

The Free Will Baptist Gem

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

Monett, Missouri, December, 1943

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BETHLEHEM

"But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting" (Micah 5:2).



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Christmas Articles



The Meaning of Christmas



To God the Father It Meant Giving His Son

"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).

To God the Son It Meant Leaving Heaven's Glory to Become a Servant Obedient unto Death.....

"Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and, being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient unto death, yea, the death of the cross" (Philippians 2:5-8, R. V.).

To the World It Means that God Has Provided a Saviour.....

"I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto

you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10,11).

Christmas hails the birth of Him who was born to die—to die in the sinner's stead, to purchase the redemption of his soul. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6).

To You It Means that God Offers You Eternal Life as a Gift.....

"The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). "To as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name" (John 1:12).

Courtesy of Good News Publishing Company, 322 West Washington, Chicago (6), Illinois.

Christmas or Xmas

The streamlining hysteria of the age in which we live has by no means left unscathed the Christian church and its most holy days, reaching with its questionable influence even to the birthday of the Prince of Peace. CHRISTmas has been streamlined by a speed-crazed world into "Xmas."

In mathematics, X is regarded as the "unknown quantity" and, popularly, "marks the spot" which something has once occu-

ried. We may well ask: Does X signify that some other object, known or unknown, has taken the place of the Christ whose birth we celebrate at this joyous season?

What does "Xmas" mean to the great masses in our land? To the business man it means the busiest and perhaps the most profitable season of the year, when the public is urged: "Do your Xmas shopping early." To a great multitude it means a

season of gaiety, merrymaking and carousing, to be brought to an uncertain end only when the old year has passed into the new. *To uncounted millions* it means a time of lavish spending in the hope of getting; of the vain displaying of affection in the bestowal of gifts of small or great intrinsic value; of careless repetition and thoughtless singing of "Peace on earth, good will to men," without an understanding of the deep significance of that angel song.

But to a great redeemed host it is CHRISTmas indeed, for they are reminded thereby that the great God became man in the Person of His well-beloved Son, that He might redeem a lost humanity. To them it is a day of rejoicing, for the Babe of Bethlehem, whose name is Jesus, has, as the Lamb of God, become their Saviour from

sin. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15).

Would that every soul in this war-torn world, at this Christmas season, might humbly bow in repentance and submission, and make the courts of Heaven ring with a united, earnest plea:

"O holy Child of Bethlehem!

Descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin, and enter in;

Be born in us today."

Is it Xmas for you, or CHRISTmas?

—Oliver Peterson

Courtesy of Good News Publishing Company, 322 West Washington, Chicago (6), Illinois.



The Child-Son

Rev. Floyd Hitchcock, Radio Pastor, Springfield, Missouri

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

The Birth of Christ Had Been Foretold

For 400 years before Jesus was born, there was no speaking prophet in Israel. Yet, a Saviour had been promised in the covenants, recorded in the Old Testament scriptures. The prophets of the Old Testament had foreseen and foretold of a coming Redeemer. Therefore, all in Israel were in an attitude of expectancy concerning the coming of Israel's Messiah, who was to be not only the Messiah of Israel, but the Saviour of the world.

The Sign to Israel

Naturally, they were looking for a

sign of His appearing. In this regard in Isaiah 7:10-14, we have a very interesting passage which says:

"Moreover the Lord spake again unto Ahaz, saying, ask thee a sign of the Lord; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord. And he said hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

From this very interesting and important passage, we discover that the Redeemer whom God would send, was to enter the human family by process of the virgin birth, and that his prophetic name was "Immanuel."

A New Testament Confirmation

In Matthew 1:21-23 there is a very interesting comment concerning what was stated by the Prophet Isaiah, in regard to the birth of Him who was to be called

Immanuel. In Matthew 1:21-23, it says: "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

What Isaiah Said

Understanding these things, we are prepared to read and study what was stated by the Prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 9:6-7 where he said concerning the virgin born child:

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." Certainly,



my friends, this is a wonderful passage concerning the Christ child and is one that well deserves our careful study and attention. Perhaps these are the only two verses in the Bible which present Christ to us both as a virgin born child and as the human-divine man in his mature greatness, as the Son of God, and as the Messiah of Israel and the Saviour of the world.

Not a Needless Repetition

At first thought, it would seem as if it were a repetition for the prophet to say: "Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given." But this was not, in any wise, a vain repetition. For both of these statements were necessary to reveal the true nature and person of the child in question.

We must recognize once and for all that Jesus was both human and divine. In order to be the Saviour of men, it was necessary that the nature of man and the nature of God become united in one human-divine personality. Therefore, when the prophet Isaiah said, "Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given," he was, under divine inspiration, making known unto us this great fundamental truth concerning the world's Redeemer.

That Jesus was both human and divine has been brought out in a wonderful way in an article by Dr. Mel Morris of Houston, Texas entitled: "A Child Born and a Son Given," which we quote as follows:

The prophetic statement made by the Prophet Isaiah more than 700 years before the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem concerns but one person, the Lord Jesus Christ. The "child born" sets forth His humanity, while the "Son given" reveals His Deity. Both facts are important and one should not be emphasized to the exclusion of the other.

The "Child born" was the first-born son of the virgin Mary.—Matt. 1:23-25.

The "Son given" was the "only begotten Son" of God the Father.—John 3:16.

The "Child born" was in Bethlehem—"The House of Bread."—Luke 2:4.

The "Son given" was the beloved (speaker) was The "Child born" was the "first-born" Text: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given."—Isaiah 9:6-7. This is not a vain repetition. For both of these

The "Son given" came from heaven as "the Bread of Life."—John 6:33-35.

The "Child born" was made of a woman, under the law.—Gal. 4:4.

The "Son given" was sent by God "to redeem them that were under the law."—Gal. 4:5.

The "Child born" was wrapped in swaddling clothes for a garment.—Luke 2:7.

The "Son given" clothed Himself "with Light as with a garment."—Ps. 104:2.

The "Child born" was "the (legal) son of Joseph, but only by adoption."—Luke 3:23.

The "Son given" was the beloved (super-natural) Son of God—Luke 3:22.

The "Child born" attracted wise men

from East by a wonderful "star."—Matt. 2:2, 9, 10.

The "Son given" will attract all regenerated men when He appears as the "Bright and Morning Star."—Rev. 2:16.

The "Child born" was "made in the likeness of men."—Phil. 2:7.

The "Son given" ever existed "in the form of God."—Phil. 2:6.

The "Child born" possessed a generated, human nature.—Heb. 2:16.

The "Son given" possessed an inherent divine nature.—Heb. 1:8.

The "Child born" was made one with His brethren.—Heb. 2:11.

The "Son given" was ever one with His Father.—John 10:30.

The "Child born" came out of Nazareth, a despised place.—John 1:46. The "Son given" came out of heaven, the desired place.—John 3:13.

The "Child born" was presented with precious gifts from men.—Matt. 2:11.

The "Son given" was Himself the unspeakable Gift of God to men.—John 3:16.

The "Child born" was worshipped by a few earthly kings.—Ps. 72:10.

The "Son given" will yet be worshipped by all the kings of earth.—Psalm 72:11.

The "Child born" was taken into Egypt by Joseph.—Matt. 2:13.

The "Son given" was called out of Egypt by His Father.—Matt. 2:15.

The "Child born" was divinely saved from the destructive power of Satan.—Matt. 2:13.

The "Son given" divinely saves others from the destructive power of Satan.—Acts 26:18.

The "Child born" unconsciously caused many to suffer for His sake.—Matt. 2:18.

The "Son given" consciously caused Himself to suffer for the sake of all.—1 Pet. 3:18.

The "Child born" obeyed the law in circumcision.—Luke 2:21.

The "Son given" fulfilled the law in baptism.—Matt. 3:15.

The "Child born" increased in favor with man.—Luke 2:52.

The "Son given" was "despised and rejected of men."—Isa. 53:3.

The "Child born" increased in, and exhibited marvelous wisdom before men.—Luke 2:47-52.

The "Son given" was Himself the unexcelled Wisdom of God to men.—1 Cor. 1:30.

The "Child born" ate of the food of men.—Mark 2:16.

The "Son given" had food to eat, of which man knew nothing.—John 4:32.

The "Child born" became poor in earthly things.—2 Cor. 8:9.

The "Son given" was rich in all things.—Col. 1:16.

The "Child born" became obedient unto death.—Phil. 2:8.

The "Son given" became the mighty Victor over death.—1 Cor. 15:56, 57.

The "Child born" and the "Son given" is the ever-existing ONE, the eternal Christ, "The same yesterday, and today, and forever."—Heb. 13:8.

Moses inquired of God: "Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, the God of your fathers hath sent me unto you: and they shall say to me, What is his name? What shall I say unto them?"

"And God said unto Moses, 'I AM THAT I AM:' and He said, 'Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.'" Ex. 3:11-14.

The I AM of the Old Testament, is the I AM of the New Testament. In John 8:58, "Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily



I say unto you, 'Before Abraham was, I AM.'"

We must believe in the Deity, of the Lord Jesus Christ in order to be saved.

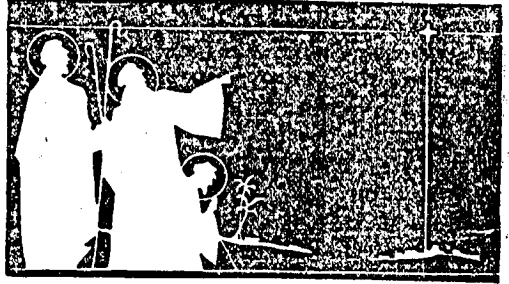
Certainly, my friends, after this comparative study, we cannot help but believe that Jesus who was born of Mary 2,000 years ago was the greatest gift God ever gave to man, for he was truly the Son of God, and the son of man, the Messiah of Israel, and the Saviour of the world. Now let us consider some of the names which were given by the Prophet to the virgin born child.

In Isaiah 9:6, the Prophet said: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

The fact that "the government shall be upon his shoulder" is confirmed in Luke 1:30-33 where it says: "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

When Jesus comes to rule, the character of his reign is beautifully described in Isaiah 11:1-5 where it says:

"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; And shall make him quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears; But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of



his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins."

Understanding these things, concerning the divine Child who was conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the virgin mother, is it any wonder that the Prophet Isaiah said, "His name shall be called Wonderful." It doesn't make any difference how you view the life of Jesus it was wonderful! Truly he had a wonderful birth. For he is the only man in all history who was conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of a virgin mother. This puts Him in a class all by Himself and the manner of His birth made Him at once different and superior to all men who ever lived.

Life

Truly, Jesus lived a wonderful life. No life upon earth was ever more wonderful and beautiful than His, for he lived a sinless life and went about doing good. And He is the only man who ever fulfilled all righteousness required by the law.

Works

Even the works which Jesus performed were wonderful. No other man has been able to do the things which Jesus did, for he opened the eyes of the blind and caused the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak. Who but Jesus could have walked upon the water or have cleansed the lepers or have raised the dead? Yes, indeed, the works of Jesus were wonderful. Who can deny but what Jesus died a wonderful death upon the cross? His death also was different from that of any other man. For instead of having His life taken from Him He consented to die as the innocent one, for those who were guilty. Therefore, He gave His own life in love and suffering and sacrifice, to make an atonement for the sins of the world. And when He had cried, "It

is finished," He dismissed His own spirit into the Father's care.

Indeed, my friends, Jesus was the only man who ever lived, who knew before-hand just when and where and why He would die. And now, after 2,000 years, men are still telling, not only how He was born, but the wonderful manner and spirit in which He died! For truly, His was a wonderful atoning death.

A Wonderful Resurrection

But what about His resurrection? Was it not wonderful also? Certainly, it was very wonderful. For on the morning of the third day, he arose from the dead in a glorified body and after forty days He ascended into heaven where He was seated at the right hand of the Majesty on High, and where He received a name that is above every name.

We do not wonder, therefore, that the prophet said His name shall be called Wonderful!

Counsellor

Not only was His name to be called "Wonderful," but also "Counsellor."

This word seems to imply the unusual wisdom of the Christ who was born nearly 2,000 years ago. For if He did not possess the wisdom of God, He could not and would not become a Counsellor.

In Isaiah 40:13, 14, it says:

"Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?"

Upon reading these words, we are reminded of what they said of Jesus when He was upon the earth. In Matthew 13:54-56 it says:

"And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty words? Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And his brethern, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?"

And so, my friends, we see that Jesus

was possessed of wisdom which, justified Him to be called "Counsellor." For such He was, and as such, He will come again.

The Mighty God

The next name which the Prophet gave to Him in Isaiah 9:6 was "the mighty God."

These words unmistakably reveal the deity and power of the virgin born Son of God. Even at the time of His first advent, He was mighty in deed and in word before God and all the people. And His might was in no wise diminished by His death upon the cross. For on the morning of the third day after His crucifixion, He arose from the dead, thus proving that He had not died for His own sins but for the sins of others, and that He was in deed and in truth, "The mighty God."

"The Everlasting Father"

The next title which the prophet gave to Him was "The Everlasting Father."

Certainly this title expresses the oneness which Jesus had with the Father. In John 10:29-33, it says:

"My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him." Jesus answered them, "Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?" The Jews answered Him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because, that thou, being a man, makest thyself God."

Thus, my Friends, we see that Jesus was bold to declare His deity and His oneness with the Father. Therefore, if Jesus and the Father are one, it was not wrong, in any way, for the Prophet Isaiah to call Him "The Everlasting Father."



"The Prince of Peace"

And last of all, he called Him, "The Prince of Peace."

This is a title which Jesus may also justly wear. There is no question but what He is "The Prince of Peace." In Psalms 46:9, it says:

"He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire."

There is much that could be said upon this subject but we all know that there can be no lasting peace upon the earth until Jesus comes again as King of Kings

and Lord of Lords, to subdue His enemies and to reign in righteousness.

Then will come to pass the words of the prophet in Isaiah 9:7 where he said: "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

Therefore, my friends, on Christmas Day when we are celebrating the birth of the Christ Child, may God help us to remember all of these wonderful things which are spoken of Him in the Word of God, for they will surely all of them come to pass.



Our Boys in the Service



War and the Way of Life

Excerpt from a letter written to a Soldier by a Friend

Yes, Jim no doubt you are going through a lot of hardship and heartache. It is one of the inevitable results of war. War is more or less a culmination of man's inherent sinfulness. Just as we read, in the Holy Scriptures, of Abel being slain by his brother, Cain, because of jealousy and hatred (war on a small scale), so we read throughout the Old Testament. When the children of Israel followed God they were at peace with Him and they prospered. When they turned from Him to idolatry and its attendant evils, evil befell them.

Then we read of the crowning evil—the nailing of the Lord Jesus Christ to the cross of Calvary (war against God Himself! Satan using man against the very Son of God!). Yes, war is an outcropping of man's own evil—a result of man's refusal to accept God's way of life.

This brings me to a personal question, Jim. Have *you* ever accepted His way of life? I know you have probably lived a life as righteous as the average—according to man's standard. But that is not the question. The question is: Have *you* ever accepted God's way of life?



That way is stated briefly by the Lord Jesus Christ: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me" (John 14:6). By this we see that Jesus Himself is God's Way, the way of life. He also said: "I am the Door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved" (John 10:9). We must enter through this Door. There is no other.

Now this is all contrary to the modern trend. Men will stand and declare, "Do the best you can and all will be well;" or, "Bring out the inherent good which is in you and you will go to Heaven;" or, again

"God loves you. He will not condemn you to eternal damnation." These are lies.

Let us see what God's Word says about such statements. First of all, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his *own way*; and the Lord has laid upon Him (Christ) the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6). Then, "All have sinned, and come short of the *glory of God*" (Romans 3:23). Finally, hear the words of John: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

So, we see, all are sinners; which means I am a sinner. "The wages of sin is death," and I must receive my wage. "But the gift of God is eternal life through *Jesus Christ our Lord*" (Romans 6:23). Peter puts it thus: "Because Christ also suffered for us who *His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree*, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: *by whose stripes ye were healed*" (1 Peter 2:21-24).

Now let's look at one more passage--the 23rd Psalm. What does it say? "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." And on it goes through the ceaseless blessings received at the hand of the Good

Shepherd by His sheep. Even further than earthly and physical blessings it goes: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me." Yes, there is something beyond the grave: "And I shall dwell in the House of the Lord forever!"

But for whom are all these blessings? For "My sheep." How do we become His sheep? Each person must acknowledge, "I am the sinner; the Lord is *my Shepherd*." This is God's way of life.

Jim, I don't know where you stand in God's sight; you do and He does. I'm not trying to "scare" you into anything, Jim. I just want to show you, through God's own Word, His way of life. Christ is *His* way of life! If you have never accepted Him I hope you will do so *now*. Then you can say, "The Lord is *my Shepherd*.... I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever!"

—Kenneth W. Orndol

Tract-of-the-Month Club wartime tract
Courtesy Good News Publishing Company.

Copies of this tract may be secured from Tract-of-the-Month Club, 322 West Washington, Chicago (6), Illinois. 100 for 35c; 500 for \$1.60; 1000 for \$3.00. Add 10% for postage on orders less than \$2.50.

A General Advises

Rev. George Waggoner, Student Minister in Free Will Baptist Bible College
3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville (5), Tennessee

"Facing life is a necessity at all times, but the expression has a peculiar significance in wartime, and especially to the members of the fighting forces. I therefore venture to send a message to my comrades of the services, giving my experience of this problem during a long service in the army, in hopes that it may be a help to others, and especially to those who are at the threshold of their service career.

"We all in our weakness, helplessness, and foolishness need someone who is strong and wise and who will help us and guide us in the varied and complex problems which arise. Some of us seek to find such a per-

son in some earthly friend whom we greatly admire and love. But that solution is at best an incomplete one because the best earthly friends cannot give us the strength we need, or the peace for which we long. Others of us try to find satisfaction in an association with some organization. There again the solution is incomplete, since an organization, however excellent, lacks the personal touch for which we crave.

"The only real, lasting, and entirely satisfactory solution I know of is to be found in Christ, and it is He whom I desire to commend to you with all the earnestness of which I am capable.

"I came to know Him—as we all must

get to know Him—as my Saviour. He showed me that I was a sinner, and as such unable to stand before God. This knowledge became a heavy burden to me, until He further showed me that by His death He paid the penalty of my sins, and therefore I might go free. When this dawned upon me, the burden disappeared, and from that day to this I have known and rejoiced in the fact that my many sins have once and for all been carried by His Atoning Blood, and that the whole of the past has been forgiven and forgotten.

"Having thus accepted Him as my Saviour", I then accepted Him as my Lord—that is to say, I placed myself under His orders and offered Him my service. It was the least I could do in view of what He has done for me; but I am ashamed to say how often I have been unfaithful to Him and have let Him down. He has, however, been consistently faithful to me and has never let go of me.

"I have also found Him to be a wonderful companion, who is with me at all times and in all circumstances. No earthly friend can do that, but He can and does. He also is a wonderful helper. I have for many years made it a practice to ask His help in all my problems, great and small, professional and private. The help He gives is very real, and I can assure you that it is a very practical and real thing to seek

and obtain His help in army life. Remember, He is almighty and all wise, and in addition He loves us with a love which proved itself at Calvary. What a difference He must make to our present life in the service—can you contemplate facing life without Him? I could not, and I hope you will not. Remember, He is anxious to come into your life, to settle the question of the past, to be with you for the present, and to assure for you the future.

"No wonder I wish to commend Him to you, since for many years He has been and still is my Saviour, Lord, Companion, Guide, Helper, and Friend, and will continue so for all eternity."

(Signed) W. G. S. Dobbie
Lieut. General

"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. He is able to keep you" (John 3:36; Jude 24).

Tract-of-the-Month Club Folder No.III.
Courtesy Good News Publishing Company.

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GOSPEL SERMONS



The Doctrine of Sanctification

Part II. The Divine Work

Rev. John B. Rollins, Monett, Missouri

In the preceeding article, the doctrine of sanctification was considered as of human requirements. It was observed that the required grace which makes men holy, is not the "wild-fire" it is declared to be by many who use the subject for a hobby sermon. The process which makes men holy is a continued work, beginning at the

time the soul is regenerated by an operation of the Holy Ghost. It was finally observed that as far as man's part in the "becoming holy" he is required to sanctify himself (1 Sam. 16:5), his possessions (Ex. 13:2), his family (1 Cor. 7:14), and to sanctify the Lord Jesus in his heart (1 Peter 3:15). Man, apart from God,

cannot make himself holy. God, in all His tri-une Essence of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is wrapped up in the business of making men holy. Men may rest assured that God will certainly perform His part in bringing many sons to glory.

Sanctification by the Blood of Jesus

"Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate" (Hebrews 13:12).

Since the Father had arranged that His Son should have the pre-eminence in all things appertaining to human redemption, it is only proper to consider the sanctifying power of the shed blood of Jesus Christ first in the divine work of making men holy. True to the type, the sin offering which was burned without the camp, Jesus suffered the spilling of His own blood outside the city. Golgotha became a sacrificial altar upon which the Lamb of God was offered as the only and all-sufficient atonement for human sin. From the sacrifice of Himself flowed the cleansing merits, as of a fountain, which sets men free from sin. There is power in the blood—power to cleanse, power to save, power to "purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God." "Without the shedding of blood is no remission." It was therefore necessary that Christ should come and put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation" (Hebrews 9:14, 22, 26, 28).

Sanctification by the Word of God and Prayer

"For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer" (1 Tim. 4:5).

The reference here is to certain meats which had been forbidden to be eaten, but the same rule of sanctification by the Word of God applies also to the lives of men while Jesus prayed for His disciples. He said, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17). The Word of God is the only rule of faith and practice. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but God's word shall abide forever, (Matt. 24:35). He who adopts the Word of God and appropriates it to his life to follow

its precepts has less chance to err. Jesus reproved an unsanctified people when He said, "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God" (Matt. 22:28). Much of the ignorance about the Word of God on the part of the people is wilful ignorance and is inexcusable. Many are refusing to be made holy by the Word of God—their ignorance testifies against them. They do not *want* correct doctrine, nor to be reproved and corrected, nor to receive instruction in righteousness according to the powerful workings of the Scriptures as told in 2 Timothy 3:16.

It does make a difference what men believe. Their thinking a thing does not make it right. No man's experience, regardless of how fantastic or real it may seem, is safe which does not have the authority of Holy Writ upon it. Many a poor soul is deceived by an experience which is nothing less than a flat contradiction to the Bible. The conscience is *not* a safe guide! A whole dispensation of approximately seventeen hundred years was given over to the leadership of the conscience, and the test failed and ended in divine judgment in the form of a world catastrophe. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12).

The righteous man is described in the Psalms as having a "delight in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night" for he understands that "the law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul" (Psalm 1:2 and 19:7).

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES

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Sanctification by the Holy Spirit

"That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost" (Romans 15:16).

The Gentiles who were the fruit of the Apostle's ministry had heard the gospel of God and were sanctified by the third-mentioned member of the divine God-head. The Holy Spirit is God. He is the holy Agent through which the Father and the Son makes contact with the world during the dispensation of the Grace of God. His business is to reprove the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment and to guide the saints into all truth (John 16:8, 13). His office work in making men holy is indeed a magnificent work. God though He is, He is not to be worshipped or praised or petitioned in prayer. Christians are instructed to pray to the Father in the name of the Son (John 15:16). There is

a right way of doing things—and that goes for praying. Concerning praise bestowed upon the Holy Spirit, Jesus said of Him, "He shall not speak of himself. . . . He shall glorify me" (John 16:13-14). It is out of order to report a great religious service, saying "The power of the Holy Ghost was demonstrated in a great manifestation." True, the Holy Spirit has power—sanctifying power—but He does not thus testify of Himself. Paul did not say, "I can do all things through the Spirit who strengtheneth me," but "through Christ" of whom the Spirit testifies.

The holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, three in one, co-ordinates every redemptive grace to make men holy and fit to stand in His presence. If men are lost, they must plunge beyond all grace and go to hell as an intruder. God's compassion is toward those who will lend co-operation and become "laborers together with God" in the business of preparing men for glory.

Taxes and Tithes

Harlie Camp, Green Forest, Ark.

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— oOo —

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Will rent for life.

— oOo —

Factories and stores for rent on the same terms. Other inducements to those who handle these places faithfully include daily helps and insurance of a good home when you are too old to receive old age pensions.

— oOo —

Did the foregoing catch and hold your attention?

Who is the owner of all farms, factories and stores? In fact, who owns the whole world? Who can (and will) give you daily helps and insures you a home in eternity?

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR RENT?

Under the law of Moses there were sacrifices, free will offerings and tithes called for. In the New Testament the blood sacrifice is condemned, for that was only a shadow of Christ's sacrifice, and when the real was accomplished, the shadow was done away.

In the seventh chapter of Hebrews, Paul tells us of Abraham paying tithes to Melchisedec, before the Mosaic law was given, then calls attention to the fact that tithes were paid to the Levitical priesthood under the Mosaic law, and in verse 8 says "And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth." You will see that Paul was speaking of paying tithes during the time in which he was preaching, which was not under the Law but under Grace.

Then in 1 Cor. 16:2 he tells each to give "as God hath prospered him." I do not think you will find any other standard set up in either the Old or New Testament but the tithe, and I think we really owe one tenth of our income to God, and then the free will offerings above that.

The church is told to take care of their widows, orphans and poor, and to preach the Gospel to all mankind. Is your organization able to do this? If all your members paid tithes, wouldn't you be able to do more of the work God has laid out for you?

A renter on the farm is willing to pay one third of all crops to the land owner for the use of the land, and 10% interest on borrowed money. Are they worth more to us than God's work?

Some say they cannot afford to give one tenth to God's work because they need the money, to provide for their family, and the Bible charges us to provide for them. Would they be justified in refusing to pay their rent, interest, or taxes for the same reason? The U. S. government also requires a man to provide for his family.

If we refuse to pay rent, the farm is rented to another who is more worthy. If we refuse to pay the interest, both principle and interest are taken from us. If we refuse to pay our taxes, they are collected by law. We pay these, then, because we fear what man will do to us. Matthew 10:28 says, "and fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul, but rather fear him which is able to destroy both body and soul in hell."

We are stingy with God, who is so bountiful with us! "If there is anything left of our income after we get what we want we will give to God," seems to be our attitude. Why, we are even stingy with our time. We haven't time to read our Bible or study our Sunday school lesson. We come to Sunday school late and want to hurry through so we can do something else.

Shame on us! If we were called to judgment today, could we face Christ and say that we had fed and clothed Him? "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me" (Matt. 25:45).



Our Bible School

Rev. L. C. Johnson, President



With the enrollment of thirty-two students in the Free Will Baptist Bible College at the beginning of the second year, Free Will Baptists have just cause for thanksgiving. We accept this as a token of God's approval upon this institution.

Let us recall the fact that one year from this past July at the National Association held in Columbus, Mississippi, it was voted to open the Free Will Baptist Bible College. The time set for opening was September 15. At that time the only school facilities we had was a building located at 3609 Richland Avenue with a ten thousand dollar indebtedness on it. We did not have one piece of furniture in this building. There was not one student definitely enrolled. In other words, with a realization of our need for a Bible College and with faith in God, the Free Will Baptist people

committed themselves to an Educational Program. Today, approximately fifteen months since committing ourselves officially to this program, we have our building completely free of indebtedness. In this building we have nice modern, up-to-date furniture. We also have this building crowded to capacity with students. Furthermore, it has been necessary for us to rent extra rooms in the neighborhood to house our students. This shows that we have made progress. Surely God has blessed us.

It must be remembered that when we decided to open a Bible College that we did not have one single book to make a library; but today we have between five and six hundred volumes, most of which are standard books. The library is steadily growing. We wish to commend in a special way some of the Ladies' Auxiliaries

of North Carolina for having adopted as a project the purchasing of books for the College Library. We have already received some needed books from them and others are ordered, and are to be ordered.

We have recently had to purchase a larger gas range for the kitchen. The Cumberland Association of Tennessee was gracious enough to donate this to the College. With new addition to the kitchen, together with the nice dining hall that has been built to the back of the building, we have nice kitchen and dining facilities for the time being.

We believe God is growing through the Free Will Baptist people, a high type, thoroughly Christian College for the training of Christian witnesses. When so many of our State and Church schools have become modernistic and liberal in their teachings, there is need as never before for high type Christian Colleges for Chris-

tian people. Why not the Free Will Baptists of America offer to the young men and women of our day an opportunity to receive a Christian Education? Surely an opportunity is before us. I believe We are going to avail ourselves of it.

The response of our people in the support of this work justifies our belief that we have all had a vision of an Educational Program that will give to every worthy person in our midst Christian Training. Let us challenge every interested person to pray with us for a greater Free Will Baptist Bible College. May we suggest to the pastors and to all Christian Workers to use your influence in getting all the promising young men and women of our Church who are interested in Christian Work into the Free Will Baptist Bible College. God is leading us on; may we follow Him. Pray for our College that it may always stay true to Christ.



Missionary Department



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

Half Way to the Goal

At the National Association in July, we voted to launch a five thousand dollar campaign for the purpose of establishing a Bible School and Mission center in Cuba. We have already sent to our Superintendent, Rev. Willey, \$2500 of that amount. This was done within about three and one-half months from the date it was voted at the National Association. This has been done in addition, and above, the regular monthly current expense which is around \$500.00 per month. We have had to launch no special drive to do this. We merely announced the campaign was on, and that seemed to be sufficient. I wish to extend our deepest and sincere thanks to the people everywhere for their splendid cooperation. As we are starting on the latter half, may we be no longer in raising the latter \$2500 than we were the first. We are depending on you, and the way you have already responded increases our faith greatly that

we shall soon reach our ultimate goal.

The spiritual flames are yet burning high in Cuba, as I am sure you see by reading the reports in the papers. A farm of 18 acres has been bought a little outside the city of Pinar Del Rio, and Bro. Willey and our native workers are now erecting buildings sufficient for starting the school. Remember, if you are a Free Will Baptist, this farm and property belongs to you as much as to any one else. It belongs to the National Association of Free Will Baptists of which you are a part. Have you helped pay for it? If not, it is not to late yet to get in on it, for they are going to continue to need funds with which to erect other needed buildings, purchase farm equipment, etc. Then too, this School of Missions must be maintained, our teachers paid, etc. So you see, there is a lot to do there. How grateful we should be that the Lord has given us this open

door of opportunity to spread the gospel of our Lord. I am happy to have a little part in it, aren't you? I would rather know I was helping spread the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ than any one thing in the world. The time is short. Let's work hurriedly. As I have so often said may we not retard the progress of the work by our lack of giving; but rather may we do our utmost to keep up with the Lord and with our workers on the field.

No doubt, many of you are wanting to know about Miss Barnard's getting out to India. Sorry to have to tell you that there has been another holdup in her going. The British Consul wrote her that on account of new developments in the India theatre of war, she could not sail at present. So your guess would be as good as ours concerning her sailing. We can only hope for the future, and pray for her in the meantime. She is now busy teaching the Bible in the public schools at Glenville, Georgia, where she lives. We are endeavoring to open up a work in Purnea District of North East India by using a native worker. One of Sister Barnard's former acquaintnce, Rev. Alexander Banks, is acting as a "go between" for us, holding our funds and over seeing the work of the native. It takes so long to receive a communication from India therefore we haven't any late news to give you. But we figure, if we can make a few contacts through this native worker until such time we can get our own workers across that it will be better than not doing any thing there at all.

In South India, Rev. H. M. Clay is yet overseeing the work at Kotagiri which was started by by Sister Barnard. We are fearful for the distress which they may be in. We naturally wonder about famine conditions, etc.

Miss Bessie Yeley is yet in Cuba; having gone there last Spring. She is becoming very much adjusted to the work, and is liking it better all along; we understand. We are so very glad that Sister Yeley can be used on the field in Cuba.

Until yet we have been unable to find anyone to go to Cuba for the purpose of teaching the children of Bro. and Sister Willey. This is a sore need, and it is too bad we cannot have some one there

to take charge of that work. Sister Willey is doing the best she can by the work, but she needs some one to take that place so she can spend her time on the mission field. Please join us in earnest prayer that we may be able to find some one. Of course we want that one to be the one the Lord wants.

Again thanking you, and may we express again that we are looking to you and depending on you.

— Winford Davis

NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSION TREASURY

Missouri	\$359.39
North Carolina	200.00
Tennessee	105.00
Georgia	102.35
Michigan	86.77
Florida	75.00
Oklahoma	73.96
Texas	52.96
Illinois	20.69
Ohio	5.00
South Carolina	2.00
National Auxiliary Convention	91.30

TOTAL \$1,173.73

— Winford Davis, treasurer

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GENERAL ARTICLES



The Tennessee F. W. B. Orphanage

It is with thankful and over-flowing hearts that we report the splendid response of our people to an appeal for a new tractor for the Orphanage. God touched the hearts of people in a wonderful manner. Something over seven hundred and fifty dollars have been forwarded. Several churches have written that they are raising funds.

We make it a practice to take no important step until we are sure that we have divine approval. However, we have never felt more impelled by His Holy Spirit to enter upon an undertaking in our lives. Many of the churches have done so much more than was asked. We suggested that if a hundred churches would give fifteen dollars each, the fifteen hundred dollars needed for tractor and implements would be raised. One church has given over seventy dollars (Martin's Chapel), three churches have given more than forty

each. The Cumberland Association, in their annual meeting, gave \$134.40. Individual churches of this Association has responded in several instances. Virginia has donated a goodly sum. The little Northern Quarterly Meeting of the Union Association, with only four hundred members, has given over a hundred dollars.

We know that the rest of you will want to have a part in this God inspired undertaking. I have a trade under consideration and know that our liberal hearted Free Will Baptist folk will respond at once. If any church or individual has already contributed and feels led to do even more we know that God will be pleased.

Some may have feared that the task was too great. You may rest assured that the drive is going over the top in His name. As we send forth this communication, it is with the prayer that God's Spirit will have the right-of-way in every heart.

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EDITORIAL

PRESENTING THE NEW EDITOR

In the October issue of *The Gem*, an announcement was made that the Editor had resigned. The Missouri State Association had accepted the resignation to become effective within a reasonable period of time not to exceed ninety days. The responsibility of securing a new Editor was given to the Board of Trustees. The Board met in the Gem office on two different dates, and at the last meeting, elected an Editor-Business Manager for the Free Will Baptist Gem.

The newly elected Editor is Rev. C. B. Dees, a successful pastor from Desloge, Missouri. Brother Dees has purchased a home in the city of Monett and plans to move about January 1st and begin filling his official position in time for the February 1944 issue of *The Gem*.

The January 1944 issue of *The Gem* will close the editorial activity of one who has served fifty-five months in the printing institution of the church which has grown until it is no longer possible for one



Rev. C. B. Dees

official to properly carry on. The retiring Editor salutes the new Editor and wishes him success through the years.

EDITORIAL SPECIALS

As the January 1944 issue of *The Gem* will be the last issue of the editorial responsibility of the retiring Editor, he has planned two special articles which, it is hoped, will create some special interest in the Free Will Baptist denomination. The Editor has been largely overwrought and has been unable to fill his official office according to his ideals of an Editor. The articles in the January issue will be the first approach to an attainment of those editorial ideals, and when that is accomplished, he shall be happy to vacate his chair for one who comes after him.

One of these editorial articles, in particular, is going to be a great surprise to the denomination because of the merits of the informational contents of which is shall be composed. It will really be a special article, and every Gem reader will want

to read it, if for no other reason, to catch a glimpse of its historic value. Be watching!

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.

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The Great
Commission
— Our Mission



Woman's Auxiliary Department

The Whole
World
For Christ



Message From Third Vice President

No doubt many of you are wondering about the response to the appeal for the Cuban School of Missions. FOUR states have responded as follows; Illinois, Missouri, Georgia and Texas. There may be others who have raised their quota recently or perhaps some who have failed to notify me. If so, you are automatically included in the list of "Those who have accomplished." Our Missionaries write us that the need is very urgent. They plan to open the school in November if at all possible, and our response to the need will decide as to the possibility. With the evident need in Cuba as it is, we cannot afford to wait longer for the school. We must have it. We need to train the workers to carry on the great work there. We must

have trained personell to promote the work. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE THIS AND MORE. AND I AM SURE THAT YOU WOMEN WHO HAVE NOT YET RESPONDED AND DONE YOUR PART FOR THIS WORTHY CAUSE ARE GOING TO DO SO. If you have forgotten what you were to do I will be glad to let you know. And if you have raised your allotment, would you please notify me so that I may mark the slate clean and plan for other activities. Thank you for your cooperation. Please DO YOUR BEST FOR THE LORD AND THE LOST OF CUBA.

Mrs. Damon C. Dodd, Third V.P.
3609 Richland Ave.,
Nashville (5), Tennessee

Others Have Done It Why Can't We?

The words of Henry W. Longfellow which he wrote "Lives of great men all remind us," may and do carry a deeper meaning than we are prone to give to them. The deeds of such men as Washington, Lincoln, and Wilson remind us of political greatness and fidelity to native country. The feats of Napoleon, Grant, Lee, and Pershing remind us of great military victories that have shaped the destinies of nations and empires. And outstanding among them all are the lives and the deaths of such great geniuses of the Cross, as Xavier, Lull, Carey, Judson, Livingston, and countless numbers of others. When we review their lives of service which were greatly magnified and enriched by a fully surrendered will and a burning, unremitting, driving zeal prompted by unbounded love for Christ and His Cause, we are forcibly reminded of our task as world-wide emissaries and our lack of courage, zeal, and love to pursue with all our might the job of evangelizing the world.

gelizing the world.

William Carey, who lived in the latter part of the 18th century and the early part of the 19th is known as "The Father of Modern Missions." He was born of poor parents in the village of Northamptonshire, England. When yet a small boy he showed a great interest in learning. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to a shoemaker. About this time he enjoyed a real experience with the Lord Jesus in conversion and joined the humble Baptist church. At the age of 18 he began to preach. Realizing the greatness of the task before him, he utilized every moment of spare time for study and in the course of time he mastered, by dogged perseverance, five languages.

Carey continued his work as a cobbler to supplement his meager earnings as a minister. A report of a great sermon by Johnathan Edwards in America and his request for prayers for world-wide evangel-

ization stirred up a dormant chord in Carey's life. He placed a large map of the world in the shop before him and studied it diligently. The account of Capt. Cook's voyage impressed him greatly and young Carey saw by the map and the account of the voyage enough to convince him that the church was falling far short of the great commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel."

Carey got a chance to express his convictions in regards to his missionary convictions at a ministerial meeting. When he spoke in defense of the Great Commission and the churches' responsibility he was told by the moderator, "Young man, sit down. When God pleases to convert the heathen He will do it without your help or mine." This inspired Carey to more zealous action than ever before. He wrote for the the notable pamphlet "An Inquiry Into the Obligation of Christians to Use Their Means for the Conversion of the Heathen." A few days later he preached his famous sermon from Isaiah 54:2-3, exhorting the congregation to "Attempt great things for God; expect great things for God." This sermon marked the awakening of the church to the need and soon a group of twelve ministers met at Kettering and organized the first Baptist Missionary Society. Carey offered himself as the first missionary.

When he was preparing to go his wife objected strenuously. Carey went ahead in the face of this and planned to sail in company with a companion, Mr. Thomas, he boarded an English vessel and started

to India. However, when the captain found that they were going as missionaries he put them off the boat and sent them back to England. Undaunted by this Carey continued to plan to sail and soon arrangements were made to book passage on a Danish vessel. By this time Mrs. Carey had consented to go, in fact was anxious to go. They sailed in June and five months later they landed at Calcutta.

They immediately set to work in the face of severe odds. The financial support which had been promised from back home failed to come. Their own meager funds soon dwindled away. Still undaunted, Carey secured a position in an indigo factory where he was soon promoted to a superintendency. His income was invested in furthering the Cause of Christ. While working he also held religious services in the villages and did itinerant work in nearby villages. His adeptness as a linguist won for him many advantages which he otherwise would not have realized. He worked early and late at translating the scriptures and in the end he had translated them into thirty-five languages and dialects. In addition to this he compiled and published many grammars and dictionaries, thus making it possible for someone to carry on better than he had. After forty-one years of loving, self-sacrificing service this great man of God entered into his well-earned rest June 1834, at the age of 73.

Through simple faith and much determination Carey won for the Lord. Can We?

Church Letters - Field Reports

Monett League Report

Dear Gem Readers:

As I have been elected as League Reporter, I feel that it is my duty to report our League.

We have an enrollment of about 45. Our League is divided into two departments, the Junior and Senior. There is a large group of Juniors and they're really interested in the League work. They

do not hesitate a minute when called upon to give a special before the entire audience. They make us, Senior Leaguers, ashamed of ourselves sometimes when we sit back, and they are so willing and always ready to use their talents.

Our Senior League is improving, and we're still in the fight for God. We have much for which to praise God, because He has been so nice to us. Sometimes our attendance is low but the Lord's presence

is with us.

We want our League to be as a light on a hill that cannot be hid. We want to have the League Spirit in our hearts that we can let our lights shine out before people, and they will become interested in League work also.

Remember all Leaguers in your prayers. We realize the church of tomorrow will be made up of those who are the young people of today, and as the League is the training service of the church, we feel our responsibility in the League work.

Yours for Christ,

—Dorothy Lovell, reporter

30

Amity Free Will Baptist Church Niangua, Missouri

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I wish to report our revival that has just closed at the Amity church, near Niangua, Missouri. Rev. Winford Davis of Monett, a powerful man of God, conducted the revival, delivering some wonderful messages from God. The Lord was with us all through the meeting. Six souls found the Lord, and one lady was renewed. Four were baptized, and there were five additions to the church. Although we are thankful for the souls that were saved, and for the great blessings, there are still others we pray will come to the Lord soon.

Christian people, please pray for our church when you pray, especially remember our young people. We young people need more help and guidance than ever before, because there are so many temptations.

May the Lord bless each Gem reader.

Miss Nina McClanahan, reporter.

30

Revival At Mt. Olive (Neola) Church Greenfield, Missouri

We have just closed a splendid revival at our Mt. Olive (commonly called Neola) church with Rev. Frank Linton as our evangelist. Rev. Linton did all the preaching, and I took charge of the song services and devotions. We saw six souls saved and six additions to the church beside a great good done among our members there.

Bro. Linton did some splendid preaching, and won a place in the heart of every one in the church and entire community. I feel sure our people at Mt. Olive will want Bro. Linton again.

We have a nice baptizing service for the near future as a result of this meeting. We are so thankful for this revival because this little church, like most churches this day and time, needed a revival.

If you need an evangelist you will be fortunate if you are able to secure the services of Bro. Frank Linton of Tunas, Missouri.

In His service

Rev. Winford Davis

30

Fredericktown, Missouri

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

Our Auxiliary is still going on, even if some do get discouraged and stay home, we are still on the Lord's side and feel His presence and great power in our meeting. We hope to be of greater service in God's work as we grow older in this great cause. We have some new members lately, and we are sorry to report that some of our dear sisters are not interested as much in this great work as we would love to have them. Do pray for them and that our work here may be revived and grow faster and that we will be a great light in the power house of God at this station.

I wish to mention our building program here in Fredericktown, for we are coming along so nicely with our new church. It is looming up fine now, and everyone can see that we really are going to have a larger and better place in which the Free Will Baptist people can worship. We can welcome our dear visiting Brothers and Sisters in Christ when they come in our midst which we hope and pray will be very often. Our Church is growing, having conversions, and new members are being added to our number. Greater love is being manifested among all of us and we are very happy about it.

Our dear pastor, Bro. Zinn, and his dear wife, have so faithfully labored among us. I must say, no one could be more interested and work any harder than Bro.

of sadoy eH .y'naup wæn uno no uuiz have it completed soon so we can worship in it this winter. I do pray God will trouble the hearts of His dear children in this church, until they will all freely give, and give 'till it hurts, to finance the need to buy material and finish building our church. Please help us pray, and should God lead any of you dear readers to send us a donation to help build our church we will greatly appreciate it and thank you for it. May God richly bless every one of you is our prayer.

Your Sister in Christ Jesus and corresponding secretary of Free Will Baptist Ladies' Auxiliary at Fredericktown, Mo.

Mrs. Emma Bebout.

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The Illinois District Auxiliary Meeting

The Woman's Auxiliary met for their semi-annual district meeting with the Mt. Vernon Free Will Baptist church, October 22, 1943. The meeting was called to order by our president, Sister Emma Moore. Hymns, "Jesus paid it all," and "How firm a foundation," were sung by the congregation. Prayer by Sister Elsie Curtis. Welcome by Mrs. Mildred Gibson.

We were very happy and indeed honored to have with us our National Auxiliary President, Sister Edwards, who gave us greetings at this time, also Sister Curtis gave us greetings.

Officers were seated and report of last meeting was read.

Sister Edwards gave us a nice report of the National Auxiliary Meeting.

It makes our hearts rejoice to know our women are responding so readily to our foreign Missionary needs. Our Auxiliaries have sent \$45.00 for mattresses for our Bible school in Cuba.

Oral reports were given by presidents of the following auxiliaries: Rescue, Ina, Bear Point, Union, and Mt. Vernon which were all very fine. Some reported 100% titheers in their auxiliaries. Pleasant View has a very strong auxiliary which is doing a nice work, but their women were unable to attend.

A motion carried to have programs printed for the next meeting which will

convene on Friday before the fourth Sunday in April 1944, with the Ina Free Will Baptist church.

A bountiful dinner was served at the noon hour in the basement of the church. We were very happy to have some of our ministers with us and wish more would attend.

An offering was taken for Sister Laura Barnard, which amounted to \$64.12. Let us pray for Sister Barnard that she may have a safe journey back to India. Let us all support her with our prayers and finance as we know it will be a very costly and hazardous trip. But, O Lord, help us all to get a vision of those poor dying souls in India.

A very nice program on stewardship was given by the women of Bear Point church.

Sister Edwards then brought the message, using as her text, Hebrews 13:13, "Let us go forth, therefore, unto Him without the camp bearing His reproach." Sister Edwards is a very capable speaker and we pray God may ever bless her in her work for Him.

May God bless our Woman's Auxiliary for we know it has strengthened our churches.

One Auxiliary had got discouraged and was ready to quit, but after hearing the good reports and seeing how God was blessing, it took new courage and declared its intention to go on. Let us go on unto perfection.

Mrs. Emma Moore, president

Mrs. C. J. Ketterman, Cor. Sec.

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Nashville 5, Tennessee
3609 Richland Avenue

Dear Editor and Readers:

Greetings in the Name of Jesus! I have just finished looking over the November issue of "The Gem", which came in this morning's mail. When I last wrote I was preparing to leave Washington, D. C., to enter our Bible College here in Nashville. Satan did all he could to discourage my coming but I knew the Lord was leading and, although I might not be able to understand why He wanted me here and how I was to receive material needs, I

know that I would not be happy nor would I be doing the will of my Lord unless I said, "Yes, Lord, I will go."

As duly planned, I left Washington, D. C., on Saturday evening, August 21, for home where I planned to attend services the next day at the home church. I enjoyed attending the services there and being with my family for two days, but it was soon time for me to board the train again. While it hurt to leave my loved ones and friends again, there was joy because I felt as I had not felt before that I was doing what the Lord wanted me to do. I was looking forward with great expectancy as to what it was to be like at our Free Will Baptist Bible College.

I have not been disappointed in any one respect in regard to the College. Personally, I have learned many things in these first weeks that I know will help me wherever I go in the Lord's work in years to come. If something should happen that would cause me to have to leave school now, I do not feel that these nine weeks have been wasted. The presence of the Holy Spirit is felt in my class room work and devotions. I am daily thanking God for leading me here.

I had some trouble at first, as an individual, in becoming adjusted to school life again after being on my own, so to speak, for some time. The devil, of course, did his part to make it harder for me but I'm glad that prayer will iron out the biggest wrinkles; and, while I am still far the Christian I desire to be, I am striving each day to become a better soldier of the Cross.

There are two things to which I look forward to every day — chapel each morning and devotions at the close of day. The student body has experienced prayers definitely answered since the opening of school this year. The Lord is with me and I desire to grow stronger and to better prepare myself for His service. I covet your prayers that God's way be wrought in my life daily.

Yours in His Service,
Gertrude Bowe

Report of Foreign Mission Treasurer for State of Oklahoma

For Month of August

Tulsa Church	\$10.00
Shawnee Church	1.60
Vance Chappel	2.89
Christian Grove Church	4.75
New Home Church	10.00
Zion Hill League	1.00
East Side Mission	10.61

For Month of September

Tulsa Church	\$10.00
Zion Hill League	1.90
Vance Chappel	3.20

For Month of October

Tulsa Church	\$10.00
Christian Grove Church	8.60
Zion Hill League	1.00
Total Paid in for Three Months	\$73.96

CHURCHES OF OKLAHOMA

Please send your Foreign Mission offerings to me so your Church will get credit for it in these reports.

Bert F. Rogers, Drumright, Okla.

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PROCEEDINGS

Third Annual Session of the Women's Oklahoma State Auxiliary Convention October 18, 1943

Monday Night

The meeting opened with singing led by Rev. E. A. O'Donnell. Prayers by Rev. Paul Purcell and Rev. B. F. Rogers. Rev. Cleo Purcell took charge of the song service. Sister Glenaira Staires led the devotional service. Rev. E. A. O'Donnell arranged a quartett which sang "They Have Gone Away," and "Press Along Weary Pilgrim." After this Rev. Hattie Newman brought the message, reading Psalms 27 for scripture. Her subject was "The Great Commission, Our Mission;" also, "Giving Him Our Best in Dark Hours." Text, Gen. 43:11.

Tuesday Morning

Opened with singing led by Rev. J. H. West. After this Rev. Cleo Purcell took charge. She read Matt. 25:43 for devotional. Prayer by Sister Exie Haskins. Then President, Rev. Cleo Purcell took charge. State officers and delegates had

a meeting to determine if a quorum was present. A quorum was found present. A letter from the Center Association District was read. A song was sang and delegates were given the right hand of Christian fellowship. Sister Valeta Hileman gave the welcome address. Sister Winnie McClain gave the response, as Sister Gladys Shinn could not be present. Motion carried that State officers be elected.

Election of Officers

President, Rev. Cleo Purcell, Route 1, Stonewall, Oklahoma; First Vice President, Sister Valeta Hileman, 714 W. 17th St., Ada, Oklahoma; Second Vice President, Sister Bessie West, 401 Patton Ave., Wewoka, Oklahoma; Third Vice President, Rev. Hattie Newman, Route 2, Jennings, Oklahoma; Fourth Vice President, Sister Glenaria Staires, 21st St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Fifth Vice President, Sister Effie O'Donnell, McLoud, Oklahoma; Recording Secretary, Sister Winnie McLain, 1047 E. Chandler, Shawnee, Oklahoma; Corresponding Secretary, Sister Ethel Armstrong, Drumright, Oklahoma; Treasurer, Sister Mary Rogers, 139 E. Drumright, Drumright, Oklahoma; Field Worker, Rev. Sadie Fincher, Box 244, Drumright, Oklahoma.

Rev. B. F. Rogers brought the message. His subject was "Obedience to the Call, The Great Commission" Samuel 15:22.

Rev. Lizzie McAdams, National Field Worker, gave a talk on Auxiliary Work. Rev. Melvin Bingham introduced Rev. Robert Crawford, 3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee. Rev. Crawford, the National Secretary, gave a talk on the National Work.

Motion carried that Women's Auxiliary recommend that the State Association discuss the building of an orphanage in Oklahoma.

Any donations for the Orphanage should be sent to Sister Ethel Armstrong, Drumright, Oklahoma.

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The Free Will Baptist Church Pikeville, Kentucky

Dear Gem Readers:

How we wish we could find words to

express to our readers how wonderfully God has been blessing the church at Pikeville, Kentucky, since we last reported to The Gem.

In October 1941, a picture of our church and a little historical sketch was run on the front page of The Gem. At that time we owed \$1170.00, the last week of October 1943, the debt was cleared off the record.

This little band of Co-workers have worked hard and faithful, but the praise is not due to any of us, it all goes to the One who has blessed our every effort. May we never forget to praise His name. Without Him we Could do nothing.

We want to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped with the financial burden of the church in any way. God will richly repay everyone a hundred fold for what He has done. We most heartily thank the Johnson County Quarterly Conference for its splendid cooperation and help. They never failed to help us a time when we asked for a donation.

The Dedication Service was held on Sunday morning, October 31, 1943. The music was furnished by a quartett from Burdine, Kentucky, and a trio from Betsy Layne, Kentucky. Congregation sang, "Standing on the Promises." Rev. Walter L. Hooper of Seco, Kentucky, read the scripture lesson found in 1 Kings 8th chapter. Rev. Isaac Stratton, Banner, Kentucky, led in prayer. Rev. Millard Vanhooose, Paintsville, Kentucky, in the absence of Rev. A. L. Jackson, Ashland, Ky., delivered the sermon using the scripture read by Rev. Hooper. It was indeed a spiritual message. God showered His blessings throughout the service. Rev. Carl Senters offered dedicatorial prayer.

We ask nothing more than the prayers of the dear readers of this paper. We pray that this church will always be a "Saving Station" for lost boys and girls, men and women.

May this always be our prayer, "Bless the Lord, Oh my soul and forget not all his benefits.

In His Great Service,

Mrs. Albert Webb, reporter

England Hill Free Will Baptist Church Catlettsburg, Kentucky

About the first of June, just across the city limits of Catlettsburg at the foot of England Hill, Reverend Herbert French and Reverend James Cartmael pitched a tent. About ten or twelve good Christians, who had a zeal for souls, banded themselves together with them to have a revival. God blessed and saved six souls. These children of God under the leadership of Reverend French and guided by the Spirit of God rented the Primitive Baptist church building and started services there on July the thirty-first. The first Sunday there were fifty-seven present in the Sunday school. They continued to have preaching services Saturday night, Sunday morning, and Sunday night with the exception of the fourth Saturday night and Sunday morning on which the Primitive Baptist held their services.

The fourth week of September they had a week of prayer in preparation for a revival which began the fourth of October with Reverend L. E. Colliver doing the preaching. The Spirit of God was present in every service. There were eight souls saved. On Sunday October twenty-fourth, with the Spirit of God overshadowing the gathering of people from various places and churches, at two o'clock the service of organization began with the opening songs "Lord Send Me," "It Won't Be Very Long" and "Some Day." Prayer by Judge Boggs of Lousia, followed by song "I'll Live In Glory." Reverend French took charge of a short testimonial service which was blessed with a mighty out-pouring of the Spirit. Reverend Wm. Moore, of Lousia, brought the message from the fifth chapter of Ephesians, using the text, "That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." The message was preached with power of the Spirit.

The Bible was presented as the rule of faith and practice by Reverend Moore. The group that was coming in as members joined hands and the church covenant was read from the Treatise of the Faith and Practices of Free Will Baptists by Rev-

erend Jay Duvall and accepted by the group.

Prayer of consecration by Reverend Gordon Craig. The hand of fellowship was given by Reverend L. E. Colliver, chairman of the committee.

Church officers were elected as follows: Clerk, Sister Ruth Tackett; Treasurer, Sister Lucy Bluebaum; Pastor, Reverend Herbert French; Deacons, Henry Bluebaum, Mark Miller and Burns Stumbo; Trustees, Henry Hensley, Robert Hall and Charley Hensley.

The deacons were ordained by the committee. Prayer by Reverend Duvall. The charge was given by Reverend Colliver followed by an old time hand shake by the congregation.

A solo was rendered by Sister Hensley, "A Light In Gallilee."

An offering of \$21.89 was given.

The membership consists of: Mrs. Ruth Tackett, Mrs. Alice Miller, Mrs. Lucy Bluebaum, Henry Bluebaum, Mark Miller, Mrs. Bertha Miller, Charley Hensley, Mrs. Madge Hensley, Reverend Herbert French, Mrs. Lizzie French, Burns Stumbo, Mrs. Ethel Stumbo, Miss Mable Hensley, Miss Majory Woods, Mrs. Susan Fannin, Mrs. Dova Hall, Robert Hall, Evelyn Hall, Mrs. Claude Woods, John L. Queen, Eugene Hall, H. W. Hensley, Mrs. Edna Hensley and Miss Betty Stambaugh.

The benediction was by Judge Boggs.

Don't fail to pray for these folks who have begun this work. There is a great field to work in here in this community. May God continue to bless and may their number grow daily.

Mrs. Ernest O. Griffith

Sandy City church reporter

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A WORD OF EXPLANATION

In all the reports of financial contributions for our National Work, you may have noticed there was no word from our Nebraska field. You perhaps have wondered WHY.

For years, prosperity followed those pioneer workers so that the work grew, but later came three things into the life of Nebraska that were detrimental to her

life. First came those awful years of drought during the 1890's. Following these years large numbers were obliged to vacate which weakened the remaining churches. But the worst followed these experiences when there came the blighting elements form the outside forces for Union with the Northern Baptist Convention. Nebraska was unable to see the wisdom proposed in the Basis of Union, so stood loyal to the principles of the good old Free Will Baptists. When the vote was taken in 1910, in the General Conference, Nebraska could not endorse the movement. So a series of persecution poured into the state which culminated in killing the whole Nebraska work, except one or two churches which still remain, though having no pastors.

I trust our brethern may thus be able to see why Nebraska has had no representative for the past several years in our National Association, and no contributions for our benevolent work.

John H. Wolfe, Pawnee City, Nebraska

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Central Ave. Free Will Baptist Church Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Rev. Harry E. Staires, pastor

Paul Hooker, reporter

To the Editor and Gem Readers:

I thank God for another privilege to write another report for our good church. God has been blessing us so much 'till we hardly feel worthy of all the great blessings. Sunday school is good, church attendance has been wonderful, our League is doing fine, and we have a wonderful group of God serving boys and girls. We are very proud of them for they are the men and women of tomorrow. The ladies auxiliary is doing a good work. We are thanking God for all branches of our church and can rever thank Him enough for Bro. and Sister Staires. They have been such a blessing to our church.

We had a wonderful revival. Bro. Orban Doss and Bro. Staires conducted the meeting. Twelve souls found their way to Christ. We have had 30 additions to our church since Bro. Staires has been with us.

We have been doing some remodeling on our church, and our young people are

planning on building a new class room. We desire the prayers of all our brothers and sisters in Christ, that we will always live humbly before God and give Him the praise for our great blessing.

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Union Free Will Baptist Church Thompsonville, Illinois

Claude Childers, pastor

Opal McGlerren, reporter

"By His stripes we are healed."

Realizing that Jesus bore our iniquities and has carried our sorrow, is what gives me the liberty to write in the name of our blessed Saviour, to our blessed "Gem" the news and report of Union church. I am so glad to report that the church is progressing nicely in the Spirit of the Lord, although, recently the enemy of mankind, which is death, claimed one of our oldest and faithful members. He was Rev. W. M. Jones, whom the Lord called to his great reward on the 25th of October. We realize it is our great loss and heaven's gain. He had been a minister in the Free Will Baptist church for about 35 years.

Since we last reported to The Gem we have had a wonderful revival with 14 conversions and 16 additions to the church for which we thank and praise the God of heaven and earth. We have a splendid Young People's Meeting among the youth of the church. Everyone of them are sing, and quote scripture. God bless them Christians and are so willing to pray and ever keep them humble and sweet at the feet of Jesus.

Our Woman's Auxiliary is moving along very fine, with the Lord blessing and making us a blessing. We are meeting every Wednesday in the homes, doing some needle work for Christmas gifts for our orphanage. The writer would like to ask all of God's people to pray about more of our Southern Illinois churches to organize an Auxiliary. My heart and soul is in this work and I so much desire to see them take another step toward progress by taking up this branch of the Lord's great work.

I must close now, praying God to bless everyone and make me a blessing in Spirit and in Truth.

Northeast Missouri

Dear CoWorkers:

Greetings in the name of our Master. What a wonderful thing to be able to talk to our thousands of workers through the printed page. It is a blessed thought to know that in the midst of a war torn world, we can still have sweet communion and fellowship with Jesus and our friends. Since we last wrote, we have visited some more of Bro. Dobb's and Bro. Cooper's churches with good results. We well remember one Saturday night we just wondered if we would have a crowd to hear the message, and to our great surprise, we had a large crowd and when the altar call was made 6 precious girls came and accepted Christ as their personal Saviour and testified to His saving grace.

We visited two of Bro. Noel Turner's churches and enjoyed the sweet fellowship with them. Then we visited one of Bro. and Sister Wellbaum's churches in northwest Missouri, where we found Bro. Archie Cooper in a good revival. It was a great privilege to meet with all these dear servants of the Lord again.

We next passed on to the home of Sister Melba White, who has been kept at home for several months on account of the serious illness of her mother. We visited her home church and her church at Third Fork. All of these services were very profitable. On leaving the northwest Missouri Association we visited Sister Alice Dickey's church at Hickory Grove, near Harrisonville, Missouri. This dear Sister met us with a warm welcome and God gave a wonderful service. Sister Dickey and the dear women are going forward with our Auxilliary work. God bless Hickory Grove people. It was at this church that we held our first revival in the state of Missouri, 32 years ago.

From there we visited Verdelle and Hannon churches, Sister Lowell Martin is their faithful pastor and we had two splendid sermons at these places. We then visited the State Association in Oklahoma. Was there only one day, and that was the day of the Womens' Auxilliary Convention. We thank God for the fine women in Oklahoma, who are falling in line with

our National Program. We meet a number of our splendid pastors and several visiting preachers among whom was our National Secretary, Bro. Robert Crawford, from Nashville; Tennessee, and Bro. C. F. Zinn from Fredericktown, Missouri. God bless them all. We then went home for a few days and visited our dear companion and it was our privilege to be in both his churches with two wonderful services. It would have rejoiced your heart to see the Woman's Auxilliary meet in the afternoon and get their pennies counted and chest money ready to send off, also to hear them pray for our entire program.

We left Huntsville, Texas, on Thursday before the fifth Sunday in October and visited the Quarterly Meeting near Thayer, Missouri. We had received an invitation from Bro. Harry Beatty while at the Missouri State Association. We had a wonderful visit with them and we found dear hearts eager to learn more about our great program.

We said good bye at noon Saturday and left for Hazel Creek Union church where we started in a revival. Up to date, we have had three precious souls saved, a fine school teacher, an old lady, and a little boy. Praise God for such a quick victory. Bro. Dobbs is the faithful pastor here. Pray for us here in this Association.

Now a word to our Auxillaries and friends who have been so kind to help with Sister Beane, who has been in Bible School in Nashville, Tennessee. On account of ill health Sister Beane will return to her home at Kinston, N. C. We regret very much that she could not stay through the term. We want to thank all that had a part in helping her. She has a place waiting for her in the Master's service as soon as she is able to accept it. Her home church in Kinston is very anxious for her return, to take up her radio program and personal work. Sister Beane has a wonderful future, let us pray for her.

May God bless every worker in the white harvest field. These are awful days we are passing through and we need a close prayer life with our Master, to be able to stand against the wilds of the devil.

Yours for Jesus,

Lizzie McAdams

Tunas, Missouri

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I now take time and pleasure to give a report of two revivals at two of my churches conducted by Rev. Lowell Martin and Rev. Winford Davis. On the 20th of September Sister Lowell Martin came to our church at Tunas, Missouri. The Spirit of the Lord was in the meeting from the start. The church was greatly revived by the Spirit and Sister Martin's preaching. The meeting continued two weeks with four additions to the church. The last day of the meeting we went to the Little Niangua river for baptismal services in which five followed their Lord in baptism. I have been with this church about five years and I think this is the best revival we have had since I have been here. Sister Martin is one of our very best lady ministers and we can highly recommend her as a good evangelist. Miss Thora Arbogast was with Sister Martin and taught the Juniors a short Bible lesson each evening before the preaching service. Sister Arbogast is a splendid Bible teacher.

On October 11th at our church in Webster County, Missouri, Rev. Winford Davis, who needs no introduction to Free Will Baptists, started our revival meeting. In deed, we had a revival. Some of the finest preaching accompanied by the Spirit ever heard. Bro. Davis is a mighty man for God, with his soul and might in the service of our church at home and abroad. There were six found the Lord at an altar of prayer and five were added to the church. Four were baptized the last day of the meeting. We are hoping that we might have Bro. Davis back with us again in the future, as the church has been greatly blessed by having him with us. We did enjoy working with this man of God.

May the Lord bless our church work every where and give us a greater desire to do more for Him.

—Frank Linton, pastor, Tunas, Mo.

30

Flint, Michigan

In 2 Chronicles 7:14 we read, "If my people who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek

my face, and turn from their wicked way; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

We of the First Church of Flint are believing and claiming that promise of God.

On October 8th beginning at 7 a.m. through 7 p.m., we had 12 hours of unbroken prayer at our altar. All races, colors and creeds were invited to come and pray. How God did bless. Some one at the altar for 12 hours in prayer. In the evening Bro. Raymond Rigg of Highland Park, Michigan, brought us a message.

On November 5th beginning at 7 a.m. we are having another 12 hours of prayer with a service in the evening. Wherever you are join us in this prayer. Let us believe God's promise. He is richly blessing us here in Flint.

Maurice W. Roach, pastor
Vera Roach, reporter

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Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Gem Readers:

After being elected to report for Tulsa church, Satan keeps trying to use his weapon of discouragement, causing me to become slothful in this type of God's work, as he does not want the readers of this paper to know that our little church continues to speak out for itself and is moving forward for the Lord.

Psalms 150:6 says, "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

This scripture spurs us on to try to tell you of the blessings of God towards our church.

Our Sunday school attendance is climbing back up again and preaching services are good and well attended. The Lord is giving us a real blessing through the thirty minute broadcast each Saturday night when our quartetts made up of singers not only from our own congregation but also from our visiting sister churches, sing praises unto the Lord. Much interest has been aroused and many phone calls received and offerings have been made by many that heard and received a blessing by these messages in song and prayer.

Bro. and Sister Rex Weatherman of Sapulpa, Oklahoma, and Bro. and Sister

Newman of Oilton, Oklahoma, were some among our visitors for the broadcast. Sister Newman took a part on the program. Several other churches were represented and we were very grateful for their presence.

Bro. John Rollins, Editor of The Gem, and Sister Rollins paid us a visit a few weeks ago. Bro. Rollins delivered the evening message for us. We are truly glad for our visitors who come our way and help us worship the Lord together.

Our church received an unusual blessing in the form of a gift from a stranger, of comfortable chairs to seat our entire choir.

The Ladies Auxiliary was instrumental in helping finance the buying of a beautiful new rug for the rostrum and before the altar of which we are very proud.

The ladies at this time are still holding the one hour prayer service each afternoon. We are praying for and looking forward to an old time revival in the very near future.

Will those who read this join us in prayer?

Rev. Melvin Bingham, pastor
Mrs. Evelyn Miller, reporter

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Fiftieth Church Anniversary Weatherford, Texas

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I have been thinking I would send in a write up about our fiftieth anniversary at New Hope church on the first Sunday in September, 1943, but so much has happened since then I haven't got at it. We had to give up our darling son the 25th of September, but I will try and write any way.

There was a large crowd gathered at the New Hope church on Sunday a.m., September 5, 1943, for celebration of the fiftieth Homecoming and to rededicate the church to God. Several numbers were given by the Brooks Sisters quartett. Bro. J. C. Turrentine offered the prayer. Bro. Ed Hill preached at eleven o'clock, after which a bountiful dinner was served to a large crowd.

The congregation was called together at one o'clock by singing led by K. A. Walker of Mineral Wells. History of the church was given by Mrs. R. L. White, the only charter member living. Talks from differ-

ent ones were enjoyed after which the dedicatorial prayers were given by Bro. Hill of Weatherford, Texas, he being the first minister that was licensed to preach at New Hope church about 48 years ago, and by Bro. Henry Measures of Weatherford, the last one licensed to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. Bro. Phillips of Decatur, Texas, brought a message dedicating it to the fathers and mothers of our boys in the service from New Hope. "The Old Fashioned Church" was read by a young lady from Decatur. Several songs were sung and a number of quartetts rendered special numbers during the day.

Our pastor was ill although able to attend the day's services.

Bro. Measures was in charge of the services.

We were dismissed by song and prayer and great rejoicing.

—Mrs. R. L. White, reporter

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Greentop, Missouri

Dear Readers of The Gem:

Just wanted to write a few lines to let you know how the work is progressing at New Harmony church in northeast Missouri.

Rev. Archie Cooper is pastor of our church. We feel very fortunate to have a pastor that is consecrated to God. Archie has a wonderful companion too, Verda (his wife), stands with him through joys or sorrows and God has blessed them with a sweet Christian daughter, Betty, thirteen years old. She gave her heart to God about two years ago.

Bro. Archie conducted two weeks revival service at New Harmony during the last weeks of September. We feel there was much accomplished in these services. There was a good interest all through the meeting and good crowds in attendance. Sister Lizzie McAdams conducted services on Sunday and Sunday night after the revival closed on Saturday night. One soul surrendered her life to God in the Sunday morning service.

I feel sorry for the pastors of our churches now, as so many of the church members are so interested in things of the world, they have very little time for God's work.

I feel if there was ever a time when we all need to lay our all on the altar for God it is now. I live in a small town and when I see so many of our boys and girls and men and women traveling the road that leads to destruction my heart is filled with sorrow. Our churches need consecrated members that will hold up the banner of Christ to these poor sin wrecked people. We, that take the name of Christ, must show in our daily life that Christ's Spirit lives in our life. Church member, does your life show the cleansing power of the precious blood of Jesus Christ that cleanses from all sin? If your sins have not been covered with His blood you should not have your name on the books of any His churches. If we have our names on the church book the old sinful life should be crucified with Christ so Satan will have no grip on our lives what so ever. If those that are living in sin can not see any difference between their sinful life and the life of the church member is it any wonder they continue in sin? To many church members are trying to hold on to God with one hand and the Devil and his sinful works with the other hand. Christ told His disciples they could not serve Him and Satan. Why will people degrade the blessed name of Christ by walking with Satan and have their name on one of Christ's church books? Church members where ever you may be, if you are not living a life that others can see Christ is living in your life, get down on your knees and pray until you know your sins have been washed away with the blood of Jesus Christ then if you surrender your life to Christ and keep out of the Devil's service you will prove to the world that Christ's Spirit abides in your life. We, as church members, should live every day just as we would if we knew Christ was coming during the day. We do not know what day Christ may come so we should always be ready. Christ said no sin could enter heaven so if you have not had your sins washed away and the desires of sin taken out of your life, surrender your life to Christ and he will cleanse you from sin and make you fit for heaven. He will also make your life so others can see the Spirit of Christ living within you. We can only have a

life like that through obedience and laying our all upon the altar of God. If we walk with Christ it is a life of joy because God is with us to help bear the burdens of this life and He gives us the assurance of a home in heaven free from all the sorrows of this earth. If every one that is called by God's name would consecrate their lives to God and pray we would see one of the greatest revivals this world has ever known. Christian people let us do our best.

It has been our privilege to attend an old fashioned revival at Hazel Creek Union church where Bro. Dobbs is pastor. I can say it was good to be there. God's power was manifested in a mighty way. I am so thankful we had the opportunity of being in these wonderful services and I pray that God will help us as Christian people to keep the revival Spirit working in our lives that this revival will keep on working in the hearts of men and women, and souls will continue to surrender their lives to God in that community and also other communities. May God's sweet Spirit live in the lives of each reader is my prayer.

Yours for Jesus,

Mrs. Alta Mikel

30

My Choicest Gifts

There is no gift the whole world gives
That it has let me share,
That's filled my days so full of joy,
And made my way so fair,
As three, that Father Time has left
About five years apart,
They're happy, laughing, romping gifts.
The idols of my heart.
Old Time has strewn my path each day
With blossoms rare and sweet,
Because he'd let me hear their songs
With honeyed words replete,
Because he'd let me feel the touch
Of velvet finger tips.
Oh, what a privilege it's been
To press them to my lips.
They're worth far more than minted gold
Or bonds the nation gives,
They've filled the air with sweet perfume.
Around the place I live,
They've scattered sunshine all the way,
Along the road I've trod.

With humble heart I bow to say
 They've been a gift from God.
 Unworthy I have been I know,
 To have a gift like these.
 Sometimes I've felt I scarcely dared
 Their rose-bud lips to kiss;

But though through years I travel on,
 No gift can ere outshine
 The gift that's been bestowed on me,
 In those three girls of mine.
 / —Author Unknown
 Contributed by Mrs. L. C. Wade.

Give Me the Mind of Jesus

By Albert F. Harper

The hymn writer prayed:

Give me, Lord, the mind of Jesus,
 Make me holy as He is:
 May I prove I've been with Jesus,
 Who is all my righteousness.

I would join in this prayer, Give me
 Lord, the mind of Jesus. Thou hast said
 in Thy Word, "If any of you lack wisdom,
 let him ask of God." I come asking with
 humility for I know my need, but I come
 with confidence for I know Thy sufficiency.
 Grant to this finite mind a measure of
 Thine infinite understanding. May I so
 dedicate myself that I may think Thy
 thoughts after Thee. Give me, Lord, the
 mind of Jesus!

Give me of Thine understanding. Good
 men in other times have thought to do
 God's service, they have lived out their
 days valiantly, contending for right as they
 saw the right. Experience has shown they
 were wrong. Their works have not stood
 the test of time. They were opposed to the
 truth Thy Spirit sought to reveal to men,
 they fought for the thing that eternity was
 against. Their souls have been saved
 because their motive was pure, but their
 works have been lost because their judge-
 ment was wrong. I am thankful for a saved
 soul, but, oh, God, save me from a misspent
 life. Give me a glimpse of Thy will for
 the problems of my day. Let me know Thy
 thought that I may give my best to Thee.

Let me see enough of Thy plan for tomor-
 row that I may not labor in vain today.
 Give me, Lord, the mind of Jesus!

Give me also Thy mind of affection.
 Let me love as Jesus loved. Give me the
 vision that sees the worth in my fellows.
 May I see their human frailties through
 the eyes of charity. As the Master sought
 to do good to the bodies and souls of men,
 so may I serve. As He yearned over
 Jerusalem, so may I yearn for the good of
 men. I would give when I am loved and
 appreciated; I would give although mis-
 understood. Let my love be untouched by
 selfishness. Let me serve because I can
 help, let me give because men have need.
 Give me, Lord, the mind of Jesus!

Give me Thy hand of steadfast purpose.
 When confronting difficulties Thy face
 was steadfastly set to go to Jerusalem. All
 temptation to turn aside and seek some
 easier way was resisted. Grant that I may
 not be fearful and draw back, or Thou wilt
 have no pleasure in me. When righteous-
 ness needs dauntless defenders; when evil
 men oppress the weak and others applaud
 or are fearful and silent, may I be strong.
 When I see clearly the purpose Thou hast
 for me, grant that I may follow Thee.
 Give me courage to be true to my vision.
 For understanding, sympathy and steadfast
 purpose I pray. Give me, Lord, the mind
 of Jesus!

A Prayer For Peace

Almighty God, Who shaped the universe,
 In this dark hour Thy children cry to Thee;
 A common sorrow doth our hearts immerse
 For souls oppressed who clamor to be free.

No Pharaoh can enslave and Thou not know,
 Thy heart is grieved by ruthless deeds of
 men;
 Thou stretchest out Thy hand to break the
 bow
 Of tyrant, with his bloody hands of sin.

Dear Lord, protect with Thy strong sword
and shield

Our sons and daughters, scattered far today.
That they may not dire temptation yield
But be courageous always, Lord, we pray.
God bless our homes and make us wise and
strong.

To work and pray and give the best we have
Until we see the right outmatch the wrong;
We trust Thy might, dear God, this world
to save.

Forgive us, Lord; Thy mercy is so great
Blot out our sins, and purify our hearts;
In patience and in love on Thee we wait
Until peace comes and cruel war departs,
While love and joy replace vile lust and
hate.

We pray Thy Kingdom come, Thy reign
increase,
That all mankind might serve the Prince
of Peace.

— Ward Russell.

A Prayer For Our Boys

Mrs. Delphia McDonald, Flint, Michigan

For our boys that's in the service,
Let us ever send a prayer
To the God of our fathers,
That He will keep them in His care.

They have left their home and loved ones,
Every thing they held most dear,
That they might protect our nation,
Keep it free from want and fear.

They are fighting, bleeding, dying,
On the land and on the sea,
They are face to face with danger,
Oh God, give them victory.

We are proud of our brave boys,
As they sail across the foam,
When this awful conflicts over,
God return them safely home.

Report of Missouri Treasury

Rev. Winford Davis, Treas. Monett, Mo.

Foreign Missions

Rock Chapel	\$ 3.00
Clarence Dunn, Hartville, Mo.	20.00
Monett Auxiliary	7.65
Blue Eye Church	2.05
Independance Church	13.00
Mrs. H. A. Wallis, Anderson, Mo. ..	9.00
Mrs. Jesse Thompson, Anderson Mo.	6.50
Hazel Creek Union Church	22.21
Mr. & Mrs. Ottis Martin, Greenfield,	8.00
Rev. Cecil Campbell, Flat River; Mo.	10.00
Myrtle Long, Patton, Mo.	1.00
Huldia Slinkard, Patton, Mo.	1.00
Oak Grove Church, Cave Sp'g. Ass'n.	3.00
North East Mo. Mission Band	25.00
New Harmony Mission	5.16
Shibleys Point Church	1.00
Eldorado Springs Sunday School ..	3.00
Fredericktown Church	7.40
Mrs. Nannie Martin, Greenfield, Mo.	1.00
Mt. Olive (Neola) Church	5.96
True Blue Class Mt. Olive (Neola)	1.00
Monett Church	3.05
Mill Creek S. S.	3.00
Flat River Mission Circle	5.00

Independance Church	20.00
Merls Chapel S. S.	5.02
Mt. Olive (Neola) Auxiliary	1.00
J. K. Stevens, Stockton, Mo.	1.23
Will Price, Arcola, Mo.	1.30
Aurora Church	3.01
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Sircum, Flat River ..	2.00
Wm. Reeves for Missionary pictures	1.65
Mine La Mottee S. S.	6.50
Pleasant Grove Church	5.83
Wiley Circle, Flat River Church ..	15.00
Hickory Grove Church, Freeman, Mo.	4.06
Womans' Aux. Third St. Louis	6.00
Rock Chapel	3.00
Rev. C. M. Hatfield, Pierce City Mo.	10.00
Macedonia Church	3.60
Ralph Hartfield, Los Angeles, Calif.	50.00
Burnice Bradley, Aurora, Mo.	10.00
Flat River Mission	5.00

Unified Program Fund

Macedonia Church	\$1.20
Oak Grove Church, Cave Sp'g. Ass'n.	1.00
Merls Chapel	8.35
Hickory Grove Auxiliary	2.64
Copper Mines Church	2.49
Wiley Circle Flat River Church	2.50

Fredericktown Auxiliary	2.54
Pleasant View Church of Illinois ..	.60

Budget Fund

Rev. & Mrs. John B. Rollins, Monett \$3.00

Educational Fund

Fredericktown Church \$ 7.48

Leroy Miller, in the army 15.00

Benevolent Fund

Rev. & Mrs. John B. Rollins, Monett

for Superannuation	\$5.00
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Fredericktown Church, Superannuation 7.48

Jehoida Chest Fund

Hickory Grove Auxiliary	\$1.00
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Copper Mines Church	1.00
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Twin Oak Church	1.00
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Fredericktown Auxiliary	1.00
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Pleasant View Church of Illinois ..	3.36
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Pleasant View Church for Annals ..	3.00
Macedonia Church	1.00

Macedonia Church	1.00
Hazel Creek Union Church	1.00

Winford Davis, treasurer

— Winford Davis, treasurer

OBITUARIES

HENDRICKSON — Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Hendrickson passed away at her home in Granby, Thursday night, October 21, 1943, at the age of 82 years, 8 months and 21 days. She was born in Albany, New York, January 31, 1861. She professed faith in Christ fifty-six years ago. At that time she joined the Free Will Baptist church and has been a faithful member, enjoying her salvation down to the last mile of the way. She encouraged her children to know her Saviour.

She was married to Rev. Ezekiel Hendrickson sixty-six years ago. Rev. Hendrickson preceeded her in death four years ago. To this union ten children were born, four boys and six girls. She leaves to mourn her passing one brother, Louie Staffen of Bloomington, Illinois; Will Hendrickson and John Hendrickson of Beggs, Oklahoma; Joe Hendrickson of Granby, Missouri; Melvin Hendrickson of Earlsboro, Oklahoma; Mrs. Maggie Gregory of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Mrs. Hattie Kelly of Barnsdall, Oklahoma; Mrs. Hallie Winters of Seminole, Oklahoma; Mrs. Martha Kennedy, at home; Mrs. Myrtle Morley of South Portland, Main; Mrs. Paralee Bell of San Pedro, California; thirty-eight grandchildren; fifty-five great grandchildren; four great, great grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. O. T. Allred of Monett, Missouri, assisted by Rev. Williams, pastor of the Baptist church at Granby, Missouri.

WHITE—Lewis White, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. White, age 44 years, 2 months

and 18 days, passed away Saturday afternoon at 8:30 o'clock, September 25, 1943, at the Hamilton Hospital in Olney, Texas, from an operation for a ruptured appendix. He was born and reared in the New Hope community, near Weatherford, Texas. He married Miss Clara Copps of the Peaster community, September 21, 1918. To this union one daughter was born, Mrs. Don Lewis, whose husband is in training in Minnesota. She was with her father at the time of his death.

Mr. White had lived in Olney, Texas about twenty years.

Mr. White united with the Free Will Baptist church at an early age and was a member of the same church when he died.

Funeral services were under the direction of an Olney funeral home and were held in the First Baptist church in Olney, by the pastor, Dr. Townsend. Interment was in the Olney cemetery where Masonic Rites were conducted.

He leaves to mourn his departure, his wife, one daughter, father and mother, one brother, three sisters, besides a host of other relatives and friends.

The floral offerings were many and beautiful

Dear 'Lewis you are gone but not forgotten.

A precious one from us has gone,

A voice we loved is stilled,

A Place is vacant in our home

Which never can filled.

God in His wisdom

The boon had given:

And though the body slumbers here

The soul is safe in heaven.

HOOPER — Genevieve Violet, second child of Tracy and Ora Fast was born May 12, 1898 in Barton County, Missouri, near Hannon, and passed away Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. November 16, 1943, in Mt. Carmel Hospital, Pittsburg, Kansas, after an illness of two weeks, following a severe major operation, being at the time of death 45 years, 6 months and 4 days old.

She was united in marriage to Ramie Lee Hoover, December 24, 1916. To this union two daughters and two sons were born. Mary Belle, the eldest child, died in 1924, at 7 years of age.

Genevieve was converted at the age of 12 years in a revival conducted by the Rev. T. C. Ferguson Evangelistic Party, and joined the Hannon church January 1910, retaining her membership here the remainder of her life.

She had been a patient suffer for years but was ever a faithful and devoted wife and mother. The needs and desires of her family had first consideration in everything as far as it was in her power and good judgment to do for them.

She leaves her elderly father, Tracy Fast, who has been a member of the family and home for some years, also her companion, one daughter, Mrs. Naomi Williams and family, two sons, Tracey Lee and Herbert, of the home, two grandsons, Jimmy C., whom she had kept from infancy, and Johnny Williams.

These of the immediate family will miss the companionship, love and Godly advice of a fond wife, mother, daughter and grandmother.

She had spent almost her entire life in the vicinity of her birth where she had a host of friends. These with the husband's family are left to mourn her untimely death.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 p.m. in the Hannon Free Will Baptist church with Sister Lowell Martin, her pastor, officiating, assisted by Sister Roena Thomas. She brought a beautiful and comforting message from Psalms 116:15.

The song numbers were rendered by the quartette of the home church. The floral offerings were many and beautiful.

The sympathy of the entire community goes to the bereaved family but they

should not weep as those that have no hope for "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

A sister of the church

Mrs. L. C. Wade

MOUL — Mrs. Iva Ryle Moul, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Pembroke Ryle, was born March 25, 1868 at the Ryle home-stead about eight miles southwest of Harrisonville. She was united in marriage to John Wilson Moul November 11, 1892. To this union two daughters were born, Gladys (Mrs. A. L. Goddard), and Iris, (Mrs. Vern Jones). The husband and daughters survive; also nine grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, a sister, Mrs. Ida Cummings, nephews and nieces; and a host of friends who mourn her passing. Three brothers preceded her in death.

Mrs. Moul was converted and joined the Hickory Grove Baptist church about fifty years ago. She has lived an exemplary Christian life all through the years. Her home was open to the ministers of the gospel and to her friends and neighbors. She was a kind and affectionate wife, mother and grandmother, a sympathetic and helpful neighbor. She loved her home, her family, church and friends.

Mrs. Moul departed this life on Friday, October 22, 1943 in her 75th year. Her entire life had been spent in the community of her birth and her passing leaves a vacancy in the lives of her loved ones that cannot be filled.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon by the Rev. Alice Dickey of Kansas City, at the Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist church. Interment was in the Freeman cemetery under the direction of Atkinson Bros. Funeral service.

The songs were "What a Friend We Have In Jesus," "Going Down the Valley" and "Going Home." The singers were Mrs. Eulah Knibb, Mrs. Sadie Ephland, Pfc. Paul Ledger, Clay Hensley, with Mrs. Margaret Bouse at the piano.

Pallbearers were Glen Ford, David Mills, Evart Jones, Joe Cockrell, Ira McDonald, Roy Mosby. Honorary pallbearers were Robert McDonald, Frank Evans, Jesse and Arthur Hammonds, Lloyd Warren and Ausa Cockrell.

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