptist Press has done and meant to the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, may it mean to Free Will Baptists everywhere. When it becomes a common servant to the entire denomination, then it shall become a greater agency for good to mankind. Those who are connected with the Press, directly or indirectly, and are concerned about its welfare and future, desire the greatest possible field of service for it.

It would not be boasting to suggest that the Press may have already been able to assist the denomination in its work on a national scale. In fact, it has always advocated and helped to foster the idea of national unity in our work. In 1916 it heartily seconded the idea of a national organization, and was active and influential in sending Rev. R. F. Pittman to Pattonsburg, Missouri to that meeting of far-seeing Free Will Baptists who began our present

## You Should Read Our Church Papers

### THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Published Weekly

\$1.50 per year — 6 months 75c  
3 months 40c

Send your Subscription to  
The Free Will Baptist Press  
Ayden, North Carolina

Send for Sample Copies to be distributed in your Church and Community.

### FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Published Monthly

75c per year — 8 months 50c  
16 months \$1.00

Send your Subscription to  
The Free Will Baptist Gem  
Monett, Missouri

Send for Sample Copies to be distributed in your Church and Community.



state of national activity. Since that day the Church Paper has gone into, and been read by people in every state where there are active Free Will Baptists. It has been printed continuously for more than fifty years. During recent years the work of the denomination has greatly expanded, and the demand for printed matter has multiplied many times. Earnest efforts have been made by those managing the Press to prepare it to supply the needs of our people everywhere. It has extended its best services, under prevailing circumstances, to its supporters and to our people in all the states.

Today, aside from the Church Paper, it publishes and supplies Sunday School literature to our people, Young People's literature, printed matter for Woman's Auxiliaries, and all kinds of printed matter for the denomination and for ministers and other individual workers. Through its sales department, the Press also distributes many books, pamphlets and tracts that fill a needed place in the spiritual life of our church people. We grow as we serve. The Free Will Baptist Press stands ready at

## FREE WILL BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

### Teachers' Quarterlies

Senior .....	16c
Intermediate .....	15c
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Everything for the Sunday School

Order From  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS**  
Ayden, North Carolina

all times to serve its supporters, the Free Will Baptist people, to the very best of its ability to the good of mankind and to the glory of God.

## Board of Directors Meets

Rev. O. T. Allred, Monett, Missouri

On January 15, 1943, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Gem met in the Gem Office to consider some very important business matters for the well being of our printing institution.

First of all, we audited the books which record all the business transactions during the first quarter of this fiscal year which begins at the time of the Missouri State Association in September. We are very happy to report that a greater volume of business has been enjoyed during this period than in the corresponding period in any year previous. The financial condition is good and the current bills are on creditable standing.

Second, we received an explanation of the work done since our Missouri State Association as given by Brother Rollins. We then turned our attention to the consideration of the prospective business during the next few months, at least until the

time of the National Association in July. As far as we are able to determine, there will be a calm in the business this spring, as in previous years, with very little to do except print the Gem. Brother Rollins, our Business Manager and Editor, is prepared for this and has the situation well under his command. We are grateful for this, but we feel that the following recommendation is in order and for the blessing and benefit of all concerned:

We, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Gem, do hereby express our sincere feeling of gratitude and deep appreciation for the many subscribers throughout the several states. We recognize these as fundamental patrons; for without readers, no publication could accomplish its purpose. Since the Gem is operated upon a co-operative basis, serving all the churches in all the states in all the ways within its power; and since the message conveyed

by the Free Will Baptist Gem is vital to every Free Will Baptist Church in the United States and every member and Christian in those churches, we recommend that a subscription campaign be inaugurated according to the following direction:

That the pastor of each active church, throughout the many states, appoint an official representative of the church paper who shall serve in the interest of the church by soliciting more of the members to subscribe to the church paper. These representatives will serve as a medium of communication between the church and the church paper, and will be furnished a list of the names of those who are already subscribers and dates their subscriptions expire. This will permit the representative to become a real blessing to his local church by making it possible for his church paper to serve his church people in a more effective way. An informed church people become more interested and alert about church enterprises because they can see the growing need of advancing the Cause of Christ. The representative should be allowed to

send in all subscriptions and renewed subscriptions because he will have his finger on the pulse of the church regarding its active support and co-operation with the church paper.

During these days of limited travel, our publishing house can best serve the denomination by the assistance and co-operation of the many local representatives already on the field in the little corners of their activity among their friends and neighbors. By this plan of work, we are hopeful that 1000 new and renewed subscriptions may be secured in the near future, and great possibilities are ours when this plan is put into operation.

Please, pastors, we are asking for your co-operation in this plan. We will be expecting Brother Rollins to announce how many have co-operated and how many representatives and helpers he will have on the field within one month.

Board of Directors

Rev. O. T. Allred  
Rev. W. K. Weston  
Rev. Winford Davis

# Sunday School Work

Rev. Claud Timmons, Monett, Missouri

In response to the burning desire in my heart, I wish to call your attention to the great work that is before us which is our wonderful Sunday School work, which is ordained of God. We read in Prov. 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." With this in mind, may we be inspired to new visions. The president of our national Sunday School convention, Bro. W. E. Coville, gives the ideal in the words, "A vision of construction, of growth, and of efficiency." We do not mean to stop with the matter of organization, for this is only the beginning of Sunday School administration. I fully realize that this vision cannot be completely established in the hearts of the people through the printed page alone, but must be spread by personal contact and instruction.

Since being elected Sunday School Evangelist for the Indian Creek Association in southwestern Missouri. I have not done anything for this cause openly, but I have been silently preparing myself to serve.

The more I study and meditate on this great cause, the greater my zeal becomes as I grow determined to be about my Father's business. I want to be instrumental in helping the Sunday schools win people to Christ.

I have prayerfully planned the following program relative to my doing field work among the Sunday schools of my district. If these dates conflict with any pre-arranged schedule in the Sunday schools, please let me know as soon as possible so I can plan another date.

Aurora Church .....	Feb. 7
Macedonia Church .....	Feb. 21
S. S. Convention, Meris Chapel ....	Mar. 7
Corsicanna Church .....	Mar. 21
Carterville Church .....	Mar. 28
Granby Church .....	April 4
Meris Chapel .....	April 11
Mt. Olivet (Blue Eye) .....	April 18
Pleasant Grove .....	May 2
Mt. Olive (Neosho) .....	May 9
Monett Church .....	May 16

Jones Chapel ..... May 23  
S. S. Convention ..... June 6

On each appointment as planned above, I expect to visit the Sunday school, and at the eleven o'clock service bring a message on what I believe to be appropriate. Then at two o'clock, we shall assemble again, and I shall endeavor to lecture on Sunday School Administration. The leading topic will be "This year's Program of Progress" as given

to us by our National Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention. Also "The Best Methods of Teaching a Sunday School Class" I earnestly desire that every officer, teacher and pastor be present as I feel sure that these meetings will be helpful to all.

Please notice that on March 7, we are to have our first Sunday school convention for the year at Merls Chapel. I am hoping to see many of our people there.

## Report of Missouri Treasury

*Rev. Winford Davis, Treasurer, Monett, Mo.*

### Foreign Mission Fund

Justin Gann, Aurora, Mo. ....	\$1.00
Northeast Missouri Missionary group	15.00
Shibleys Point Church .....	1.50
Merls Chapel .....	4.79
Rev. Noel Turner, Greentop, Mo. ....	5.00
Mt. Olive (Neola) Church .....	5.00
True Blue Class, Mt. Olive (Neola) S. S.	1.00
Drill Offering, Mt. Olive (Neola) Ch.	4.40
Hickory Grove Church .....	4.07
Mine La Motte Sunday School .....	3.72
Monett Church .....	5.00
Aurora Church .....	2.03
Rock Chapel .....	2.00
Myrtle Long, Patton, Mo. ....	1.00
Frederricktown Church .....	3.58
Blue Eye Church .....	.91
Monett Auxilliary .....	3.50
Willey Circle, Flat River Auxilliary ..	15.00
Mixed Bible Class, Hannon S. S. ....	2.00
Independance Church .....	33.15
Wagoner Church .....	2.85
Mt. Olive (Neola) Auxilliary .....	2.00
Oak Grove Church of Cave Spring Ass'n	4.00
Flat River Church .....	42.77
Mrs. G. Buchanan, Greentop, Mo. ....	5.00

### Budget Fund

Merls Chapel (for National dues) .. \$1.00

### Allocation or Unified Program Fund

Alsbury Chapel .....
 \$7.20 |

Merls Chapel .....
 7.75 |

### Benevolent Fund

#### FOR TENNESSEE ORPHANAGE

Aurora Sunday School .....
 \$10.00 |

Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Lewis, Freeman Mo.
 5.00 |

First F. W. B. Church, Flint, Mich. ..
 11.10 |

### Jehoida Chest Fund

Macedonia Church .....
 \$2.00 |

Hickory Grove Church .....
 2.00 |

### Educational Fund

Justin Gann, Aurora, Mo. ....
 1.00 |

Aurora Church .....
 .50 |

Rev. Noel Turner, Greentop, Mo. ....
 5.00 |

Mt. Olive (Neola) Church .....
 5.00 |

Fredericktown Church .....
 2.08 |

S. P. Easley, Portales, New Mexico ..
 5.00 |

### New Machinery Fund

Rev. Harry Beatty, Thayer, Mo. ....
 25.00 |

## Report of National Foreign Mission Treasury

*Rev. Winford Davis, Treasurer, Monett, Mo.*

NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSIONS .. . . .	
Missouri State Association .....	\$134.72
Mrs. John A. Sawyer, Colombia, N. C.	2.00
Grover Could, Wellston, Ohio .....	5.00
Sale of Missionary pictures by Marie Thomas .....	2.85
Nat'l. Woman's Auxilliary Convention	36.72

Claud E. Sawyer, Ware Shoals, S. C.	2.00
Ina F. W. B. Sunday School of Ina, Illinois .....	15.40
George Webster, Washington, N. C.	15.00
North Carolina by State Treasurer	61.72
S. P. Easley, Portales, New Mexico ..	10.00
Winford Davis, Treas.	



## OBITUARIES

FELKER—Mary E. Felker, daughter of Peter and Catherine Felker, was born Oct. 1909 in Newbern, Missouri. In 1981 she moved to this colony.

She was married to William E. Sevits, September 9, 1888. To this union twelve children were born. Dora M., the eldest, died in infancy. Surviving are her husband, William E. Sevits, and the following sons and daughters: Jacob H. of Connellsville; Cyrus E. of Kirksville, Route 2; Sherman H. of Kirksville; Dewey M., Kirksville, Route 2; Forest R. of Waterloo, Ia.; Harvey G. of Green Castle; Theodore G. of Kirksville, Route 2; Herschel H. of Kirksville, Route 2; Mrs. Ted Brunner of Les Vagas, Nevada; Mrs. Eugene Rhoades, Waterloo, Ia.; and Mrs. Thomas May, of Kirksville; also one brother, G. W. Felker of Kirksville; twenty five grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

She was converted in early woman hood and lived a faithful Christian life. At the time of her death she was a member of the Hazel Creek Union Church and Home Missionary Society.

She departed this life December 24, 1942, being at the time of her death 73 years, 2 months and 21 days.

Funeral services were held at two o'clock at the Hazel Creek Union Church, conducted by the Rev. Archie Cooper. The pall bearers were her sons: Jake, Cyrus, Dewey, Harvey, Theodore and Herschel.

— 30 —

Dedicated to Mr. and Mrs. Alyca and Quinten and Dale Mizer in memory of Sara Louise Mizer by her Aunt Cora Grimes.

Dear Sara Louise:

We laid you to rest in your beautiful bed,  
The rose and the lily encircled your head;  
The smile that you wore was still on your face

As if in your heart was a lot of God's grace.

We thought, as we looked at your beautiful face

Of the songs that you sang with your heart full of grace;

How we've heard your lips pray to the Father of love;

They will help us to join you in Heaven above.

Sarah Dear, we can't see you, a vale dims our view,

But your presence seems near us as we are thinking of you;

And you'll come to meet us with a far reaching hand,

And help us to enter that beautiful land.

We'll not weep for you dear, we know you are blest

For more than we who on earth are distressed

With trouble and sorrow the world over flow;

But in heaven a heartache no one ever know

We will not say farewell, we will come bye and bye

To live in our mansions up there in the sky  
We will meet our dear Savior and Father of love.

We will come when He calls us to heaven above.

— 30 —

JOHNSTON— James Newton Johnston, son of A. H. and Manda Johnston was born September 11, 1892, and departed this life July 29, 1942, at the age of 49 years, 10 months and 18 days.

Early in life, he found the Lord precious, and served Him faithfully through the years. He was a member of Amity Free Will Baptist Church, serving as choir leader for many years. Newt, as he was familiarly called, was indeed a true Christian, zealous and sincere, and always "on the job."

Survivors are his parents, one brother, Robert; four sisters, Mrs. Hattie Mace, Mrs. Fleda Long, Mrs. Elma Chandler, and Miss Bettie Johnston. One sister preceeded him in death.

His parting words were "All is well."

Funeral services were conducted at the Amity Church by Rev. Selph Jones, with interment in the Amity Cemetery.

Newt spent most of his earthly life serving others, and is sorely missed by all who knew him, but we resign to the blessed truth, "Our loss is his gain."

In loving memory of my father and mother. The Reverend S. C. McCollough and wife who departed this life a number of years ago. Do we miss them? Yes, but our loss is their gain.

Father and mother have gone on before,  
To where Jesus their home did prepare;  
For them I'm sure 'tis a wondrous mansion,

Where we too their joys may share.

They left us so lonely in life's weary journey,

No others their place can fill;

As we wait for the call from Jesus our Savior,

We humbly submit to His will.

—Mrs. E. G. Tharp, Blue Eye, Mo.

## Church Letters - Field Reports

### Free Will Baptist Church Richwoods, Missouri

*Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Pastor*

Dear Gem Readers:

Since my last letter to the "Gem" which has been some time ago I was elected to the pastoral work here in Richwoods.

The Lord has certainly led me to a field where the gospel is greatly needed.

We have a wonderful little church here with some truly consecrated Christians fighting Satan with all their might. We need the prayers of all God's people everywhere that we may soon see a great reaping, for we know the fields are white already to harvest as the Scriptures tell us in St. John 4:35. We need to work while it is yet day for "the night cometh when no man can work" as Jesus tells us in St. John 9:4.

After a little over three months God has wonderfully blessed us by giving us the needed finance to pay off an indebtedness of \$117.85 on our building material with which to add a porch to our building. We are praising our Master for these wonderful blessings. We covet your prayers that God may continue to bless here.

May God bless the "Gem" and all of its readers is our prayers.

—Rev. Harvey E. Hill.

—30—

### Free Will Baptist Church Drumright, Oklahoma

Dear Gem Readers:

Here I come again with a report from our little church here in Drumright. First I must say we are having better attendance at Sunday School and church; also in our mission work. We thank the Lord for each

one that attends. We had a wonderful watch service New Year's eve and heard three good messages brought by Sister Fay Bookout, Bro. Hawkins and Bro. Florence, all from our own church here in Drumright.

We also made several dozen cookies and sent to all our boys from this church for Christmas and sent out 12 baskets to the needy and widows of our church. God has blessed us wonderfully all through this past year in many, many ways and we want never to fail to thank Him for His goodness, to us.

I am sending the names of two boys who have just recently gone from us to army service, and we hope and pray our boys will all soon be back home with us again. These are to receive the Gem.

May God bless you all is our prayers.

Mrs. Lydia Robinson, Reporter.

—30—

### Woman's Auxiliary Report Flat River, Missouri

Dear Bro. and Sister Rollins:

Since I accepted the Secretary-Treasurer work again, I want to send in a small report of our work.

St. Luke 18:1, "And he spake a parable unto this end, that men ought always to pray and not to faint." From the depth of my heart I love that scripture. As auxiliaries we must be strong in the Lord, have a desire and determination to study and help work out another plan of the Lord's work. If we don't pray about our great Auxiliary work we will faint and fall by the wayside. Of course we know the word faint means weakness in strength in body and soul. Our motto, "Laborers together with God," is the sweetest motto.

We read that men shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. I truly praise the Lord for the good auxiliary workers we have at Flat River. They are doing their very best to put the work over. We were blessed to have Sister Frazier, one of the national officers from Nashville, Tennessee, at Flat River through Thanksgiving holidays.

Our St. Francis County Quarterly Meeting convened with Flat River church January 1st and 2nd. The Woman's Auxiliary had charge of the first session Friday night, January 1st. There were good reports read, special singing, and a missionary reading by Sister Alberta Dodd.

Pray for us that the good work will go on.

—Gussie Hamblen, Sec.-Treas.

— 30 —

### Field Report of Mrs. McAdams

Dear Co-Workers:

Greetings in the name of our blessed Master! How are you out there in the different states and across the sea? We are glad to report victory over the enemy in many places since we last wrote. We have visited a number of our churches in North Carolina with splendid results. We didn't take off for Christmas, we visited Bro. J. C. Moye's church at Greenville a few days before the holidays and a real revival broke out in the first service and then it snowed. The weather got so bad we couldn't get into the rural churches. Then it came another snow and we preached right on for a few nights and had 42 conversions and reclaims; 27 added to the church and 21 for baptism. We had conversions at most of the churches we visited, and was able to get our unified program on where they didn't have it. Most of our churches in North Carolina have the program going in a splendid way and they take right on in the new territory where we have not been able to get our work. We surely praise God for our people everywhere. We want to thank the good pastors of North Carolina for their splendid co-operation in making it possible to reach so many churches.

Now to you dear Auxiliary women every

where. it won't be long until our National Convention meets in Nashville, Tennessee, and we want the best report this year that we have ever had. All that do not have the Jehoiada Chest order one and get your stickers and start your penny banks. The stickers are free and on every one it says "For Missions, Education and Superannuation". This covers the unified program and you can't imagine how it helps our people to get started to giving.

We visited the Davis church in North Carolina and they have a wonderful way of doing things. They are more than tithers—they tithe their money and then add the free will offering. Most of them are fishermen. They love the envelope system, the Six Point Sunday School and every class comes in with their teachers and sit in the main auditorium for church, and when the offering is taken they write on the board what the collection was and some times it goes to \$150.00 a Sunday. This is one of Bro. Ennis' churches and we feel sure his other churches are in line with this one. Other churches are coming fine but the Davis church is a little out of the ordinary for they have no wealthy people, just good sweet Christians. How we do praise God for our good pastors and good people everywhere.

May God bless our people everywhere with a wonderful year, both spiritually and temporarily.

Yours for Jesus,

—Lizzie McAdams.

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### Brilliant, Alabama, Jan. 11, 1943

Dear Gem Readers:

Although we have not reported for some time we are still busy in the great cause of our dear Lord's work. Our Ladies' Aid of Brilliant and Boston, Alabama, have done some wonderful work. Our attendance has dropped some but our Savior tells us in His Holy Word that where there are two or three gathered in His name He will be in our midst. We truly feel that He has been with us through this past year. We hope that more of our sisters in the church will see what a blessing they are missing and come and be with



us this year. This is the first year we had our pastor to live in Brilliant with us. We feel sure we have a great year ahead of us, with Bro. and Sister H. A. Pitts to help us along.

We have a good prayer meeting on Wednesday night for we feel we all need to meet together and pray one for another. We ask that every Gem reader pray for us in our aid and church work.

Here is our report for the last three months of 1942:

Chapters read, 250. Given to the needy: milk, 19 gallon; vegetables, 60 cans; fruits and groceries, \$7.00; clothes and money, \$22.00; fruit and candy for children for Christmas, \$5.65 — making a total of \$29.65.

Here are our officers for 1943:

President ..... Sister H. A. Pitts  
Vice President .. Sister W. M. Whitman  
Treasurer ..... Sister A. P. Leonard  
Secretary ..... Sister Ollie Webb  
Program Committee — Sister Eunice Dick-  
ison, Sister Riley Cooper, Sister Whit-  
man.

Sick Committee — Sister W. L. Fronk and  
Sister Ruby Dickison.

Flower Committee for Church — Sister  
Nettie Beachump, Sister Earnestine Hunt,  
— Mrs. A. P. Leonard.

— 30 —

### Southern Illinois Supports the Cause of the Lord Financially

To the Free Will Baptist Orphanage at  
Greenville, Tennessee:

Yearly Meeting ..... \$51.50  
Mt Vernon Church ..... 111.80

Ina Church ..... 11.00  
Rev. Wm. Buster ..... 2.00  
Bear Point Church ..... 25.00  
Ladies Auxiliary of Rescue Church .. 38.25  
Union Church ..... 10.00

Total ..... \$249.56

To Foreign Missions:

Bear Point Church ..... \$10.00  
Mt. Vernon Sunday School ..... 4.00

For Superannuation:

Ladies Auxiliary Bear Point Church \$10.00

For Jehoiada Chest:

Union Church ..... \$1.00

— Mary June Mayo., Reporting Treasurer.

— 30 —

### Bonifay, Florida, Jan. 15, 1943

Dear Editor:

I will take the greatest of pleasure to write and let you know how much we have enjoyed reading the Gem. My father and myself read it from cover to cover every month. My mother cannot read so I read a great deal to her. We all enjoy it.

Every fifth Sunday we have a Sunday school convention. The poems and good readings that are in the Gem has helped a lot with our program.

We have forgotten how long we have subscribed for the Gem. We are writing to let you know we don't want it stopped. Let us know when our subscription is out and what the price is and we will renew it. There are only three of us in our family. Pray for us.

— J. H. Means and family.

## HIGHLAND PARK CHURCH TO BE HOST TO THE CHRIS- TIAN WORKER'S INSTITUTE

Session To Begin March 8th  
Through March 19, 1943

A most wonderful opportunity will soon be i nreach of almost every Christian who has a desire to know mor eabout the word of God and to become a better, qualified,

more efficient Christian worker.

If you are one who has recently yielded to the Call of God, you can't afford to miss this marvelous opportunity for Christian training. If you are a pastor, an evangelist, Sunday school superintendent, teacher, or just an ordinary Christian worker, The Christian Worker's Institute is a challenge to you for preparedness. You will appreciate the training and instruction of the competent teachers, and the two weeks of spiritual fellowship will have untold value.

Such outstanding courses as: Personal

Soul Winning, Bible Doctrine, Young Peoples' League Work, Church and Sunday School Administration are courses of study that will provide an enormous amount of knowledge and inspiration.

Can you feature anything more blessed than to spend two weeks every day in the study of God's word, and then everyone coming together each night in an 'old fashioned, informal, Holy Ghost revival'? Sounds good, doesn't it? Alright pastors and churches, start now and plan to come and bring someone with you. I think the churches should get behind their energetic workers and young people and send them to the Institute, for after all they will ye the church of tomorrow.

Now don't read this and by it aside-- but act and act now.

We want at least fifty students for this session of the Institute. If you have never been to Detroit, plan to come March 8th and attend the Institute.

Your board and room for the entire session of the school (two weeks) will be only \$12.00. Also a registration fee of \$1.00 which is the only charge made by the school itself.

The people of our church are eager to have you come to this school, and even though you have to sell a cow or pig, or

loose two weeks work or two weeks literary school, it will be orth all the sacrifice you make. "The greater the sacrifice the greater the blessing."

Two meals per day will be served in a dining hall next door to the church and the students will be in private homes at night for lodging and breakfast.

Come on folks, let's prove to this Great industrial city, and to Michigan, that God is still doing things through Free Will Baptists.

Remember the time, date, place and price.

Write me for full particulars and application blanks.

— 30 —

### He ELECTRIFIED HIS AUDIENCE

A big offering was to be taken the following Sunday. The ingenious pastor called in an electrician and confided his plan. Wires were placed to the various seats where the wealthy members regularly sat. Behind the pulpit were a dozen push buttons.

"Who will give \$500.00 towards our debt?" asked the pastor, as he pushed button number one. Up jumped four or five men instantly.

"Who will give \$400.00?" he asked, and pressed button number two. Up jumped

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16 months \$1.00

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The Free Will Baptist Gem  
Monett, Missouri

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seven more of the faithful.....and so forth.

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## HE DIDN'T MEAN MAYBE

An itinerant minister was stopping with a mountainer in his cabin. As they sat by the fireplace the minister noticed three holes at the bottom of the door and inquired what they were for. "For my three cats to go out," said the mountaineer. "But why wouldn't one be sufficient for all three cats to go out," asked the minister. "Brother," said the mountaineer, "When I say 'scat' I mean 'scat'!"

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In any controversy, the instant we feel anger we have already ceased striving for truth, and have begun striving for ourselves.

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## A Mystic

An old Scottish churchman said of his minister: "He is incomprehensible on Sunday and invisible all week."

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Start planning now to attend the Christian Workers' Institute—from March 8th to March 19th. Plan now to march in March!

30

## A WORD ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

Following is a paragraph taken from a letter received from Rev. L. R. Ennis, Executive Secretary and Dean of the Christian Workers' Institute.

"You understand that this will be session No. 2 of the Institute, and that students who attended in Illinois may continue their work as prescribed in the curriculum. Students may enroll for all or a part of the work offered, but only those who take all subjects, attend not less than eight of the eleven days, and pass satisfactory examinations will be awarded certificates."

Why not be among the first to register for this Portable Bible School.

30

## ARE YOU A TITHER?

These are days when many are having headaches over their income tax. If you are a systematic tither it will not be so

hard for you when you start making deductions—but you should be honest in all that you do.

The United States Government allows you to give 15% of your net income to the church. For your convenience the church has envelopes which you can use, giving you three major causes that you can support with your part of the Lord's money, namely, current expenses, missions, and radio. Please specify the amount you would like to give to each cause, and the envelope will serve as a receipt and will be kept on file. Then when you figure your deductions for income tax, you can know exactly and not have to guess.

Why not join the group of regular tithers and receive the blessings that are awaiting you.

## YOUTH

Scripture: Eccl. 11:9; 1 Tim. 4:12.

Youth is, indeed, one of the most precious times of our lives. As we grow older we shall look back upon it as a time of heartiness, gaiety, and enthusiasm; as years when our troubles were varied, but fleeting, and we could be impulsive. And it is as it should be. The Bible tells us to follow our hearts in our youth, to rejoice and be happy. However, we are not to be gay at the expense of good judgment or to be completely irresponsible. The days of our youth shall be judged as the rest.

Our pattern is given to us in 1 Tim. 4:12. What a wonderful opportunity we have to spread our help and cheer in these troublesome times, when the hearts of many are heavy! As Christians we know that we will be given no task too hard to bear; and our rewards in the future are rich and certain, no matter what the outcome of this chaotic world may be. With a future as rosy as that, who could not help feeling reassured?

As I jotted down these thoughts, I remembered a tribute paid to us by an unknown author which I thought you might like to hear:

"Let us be true to such tributes as these by making this hope not only high in our own hearts but contagious. Let us be true to our past and future security in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, and in purity."

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