

# 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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## THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE PORTRAYED IN THE BRUISED HEAD AND HEEL

By Rev. J. R. Davidson

*Genesis 3:15. "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman...and between thy seed and her seed: He shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel."*

Doctor Clarence H. Benson says, "From certain portions of Scripture, we are led to infer that the earth was originally created for the dominion of Lucifer, brightest of the angelic band, and when he fell by transgression his dominion became desolation." There can be no doubt his personal loss was greater than he had anticipated, hence his determination in vengeance toward God. The whole of God's creation having been wrecked and demoralized as to be only fit for habitation by such a character as Lucifer, his ground of protest of any plan to recover (redeem) that which was lost in the fall can readily be seen; his fall having taken him beyond grounds of redemption.

Chaos as a fruit of the terrible fall of all creation necessitated a perfect scheme for deliverance, lest God's glory purposed in the creation be lost for eternity. The woman having been the first in the transgression which wrecked the creation, God made her first of his creation to be sanctified (prophetically) looking toward the re-creation, hence the enmity between Lucifer and the woman, his seed and her seed—"He shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Thus the Christmas message is portrayed through the bruised head and heel:

A gracious promise is here made of Christ, as the deliverer of fallen man from the power of Satan. Though what was said was addressed to the serpent, yet it was said in the hearing of our first parents, who, doubtless, took the hints of grace here given them, and saw a door of hope opened to them, else the following sentence upon themselves would have overwhelmed them. **HERE WAS THE DAWNING OF THE GOSPEL DAY.** No sooner was the wound given than the remedy was provided and revealed. In the very

beginning of the revealed will of God in the Book it is written of Christ, that He should do the will of God. Yea, by faith in this promise, our first parents, and patriarchs before the flood, were justified and saved, and to this promise, and the benefit of it, instantly serving God day and night they hoped to come. This message came as to them that were far off, and them which were nigh. The Son of God sent forth, made of a woman, a virgin that He might not be tainted with the corruption of our nature—that this very promise might be fulfilled. Man, sinful and unclean, because he was born of woman is represented by this "seed of the woman," made sin and a curse for him, may be saved from both.

Christ's sufferings and death pointed at in Satan's bruising His heel could only be turned into the victory God purposed for man at the most. Satan tempted Christ in the wilderness, endeavoring to draw Him away from His mission. It was the Devil that put it into the heart of Judas to betray Christ, of Peter to deny Him, of the chief priests to persecute Him, of the false witnesses to accuse Him, and of Pilate to condemn Him, aiming in all this to disrupt the great plan of salvation by destroying the Saviour. In all this our blessed Saviour's heel was bruised, as well as when His feet were peirced and nailed to the cross. Satan had fulfilled prophecy in so bruising His heel, but, instead of destroying our hope it was on the contrary, it was by death that Christ destroyed him that had the power of death.

Satan had now trampled upon the woman, and insulted her; but the seed of the woman should be raised up in the fulness of time to avenge her, and to trample upon him, to spoil him, to lead him captive, and to triumph over him.

"He shall bruise his head," that is, He shall destroy all his politics and all his powers, and give a total overthrow to his kingdom and interests. Matthew Henry so wonderfully expresses it in the following words: "Christ baffled Satan's temptations, rescued souls out of his hands, cast him out of the bodies of people, dispossessed the strong man armed, and divided his spoil: by His death he gave a fatal and incurable blow to the Devil's kingdom, a wound to the head of the beast, that can never be healed. As His gospel gets ground, Satan falls and is bound. By His grace He treads Satan under His people's feet and will shortly cast him into the lake of fire; and the devil's perpetual overthrow will be the complete and everlasting joy and glory of the chosen remnant."

May we, personally, claim the victory won through the bruising of our dear Saviour's heel in the crucifixion, and the deadly bruising of the serpent's head in the resurrection. For our lives in Christ may it be peace, good will, by the undoing of what had been done by sin's devastating work.

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### CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

*Wonderful that He was born in Bethlehem; but more wonderful that He is born in our hearts.*

*Sad that there was no room for Him in the inn; but more sad that there is no room for Him in the inn of so many hearts today.*

*Wonderful that wise men came and presented Him gifts; but pitiful that there aren't more people who will be wise today and present unto Him their lives.*

*Wonderful that the humble shepherds had the privilege of knowing and seeing for themselves; but more wonderful that the poor and humble of all the earth have the privilege of knowing and seeing for themselves today by an eye of faith.*

*Dreadful was the attempt that King Herod made to take His life; but far more horrible are the attempts being made against Him today.*

## THE FORGOTTEN MAN OF THE NATIVITY

By Winford Davis

*Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, . . . while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him . . .*

Matt. 1:19,20.

There is much said about Mary, the mother of Jesus. She is lifted high, exalted greatly, and I dare say sometimes almost above the Son Himself. Great to do is made about her who gave Him birth. Well, in the bounds of reason this is permissible. We are not minimizing on the holiness, virtue, and beauty of the mother. No, not at all. However, on the other hand, we seldom hear a great deal of praise for Joseph. Why? Does he not deserve a great deal of credit? Indeed he does. This is the man who listened and minded God, and in the face of much severe public criticism, no doubt, he went ahead and accepted the position as father of this child whom he knew was not his very own as considering the ties, and the laws of, nature.

Remember, the only word of assurance and reliance Joseph really had was the word from the angel of the Lord in a dream, saying, "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost." Matt. 1:20. Do you not think Joseph was purely human? Surely he was. Just as human as any other man. Is it reasonable to think he never doubted? Surely he had times of doubting. That devil and weakness of doubt has ever been a killing factor in the human family from the days of Adam. No doubt there were times when the dark clouds of doubt and dispondency would hang low over Joseph's life. Oh, yes, Mary has assured me many times over, but, oh could it be she is deceiving me? I imagine I can see Joseph at different times as he goes to

the scroll and studies diligently the words of the prophets of old endeavoring to re-assure himself as to how and the manner of the birth of this child who was to be the promised messiah. Making comparison between the word picture which was drawn by the prophets and that of his present situation. Asking the question over and over, if this is to be the Son of God then why does my life have to be so scandalized. Why this mark of public abhorrence on my home and family life? If I can but find some new light from the words of those of old who saw this even though they lived centuries in the past. Yes, Mary, is kind and good, and endeavors to re-assure me over and over, but Mary is just human. It is natural for any one, regardless of how good they may be in heart and in intentions, if their good name is imperiled to try to shield themselves. Thus I imagine I can hear Joseph discussing this all with himself. But then again this marvelous vision he had in the dream would revive itself anew in his heart and he would settle back into perfect confidence again knowing in his heart that it was all of the Lord. I can hear him say what matters the thought of man or the sentiment of the public so long as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob proves to my inward heart and life that all is well.

Thus it was, no doubt, in the life of this good and just man, and this perhaps tormented him in a measure throughout the years of the growing up of this dear child, Jesus. Time made a difference to be sure, but yet he was always

possessed with this same human weakness as is true in the life of all mankind. Dark doubts just will assert themselves in man's life now and then regardless of his goodness or his great faith. We need not think Joseph was any different to other men. After all he was just a man, and as related to the Christmas story and our yearly celebrations, he is somewhat forgotten. It just reminds us again of the old saying, "honor to whom honor is due." To be sure all the praise is to Him who was to come. To Him who was born in Bethlehem, but as we think on the associated characters we must not forget the sweet spirit and faith of Joseph.



### "THANKFUL AT CHRISTMAS"

*How oft we've heard the story told,  
That Jesus came in the days of old.  
How he was born in a lovely bed,  
And wise men by a star were led.  
But the life he lived was undefiled*

*He was born as any human child  
He came as a way for you and me.  
The beautiful city, someday we might see.*

*As the Christmas season is now here again,  
And we are honoring His great name,  
Should we not be careful to give him thanks;*

*For He gave His life just for our sakes.  
You remember He died on Calvary's Cross,  
And took all our sins upon Him with costs.*

*How very thankful we all should be  
And strive to do more that home to see.*

*We're thankful, dear Jesus, for your birthday,  
That once in a manger as a baby you lay.*

*Forgive, we pray, the sins that you see,*

*We will try, dear Father more like you to be.*

—Mrs. Naomi R. Logsdon  
Thompsonville, Ill.





## "WHY THE EVERLASTING ROW IN THE CHURCH?"

By Rev. Ova Stalcup  
Continued from last month.

**Please Note:** When we speak of failure, we in no wise look up to God but only look upon "that which is under the Sun."

The New Testament Church has only two divinely ordained sets of officers, namely: pastors or Elders, and deacons. The state requires trustees as legal representatives of the corporation. The New Testament makes clear that the chief duty of the pastor or Elder is prayer and ministry of the Word. He is the Shepherd of the flock. He is to lead and feed the flock. He is to keep the flock of God over which the Holy Ghost has made him an overseer. He is to guard the flock against the wolves which will attempt to destroy it. Failure to practice this clear New Testament teaching on the part of professing ministers is one of the major reasons of the "Row within the church." Another thing now practiced by Elders is "telling the deacons where to get off at." The deacons are not responsible to the minister but they are responsible to Christ, and it is clearly taught in the New Testament that they should whole heartedly co-operate with the minister, i.e., as long as he is in accord with the Word of God.

The qualifications and duties of deacons are indicated in the New Testament also. 11 Tim. 3:1-13. In Acts 6, we read of the first deacons. They were men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost, full of wisdom and full of faith. They occupied the position of assistants to the apostles or preachers. They were ordained to look after the "business side" of the church in order to relieve the ministry that they might give themselves continually to the ministry of the Word and prayer. It is failure on the part of ministers and deacons to adopt, pertaining to their offices, this clear New Testament teaching that is "Responsible for the Everlasting Row within the Church." The preacher tells the deacon off, and the deacon tells the preacher off, and both sin in

doing so. The minister has an office unto himself and so does the deacon. The ministers and deacons constitute the head of the church upon earth. They were appointed by Christ. Chosen by Him to take care of God's business here in this wilderness of sin, the world. As Christ did not His own will but the will of His Father, even so, each minister and deacon is to fulfil the obligations and assume the responsibilities that go with their respective offices and in doing so, do not their own will but the will of Him who is their Lord. Here's the head where the row starts, then it spreads to the laity. When the minister comes to understand that he is not to attend unto the business affairs of the church and when the deacons come to understand that they are not to attend to the spiritual business of the church, then the row will begin to cease. A deacon should never attempt to tell a minister what to preach or how long to preach, and by the same token, neither should the minister try to dictate to the deacon. Both should co-operate and counsel with one another. Christ has told both the duties of their offices.

In closing let us glance at the scripture recorded in the sixth chapter of Acts. This scripture speaks relative to deacons and sets forth the requirements to be met before one may grace the office of deacon.

- |          |                           |
|----------|---------------------------|
|          | { 1. Honest report        |
| Vs. 3 {  | 2. Full of the Holy Ghost |
|          | { 3. Full of wisdom       |
| Vs. 5. { | 4. Full of faith          |

Let us examine these requirements one by one:

### 1. "Men of Honest Report"

Grace never condones crookedness anywhere at any time. Men who serve in heavenly things must provide things honest in the sight of all men. These must be men who have established themselves in the minds of those "without" as genuinely sincere and wholly trustworthy. If not faithful in the realm of world business, how can

he be counted as faithful in the realm of the divine? There are two things the church should insist upon.

1. That men chosen to attend to the business of the church not be novices, unestablished in the confidence of those "without".

2. Those chosen to attend to the church's business should be men who have a record of honesty and honor behind them in the daily business contacts which they have with their fellow men.

### 2. "Men Filled With The Holy Ghost"

If, in every place of business trust, the church were careful to follow God's orders they would be saved much sore travail. A man may be ever so capable and ever so honest in his reputation without being right in his heart. There are honest men, men of unquestioned integrity in their every dealing with their fellow man, who are not panoplied for divine service. We may think that spiritual life and power is needed alone in the ministry of the Word and prayer; God thinks it is needed in attending to the business affairs of the church. Only men filled with the Holy Ghost have power for service in attending to God's business. Such men alone adhere to God's rule book, the Bible. Only such men can do the work God wants done. All others make a mess of things. The Lord should rule in every phase of church life. He is head of the building Committee, the Church Finance Committee as well as head of the pulpit.

### 3. "Men Filled With Wisdom"

Wisdom, as this verse proclaims it, is not a wisdom of the world; but a wisdom that God giveth. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God," James 1:5.

What kind of wisdom is that which God giveth? "Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.

For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy..." (James 3:13-17).

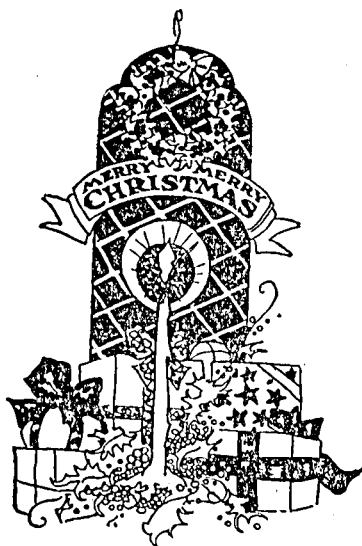
Here is the wisdom (James 3:17) that the church needs in those placed over its business. There is a wisdom that is not from above (James 3:15). It is earthly, sensual, devilish. It tends to "envying and strife." It fathers "confusion and every evil work." God deliver us from such a wisdom.

God says where there is a row in the church the elders and deacons are not using wisdom from above but rather the wisdom that is earthly, sensual, devilish. They don't get their wisdom from God, but rather the Devil. That is rather plain, you say. Yes, dear readers, but it is the truth. I know, for it is impossible for God to lie.

So, my friends, it all adds up to this: we who profess to be God's people do not proceed according to God's Word. If we were very careful to do as his Word enjoins, and seek out men to ordain as deacons who had an honest report from without and were filled with the Holy Ghost and wisdom and were full of faith, that would soon put a stop to the "Everlasting Row within the Church." The sin of the church is disobedience to the Word of God. The result of disobedience to God's Word has ever been and will always be "confusion and every evil work." Dear reader, the church is committing this sin today and that is the reason for "The Everlasting Row within the Church."

The church is a blood bought, blood washed and chosen vessel. Unto her has been committed the Holy Oracles of God. The church as a whole is responsible before God. What she sows she will reap. God is a holy God. The church should keep His house holy and undefiled. Just one thing more: The church should be just as careful in selecting one to grace her pulpit. They should examine him thoroughly relative to his Christian experience, educational ad-

vantages, etc. His background should be examined. If he wrecked the last church he pastored, he will wreck the next one he pastors in all likelihood. If he is a fomentor of strife, he is to be avoided. If he is not progressive, if he is not a soul winner, if he is not filled with the Holy Ghost and wisdom and full of faith. NO church should allow him to be its shepherd. The chances are that instead of God calling him into the ministry, he called himself. The church that calls this type of man for its pastor will just add one more participant to the "Everlasting Row within the Church."



## BOTH OLD AND NEW SONGS For the Church

By Edgar W. O'Dell

Rt. 1, Box 509

Belmont, N. C.

There are some that like and use only the new songs for the church services, and there are some that like and use only the old songs in the church. The old songs of today were once new. I have heard ministers say they believe Paul and Silas when in prison sang Amazing Grace, well they ought to find out when that song was written. There was a time when Amazing Grace was new. I think both have their place in the Church, and when we do not use both, I think we are not doing all for Christ we can in song, and this is why:

In my experience in directing music

for the church, I find that new songs are much better for the beginning of a service. I have been in the work for about 15 years and have tried both. If, in the beginning of a service, you use only old hymns, the people of the congregation will be talking or looking at something or someone else will have their attention, or be thinking of what happened yesterday or something they must do tomorrow, something else has their attention. They have heard the song so much they know it by memory and pay no attention to the message in song and when the minister begins his discourse the songs have not had their affect or prepared the heart for the message, thus it is harder for the minister to get his message across. Also the sermon does not have its full effect on the Christian's or sinner's heart.

But if in the beginning you use new songs for the services, you will notice the congregation stop their conversation or anything they are doing or are interested in and you will get their attention. They will begin to listen to the song because it is new to them they notice the words, in this way they get the message in song. They get their minds and thoughts upon the message of the song and the Christ you are singing about and in this way the hearts of the people are prepared for the message and the sermon has its full force upon the sinner's heart and against sin. Thus the new song has its effect where the old hymn has failed. You minister's, if you used one sermon all the time, even though it were good, how many would continue to attend the services, or how much effect would it have after you used it for a while.

Then, after the service or message, the old song is all that is needed. Just when the old familiar tune brings back memories of other days, the sinner has about made up his mind to give his heart to the Lord. The old hymn then helps him to make the start for Christ and heaven.

When you begin to use the new songs for the first of the service, about the second or third song, the folks may start shouting and sinners begin to come to the altar without any preaching or even a prayer. I have seen this done many a time when Christians would begin to shout and praise the Lord and sinners fall in the altar and be saved. This is always a wonderful

service.

I am for the new songs one hundred per cent, and I am also for the old songs. They both have their place in the church and no service is complete without both. We should use all the weapons we can against sin, and this is one weapon some churches are not using. Let us use all the powers given unto us against the forces of evil.

If you have not tried this, get some new books. Give them a try and see if you don't have better services and larger crowds. Yes, two or three may quit but 25 or 30 will come in their place. Or better still get a good music teacher and have a music school—be sure they are Christian teachers.

You may think I am forcing my point of view. I am not. I am just telling you the truth. There is no place in the church for selfishness. I am not trying to have my way and this should be proof when I give the Word of God on it. Read the word and see for your self.

Psalms 33:3, "Sing unto him a new song." Isaiah 42:10, "Sing unto the Lord a new song." Psalms 40:3, "He hath put a new song in my mouth. Eph. 5:19, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord. Col. 3:16, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom. Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs. Singing with grace in your heart to the Lord."

This is the Bible. Who is right—you or the Bible?

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#### THE OLD-FASHIONED PREACHER

How dear to my heart is the church of my childhood,  
Where I took my first step in the straight, narrow way  
The little white church near the thick tangled wildwood,  
Where Mother and I went each Sabbath day.  
There was no large pipe organ, no high paid soprano,  
The singing was scarcely the best ever heard,  
But the man in the pulpit, divinely commissioned,  
Poured out his whole soul in proclaiming the Word.  
An old-fashioned preacher, a real Bible preacher,

A spirit-filled preacher, who honored the Word.

How thrilling it was to see him in action,

A soldier of Christ with a keen trusty "sword."

Who wielded his weapon with zeal and devotion.

And backed up his thrusts with a "Thus saith the Lord."

No uncertain sound ever came from his trumpet,

His hearers were moved—yea, convicted and stirred.

And bowing the knee in wet-eyed confession,

Accepted the truth as revealed in that Word.

Through this old-fashioned preacher, this full-gospel preacher,

This Spirit-taught preacher who honored the Word.

Sometimes as I list to the ramifications of science,

That twist my poor brain out of shape.

Or hear the consensus of scholarship's findings

Regarding our old friend, the anthropoid ape;

And my mind reels, confused with drives, plans and programs,

And world-federations, toward which we are spurred.

Sociology, politics, internationalism—heard

I sigh for the sermons of my infancy

From that old-fashioned preacher, that soul stirring preacher,

That heart-warming preacher who honored God's Word.

—Contributed by Miss Lillie Drowley.

—oOo—

#### OBITUARY

Joseph Amos Hall, son of Jeff and Betty Hall, was born in Randolph Co., near Elm Store, Ark., April 30, 1891 and departed this life October 14, 1948 at the age of 57 years, 5 months and 14 days at St. John's hospital in Springfield, Mo.

He was married to Dena Dale March 5, 1913. To this union 3 children were born.

He was preceded in death by his father, mother, and one infant daughter.

He is survived by his companion and 2 daughters, Alma Crass of Conway, Mo., and Sadie Grisham of Elm Store, 4 grandchildren, Marilu and Joy Sue Crass of Conway, Mo., and Betty

Jean and Donnie Joe Grisham of Elm Store, three brothers, Johnnie, George, and Andrew Hall of Myrtle, Mo., two sisters, Dora England of Couch, Mo., and Amy Stubblefield of St. Louis, seven half sisters, Mary and Oma Risner of Ravenden, Springs, Ark., Martha Crawford, Rutha Davis, Lucy Morgan, and Nettie Bennett all of Myrtle and Ruby Stubblefield of St. Louis, one half-brother, Wesley Hall of St. Louis, step mother, Mrs. Mattie Hall and three step brothers, Alfred brewer of Carney, Okla., Albert and Ratha Brewer of Myrtle, two step sisters, Amy England and Cora Reynolds of Elm Store, also a host of other relatives and friends.

He was converted and joined the Free Will Baptist church at Walnut Grove August 24, 1913 where he remained a faithful member.

He was a kind and loving husband and father, a consecrated Christian and a true friend.

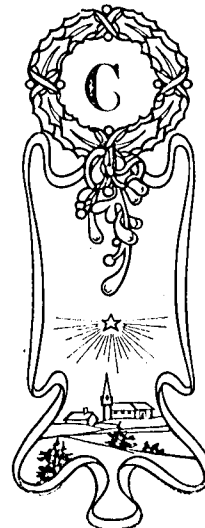
Flower girls were: Una Mae Gisk, Evalena Cox, Billy Sue Hall, Velma Doran, and Lorene Crawford.

Pallbearers were: J. W. King, Paul Doran, Porter Farrow, Gordon England, Clifton Doran and Leo Hall.

The quartet singers were Leonard Clark, Glean Harpole, and Fred Wisheart of Myrtle and Lillian Crass of West Plains.

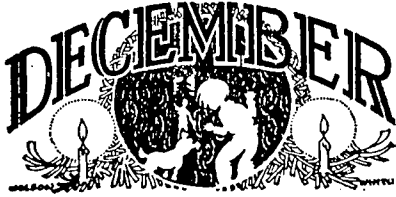
Funeral services were conducted at Walnut Grove Church on Saturday morning at 11 o'clock under the direction of Rev. Harry Beatty assisted by pastor, Rev. Davie Combs.

Interment at Walnut Grove Cemetery with McNabb Funeral Home in charge.





# EDITORIAL



Again we come to the season at which time we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace, and while we celebrate the birth of this great giver of peace, at the same time the world is virtually in the very throes of war. Men cry peace but there is no peace: except in the hearts of those who have truly accepted Him who said, "My peace I leave with you." Yes, Jesus' dying bequest to the world was peace. He had no great estate to leave to His followers. He said, "Not as the world giveth give I unto you." Yet He left something for His people that far exceeds all this material world—peace.

No doubt the great majority of the world at this time wants peace. There are a few war mongers, of course, who are forever trying to start a world conflagration; but the majority of the people of the world want peace. However, while men want peace, they seem not to know how, where or to whom to go to find it in its true reality. It is indeed heart-sickening to watch men in their efforts to bring about or maintain a world peace and at the same time completely ignoring the Prince of Peace.

Talking about world peace let us not be fooled in ourselves. Don't think for one moment that universal and lasting peace will ever come until the glorious, powerful, visible, and personal return of Him who alone is able to bring it about. When Jesus was answering the three-fold question of His disciples when they asked, "tell us when shall these things be, and what shall be the sign of thy coming and of the end of the world," (Matt. 24), among many

other interesting things He said there shall be wars and rumors of wars, nation shall rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom. No where does He intimate that man in his efforts will ever bring about a lasting peace; but rather the contrary, that is, that man will get things into a worse condition so long as he is allowed to hold the reins of world government.

When Isaiah was prophesying concerning the birth of the Christ Child, he said, among other things, that "the government shall be upon His shoulders." Praise the Lord, some day, and it surely will not be long, this prophecy will be gloriously fulfilled. Then, and then only, can we expect a lasting reign of peace.

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It is indeed regrettable to know that some are going about in other states endeavoring to stir up opposition against the National Association, its plans and programs. We feel if these would stop and consider rightly they would cease such activity and in turn would fall in line with the great national body of Free Will Baptists and help move this work on forward for the cause of Christ.

It is nothing short of miraculous the way the Lord has blessed the National Association of Free Will Baptists in these late years. Your unworthy has been very closely connected with its activity all the way through. I feel that I know what I am talking about in these short paragraphs. Great strides were made even previous to the perfecting of the actual national organization in 1940, and then after the organization was

truly perfected in Paintsville, Ky. in 1940 it is marvelous indeed the way the work has gone forward.

This outstanding progress has been very noticeable in every department of the national work. It has been true as concerning the great work of Missions, Christian Education, Benevolence, League, Woman's Auxiliary, and every other part of the work that might be mentioned. The question naturally arises thus: If the National Association is not wholesome and good, and is not carrying on in accordance with His Holy Word, why then this great manifestation of His divine approval on what we are trying to do? Would the Lord so greatly bless something that was in direct opposition to Him, His will and His Word? Think on this please.

Brethren this is no time for segregation. Time is too short. His coming is too near; souls are too precious for God's people to be spending swift passing time in quibbling. The appalling need today is for the formation of a solid front. A united effort. The great programs and plans, and great they are, which have been launched by our National Association need the prayers and cooperative support of every Free Will Baptist member in every nook and corner. Have we not learned our lesson by division, separation and segregations of the past? In the language of one of old, "Let us rise up and build." Yours for the continued progress of our beloved National Association.

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# CHURCH ACTIVITY & EVANGELISM

## Revival at Merl's Chapel and Sunny View

Report of revival at Merl's Chapel and Sunny View Churches.

On October 3rd Sunday our Merl's Chapel Church began its revival with Rev. Cecil O. Garrison of Huntsville, Ark. as evangelist. God gave us a real revival in the church with two souls praying through at the altar and one uniting with the church. God blessed the church not only during the revival but in preparation for it. Two men, heads of families, were saved one at 11 a.m. service on Sunday and one at prayer meeting and since the revival services closed, another father has been saved and has united with the church. This meeting continued two weeks. Everyone appreciated Rev. Garrison's work and messages greatly.

On the 5th Sunday, after being with our Merl's Chapel Church at 11 a.m., then having a baptismal service at 1 p.m. we drove to the Sunny View Church, 12 miles from Lebanon, to be with Rev. Arthur Bailey in a meeting there. We witnessed another victory in the Lord. Eight accepted Christ at the altar, and 10 united with the church. (This is the church where the next State Ass'n. is to be held).

The Lord willing, we will begin a meeting with Macedonia Church near Monett with Rev. H. B. Smith their pastor the 3rd Sunday in November and the 1st Sunday in December with the Happy Hill Church in Laclede County with their pastor, Rev. Henry Long.

Inviting those who read these reports to rejoice with us in the victory God has given and pray for us in each future effort.

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. O. T. Allred  
Monett, Mo.

—oOo—

## REVIVAL

Dear Gem Readers:

It gives us great joy to report a very successful revival meeting held in the first Free Will Baptist Church in Flat River Mo. On Sunday night, Nov. 7, we began a revival, Rev. Homer

Willis of Hazel Park, Mich. being the evangelist. Bro. Willis did not get here until Monday, Nov. 8. We had one conversion on the very beginning night, and all through the meeting souls were saved. God poured out His blessings upon us without measure. I believe this was the best meeting this church has experienced in several years. There were 11 saved in all. A man and wife were saved that live next door to the church. Rev. Willis is a Bible preacher and the Holy Spirit seasoned each message. He made many friends in our church and we are looking forward to having him back with us some time.

The people of the church gave him a shower on Thursday night of the last week of the meeting. And such a shower! I think he got 8 nice white shirts, 14 nice ties, 11 or 12 pair of socks, and a lot of handkerchiefs, a belt and two pair of nice cuff links. We thank God for a church like the First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River, Mo. I have been their pastor going on three years now, and this has been the sweetest experience of all my pastoral work. We have suffered with them, rejoiced with them, and they have become part of our life. It has not been all roses by all means, but there is always some thorns with the roses. We are working to have 200 in Sunday School for Christmas. We ask the prayers of all God's children that we might do His will and glorify His name.

Rev. F. C. Zinn  
306 Cedar St.  
Flat River, Mo.

—oOo—

November, 1948

Dear Christian Workers:

I have been reading the reports of so many good revivals in Mo. and elsewhere I felt a sense of disappointment because there wasn't a report of the good revival the Hannan Church was privileged to enjoy. We had a 2 1/2 week's service closing October 15, conducted by the pastor, Rev. Cecil Campbell, who was with us most all the time, and Rev. Albert Halbrook of Minn. La Motte, as evangelist.

Bro. Halbrook came to the community an entire stranger to almost everyone. When he finished his labors with us, he left with the love and esteem of everyone that met him. Besides their work at the church they went into many homes not interested in the work of the Lord speaking to people about their souls and left religious tracts. There were 6 conversions, all grown folks. One man and lady in the fifties. One dear old man 75 years old. There were 4 baptisms and 2 more to follow and 8 additions to the church and the church greatly revived spiritually. A league has been organized with Bro. Harold Smith as President, assisted by able and talented younger folks.

Prayer meeting has been restored. Our Sunday School is a real inspiration with a corps of able teachers.

The mission circle is responding splendidly to the needs this Thanksgiving season. A barrel of fruit has been shipped to the St. Louis Orphanage, a box of good used clothing to the Greenville, Tenn. Orphanage, and a gift of \$10.00 to our adopted daughter, Nadine Bowman, besides giving many floral offerings, sick cards, and making sick calls.

We are made to rejoice that there is a Heavenly Father willing and able to bless His children everywhere and His loving presence can be felt in every heart.

Just a lay-member of  
Hannan Church

—oOo—

## Illinois Sunday Schools Hold Convention

October 23, 1948 members of twelve different Sunday Schools met at the Union Free Will Baptist Church to begin our fourth year of the Illinois Sunday School Alliance.

Rev. Donald Edwards led the morning Devotional service. His talk was an intriguing and up-lifting one.

Sis. Marie Hyatt from Centerville, Missouri brought the morning message. Sis. Hyatt's message gave each member of the Sunday School Alliance a greater zeal to work for Christ.

In the afternoon, Miss Patrecia



Norris led the afternoon Devotional service. Three Sunday Schools presented some very interesting programs.

We are praying that by next April we can have this Alliance in our tabernacle which is now being built.

We were very glad to have in our presence Miss Delores Hale who is a student at the Free Will Baptist Bible College, and is also our Sunday School Alliance Treasurer. We missed Misses Reba and Maurine Edwards who are also students at the College and are usually present at our Alliances.

We desire prayers that our Alliance will continue to be a blessing to our Sunday School workers.

President, Rev. Wallace Malone  
Clerk, Miss Patricia Norris

—oOo—

### Fifth Sunday Meeting

The North East Missouri Free Will Baptist Fifth Sunday Meeting held its regular session with the Connellsville Church October 31, 1948.

Services were opened with congregational singing and Sunday School at the 10:00 o'clock hour followed by the morning message delivered by Sis. Mildred Gilliam. Scripture lesson was taken from I Cor. 3:5-10. Text: "Laborers together with God." Sis. Gilliam delivered a very inspiring message.

Meeting dismissed in prayer led by Wendell Sevits.

A bountiful dinner was served at the noon hour.

The afternoon session was opened under the leadership of the President, Sis. Alta Mikel, with congregational singing, Take Time to be Holy, and Help Somebody Today. We were then led in prayer by Wanda Gregory and Glen Howard, followed by the song, He keeps Me Singing.

Proverbs 31:10-31 was read as the Scripture lesson by the President. Prayer was offered by Bro. Orval Dobbs and Bro. Archie Cooper.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted. Three auxiliaries reported. They were: Green Grove, New Harmony, and Hazel Creek Union.

It was then voted that the next 5th Sunday meeting be held at the Green Grove Church with Bro. Orval Dobbs bringing the eleven o'clock message and Bro. La Verne Miley Alternate.

A motion was made that the con-

gregation give a standing vote of thanks to the Connellsville Church for the splendid work they have done on remodeling their church. The standing vote of thanks was given.

The following program was rendered:

Song by Green Grove Auxiliary  
Song by Connellsville children's Sunday School Class

Reading, "Through Sunshine and Shadow," by Leona Thompson.

Song by Sharon Lawson, Sandra Summers.

Reading by Wanda Gregory.

Song by Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Summers, and Mrs. Dare.

Song, Kneel at the Cross, by Mr. and Mrs. Wendel Sevits.

Song, On the Jerico Road, by the New Harmony Quartet consisting of Joan Gilliam, Martha Francis Buchanan, Harry James, and Dan Gilliam.

Song, The Old Rugged Cross, by Ella Irene Adkins, Muriel Paap, and Malene Peterson.

Song by Andy Lay.

A few minutes were then spent in a praise service led by the President. After this, the Young People's Choir sang, The Old Fashioned Meeting. We were then favored with a song by the Green Grove Quartet composed of Mrs. Kyle Cooper, Albert Lawson, Harry Archer, and Truan Sanders.

The afternoon session closed with a fellowship handshake while the congregation sang Blest Be the Tie That Binds. The closing prayer was offered by Bro. Charley Phillips.

Leona Thompson,  
Sec'y-Treas.

—oOo—

### Tristate 5th Sunday Meeting

The Tristate Free Will Baptist 5th Sunday Meeting was held October 31, 1948 at the Mount Olive Church. The Meeting was opened by Bro. Walgamott preaching the Introductory Service at 11 o'clock. Scripture: Acts 5:29 after which a basket dinner was enjoyed by all.

At 1:15 the meeting was called to order by F. E. Crain, Moderator and message was brought by Bro. Perry Whitiker. Scripture: I Cor. 12:13.

Song by Catherine Elkins and Wyonia Anderson, If We Never Meet Again.

Message by Bro. F. E. Crain from Rev. 8:3.

Song by Sis. Norman Green, Living

for Jesus.

Message by Bro. Orvil Johnston from Psalms 33:12:

Song by Sisters Elda Crain, Ina Fern Johnston and Bros. Norman Green, Orville Johnston and Floyd Johnston, Don't Forget to Pray.

Message by Bro. Friend from Heb. 9:11.

Song by Bro and Sis. Ott Green, Tell it to Jesus.

Message by Bro. Lon Berg from Rev. 3:20.

Song by Bro. Bailey, Sis. Elda and Sis. Emeline Crain, I'm a Millionaire.

Message by Bro. Norman Green from St. Matthew 25:3-6:

Song by Sis. Elda Crain and Catherine Elkins, Lord Lead Me On.

Message by Sis. Elda Crain from II Chronicles 7:14.

Song by the Whitiker Sisters, Lord Build Me a Cabin.

Message by Bro. Hatfield from St. John 15:7.

The next Fifth Sunday Meeting will be at the South Picher Free Will Baptist Church January 30th, 1949. Bro. Whitiker, Bro. Walgamott, and Sis. Elda Crain were nominated and Sis. Elda Craine was elected to preach the Introductory Sermon.

F. E. Crain, Moderator  
Beulah Owens, Apt. Clerk

—oOo—

Carbon Hill, Ala.  
October 30, 1948

Dear Gem Readers:

We are glad to announce the church news from the Free Will Baptist Church in Carbon Hill, Ala.

The Lord surely has blessed us since our first service May 9, 1948. At that time Rev. William Ryland of Eldridge, Ala. was our pastor. Surely God was with him in leading this new work.

The Lord has blessed us with a good prayer meeting and Sunday School.

We have recently organized a league and a ladies auxiliary.

The young folk are surely taking an interest in the league with twenty-three members at our first meeting.

We organized the auxiliary the 14th of October with twenty-four members.

The officers are:

President—Mrs. Charles Moyers.

1st Vice—Mrs. J. H. Williams.

2nd Vice—Mrs. S. S. Hapsan.

3rd Vice—Mrs. M. C. Skers.

4th Vice—Mrs. J. M. Lazenby.

5th Vice—Mrs. D. C. Myers.



Sec'y.-Treas.—Mrs. Ila Derkinson.  
Rec. Sec'y—Miss Sue Jones.

Since Rev. Wm. Ryland's time is taken up at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Eldridge, the Lord sent Rev. and Mrs. Charles Moyers and family of Flat River, Mo. our way.

In closing may we ask you to pray for us that all phases of our church shall grow and that many souls may be saved before its too late.

Our request is to remember us in prayer at all times.

Yours in Christ,  
Sue Jones, Rec. Sec'y.

—oOo—

### First F. W. B. Church of Northport, Alabama

Organized, January 3, 1947

By Rev. J. J. Staab

When the good Lord placed it upon my heart to try to futher the work of Free Will Baptists in the Tuscaloosa area, I realized that it was a very big



job for one who has to work each day for a livelihood. First, I secured the names of all the Free Will Baptists that were known to be living in or around Tuscaloosa. Then I wrote all of them a letter in which I outlined the plans for a church to be established for all the Free Will Baptists who had been living there for so many years without a church of their denomination to worship in.

After receiving letters that were encouraging and promising, I went to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, the county seat, and held the first service at the court house in one of the court rooms. For some time the congregation was small but we continued to work and pray until we thought we were ready to

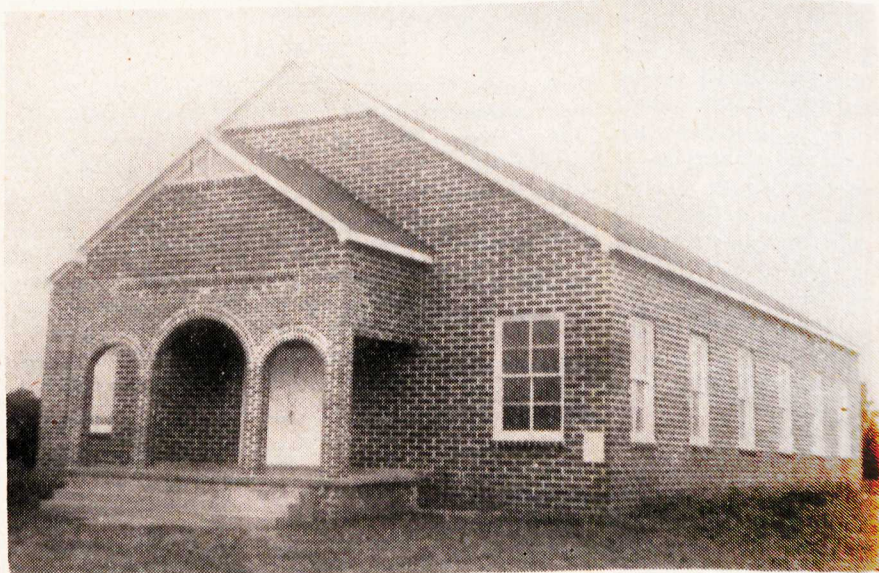
organize. On January 3, 1947 still in the court room, we organized the First Free Will Baptist Church of Northport, Alabama with eight charter members.

From June fifteenth until June twenty-seventh we used the state tent for a revival at Northport just outside of Tuscaloosa. The Lord blessed Rev. H. A. Pitts who did most of the preaching. During this revival, seventeen new members were received into the church and upon its ending, we had decided to build a church at Northport.

A business conference was held under the tent and we selected a Board of Trustees. At the end of the revival the newly elected trustees purchased a lot on which to build a church. The Lord was truly with us in a great way. We were fortunate in obtaining a good lot and started the task of building. A Building and Finance

of the Lord if given a chance. On September the second of last year the foundation was started for the church and one of the members was given the job of purchasing agent and supervisor. Much hard work was ahead and since the price of building materials was so high, planning was difficult. But, the Lord continued to lead these people and, except for a few minor details, the building was finished on Sunday, April the twenty-fifth, the date of our first service in the building.

We have fifty-one members in the new church, a good league, a very active ladies' auxiliary and a good Sunday School. My pastorate came to an end on the first of October but the people in Northport have found a place in our heart. We sincerely pray that this church will become one of the outstanding churches for the Lord in this state.



Committee was elected to speed the construction of the building. Let me say here that I have never been so successful in raising funds necessary to start the building. The brethren of the church really did give generously and the good people that were not in the church responded in a great way toward the new work.

The Finance Committee reported about six weeks after they were chosen and the figures were astounding. They had raised in cash and pledges nearly six thousand dollars. This was wonderful for twenty-six members but our people can and will give to the glory

St. Louis, Mo.

Nov. 16, 1948

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I am very happy to report the way in which God has blessed us at our little South Side Free Will Baptist Church at 5418 Idaho in St. Louis, Mo.

The Lord is blessing and answering our prayers and souls are being saved almost as if there was a wonderful spirit of revival in our midst.

Our prayer meetings on Wednesday night are full of the Spirit of God, and we are having some wonderful services for which we are thanking God.

Our Sunday School attendance has



been around and over a hundred in average and we feel that God has blessed our Sunday morning services marvelously.

Our woman's auxiliary is laboring faithfully to help our little church financially, so that God's work may be carried on.

I am also happy to report our league membership has increased to 63 members and we are having some wonderful league services, also our young people are giving their best and they are ever ready to sing or testify or do whatever is asked of them. We want to thank God from the bottom of our hearts for our fine group of Christian boys and girls.

Each and every member of our little church wishes to thank God and asks His blessings for having given us our pastor, Rev. Harvey E. Hill and his family and we desire your prayers for our church and our pastor so that it may grow and prosper for the honor and glory of God.

Sis. Dorothy Beard,  
Correspondent



Paducah, Texas  
Nov. 16, 1948

Dear Bro. Davis:

Just a few lines to let you and the Gem readers hear from this part of Texas. We don't have a very large number of Free Will Baptists in this part of Texas but the Lord is blessing in the work. At this time I am pastor of our church in Crowell, Texas. We have Sunday School each Sunday at 10 a.m. and preaching at 11 a.m.

Our young people have their league at 7 p.m. We have a Scripture reading followed by the league where everyone that will reads some Scripture of their choosing and then preaching at 8 p.m. We have a church 19 miles south west of Crowell where we have a good Sunday School. I go out to this church every Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. and preach for them. I pray that the Lord will bless you in your work. Remember us when you pray.

Rev. H. H. Haston

## YOUTH CAMP NEEDS

It has been repeatedly asked, what are the needs of the Youth Camp? We would like to carry (by permission of our Editor) a list of our needs in the Gem each month until they have been pledged or given by those who wish to help. You will find opposite each article the name of those pledging the article.

### ARTICLES NEEDED

- 3 ten quart water buckets—Richwoods Church
- 2 No. 2 wash tubs—
- 1 wash board—
- 1 doz. wash pans—
- 6 dippers—
- 3 large dish pans—
- 2 12 X 16 bread pans—
- 6 10 to 14 qt. kettles—
- 3 large frying pans—Mrs. J. S. Reeves,
- 2
- 6 10 qt. serving pans—
- 2 large coffee pots—
- 2 tea kettles—
- 3 butcher knives—
- 4 paring knives—
- 2 serving forks—
- 4 serving spoons—
- 6 face towels—
- 3 doz. tea towels—
- 12 wash cloths—
- 1 gross silverware—Southside Church of St. Louis
- Dishes—
- 12 bed ticks or mattresses—

### PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

- Soft Ball—
- Basket Ball—
- Volley Ball—
- Tennis—Fredericktown Church
- Croquet—
- 6 first aid kits—

Hannon League pledges \$25.00 for playground equipment.

If a league, Sunday School, church, or individual would like to take one article or more, or a project, please let me know and your name will appear on the list.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Received from Oct. 15 to Nov. 15  
1948

St. Francois Co. S. S. Con.....	\$ 10.00
3rd St. Louis.....	15.30
Merl's Chapel.....	5.00
Fredericktown .....	48.00
South Side St. Louis.....	10.00
1st Flat River.....	17.19
Mrs. Grace Lawson.....	10.00
Desloge League.....	5.00
Richwood Church.....	5.00

Total .....\$125.49

This report is in-complete as we are planning a board meeting soon and will audit the books. Then we will give a complete report to date.

We wish to express our thanks to you for your cooperation in our program. We are anxious to reach each church in every association to explain our Youth Camp Program, and to acquaint our young people more thoroughly with our work. I want every young person in the state to have a part in our Youth Camp work. If you would like us to visit you, please let us know.

Yours for a greater youth  
program

Rev. Wm. Reeves  
Irondale, Mo.



St. Louis, Mo.  
November 5, 1948

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

We are happy for the grace and blessings which has abounded from our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ at 3rd Free Will Baptist Church, 1330 Geyer Ave. Our number in Sunday School, Free Will Baptist League, and church services is gradually increasing, and God is richly blessing us in our work for Him. Since the revival conducted by Bro. Dodd in August, the revival spirit has continued in the church. The revival itself was not one of a great ingathering of souls, but the church was brought into a fellowship with God which has been denied for some time because of weak faith and the lack of consecration on the part of some who attended the church. We let God take over, and He has worked miracles for the church.

Since the revival, many have dedicated their lives to the Lord, and others professed the Lord had forgiven and saved them from their sins. It was Sunday night, October 31 when the Lord convicted a man who came to an altar of prayer and was blessed with salvation. Death came very close to him, and during his illness he promised the Lord to serve Him as soon as he was able to attend church. The Lord aided him in carrying out the promise he had made to Him.



We have recently organized a woman's auxiliary at the church. We have about fifteen members and we're expecting others to join. Mrs. Ruby Dunlap, pastor's wife, is our president. We meet every Tuesday night for auxiliary, and on Thursday nights, we meet for quilting and other fancy work. We plan to raise five hundred dollars, if not more, as a Christmas gift for our building fund. We are happy for the interest and cooperation given in our work, and truly God is blessing us.

We are expecting to get started on our building program of a new church in the near future. We trust to have it completed within the coming year. We have paid for a nice corner lot here in St. Louis for the church and parsonage.

Continue to pray for us, Christian friends, that Christ may have preeminence in all that we do, and that many will come to know Him as their personal Saviour before He returns for the church.

Sincerely for Him,  
Opal Hughes



Huntsville, Texas  
Nov. 12, 1948

Dear Gem Readers:

Our Free Will Baptist Church was organized a little more than a year ago and we are thanking God for its growth.

Our pastors are Rev. Hiram and Lizzie McAdams and a great deal of our Christian growth can be attributed to their unceasing prayer and work.

We now have 57 members which is approximately 50% increase over one year ago. Our Sunday School is very good with an average attendance of 30.

Our members engage in Cottage piano. Prayer Meetings each week night. This has proved to be a great blessing.

Last March the woman's auxiliary was organized with 20 members. We now have 38 members. This work has been very inspirational. This is a summary of some of our work in the past six months.

Bible reading has been encouraged and good literature has been studied and placed in the homes. Garments have been given regularly to the needy.

Financial report follows:

Convention dues and offerings...	\$ 8.30
Christian literature.....	5.75
Local church work.....	5.00
Co-Laborer band fund.....	2.00
Christian education.....	42.60
Orphanage .....	5.00
Home Missions.....	30.25
Foreign Missions.....	20.40
Total.....	\$118.30
Amount in Treas.....	\$ 1.10

Recently our church body has started an hour of prayer at the church between 10:00 and 11:00 o'clock each Friday morning. Also a revival sermon on Sunday night. Once again I say "Thank God."

Respectfully Submitted,

Mrs. Opal Koehl  
Church Reporter

—oOo—

### First Oklahoma Ass'n. Enjoys Great League Rally

First Okla. Association League Rally convened with the Tecumseh Church, October 31, 1948.

Bro. Norman Ray, president, took charge.

Bro. Carl Sprigg, chorister, opened by singing, The Way of the Cross Leads Home. Reatha Kiker at the

ered. At the close of the service eleven young people stepped out on the promises of God to be used in His vineyard what ever the calling might be. The Spirit of God could be felt in the altar of prayer.

The afternoon service opened by singing, O. I Want to See Him. A talk was given by Rev. Henry Melvin, Business Manager of our Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tenn.

The program was presented by the following leagues:

Earlsboro—"The Happy Christian Home."

Pleasant Hill—"A Certain Just Man."

Spring Hill—"Near the Cross."

Central Ave.—"And He Came to His Father."

Shawnee—"The House on the sand."

Tecumseh—"By Thy Faith."

The program banner was awarded to the Shawnee League and the attendance banner to the Pleasant Hill League.

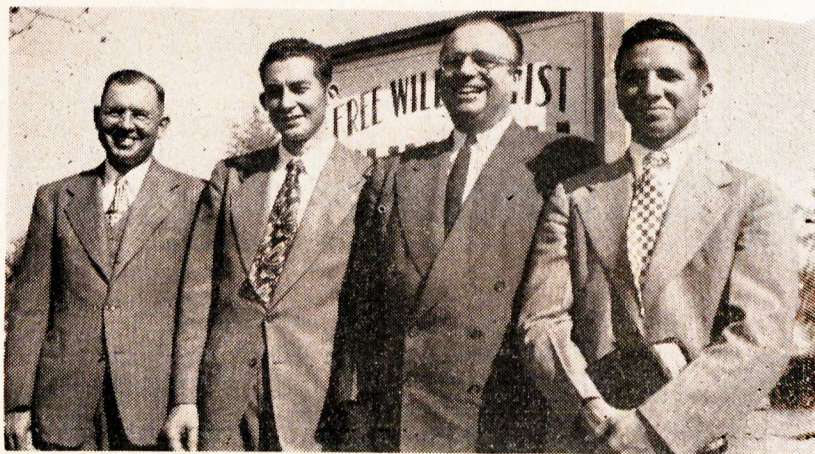
Our next League Rally will be at Central Ave. Church in Okla. City, Sunday, January 30, 1949.

Norman Ray, Pres.

Mary Belle Smith, Rec. S.

Those in the picture which was taken at First Okla. League Rally are, left to right:

E. C. Ketchem, Sponsor of the 1st Okla. L. Rally, Shawnee, Okla.



Norman Ray, President, Okla. City.

Seven leagues were represented by letters.

Bro. Wade Jernigan, pastor of the Spring Hill Church, brought the 11 o'clock message. He chose II Cor. 3:12 as his scripture reading. His theme was, "You are written Epistles." A very inspiring message was delivered.

Rev. Henry Melvin, guest speaker from the College, Nashville, Tenn.

Rev. Wade Jernigan, speaker for the 11:00 o'clock service, Lexington, Okla.

—oOo—





wedding anniversary the 1st of Nov. with a tea. There were about 50 guests called in the afternoon last Sunday. There was a song dedicated to us over the radio from the First Free Will Baptist Church of Weatherford. Title of song, Kneeling at the Feet of Jesus. We belong to the Weatherford Church now. The last time we were at church was in July. Bro. Cox from Dallas came after us and took us one night during the revival he held at Weatherford Church. There will be several that read this that know us. Pray for us.

Mrs. R. L. White  
114 E. 3rd st.  
Weatherford, Texas

—oOo—

October 23, 1948

Dear Gem Editor:

This is to inform you that a new church has been added to our ranks. It was formerly the First Baptist Church of Breckenridge, Michigan. It is now the First Free Will Baptist Church after having been accepted into the Wolverine Association.

It is further north than any other Free Will Baptist Church in the United States belonging to the National Association. We are looking forward to great things from God here in this section where the name Free Will Baptist is unheard of. The location of our church is approximately one hundred and thirty-five miles north of Detroit, Michigan.

God has already done wonderful things for us. Our Sunday School has increased twenty-two in attendance in the past month. Our league is off to a good start. The evangelistic services on Sunday have been proving to be a success by the help of God. We have had one conversion and three who have acknowledged that God has called them for a special service. We hope by the means of this church that Free Will Baptists will be able to get a better hold on the people of the North.

We appeal to you people of our denomination to pray for our new work.

In Christ,  
Everett D. Hellard  
Pastor

—oOo—

To the Free Will Baptist Gem:

Find enclosed \$1.00 for which send me the paper.

I have been a subscriber for it for about 40 years, ever since it was published here at Weatherford, Texas by Bro. S. L. Morris. While it has gone by several different names it is the same paper. I used to work for it. I was put in at an association at New Hope Church near Weatherford, Tex. to get subscribers for it a good many years ago which I did. I am a charter member of New Hope Church and the only one living. I joined the church when I was 22 years old the day it was organized, and it was organized Sept. 3rd at 3 o'clock in the evening, 1893 by L. W. Miller, deceased. My husband came in the church about Christmas and we have both lived as near right as we knew how ever since. We have never brought any reproach on the church in any way and always attended all meetings and kept our part of the delegates at New Hope Church until two years ago about now, we bought a home in Weatherford and moved down here to be close to the doctor. We are both getting old. Mr. White is past 86 years old and I will be 78 years old the 13th of December. I fell nearly 3 years ago and broke my hip and can walk only on crutches, while I just use one now most of the time. Mr. White had a stroke while we were on the farm. He has been since he had the stroke 2 year ago the 5th of July. He got to where he couldn't walk the 21st of this last August and hasn't walked a step since. He is in bed now paralyzed. Can't even raise up. The doctor says it is creeping paralysis now that is the matter with him. We celebrated our 60th

#### MISSOURI STATE TREASURER'S REPORT, OCTOBER, 1948

##### Missions Fund

Carterville Church.....	\$ 6.16
Miss Lillie Drowley.....	5.00
Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Adkins.....	75.00
Jewel Church.....	8.33
Mine La Motte Church.....	10.00
Mt. Olive Church (Neola).....	4.37
Monett Church.....	7.50
Union Third Fork S. S.....	7.10
Flat River Church.....	10.92
Green Grove Church.....	12.46
St. Louis 3rd S. S.....	19.51
Campbell S. S.....	5.00
Blue Eye Church.....	12.67
St. Francois Co. S. S. Con.....	10.00
Orene Rader.....	1.00
Pleasant Grove S. S.....	14.38
Rock Chapel Church.....	22.41
Cross Roads Church.....	5.20
Total.....	\$237.01

##### Foreign Mission Fund

Southside Church.....	\$ 13.85
Mr. & Mrs. R. W. Huffman....	20.00
Rock Chapel Church.....	24.28
Hannon Church.....	5.00
Amity Church.....	11.00
Union Light S. S.....	11.30
Monett Church.....	13.90
New Harmony S. S.....	34.00
Verdella Church.....	22.00
Total.....	\$155.33

##### Cuban Student Support Fund

Merl's Chapel Church.....	\$ 5.00
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##### Co-Laborer Band Fund

New Harmony Mission.....	10.00
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##### Expansion Program Fund

Miss Lillie Drowley.....	\$ 5.00
Merl's Chapel Church.....	5.00

Total.....	\$ 10.00
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##### State Unified Fund

Merl's Chapel S. S.....	\$ 10.00
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Fredericktown Ladies H. M....	3.00	10-17 Dibble League.....	2.50
Leadington S. S.....	1.05	10-16 Pretty Water Aux.....	20.00
Carterville Church.....	12.89	10-17 New Home Church.....	10.00
Flat River Church.....	129.14	10-19 Shawnee Aux.....	3.00
Fredericktown Church.....	102.32	10-19 Central Ave. Aux.....	5.00
Cave Springs Association.....	13.00	10-19 Old Panther Church.....	5.00
Verdella Church.....	3.58	10-23 First Church Okla. City..	30.00
Aurora Church.....	18.16	10-23 Clemscott Church.....	17.85
Mrs. B. A. Stafford.....	4.00	10-23 Ralph Howdeshell.....	10.00
Oak Grove Church.....	5.50	10-23 Ross Estee.....	5.00
Monett Church.....	14.25	10-26 Dibble Church.....	10.00
St. Louis 3rd Church.....	65.37	10-26 Bryant Church.....	4.79
Mrs. Goldie Elsea.....	10.00	10-26 Mrs. B. M. Mayfield.....	5.00
Merl's Chapel S. S.....	10.00	10-26 Rev. L. C. Crowder.....	10.00
Total .....	\$406.53	10-26 Duck Creek Church.....	9.28

Marie Hyatt, Treasurer  
Centerview, Mo.



#### REPORT OF CHILDREN'S HOME RINGLING, OKLA.

Balance carried over from		10-15 Rev. Weatherman.....	\$ 75.00
Sept .....	\$ 4.65	10-30 Rev. Weatherman.....	75.00
10- 3 Iron Chapel C.....	5.00	10-30 Hudson & Huston.....	16.01
10- 3 Capital Hill C.....	10.00	10-30 Delbert Gro. & Mar.....	86.87
10- 5 Spring Hill C.....	8.23	10-30 Cumming Colson Gro.....	37.68
10- 5 Tecumseh League.....	4.63	10-30 Rolou's Clothing Store..	9.57
10- 5 Cushing Mission Ladies..	5.00	10-30 Moores Drug Store.....	32.55
10- 5 Tecumseh Church.....	6.55	10-30 Schuler Fruit Co.....	11.67
10- 5 Earlshoro Church.....	5.00	10-30 Tyler & Simpson Co.....	26.28
10- 7 S. League Clemscott C...	4.18	10-30 Com. Credit Corp.....	18.50
10- 7 Gaar Corner C.....	5.00	Total .....	\$380.13
10- 7 Spring Hill C.....	3.00	Rev. Weatherman Expenses.	
10- 7 Healdton C.....	13.00	Vissie Ledbetter.....	\$ 40.00
10- 9 First C. Kerman Calif....	13.00	Laundry .....	2.00
10- 9 Ada Church.....	13.35	Foot Ball Tickets.....	2.00
10- 9 Shawnee First C.....	9.50	Hair cuts for boys.....	4.00
10- 9 Blue Bell C.....	5.00	Shoes & underwear.....	4.00
10- 9 Central Ave. S. League..	3.75	Trip to Haskel for hogs.....	30.00
10- 9 Shahan Sunday S.....	10.79	Trip to Holdenville & Atoka...	18.00
10-11 Vernon Tex. Church.....	5.00	Tickets to foot ball game.....	2.00
10-12 Sulphur Church.....	31.76	Tracy Test & pictures (school)	4.00
10-12 Gaar Corner League .....	11.25	Cleaning Clothes.....	8.00
10-12 Drumright Church.....	15.00	George Burns.....	4.00
10-12 Hawkins Church.....	2.66	Total .....	\$123.00
10-12 Haskel Church .....	9.78	Produce Sold.....	87.00
10-12 Wilson Church.....	12.24	Balance .....	\$ 87.00
10-15 Texas Central Dist. Aux..	10.00	Total Expenses.....	\$476.13
10-15 Central Ave. Church.....	15.00	Balance in Treasury.....	\$631.47

#### Woman's Aux. Report

The first quarterly meeting of the Indian Creek Woman's Auxiliary met with the Carterville Church Nov. 17, 1948. Services were opened by singing and prayer by Bro. Weston. Our theme for the day was "Prayer."

First talk, "Importance of Prayer," was used as a round table discussion.

Second talk, "Nature of Prayer," by Bro. Weston.

Special song, Let Me Lose Myself and Find it, Lord in Thee, by Sis. Dorothea Roller of Monett.

Third topic, "Possibilities of Prayer," by Bro. Cecil Campbell.

Services were then turned over to Bro. Albert Halbrook of Mine La Motte Church and he brought a wonderful message using our theme of the day as his text. We were indeed very thankful to have Bro. Halbrook along with our other ministers for the day.

A lovely dinner was enjoyed by all at the noon hour.

Afternoon services came together by singing, In the Cross, led by Sis. Pearl Thomas of Monett. Prayer by Bro. Halbrook.

We then received reports from our Vice Presidents; also some letters were read by our President, Lola Williams, as reports from our Oak Grove and Merl's Chapel churches; also a letter from Bro. Hellingsworth of Racine, Mo. I wish all of our people could have heard it. There were several good songs and readings given by Monett and Carterville. A very inspirational talk was given by Bro. Alfred of Monett.

Business: Next meeting to be held with the Jones Chapel Church on Wednesday after the second Sunday in February.

We had as a visitor, Sis. Mildred Ferbrasch of Idaho who use to be at Jones Chapel Church. She made a wonderful talk on prayer.

Services closed by singing and prayer, and all went away feeling it was good to have been there.

Edna Gentry  
Sec'y-Treas.  
Fairview, Mo.



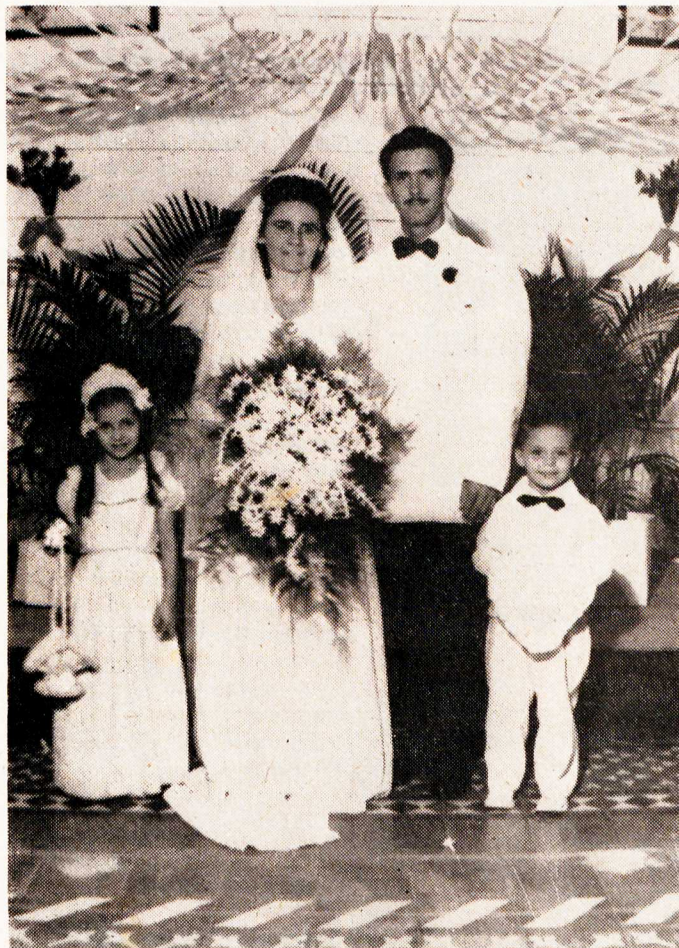




# Missionary Department



*Rev. Winford Davis, Promotional Secy.-Treas. National Board*



The above photograph is of Siradelia Hernandez and Melitino Martinez, two of our Cuban workers who were married on August 26th of this year at the home of the Bride in Santa Clara, Cuba.

Melitino graduated this year from the Bible School and God has very singularly blessed his ministry in soul winning. For the present he is being used at the school as the pastor of the school church, and is also in charge of the work of the boys on the farm. Siradelia has been a teacher in our Bible School for two years, and also dean of the girls. At the present she is teaching and has charge of the daily work of the girls.

Perhaps some of you will be amazed at the elegance with which these two

are dressed. The Cubans do like a beautiful wedding, as well as do the Americans. The trouble here is that they cannot always afford the things that are necessary for such an affair, such was the case here. However, they prayed very much and the Lord supplied. The dress was loaned to her by a class mate, the veil by one of her teachers, and the flowers are very common ones in Cuba. The bouquet was made by one of her friends. The church was decorated by the Christians, so with everyone helping the wedding was beautiful and of very small expense, and our teacher was satisfied and happy!

A number of ladies' Auxiliaries in North Carolina and a few friends in Okla. have sent small gifts of money

to this couple to help them buy the necessary things for their house at the school. They are very grateful to each of you. It has helped so much.

Each time that you look at this photo will you pray for these two workers that their lives together might be the means of the salvation of many souls in this island of Cuba. We are counting heavily upon them and you!

Mable Wiley

—oOo—

## DEATH SCENES IN HEATHEN KOTADOM

Zalene Lloyd

"Shamrock"

Kotagiri, South India

It was early in the morning that we started on the long hike across the mountain to the Kota Village which lies in a valley nearly five miles away. The only way to reach these people is by foot, but the distance would seem short and the rugged path smooth if we could see this tribe fall under the power of the gospel. We must remember that among this tribe there is not a single baptized Christian. Sin and extreme wickedness rule their lives and reign in their hearts as it does in the hearts of millions of others of this land. Long before we reached the village, we could hear the strains of weird music, and a passerby informed us that an old woman had died. On the outskirts of the village there was a little temple wherein sat an idol to which the villager bowed. A god with ears that could not hear, eyes that could not see, a mouth that could not speak, and hands that have never been outstretched with the invitation to "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." To this kind of thing the people pray and worship in vain.

Into the village proper we went, which was all astir with excitement because of the soul that had departed this life. We were just in time to see the dead woman brought out on a cot to be prepared for a ceremony and



cremation. The strange music continued, and the wailing of the people seemed to cry out the doom of the lost soul. The soul that had gone out into eternity to meet God, unprepared. The doom of a soul that never knew the Saviour who died that she might have life eternal. I watched some men fasten four bamboo poles to the corners of the cot. Over this canopy was spread and the whole was elaborately

sin and heathen worship. All her life she had worshiped gods made by sinful, human hands. She had prayed and made sacrificial offerings to idol gods who had no power to help her in life, and in death had no power to deliver her soul from eternal damnation. We were too late to present the Saviour of the world to this woman, but oh, how our hearts burned within us as we lifted our eyes to the throng

of that village who yet have time and opportunity to accept the living and powerful Christ.

We left the scene of death and went into the dark homes of the survivors with the message of Life and Light. The places they call home, to me, signify of their hearts. Jesus died for these sin benighted people, but many of them have not yet heard the good news of God's love, and the saving power of the shed blood of Christ. Their hearts have become calloused, and the power of evil has such a vice like grip on their lives that the mighty power of God must be manifest in extra measure to break through and cleanse from sin. Will you not pray for this Kota Tribe, that God will give us a great harvest of souls there? Pray that God will raise up born-again-ones from that tribe who will be fired with the Holy Spirit and eager to give the Message to others. You will remember that little Lelia, about whom Miss Barnard has written in the past, belongs to the Kota people. Continue to pray that God may use her life to bless her people. God speed the day when these who still sit in darkness, will see the Great Light—CHRIST.

—o—o—



THE FUNERAL BAND

decorated with banana leaves and streamer. You can get a better idea of the scene from the picture. Also make note of the picture of the musicians. We will call them the funeral band, and the instruments shown were all made by hand. The body was wrapped in a homespun cloth with wide, red and purple borders, which in this part of the country, is considered the finest kind of shroud. Incense pots were set to burning, in which offerings of rice and coconut were made to heathen gods. The odor soon forth from this was slightly obnoxious to delicate nostrils, but we could not afford to let this be known. In the afternoon, the body was to be carried to the burning forest to be cremated. The bones, however, would be saved until the end of the year when the bones of all who have died during the year will be brought together for a general funeral. This occasion is an all day affair, and sacrificial offerings are made to the evil spirits in behalf of the departed dead.

I thought, as I looked upon the cold, wrinkled face of the corpse, of the life that had been spent in darkest



THE CORPSE AND THE MOURNERS



## PATHETIC SCENES IN INDIA

By Laura B. Barnard

Typhoid, dysentery, smallpox, and plague, along with other minor diseases, have recently invaded our ranks. Measles is now in epidemic through the Kota Village of Aggal. We have visited the village and grieved to see children and babies in various stages of this disease. Two very small children lay on the bare mud floor of a narrow verandah, their faces red and swollen with fever, throats closed with inflammation, and their bodies writhing with rash and welts. The mother sat beside them, sometimes taking the baby into her arms, but apparently helpless to offer any comfort or relief of any kind. Garbage and filth, accumulated in piles here and there, had repelled us as we approached. The ground outside, as well as the verandah floor, was covered with refuse. I have no vocabulary, either in their language or mine, that would construct a fair picture of the utter squalor. Copious and nauseating belchies of yellow infected sputum and nasal refuse left scarcely a place to step in the yard just in front of the house. Busy regiments of greedy flies preyed on each blob and then flew away, heavy with infection, to inject into other victims. A heap of rubbish lay on the doorstep, scatterings of food on the floor, the cooking utensils lay unwashed, helpless, groaning patients offensive with uncleanness, clothes stiff and grimy, and flesh correspondingly dirty, complete this picture of misery.

Tactfully, we asked the mother to sweep the floor, dispose of the debris lying around about, and to sponge the little patients, and wash their clothes. But the old grandmother instantly rose to the defense of tradition and custom, and assured us that it simply could not be done! "No water must touch the patient with measles," she said. That would offend the goddess of this disease. Everything must remain just as it was until a certain number of days were fulfilled and the disease had run its course. (One only hoped the poor creatures would still be alive after that many days.) "Then we shall make everything clean—clean the floors, scrub and polish the cooking and other utensils, bathe the children and ourselves, and put clean clothes on all—and offer a suitable

sacrifice to propitiate the goddess. We can do nothing contrary to this rule of our religion." So spoke the authoritative voice of the grandmother, with an air of finality. And so the innocent sufferers, too miserable and too limp to move, groaned in their gnawing pain and irritating filth. My heart suddenly changed to lead, and I felt a wretch, that, though I knew so well what would greatly relieve their distress and make the inevitable more bearable, I was as helpless as they before their bulwark of heathen superstition.

On to another house, where a grimy-looking specimen of humanity was brought to the door for me to see. Added to the other symptoms of the measles, this child's eyelids were stuck together and plastered over with matter. The well-meaning Biblewoman, still unable to really receive the reasoning of the old grandmother, suggested to this mother that the patient's eyes be bathed with warm, salt water. But again, as if we had not heard it before, came the objection that it would greatly anger the venerable goddess and therefore further endanger the child to do such a thing. No, they must wait until the appointed days were fulfilled, after which they would perform all the ceremonies that tradition required, and offer sacrifices. Then they would bathe the child's eyes.

This tribe of people make the proud boast that no one from the tribe has ever broken away from their tribal faith and manner of life. There is no knowledge of a baptism among them in the entire history of the tribe. Satan has wrought his masterpiece in so blinding and imprisoning these precious souls that they willingly and proudly remain in their darkness, and call it light. Their physical and moral degradation is a symbol of their spiritual darkness. For this tribe we ask your fervent prayers.

—ooo—

### REPORT OF TEXAS STATE MISSIONARY FOR OCT., 1948

By Rev. R. E. Conner  
Buffalo Springs, Texas

This ends our work as state missionary for this year. We have been on the field for eleven months, and truly

it has been one of the happiest years of my life. The only regret I have, I wish I could have done more. The Lord has wonderfully blessed our work in many ways, for which we are thankful.

We wish to thank our many friends, who have stood behind us, and made it possible for us to go. You will have a great part, and share in the rewards, of every thing that was accomplished. We wish to also thank the editors of the Gem, and Press for their cooperation in publishing our report each month.

I haven't visited any of the churches this month, only I went to the quarterly meeting at Denison, Texas, and the State Association at the New Hope Church, Henderson, Texas. The Home Mission Board asked me to help the new church at Bowie, Texas that Rev. Tiff Covington and I organized last September. It has been a pleasure to work with these men. We appreciate what they have done to help us.

We will not be on the field another year. The church at Bowie has called me as pastor, and I have accepted. This is a work of faith, so we ask an interest in your prayers. We are happy to report the church is doing good. We have a great interest among the people.

#### Offerings Received for Oct.

Friendship C. ....	\$ 8.80
New Salem C. ....	7.50
Bonnie View C. ....	6.00
Vernon C. ....	5.00
Trinity C. ....	15.50
Pleasant Mound C. ....	10.50
North Zulch C. ....	8.50
Rev. A. Gibson ....	3.00
Rev. W. W. Winters ....	1.00
Total .....	\$ 65.80

#### YEARLY REPORT

We have traveled approximately 17,500 miles over Texas in interest of Home Missions and pastored New Salem Church half time, visited all our churches, except about four, held 10 revivals, helped in 3, in all our associations, have received 63 new members, baptized 28, conversions 38, reclaimed 42, with the help of Bro. Covington, organized one church. We have taken 17 subscriptions to our papers. Amount of money raised was \$1827.72.

#### NOTICE

Send all money and supplies to the Free Will Baptist Orphan's Home, Ringling, Okla.

—Rev. Rex Weatherman



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# Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year