

Mrs. Emmett Moberg
Chenfeld, Mo. Rt. 2

The Free Will Baptist Gem

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

Monett, Missouri

April, 1945

Volume 17

Number 4



The Free Will Baptist Gem
Organ of
Missouri State Association

Published Monthly
Monett, Missouri

EDITOR

Rev. C. B. Dees

Entered as Second Class
Matter July 14, 1939, at the
Post Office, Monett, Mo., un-
der the Act of March 3, 1879

TERMS

\$1.00 per year, cash in
advance. Paper will be dis-
continued when subscription
expires.

**MISSOURI STATE ASS'N
OFFICERS**

Moderator .. Cecil Campbell;
Flat River, Mo.

Ass't. Moderator, O. T. Allred
St. Louis, Mo.

Clerk-Treas., Winford Davis
Monett, Missouri

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Arlie Hoover, Arcadia, Kans
Cecil Campbell, Flat River, Mo
O. T. Allred, .. St. Louis, Mo.
C. B. Dees Monett, Mo
B. F. Brown, Cassville, Mo

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OFFICERS**

Moderator .. J. R. Davidson
Ashland City, Tenn.

Clerk E. C. Morris
Glennville, Georgia

Treasurer .. F. S. Van Hoose
Paintsville, Kentucky

Executive Sec. R. B. Crawford
Nashville, Tennessee

CHAIRMEN NAT'L. BOARDS

Education .. J. R. Davidson
*3609 Richland Ave
Nashville [5] Tennessee*

Home Mission, J. F. Miller
Desloge, Mo.

Foreign Mis'n. Winford Davis
Monett, Missouri

League Henry Melvin
Nashville, Tennessee

Superannuation .. F. C. Zinn
Fredericktown, Missouri

Publication & Literature
J. C. Griffin, New Bern, N. C

Table of Contents

Gospel Sermons

| | |
|--|--------|
| He is Risen | Page 3 |
| Gospel of the Risen Christ | 5 |
| Newness of Life | 9 |
| An Easter Message | 10 |
| God's Plan of Redemption | 12 |
| Doctrine of Devils | 12 |
| Paying the Price of the Offering | 15 |
| National Association News | 15 |

Missionary Department

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Foreign Mission Report | 16 |
| State Treasurer's Report | 17 |
| Editorials | 18 |
| Gleanings | 19 |

Our Bible School

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Bible College Report | 20 |
| Christian Worker's Institute | 21 |

Auxiliary Department

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Auxiliary News | 22 |
|----------------------|----|

General Articles

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| General Articles | 24 |
|------------------------|----|

Subscribe to "The Gem"

\$1.00 per Year

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. Every minister and Christian student should have one of these books in his library.

476 pages, Cloth Bound

Price, post paid, \$2.00

Order from "The Gem" Monett, Mo.



GOSPEL SERMONS



He Is Risen

Mrs. Earnest O. Griffith Ashland, Ky.

And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. Mark 16:6. He is risen is one of the facts of the gospel. When we think of the gospel or good news or glad tidings we think of it in terms of three very important acts of the Lord Jesus and each of them a fact or in the plan of salvation and the last just as important as the first. That is the Birth, Death and Resurrection of Christ. The plan of salvation would not be complete with one of them missing. The virgin birth of the Jesus is the most beautiful of any birth in the Bible. Our subject was spoken by the angel to the women when they came to anoint the body of Jesus after the crucifixion.

Let us look for a short time at the events leading up to the time of this announcement. Jesus had finished His ministry. He had selected the apostles and shown by many signs and wonders that truly He was the Son of God. He told the twelve that he must suffer and die and rise from the dead that the plan of salvation might be complete. Mt. 16-21. He was betrayed and given into the hands of the chief priests and the scribes and the elders by one who was one of the twelve. How often it is that the child of God is betrayed by one who should be praying for them and upholding them. Judas sold the master for thirty pieces of silver. Mt. 26: 15. He is being sold today by many for the pleasures of the world. After a mock trial He was condemned to death and crucified with two thieves one on the right and one on the left that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, And he was numbered with the transgressors. Is.

53:12. Here we have a picture of two classes of people; one thief or sinner turned with penitent heart and said Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom and Jesus said unto him, Verily. I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise. Luke 23-42-43. The other like so many folk today railed on Him and doubted saying, if, oh that little word means so much if, thou be Christ, save thyself and us. How often does the devil place a doubt in the minds of people with IF and get them to do just as this thief did and lose their soul? Here was one saved because he believed and one lost because he disbelieved.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. Mt. 27-45. Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And behold the veil of the temple was in twain from top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, and came out of the graves after his resurrections, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many: Mt. 27-50 53.

When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre. Mt. 27-57-60. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and salome had bought sweet spices, that they might

come and anoint him. And very early in the morning of the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre: And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away; for it was very great. And entering the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which crucified; he is risen: he is not here, behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him, as he said unto you. Mk. 16-1-7. He is risen. Here were the words of the prophet fulfilled. But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave; for he shall receive me. Ps. 49-15. For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. Ps. 16-10. Jesus had told the disciples on the mountain of transfiguration that they should tell no man what they had seen till the Son of Man were risen from the dead. Mt. 9-9. O blessed thought that He was raised again for our justification. How the hearts of these women must have rejoiced as the angel told them to go tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him, as he said unto you. Mk. 16-7. Not only will you know because I have told you but you shall see him. Praise the Lord. We do not have to take someone's word but if we seek the Lord we can see Him for ourselves. We can know for ourselves not by our natural sight but by an eye of faith. By His Spirit that dwelleth in us. These saw him with their natural vision after he was risen: "Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of who he had cast seven devils." Mk. 16-9. To the other Mary: And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me. Mt. 28-9-10, To two disciples on the way to

Emmaus, And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. Luke 24-15-31, To the eleven, And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? And why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me and see, for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took it, and did eat before them. Luke 24-36-34, After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias, and on this wise shewed he himself. There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples. Simon Peter saith unto them, I go fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately: and that night they caught nothing. But when morning was now come Jesus stood on the shore; but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitudes of fishes. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, it is the Lord. St. Jn. 21-1-7, He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; 1 Cor. 15-6, Seen of Paul, And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. 1 Cor. 15-7, Seen as he ascended up to heaven by the apostles whom he had chosen: To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs being seen of them forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the king-

dom of God. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Luke 2-3-9-10-11. Seen of Stephen, in heaven, as he was being stoned to death. But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the

right hand of God. Acts 7-55. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 1 Cor. 15-20-21. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1-3. For if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. Romans 10-9.

The Gospel of the Risen Christ

By Norman H. Camp

Chicago, Ill.

Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel" (2 Tim. 2:8). These words were written by the Apostle Paul to his "dearly beloved son, Timothy, and evidently this wonderful fact of the resurrection of Christ was foremost in the apostle's mind as he penned his fourteen Epistles, or he preached the Gospel to both Jews and Gentiles on his missionary journeys. He constantly made known the power of the risen Christ to save the ungodly, and the mystery of the ascended Christ as the Head of the Church, the Body and Bride of Christ, "which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men." (Read Ephesians and Colossians). For this reason, Paul continually spoke of the Gospel of the risen Christ as "my gospel" (Rom. 2:16; Tim. 1:11).

Paul did not know the man of Galilee, nor the preacher of Jerusalem, nor the risen, glorified Christ whom he met on the road to Damascus. Afterward, he met Him in Arabia and received by revelation this Gospel of the risen Christ which he proclaimed as the power of God unto salvation (Gal. 1:6-17; Rom. 1:16). He gloried in the cross of the living Christ, because of what Christ had accomplished for him and every believer by His death and resurrection (Gal. 6:14;

1 Cor. 1:19-24). He determined, wherever he went, not to know anything among the people, except "Jesus Christ, (the risen Christ), and him crucified." (1 Cor. 2:2).

On the day of Pentecost, the Apostle Peter emphasized in his sermon the resurrection of Christ, and during his entire ministry Peter pointed to the risen Christ as the One who alone is able to save. Throughout the Book of Acts, whenever the death of Christ is mentioned, immediately it is followed by a declaration of His resurrection. His death is not emphasized nor explained in Acts, but the fact of salvation through faith in the risen Christ is magnified. In Acts there are 145 references, either directly or indirectly, to the resurrection of Christ, but only 22 references, either directly or indirectly, to the crucifixion of Christ. This is significant, and should stimulate every preacher of the Gospel to point lost sinners to the living Christ who is mighty to save. (Feb. 7:25).

The Outstanding Event of History

The resurrection of the body of the Man, Christ Jesus, is the outstanding event of all history. Nothing just like it had ever taken place before and nothing like it has occurred since. Millions upon millions of human beings have been bur-

led or destroyed during these nearly 6,000 years since man was created by God, but not one of those bodies has been raised from its grave, never to die again, except the body of Christ.

It is true that a few mortal bodies have been restored to natural life, but all such bodies died again, "dust to dust," and still remain in their graves. But the body of Jesus that was nailed to the cross of Calvary, pierced by the Roman soldier, pronounced dead by the Roman centurion, and buried in a tomb by Joseph of Arimathea, assisted by Nicodemus, was quickened into newness of life by the Holy Spirit, and brought out of the tomb three days after its burial, never to die again. In this body of flesh and bones prepared for Him when He came to this earth in the likeness of men, He now lives as the Great High Priest to make intercession for all who confess Him before men (Matt. 10:32; Heb. 9:24-28), and one day this very same Jesus will return to this earth in that body with glory and great power as the King of kings and Lord of lords (Tim. 6:15,16; Rev. 19:11-16). "He only hath immortality." The words "mortal" and "immortal" refer to the body only, therefore it is not proper to speak of the "immortal soul."

This indisputable fact, the greatest event of all history, is the heart of the Gospel and the foundation of the Christ faith. If it is not true, then there is no salvation or any hope for a single son of Adam. The whole race is doomed and forever lost if Christ was not raised from the grave, as foretold by the prophets, promised by Christ Himself, and witnessed by the disciples.

In the fifteenth chapter of 1 Corinthians, which deals exclusively with the resurrection of the body, the Apostle Paul declares, "If Christ hath not been raised then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain; . . . ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ have perished" (vs. 14-18, R. V.). Sinners are saved by a risen, living Man in the glory, who has all power in Heaven and in earth.

What Is The Gospel?

The Gospel, or Good News, for lost sin-

ners, which "is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Rom. 1:16), is declared by the Apostle Paul in the first four verses of this great resurrection chapter to be simply this: "That Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." There are some who preach that "Christ died for our sins" and nothing else, and think they are preaching the Gospel. But not so! This is not the whole Gospel! Such preaching gives the hearer the impression that Christ is dead, and most people think He is dead. Those who in "so-called" Christian lands often see a cross on some church steeple, or in some home, or worn as an ornament or an insignia by some people and are reminded of "death"—a dead Christ. But a dead Christ has no power to save guilty, weak, condemned sinners. Without His resurrection His death was in vain!

Then it is well to note that Christ not only died for our sins "according to the scriptures." Through the Old Testament prophets God made known the manner of His death, the purpose of His death, the place of His death; so that Christ died in God's appointed time, in God's appointed way, in God's appointed place, and for God's appointed purpose, in order that the Old Testament prophecies should

HOW TO PREPARE SERMONS AND GOSPEL ADDRESSES

By William Evans

A volume of practical help for ministers and theological students, and also Christian laymen who are called to the blessed work of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

174 Pages, Cloth, \$1.25

Order from "The Gem" Monett, Mo.

be fulfilled. He could not have died in any other way than He did. He was the Lamb of God slain before the foundation of the world (Rev. 13:8); but "when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth his Son . . . to redeem them which were under the law" (Gal. 4:4, 5). "He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself" (Heb. 9:26).

"Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures," and without the Scriptures the death of Christ cannot be fully understood or appreciated. The Old Testament sacrifices in the Tabernacle and Temple pictured the significance of the offering, the meal offering, the peace offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering gave the fivefold aspect of the one offering of Christ on Calvary's cross; and that one offering is better understood as we view it in the light of the Scriptures. "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures." This is the first part of the Gospel, a very important part, but only a part.

Second: "He was buried." This is also important. What was buried? Not His spirit! Not His soul! These never died! He committed His spirit to His Father and yielded up the ghost, voluntarily. Only His body died! Only His body was buried! Only His body was raised from the grave! His body had been wrapped with grave clothes, together with a hundred pounds of spices, before it was placed in Joseph's new tomb. It was guarded for three days and three nights by soldiers, because His enemies were afraid that His disciples would steal His body and then report that He had been raised from the grave. There can be no doubt that the crucified body of Christ was buried, inasmuch as His Sacrificial work was finished. His last words on the cross were, "It is finished." Why? He put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself (Heb. 9:26). He tasted death for every man (Heb. 2:9). He paid the penalty of the broken law (Gal. 3:13). Therefore, His body was buried. This is part of the Gospel and should not be omitted. Without death there is no resurrection, for resurrection is bringing back to life that which has died, never to die again. There are some

who try to explain away the resurrection of Christ by claiming that He did not actually die, but only swooned and then was resuscitated; but such is not the case. Christ actually died, His body was really buried, and that body was held in the grave for three days and nights before it was raised from the dead. In that body He is living today and will live forever.

Third: The next phase of the Gospel, which we preach and which is the power of God unto salvation to every sinner who believes its message, is that the material body of Christ was raised from the grave and that He is living today in the very same body that was put to death on the cross of Calvary. "He arose again the third day according to the scriptures; and he was seen." He was seen after His resurrection by Mary Magdalene at the sepulcher early in the morning "when it was yet dark" (John 20:1-18); He was seen by the women on their way back to Jerusalem from the empty tomb (Matt. 28:1-9); He was seen by Peter and by the two disciples of Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35); He was seen by eleven of the disciples on the evening of that day in which He arose, and He asked them to handle Him, which no doubt they did, for John declares in his First Epistle: "That which was from the beginning which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and our hands have handled, of the Word of life" (1 John 1:1-3). Evidently John referred to the risen Christ, for in chapter five of this Epistle, he declares: "This is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" (1 John 5:10-13).

We have the record of eleven appearances of Christ to His disciples after His resurrection and before His ascension, and seven appearances after His ascension. But very likely there were other times when He showed Himself alive, for in Acts 1:1-3 we read, "He showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." After appointing His

disciples as witnesses of His resurrection in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost part of the earth, when He had spoken and while they were looking, He was taken up into Heaven, and sat down on the right hand of the throne of the majesty in the Heavens as a great and merciful High Priest, as our Advocate as the one and only Mediator, and as our mighty Lord and Saviour. There is none other, for no other man has been raised from the dead and is "alive for evermore." He is able to save to the uttermost all who come unto God in His name, "seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."

The Resurrection Denied

The preaching of the resurrection of the body of the Lord Jesus Christ has always been opposed by religious sinners. Why? Read the third and fourth chapters of Acts. The priests, and the captain were grieved that the disciples taught the people, and "preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead." When asked by what power, or in what name the lame man was made whole, Peter replied that it was in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, "whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead," and then he added: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12).

PERSONAL SOUL WINNING

A guide to the most effective methods of winning men to Christ
by William Evans

"That the individual Christian may be prompted, encouraged, and equipped to do this kind of Personal Soul-winning work, is the purpose of this book. The leading scripture references have been made to stand out distinctly from the main body of type in order that they may be easily located."

192 Pages, Cloth Covers, \$1.25

Again in the 5th of Acts, we read that Peter spoke to the high priests and the members of the council, saying, "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses of these things." Then follows this statement: "When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them" (vs. 30-33). It is not the death of Christ that troubled these religious sinners, but His resurrection; and so it is today, if the whole Gospel is preached.

In the 13th chapter of Acts, we have the account of Paul's sermon in the synagogue in Antioch of Pisidia, wherein he emphasized the resurrection of Christ, quoting from the Psalms to show the fulfillment of prophecy in that "God raised him from the dead." Then were the Jews filled with envy, and "spake against those things which were spoken of Paul, contradicting and blaspheming." (v 45). Also the Jews "stirred up the devout and honorable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts" (v. 50).

This is the message that makes people mad or makes them glad! This is the Gospel that means salvation to those who believe it and receive the risen Christ as Lord, or greater condemnation to those who reject Him. Wherever Paul went in his missionary journeys "he preached Jesus and the resurrection" (Acts 17:3, 18). On Mars' Hill he closed his address by boldly declaring that God "hath appointed a day, in which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead" (vs. 31). This message caused division. Some mocked, some were indifferent, some believed (vs. 32-34). Thus it has been from that day to this. What is the result? Those who believe are saved, for the Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth (Rom. 1:16). Without the power of God there is no salvation, but merely a formal religion which

Order from "The Gem" Monett, Mo.

deceives and destroys the soul. With the power of God there comes the assurance of salvation, the joy of salvation, and the hope of salvation. The one who is really saved knows it, and shows it, and looks forward to its glorious consummation.

The hope of salvation does not denote uncertainty, as some have thought, but is a joyful anticipation of the consummation of the believer's salvation when body, like unto the glorified body of

Christ, and shall be ushered into the new heavens and the new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness, and in which there will be no pain, or tears, or death, or disappointments, but all things will be forever new. This and much more is the portion of those who hear and believe the Gospel of the Risen Christ.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ (the risen One), and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

Newness of Life

By Douglas M. White

Wrightsville, Ga.

UNQUESTIONABLY the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the cardinal doctrine of Christianity. Upon this fact Christianity stands or falls. It is the one distinctive doctrine which differentiates between Christianity and all man made religions. It stands at the heart and core of all true mankind. Without it we are still in our sins and of all men most to be pitied.

Yet I wonder if our consideration of it has not too frequently stopped with the fact that, because we are trusting a risen Christ, we thereby have forgiveness of sins and eternal life. That is all gloriously true, of course. Nothing further could be said if that were untrue.

At the same time the purpose and value of the Resurrection is not by any means exhausted with regeneration. The progressive steps of Christian experience, as taught in the Book of Romans, show that we are justified by the Resurrection. (Rom. 4:25). Then the justified ones are to be identified with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection, the outcome of which is that we are to "walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4).

The hereafter was settled when we believed God concerning the risen Christ, and that faith was imputed to us for righteousness (Rom. 4:24). The here and now is taken care of when we are experimentally or experientially, located in Christ. That is the power that operated in Christ when He was raised from the dead, operates daily in the lives of those who would walk "in newness of life."

Too often people become satisfied to enjoy the hope of eternal life, with consideration only for the hereafter, without having any desire for or intention of living a new life by that same power in the here and now. Any view of the Resurrection that does not include the life which now is, along with that which is to come, is partial and incomplete.

Paul could say with conviction, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (2 Tim. 1:12), but he did not stop there. The intense longing of his heart, which was the result of the foregoing assurance, was, "that I may know him (not in the forgiveness of sins, that was already taken care of), and the power of his resurrection" (Phil. 3:10). He wanted that resurrection power, which will change our bodies of humiliation at His return (vs. 20-21), to operate in him throughout the remaining days of his mortal life, which it did.

At the same time Paul also acknowledged that this could only become a reality as he entered into the "fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death" (v. 10). All of this complements Romans 6.

It is not sufficient that we stop with the reality of the new birth for a lost humanity, as we look into the empty tomb. Let us rejoice that, because death could not hold Him captive, we not only have life forever but liberty for today. May

our hearts burn within us as He empowers us, by His indwelling presence made possible by the Resurrection to 'walk in newness of life.' How can we selfishly claim all that the risen Christ has to offer in the way of deliverance from hell, and be unwilling to stretch ourselves upon the cross, let the old self-life be laid in the tomb, and be content to be submerged in Him and thus be conformed to the image of His Son?

God's ultimate objective in raising Christ from the dead is not realized in our experience until His resurrection power is manifested in the lives of those He has redeemed. The power to redeem a lost world will never be revealed to a lost world until we who have been justified freely by His grace learn to walk, step by step, "in newness of life."

The resurrection of Christ from the dead promises eternal salvation and present victory. At the close of that great dissertation on this theme, Paul exclaims "Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

(1 Cor. 15:57). I like the rendering, "Thanks be to God who always causeth us to triumph in Christ." It is not simply a victory over death at the close of this life but, in view of that, we have daily victory over sin which is the strength of death. On the basis of this promise, resultant of course from the Resurrection, Paul concludes with his great challenge to steadfastness, undying devotion and consecrated service to Christ (v. 58). It is thus that we "walk in the newness of life." Just as our relationship to Him settles our eternal destiny so our relationship to Him each day determines our walk. Thank God for a risen Christ who walks with us and in us as we pursue our pilgrim journey.

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, . . . make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever." (Heb. 13:20,21).

Let us "walk in newness of life."

An Easter Message

Rev. C. E. Riggs, Moderator of the Wolverine Association of F. W. B.



Rev. C. E. Riggs

He is not here; for He is risen, as He said, come see the place where the Lord lay. Matt. 28:6.

The most glorious announcement that was ever made to mankind was the positive stated fact by the angel at the tomb, where Jesus had been laid, He is not here for He is risen.

There are four separate statements in this verse of scripture, all of them glorious truths. First, He is not here. (The grave is not the abiding place). Second, For He is risen (not moved by other hands but with life in himself). Third, As He said (not an unexpected unknown truth, but something He had taught them). Fourth, Come see (don't accept rumors and myths, but see for yourself).

When we place a dear one in the tomb, we as natural men, expect it to remain there and often visit the tomb and hold that place as sacred to our hearts. So the the women that come to Jesus' tomb came to show esteem of Him and to anoint His

body.

The horror of death has always been man's greatest dread. That man can live and be active and possess the qualities of enjoying life, can see, hear, feel, taste and smell, can move, go from place to place and loves and appreciates all of these qualities; yet when that great enemy death overtakes him all these are gone.

There is in man and always has been a great anxiety and longing to know that life extended beyond this sphere, that just a few short years of life on earth was not all. Job expressed the thought of every heart, when he asked, "If a man die shall he live again?" That question was fully answered by the angel, "He is not here".

The women that went to that tomb to anoint the body of Jesus, expected to find a cold lifeless form, which they would, with grief stricken hearts and loving hands anoint, but instead of a pale lifeless corpse, they found an empty tomb for "He is not here".

"He is risen," this statement gives the reason for Him not being there. The skeptic may say, as did the chief priests, that the body was carried away, but no, He is risen, His body is not cold and lifeless in death any more. He is alive and active again, it was not other hands that moved Him, but life and power in His own body. Oh! glorious fact, oh blessed assurance the tomb is not a prison, from which there is no relief, but man can and will live again, as He said.

We find on at least three different occasions, Jesus positively said that He would rise from the dead the third day. Matt. 16:21; 17:23; 20:19. The unusual and out of ordinary sometimes happens to men and with men, but they had no knowledge of it until it had occurred, but Jesus knew and said that He would rise again, this reminded to the disciples should dispell every doubt and reassure them that He was truly the Christ.

"Come see the place where the Lord lay" to fully convince them that He was not there and that He had risen, the angel asked them to come see, look for yourself, be thoroughly satisfied that this tomb is empty, it is just the place where the Lord had been lain, but He is not here now.

God wants His people to see and know the truth. Jesus said before His death, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. In the 28th verse of this chapter He said "When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he" so God knowing that the fact of the resurrection of Christ was the crowning truth of the gospel, and that His disciples were to be witnesses of this fact, He wanted them to see with their own eyes that Jesus was not in the tomb. If we have a valuable or cherished article of some kind, perhaps its a present from a friend or a loved one and we lay it away in a place where we think it is secure and we tell someone else where it is and tell them go get it and they go, and return and say it was not there, we would not be convinced until we had looked for ourselves, Jesus was the most precious friend and dear one the disciples had ever had, so when they went to the place where they had laid Him and the angel told them He was not there, He knowing the anxiety of their hearts told them, "Come see the place where the Lord lay."

I am glad that the disciples wanted proof that Jesus had risen from the dead, it shows and proves to the world they were sincere and honest and that Jesus was not what the Jews said He was, a deceiver. If they had been too anxious and ready to accept the report of the resurrection it would have given the Jews an argument to disprove the resurrection. The chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate and saying, sirs we remember that, that deceiver said while He was yet alive, after three days I will rise again. Matt. 28:62-63. But the anxiety, uncertainty and unwillingness to go right out and announce the resurrection until they had the poitive proof, proves that they did not go and steal His body from the tomb.

What are some of the proofs of the resurrection of Christ? Let us consider accepted facts: It is an accepted fact in both literary and sacred history that Jesus did live in the world and that He was crucified by the Roman authority, persecuted by the Jews, and that He was burried and that His body was gone from the place where it was laid. His bitterest enemies

(the Jews) admit these facts.

Since the Jews and the Romans are the ones that disputed the fact of the resurrection and since they were responsible for His death and they had all of the authority to investigate and prove that He was carried away by His disciples and execute judgement upon the ones that stole His body, why did they not do this? It would have been impossible for the disciples to have stolen the body from the tomb the way it was guarded and secured and it would have been impossible for them to have secreted the body where it could not be found.

The most positive and undeniable proof of the resurrection of Christ, excepting the personal testimony of His disciples and the demonstration of the divine power of God, (which the disputer will not accept) is the fact that just 50 days after it occurred Peter stood before a great multitude of the ones that were guilty of His death, ones that were eye witnesses of all that occurred and understood all of the circumstances and said, "Ye men of Isarel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and signs and wonders, which God did by Him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know; Him being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God,

ye have taken and by wicked hands have taken and crucified and slain; Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death; because it was not possible that He should be holden of it. Acts 2:22-23-24. Notice, Peter told them that they were the ones that crucified and slain the Lord, and then boldly declared that God had raised Him from the dead. And when they heard this they were convicted and there was about three thousand of them saved on that day. If Peter had been fabricating a myth before this multitude that were eye witnesses of His crucifixion, there certainly would not have been so many accepted the truth and been converted.

The fact of the resurrection of Christ is the hope of the world, it proves that the grave is not the victor; it takes sting out of death. Christ said that He would rise from the dead and He did. And He also said that we and all mankind would rise from the dead (or be changed) John 5: 28-29; 1st Thess. 4:15-16-17; 1st. Cor. 15: 51-52.

Since His prophecy concerning His resurrection became a transpired fact, just that sure will His prophecy concerning our resurrection become a transpired fact.. Thank God "He is not here" (in the tomb), for He is risen.

God's Plan of Redemption

Rev. J. A. Davidson

Antlers, Okla.

After a careful study of the Bible for more than 30 years, and reading many pamphlets put out by different denominations and having considerable experience in public discussion and after being solicited by so many of my brethren, to write a small book entitled "God's Plan for the Redemption of Man as it is Revealed in the Bible." First we want to be logical and above all things to heed our Saviour's words, John 8:32, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Then if truth makes us free, then error certainly will not make us free. First we shall have to give Bible proof

on the nature of man in life and the state of man in death as the Bible teaches that it takes regeneration and living a christian life until death to qualify anyone to inherit eternal life. Man was totally lost in Adam both soul and body. Gen. 2-17. "For in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." This was spiritual death as Adam's physical life was 930 years. Gen. 5-5. Yes he died in trespass, which is sin; and I want you to notice that this death was the penalty for sin; a corporal death that Adam died at the age of 930 years was the result of sin. Gen. 3-22. "And the Lord God said, behold the man

is become as one of us to know good and evil; and now lest he put forth his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat and live forever; v. 23, Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden to till the ground from whence he was taken. Reader I want you to notice that God separated the natural man from the tree of life where he sent him out of the garden. If Adam or any other physical being could get one bite from the tree of life he would live forever. The flaming sword that was placed east of the garden of Eden was the Gospel in full in all of its powers to save the world if only the world would meet the conditions. It being placed east of the garden signified the glorious sunrise of the blessed hope of eternal life, however I want you to notice that the natural man was not in reach of the tree of life neither will he be in all his natural life. "Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return." Gen. 3-19. In other words God transplanted the tree of life into the spiritual kingdom and as the human body does not reach the spiritual state until the resurrection however there is eternal life for the spirit in Jesus 1 John 5-12. "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. When God made man he combined two elements Gen. 2-7. dust, and spirit, one literal, and one spiritual, one distinctible, the other indistinctible. The body is God formed, the spirit God breathed. I know that some people will criticise this definition and we are giving the original Hebrew word. (RUACH). And it was translated to any invisible substance, powers or being, however this RUACH came from the interior of Almighty God for the simple reason that he breathed it into man. This teaches us that man is dual being composed of material and spiritual. Let us study the inspired word. Job 32-8 "But there is a spirit in man; and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding. Oh, no, this is not wind if it were all animals would have inspiration of understanding. The apostle wrote 1 Cor. 15-44 last clause, "There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body." Heb. 12-9. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us and we gave them rever-

ence. Shall we not much rather be in subjection to the father of spirit and live?

I would like to see some critic figure his body of dust and wind out of this inspired statement. But someone may ask, How can God be the father of all spirits. Zech. 12-9: "The burden of the word of the Lord for Israel saith the Lord God which stretcheth forth the heavens and layeth the foundation of the earth and formeth the spirit of man within him." By this we understand that physical body is propagated as other creatures of the earth but God forms the spirit in man. This truth is verified in Eccl. 12-7. "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return to God who gave it." Jesus told the penitent malefactor, Lu. 23-43, "Verily I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in paradise." The body is mortal, the spirit immortal. Rom. 6-12-8-11. 1 Cor. 15-48. When Adam and Eve transgressed God's law they became dying souls in other words they were dead in sin void of eternal life and like produces like they could impart to their posterity only that they possessed themselves hence, lost without a redeemer. However the Godhead had a plan ready, formulated that would save all who so ever will. God said by the pen of Isaiah in Isaiah 45-22, "Look unto me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else." We want to state at this time that there was only one plan agreed upon and it is given to us in the Bible. One plan for all and all for one plan. If God has ever changed that plan the Bible does not mention it, we are taught. Heb. 13-8, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever." the apostle Peter said. Acts. 10-34, "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons; v. 35. But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness is accepted with him." When God made the covenant with Noah it was based on spiritual power Gen. 6-3 when he made the covenant with Abraham it was spiritual. Pointing to a redeemer and all the redeemed of earth. Gal. 3-29, "And if ye be Christ's, then ye are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise," readers don't think that God's promise of Canaan to Abraham and his seed was the only agreement in

that covenant, for in the first part of that covenant Gen. 12-3 "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee; and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." Now God's covenant with Israel was a literal covenant based on obedience to the law, it did not save anyone neither did it keep anyone from being saved. Paul said, "It was our school masters to bring us to Christ", Gal. 3-24 in short, its to reprimand the transgressor God has changed his covenant from fleshly Israel to spiritual Israel or we might say the old one ceased to be, and the new one took its place, the old one was written on tables of stone, Duet. 4:13, the new one in the heart, Jer. 31:33, one written by the finger of God. Exod. 31-18, the other by the spirit of God. 2 Cor. 3-3, the first

for the natural man, the second or last one for the spiritual man, however these changes did not effect the plan of salvation. When you figure out a plan that does not include all nations from the fall of man, you had better figure it again if you begin it with Abraham or even Israel you are too far this way. If you begin it with farther away in fact the farther this way you get, the more preposterous your argument becomes, God's promises is as good as the fulfillment. Enoch's trust in God's word. Heb. 11-5. "Abraham believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Rom. 4-3. Paul said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. Acts 16-30.

Eld. J. A. Davidson
Antlers, Okla., Box 337

Doctrines of Devils

Rev. T. H. Willey Pinar Del Rio, Cuba
Our Free Will Baptist Missionary

We have, of all the subtle diabolical teachings, spiritualism, centered around a leader called a Brujo. It very often takes the form of voodooism brought over by the Hican negroes imported to Cuba to cut sugar cane. It is in the intense craving of their spiritual nature. This doctrine of devils was embraced and carried by clever uneducated Cubans until it has penetrated to the most hidden valleys, where there are no roads. The form taken is of old to the most hidden valleys, where there are no roads. The form taken is that of going into a trance until the person is in the state of rigor mortis.

The Brujo, also claims power to cure by setting a glass of water beside the sick ones. Naturally many of them die without aid, unwilling to call a medical doctor.

There is much of this, to a fanatical extent, in the Cangre. This is the neighborhood of the Bible Seminary of The Cedars of Lebanon Free Will Baptist Bible School. God has permitted us to break in on this fearful practice just a few weeks ago.

One man, with whom I have had occasion to do business for the School, ex-

pressed his confidence in the Bible and told me that he had one. He said, 'But I need someone to teach me this Book and there are many here that need to know it. Can't you come or send some one to preach?' He continued, My wife is crazy, demon possessed, the result of this voodooism and the only way I have found to bring her out of these spells is to read the Bible to her."

Finally, after much persistency in demanding a teacher, one of our students and a carpenter employed at the School went. The man and his wife and two others were definitely converted and a preaching hall was opened.

Last Sunday, I attended the service with about 30 packed in the hall. All stood up expressing their desire to follow Christ. This man is one of importance in that community and has a truck. Filling the truck with people, he took them to the school that they might hear Bro. Josue, our professor of the seminary, expound the word. The visit was all unexpected on the part of those at the school, out suspending studies, Josue preached to them.

The work is reaching the proportions of a real revival. God is moving. The only answer to the challenge is a group of students, consecrated and preparing at the Bible Seminary to go out into all the surrounding towns.

These boys and girls, twelve of them, will soon be going into their preaching missions throughout the province. They

have come to us from the futhermost province of Orient. The Province of Santa Clara and the Province of Matanzas. Pray that God shall send us additional consecrated students this fall to push the battle for souls. They are our only answer to the errors of doctrines of devils and fanaticism as it abounds in Cuba.

Paying the Price of the Offering

When David displeased God by numbering the children of Israel Araunah offered to give David his threshing floor as a place to offer burnt offerings but David said, "I will not take that which is thine for the Lord, nor offer burnt offerings without cost." 1 Chron. 21:24.

Yet how many today are letting some one else pay all of the expence of God's services and still they expect God to answer their prayers.

I was almost made to weep the other day when we needed Rev. J. E. Yandell for a meeting and he told us that he had been picking cotton.

I thought of the thousands of parents, their children and grandchildren that he

had kept out of the l by his preaching and prayers. Many of them have their good homes and money in the bank while their old servant of God picks cotton and preaches when he can.

I feel that God has placed this message on my heart and if you are guilty I hope you will square your account with God by sending Brother Yandell or any other minister that you feel indebted to an offering. Rev. J. E. Yandell's address is Route 2 Box 285-A Firebaugh, California

A Co-worker,

Rev. A. B. Talbert
617 Vermont
Turlock, California

The National Association

Enterprise Department

Rev. Robert B. Crawford, Executive Secretary National Association
3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee

PLACES AND DATES FOR CHRISTIAN WORKERS INSTITUTES

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| ALABAMA, SYLACAUGA, | MAY 7-18 |
| MISSOURI, FLAT RIVER, | MAY 21, JUNE 1 |
| TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE, | JUNE 4-15 |
| MICHIGAN, HIGHLAND PARK, | JUNE 18-29 |
| MISSISSIPPI, TUPELO, | JULY 16-27 |
| GEORGIA, PHENIX CITY, ALA. | JULY 30, AUG. 10 |

Expect an article announcing teachers for these Institutes. I want you to have the place and date of the Institute closest to you. We do expect you to make a sacrifice if needs be to avail yourself of this service. Make every effort to be present and help others to attend.



Missionary Department



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

REPORT NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSION

By Rev. Winford Davis Chr.-Treas.

Receipts for the month of Feb. 1945

| | |
|---|------------|
| National Auxiliary Convention | \$60.11 |
| Pikeville Church, Pikeville, Ky. | 7.05 |
| Lancaster Church, Lancaster, S. C. | 25.00 |
| East Nashville Church, Nashville, Tenn. | 30.00 |
| Coffers Chapel, Nashville, Tenn. | 11.23 |
| Ashland City Church, Ashland City, Tenn. | 20.40 |
| Offering taken at F. W. B. Bible College, Nashville, Tenn. | 28.00 |
| Hopewell Church of Tenn. | 25.00 |
| Loyal Chapel Columbia, Tenn. | 40.15 |
| Cordova Church, Cordova, Alabama | 50.27 |
| Oakman Church of Alabama | 16.75 |
| Birmingham Church, Birmingham, Alabama | 51.40 |
| Fairview Church of Alabama | 26.00 |
| Leads Church, Leads, Alabama | 27.30 |
| Eldridge Alabama Free Will Baptist Orphanage | 16.17 |
| Oak Grove Church of Alabama | 45.00 |
| Gum Springs Church of Alabama | 16.35 |
| Boston Church of Alabama | 70.17 |
| Union Grove Church of Alabama | 11.00 |
| Pine Grove Church of Alabama | 26.00 |
| Pine View Church of Alabama | 19.00 |
| Folley Church of Alabama | 10.53 |
| Offering taken at service held in high school building, Summerdale, Ala. | 10.88 |
| Elsanore Church of Alabama | 35.58 |
| Christian Home Church of Florida | 13.28 |
| East Tupelo Church, Tupelo, Mississippi | 50.00 |
| Bethlehem Church of Tennessee | 11.41 |
| West Nashville Church, Nashville, Tenn. | 12.48 |
| Altona Church of Ohio | 5.00 |
| Hickory Grove Church of Florida | 7.55 |
| State of Oklahoma | 105.20 |
| Free Will Baptist Church, Des Plaines, Ill. | 18.40 |
| S. P. Easley Portales, New Mexico | 10.00 |
| State of North Carolina | 201.15 |
| D. J. O'Donnell, Ashville, Alabama | 25.00 |
| Mrs. Flora Prater, Lackey, Ky. | 1.00 |
| United Free Will Baptist Church of Alabama | 5.45 |
| Mrs. E. F. Traut, Iola, Texas | 10.00 |
| Quarterly Meeting First Mission Ass'n. of Oklahoma | 60.83 |
| Wolverine Association of Michigan | 126.65 |
| Wolverine Association of Michigan | 126.65 |
| Missouri State Association | 360.24 |
| Total | \$1,648.98 |

REPORT OF MISSOURI STATE TREASURER, REV. WINFORD DAVIS**Foreign Missions**

Receipts for the month of Feb. 1945

| | |
|--|--------|
| Shibleys Point Church | \$3.20 |
| Green Grove Church | 7.70 |
| Offering taken in Methodist Church, Purdy, Mo. | 39.61 |
| Hickory Grove Church | 9.00 |
| Sunday School of Muddy Church | 10.07 |
| Amity Church | 14.01 |
| Offering taken at the Blue Eye Church | 40.19 |
| Fowler Union Sunday School | 2.00 |
| Independance Church | 23.57 |
| Blue Eye Church | 2.25 |
| Offering taken in the Church of God, Crane, Mo. | 30.15 |
| Golden Oak Church | 1.67 |
| Verdella Church | 1.50 |
| Offering taken at Monett Church | 65.50 |
| Rev. and Mrs. Homer Smith, Mtn. Grove, Mo. | 5.00 |
| Offering taken at Hannon Church | 13.46 |
| Auxiliary of St. Louis Third Church | 6.00 |
| Wiley Circle Flat River Auxiliary | 15.00 |
| Aurora Church and Sunday School | 4.12 |
| Rock Chapel | 12.00 |
| Mrs. Samantha Fowler, Green City, Mo. | 2.00 |
| Jewell Church | 9.26 |
| Hickory Grove Church, Haddam, Kansas | 2.73 |
| Macedonia Church | 3.60 |
| Connelsville Sunday School | 5.00 |
| Mt. Olive (Neola) Auxiliary | 1.00 |
| True Blue Class Mt. Olive (Neola) S. S. | 1.00 |
| St. Louis Third Church | 17.27 |
| New Harmony Mission | 4.10 |
| Garfield Church | 8.28 |

Fifty Thousand Dollar Auxiliary Campaign Fund

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Mrs. Maud Decocq, Monett, Mo. | \$1.00 |
|------------------------------------|--------|

Jehoida Chests Fund

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Golden Oak Church | \$1.00 |
| Copper Mines Church | 2.00 |
| Macedonia Church | 1.00 |
| New Harmony Mission | 2.00 |

State Unified Fund

| | |
|--|--------|
| Berkley City Church of St. Louis, Mo. | \$5.76 |
| Hazel Creek Union Church | 33.11 |
| Monett Church and Auxiliary | 21.93 |
| Merls Chapel | 5.50 |
| Golden Oak Church | 1.25 |
| Fredricktown Church | 75.25 |
| St. Louis Third Church | 36.33 |
| Flat River Church | 40.59 |
| Mt. Olive (Neola) Church | 2.79 |
| New Harmony Mission | 4.48 |
| South East Missouri Auxiliary Convention | 4.50 |

EDITORIAL

OUR VANISHING SUNDAY

Some considerations about the misuse of the First Day of the Week.

It is a fact, evident to any one who observes the trend of things, that Sunday as a day of worship and rest is rapidly slipping away. And the last few years has seen the tendency to misuse the day rapidly increase. Unsavvy people have for a long time been disposed to disregard the day except as a day of pleasure. But we have now come to times when persons who have stood high in the church are misusing the day and attempting to justify themselves in doing so. And it is with this class that we especially plead for a return to the right use of the day.

SOME OF THE EXCUSES OFFERED

One of the outstanding excuses is that it is patriotic at this time to work on Sunday in order to help the nation win the war. Unfortunately patriotism is a cloak under which various evils can operate. It has been demonstrated again and again that men, horses, and even machinery will do more work in six days, with an intervening day of rest than they will working continuously day after day. It seems to be built into the fabric of things that there must be a periodic rest for everything, and one day in seven has been designed by our wise Creator as the regularity of that period of rest.

Some say they will **LOSE THEIR JOBS** if they refuse to work on Sunday. Well, shall a Christian fear man more than God? We know of instances when men have conscientiously refused to work on Sunday and did not lose their jobs. But what if they did; are we so soft that we cannot sacrifice anything for the Lord? Is our faith in the Lord so little that we fear He will let us suffer beyond endurance? The Lord says that He will honor the person that honors Him.

Others say they **NEED THE ADDED MONEY** they can get by working on Sunday. And yet people are getting wages

for six days a week away beyond what they ever received before.

Others say their church needs the money and they are **GIVING THE EARNINGS OF SUNDAY** to help the church pay its debt or build a new parsonage. There was a king named Saul one time who thought the Lord's cause needed a few more cattle to sacrifice, so he saved some the Lord had told him to destroy. It is well for these Sunday givers to remember what the prophet of God told Saul, that it is better to obey than to sacrifice.

These are but samples of the excuses, but much of this trying to excuse one's self for Sunday work can be traced to

MISPLACED LOVE

Some people love money more than they love God. And, regardless of the excuses offered, the vast majority of people who have fallen into the way of working on Sunday do it for the love of money.

Some love the luxuries they can buy with their increased wages, and truly the Bible says of the last days that men shall be lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.

Some may say that love of country prompts them to work on Sunday. But it is also true that there are many workers who hope the war will not soon close so they can make more money while it lasts.

THE REMEDY STATED

As stated above, misplaced love is at the root of this situation, as it is of most ills of the people of God. If church members loved God supremely, loved His house loved the assembling of the saints together, they would not allow spurious ideas of patriotism or other things to interfere with their devotion to God and His service.

This country was founded on devotion to God. The early settlers came here to find a place where they could be at liberty to serve God as they conscientiously believed they should. They did not come to the forbidding shores of New England in quest of gold, but in quest of God. It

GLEANINGS

By the Editor

was not love of pleasures that induced them to come, but love for God. They laid deep the foundations of righteousness, and one stone in that foundation was the keeping of the first day of the week sacred to the worship of God.

NECESSARY SUNDAY WORK

I know that many will say that there are some things that absolutely must be done on Sunday, and some one must do them: Christian doctors, Christian nurses, Christian church janitors, and the like. But there is much of the so-called necessary Sunday work that can be left for the men and women to do who would not go to church if they had an opportunity to do so. But you, Christians, remember the words of the Apostle, "Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more as ye see the day approaching."

THE ONLY FREE WILL BAPTIST

A speaker in a young people's institute told of a lady, whose only knowledge of Free Will Baptist was through a young man whom her father had given a lift on the road. This young man seemed to be a fine, clean young fellow with a good personality, and so the lady thought that Free Will Baptist must be fine people. Following the relating of this incident, one of the young people in the institute, while giving her testimony of consecration, asked the question, "If I were the only Free Will Baptist that someone knew, what would he think of the Free Will Baptist Church?"

It is a challenging thought. There are times when averages do not count, when we cannot expect the higher standard or the higher character of someone else to somehow make up for our own lack. We get so accustomed to the supporting arms of those who stand by us that we fail to consider whether we could stand alone. Would the Free Will Baptist people, as re-

presented by yourself alone, appear to the world as being truly Christian, morally clean, zealous in service, kindly in temperament, exemplary in word and action? Would people say, "I would like to belong to that church"? Would they feel that we are the kind of people that the world needs more of? If we would shrink from the responsibility of being the sole representative of a people, should we not throw ourselves anew upon God for such a cleansing and such a sanctification to a holy life as would make us true representatives of the kind of church we want to belong to?—Selected.

THE OBJECTIVE CHRISTIAN

Touch not the glory,
Neither seek a name;
Tell the blessed story,
Without fear or fame.
Seek not the honor,
It belongs to God;
Live a little lower,
That's the highest thought.
Covet not greatness,
Christ is great alone;
Think of your sinfulness,
Which His blood atoned.
Put God first always,
Let others second be;
And self third in order,
Then true joy you'll see.
Live in humility;
Then ever rise higher,
In works and ability,
As high as your desire.
When Christ from heaven,
To earth will come again;
Name, honor and glory,
With a crown you'll gain.

Joshua Stauffer

Subscribe to "The Gem"
\$1.00 per Year

Continued from page 17

Educational Fund

S. P. Easley, Portales, New Mexico \$5.00

Orphanage Fund

Hazel Creek Union Church for Tennessee Orphanage \$3.00
S. P. Easley, Portales, New Mexico 5.00



Our Bible School



REPORT OF FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE,

Rev. J. R. Davidson, Business Manager, Free Will Baptist Bible College
3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville (5), Tennessee

For February 1945

Conditions over which I have had no control have forced a slight delay in getting my monthly report filed for publication. However, it is again that we are delighted to be able to report splendid progress in every phase of our work here. It will be observed that our expenditures for the month of February amounted to \$624.75 in excess of our income. This may be readily understood by the fact that we invested \$490.00 in seating equipment; and approximately \$50.00 in extra pantry stock, with a traveling expense of \$88.94 in excess of that of January.

The financial statement relative to income is as follows:

| Source | Endowment | Gift | Total |
|---------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Alabama | \$24.50 | | \$24.50 |
| Florida | 7.50 | 7.55 | 15.05 |
| Georgia | 31.00 | | 31.00 |
| Illinois | 8.50 | 5.00 | 13.50 |
| Kansas | 1.00 | | 1.00 |
| Kentucky | 5.00 | 100.00 | 105.00 |
| Michigan | 32.00 | | 32.00 |
| Mississippi | 22.50 | | 22.50 |
| Missouri | 32.00 | 17.55 | 49.55 |
| North Carolina | 73.50 | 97.18 | 170.68 |
| Ohio | 22.50 | 88.03 | 110.53 |
| Oklahoma | 12.50 | 15.00 | 27.50 |
| South Carolina | 4.58 | | 4.58 |
| Tennessee | 66.00 | 57.83 | 123.83 |
| Toe River Minister's Conference | | 26.75 | 26.75 |
| Texas | 50.50 | 63.64 | 114.14 |
| Virginia | 9.50 | | 9.50 |
| West Virginia | 10.00 | | 10.00 |
| Received from Students | | | 612.60 |
| Miscellaneous | | | 27.90 |
| Total Receipts | \$413.08 | \$478.53 | \$1532.11 |
| Disbursements as follows: | | | |
| Room Rent | | | \$25.00 |
| Grocery and Kitchen Supplies | | | 371.07 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Heat, lights, water, etc. | 81.00 |
| Telephone | 10.98 |
| School Supplies | 17.40 |
| Traveling Expenses | 108.19 |
| Maintenance | 530.20 |
| Salaries | 896.27 |
| Labor | 45.60 |
| Books | 32.00 |
| Miscellaneous Expenses | 39.15 |
| Total Expenses | \$2156.86 |

I should like to suggest that in view of the fact that spring time is usually a bit dull so far as income is concerned that all of our ministers and leaders who have not already aligned their people in a systematic support of the college, do so by calling upon me for necessary Annual Endowment Check Books for conveniences for such an arrangement. Remember that cash offerings always stimulate the cause financially, and, inasmuch as quarterly (union) meetings, auxiliaries, etc. will be convening with in the next few weeks, this will be an opportune time to present the cause of our educational program.

We wish to take advantage of this privilege in again expressing thanks to those who have so loyally supported this phase of our denominational work, and we feel to say that there is no investment which has been made that is destined to pay greater dividends than we have invested in our educational cause during the past few years.

I wish to apologize for having failed to mention the gift of a \$100.00 War Bond by Rev. and Mrs. George Waggoner in my last report. It will be interesting for our people to know that this couple are students in the Columbia Bible College, which, despite the extra-ordinary expenses of taking their courses there they respond in such liberal expressions to this cause.

It appeared in my last report that the pounding given was by the Head's Church; however, this statement was confused and the credit is due to the Bethlehem Church of Ashland City, Tennessee.

We wish to make special mention of a nice shower of towels which we have lately received from Mrs. Glenn M. Hill, of Snow Hill, North Carolina, who represented in the gift the Hull Road Ladies' Aid.

At any time there is any question in anyone's mind relative to any matter which may associate itself with the business ends of the institution, we desire that you feel perfectly free to write me for necessary explanations. Be sure to keep this cause on the prayer list.

CHRISTIAN WORKERS INSTITUTE

May 21 to June 1, 1945

A session of the Christian Worker's Institute will be held in the Flat River Free Will Baptist Church, beginning May 21, 1945.

All ministers, teachers and Christian worker's are urged to attend this Institution.

This is an opportunity for all Christian Workers to receive special training in various fields of service with little expense to the individual.

It is not possible for all ministers and Christian workers to attend the college in Nashville, Tenn., but it is possible for all workers to take advantage of these two week Institutes, where Christian fellowship and Divine Inspiration is one of the outstanding influences of Christian training

All those interested in attending this Institute in Flat River will receive application for enrollment, and other literature by writing to Rev. Cecil Campbell, 306 Cedar St., Flat River, Mo.

STUDENT APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE CHRISTIAN WORKERS INSTITUTE, FLAT RIVER, MISSOURI

Name

Address

Age Give name of church of which you are a member

Are you a minister? Of what church, or churches, are you now pastor?

If not a minister, for what phase of Christian work do you desire preparation?

Will you pay your expenses for the duration of the Institute, or will your church assist you?

What amount of your expenses will be paid by your church? \$..... What amount, in excess of your registration fee (\$1.00), are you forwarding with this application. \$..... Please mail your application with one dollar (\$1.00) registration fee to Rev. Cecil H. Campbell, 306 Cedar St., Flat River, Mo.

The Great
Commission
— Our Mission



Woman's Auxiliary Department

The Whole
World
For Christ



Dear Gem Readers,

Our Auxillary is progressing fine. We are glad to report and are truly thanking God for it. We know it is through His leadership we are growing and hope to continue to stay in the center of His will.

Our ladies have been having prayer meeting in the homes of the sick and those who are old or otherwise unable to attend church. It proves a blessing to those who attend as well as the homes who are visited. If you don't believe it just have some of your own.

We need your prayers.

Sister Emma Bebout, President
Olertha Chapman, Corresponding Sec.

FIELD WORKERS REPORT

Dear Co-Workers:

Greetings in the name of the blessed Master! At the time of this writing I am

in the town of Oakman, Alabama, conducting a revival meeting with a splendid congregation and good interest is being manifested. I have visited several churches since I last wrote.

I visited Harmony Church, near Lake Butler, Florida. It is one of Brother Floy Cherry's churches which has a group of fine people in it. They are very loyal to the denominational program. They have a fine Auxillary in that church. These good people were very nice in responding to our Co Laborers Band. We had two good services with them while on this visit.

Our next stop was in Jacksonville with two of our churches there, but we failed to reach one service because we could not make it in time, and it was very hard to get crowds together at these churches during the week as so very many of our people work. The next visit we had was with the Phenix City Church, Alabama, where Brother H. L. Knighton is pastor. We had five services at all these churches

two in the city and one just across the river in Columbus, Georgia. Bro. Knighton is doing a fine piece of work here. I am planning to return soon to Columbus for a revival with Brother McKinnson and his good church.

I went next to Cordova, Alabama, to visit Brother K. V. Shutes and his church people. I visited the following churches while in that vicinity. Cordova, Gum Springs, Boston, Parsh and Oakman churches. All of these dear pastors received me with a warm reception. Most of these churches have Auxiliaries, and most of this is a new church which was organized plan of work. The last church which I visited of this group was Oakman. I shall be here for a two weeks' revival meeting. of them accepted the Co-Laborers Band last summer after a tent meeting which was conducted by Brothers Lambert and Shutes. These people are planning to build right away, and have their lot already paid for to begin their building program.

Will you good people pray much that I may see a great victory here for the glory of God, and that these dear people may be greatly blessed with an increase of souls in His kingdom. I do want to mention Brother Pitts who is the pastor of Boston and Gum Springs churches. He is a fine young minister of Alabama. He is lined up with the National Program. All of these splendid preachers are doing a good work, and each one has stood by me in the Woman's Auxiliary work, and may God continue His blessings upon them.

I am asking again that you pastors and presidents send us your number on the Co-Laborers Band so we can get you on the "Honor Roll." It will soon be convention time again and for the reports, and you do not want your churches to fall behind. Many have done fine and we do appreciate their co-operation. If all would try to do the little things, think how we would be able soon to take the field for the Master, and open new mission points in the cities and foreign lands. It takes money to do this, so let every auxiliary and all of the pastors rally to this great cause, and let us make this a great Co-Laborers Band for Christ.

The Honor Roll

| States | Members | Paid |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Tennessee | | |
| Loyal Chapel | 100 | \$100.00 |
| Missouri | | |
| Hazel Creek | 33 | 5.00 |
| Fredericktown | 32 | 18.00 |
| Flat River | 22 | 20.00 |
| Desloge | 7 | 5.00 |
| Third Free Will Church, St. Louis | 22 | 11.00 |
| Mission Church, St. Louis | 19 | 13.00 |
| Martinstown | 5 | 5.00 |
| Connellsville | 5 | 1.00 |
| Jewell | 6 | |
| Oklahoma | | |
| Wewoka | 100 | 100.00 |
| Tecumseh | 7 | 7.00 |
| Earlsboro | 4 | 2.00 |
| Texas | | |
| Bryan | 17 | 17.00 |
| Houston | 5 | 5.00 |
| Pine Grove | 15 | 15.00 |
| Florida | | |
| Piney Grove | 150 | |
| St. Johns | 17 | 10.00 |
| Poplar Head | 9 | |
| Harmony | 21 | 21.00 |
| Jacksonville, First Church | 12 | 12.00 |
| North Carolina | | |
| Bethel | 25 | 25.00 |
| Greenville | 11 | 1.00 |
| Elizabeth City | 12 | 7.00 |
| Davis | 63 | 37.00 |
| Stacy | 16 | |
| Reaufort | 25 | |
| Morehead City | 13 | 3.00 |
| Alabama | | |
| Sylacauga | 30 | 30.00 |
| Leeds | 50 | 14.00 |
| St. James | 12 | |
| Cordova | 17 | 15.00 |
| Boston | 15 | 2.00 |
| Parish | 6 | |
| Fairview | 16 | 3.00 |
| Birmingham | 16 | |

We are keeping our old Honor Roll, just adding to it as different ones send in and we invite new churches to join the Band.

May God stir our hearts to do the little things, which would mean so much if each one would do his or her part.

With prayers for great success,

Yours for Jesus.

Lizzie McAdams

CHIPS

FROM ELD. T. C. FERGUSON'S Sermons Preached in the Past

People who listen to what people say about them, will never have peace of mind themselves.

You will be a winner, if you will do all you can today and not put it off until tomorrow.

Everybody can be used for something even if it should be for a horrible example.

Heaven is cheap at any price.

Get out of self and you will get into Christ.

When Jesus comes splitting the skies, where will you be?

You can have darkness without, but you can have spiritual light within.

You can have sin without, but you can have purity within.

You can have Hell without, but you can have Heaven within.

You may have the Devil without, but you can have Jesus within.

I believe in little heaven here, so that I can go to a big heaven after a while.

Don't be a drifter for the only place that you can drift to is down stream.

I would rather be popular with God than with man.

GOOD EVIDENCE OF REAL CONVERSION IN CUBA

God has given us a few striking conversions here in the Island. One, I want to mention, is a fine young fellow, striking in physical appearance, very tall and noble, and very dark penetrating eyes. Manolo is our first convert in the city of Pinar del Rio and is a credit to our denomination. He is a very skilled laboratory man employed by the government, thus having a very good and important position. He has a very large list of friends to whom he fearlessly and unceasingly witnesses. He is never without his Testament where one and all might see it. He is constantly buying Bibles or Testaments for those whom he is instrumental in getting interested in the Word.

From the beginning of his stand, he has taken an active part in the services, leading singing, praying in public and bringing his friends.

He came to visit me today, showing a great interest in a new mission we are starting, which for a time must be a Sunday School until we can place a preacher. He was lamenting our lack of preachers and finally said, "This is an humble place, I believe I could preach there, give me a night." God, I believe is calling him to a definite ministry.

He was telling me how a very attractive girl, a member of one of the other churches in town, invited him to a dance. His answer was, "I could not do that. It is very immoral. It is of the devil. How can you, a Sunday School teacher present so low a standard. No, thank you, no dancing for me. I am a Christian."

He said, "Bro. Willey, they do not have the spiritual lives, our humble meetings enjoy."

We are praying that God shall give us a group of men and women like Manolo Firvida, witnessing to his friends, doctors, teachers, lawyers, professional and business men. Presenting and so graciously the glorious Gospel and its demands on all without fear or favor.

Thomas Willey

Subscribe to "The Gem"
\$1.00 per Year

Church Letters - Field Reports

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Dear Gem Readers,

It has been some time since I have written a letter to the Gem. Our church has just closed our revival meeting. I just can't say how many were saved but we had a good revival and the Lord blessed in a mighty way. Christians were stirred and souls were saved. People rejoiced and praised the Lord for His wonderful love and His Holy Spirit that convicts sinners. One little girl (we tried to get her to come to the altar but she did not come. But I hear she has been saved since the meeting closed so the revival is going on. Brother Green was the Evangelist and he is a fine preacher and the Lord blesses his work where ever he is preaching. We had big crowds but we had some bad weather that slowed down the meeting. Brother Lew's is going down to Myrtle, Missouri and hold a week meeting. We hope they will have a good revival meeting and many souls saved and the church will be revived. Our church is coming along fine. Crowds are good, meetings are spiritual lots of rejoicing and praising the Lord from whom all good blessings flow.

I believe we have one of the best Junior choirs in any school that I ever saw. Bro. Simons is their leader and he knows how to get them to sing. They have about 10 minutes every Sunday morning. Our Superintendent of our school is a real christian woman and Bro. Porret is the assistant and a fine Christian man. Bro. Simons is our Bible Class teacher and I mean he is a real teacher and we have about 18 an average every Sunday. We have a graded Sunday School. Every class near the same age and we have a penny march every Sunday for a building fund. And I believe it is one of the best drilled Sunday Schools I ever saw. And I believe we have about as fine a Sunday School according to size as you can find. And good teachers are what makes our school and the Lord is blessing our work. We have some good prayer meetings on Wed-

nesday evening. People are not afraid to get up and praise the Lord. We have a fine bunch of Junior children are about to take the prayer meeting. They sure do like to get up and testify how the Saviour saved their souls, so they are leading the old people along. We have a fine League meeting and have a fine bunch of young people and some fine speakers and good leaders and they have some good times..

Francis McCauley
1622 Hickory St.
St. Louis, Missouri
Secretary of Bible Class

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Dear Bro. Dees and Gem readers:

The following is a report of our new work here in St. Louis which the Lord has wonderfully blessed.

On January 16, 1944 we had our first service, and organized into a Free Will Baptist Mission on January 30, 1944.

From that date on the Lord blessed us in many wonderful ways.

During the year of 1944 we saw our Sunday School grow from 24 on the first Sunday to an average of over 40 for the year.

We redecorated our building on the inside to where it is a very nice respectable place to worship our Lord and where no one should be ashamed of.

We have spent a large amount of money on both repairs and on redecorations.

God has blessed us with several converts and with a group of the most consecrated young people I have ever saw.

I'm not afraid to call on our young people for anything for they are always ready to respond.

We have a wonderful League organized under the 7 point system with a membership of about 30.

Our finance has come along wonderfully and we are now paying tithes of our income as the Lord prospers us. According to His teachings.

During the year 1944 the mission has paid me a salary beginning at \$6.00 a week to the present salary of \$20.00 a week and we are planning sometime before too long to put the pastor on a full time salary. We want your prayers that God may bless us in that respect.

We as a F. W. B. Mission after much praying and meditations felt led by the great spirit of God to organize our Mission into a full Free Will Baptist Church so we contacted the South East Missouri Quarterly Meeting Board and asked them to assist us in organizing into a church. approximately one year from the organization of the Mission Rev. Mark Lewis, Dea. O. B. Womack and Rev. James F. Miller met with us for the purpose of organizing.

After song and prayer and reading of our church treatise along with remarks by the chairman of the Board Rev. Mark Lewis followed by Rev. James Miller and Dea. O. B. Womack the organization began. I being already the pastor of the Mission was again elected as pastor of the new church now called the Southside Free Will Baptist Church located at 5418 Idaho Ave., St. Louis Missouri, 3 deacons were elected namely as follows: Ollie Grimminger, Lester Hill and Oscar Davis. Bro. Ollie Grimminger and Bro. Lester Hill was ordained with Bro. Oscar Davis carried over until after his baptism.

Clerk was elected which was Sister Julia Devenport and Treasurer Sister Ola Carver a membership of 27 was enrolled at the time of organization and since then some few have united with us. Later we elected 2 trustees, namely: Jess Kellerman and Billy Hill, Choir leader, Chesley Hill, and pianist Sister Pearl Hill.

We have also organized a string band along with a male quartet.

The Lord is wonderfully blessing us as a church and we are looking for great things from our great Master.

Truly we realize the great need of God in the lives of men and pray that we may do as Christ said in John 9:4, I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work.

Gem readers we ask your prayers and may the Lord bless you in our prayers.

Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Pastor

Southside F. W. B. Church
5418 Idaho Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Dear Gem Readers,

Reporting to you. Greetings from the Tulsa church. We are still on fire for God and working and winning souls. The Lord has been blessing our church in a great way. Last Sunday night, we saw two precious souls weep their way thru at an old fashion altar. Our prayer meeting is good and our League is good. We have a League that we are proud of. We have good attendance and interest in the work. We have a contest on, men against the women and boys against the girls and we all are working hard, so we can win out, I'm talking for the Lady's and girls side.

Jesus has sent an angel to take away another one of our faithful members, Bro. Tyson. He will be missed in our presence but he's at rest, and enjoying the things of Heaven. So often we grow home sick for Heaven to see the one's who are waiting for us up there, and it makes us more humble and we need to be more humble every day, so as to let th's world see that we are for Jesus. The people of the world aren't ashamed to show what side they are on and it should make us to be prouder of our Leader who is Christ Jesus.

The Lord's blessings be upon His people is our prayer.

Remember our church when you pray.

Rev. Melvin Bingham, Pastor
Mrs. Margarette West, Reporter
Tulsa, Oklahoma

TURLOCK, CALIFORNIA

Brother Yandell does not know that I am writing th's.

I went to Kerman Feb. 25, and preached for Rev. Geo. Mc Lain at a church recently organized there by Bro. Mc Lain and Rev. J. E. Yandell and I will say that I believe that it is the best newly organized church that I have seen in the 35 years of my ministry.

They have 52 members and they voted to pay their pastor \$40.00 per week.

Nearly every family own their home.

and seem very much interested in the work.

They have bought lots for a church and parsonage and have started to build. and communion and feet washing that night.

Brother Mc Lain organized a League with a fine bunch of boys and girls.

I feel sure that there is a great future for the Kerman Church.

Monday morning Rev. J. E. Vandell came over from Firebaugh and we drove over to Lindsay where Bro. Mc Lain and Bro. Vandell were to start a meeting that night.

We are hoping to have one or two more churches by the time our association meets in May.

May God bless all that are laboring for the advancement of His work.

A servant and Co-Worker.

Rev. A. B. Talbert
617 Vermont
Turlock, California

PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Dear Bro. Dees and Gem family,

Here I am with another brief report of the Porterville Church and a bit of what our Association is doing.

The Porterville church closed a revival last Sunday night with seven conversions. Had five additions to the church, and prospects of more. Bro. Frank Linton of Missouri did the preaching. There was much shouting at the close of the meeting in the conversion of a young mother whom we had been praying for a long time.

I am sure that some of you remember that about four years ago I advertised in the Gem for help to start a work in California. At that time there was not a church in the state to my knowledge. I did not get the help I desired. But presently the Porterville church came into existence.

So I moved here with my family. We had only been here a few days when two of my children were saved and I baptized them. They were my first subjects. They with all of my family that are old enough to understand the plan of salvation. (I have eight children) are on fire for God, Praise His name.

The Turlock church has purchased ground for a church site and have accumulated a large fund for the building.

The new churches at Firebaugh and Carmen contemplate building right away.

A text of scripture came to my mind while I was meditating after services last Sunday night. The language of Jesus in the first clause of John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

I find that if we will just accept His word, realize that He is the way, the fact that He is the truth, acknowledge both to ourselves and to the world that He is life, believe, trust and obey Him and have His cause foremost in our hearts that he will bless our efforts. And don't you think I haven't tried Him.

Now our State Association will convene with the Porterville church on Thursday before the first Sunday in May. If you are planning a spring vacation why not make that your chief point of interest and come and be with us? The Association will have its first birthday at that time.

Rev. Ralph Geiger
Association Moderator, Porterville church
clerk and reporter.

SOUTH CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

Dear Gem Readers,

It has been several months since I attempted to write to you.

I am glad to say hello once more and be able to say we of the Free Will Baptist church in this part of West Va. are still working and having some good times in the Lord and God is still blessing us in a big way.

I am a member of Bownmont church and proud of it. While it is not the best church but some of the best christian workers I know of. Bro. F. E. Nichols is doing a good work at that place. May God bless him.

Also I am glad to tell all our Gem family about Ruth Dale church and some more good christian people, a very good church and Sunday School for which we are thankful. We would like to call a lot of names but I know we cannot do so now but we are glad we can say that the people of Ruth Dale church are having a good

time in the Lord. Sister Goldie Green, a young lady, Bro. Willie Rabel and h's good wife, Bro. R. E. Dunlap and Eddie Green and some other good christian workers we are proud of. Bro. James Harald of Tad, West Virginia is the pastor.

We want to thank God for Kamanuha Fork Church, for Bro. Job Conner. John George and of course other good people of which I don't have time to write. Bro. J. M. Hernson is pastor a good Sunday School and prayer meetings.

Also we want to say something about the church at Chesapeake, West Virginia for the folks at Kamanuha Co are looking forward to having the best church in this part of the state. Bro. James Harold is also pastor at Chesapeake church, may God bless his work at these churches at all times and lead his people on to a better country to a city not made with hands.

We are glad for Bro. R. B. Crawford who was in West Va. a short time ago and told us about the good work of other churches in other states, God bless him and I wish we had a lot more men like him in the work of the Free Will Baptist movement.

I have more churches I wish to report to the Gem soon, in Logan Co. May God add His blessings to our many Gem readers and church workers.

Rev. Geo. J. Childers

ALABAMA ORPHANAGE NEWS

Rev. K. V. Shutes

We are just trying to keep you informed about our home in Alabama.

All the notes were cancelled at the State Association in November. So it is now property of the Free Will Baptist.

We have covered the two large buildings much plastering, painting and repairing in general, has been done. But there is much more to be done.

We voted in our Board Meeting last week to give Bro. May the money being received except enough to pay the caretaker, for we are indebted to Bro. May over \$1000.

It will take several thousand to put it back in first class condition. We want to

and must do this before we open it up.

We hope to open this fall, but the finance must keep coming if we do.

We are having a Rally Day 5th Sunday in July. So we are looking for you folk from all over Alabama and would be glad for some of you folk from the other states to be with us.

The Lord has blessed, and we are far ahead of where we thought we would be by this time, when we bought it.

We thank you for what you have and are going to do. We need more to do the repairing.

Pray and pay for us to open this fall.

The work is reaching the proportions

THOMPSONVILLE, ILLINOIS

Greetings in a risen Christ:

It gives me much pleasure to write this letter to the Gem in behalf of our dear servicemen who are serving for us across the sea; that are enjoying reading the "Gem" and look for a letter from home in it.

As it is nearing the season that we celebrate a risen Christ it gives us hope, faith and courage to fully know that we are serving a risen, living Christ and not a dead one; furthermore I'm glad His spirit bears witness with our spirits after we become to know Him.

Every activity of the church is carrying on in a very spiritual atmosphere but there is room for improvement. I don't believe that the best of us get so spiritual and close to the Lord but what we could draw nearer. We as a church never want to be self satisfied and say we are doing good enough but we want to ever be pressing onward and upward for the cause of Christ. We desire to do the things God is showing us, to do and then we ask God to give us more to do and grace and faith to accomplish it all for Him. We are able to do nothing within ourselves but all thru Christ who give the strength.

At present we are having Cottage prayer-meetings which are a spiritual uplift to all who attend. Tonight I have just returned from one of these good services held at the home of Bro. and Sister Fred Read and it was well attended and God met with us. We also had special prayer

by our praying band for our men in uniform.

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Church is sponsoring our regular annual Pre-Easter prayer week, with plenty of good gospel quartett singing and a different speaker each night.

Our Sunday School is doing fine with good attendance and interest, considering the many conditions that are to be encountered in these days of war.

Another branch of our church that we are very proud of is our League. The Lord has blessed us both spiritually and financially. In the last few past months the League has purchased some nice collection plates and a U. S. and Christian flag set, for our church, also sent \$10.00 to our Tennessee Orphanage and \$5.00 to the foreign mission fund.

I must close for now as I feel I have taken already too much precious space in the Gem.

May God bless us all and may we soon know peace in our war torn nation and see the ships come sailing into port with our dear boys to our home land shores.

Rev. Claude Childers, Pastor
Miss Opal McClerren, Reporter

THE SOLDIER'S RETURN

I'm an average soldier; You all know me well.

I pray you will listen while my story I tell.

I might be your brother; or maybe your son,

I could be your neighbor; I'm sure you had one.

I once lived among you—enjoyed being there

With loved ones around me and friends ever near.

And then I was called, like thousands of others

Of your husbands and sons and sweet-hearts and brothers;

To a land far away full of envy and strife To defend our country and our way of life.

Against the great powers of sin and despair

That had caused so much sorrow and woe over there;

I've been a long way since I saw you last; Just traveling around and changing so fast,

I hardly know how we were able to do A lot of things—so different and new.

Slashing through mud and down pouring rain

Foot-sore and weary—reeling with pain. No time to rest or nowhere to go.

Eating cold food; Sleeping in snow.

I know what it is to see a man die

With no chance to utter an earthly goodbye.

Waste and disaster; famine and fears;

Sorrow and suffering, heartache and tears

When a man gets a chance to leave all this

For a few days of rest in this land of bliss;

It makes him seek out a place set apart, Where he can kneel down and pour out

his heart

In praise and Thanksgiving for loving us so

God spared our country such sorrow and woe.

And so this morning I mended my way, As my custom was on the Sabbath day.

To the little white church on top of the hill.

And when I got there my heart stood still.

The place presented such an awful sight; With the gate nailed up and the door locked tight.

The wind wailed sadly as it played through the trees

A shutter banged loudly as it swayed in the breeze.

Filled with dismay I asked myself why Have the folks here at home let the Lord's

work die?

The pastor has gone to a town far away Where he has a large crowd and gets

better pay.

Teachers and singers have all gone to town

Where money and pleasures and comforts abound.

Some live far away and gas ration's small You couldn't expect them to use it all;

In driving to church on the Sabbath day Or prayer meeting night lest there be no

way

Of going to town on Saturday night

And you know I just have to visit a mite.

Some work all week and the Sabbath day
Is their day to rest and visit and play.
I shook my head sadly, and turning away,
My soul groaned within me; I knew I
must pray.

"O God up in heaven why have we been
called?"

When those left at home so readily fall
From "faith that was once delivered to
saints"

And offer such shallow and puny com-
plaints.

For not going out to the house of the Lord
To worship together and study His word.
O, God wake them up before it's too late;
Cause them to see what a terrible fate
Will befall our land if the church dies
away

And the forces of Satan are given full
sway.

Dear God when we're done with war and
strife

We want to return to a better life.

To keep all the things that we hold dear
May they, dear God, cause the fires to
burn

So we may be warmed when we return.

Alta Matthews

Mine La Motte, Missouri

What's Bad for Hens is Bad for Me

This is the story of Farmer Jenz and
the queer, queer food he gave his hens.
When you have heard it you'll say 'tis
true, "What's bad for hens is bad for you."

Farmer Jenz and Charles, his son, a ten
year old and full of life and fun, had been
into town with the old ford truck. They
had some wonderful bits of luck. For in-
stance the farmer had bought a heap of
food for his hens and bought it cheap,
so tired but happy they came that night
to their prairie home with its welcome
light. Busy at dawn was Farmer Jenz so
his wife and Charles fed the hens. At the
hour of six by the kitchen clock they
laughed and laughed at the greedy flock.
Old hens, chickens, red, white and brown.
How they gobbled the food that came from
town. Mother Jenz had work to do so she
scattered the fowls with a merry shoo!
But Charlie lingered for a while. He had
wood to bring in from the pile, but he
loitered in just the self same way that

small boys do to this very day. He saw
the father of the flock, a very majestic
Plymouth Rock whose step was stately,
proud and high, suddenly flap his wings
and start to fly, then waves wobble and
fall alack almost over on his back. "Moth-
er, he called. "Oh Mother dear, what
makes the hens all act so queer. Look at
that Rhode Island Red, shes surely crazy
in the head and has a queer look in the
eye, are they poisoned mother, will they
die, "Call your father," the mother said
So to the field young Charlie sped. Back
came the farmer to the yard scratched
his head and stood thinking hard, and
after a long look at the hens. "I guess
they're drunk" said farmer Jenz. The mother
said, "How can that be." Well, said the
farmer, well you see, the brewer man
sold me that grain, but you bet I won't
go back again if his bran mash makes my
good old hens drunk and foolish." grawl-
ed farmer Jenz. Drunk like the man we
saw in town, said little Charlie with a
frown. "What makes folks like the horrid
stuff? (I know our hens have had enough)
I'll never touch it, for you see, what's
bad for hens is bad for me. God bless you
child, his mother said, and stooped to pat
his curly head. "Always remember that
promise dear, and mothers heart will
know no fear. But if ever you see a boy
who thinks that drink will give him joy,
tell him what happened on our farm and
the stuff that did our hens such harm
they say and say as if you knew, "What's
bad for hens must be bad for you.

From Fredericktown League, sent in by
Oletha Chapman.

GUARD YOUR THOUGHTS

By Carl Bush, Cassville, Missouri

We should not commend ourself. If we
are ready to think we are superior to the
other fellow, then we are just a little
puffed up.

For God, who commanded the light to
shine out of darkness, hath shined in our
hearts. To give the light of the know-
ledge of the glory of God in the face of
Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen
vessels, that the excellency of the power

may be of God and not of us.

We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair.

Persecuted, but not forsaken: cast down but not destroyed. 2 Cor. 4:6-9.

For as much as ye are manifestly declared to be the Epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward.

Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves, but our sufficiency is of God.

Who also hath made us alive, ministers of the new testament, not of the letter, but of the Spirit, for the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life. 2 Cor. 3:3-6.

AN EASTER CAROL IN TIME OF WAR

The earth is dark this Eastertide,
And filled with fear and pain;

The Horsemen Four, they ride once more,
With Hell fast in their train!

And hearts are wrung with sorrow
For men in mortal strife;

Yet Easter peace doth still increase
Unto eternal life.

For there is joy this Eastertide,
If we have ears to hear

Above the din of human sin

A quiet voice and clear:

"Behold, I live forever!"

One who was dead still saith,

"And hold in hand My command

The keys of hell and death!"

Yea, bright the light this Eastertide,

If we have eyes to see!

For Death and Hell, they know full well
How vain their victory,

Since Christ the Lord hath risen

To break their ancient sway,

The Easter dawn but shineth on

Unto eternal Day.

THE OPENED GRAVE

And when they looked, they saw that
the stone was rolled away" (Mark 16:4).
The Darkness, Shame, the Cross, all past:
The "Third day" has begun;

The light upon that opened grave is Resurrection's SUN.

The ONE whom Death had tried to keep,
And bind with iron bands!

Has burst its fetters, and come forth,
freed from its ghostly hands.

The Prince of darkness, powerless, tries
In vain to hold his prey:

God's CHRIST is risen! And angel hands
have rolled the stone away.

Death's prey has passed beyond its grasp;
"O Death, where is thy sting?"

O Grave, thy victory's vanquished now,
by God's almighty King!

No more thy powers can terrify,

ONE Greater now we see,

Returned from the very jaws of Hell,
triumphant, with its keys.

We gaze into the sepulchre,

Lo! Shadows all are fled!

Now glory fills the fearsome place, left
by our risen Head.

The soiled garments, neatly laid,
Bespeak no hasty flight,

But as a CONQUEROR, rising, sheds the
vestures of the night.

That dreadful NIGHT, when Satan sought
God's purposes to foil;

To find his cruel grasp held naught but
grave-clothes as his snail!

Our Risen Lord a VICTOR stands,

His foes around Him fall.

And men and angels worship there;

"And crown Him Lord of all."

Yes, "Worthy is the Lamb once slain;"

And broken is Death's sway.

CHRIST'S glorious work has made us now,
heirs of Eternal Day!

On Resurrection ground, no Death,

Nor night shall ever be.

The power of the King has set His people
free!

MORE BEYOND

COUNTRY STORE INFIDELS often say,
"Well, they hain't no body ever yet come
back from the grave; so what do we know
about life after death?" Have they forgot-
ten—or is it they don't believe—that
Christ came back! After His death and
burial, He was in the tomb three days and
three nights, and then He arose from the
dead! He visited the Land of the Dead—
"He descended into Hades"—and returned

Our Lord spoke with certain knowledge and absolute assurance of fact. He said, regarding His own testimony, "We speak that we do know." (John 3:11). Happy and wise are all they who trust His words.

Not the least of the infallible proofs of the resurrection of Christ was the form the grave clothes, left in the tomb. When Peter and John ran up to the tomb and looked in, John 20:1-9, they saw "the linen clothes lie, and the napkin, that was about his head, NOT lying with the linen in a place by itself." (Vs. 6,7). The loving hands of the Savior had thoughtfully folded that napkin and placed it away from the grave clothes, for the grave clothes were still in the form of his body: but by removing and flattening out the napkin all could SEE that His body was no longer in the grave clothes! When John saw this evidence of the resurrection from the grave clothes "he saw and believed (that Jesus was raised from the dead)." And this belief was entirely from the evidence of the grave clothes and the empty tomb, "for as yet they knew not the Scripture that He must rise again from the dead." (Study John 20:1-10).

GOOD MORNING, GOD

Does your alarm clock irritate you? Do you get out on the wrong side of the bed? Are you catankerous until you've had your coffee?

Try starting your day with God. His presence makes every morning a refreshing, delightful new opportunity. But not only that: meeting God in the morning, makes the whole day go smoother.

Dr. Clark Walker Cummings has said, "If I can do no more in the way of morning devotions than this: I can at least say, as I open my eyes, 'Good morning, God, may I spend this day with you?'"

A busy executive once said, "I am so busy and rushed, that I don't have time to OMIT my morning devotions." He could not accomplish as much, if he did not first take time to plan his day with God.

Develop a technique for your morning devotions. I have found the following plan

Most helpful: (This plan was suggested to me by a minister and his wife. I have used this plan for a number of years, and discovered a day by day close communion with God, which I did not know before.) Before the day's tasks have begun, I go to my quiet place and take my Bible, a notebook and a pencil. I answer the following questions in writing.

1. Do I surrender this new day to God and will I endeavor to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit throughout its hours?

2. What Bible passage would God have me read? Through what verse does He especially speak to me?

3. What am I especially thankful today?

4. For whom would God have me pray today?

5. Is there any sin or mistake in my life for which I should ask God's forgiveness? Is there any apology or restitution I should make?

6. What would God have me to do today?

When We Pray

I think it would be easy,
Our Saviour to obey;
If we were always faithful,
Whenever we would pray,

And when we are consistent,
Sincere in every way;
In asking for our blessings,
That's really when we pray.

Like humble little children,
Who ask for what they may;
From father and from mother,
In this way we should pray.

If we were just as trusting,
And worshipped as they;
I believe we'd please the Saviour,
Whenever we would pray.

Now hear the words of Jesus,
As He shows us the Way;
"Your Father knows beforehand,
Your needs before you pray."

"Just see the grass and flowers,
in beautiful array;
His children will be cared for
Like these if they really pray."

And if we pray in secret,
As Jesus said one day;
Confess that we are sinners,
And be humble when we pray,

Our Lord will hear in secret,
And we, in that Great Day,
Will receive great blessings,
If in this way we pray.

Just pray without ceasing,
Can we do that? You say,
In our daily avocations,
Do we have time to pray?

But this is done by living,
Just right in every way;
Our lives to God we're giving,
Thus, by our deeds, we pray.

Rev. Jas. W. Guthrie
605 1/2 Main Street
Dallas, Texas

Subscribe to "The Gem"
\$1.00 per Year

COMMUNISM AND THE "WORKER" —

Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce recently returned from a tour of Soviet Russia. With the pro-Red virtually in control of the press and the radio, very few informed persons have the opportunity to tell the truth about the enslavement of the worker. However, much can be read between the lines in Mr. Johnston's article in the Oct. 1944, "Nation's Business." (Article entitled, "A Business view of Russia.")

Mr. Johnston says they call the Soviet system "State Socialism". (Same as in Germany where they call their system, "National Socialism," or "Nazism," for short.)

"The average worker," he says, "receives 800 and 900 rubles a month (a ruble is 19 cents)." This sounds like good wages, \$160 or 175 per month, but when you figure the BUYING POWER of 800 or 900 rubles, it amounts to about FIVE CENTS A DAY in our money.

Mr. Johnston says that in the non-rationed stores, "A SECOND-HAND SUIT OF CLOTHES COSTS 3,000 RUBLES; a pound of sugar 400 rubles; a pair of shoes 2,000 rubles."

A second hand suit is worth about \$5.00 and it takes a Soviet worker about four months to buy such a suit. That makes his wages about \$1.25 per month, or 5c per day. He must work two weeks for a pound of sugar which makes his salary in that realm about one-half cent per day in that wonderful worker's paradise (????) where the government owns and controls the means of production.

Where did Russia get those second-hand suits? The native Russians don't have any usable suits to discard. Are these the suits Americans recently donated for Russian relief and now the Russian worker must work four months for one? I'd like to know, wouldn't you????

SO THE NAZARENE IS DEAD

"So the Nazerene is dead,"
Caiaphas the high priest said.
"His wonder-working deeds are o'er,
He will trouble us no more.
May blasphemers such as He
Perish on the shameful tree,

And our holy Temple's law
Be kept free from every flaw;
For the Temple must have sway
Till heaven and earth shall pass away."
"So the Nazerene is dead,"
Caiaphas the high priest said.
"So the Nazerene is dead,"
In his palace Pilate said.
"Good His words and just His life,
But the priests who stirred up strife
Said His followers would be
From imperial Rome set free.
Vain their plotting and their care—
All the yoke of Rome must bear—
Rome that will forever stand
Mighty lord of every land."
"So the Nazarene is dead,"
In his palace Pilate said.
The Temple now has passed away,
Ended Rome's imperial day.
But the Nazerene still lives,
Peace to myriad souls He gives—
Lives in gentle words and deeds,
In all that meets the spirits needs,
And the cross on which He died
By His death is sanctified;
Hosts in many lands acclaim
The Crucified One by His name;
In their faithful hearts are seen
The ever-living Nazarene.
Priest and Pilate both have said
That the Nazarene is dead.
False their wisdom—false their lore:
He lives now and ever more.

William E. A. Aron

THE TWO PARDONED MEN

A shamefaced employee was summoned to the office of the senior partner to hear his doom. The least that he could expect was a blistering dismissal; he might be sent to prison for years. The old man called his name and asked him if he were guilty. The clerk stammered out that he had no defense. "I shall not send you to prison," said the old man. "If I take you back, can I trust you?" When the surprised and broken clerk had given assurance, and was about to leave, the senior partner continued: "You are the second man who has fallen and been pardoned in this business. I was the first. What you have done, I did. The mercy you have received, I received. God help us all."

—Christian Endeavor World.

BLANKS

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

These blanks are $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ inches, and are suitable for framing.

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

Price 5c each or 6 for 25c

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES

Beautiful Baptismal Certificates, $8\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{4}$ inches, with a four colored lithographed river scene and beautiful vine border, are now available at The Free Will Baptist Gem, Monett, Missouri.

These are in books of 50, stubbed check-book style.

Post paid \$1.00

THE GREAT DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE

By William Evans

This volume is intended as a ground work or text book in the study of theology and is a very careful and painstaking setting forth of the great doctrines of the Word of God. It has been used for years in a number of Bible schools and training institutes for Christian workers. Adopted also for group Bible class, or individual use.

275 Pages, Cloth Covers, \$1.50

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Dunn - Wolfe

Neatly Fitted in Loose-Leaf Notebook Covers

A loose-leaf series of 50 lectures outlines on the conduct and activities of the minister, both in the pulpit and out, and in every department of church work.

Dr. Dunn was the founder of the old Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Michigan and Dr. Wolfe recently closed THE SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE which was "The only Free Will Baptist Correspondence School" for nearly 50 years.

Only a Limited Supply
 Price, post paid, \$1.00

A HISTORY OF THE BIBLE

Mrs. Copp, A. M., B. D., L. L. B.

An Excellent Book for Young Ministers

A VERY HELPFUL book. The author is the widow of Prof. John S. Copp of the old Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Michigan some thirty or forty years ago.

Cloth Bound — 180 Pages

Neat in Appearance

Only a Limited Supply
 Price, post paid \$1.00

Subscribe to "The Gem"
 \$1.00 per year

Order from "The Gem" Monett, Mo.

Order from "The Gem" Monett, Mo.

Price List and Order Blank

Free Will Baptist Sunday School Supplies

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Class Book No. 1 (for Beginners and Primaries) | 25c each \$..... |
| Class Book No. 2 (Juniors, Intermediates, Young People, Adults) | 25c each \$..... |
| General Secretary's Book No. 6 | 75c each \$..... |
| Large Wall Card (Six Point Credits), Form 8 | 35c each \$..... |
| Information Card (Six Point System), Form 9 | 20c per 50 \$..... |
| Individual Report Slips, Form 10 | \$1.50 per (pad) 1,000 \$..... |
| Class Report Envelopes, Form 11 | 75c per 100 \$..... |
| Request Slips, Form 12 | 20c per pad of 100 \$..... |
| Monthly Report Blanks, Form 13 | 50c per pad of 100 \$..... |
| General Secretary's Report Blanks, Form 14 | 15c per pad of 25 \$..... |
| Convention Report Blanks, Form 15 | 75c per pad of 50 \$..... |
| Superintendent's Report Blanks, Form 16 | 40c per pad of 25 \$..... |
| Visiting Report Card, Form 17 | 25c per 50 \$..... |

IMPORTANT

Please order all supplies by form number. Be sure to state the correct number and amount desired. Enclose a check or money order with each order.

Order from "The Free Will Baptist Gem," Monett, Missouri

FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Published Monthly

\$1.00 per year

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

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

The six-volume edition of Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary is available to you again, after being out of print for many years. This new edition contains the Scripture in full, not to be found in the one-volume edition, and the exposition is more detailed; also it has the more readable original type. By comparison, the exposition of the four Gospels in this six-volume set takes 486 pages against 171 pages used in the one-volume edition.

The retail price of this new six-volume edition is a reasonable \$25.00. If you have awaited this purchase opportunity for years, we are ready to supply you with the set after November 1. You will not be able to secure it immediately from any other source.

Send your order for this great six-volume Bible commentary, to the Free Will Baptist Gem.