

# 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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Monett, Mo., March, 1947.

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## God's Wonderful Love

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"*

While meditating and praying about a message for our paper, my heart has been turned to this wonderful message in John 3:16. Its words are probably better known by every one than any other passage of Scripture. I learned them as a child and have repeated them on many different occasions. They have always been an attraction to me. This verse is sometimes referred to as "the Bible in one verse." To be this it must contain many valuable truths in a few words. Let us look together for some of these important truths, which are for us.

I hope you will examine the third chapter of John to get the background to such an important message coming from Jesus. As we look back, we find Nicodemus, a Pharisee and a ruler of the Jews, coming to Jesus by night. The fact that he came and what time he came is of little importance. His condition and character are of great importance. By his coming he gave Jesus a chance to deal with his needy life. We must COME to Jesus before He can cleanse us from our sins.

Nicodemus was a self-righteous Pharisee. He was a ruler of the Jews. This must have required much intelligence. His very name means conqueror of the people. Therefore we believe he was probably a very strong man. So now we recognize Nicodemus as a strong, intelligent, self-righteous ruler of the Jews. That sounds wonderful, doesn't it? But Jesus saw nothing but a man in need of salvation. His qualities were as

filthy rags in the sight of Jesus. Oh, how we need to see ourselves as Jesus sees us.

Jesus told Nicodemus the way to clean up—"Except a man be born AGAIN, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Nicodemus was surprised and couldn't understand such a truth. His flimsy foundation of self-righteousness was being swept away. Jesus explained that this birth was of the Holy Spirit. Nicodemus still couldn't understand. Then Jesus set about preaching to him many truths concerning the mysteries of God and the plan of salvation. During this sermon by our Savior He spoke the words of the text, which have come to mean so much to us. Let us take notice of some of the truths locked within it.

First of all Jesus says, "For God." This is the first great truth we need to grasp, and grasp it firmly. Here was Jesus testifying OF GOD. Yes, we must first have an unshakable faith that God IS. Nicodemus seemed to need assurance of it. Jesus spent much time in teaching that "God is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Are we like Nicodemus, or do we believe in God?

Then He said, "So loved the world." Here are two more very important truths. The word "world" here comes from the Greek "kosmos," or literally it means mankind, that is, you and me. Therefore we are in that sermon to Nicodemus. But Jesus says God SO LOVED. How wonderful this truth is and how thankful we should be for it. I sometimes think it must be impossible for God to love us the way we carry on in our ungratefulness, and unrighteous-

ness. We murder, steal, lie, cheat, hate, make war, and do all manner of sins. Yet Jesus answers us, "For God so loved the world"—you and me.

Now look at this blessed gift—"that he gave his only begotten Son." Yes, God gave. He gave for you and me. He gave because He loved us. He gave the only Son He had. We cannot give a love even similar to that love. Someone says God gave because, if He had asked the worth of His gift, we would not have been able to pay. But Jesus plainly says it was because God so loved us. He loved us so much that He gave the most priceless gem of all, the Pearl of great price, His own Son and our Savior.

Here is our part—"that whosoever believeth in him." God left something for you and me to do. We must exercise faith in Jesus whom He gave. That is for everyone. Whosoever will may come. It is an individual matter. If we miss Heaven, it is our own fault. God has made Heaven so easy—"should not perish." How this promise should ring in every heart! Surely it is the deep desire of every one to avoid destruction. We see and know of the failure, death, and decay of the body. Therefore these words of Jesus should sprout forth in salvation in every heart; for He promises that we who believe "shall not perish."

And now He says, "but have EVERLASTING LIFE." The wonderful climax to the promises and truths of the text. It speaks plainly enough. Our belief in the Gift of God, our Savior, will not only keep us from perishing, but will lead us out into everlasting life. Remember that this promise is to "whosoever believeth in Him." The GIFT and the PROMISES are to you and me. Sinner friend, think of it, believe it, accept it, and live it. Christian friend, TELL IT. —Rev. Lloyd Jeffreys.

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Eld. B. F. Brown, Acting Editor.

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#### APPRECIATED HELP

It takes six to eight days to get  
an issue of the Gem all set up and  
printed, and ready to mail out.

We work all alone until the type  
is all set and the forms made up,  
ready for the press; then Bro. Does  
comes down from Aurora and does  
the press work. He comes at night,  
after his day's work is done at Aurora.

After the Gem is printed, Brother  
O. T. Allred comes in to help fold,  
address and wrap the papers, getting  
them ready to mail.

Both these brothers work willingly  
and without any pay—we appreciate  
this help very much. And both are  
loyal to our denominational interests,  
and to the Lord's work in particular.  
I wish we had many more like them.  
And may the Lord add His blessing.  
—Editor.

#### OKLAHOMA F. W. BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

Dear Gem Readers: Last week,  
March 3rd, we met on our regular  
meeting date, which is every three  
months, at our F. W. B. Children's  
Home.

#### ORPHANAGE BOARD

W. W. Hunt, 634 N. Louisa,  
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Bro. and Sister Rex Wetherman  
have charge of the Home and are

doing a fine job of it.

At our meeting at the Home \$150.00  
was subscribed for our station wagon.

We are very proud of our children;  
any church that would like to have  
children for a program should get in  
touch with Bro. & Sister Wetherman  
at Ringling, Oklahoma.

—Jack Hopkins

#### NOT FICTION, BUT FACTS

If your article or report is not in  
this issue of the Gem, perhaps you  
failed to write it, or forgot to mail it.

We'd like to give you a bigger, bet-  
ter paper, if we had more manuscript  
to fill it, and more subscription  
money to pay for it.

We'd like to print the Gem on bet-  
ter paper, but just can't get it.

What the Gem needs, in order to  
grow and become all you expect it  
to be, is your hearty co-operation  
and your support.

Our note at the Bank, for \$408.00,  
has been reduced to \$360.—since the  
last issue of the Gem we have paid  
\$48.00 on it.

Receipts for the purchase of the  
stock at the Gem office, as follows:

Ralph Hoyt .....	\$6.00
Mrs. Grace Lawson .....	5.00
Rev. T. C. Ferguson .....	1.00
Rev. O. T. Allred .....	5.00
Rev. Harry Beatty .....	4.00
Rev. B. F. Brown .....	4.00
Rev. Lloyd Jeffreys .....	4.00
John Bough .....	4.26
Millie Dotson .....	1.00
Mrs. J. W. Allred .....	5.00
Rev. Arlie Hoover .....	1.00
Mrs. Samantha Fowler .....	5.00
Mrs. Lizzie Turner .....	5.00
Cave Spring Ass'n .....	28.00
Rev. Bert Hall .....	4.00
Jack Hopkins, Okla. ....	5.00
<b>Total receipts .....</b>	<b>\$87.26</b>

Paid Bro. Does .....	\$34.26
Paid on note .....	\$49.00

<b>Total paid out .....</b>	<b>\$83.26</b>
<b>Balance on hand .....</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>

Friends of the Gem, we are all re-  
sponsible to help the Gem to grow.  
Now is the time to HELP!

—Editor

# Go Into The Deep!

By Rev. Sherman H. Oakes, West Gastonia, North Carolina.

*"Launch out into the deep, and let down your net for a draught"*

—Luke 5:4.

The secret of success in anything is, heroic adventure, for cowardice can never cause success. No one ever launched out unless he, or she, had the courage of faith. Be sure you are right, and go ahead. Jesus said, "If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, nothing shall be impossible unto you."

Too many play around in shallow water, and never accomplish anything worth while. They are always a failure because they take it easy, and go the way of least resistance. The world and church would be in a helpless condition if every body was like that.

The Apostle Peter said, "We have toiled all night, and have taken nothing." They were shallow water failures. And the church has plenty of that kind today. So many Christians without a vision, as they do not believe anything miraculous. With them seeing is a substitute for believing. Oh, how progress is hindered by their unbelief. See them playing around in shallow water, scared to take a risk. If they could realize it, it is better to try and fail than never try at all. If they could see the fact in the psychological poem:

"Then your courage should appear  
You'll succeed never fear;

If you only persevere:

Try again, try again."

America would still be in the wilderness if no one had ever ventured out into the deep. Suppose Columbus had not ventured by faith toward the unknown. If the pioneers had played around in safety, where would we be? It is pathetic to think about the condition we would be in today if Paul had not heeded the Macedonian call in carrying the Gospel to Europe; and from thence it came to us. Where would Christianity be today, if no one had ventured forth? and where could we be, if we had launched out into the deep ourselves?

Many labor, but labor safely. They are at ease in Zion, because their motto is, "Let well enough alone." It is not well enough when the world is going blindly to hell—when half

of the church members were never saved, or have backslidden. When a large portion of Christians are robbing God of His dime out of every dollar they are blessed with: causing God called men and women to have to work at secular employment, when they should be supported so they could give themselves continually to the Word and prayer. It is not well enough until greater things are accomplished; and a revival sweeps America, and floods the foreign countries.

The shallow waters are pre-conceived ideas when our mind is in a rut. Too many expect the usual or natural things to happen. We are like a phonograph record, playing the same old thing over and over. God help us to get out of the rut, and fulfil the promise of Christ: "Greater works than these shall ye do, because I go to the Father." The materialistic mind is shallow water. The know it all crowd says, "I won't believe anything, unless I can prove it in the test tube." You know there are such principles as honesty, faith, virtue, and love, and you cannot prove them in test tubes. We have not gotten further than the elements that God made the universe out of. When we get out of the shallow water, we have a spiritual mind, and then we recognize that the greatest force in this world is in the spiritual realm; and nothing is impossible to them that believe.

No condition is too hard; no adverse circumstances too great; no handicap too binding. Faith makes a way where there is no way. Oh,

if we could comprehend the power and opportunity that is ours we could turn the world upside down—that is right side up. One man speaking of the strength of leverage said, "Give me something to stand on, and a lever large enough, and I can turn the earth over." God has arranged for the earth to turn, and arranged a lever that we can do great things with, and that lever is applied faith. I use the term "applied faith," because the greatest force in the world is no good unless you use it. The Scripture says, "Faith without works is dead." That is, faith that does not accomplish things is not real faith. You can hear dead folks say, "The day of miracles is over." In fact they have always been over for unbelievers. Jesus Christ has never revoked His blessed word, "According to your faith, be it unto you." and, "If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, nothing shall be impossible unto you."

God help us to hang our head in shame, and cry: "I believe, Lord help my unbelief." I made a statement some time ago to my church relative to the building fund; I said: "We need forty-five thousand dollars more in order to build the Sanctuary and Sunday school departments we need." I heard some laugh, and I replied to their skepticism: "God is able to give us fifty million dollars. Statements like that sound absurd to those Christians that play around in shallow water."

They launched out into the deep, and received more than they needed.

Remember what the Apostle Peter said, "Nevertheless, according to thy word."

Get your instructions from the Holy Spirit, according to the Scripture; and "Go thou and do likewise."

## Rods of Power

By B. F. Brown, Cassville, Missouri

*"And the Lord said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod"* —Exodus 4:2.

I used to think when I read the story of Moess in the Book of Exodus, that I would like to be a Moses and do wonderful things for God. Now, since I am better acquainted with God and His purpose with men, and

have a better understanding of the Bible, I realize that I can be a Moses—and so can you. I also believe that I should be a Moses—and so should you. There were perhaps about two million Hebrews in Egypt, suffering great afflictions under the Egyptian slave masters. God heard them crying and saw all their afflictions; therefore He called Moses to go to

Egypt and deliver His people from bondage. Today there are hundreds of millions of God's creation under the bondage of sin, and are sentenced to death; therefore God is calling for men and women who will qualify according to God's will and purpose, and go with His Gospel to bring light to those who are in darkness. Moses had something God could use—and so have we. Every Christian has something God can and wants to use. When God said unto Moses, "What is that in thine hand?" Moses knew he held only his shepherd's crook in his hand; so he answered, "A rod." But Moses didn't think he had any thing that he could use to rescue his brethren from their awful bondage. He had already made excuse to every thing God had asked him to do—for some reason he didn't want to go back to Egypt—did he remember the failure he made forty years before? Anyway Moses seemed to think that he was expected to accomplish the deliverance of his people by his own strength and wisdom, and by his own means; but he soon learned that it was to be accomplished by the power of God.

### A Transformation

At God's command Moses cast his rod to the ground; and God put life into it. Perhaps Moses had used the rod (shepherd's crook) for many years: for he had been herding his father-in-law's sheep for forty years, and the rod was the tool of his calling—the rod was the sign of power. Cast down, it became a serpent; and taken up in faith it became "the rod of God" (Exo. 7:12). But the transformation was in Moses rather than in the rod.

Furthermore, at the Lord's command, Moses put his hand into his bosom: "and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow" (Exo. 4:6). Then the Lord said, "Put thine hand into thy bosom again." And when he removed his hand from his bosom the second time "Behold, it was turned again as his other flesh." The heart ("bosom") stands for what we are, the hand for what we do. The heart and the hand are two things which must be prepared for service; for God's servants must be consecrated—their capacity must be taken up for God; and the hand that holds the rod of God's power must be a clean hand directed by a pure heart. "A good man out

of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil; for of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Luke 6:45).

I think Moses really learned what the Lord wanted him to learn: for when the Lord had finished with him he was a transformed man and was ready to go to Egypt—he made no more excuses, and wherever he went he took the rod of God in his hand—Moses' old shepherd's crook became a rod of power in his hand, for the last forty years of his life. And Moses was, or became the meekest of all men upon the earth (Num. 12:3), and was faithful in all the Lord's house; and the Lord said, "With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the Lord shall he behold" (Nu. 12:3). It proved very profitable to Moses to hear the Lord, obey Him and be a faithful servant; and we are not able to comprehend the great things God accomplished through Moses—he was a great leader and the law was given by him.

### Moses Used the Rod of Power

The Lord was with Moses in Egypt, and said unto him: "Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven . . . and Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the Lord sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground" (Exo. 9:22, 23).

"And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and the Lord brought the east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts" (Exo. 10:13).

When the children of Israel came to the Red sea, and were hemmed in so that there was no earthly way of escape, the people murmured greatly, because there was no human way of escape. It seems that Moses was the only person in all that great multitude that did not fear the Egyptians; and he said unto the people: "Fear ye not, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord" (Exo. 14:13). For Moses knew the Lord would save His people, and destroy the Egyptians. He, holding the rod of power in his hand, was ready to obey when the Lord said: "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward: but lift up thou thy rod; and stretch out

thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the sea" (Exo. 14:15, 16). It is always possible for Christians to go forward when they have fully consecrated themselves and all they possess unto the Lord, and serve Him with all they have. When this is done impassable seas will divide and give a free passage. When we stretch forth our rod of power over obstacles, in full faith, they will be overcome.

The children of Israel journeyed according to the commandment of the Lord and came to Rephidim, and camped there. The place was barren and rocky, "and there was no water for the people to drink." This was a severe test, and the people, instead of asking the Lord to supply their need, fell to murmuring and chiding with Moses their leader. And when Moses consulted the Lord, the Lord said, "Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod . . . take in thine hand, and go. Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink" (Exo. 17:5-7). There is food and drink for the people of God today, as in Moses' time, if they are fed and directed by Spirit-filled men sent of God. The water of life still flows from the Rock that was smitten at Calvary, for all who will come in simple trusting faith.

When Amalek came to fight against Israel, Moses commanded Joshua to gather an army, and promised him, saying, "To morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand" (Exo. 17:9). And as Joshua fought with Amalek he prevailed so long as Moses held up his hands with the rod of God; but when Moses' hands grew tired and he let them down, then Amalek prevailed. Then Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill and held up Moses' hands, with his rod, till the close of that day; and Joshua won a great victory in the name of the Lord. Every God-called, Spirit-filled pastor has a rod of power he must stretch forth so long as it is humanly possible; but if the church is to grow and prosper in the Lord, he must have help from members of the church he pastors—there must be some Aarons and Hurs to hold up his hands.

### Present Day Rods of Power

## (Individual)

Every Christian has something God can use, and wants to use, whether it be talent, gift or property.

Some have talent for music, and are trained in that art—they should serve the Lord by doing what they can to help make the music at their church services what it should be. Thus that talent becomes a rod of power.

Some have talent or gift for writing, and should write, as the Spirit leads them, especially to our church publications—it will help our enterprises to succeed, and what God has revealed to the writer will be food for Christian readers, and may bring light to some who are in darkness—your gift for writing may become a rod of power for God, if you use it.

Some have the gift of prophecy, and should exercise that gift by proclaiming the Word of God, either by preaching or writing messages to appear on the printed page—thus your gift may become a rod of power, and be used to the praise of His glory.

Others have possessions that, when dedicated to the work of the Lord, become rods of power. Anything a Christian owns is a potential rod of power; but it is never really that until it is fully dedicated to the Lord's use. Think now, do you have a rod of power that you are using for His cause? What do you own that is not dedicated to the Lord for His use?—it cannot be a rod of power until it is dedicated to Him, neither can you be fully blest, unless you dedicate your all to the Lord.

## Present Day Rods of Power

## (Associational)

The Missouri State Association has a number of potential rods of power. I say potential because their capacities are not yet what they ought to be, nor what the Lord would have them to be. Of these potential rods we will name five: Our Gem paper, our Youth Encampment, our Mission work, our Auxiliaries, and our School.

Perhaps our Gem paper is the most important and potent of all these enterprises, because none of the others can prosper and fulfill their mission without a paper. And since our paper has suffered a severe setback, all our enterprises have suffered with it. I believe that all loyal Free Will Baptist want to see the Gem grow and prosper, that it may be a bulwark for all our enterprises, and a blessing to all who read it—our Gem must be-

come a rod of power, if our other denominational enterprises become rods of power. At present there are four things the Gem needs: Manuscript (reports, articles, etc), subscriptions, donations for the purchase of the stock belonging to the retired editor and a regular Editor-Manager. When these needs are supplied the Gem can and will be a rod of power.

Our Youth Encampment is promising, but needs help from its friends. It too, if properly supported and wisely conducted, will become a rod of power, bringing rich blessings to our youth, and thus be a blessing to the whole denomination.

Our Mission work is a rod of power, bringing light and life to many darkened souls—every dollar given to missions is a dollar wisely invested. But we can give more, pray more and do more for Missions and realize a more powerful rod of power; and God will bless more.

Our Auxiliaries are doing much good, but here too, is room for improvement. When all of our churches have auxiliaries, all earnestly and prayerfully working according to the commandment of the Lord, then we will realize a more powerful rod of power.

Our School at Nashville, Tennessee has already been a blessing to many of our young Christian workers, and is going on with the good work. But we are not to the top yet. Let us work, pray and give until our School becomes a greater rod of power, and is able to more adequately impart to its students spiritual truths that will be most potent rods of power in their hands when they return back to the field of labor.

## Salvation

By Herbert Conner, Whittington, Ill.

*"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God"*

—John 3.3.

We understand that a birth is for a new creature to come into the world. Jesus taught His disciples in earthly terms and used common things, that they could understand; and we would do well to take an example and not try to use words and phrases that the common people can

not understand. He used the sheep, vine, fig tree, and other things.

Jesus told Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again." Nicodemus had called Him, "Good Master," thinking perhaps, to gain favor with Christ by nice words and influential talk; for he was a ruler, holding a high office, and he no doubt had talked his way into office; but Jesus, knowing his heart, was quick to tell him, "Ye must be born again." This was the best phrase He could use to explain the change that must take place in the heart of man before he can enter the Kingdom of God. Nicodemus thought, like many people of today, that he could get in by good works, or by talking his way in. But Jesus said, "That is not the way: you must be changed from that old selfish nature."

Paul said in 2 Cor. 5:17, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." So it is easy to know when the work is done. Just as a farmer knows that the ground has to be plowed before he can plant the grain; so the Holy Spirit convicts the heart, or breaks it up, so Christ can cleanse it with His blood, through faith in Him (Christ), and instill in him through the Holy Spirit an entirely new nature. His desires and likes and dislikes are changed; the things he once loved he now hates, and the things he once hated he now loves. Now, dear reader, can you truthfully say, according to this plan, that you have had this new birth? If you can't, let me beseech you to call upon God now, while He may be found, and before it is too late.

Oh yes, you may be a church member, and you may have been baptised, you may even hold a high office in the local church; but do you have that new nature? Do you love the cause of Christ better than your social standing, better than your financial affairs? Do you love Him with all your heart? This is an evil day in which we are living.

John said, "It is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists" (1 John 2:18)

Jesus said that in the last days, "Many false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive many" (Matt. 24:11). And I fear that many good people are being deceived today, as to their

*Continued on page eight*

# MONTHLY REPORT NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSION TREASURER

Receipts during the month of February, 1947

Bertie Rogers, Marion, Illinois	\$ 5.00
Letha Brinson, Coleman, Texas	1.00
W. R. Oller, East Vaughn, New Mexico	5.00
Wolverine Association of Mich., by Raymond Riggs	110.01
Lansing Gospel Tabernacle, Lansing Mich.	120.00
Mrs. Marie Starr, Creswell, N. C.	1.00
Elder L. C. Garner, New Port, N. C.	10.00
Union F. W. B. Sunday S. of Johnson City, Tenn.	5.00
Mrs. Goldie Dunn, Hartville, Mo.	5.00
Mrs. Harley Chandler, Niangua, Mo.	5.00
Young People's Missionary Meeting, Stacy, N. C.	5.00
Hazel Bowe, Catlettsburg, Kentucky	5.00
Mrs. Ollie Fawbrough, Neptune, Tenn.	5.00
First F. W. B. Church, Elizabethtown, Tenn.	15.55
Woman's Auxiliary, Bryan, Texas Church	9.15
Mr. and Mrs. Rutha Hardison, Deep Run, N. C.	20.00
Mrs. Sarah ———, Bonifay, Florida	15.50
Mrs. Edwin Roper, Ransomville, N. C.	1.00
Oak Grove Church of Alabama	3.00
Robert Little, Oakman, Alabama	3.00
Mr. and Mrs. Glen R. Wade, Coffeyville, Kans.	25.00
Mountain Grove Church, Mt. Grove, Mo.	10.00
Wewoka Church, Wewoka, Okla.	10.00
Ebenezer Church, Glennville, Ga.	6.50
Greenwood Church of Georgia	59.17
Averetts Chapel Ladies Aid of N. C.	10.00
Claud E. Sawyer, Ware Shoals, S. C.	10.00
Miss Mamie L. Palmer, Castelberry, Ala.	1.77
Pearce's Chapel of Mississippi	26.00
St. Delight Church Auxiliary of N. C.	2.50
Free Will Baptist League of Clinton, N. C., By Evelyn Bearfield	5.00
Mississippi State Ass'n, by L. E. Duncan	70.00
Squire F. W. B. Church, Squire, W. Va.	25.90
Free Will Baptist Bible College League	9.42
Amory Mississippi Church	10.00
Huntsville, Texas Church for Picture Poster Set	4.00
White Oak Church and S. S., Blandenbore, N. C.	4.19
New Hope League of Tennessee	4.89
I. W. B. League of Union Church of Illinois	10.00
W. S. Gardner, Springer, Okla.	10.00
Young People's League of Union Grove F. W. B. Church of Durham County, N. C.	10.00
Mr. William Burgess, Louisa, Ky.	1.00
West Nashville Church, Nashville, Tenn.	20.00
Auxiliary of White Oak Hill Church of N. C.	3.00
Prospect F. W. B. Sunday School of Ala.	10.00
F. W. B. Church of Columbus, Miss.	50.00
Johnny Sykes, Burdine, Ky.	50.30
Maury Ladies Aid of North Carolina	5.00
Clayton, Texas Church	4.40
Union F. W. B. Church, Johnson City, Tenn.	5.00
State of North Carolina by J. W. Alford, Treas.	133.06
Mo. State Association, by Marie Hyatt, Treas.	272.09
From sale of books, "His Name Among All Nations"	96.00
Total	\$1,322.13

The following was given during the past month for the purpose of purchasing Miss Laura B. Barnard a bed springs and mattress in India.

Leadington Church of Missouri	\$10.00
Williams Hill Church of South Carolina	23.00
Auxiliary of Cordova, Ala.	5.00
N. E. Chesnut, Bonifay, Florida	10.00
Little Lamb Church of South Carolina	20.00
Sandy Blains Ladies Aid of North Carolina	10.00

Total \$78.00

The following was given during the past month for the building program at the Cuban School of Missions.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wallace, Kenly, N. C.	\$10.00
Lalra B. Barnard, Kotagiri, South India	10.00
Ladies Aux. Union Grove F. W. B. Church, Durham County, N. C.	5.62
Missouri State Association	3.00

Total 28.62

The following was given, designated as a special gift for the work in India.

Huntsville, Tex. Church, by Jas. F. Miller, Pastor,	\$30.75
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Grand Total \$1,459.50

Winford Davis, Treasurer.

## MISSOURI STATE TREASURER'S REPORT

For February, 1947

### STATE UNIFIED FUND

Mine La Motte Church	\$ 3.13
Carterville Church	10.58
Meris Chapel Church	10.00
Hazel Creek Union Church	105.30
Fredericktown Church	32.00
Monett Woman's Auxiliary	3.80
Monett Church	16.84
Merl's Chapel Church	18.28
Verdella Church	5.10
Total	\$205.33

### FOREIGN MISSION FUND

Aulsbury Chapel Sunday School	9.55
Macedonia Church	16.98
Hannon Church	5.00
John W. Adkins, Kirksville, Mo.	25.00
Golden Oak Sunday School	10.88
Hickory Grove Church	4.66
Hickory Grove Church (Haddam, Kans.)	2.01
Amity Church	10.00
Jewel Church	8.57
Union Light Sunday School	17.08
Shibley's Point Church	1.55
True Blue Class (Neola)	1.00
Neola Church	8.80
Flat River Church	9.50
Monett Church	11.35
Aulsbury Chapel Sunday School	7.30
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Davis, Monett, Mo.	5.00
Doyen Glen, Crisp, Mo.	50.00
Mrs. Wm. Newcomer & Ethel Thompson, Kirksville,	10.00

Concluded on next page



Clarence Dunn, Hartville, Mo. ....	10.00
St. Louis Southside Church .....	.35
Rev. Cecil Campbell, Wheaton, Mo. ....	5.00
Myrtle Free Will Baptist League .....	17.75
Rock Chapel Church .....	13.23
Golden Oak Sunday School .....	6.18
Golden Oak League .....	3.25

Total ..... \$272.09

### TENNESSEE ORPHANAGE FUND

Hazel Creek Union Church ..... \$11.71

### CUBAN BUILDING FUND

Lloyd Warren, Archie, Mo. .... \$3.00

Marie Hyatt, Treasurer.

## STATISTICS SHOW STANDARDS

"Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if you can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; . . . I will get me unto the great men, and I will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the Lord, and the judgment of their God" (Jeremiah 5:1, 5).

Jeremiah had received God's promise to assist him in his work. There were great tasks to perform by all men who were worthy of being called men. Men were needed then; so men are needed now who will hold up a standard—namely, God's Word. Jeremiah cried out against the sins of his day—of insincerity of worship, adultery, injustice, rebellion, and so forth. We see today the picture similar to Jeremiah's day. God is looking for men who preach in the church with a front street appearance, also men in the broad country side churches who use good judgment, and who seek the truth. If you will be God's man, He will speak to you and show you His ways and thoughts which are always higher than man's.

What kind of men can God use to hold up His standard? So many statistics show in our day how the devil is using men to his interests, such as the increase in gambling, prostitution, drunkenness, and divorce. God has His men, but not near enough, who will do things God's way. God uses men who have a heroic spirit, those who will be brave when persecuted and tried. God's men have been the bravest the world has ever known. Thank God for men like Luther, Huss, Wycliffe, and take their bravery as an example for us today.

God uses men of vision—"Where there is no vision the people perish." You must see beyond your own generation and be willing to make a contribution to the next generation. Hold high the standard of God's word. Keep a good record of your work done during this generation—send this record to your different associations, on to the National Association. Too many of our records perish as to the people to which they give an account. May we give a free account to the coming generations. If our young men were willing to die to make men free; let us here in the home churches, states, and denomination join Christ in seeking to make men holy. Yes, it will take courage, you will have to be brave to declare in your circles of service that God expects us to do things in

decency and in order, that really do pertain to records or statistics of our work done.

God uses good men—men who will use God's help in their lives. Ability possesses many in prisons today, they are not in prison because of the lack of brains, but because of the lack of goodness. May our goodness be known of men, letting our lights shine that men might be constrained to also be good. If we keep good records, use good judgment, seek the truth, then God has promised to be with us and make us great. It is better to leave a church with a good name rather than silver and gold. I call upon you to be good by the help of God. As churchmen let not God's wall fall down, His causes suffer, His banner drag in the dust, because of your not being true to Him as a worthy working minister.

God is looking for men in the streets, country side, or wherever they may be found who will work faithfully in the home church, being true to the faith of the family folk, no matter how small be the group. We then will have opportunity to serve the larger group later. In being faithful to God's call, we will soon adopt Augustine's motto, "A whole Bible for my creed, a whole Christ for my salvation, a whole church for my fellowship, and a whole world for my parish." This motto is sensible, we can afford to say and do no less than what it says. Yes, we need some of God's men NOW, and who KNOW. Men who will work NOW, and who KNOW how to work and keep a record of it, and will co-operate in getting the record to the proper hands, even if it is to be found in the World's Almanac.

Free Will Baptists, as National Statistician, I have asked a person in each state to fill out some blanks for me. I can depend on the ones I have asked to do the work. I beg, I plead with you to do all you can to get the best record Free Will Baptists have ever had. Seek the truth, use good judgment, God will be with you in holding high the blood stained cross. If you will preach the Christ of the cross God will honor your work. You will have a record here and hereafter that will be blessed to know.

—Robert B. Crawford, Statistician.

## MERL'S CHAPEL CHURCH REPORT

Dear Gem Readers: We are glad to be receiving the Gem again, to read the reports from other churches, and of the work being done for the Lord in other places. So, of course others are glad to hear of our work here.

Brother O. T. Allred is our pastor, and we feel that God is really blessing us under his leadership. We are thankful for Bro. Allred's life, and for his work here.

We had a revival in October, 1946, and four (4) souls found Christ and four (4) united with the church. The church was revived and helped so much, for which we are still thanking God.

Our church voted to build a cabin at the Youth Encampment grounds, and the greater part of the money needed has been donated in the few weeks since it was mentioned—something else to thank God for. We have so many blessings.

We are planning for another revival soon and a Vocation Bible School this summer. We ask you to join us in prayer; that it might all be done just as God would have it, that we here at Merl's Chapel, and our churches everywhere might always be what God would have us be.

—Aletha Towe (Clerk)

## OBITUARY

**WHITE**—Anna Gaultney, daughter of John and Sarah German Gaultney, was born near Gower, Missouri, October 8, 1876, and departed this life at the home, February 20, 1947, being at the time of her passing, 70 years, 4 months and 12 days of age.

She was united in marriage to Madison H. White, December 27, 1893. To this union was born three daughters: Lew Ethel, Melba and Sarah.

She leaves to mourn her passing: her husband, Madison H. White, and two daughters, Melba White of the home, and Mrs. Sarah House of Gower, Mo., and two grand sons, one daughter, Lew Ethel, preceding her in death. She also leaves a host of relatives and friends; for to know was to be her friend.

She was converted in early girlhood and united with the Christian Church of Gower, Mo., later moving her membership to Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church where she remained an active member and worker for more than fifty years, even in her declining years her greatest pleasure was going to the house of the Lord.

She was a semi-invalid for the past five years, but bore her suffering with patience and fortitude.

Funeral services were conducted at the Mt. Zion Church, February 22nd, by Rev. John McKown, after which she was laid to rest in the cemetery near by, to await the call of the Master, whom she loved to serve.

In her passing, a loving wife and mother is gone from the home; a worker in the vineyard is gone from the church; and a ready friend is gone from the community; but we know that our loss is heaven's gain.

## LEAGUE RALLY

At Carterville, Missouri

March 30, 1947

All Leagues of Indian Creek Association are to take part on program. Everybody invited to be present and help to make this Rally an honor to our blessed Lord.

If any of our churches of Indian Creek Association desire to organize a league, or need help in their league work, will let me know, I will be glad to assist in any way I can.

Geo. LaShum, Field Worker,  
Monett, Missouri, Box 27.

## Price List and Order Blank

### Free Will Baptist Sunday School Supplies

..... Class Book No. 1 (For Beginners & Primaries).....	25c each \$.....
..... Class Book No. 2 (Jrs., Inter., 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 each \$.....
..... 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 or amount desired. Enclose check or money order with each order.  
Order from "The Free Will Baptist Gem," 211 Bond St., Monett, Mo.

### BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES

Beautiful Baptismal Certificates, 8½x5¾ inches, printed in two colors, beautiful border, and suitable for framing. Every Church needs these for a record.

These are in books of 25, and stubbed check book style.

Price, Post Paid..... \$1.00

### BUTLER-DUNN THEOLOGY

Price, Post Paid ..... \$2.00

### Free Will Baptist Treatise

Price, Post Paid, ..... 30c each

### BLANK FORMS

Ministers' License Blanks, 10c  
Ministers' Ordination Blanks, 10c  
Deacons' Ordination Blanks, 10c  
12 Blanks, either kind, ....90c  
These blanks are 8½x11 inches, and are suitable for framing.

Letter forms for Letter from a Church to a Quarterly Meeting, Association or Yearly Meeting, also forms for Letter from an Association or Yearly Meeting to the State Association.

Price, 5c ea., 6 for 25c, 12 for 45c.

*Continued from page five*  
experience; I see people who belong to the church and claim to have had an experience of grace some years past, yet they seem to still love the things of the world as much as do the people of the world.

Oh brother, sister, make your election sure with God. If you are not absolutely sure you have had that born again experience, it is for you. Do you still love the things of this world? Do you attend church services regularly, because you actually love to worship? or do you just go when everything is convenient, and because you feel that you are supposed to go because you belong to church?

Are you trying to deceive yourself into thinking this will save you? Are you born again? No matter what may have happened back some years ago, do you have the experience now? Jesus said, "Not every one that saith, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven: but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Mt. 7:12)

Jesus said again, there would be many that would come and say, "Have we not done many mighty works in thy name?" and He shall say, "Depart from me, I never knew you." So you see, it is not our works but the work done in us by Christ Himself that saves us. "Ye must be born again." May God bless you.