

# The Free Will Baptist Gem

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

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## Perhaps Today

"Ye turned to God from idols, to serve the living and true God; and to wait for His Son from heaven." I.Th. 1:9-10.

Perhaps today the clouds will part asunder,  
Reveal a glory brighter than the sun,  
And we shall view with transport, joy and wonder,  
The Hope of Earth and Heaven's Beloved One.

Perhaps today the world's last taunt shall grieve us,  
And Satan, foiled, his final dart shall cast,  
And all our flesh's frailties shall leave us,  
And disappointment evermore be past.

Perhaps today from weary beds of anguish  
God's suffering saints shall breathe their final sigh,  
In glory rise, no more on earth to languish  
To meet their great Deliverer in the sky.

Perhaps today the trump of God resounding,  
Shall wake the sleepers from their beds of clay,  
And we with them our longed-for Lord surrounding,  
Shall see His glorious face,—perhaps today!

Arthur Gook—Missionary in Iceland,

"So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand." Luke 21:31.

The Lord is certainly coming!. No less than on 317 occasions is the fact of it, in the New Testament alone, given distinct mention. The date when it is going to be is never mentioned. Nevertheless, the time when this wonderful event should be expected to begin its unfolding, is very clearly indicated always. The disciples never asked their Lord what would be the date when He was to return here. What they said was: "What shall be the sign of Thy coming?" The Lord plainly told them.

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#### EDITOR

Rev. C. B. Dees

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# GOSPEL SERMONS



## Is the Altar Scriptural

Pfc. Clarence Hearron, U. S. Army

In this day of modernistic advancement and achievements, there are varied notions and ideas concerning the whole Bible. These ideas are sometimes dangerous to the advancement of our Lord's Kingdom.

There is a belief, which is being widely circulated today, that God will not hear the prayers of an unsaved person. Consequently, the altar, or "mourners bench," has been branded as unscriptural and of no value.

Those who hold this view define repentance as of knowledge of sin and a turning from sin. But repentance means more than that, in my opinion. I believe that repentance includes:

1. Knowledge of sin. Since this is agreed upon by most everyone no need for argument is visible.

2. Sorrow for sin. "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation." 2 Cor. 7:10. Sorrow such as this is not sorrow for one's self, but is a sorrow of the heart in realizing one is an offender of God and has transgressed His laws.

3. Confession of sins to God and not to man. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Prov. 28:13. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Rom. 10:13.

4. Turning from sin. "Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning." Joel 2:12. "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light . . ." Acts 26:18.

Of course, it is difficult to separate these steps of repentance, because repentance takes place in the heart. True repentance, however, will include the steps mentioned. The heart of the penitent is then ready to accept Christ and be justified, as the publican who prayed. "God be merciful to me a sinner," was justified —by faith. The Hebrew word for repentance carries with it a meaning of weeping and mourning. This must be the attitude of the heart, for it is the heart that needs to be cleansed.

How, then, can anyone mock at a church which has retained the altar? Yet it is being done. Some say that the "mourners bench" is an addition to God's plan of saving men and women. Let us look into this a little farther.

When John the Baptist was baptizing, he told the people to repent. He did his preaching either before or after he baptized. The logical conclusion is that he baptized those who heard him preach repentance. Surely no one would have been baptized without knowing what John preached. He demanded that people repent and many "were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins." Matt. 3:6. John's baptism was the baptism of repentance. Whom did he baptize? Those who confessed their sins.

"And behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed." Matt. 8:2-3. The meaning of worship to the Jew was to bow down before what was being worshiped. This leper seems to have knelt before Christ and asked to be cleansed.

ed. Does that compare favorably with the altar? I think so.

The Greek woman, Mark 8:25-31, came and asked Christ to cast forth a devil from her daughter. She besought him says the Bible. Her daughter was made whole.

Most of the miracles which Jesus performed upon the sick and lame were done so after He was asked. These people were seeking the Lord while he could be found. There are many instances in the Bible of people asking and then receiving.

Turn with me to Jonah 3:7, "And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; let them not feed nor drink water; but let man and beast be covered with sack cloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands." Here is a Biblical example of repentance. God did not destroy Nineveh, either, because He heard the prayers of those wicked people.

"But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned. He is convinced of all, he is judged of all: and thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth." 1 Cor. 14: 24-25. Here an unbeliever is mentioned as being convicted of sin (secrets of his heart made manifest); and falling on his face and worshipping God. It looks like Paul believed in an altar.

Can a person be saved without kneeling at an altar and weeping and moaning? I believe he can, because repentance and

faith takes place in the heart. One can be saved anywhere at any time if one meets the conditions. When a man is ready to be saved, God is ready to save him.

I sincerely believe that an altar where people may come and repent and accept Christ should be left in the Churches. They have proved their worth and are certainly scriptural.

Find a church that is modernistic and is cold and formal where the divinity of Christ is doubted, and that church will not have an altar where penitent men, women, boys, and girls may come and seek the Lord.

Free Will Baptists, this is a challenge to us. Today, people want to go to churches where the Lord may be found. Shall we keep the altar and be called a "peculiar people," or shall we take the road others have taken and leave the scriptural altar out of our churches? I think the altar is one of the best places there is for people to come and be saved. Whether in the city or the country, if people will humble themselves, the Lord will lift them up.

Is the altar scriptural? I believe it is. Why, then, have so many left the altar out of the churches? Does it mean that Satan has gained a strong place in the sanctuary? The devil wants people to believe that God will not hear sinners. That is his way of keeping them under bondage.

Again I say this is a challenge to Free Will Baptists to keep the altar and present a Christ, no longer on the cross, but in heaven where He acts as the one Mediator between God and man. He is the only hope for this war-torn sinful world. Shall we do it?

## Gods plan of Redemption

Rev. J. A. Davidson Antlers, Oklahoma

The law of Spirit life Rom. 8:13", For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye through the spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." Now this is a very plain statement, who is Paul writing to? v. 1, those that are not under condemnation, who are walking after the

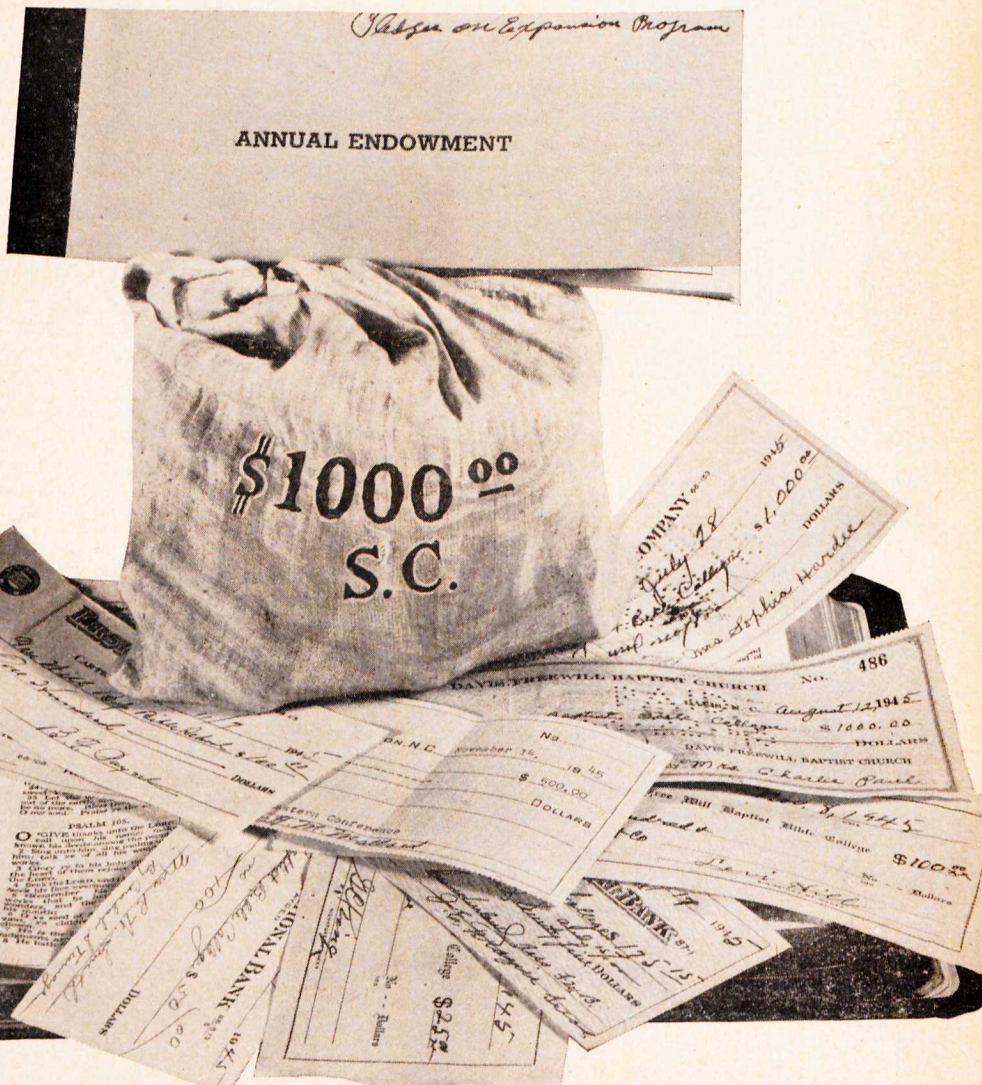
spirit. Would you affirm that Paul was not warning Christians against spiritual death? You surely know that all must die a physical death, and too, Paul was not writing to dead folks. Dead in sin, it is being preached that the commission given the apostles Mark 16:16 affirms the Christ-

ians eternal salvation. However I want you to notice the word (believeth) it denotes continuing in belief. Supe, if one continues in the faith he will be eternally saved. The term (believeth) goes beyond the term (believe.) I once believed things that I do not now believe. It has been said and is at least true in part, that folks practice what they believe. If you are sick and you believe in medical aid, you get a physician, and take his treatment, now according to definitions faith is that you believe, and if you have faith in God, you practice what God tells you to practice. And John wrote by the instruction of the Lord, Rev. 22:14, "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." So you see the premises is to the faithful only. John 5:24, is another text that is used to try to make a backslider feel safe, the same verb is used in that statement and we admit that the Christian who practices faith will not come into condemnation, but I want you to notice that Paul wrote by the inspiration of the Spirit of God. Rom. 14:23, "Whatsoever is not of Faith is sin." Sin to some? To the one that practices it to be sure. Again it is being taught that there is no power in Heaven or earth that can separate us from God. Now if such teachers would stay with the Bible it would not be so ridiculous, for it is a fact that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16. You surely would not affirm that all the world will be saved, the scripture to which they refer is Rom. 8:38-39, but honestly I want you to study v. 39, "Nor height nor depth, nor any other creature," are you not a creature? Can you not see the word (other) excludes you in the statement, you are the only one that can separate you from the love of God. Let us study the truth as it is revealed in the book of God. James 1:13 "Let no man say when he is tempted. I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:" now you know, if you know anything, that when it enters your mind to commit sin, that is temptation, and God is not responsible for that temptation, it came from satan and if you

carry out the thought and commit the sin then you are responsible for the sin. Notice v. 14. "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed:" this proves beyond any doubt, that any Christian can separate themselves from God. Some may question our logic on the word drinketh and want to know what we do with the term drinketh. John 4:13, "Jesus answered and said unto her, whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:" you may say if the word drinketh means continuing to drink, then if we had all the water that we could drink in this life would we get thirsty? Yes, you remember the story of the rich man, there is no doubt but what he had all the literal water that he could drink in this world, but you must remember he was very thirsty in the world to come. Mark 16:24. One silly question that we have been asked is after one is born of the Spirit, can they be unborn? Answer, no but they can die. How does a child get out of his father's family? They are not unborn, they die. The child of God is born of the Spirit then he is a member of God's family, his name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life in Heaven, if he does not sin unto death, he will live forever. But John wrote 1 John 5:16 "If a man see his brother sin a sin, which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life, for them that sin not unto death, there is a sin unto death; I do not say that you shall pray for it." Anyone ought to know that if a Christian can commit an unpardonable sin in this life, he will not be lost, he is already lost death again in sin. Jude said twice dead, plucked up by the roots. see Jude v. 12. The Apostle Peter calls them cursed children, which have forsaken the right way. 2 Peter 2:14-15. Personally I can see the doctrine of once in Grace always in Grace in only one light, and the Apostle Peter gives the light on the teacher and the pupil. v. 19-20 "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption; for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought into bondage. for if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein and overcome. The lat-

ter end is worse with them than the beginning." Reader I want you to notice that the backslider is entangled in sin but the apostate is overcome, let us study v. 21 "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than after they have known it, to turn

from the holy commandment delivered unto them. v. 22, But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, the dog has turned to his own vomit again, and the sow that washed to her wallowing in the mire." Apostasy is a Bible doctrine from beginning to end, the truth (if you receive it) shall make you free.







## Our Bible School



Rev. J. R. Davidson, Business Manager, Free Will Baptist Bible College

The time for a school to grow is when it is young. This analogy is exhibited in all forms of life, both plant and animal. The time for a Christian to grow is when he is young; the time for a preacher to grow is when he is young; and the time for a church to grow is when it is young. Age is averse to being pushed, it is more static than dynamic.

The Free Will Baptist Denomination is among the oldest Christian organizations of the United States, and its age and traditions are manifestly hindering influences all too frequently. But the National Association is an infant organization, potent and aggressive. We are in the habit of thinking of the National Association as a general organization composed of subordinate constituent bodies within the several states, and it is desirable that this trend of thought constantly deepen and expand. The real life and force, however, of the National Association abounds in the devotion of an ever increasing number of Christian men and women who appreciate those larger achievements that are impossible without a consolidation of sacrificial service and money.

Life grows after the inside-outside sequence. The progress which we have made as a people in recent years reveals this order. God has laid His hands upon individuals and has directed them in paths of service. He directed Miss Barnard to India; the Willeys, the Dodds, Miss Yeley and Miss Van Syoc to Cuba. He has made His will known to others who are to follow in missionary service. He has stirred the hearts and inclined the wills of thousands in Free Will Baptist churches throughout the country. The cry "Awake O Free Will Baptists" is being heard from hundreds of pulpits, Sunday school rooms, auxiliary and league assemblies. A revival of faith in the cohesive ability of Free Will Baptists is in evidence.

### MONEY SHOWS FAITH

The picture herewith is an offering which exclaims the love and foresight of many Free Will Baptists. Out of a firm faith in the revealed Word of God as the only message of salvation, they have spoken by a deed that cannot be gainsaid. All money is real money in God's hands, and every Free Will Baptist of sincere convictions will find in this offering a challenge. Look at these checks! You might even like to read the names of their makers. The bag actually contains \$1000, the entire amount of which was given by Free Will Baptists of South Carolina. Observe the Annual Endowment check pad, which represents the method by which approximately half of the funds of the Bible College are realized. We give thanks to God for our Sisters in the Lord, Mrs. Sophia Hardee and Mrs. R. W. Smith; for our brethren, Levi Hill, B. F. Payne, and G. C. King; for the Cumberland Association of Tennessee; and for the Free Will Baptist Church of Davis, North Carolina. Our people in the great state of South Carolina have challenged Free Will Baptists in all the states. They resolved to raise the 1945 quota for the expansion of the college, and they did it! Is it too much to say, "Others can do as well!"

The Bible college does not maintain a field force, only a business manager-treasurer. It is expensive to operate collecting organizations; therefore, since we really mean business, may we urge that every minister of the denomination, every Sunday school, every auxiliary, and every league, together with all quarterly meetings and union meetings respond to the needs of the Bible College with offerings and individual gifts as freely as the Lord may lead.

We have purchased an additional building of approximately the same size of the administration building, and this will

greatly facilitate the efficiency of the college work; but our list of applicants for admission at the opening of the spring semester already predicts a congestion problem, not as much as in the past but nevertheless sufficient to result in loss to many of our students.

A new wall picture (28" x 14") of the Bible College, including the building recently purchased, is now available and will be sent free of charge to those who desire to post them in their churches.

More than half of our student group in the spring will consist of men and their wives. These men expect to become pastors of our churches, and their wives leaders and teachers in various phases of the work. The housing situation in Nashville is a major problem, and rental property rarely ever obtainable. Our married students are challenging the denomination to provide apartments in which they may live while pursuing courses of training in the Bible college. Other institutions have recognized the deserts of married students and have spent tremendous sums money as a means of providing living facilities for them. Some of our best material is to be found among this class of students. Shall we give them a chance to prepare to serve the cause that so greatly needs their service? Yes, we need more property; we must expand; the time to grow is now.

The following statement will reveal to our people in each state their standing as relates to the 1945 quota allotted to them for the expansion program of the college:

State	1945 Quota	Credit	Bal. due for 1945
Alabama	\$1000	\$124.60	\$875.40

Florida	500	205.50	294.40
Georgia	1500	545.96	954.04
Illinois	1000	93.20	906.80
Kentucky	750	17.45	732.55
Michigan	1000	65.00	935.00
Mississippi	500	70.50	429.50
Missouri	2000	116.93	1083.07
North Carolina	4000	4836.67	
Ohio	1000	56.50	943.50
Oklahoma	1000	59.75	940.25
South Carolina	1000	1298.00	
Tennessee	2500	550.14	1949.86
Tennessee	2500	550.14	1949.86
Texas	1000	254.83	745.17
Virginia	750	10.00	740.00
West Virginia	500	87.12	412.80

The above figures reveal the fact that two of the states; namely North Carolina and South Carolina are well over the top. It should be remembered that the 1946 quota calls for the raising of 30% of the total allotted to each state; hence these two states will have a nice balance at the close of 1945 to apply on the 1946 quota. We are sure, however, that these states will not confine themselves to the raising of the amounts allotted for each year. South Carolina is driving to finish up the entire quota for the next three years during 1946. The two Carolinas, Missouri, Georgia, Texas, and some of the other states have definite plans for raising the quotas allotted to them. Surely the allotments are easily within reach of every state, we have from now through Dec. 31, 1945, to finish the 20% which should be raised this year. Come on, preachers, and lay the matter fairly before your people and let us all go over the top as have North Carolina and South Carolina.

## The National Association

### ENTERPRISE DEPARTMENT

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

Where are our Free Will Baptists and what are they doing? There has arisen a call from our people to the Lord for great-

er blessings. But as a people we have not stopped to count or keep a very good record of what we are doing through the



Lord's leadership. I am of the opinion that there are thousands who have not bowed their knee to Baal. How many times hearts are blessed and hopes revived when people see through our church papers, records and reports of souls being saved, people coming to Christ, the Cross, and the Church.

Records and reports have always been stressed by our United States' Government. It is a source of strength to know what is going on all over the states. If we, as a denomination, knew all the good things being done by others of our denomination, we would be greatly encouraged. We would know how many are ready to meet their Lord. We are warned "be ye also ready," but do we have the record made that will prove we are ready. To be ready for a visitor and to joyfully look for or expect the visitor are two different things. We are not only to prepare to meet our God in the world to come—but prepare and meet Him here day by day. "Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of the Lord." "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." It is possible to be worked up over the coming of the Lord without being stirred about the Lord who is coming. One is an event, the other is a Person, and it is the Person who makes the event. Looking for something to happen is one thing; looking for someone to come is another. Yes, have a good program. Keep accurate records and reports but these are dry as dust unless there is joyful expectancy of the person who makes the program. That would be like the bride more interested in the trousseau and the wedding trip than in the groom himself. We are not to be just agents to an event but looking for some Person to come on the train when the train does arrive. Not only does the second coming of Jesus Christ mean preparation (records and reports) and expectation but also purification. "And every man that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself, even as He is pure." This being true then it calls for separation from everything that would hinder our records and reports that He will judge in that day.

Every work will be judged, so—"what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness." Godliness or God-like-ness is to keep a record. You might not have an angel to keep the records, but surely the ministers are responsible for seeing that records are made and reports given on time.

Finally, we have a duty to the outside world. We must evangelize. Not only to keep records and reports of activities—but work toward a greater report. If we are not gathering souls with Him, we scatter abroad. It is time for us to awake out of sleep. For now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. It isn't enough to sit on the shore and discuss how many we have caught—how much to Christian Education, Foreign Mission, etc., we have given—not even discussing the signs of the times, when we ought to be driven by the signs of the times to launch out into the deep and let down our nets for a draught. I know it isn't pleasant to keep records, but we are not called to do the easy or the pleasant thing but the essential. So do not hang a sign over your head—"Please do not disturb"—but be disturbed as to how our records and reports are made. God help us not only to appear zealous for the work—but to live and do our religion by living prepared, and expectant, purified and separated lives. Keeping on working, witnessing, and winning with Christ, if so I think a great revival will spread.

I have appointed a State Statistician where ever I know of Free Will Baptist. Will you cooperate with them.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

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Marie Hyatt, State Treasurer

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The Great  
Commission  
— Our Mission



## Woman's Auxiliary Department

The Whole  
World  
For Christ



In II Cor. 13:5, we find these words, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves."

In these closing days of 1945, men in the commercial world are busy taking inventory of their stock, itemizing their assets and the value of each item. They are also taking stock of their liabilities, in order that they may discover the flaws, or mistakes in their previous management. How much more do we, as Christian women need to take stock of our assets and liabilities in our religious lives? We should strive to learn how strong our faith is, in our Lord and Master. We should weigh our love for Him and for one another. How strong is our prayer-life? How dear to our hearts is the work He has given us to do? Are we in "one accord" as to our sacrificial service? Do we have and practice all of the christian graces, as given us by Paul, the Apostle in the 5th chapter of Galatians, or by Peter in II Peter 1:5-8.

Let us deal honestly with ourselves, "as unto the Lord", for He is our partner in this blessed work of winning the lost to Christ. When we accepted this partnership with Him, we formed a new "unit that we might work with Him and for Him, combining our lives and our efforts with His in the accomplishment of His interests." This not only applies to individual Christians, but as a church, or an auxiliary of the church. A corporation is a legal association for business transactions, or that of being united with another body in the forming of new groups, or organizations in order that a certain enterprise may function to advantage, and become a great asset to those most concerned, as well as wielding a greater influence in the promotion of the cause at large. This holds true in the lives of all of us who desire to see Christ's kingdom extended in the earth.

In taking stock of our liabilities, we should be careful to learn where we are weakest, that we may be prepared to "fight the good fight of faith", and to "build up our walls of defense. Whatever mistakes we have made in 1945, let us use them as a ladder on which we can surmount every difficulty, and attain a higher standard of christian living and service, through the divine guidance of the Holy Spirit. In this New year just dawning, God is handing us a new book, with three hundred and sixty-five clean, white pages. We will fill those pages one by one. Should we live to see the close of 1946, and we check up accounts, I wonder if we will have to bow our heads in shame at what we find there. God is keeping accounts with us also. He is dealing honestly with us, and will give us our just reward for all service that is well rendered.

In our New Year Book of Programs we shall find plans, by which we are to work during the year. We shall find twelve lessons, or programs for our study courses from month to month. We shall find the duties of the various officers, as well as other items of vital interest. I hope that each officer, from the National Auxiliary on down to State, District and local, will study carefully their specific work, and endeavor to put their plans into execution, for unless we work our plans to the utmost benefit of all, we shall fail to live up to the highest and best interests of the kingdom work of our Lord. Let us keep in mind that we are partners, or "co-laborers together with Him" in the extension of His kingdom, and that "It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful." It is a blessed privilege we have to labor with Him, being led by His Holy Spirit and to know that He never fails us, although much we may fail Him, and show our

lack of interest in Him, He is ever ready to rescue us from all manner of evil. Let us be like So. Paul in Phil. 3:13-14, "But this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I PRESS toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Jesus Christ.

May the New Year bring joy, as we have not known before, in a yielded and consecrated life to our Lord and Saviour, and to a deeper sense and appreciation for His great love to us.

Some of us have had letters from Rev. and Mrs. Dodd, telling of the great need for a "jeep" in Cuba. You doubtless saw an article in the Baptist Paper, and also in the Gem, from Mrs. Eunice Edwards, who is not only the National President of our Auxiliary Convention, but is the Third Vice-president of the Women's Auxiliary Convention in the state of Missouri, calling on her people in that State to rally to this need. I come to you, as the Mission Chairman of our National Woman's Auxiliary Convention, calling on all local, District and State Mission Chairmen, to get this great need before your people, and let's raise the funds for our Missionaries. They are having to waste many precious hours because of the slow methods of travel in Cuba. They have to depend on slow Busses, antiquated trains and horse-back to reach their preaching points. With a "jeep" they would be able to carry the gospel much faster to the Island of Cuba, and reach places, many of them perhaps, that they would never reach otherwise.

We must not fail to supply this great need of theirs. The Lord is opening doors and giving us many opportunities to carry out His Great Commission, and if we fail, Woe be unto us!

The King's business requires haste, and what we do, we must do quickly.

If we can raise the necessary funds by the middle of January, we can purchase the "jeep" at a reduced price through a friend of the Willey's. He is having two sent over there for another Mission, and we can have ours sent at the same time. This friend is to send the two the latter part of January 1946. Let us not waste

any time in raising the amount needed. When you read this article, start at once to secure funds. While we spent huge amounts of money for Christmas, in giving gifts unto men, may we make a special gift unto the Lord, by giving something that will help to carry out the Great Commission.

Mrs. K. V. Shutes, Third Vice President of W. N. A. C.

We sincerely hope that our women will heed this call for a jeep for our Cuban Missionaries. Mrs. Shutes, Mrs. Edwards and others are vitally concerned in securing sufficient funds with which to purchase the jeep, to be used in the spread of the gospel to lost men and women.

There is no reason why we should not come to the rescue with our tithes and offerings, and make it possible for our Missionaries in Cuba to have better facilities for travel. We are ALL called to service in foreign fields for the Master, but helpless hands are stretched out to us from across the water, asking that we "Come over and help them" by sending of our means, we are filling our place in this great work, which should be counted a blessed privilege on our part, and the only way that many of us can answer the call for foreign service. May we give cheerfully, knowing that "freely we have received, freely we should give."

Alice E. Lupton, Editor of the Auxiliary Department in the Baptist.

## FREDRICKTOWN, AUXILIARY

Dear Gem Readers,

Just a word from the Fredericktown Auxiliary. We are happy to report the Lord is still blessing us in our efforts. We are truly thankful for each blessing He has seen fit to send our way. We desire to grow closer to God and closer to each other that we may be more worthy to be called children of God. We do realize what a privilege it is to worship Him and only ask for an humble place in His

service. I am sure it is the desire of each of our hearts to be in the center of His will and be led out into greater service that we may lead more souls to Jesus. We know that the harvest truly is ripe unto harvest, but the laborers are few so we ask your prayers that each of us may be led out by the Lord into His work. Our prayer is that we may be willing to say, go, or do anything that will further the cause of Christ and sincerely desire your prayers.

President, Sister Bessie Baldwin  
Corresponding Sec., Oletha Chapman

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### NORTH ZULCH, TEXAS

On a recent evening the women of the North Zulch Free Will Baptist Church met to reorganize the Woman's Auxiliary. The Lord marvelously blessed and much interest was manifested by those present.

The meeting was opened with an inspiring devotional, consisting of a hymn "I Love to Tell the Story", prayer by Mrs. Margaret Morton, and a Scripture reading and comments from 1 Corinthians 3:9 by the pastor.

Mrs. Alvin Halbrook spoke briefly on the purpose of an Auxiliary and the duties of the officers. The meeting was presided over by the pastor, Rev. Alvin F. Halbrook, and after prayerful consideration, the following officers were elected: President — Mrs. Alvin F. Halbrook  
First Vice Pres. — Mrs. Arlie Adams  
Second Vice pres. — Elizabeth Stewart  
Third Vice pres. — Patsy Morton  
Fourth Vice pres. — Mrs. Margaret Morton

Fifth Vice pres. — Mrs. Luther Adams  
Recording Sec. — Mrs. Homer Halin  
Treasurer — Mrs. Travis Hibbitts

The Auxiliary will meet twice each month in the homes of the members. The Auxiliary has high hopes of accomplishing much as "laborers together with God."

Mrs. Alvin F. Halbrook

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Lying covers a multitude of sins—temporarily. Moody.

A Guide Book for W. A. .... 15c

Designed for your use as a Woman's Auxiliary worker, is this new 1946 Guide Book which was authorized by the W. N. A. C. while in session at Middlesex, N. C. This is a new and revised edition of the MANUAL of METHODS, with an additional chapter covering the proceedings of the 1945 Annual Convention. It is a book you will use with increasing pleasure and profit throughout 1946. so please place your orders now, TODAY with

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### A LETTER FROM THE DODDS

Since I am aware of the interest many of our people have in the Cuban School of Missions, I am going to devote this month's article entirely to the school, and its surroundings. Let me state in the very outset that Free Will Baptists have something on the island of Cuba in this school of which to be justly proud. Nor do we need to be ashamed of our facilities with which we are carrying on this educational program. While we, perhaps, could not carry on in the states with what we have here, we get along magnificently with it on the island and already we are enjoying returns from the investments in training the Cuban young men and women for the carrying of the Gospel to their own people. Please bear in mind all the while that the standards in Cuba so far as living and housing are concerned, are drastically lower than those in the home land. To be sure, we are separated by only a few miles but if you could be here for one day and get a slight glimpse of the dire poverty that abounds among the poorer people you could readily understand what we mean when we say that such things as higher living standards are out of the question for the average Cuban. Cuba's society recognizes only two classes—the rich and the poor. The rich are very rich and the poor are very poor.

"Los Cedros de Libanos" or The Cedars



of Lebanon (the name of the Seminary in Cuba) is located in a region known as the Cangre. The Cangre is in the midst of the tobacco growing section and also produces quite a bit of fruit such as oranges and guava. The school is fifteen minutes by bus from the city of Pinar Del Rio which is used as the buying center for supplies of all kinds. It is approached by a drive through an orange grove and as the road winds around up to the campus one gets a bird's eye view of the entire countryside. Off to the northeast the mountains loom up forming a beautiful purplish haze against the skyline. The majestic royal palm can be seen everywhere and seems to serve as a border for vast stretches of scenery along the way. To the southwest the land rolls away in gentle reaches that tang of greenness and verdure. Banana plantains line the fence rows and arroyos and some of them are just beginning to put out the small stalks of fruit. The fence posts can be seen budding and growing everywhere because they are made from a wood that continues to grow when severed from the main trunk of the tree. These serve as a constant source of fence posts. In the fields men and oxen move slowly to and fro, tilling the land as did those of olden times. The shrill staccato of the Cuban reaches ones ears as he shouts at the clumsy brutes which serve him so faithfully, yet so slowly. Off to our right as we near the school sets a small Cuban hut. This is the home of Cecelia, a faithful Christian who has been converted a short while. He celebrated his birthday only last week and Mrs. Dodd, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley and I were his special guests. They served the favorite Cuban dish, "arroz con pollo" or Rice with chicken. From this home we can see the thatched roofs of the Seminary. All the people in the neighborhood refer to the school as "our seminario" and any of them would go their limit for it. Entering the school grounds we make our way through the orange grove and at last come to the main building.

On the campus are located five main buildings, all thatch covered. This thatch (let me explain) is made from the long

fronds of the royal palm and serves as roofing material abundantly in Cuba. The larger building directly in front of us in the girl's dormitory and dining room. At the present time the kitchen is housed in a small annex to this main building but a new one is under construction and will soon be completed. There is also a classroom in this building. To our right is the place of worship, commonly referred to by the Cubans as "The Temple." It is a small chapel with a concrete floor. The sides are walled up about three fourths of the way to the top. Immediately behind the Chapel is the home of the principal of the school, Rev. Josue.

Down to the left of the main building is a small two-room house, painted with white wash and trimmed in celestial blue. This is our home, and humble though it may be, it is veritable heaven to us because we are happy in it. The boy's dormitory is located some distance from the other buildings but is typically Cuban.

This year there are twenty two students enrolled in the seminary. Of this group there are 11 young men and an equal number of young women. The course of study requires five years to complete and since the school has only been in operation three years there are three groups. The newest group is known as the prep class. They are groomed for seminary study which will be the second year of their stay in school. The second year group is of course farther advanced and more is expected of them. The third year group is the senior group at this time and like any other senior group in any other school they are proud of the fact that they are seniors. The school spirit among the students is unexcelled and the fellowship which exists is wonderful. It would serve as a worthy example for any group to follow. None of these boys and girls have been converted very long and their zeal and knowledge makes one wonder and marvel at what the grace of God can do. Not only are they a consecrated group, they are also a willing and studious group and we are expecting great things of them. Among the number are those who have come from the most humble homes. One young lady became despaired of liv-

ing and tried to take her own life just a short time before she was converted. One day she heard the Gospel, was converted and soon thereafter came to school. Today she is one of our most promising students.

The day for the students at the seminary begins at 6:30 A. M., which is arising time. The morning chores are completed and Cuban coffee is served at 6:45. From 6:45 until 7:15 is devotional time, after which breakfast is served. The morning chapel service is conducted at 8:00 o'clock and is very much like a similar service in our own college. Classes begin at 8:30 and continue until 11:30 when they are suspended for noon and s'esta time. There is one more class in the afternoon and at 2:30 all classes are over for the day. Then begins work time

and everyone takes a hand. Each individual has a particular task assigned and he knows exactly what to do. The girls take care of the cleaning and cooking while the boys take care of the outside work. No one dares begin work without first praying so a brief prayer meeting is conducted before work begins. Such singing as you have never heard is done by the students as they go about their work and to hear them you would think they were not even thinking of work. At 5:30 the "quit work" bell rings, at 6:00 P. M. supper is served and immediately thereafter study hours begin, lasting until 9:30. Lights out bell sounds at 10:00 P. M. Thus goes the typical day at the seminary "Los Cedros de Libanos."

To Be Continued

## MISSOURI STATE TREASURER REPORT

Marie Hyatt

December

### State Unified Fund

Leadington S. S. ....	\$1.99
Flat River Church ....	53.99
Desloge Church ....	40.44
Hazel Creek Church ....	36.35
Jewel Church ....	6.75
Monett Church ....	31.57
Sublette Church ....	10.35
Merl's Chapel Church ....	4.00
Myrtle Church ....	25.00
Total .....	\$210.44

### Foreign Missions

Shibley's Point Mission ....	\$1.00
John W. Adkins ....	50.00
Amity Church ....	21.00
Merl's Chapel S. S. ....	11.66
Hickory Grove Church ....	2.48
Fowler Union S. S. ....	3.50
Mrs. Orene Rader ....	1.00
Monett Church ....	7.00
Monett Jr. League ....	1.50
Mine La Motte Church ....	4.06
Union Light S. S. ....	23.25
Happy Circle S. S. Hazel Creek Union ....	5.00
Mountain Valley Church ....	28.75
Hickory Grove Church (Haddam, Kans.) ....	3.08
Green Grove Church ....	31.00
Central Ave. Wouan's Auxiliary (Okla. City) ....	10.00

New Harmony Church .....	20.00
Rock Chapel Church .....	41.98
Mt. Olive Church .....	4.17
Shibley's Point Church .....	1.55
Reported by Kenneth Turner:	
St. Louis Third F. W. B. Church .....	46.67
St. Louis Southside F. W. B. Church .....	26.17
Berkley City Church .....	11.64
Richwoods Church .....	10.05
Aulsbury Chapel Church .....	10.07
Irondale Union Prayer Band .....	22.12
Leadington Church .....	15.00
Mine La Motte Church .....	15.10
Mill Creek Church .....	10.35
Twin Oak Church .....	10.24
Copper Mines Church .....	10.40
Fredricktown Church .....	29.57
Union Light Church .....	17.20
Old Bethel Church .....	9.41
Old Bethel Church .....	21.30
Blacker F. W. B. Church (Haddam, Kans.) .....	
Total .....	\$537.27

## Educational Fund

St. Louis Third F. W. B. Church .....	\$36.34
St. Louis Southside F. W. B. Church .....	3.15
Fredricktown Church .....	8.40
Richwoods Church .....	6.00
Desloge Church .....	14.05
Mine La Motte Church .....	6.00
Copper Mines Church .....	6.15
Mr. and Mrs. Myron Hyatt .....	6.00
Laverne Miley .....	1.00
Hazel Creek Union Church .....	35.35
Rev. O. A. Dobbs .....	1.00
Sublette Church .....	10.50
Rev. Archie Cooper .....	1.00
New Harmony Church .....	7.80
Ella Gregroy .....	1.00
Mrs. Dan Gibson .....	1.00
Mrs. Alta Mikel .....	1.00
Total .....	\$145.75

## Jehoida Chests Fund

Copper Mines Church .....	\$2.00
Hazel Creek Union Mission .....	3.00
Total .....	\$5.00

## Superannuation

Monett Church .....	\$4.75
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## Home Missions

St. Louis Third F. W. B. Church .....	\$19.93
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## Jeep Fund

Rev. and Mrs. E. T. Phillips (N. C.) .....	\$5.00
Mrs. Nettie J. Hart (N. C.) .....	1.00
Bethel Woman's Auxiliary (N. C.) .....	1.00
Total .....	\$7.00

# CHURCH NEWS



## JEEP FUND

We are glad to report several contributions for the Jeep. I hope all our people will be impressed with the need of the Jeep for our Missionaries and respond at once to this worthy cause, so we may get it to them at once in order for them to be able to fill their appointments more conveniently.

We all can't be missionaries, but we can all have a part in helping those that the Lord has called in His service in the foreign fields. I think our Missionaries are worthy of all that we can do for them. So let's buy the Jeep.

The following was received in December. Let's make it better in January.

Belview Church, Leeds, Ala. ....	\$25.00
Gladys Pierce, Kenby, N. C. ....	1.00
Bethel Church, Oriental, N. C. ....	27.61
Missionary Society, Davis, N. C. ....	40.00
Women's Auxiliary, Kenby, N. C. ....	5.25
Mrs. Gladys Davis, Mershon, Ga. ....	5.00
Mrs. Agnes Brewton, Mershon, Ga. ..	5.00
C. B. Brewton, Mershon, Ga. ....	5.00
Mrs. Ella Lovering, Colquitt, Ga. ....	5.00
Clarence Vincent, Winterville, N. C. ...	2.00
Miss Clara Bloss, Florence, Ala. ....	5.00
Miss Thelma Bloss, Florence, Ala. ....	5.00
Rev. & Mrs. J. B. Bloss, Leeds, Ala. ..	10.00
Total for December ....	\$140.86

Yours in His Service

Rev. J. B. Bloss  
Leeds, Alabama

## OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Dear Gem Readers:

This has been a busy month for our church, as it has seen the resignation of our former pastor, and the calling of our new one.

Bro. Staires, who has been our pastor for the last three and one-half years, has heeded the call to become the field man for the State Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Ringling, Okla. We feel deeply the loss of Bro. and Mrs. Staires, but we also un-

derstand the need of a man of his capabilities in the orphanage work. Bro. Staires says he has given considerable thought and prayer to the matter, and feels that he must accept the position, even though it will mean considerably less pay.

Our new pastor, Bro. McCage, comes to us from the Free Will Baptist church at Bristow. In Bro. McCage, we have already discovered that we have an able pastor, as well as a worker among young people. On the first Sunday night of his pastorate he visited our League class and promised the full support of his time and effort to the League.

We have received several additions to the church since our last report. One old couple entered our church from the First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, one of the largest churches of its kind in the southwest.

We feel deeply the need of your prayers, and help us pray, also, that our orphanage will go over the top, and be a shining example of what Free Will Baptist—with the help of God, can accomplish.

Pastor, Rev. McCage  
Reporter, Fred Potter

## TURLOCK, CALIFORNIA

Dear Gem Readers,

We had a wonderful Quarterly Meeting at Lindsay. All of our churches were represented and every one seemed so happy.

I have been to Richmond this week and plan to go to Winters Saturday. We are laying our plans for a great work in California.

May God bless His workers everywhere.

Rev. A. B. Talbert

## HOUSTON, TEXAS

Since taking over the pastoral care of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Houston it has been a very busy time. The Lord is blessing in a marvelous way, we have just finished a new Parsonage, and



now we are working on our Christmas program. This little article is just to let you have a word from us that you may have our address. We are grateful for every department of the Church, the League, Auxiliary, and the Sunday School. You will be getting more news from our Church Reporter later.

Rev. Bert Franklin Rogers  
4400 Brady Street  
Houston, 11, Texas

### HICKORY GROVE CHURCH

The Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church, near Haddam, Kansas celebrated the seventy fifth anniversary of its organizing on December 16, 1945. All day services were held, and at 11 o'clock Sister Ada Grover Reiger, who accepted the call to the ministry from this church, delivered the address, a genuine home-coming message.

At the noon hour all enjoyed the dinner that was served, and especially the large birthday cake that occupied the center of the table.

At 2 o'clock services were resumed with the local pastor in charge. Special music formed an impressive part of the service with Brother James Eichman singing "The Lord's Prayer" and "The Church By the Side of the Road." The history of the church was read as prepared by Sister Iva Eichman, and letters were read from former pastors, and members who were unable to be present. The remainder of the afternoon was given to talks by the visitors.

The evening service was given over to the Blackwood Quartette from K M A at Shenandoah, Iowa, who presented a full program of Gospel music.

The church was organized December 13, 1870 by Reverend William Marks, in a log school house that stood near the site of the present church building. Services were held in the school house for several years; then a church building was erected which stood for about 25 years, then was destroyed by tornado. The present building was erected on the foundation of the former one.

The church has a good Sunday School, an active Young Peoples' organization, and a Woman's Missionary Society. All departments of the work are progressing steadily

under the leadership of the Reverends Vernie and Mary Wellbaum, who began the pastorate here October 1, 1945. Reverend Kenneth Turner recently closed a successful meeting in which 6 souls accepted Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

The membership desires the prayers of all God's people that the church may continue to send out the light, and bring souls to the Lord.

### LEAGUE RALLY

Dear Gem Readers:

We the First Mission Association League wish to report another successful League Rally, when convened with Wewoka Church, Jan. 6 1946, where Rev. Marvin Doss is pastor.

The weather was bad, and several were ill with the flu, which made our League Rally fall off in number considerably. In spite of all the devil could do to hinder the service the Lord was there in a marvelous way.

Rev. D. B. Hellard brought the morning message, it was very inspirational. His text was, "It pays to be a Christian."

After a marvelous dinner was served by the Wewoka church, we went into our afternoon service. Our sponsor, Bro. Strauther Yocham took charge. After some good songs and prayers, our president, Bro. Austin De-Garnett took charge. Letters of report were read and approved from different Leagues.

Wewoka church put on the entertaining program. It brought out a very good lesson about "being good neighbors." Each church rendered a program consisting of a song and reading. Wewoka church earned the program banner and Drumright the attendance banner.

Two of our out-standing Christian boys Raymond Lee and Cleo Banks were with us at our Rally. They have recently been discharged from the army. We are looking forward for more of our service boys to be home soon.

We desire your prayers that our League work will prosper for the Lord.

Mrs. Ava Hellard

### FAITHFUL STEWARDS

Mrs. Marie Hyatt

Stewards are those that dispense the

truths entrusted them, not giving of their won. As "laborers together with God," He has entrusted into our hands work to be done for the promotion of His work. To do this, we must enlist others to help us. During this month of January each society is to have a special membership drive to enlist every woman of your church in active Christian service.

Faithfulness is required as we strive to be stewards for God. He has entrusted a sacred trust to F. W. B. women as "Jesus Calls Us" to do service for Him. May we accept the admonition of Paul to Timothy, "keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called." Remember, we are stewards, not owners. The Lord says, "Occupy until I come." We are saved to serve not to sit.

### "WHAT GOD HATH PROMISED"

God hath not promised  
 Skies always blue,  
 Flower-strewn pathways  
 All our lives through;  
 God hath not promised  
 Sun without rain,  
 Joy without sorrow,  
 Peace without pain.  
 But God hath promised  
 Strength for the day,  
 Rest for the labor,  
 Light for the way,  
 Grace for the trials,  
 Help from above.  
 Unfailing sympathy,  
 Undying love.

Annie Johnson Flint

### PAPER SHORTAGE

The paper shortage is being felt at the Gem, we have been keeping a supply of paper bought ahead all the time, we ordered in November for February delivery. Now they say they will not be able to deliver in February. As the result we will have to be a bit saving with our present stock. May have to use some news print, please bear with us. Editor

### OBITUARY

**MILLS**—John Haadley Mills was born Nov. 25, 1862 at Pleasant Valley, in Bollinger county.

He was united in marriage Jan. 14, 1885 to Emma Jasper Bennett. This union lovingly endured for 61 years. The trials of life were unable to sever it. And the Lord blessed the union with 12 children. Six boys and six girls, three of these having gone on before, the rest including his beloved companion are left to mourn his departure.

The children that are living are: Thomas, Jesse and James Mills; Ruth Smith, Elsie Rolins, Rose Sharp, Bessie Baxter, Grace Snyder, and Dorothy Proffer with Lester, John and Arch having preceded him in death. Also left to mourn his going are six sons-in-law and 5 daughters-in-law, 52 grandchildren and 53 great grand children together with a host of other relatives and a multitude of friends.

He professed a hope in Christ early in life and united with the congregational Methodist church. Later he united with the Free Will Baptist church at Union Light and was always true to his calling as a Christian until the Lord called him home.

We feel that we have lost a companion, a father, a brother in Christ, a friend and neighbor.

But humbly say with the one of old, "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." And count our loss his gain to Heaven.

**STONE**—Joseph Jefferson Stone was born November 15, 1871.

He was united in marriage to Rohema Carolina Moore, March 16 1901. To this union 6 children were born, one preceding him in death in infancy at the age of 8 days. He leaves to mourn his departure, his devoted wife and 5 children.

Orville of near Farmington; Mrs. Alma Henry of Phoenix, Arizona; Arnold of the Union Light Community; Paul of St. Louis 14 grand children, 2 brothers, 3 sisters and a host of friends and relatives. He was converted and professed faith in Christ at an early age in his early married life was ordained to the office of a Deacon of the Free Will Baptist Church of Union Light of which he lived faithful until God called him home.

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..... 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 . . . . .	30c per pad of 100 \$.....
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