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# The Free Will Baptist Gem

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

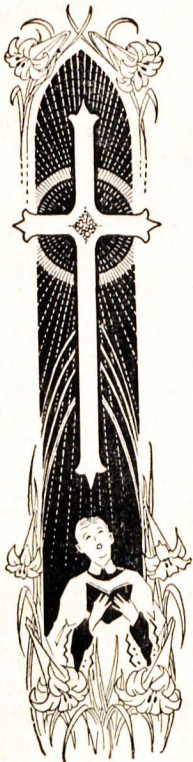
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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM  
ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASS'N.

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The present Honor Roll was started November 1, 1949, and was designated to run through April 30, 1950. Names of solicitors are placed on our Honor Roll when five or more subscriptions are sent in (one may be your own). At the close of this period gifts of appreciation will be made

to first, second, and third highest ranking solicitors. There is yet time for you to get in our Roll, so be a booster for the Gem.

On March 31, 1950 the Honor Roll stood as follows:

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Thanks to you and to all who are working for the success of the Gem.

—Editor

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Voltaire said, "I hate life; and yet I hate to die." Paul said, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Jesus Christ is the condesention of deity, and the exaltation of humanity.



## CLOTHED IN HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS

Miss Gertrude Bowe, Monett, Missouri

In a few days many people will be going to church for the first time this year. There will be varied reasons for going that day—some because they feel they must go at Easter if at no other time; some because it has become a habit; some because it helps their business; and others to display new clothes. Yes, the annual Easter Parade will soon take place again. But I'm wondering, while we view the attire of the outward man, how many

tion and the possibility of our being clothed in His righteousness, let us turn our hearts to His Word that we may know what it is to be truly clothed in His righteousness.

We must realize that our righteousness in His sight is as filthy rags. Isaiah 64:6, "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags, and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away." As long as we feel in any measure that we are a pretty good fellow, that after all we aren't so bad, God cannot clothe us in His righteousness. We must recognize as Isaiah did, "...Woe is me! for I am undone;..." (Isaiah 6:5).

We cannot presume in any way that we can clothe ourselves so as to be acceptable in His sight. Adam and Eve tried this in the garden of Eden when they had sinned and recognized their condition. They made aprons of fig leaves (Genesis 3:7), but God knew this was not sufficient. He made them coats of skins (Genesis 3:21) which required the shedding of blood. This was a type of the Lord Jesus, which is the only basis for our being clothed in His righteousness.

Paul declared the necessity of our being clothed in the righteousness of Christ in Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." And again in Romans 3:10 Paul declares under the unction of the Spirit "There is none righteous, no, not one."

The theme of the book of Romans is "Justification by faith" and Paul proves that the Jews are not righteous, that the Gentiles are not righteous, that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that the only way to be clothed with the righteousness of God is by faith in the atoning blood of the Lord Jesus. This is the only way to become clothed in His righteousness.

To be clothed in His righteousness first of all means to know the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour. We can only know Him thus through faith in His birth, death, burial, and

resurrection. We must accept by faith the work of Christ on Calvary for our sins. We must be plunged into that crimson flood that washes white as snow. But that is only the beginning. We are to grow in grace (II Peter 3:18) and our daily lives are to bespeak the righteousness of God with which we have been clothed. Paul calls it the fruits of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22, 23, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." In Ephesians 6:11-18 he instructs us to "put on" the whole armour of God.

It will do us good at this season of the year to search our hearts and see whether our lives have shown that we are clothed with His righteousness. The Christian life is one of "putting off" the old man and "putting on" the new. We are new creatures in Christ. II Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." Whatever outward garments are worn Easter Sunday, let us make sure that the inward man is clothed in the righteousness of God. How God sees us is far more important than how man observes, for "...the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance but the Lord looketh on the heart" (I Sam. 16:7).



Miss Gertrude Bowe

would stand naked and ashamed if we could see the inward man. It was Isaiah who wrote: "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels" (Isaiah 61:10).

In this day of outward show and display of self, it is very essential that the true Christian understand what it is to be clothed "with the garments of salvation" and "the robe of righteousness." We are living in a day when so many, many times the unbeliever and the believer bear no distinguishing marks. At this time of the year when our attention is drawn again to the cross and the empty tomb where Peter "seeth the linen clothes lie, And the napkin, that was about His head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself" (John 20:6, 7) proving His resurrec-

### NEW PLEASANT GROVE W. A.

Anderson, Missouri  
March 20, 1950

Dear Gem Readers:

The Woman's Auxiliary of Pleasant Grove Church has just lately organized and we are happy to say we are enjoying the meetings and work more each time we meet. As you know, Pleasant Grove is a small place but we have nine members and have hopes of more joining soon. We are sending three new subscriptions and one renewal for the Gem.

It is our desire that the ladies of other auxiliaries pray for our group in this undertaking.

At our last meeting, March 15, it was agreed that we send some much needed things to the Free Will Baptist Orphanage. We want to thank Sister Cecil Campbell for coming to help us get organized.

Mrs. Frank Jackson, 4th Vice-Pres.



## "MYSTERY BABYLON"

Rev. Sherman H. Oakes, Bessemer City, N. C.

"And upon her forehead was a name written, mystery Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth" (Rev. 17:5).

"Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock" (1 Peter 5:3).

For three hundred years after Pentecost, the churches maintained their independence, according to *Archard's Church History*, and several other historians. The early churches were united only by the ties of faith and love. Constantine with his council of 380 elders of the church, who assumed the awful responsibility of making a creed that was to rend asunder the church as never before, which it did, being the first creed ever made by uninspired men to separate the Christians from each other on account of their belief. And the final result was "mystery Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth."

The great Roman Catholic Church is the mother of all men-made laws and doctrines that supersede God's New Testament law of love, and become the vicar of Christ. The Pope's crown has the inscription, *Vicarious Fei Dei* in Latin. And the interpretation is *substitute for the Son of God*. It turns things upside down; the real truth is *Fei Dei Vicarious*; that is *the Son of God substitute for men*.

lon and her daughters men substituted  
We see in the system of mystery Baby-  
for Christ, and the laws of men sub-  
stitutes for God's New Testament law.  
And men's way to heaven substituted  
for God's way to heaven. These things  
are anti-Christ and anti-Christian.

The trouble with many reformers was they reformed the doctrines of Babylon and modified her governments. They should have thrown the whole in the waste can and taken the New Testament as the only rule of faith and practice.

The Scriptures are plain and emphatic about Babylon in order that we might understand what mystery Babylon is. Now it is up to us to discern her characteristics, or her daughters. Doctrinally a daughter is any sect or church that teaches another gospel

or foundation or way to heaven other than *the finished work of Christ as Sin Bearer on the Cross*. The devil is transformed as an angel of light and uses many subtleties to detract or turn from salvation by grace to salvation by works. Self-righteousness is substituted for the righteousness of God which is by faith. And the power of man, or men's organization, is substituted for the power of God. Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth..."

If you will biblically and prayerfully check up on those who claim to be gospel preachers, you will be surprised how many are teaching salvation by works, or self-merit, even in evangelical churches. It will pay us to give every preacher and teacher the acid test with the following Word of God: "I am the door, if any man enter by me, the same shall be saved." "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me." He that climbeth up any other way, the same is a thief and robber." "There is none other name given under heaven, whereby we must be saved." "Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Christ Jesus." And to climax the Gospel read Ephesians 2:6-8—"For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast."

Salvation is a personal matter between God and man, and the only way to appropriate it is "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" Acts 16:31. Yes, God's plan of salvation eliminates Babylon and her daughters.

Governmentally, Babylon is an ecclesiastical authority over God's children. A so-called infallibility that claims power to control and insure salvation. An authority claimed that bars all from heaven outside its fold or acts. From ancient Babylon to modern Babylon, it is a false way to heaven devised by Satan "as an angel of light, and his followers as ministers of righteousness."

Those who have and hold the characteristics of Babylon are her daughters. They have a modified form of government that controls, or lords it over God's heritage. Many of them teach that they are "the Church" and that you cannot go to heaven unless you come under their authority or jurisdiction. Others do not teach that they are the way to everlasting life, but have a church government that lords it over pastors and laity. An ecclesiastical authority over churches has the characteristic of Babylon; therefore in that sense is a daughter. "Christ is Head of the Body the Church" and He said to the Church of Ephesus, "Thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes (subjugation of the laity), which I also hate" Rev. 2:6.

God's New Testament churches are independent. There is no higher authority than the majority vote of the congregation of Christians. We must remember in the Apostolic days there were many local churches; therefore, God wills that saved people constitute a visible church and set one apart as pastor, or bishop, under the direction of the Holy Spirit. But God never intended that an overall authority rule the churches. A local church is to have no head other than Christ the Lord. We have associations for cooperation and coordination, to combine our efforts to carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every creature. But these associations have no authority other than an advisory council. We must guard against "lording it over God's heritage" both locally and otherwise. We know that in unity there is strength, but that unity must not supersede Christ as Head of the Church. And that unity must not supplant the New Testament as our rule of faith and practice. We hear so much about denominational doctrines. Why substitute a denominational name for Christ's doctrine? Why not say the doctrine of Christ as believed and taught by our church? And then be sure our church teaches the doctrine of Christ.

According to Scripture, we believe in the universal Church of Christ; that Christ's vicarious atonement as sin-bearer is the only way into the Body, or Church, of Christ; that every born-again person, regardless of race or denomination, is built by Christ into this holy temple, or household, of God for the habitation of God through



the Spirit; that Christ is the Head, or chief corner stone, and High Priest over the household of faith.

According to Scripture, we have no authority to deny any one baptism, or the Lord's Supper, because he does not join our church. Also, God calls and ordains His ministers, and we cannot bar them from preaching the Gospel and administering its ordinances because *we* have not ordained them. But if they are preaching false doctrine, whether members of our church or not, we are commanded what to do. "If any man come unto you bringing not this doctrine (doctrine of Christ), receive him not into your house, neither bid him God-speed; for if you bid him God-speed you are partakers of his deed." Our ordination certificate recognizes the authority of the local church by stating the following: This Certificate of Ordination shall be in full force and effect for life, or during the maintenance of sound doctrine and good moral character. It shall be subject to recall, or annulment, by a council of three ordained ministers, *called by the church to which he belongs, and upon official demand by said church*, he is hereby placed under solemn promise to deliver this Certificate. We should be careful not to overstep the independence of the church by taking actions without the authority of the majority vote of the church.

Remember, the preacher is subject to the church of which he is a member, and there is no New Testament authority higher than the church. The last step Christ gave in dealing with any one is "tell it to the church."

A church joins the associations of its own free will, and if any of these cooperative bodies take an overall authority, or deny the fundamental doctrines of Christ, the church cannot remain true to Christ as Head of the church and remain a member. The devil works with all subtlety to supplant Christ as Head of the churches and as all-sufficient Savior. And if we are not alert and guard the truth with all diligence, we will gradually be overcome and become a daughter of Babylon. Christ said, Except ye repent, I will remove the candlestick." When a church, preacher, or member fails to obey Christ for fear that it will hurt their standing with an ecclesiastical authority, they grievously sin. For example, a Gospel preacher was told

by a "click" if he did not change his preaching the Minister's Conference would close all doors and expose him in the denominational paper. The preacher prayed, "Oh Lord, you called me into the ministry, and inspired my sermons; I will obey you rather than men, and if you do not open doors for me I will go down." Did he go down? No, more doors have opened than he can enter. And God has saved more souls through his ministry than all the preachers that wanted to usurp authority over him. "Earnestly contend for the faith, once for all delivered to the saints."

## AT HIS FEET

*Emma Moore, Springfield, Illinois*

Hebrews 4:9, 10, "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works..."

Reading the book of Ruth brings clearly a connection to this text. The book of Ruth typically may be taken as a foreview of the Church. And Ruth also gives a normal Christian experience—decision, service, rest, and fruitfulness. Prominence is given in the conclusion of the book showing Ruth an ancestress of David and hence of Jesus Christ.

We are impressed with the humble spirit in Ruth and *out of the ordinary* consideration of a daughter-in-law to mother-in-law. We see each one trying to consider what is best for the other, Naomi thinking the daughters-in-law would fare better in their own land. Her piety was not of the depth to see the spiritual benefits of Israel. Ruth's unusual decision was prompted with unselfish love because she had decided to make the God of Israel, Naomi's God, her own.

Ruth counted it a privilege to serve and asked permission of Naomi to go to the fields to glean. Gleaning was done by the women. Notice the humility again when Boaz grants her the right to drink of the water the young men have drawn. She fell on her face and bowed herself to the ground at his feet saying, "Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou should take knowledge of me seeing I am a stranger?" His answer gives her

his blessing. He told her of her kindness. It stirs me as I think of my Kinsman Redeemer, of whom Boaz is a type, considering it a kindness to Him that we should follow after Him. Jeremiah 2:2, "I remember the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals when thou wentest after me in the wilderness."

We are astonished that our Christ considers us in such a manner. For in our thinking it was His kindness that He should lead Israel from Egyptian bondage. But His great love considered their decision for Him a kindness. Ruth had left that land of idols and came into Canaan to serve the Lord.

The rest Naomi would secure for Ruth is that of a husband and a home. The indelicacy of chapter 3:3-6 is removed by the fact that it was a custom thus to remind a kinsman of his duty in such a case. The threshing floor was in the open and orientals slept in daytime clothing reclining on a rug or cloak. Servants often slept crosswise at the feet of their master. And if a covering was needed, they were allowed to draw the skirt of the master's covering over them. In the East this is a symbol of protection, and the equivalent to a marriage contract in case of a man's doing this for a woman.

Boaz in chapter 3:11 testifies of Ruth: "Thou art a virtuous woman, as does Naomi—"She lay at his feet till morning." We find this expression again and again of those who came to Christ. Luke 7:38 accounts how at His feet one washed them with her tears and how Jesus said to her, "Go in peace." In Luke 8:35 we have another account of one sitting at the feet of Jesus clothed and in his right mind who had been a maniac. In chapter 10:39 of the same gospel, Mary sat at Jesus' feet and heard His words. Jesus commended her.

Resting in Him is the privilege of us all, ceasing from our works. The Lord recompenses His own with this full reward because of their trust in Him. Notice Ruth worked until evening. Notice she rested at his feet till morning (Ruth 3:14). Oh blessed hope. We are His and He is ours. And until that day when He lifts us up to be eternally with Him may we stay at His feet in humble submission, being comforted by Him, blessed and rewarded by Him.



## THE PASSING OF THE PICKET FENCE

*Rev. George Waggoner, Mt. Vernon, Ill.*

I suppose that most of you know what a picket fence is. Some of the children may not. There are very few to be seen any more. But the picket fence is a thing that is familiar to you older people. Maybe some of you helped build them. They have now passed; as many other things, and more modern things have replaced them. There are many fond memories associated with this age of the picket fences. Our purpose is, of course, to note the spiritual things of that day and to compare them with today.

Spiritually speaking, many fences in life have been taken down. They have passed along with the old picket fence. A fence is something that hedges us in. It keeps us within certain boundaries or limits. These spiritual fences are good things. They are not only good, they are godly. We are human and sinful. We don't know, many times, the dangers of sin and we couldn't cope with them if we did. The devil is too strong for us. There is always that inward struggle in every person. This is the testimony of the Apostle Paul in Romans 7. Among other things he says, "Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me." But God has surrounded us with certain fences which are a means of His help to us. By this means we can come through with victory. The sad thing about it all is that, as I said, many of them have passed with the old picket fence. Let us notice some of the fences that have been taken down in life.

The passing of the family altar is one. God meant for us to worship in our homes to help ourselves and to help one another. "...and thou shalt teach them (commandments) diligently unto thy children..." (Deut. 6:7). And again in Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Our forefathers did these very things. But show me the families today that take time for family Bible study and prayer. Oh, some do once in awhile; but do they do it daily? The family altar has

passed away. We argue that we are too busy and I'll admit we are living too fast. Should we leave off God's work or something else? Young children demand our attention during the time that we should worship, oftentimes, but I believe we can find time if we sincerely want to. We find time for everything else we want to do. We need this fence in our lives.

Another thing concerns Sunday observance. It is not what it used to be. One of the Ten Commandments is "Keep the Sabbath day to sanctify it, as the Lord God hath commanded thee." Again our forefathers were strict in regard to this. But this that would fence us in and help mold our lives for God has passed. Just notice how many business houses are open on Sunday. Listen to the factory whistle. You can't tell what day it is. Watch the traffic—people going places for pleasure or business. I know our world is complex, but it ought not to be so complex that we rule out the God who made it.

A third thing that has largely passed out of our lives is Bible reading and study. "Study to show thyself approved unto God..." (2 Tim. 2:15). And Psalm 119:105, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." The very thing that would draw us close to God and give us strength is no longer real in our lives. Church members are reading novels and love stories and letting their Bible mildew.

A fourth thing is one idea that has taken the day and is ruining the home. It is in regard to taking care of children. This is the parents' responsibility. Who would have thought a few years ago that we would have parents hiring baby sitters and then going out on wild parties until all hours of the night. There is no use to go on. You know what has happened in the modern home. Children don't obey their parents like they used to. Parents don't know where they are a lot of the time. Only this week a man came to our school and wanted to know if his little boy (about three years old) was there. It is about five blocks and across two main streets and a railroad

from his house. He wasn't there but had been two or three times before.

I could go on and list and discuss other things that are passing with the picket fence—like respect for and of women, pure talk, refraining from drinking, honesty, but we won't take the time. God has said "Thou shalt" or "Thou shalt not" because He can see our future and knows what is best for us. We are hedged in with moral, social, and physical laws. They are for our good, but we continually flirt with danger and try to break them. The story of Adam and Eve is an every-day occurrence to all of us. We are living in a beautiful world. We have everything we need for our good. Yet we are continually doing what God has said we should not do, or we are not doing what God has said we should. We are reaching through the fences that have us hedged in. We must pay the consequences of this sooner or later. In Ecclesiastes 10:8 the writer says "...whoso breaketh an hedge, a serpent shall bite him." This can be implied spiritually. One little thing done in a moment can ruin our character. It takes a long time to become famous but we may become notorious overnight.

God only knows the results of the passing of these fences from our lives. We know, in part, that our lives can't tell for Him as they ought if we let the fences down. They cannot be fruitful or happy or very spiritual. Let's do our part in keeping them from passing or in rebuilding the ones that have passed.

## SUPPORTING THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CAUSE

*Rev. D. C. Dodd, Nashville, Tenn.*

If we are sold on a cause we will support it. This is true in both a spiritual and temporal sense. However, we are more concerned about the spiritual and that as it relates to our Free Will Baptist program.

We are not ready to expand until we learn to support what we already have. To be sure, we have carried on a good program and we have results to show for our efforts. Our Mission fields are being developed rapidly; our Bible College has grown marvelously since its inception seven years ago. We have come a long way since those hectic days of 1919. Perhaps many times we



do not appreciate deeply enough these accomplishments. Be it far from me to belittle any of these truths. Rather I praise God for such advancement.

But face another truth—WE HAVE COME AS FAR AS POSSIBLE. "Before we go further we must build more road." We have climbed as high as we can go under present circumstances. WE MUST SUPPORT MORE ADEQUATELY OUR DENOMINATIONAL PROGRAM.

There are three things which we need to realize:

1—We must support our local church program with our tithes and offerings. This makes it possible to establish a "home base" on which a Denominational supply line can be anchored.

2—We must see to it that the tithe is not "stored" in the "storehouse". We believe that God expects us to bring our tithes and offerings to the Church which is the storehouse and that proper distribution be made from there. God expects that this money be invested in the spreading of the Gospel. Let us beware lest we thoughtlessly spend it all on elaborate furnishings and embellishments and forget about the greater need—"Preaching the Gospel to every creature."

3—The church must in turn support the National program by regular and generous offerings. Our Foreign and Home Mission program, Bible College and so forth, are dependent for support on the individual churches. As the local church is dependent upon the faithful stewardship of individual members for its sustenance, so the National program is dependent upon the faithful stewardship of the churches for its support.

Support your Denominational program. Do it either of two ways:

1—By making special offerings directly to each department of work and clearing it through your state treasurer for that specific purpose.

2—By sending an offering regularly to the Unified Program Fund. You may clear this through your state treasurer, who in turn will forward it to the National Treasurer. It will then be divided as follows:

Bible College .....	37%
Foreign Missions .....	28%
Home Missions .....	20%
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For further information write to—Promotional Department, National Association of Free Will Baptists, 3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tenn.

## HABITS

*Rev. Roger Reeds, Lemay, Mo.*

Would you get your Bible and relax a few minutes with me as we look into God's Word. I want you to turn with me to the book of Proverbs, the 16th chapter. Now read the entire chapter. It is a wonderful passage of Scripture, isn't it? Webster says a Proverb is a "short familiar saying expressing some well known truth," which is a pretty good definition. But I prefer another that was given in our Bible class at our College—"the Laws of Heaven for life on earth." I'm sure you agree it is a book full of wisdom and knowledge. Particularly notice the 25th verse. It contains 19 words of wisdom that the unsaved should be heeding. May we keep this verse in mind as we continue.

In this day and age there are so many ways that a man may go. But each of these except one leads to destruction. Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour is that One Way. In John 14:6 Christ makes this statement, "I am the way." Christ is the only way of escape to those who are heading down the road of destruction. In Matthew 7:13, 14 Christ describes the "two ways." One is the Broad way that leads to destruction; the other is the Narrow way that leads to eternal life. Which way are you traveling?

By watching a person's life, it can be told which way he is traveling, and one of the easiest ways to observe this is to watch the person's habits. A habit is something that is done in continuous repetition. I believe it is safe to say everyone has habits in some form. And it is surprising how these habits cling to us. If we try to rid ourselves of them it takes every bit of will power that we possess. In 1939 automobiles were made with the gear shift on the wheel. People driving them for the first time would find themselves reaching for the gear stick extending from the floor. This is just a minor habit but there are some greater ones that are hard to rid ourselves of. A father wanted to show his son the effect a habit has on one's life. He sent for a hammer

and nail and then drove the nail deeply into a piece of wood. He then handed the hammer to his son and told him to pull the nail out. The boy struggled and pulled and tugged and, after much effort had been put forth he succeeded in pulling the nail. Then the father told the boy to pull the nail hole out. The boy exclaimed that he could not. The object of the father's teaching is this: habits can be pulled out but often the effects cannot.

We may have evil habits that can be pulled out by the Holy Spirit but yet they will leave their effects on our lives. For example, I smoked for six years prior to my conversion. When I accepted Christ, He pulled the habit of tobacco out of my life. But I find that I am now very short winded and will puff at the slightest exertion. Some people are affected in greater ways. I read of one woman who is now in the hospital under treatment for tuberculosis because of the habit of tobacco. May God grant us the strength to rid ourselves of all habits that may be harmful to our bodies. And may we remember that our bodies are God's temple.

While we may have habits that should be done away with, we may still have habits that need to be cultivated. Habits that could draw us into closer harmony with God. Think back to the time of Enoch. Enoch made a habit of walking with God and he was rewarded greatly for it. We should make a daily habit of walking with God. Let's not go any place without taking Him with us. Think of David. David made a habit of going to the house of God. He worshipped constantly in the tabernacle. This is a habit each person should acquire. Attend God's house every time the doors are open. Then think of Daniel. Daniel made a habit of praying three times a day. This is truly a habit we need to cultivate. Go constantly before the throne of Grace. Then may we think of the Lord Jesus Christ. His every habit was perfect. How we need to pattern after Him.

There are two ways a man may go. You must make the choice now. Read the entire First Psalm. The first three verses describe the narrow way. The last three describe the broad way. Again I ask, "Which way are you traveling?" Remember, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death".





## From The Editor's Desk



### VISIT YOUTH CAMP GROUNDS

On March 12 your Editor and family, together with Miss Gertrude Bowe, disregarded weather predictions and ominous skies and drove, or skidded, to the Youth Camp near Niangua. It was the first visit there for any of us and we enjoyed the privilege and were impressed with what has been accomplished.

We found Brother and Sister Reeves and son installed in the new caretaker's cottage. The cottage isn't quite finished but was very cozy against the storm. It is almost unbelievable that such a building can be constructed for so low a cash outlay in present times. The people of the church and community together with the Reeves have contributed much, especially in long hours of hard work. It is a decided asset to the Camp.

Brother Reeves pointed out many improvements already accomplished and mapped a busy schedule of finishing the cottage, wiring cabins, pouring concrete floors, some plumbing work, landscaping, leveling the playground, and countless other things. They are trying hard to do as much as possible before the different sessions of the summer. Their labor is limited only by human endurance.

We found Brother Reeves discouraged in only one thing—a dwindling income. We at the Gem office are keenly feeling this stigma. The Missions department is anxiously watching contributions. And now we discover our Youth Camp experiencing a similar difficulty. This ought not to be so. In another article you will see figures offered by the Stewardship Commission that are enough to shame us to giving more liberally. But I offer another plan. Get on your knees and start praying about your giving. Earnestly contend with the Lord until you know exactly what is required of you. If you arise still squeezing your pocketbook too tight to give, if missions lack funds, if your church papers are not adequately supported, if the Youth Camp cannot further advance, if souls are starving because you will not give, then you still haven't prayed through on the matter. "When thou art converted strengthen thy brethren."

### MRS. ROACH AGAIN ILL

We learn by way of the *Free Will Baptist* that Mrs. Maurice Roach is again hospitalized and has submitted to the second of two serious operations within a few months. Her condition is such that Rev. Roach has cancelled his missions schedule to be with her. Present treatment is at Leaksville Hospital, Leaksville, North Carolina. They ask the prayers of God's people.

### FULL TIME EVANGELIST

We are informed by Rev. John D. McKown, Route 3, Jamesport, Missouri, that by April 15 he expects to have a 20 x 40 tent, folding chairs, a lighting arrangement, and other equipment for full time service as an evangelist. You can contact him at the above address.

### GIVE FORTY-THREE CENTS

In a recent bulletin from the National Stewardship Commission we discover the following alarming statistics: "In 1948-49 we gave, for all causes in our denomination, 43 cents per capita. There are nearly 300,000 Free Will Baptists reported. If one-third of them worked and made an average of \$10 per week, and paid the tithe to God through the church every week, there would be \$5,200,000 coming into our church coffers. This would be the equivalent of \$17 per capita instead of 43 cents."

You may write the Commission at 3609 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee, for other Stewardship literature, comments, and astonishing facts.

### REV. TURNER TO CUBA

On a recent itinerate in the interest of missions, Rev. Kenneth Turner had four unscheduled days while in Florida. He utilized this time in a short visit to the mission field in Cuba. Bro. Turner has previously been on this field and states he was surprised and pleased with the advance of the work there, much of it accomplished over discouraging obstacles and difficulties.

### REV. MELVIN VISITS GEM

We were pleasantly surprised by an unexpected visit from Rev. Henry Melvin, of Nashville, Tennessee, recently. Brother Melvin arrived in town about 8:00 o'clock in the evening and found us busy at the office. He visited only a few hours in the community and started on to East Missouri and back to Nashville. Rev. Melvin is a staff member at the Free Will Baptist Bible College and we found him enthusiastic about the school and its progress and growth. He also has a keen interest in every department of the denominational work and labors toward a well balanced program for God and His Church.

### BOOKS AND SUPPLIES

We have just completed a reprinting of several popular items furnished at the Gem office. One item was the book of Baptismal Certificates. A few revisions have been made that we feel add to its value and attractiveness. Space is now provided for the signatures of both the pastor or evangelist and the minister administering the ordinance of baptism. The books contain 20 certificates bound check book style with the stub furnishing the minister a record of persons baptized. The detached certificates are 5½ by 10½ inches and are evenly divided between an attractive green and a soft brown. They are printed on a heavy bond lithographed form and are suitable for framing.

Also reprinted are the church letter forms from the local church to yearly meetings, quarterly meetings or to associations. A very slight revision of arrangement was made in this printing to improve appearance and usefulness. The report remains exactly the same.

We are still filling orders for the Treatise. Unless yours is a 1949 copy of the Revised edition you should get this new edition.

We now have agencies for almost any church supplies and Christian fiction and can secure what you need at an attractive price. Address your inquiries to us on all your church supplies and printing needs.



## ANNUAL BIBLE CONFERENCE SET; SPEAKERS SELECTED

The Spring Bible Conference begins on Sunday afternoon, April 23, with a vesper service at four o'clock. Morning, afternoon, and evening services



**Rev. J. L. Welch**

will be conducted through noon Thursday, April 27.

At the vesper service on Sunday afternoon, Brother J. R. Davidson, of Davis, North Carolina, will bring a message on the theme of *Consecration*,



**Laura Belle Barnard—Missionary**

which, we believe, will be a good theme with which to begin the Conference. At this service there will be

special singing and other features which should give the Conference a good start.

The speakers for the remaining days will be: Reverend J. L. Welch, pastor of Cofer's Chapel Church, Nashville; Dr. F. B. Cherry, pastor of Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church, in Durham, North Carolina; Miss Laura Belle Barnard, our missionary to India, who expects to be home in time for the Bible Conference. These speakers will be bringing messages each day throughout the Conference. In addition to this, different members of the Alumni Association—students who have finished and are now in active Christian work—will conduct daily devotions beginning at 8:30 in the morning.

*The Spiritual Life Hour*, which will be primarily for the young people, will



**Dr. F. B. Cherry**

be conducted each afternoon from two until three o'clock. This service will be conducted as an open forum in which problems encountered in living a consecrated life will be discussed. Other questions that will be discussed are: How may I know the will of God for my life? How may I know that I am living a fully surrendered life?

Each day from 3 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. there will be a free period during which various interesting places may be visited around the city of Nashville.

Music will be under the direction of the Music Department of the College.

For the past two years we have

erected on the vacant lot beside one of the College buildings a large tent which has accommodated several hundred people. If necessary we expect to use the tent again this year.

If you plan to attend the Bible Conference, we would appreciate it if you would let us know so we may make adequate provisions for everyone who comes. We will be glad to send information on hotel accommodations and the estimated cost to those who request.

## FREE WILL BAPTIST TREATISE

Price Post Paid.....30cents each

## FORGIVENESS

*J. M. Doughty, Strafford, Mo.*

Forgiveness is one of the most important graces that Jesus taught and it is necessary for the growth of other graces. Jesus practiced and taught forgiveness throughout His ministry on earth and in His crucifixion. You remember that on one occasion He told His disciples that they should forgive until seventy times seven.

We read in Luke 23:34 that while Jesus was on the cross that He prayed "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

Many of us are so human that it is hard for us to really forgive. But sincere forgiveness is necessary for our own happiness and growth in grace as well as in obedience to God's command.

I have heard individuals say, "I will forgive him or her if he or she will ask me to. That is not Jesus' idea of forgiveness. You are to forgive in your heart although you are not asked to forgive. Did Jesus wait for the Jewish priests to ask His forgiveness before He uttered His supreme prayer of forgiveness on the cross?"

Many people are reluctant to confess a fault, mistake, or sin; but there is a proverb that "an honest confession is good for the soul." It is also true that sincere forgiveness is good for the soul, and real forgiveness is essential for spiritual growth. Many offenders, if they feel that you have pardoned them in your heart, will strive to show unusual kindness. Jesus would give them a chance as He did Peter at the breakfast on the seashore.



# NEWSY BRIEFS

# OBITUARIES - REPORTS LETTERS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

## YOUTH CAMP REPORT

Dear Youth Camp Supporters:

I will at this time give you a report on our work at the Camp. We moved into our new cottage on the campground February 2 (Groundhog day). We have the house near completion. If nothing happens, by the time you read this we will have it completed inside. It has four nice rooms and a kitchenette, and I am sure everyone will appreciate it as an addition to our camp at a cost of near \$1,100.00.

We are clearing the ground between the Camp and the highway and cutting the sprouts away from the buildings. We have also set out 700 to 800 flowers and greenery and still more to come. We want to take this opportunity to express our hearty thanks to everyone who has been so good to send the flowers to us. We can still use more if you have them.

The Board plans to put lights in the cabins, flood lights on the playground, a concrete floor in the kitchen at the dining hall, and running water in both kitchens. We have a power pump on the well but need a one-half h. p. heavy duty motor to pull it. We have one borrowed at present.

We are looking forward to a great time here through the month of June. The Woman's Auxillary will be June 6-9. The State Sunday School and League Conventions meet June 19-20, and our Youth Camp session June 21-30. We are praying that we will have another good session like we had last year. We do appreciate the co-operation of the people in supporting our program with their donations both financially and in canned goods and groceries. We feel more people will help with the entertainment needs this year. The time is drawing near as it will be one month earlier than it was last year. That means we must work harder to be ready. There are many things to do before we are ready to meet at this session.

We need to get behind our offering. Our offerings this month were \$60.66, but I am sure others will be in later. The Senior Class at the Nlangua Church have pledged a power mower

for the grounds. We so appreciate this good deed as we certainly need the mower.

We extend to you a hearty invitation to visit the Camp at any time you can. We are anxious for you to come.

Yours for Christ,

Rev. Wm. Reeves

## IN MEMORIAM

In memory of our dear husband and father, Asberry Davis, who departed this life one year ago on March 24, 1949.

### Gone But Not Forgotten

*Dear daddy, in our hearts your memory lingers,*

*Patient, kind and ever true;*

*There's not a day we do not miss you,*

*Not a day but what we think of you.*

*We miss you in the home,*

*We miss your gentle care,*

*We miss you in the church,*

*We miss you everywhere.*

*Dear Jesus, help us ever*

*Thy Blessed Word to keep*

*So that we meet dear daddy*

*When at last in death we sleep.*

*No one knows the silent heartaches.*

*Only those who have lost can tell*

*Of the grief that we bear in silence*

*For the one we loved so well.*

Sadly missed by wife, sons and daughter, Mrs. Asberry Davis and family.

## STATE S. S. CONVENTION

The State Sunday School Board met at the Youth Camp February 25 to select a place for our next convention, and set in a joint session with the State League Board making out their programs. Both will convene June 19-20 at the Camp, beginning at 7:45 Monday night. Our programs will soon be mailed out to every Sunday School and League. Begin planning now to be here and help make this a real session for our youth.

Rev. Wm. Reeves, Sec'y-Treas.

## WANT TEXAS CHURCH

719 N. Amburgy  
Odessa, Texas

Dear Gem Readers:

Will you give a handful of hungry Free Will Baptists a space in your paper to tell you how homesick and hungry we get for some good gospel preaching? There are several families of Free Will Baptists here in Odessa, but not a Free Will Baptist preacher in 40 miles of us. When you Free Will Baptists out there who have a church and a good pastor kneel in prayer, won't you remember us? Ask our Lord to send us a real man of God who is not afraid to fight liquor and all kinds of sin. And one not afraid of starving to death out in this hot, dry, and dusty country. And put it on your hearts to help us pray that God will see fit to help organize a church here. Pray for us that we will ever be found faithful in His work.

A sister in Christ,

Mrs. Marie Smart

## S. S. PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM

Just a few lines on our program. The time is speedily passing and soon our Convention will be here. We would like to draw to the minds of those who offered their services in helping secure the locations and names of our Sunday Schools and officers that we are anxious to have them as soon as possible, as we will be very busy getting things ready for June.

The date for the Teachers Training course is not set yet, but will be taken care of soon. We will appreciate a report or a suggestion from some of our Sunday Schools as to the time that would be best and the number you think would be interested in coming from your school.

May God bless and prosper our program.

Rev. Wm. Reeves, Promotional Sec'y.

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1.00 per year



## ORIN TAYLOR FAST

Orin Taylor (Deb) Fast, youngest son of William Marion and Louisa Jane Fast, was born at the family homestead near Liberal, Missouri, October 28, 1872, and passed away March 16, 1950, at the age of 77 years, 4 months, and 16 days.

He leaves to mourn his going, his wife, Nellie (McWilliam) Fast, to whom he had been a faithful husband and friend for almost 57 years. Four children, Ruby, Paul, Dixie, and Mary, who live in or near the old home neighborhood. Two sons, Orin and Warren, passed away at an early age. He also leaves a half-sister, Amy Thomas, who made her home with him for some years after their father's death, 14 grandchildren, six great grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

He was converted and joined the Verdella Free Will Baptist Church in early youth. He was always an active and consistent Christian. He often remarked that when he told his own father of his conversion, his father only said, "Well, stick to it, Son." This he did with great faith and determination. He loved his God and the Church devotedly, was always at his post of duty, and served many years as deacon of the church and superintendent and teacher in the Sunday School. His home was always open to welcome and care for God's ministers. When his health would not permit him to farm longer, he and "Mama," as he lovingly called her, moved into Liberal.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. C. O. Crockett and Rev. Lowell Martin at the Verdella Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday, March 16, 1950. Interment was in Barton City Cemetery.

'Tis hard to break the tender cord  
When love has bound the heart  
'Tis hard, so hard, to speak the words  
That we must part.

Farewell, Papa darling, but not forever  
There will be a glorious dawn  
When we shall meet no more to part  
On the bright resurrection morn.

## MT. GROVE AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Mountain Grove Free Will Baptist Church met for its regular monthly meeting on Friday night, March 3. Due to the absence of the President, the meeting was called to order by the First

Vice-President, Mrs. Bertha Dennis. After singing a song, the Chairman read Isaiah 54:2, 3. Prayer was offered by Sister Mary Halliburton. The Introduction was read by Mrs. Dennis. Topics were given as follows: "The Past" by Mrs. Graham; "The Present" by Mrs. Hutsell; "The Future" by Mrs. Zellen Altis. Comments were made on the picture shown at the church on the previous Monday night by Rev. Turner by several present. The lesson was assigned for the month of April. A short business session was held with Mrs. Dennis in charge. The Secretary's report was read and approved. The vice-presidents announced their committees who are to help them carry on their work this year. They are as follows: 1st Vice-President and Committee: Mrs. Bertha Dennis, Mrs. Holt, and Mrs. Ellington; 2nd Vice-President and Committee: Mrs. Cinda Vandivert, Carol Ray Dennis, and Mildred Hutsell; 3rd Vice-President and Committee: Mrs. Murrell Hutsell, Mrs. Mary Halliburton, and Mrs. Della Hutsell; 4th Vice-President and Committee: Mrs. Edna Carder, Mrs. Verba Smith, and Mrs. Alta Hanna; 5th Vice-President and Committee: Mrs. Zellen Altis, Mrs. George Scott, and Mrs. Artha Hutsell.

The next lesson will be "Advancing with Christ Through the Training of Youth." The public is invited to come and especially the members of the church and auxiliary. Come and help us carry on this much needed and worthy work. The meeting was dismissed with prayer by Rev. Homer Smith.

Reporter

## NEW W. A. IN OKLAHOMA

The ladies of the Oilton Free Will Baptist Church met Friday afternoon, March 17, to organize the Woman's Auxiliary.

There were 17 members present and it was decided that their meeting day would be Wednesday of each week at 1:30. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Glenna Stairs; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Eula Ausbrooks; 2nd Vice-President, Rev. Hatlie Newman; 3rd Vice-President, Mrs. Violet Tyree; 4th Vice-President, Rev. Faye Bookout; 5th Vice-President, Mrs. Violet Robinson; Secretary, Mrs. Audry Gillum; Corresponding Secre-

tary, Mrs. Natalie Casey; Treasurer, Mrs. Doll Light.

We want to express our appreciation to Rev. Cleo Purcell of Bristow, who is the District President of the Woman's Auxiliary, for assisting the women in organizing their Auxiliary.

Mrs. Natalie Casey, Cor. Secy.

## KERMAN (CAL.) AUXILIARY

Kerman, California  
February 27, 1950

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to report to your paper the progress of the Woman's Auxiliary in California. On February 10, 1950, a group of women from auxiliaries over the State met at the Kerman Church for the purpose of organizing a State Auxiliary Convention. Cleo Doss, Kerman, was elected President of the Convention; Goldie Priest, Richmond, 1st Vice-president; Lucile Hampton, Porterville, 2nd Vice-president; Illa Hudleston, Turlock, 3rd Vice-president; Patti McLain, Kerman, 5th Vice-president; Winnie McLain, Richmond, was elected secretary, and Zella Ramsey was elected Field Worker.

Since the state organization one more local auxiliary has been organized at the Arvin Free Will Baptist Church, at Arvin, California.

Pray for us that we might "Advance with Christ" out here on the West Coast.

Prayerfully yours,

Patti McLain

## PERSONAL SOUL WINNING

by William Evans

A guide to the most effective methods of winning men to Christ.

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

192 Pages, Cloth Covers, \$1.25

Broken homes weaken civilization, for civilization is built upon the home and family.





## THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ

WOMEN'S EDITOR: MRS. EUNICE EDWARDS—DESLOGE, Mo.



### POWER FOR ADVANCE

Mrs. J. E. Frazier, W. N. A. C. Executive Secretary

For the calendar year of 1950, the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention has chosen for her watchword "Advancing With Christ." Advance, then, is the supreme word in Woman's Auxiliary life. Likewise, it should be the supreme word in Free Will Baptist life for we must advance in spiritual faith, in the measure of our consecration, in evangelistic effort, in world missions, in giving our money for Kingdom causes, and in making Christ the ruling factor in all our activities.

But advance calls for power. Power belongs to God, and that power has been offered to Christians. He is able to give more than we can ask or think. He wants to give abundantly.

We need a new conviction that abundant power is available. Christ assured His children that the Holy Ghost would be given to everyone who would witness for Him. The Spirit is here today; He is all we need today. In this same Holy Spirit Free Will Baptists of 1950 can experience a baptism of power that will make us mighty in deed, wise in speech, and convincing in influence.

We need a new conviction as to the great need today for power. A look around in most any direction will supply convincing evidence of this need. Look at the level of average Christian living: the failure to overcome besetting temptations, the compromise about moral issue, the lack of joy and zeal, the lack of ability to convince a lost world of the reality of judgment. The opposition Christians face today makes greater power most necessary. Mighty combines of evil forces block Christian advance today possibly more than ever in the history of the world. The organized liquor traffic with all its attendant evils, the many pagan philosophies, such as communism, and organized vice and crimes are just a few examples of the forces against which Christians must fight to advance with Christ. We do need the Lord and

the strength of His might daily.

We need possibly as never before a new conviction as to what we must do to obtain this power, for it is certainly not a matter of magic. There are certain definite laws that operate in the spiritual realm as in the natural realm. The Holy Spirit is offered to all Christians, but every follower must be willing to meet the conditions required for an endowment of zeal and wisdom for such an hour as this—1950.

A few of these conditions, which you and I and all other sincere Free Will Baptists must meet, are as follows: surrender to the will of the Holy Spirit. He cannot give power to any follower whose purpose is not in harmony with that of the Heavenly Father. This means that we all—preacher, teacher, leader, laity alike—must break with sin of every sort and give ourselves without any reservation to the will of God. He is the power. Through Christians today just as through the apostles, He would (and will) go forth to save the world. Followers of Christ never could and never can do God's work without God's power. Their business has ever been to advance the things Jesus began to do and teach.

Second, we must seek power through earnest and persistent prayer. Prayer has always been and is yet the mightiest force in the world. Jesus said, "Ask and it shall be given you." This is the way to get the power we need for advance in the service of Christ. All who are responsible for 1950 auxiliary programs aimed to help Free Will Baptist women to advance through their monthly activities with Christ should remember that "Prayer is a force surer than a cannon; swifter than an airplane; stronger than a tank" and "The secret of all failure is our failure in secret prayer." But this fact should be noted: there is no account of power granted without a purpose to witness. A powerful Chris-

tian or a powerful church not witnessing is an anomaly. It just does not happen. Power is granted only for a task. The work of advancing with Christ is God's and the power is His. Never were the disciples able to win by any stratagem of their own. In coming into the world Jesus undertook a work which His followers were (and are) to carry on. Through men Christ continued (and continues) to do and teach.

Third, we must have daring faith to advance with Christ. This is the inseparable counterpart of surrender and prayer. Faith like a mustard seed can lay held upon supernatural power to overcome mountains of opposition and to advance to the remotest point where a soul is still held captive in sin and death. Much of the advance of the Christian faith came through the endeavors of ordinary laymen such as Stephen and Phillip and those Christians who were scattered abroad by persecutions. Advancing with Christ belongs to all who are called to be saints. No one who is a Christian can escape his or her own personal responsibility. Today is no different to yesterday for in our time the advancement of the Kingdom is the task of every believer—men, women, and children. Our geographical and human world is, to be sure, far greater than were those of the earliest disciples, but our task is no greater. It is to make *actual* the purpose of the Great Commission. From a study of the book of Acts, we of the Free Will Baptist Women's Auxiliary may glean some insight into the means by which our group can make a comparable advance with theirs. We will find they did not continue to *wait in quiet* once the Spirit had come with power, nor did they *keep on enjoying the exalted experience* of His presence; but they *arose* to achieve great deeds, and as they did, the power to accomplish His will came. Likewise, if today we who have chosen Advancing with Christ as our rally cry for this new year of opportunities and responsibilities are to make an advancement that will compare to theirs, then we, as all



Christians, must possess their mind and spirit.

To the work, then! Advance with Christ! With a sense of the Spirit's leading let the deeds of the Kingdom become actual, real in power! Wherever you are—city, town, hamlet or country—the Kingdom of God can burst into others' lives. There is no place to stand still in God's vineyard. We are laborers together with God in this world of 1950 where men have unmeasured power but lack moral control for its use. God give us power to reach them and all the unnumbered millions throughout the earth without hope of salvation. God grant that 1950 shall be a year of advance for the people of our denomination and for all the people of Christ around the world!

Free Will Baptists MUST advance!

### GO-TELL BAND REPORTS

Greetings in behalf of the Fredericktown Go-Tell Society which was organized under our Second Vice-President, Esther Hedicke. This is their first report so we are giving the officers names:

President.....Jean Denton  
Vice President.....Alma Matthews  
Secretary.....Doris Francis  
Treasurer.....Dorothy Ragsdale  
Reporter.....Laverne Dowd

To date this young girls' Auxiliary has been very busy meeting each month for regular services; visiting the sick and shut-ins; mailing greeting cards; rendering special numbers for the Woman's Auxiliary. We enjoyed a fine playlet by these girls. They also gave this playlet at the local Assembly of God Church. They are making plans to assist our Auxiliary in the pre-Easter Service. We praise the Master for these willing workers and their eagerness in His Cause.

We as Free Will Baptists have the making of a great church in our young people. May we see that they receive the best of training for their place in the church.

Corresponding Secretary

### THIRD CHURCH AUXILIARY

Again we are glad to report we have had a good time in serving the Lord through our Woman's Auxiliary. We realize it is our duty as an Auxiliary

to help spread Christianity. We are endeavoring to enlist more of our women trusting that they will soon see the need of workers in this great city. We feel our city of St. Louis and a great many cities of our nation are fast becoming like Sodom and Gomorrah—centers of vice, violence, confusion, and crime—with all the theaters, gambling, liquor drinking, and other types of sin attracting thousands from the churches today.

Luke 17:28-30 reads, "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." The destruction of cities like Sodom and Gomorrah is a good example of what awaits the world. II Peter 2:6, "And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly." No matter how large or strong cities are today when God says He has had enough, the cities of this world shall be swept away.

Truly we can say with the Lord, "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few, pray ye therefore the Lord of harvest, that he would send forth laborers into His harvest." We need more women to help take part in the work we feel He has given us to do. We pray each and everyone will pray for the work we are doing in our Auxiliary that it may always be pleasing in the sight of the Lord.

Mrs. Jerry Bullis

### Auxiliary Editor's Report

Received:

Mrs. Agnes Frazier.....\$5.00  
Flat River ..... 3.00  
St. Louis Third ..... 1.00  
Fredericktown. .... 2.00

Total .....\$11.00

Disbursed:

Typewriter .....\$6.67  
Supplies ..... .40  
Postage ..... .18

Total .....\$7.25

### INDIAN CREEK W. A. MEET

Our quarterly meeting day of inspirational program and fellowship was held at the Van Buren Chapel Church near Wentworth, Missouri. The meeting was called to order by the President, Sister Lola Anna Williams, of Carterville, Missouri. The song service was directed by Rev. Virgil Greenway, pastor of the entertaining church. Prayer was offered by Brother Weston, after which the program chairman, Mrs. Opal Williams, introduced the program theme for the day—"Advancing with Christ." The first topic was given by Mrs. Rich, a visitor from Pierce City, Missouri. Her topic was very inspiring.

The next topic was given by Mrs. Evelyn Alyea of the Monett Auxiliary.

The morning message was brought by Rev. Rich and was enjoyed by everyone. The Riches' are waiting for completion of arrangements to go to a foreign field for missionary service.

After a most delicious lunch and pleasant social hour the President called the service to order and officers' reports were given. Through our reports we were reminded of our responsibilities such as tithing and benevolences. We were so happy to acknowledge a new organization at Pleasant Grove Church. Reading by Mrs. Davidson of the Van Buren Church. A topic was given by Babe McKibben, from Carterville. Brother Allred reported progress of plans for the Youth Camp this summer. A topic was given by Hope Eaton, from Jones Chapel Church. A solo was given by Brother Virgil Greenway. A topic was given by Brother Cecil Campbell and Brother Paul Williams. Brother Greenway gave a talk on the theme. A motion was carried to divide the day's offering between the Youth Camp and Miss Barnard's return passage. The offering was \$11.89. A motion was carried to go to Pleasant Grove for the next meeting which will be in May.

Lola Anna Williams, Pres.  
Edna Gentry, Sec.-Treas.

### PERSONAL SOUL WINNING

By Mrs. Eunice Edwards

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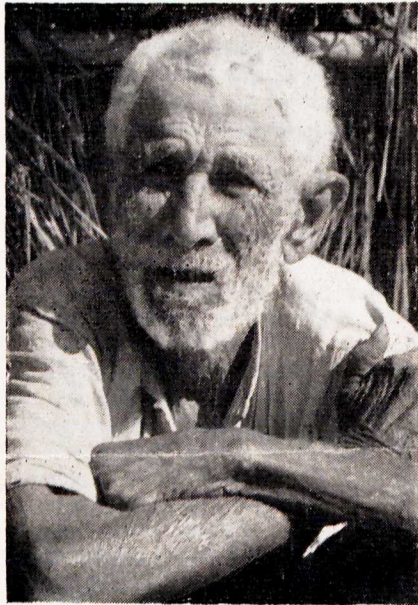


## THE GOSPEL MESSAGE REACHING OUT IN CUBA

*Rev. Thomas H. Willey, Pinar del Rio, Cuba*

If it were possible for you who have prayed for the Cuban mission to come personally in touch with our Cuban Christians and see their simple faith and God's answer to that faith, you would feel that your praying and giving has been well invested.

Felix Cruz, the man whom I want



**Converted at 117—Now 118**

you to know, was born in the Canary Islands. He came to Cuba as an orphan at the age of 14. He is a very fine looking man of about 65 now with snow-white hair and has been converted about two years. Nothing pleases him more than to talk about the Lord to every one he meets. I spent two days with Felix on a trip into the mountains, where he had spent a large part of his life, and was now bringing back to his people your missionaries for the first time.

Last Christmas eve one of Felix' boys went to the highway to meet his brother who was coming home from Pinar del Rio to spend Christmas with the family. As Felix sat on the porch meditating the thought came to him that since it was Christmas eve there would be much drunkenness and reckless driving. He felt definitely lead to pray for his son at just about the time he would be arriving at the high-

way and did pray earnestly for him.

When the boy arrived at the highway a big truck coming at excessive speed hit the horse he was riding but the boy was completely thrown free without a scratch. He contacted the local mounted police, but the truck had disappeared into the night. The horse died as a result of the wounds received. I had the privilege of leading the son to the Lord not long after this incident. Our people saved from Catholicism are deeply spiritual and by their simple faith put us of more mature Christian knowledge to shame.

Felix was taken very seriously ill and while he was suffering he prayed that if the Lord would raise him up from this illness he would begin to



**The Son—In His Seventies**

preach. His prayer was to be answered that same night. We met Felix on the road or he would have walked the eight miles to the service. We held the second Gospel service in that place recently. Five people had walked six miles to attend the service. The people we preached to heard the Gospel for the second time in their lives.

Back in the foothills of Vinales in a place called the "eyebrow of the moon," "Seja de Luna," we have a fine faithful group of believers. These people have built a chapel that will seat about 70 people. A large part of the year they are isolated, without communication to the outside world, due to impassable roads. Saddle horses

must labor through mud and swollen streams to reach them during the rainy season.

Two days ago I went into visit with them. What a joy to hear them sing and pray! While I was preaching there was deep conviction among the unsaved. After the service a fine young man, the son of our principle layman, sought the Lord. Also a small girl.

We have a remarkable convert in this place—an old man who is 118 years old. When he was a young man he was held as a slave under the Spaniards. Some of his boys escaped to the rebel forces and fought the Spaniards; one died on the field of battle.

I went to visit with this old man, now completely doubled with age, but still mentally alert with a keen eye. He was deeply interested in the things of the Lord. He has a large family of four generations about him. One son with snow-white hair and beard claims to be in his seventies and another son still older than he. While his family are very faithful Catholics, the old man has his trust in the Gospel.

In every field we have faithful laymen who are seeking the salvation of those about them. It was through the



**Walking About at 118 Years**

personal work of our brother, Angel Betancourt, that this old man at the age of 117 heard the Gospel for the



first time. It is almost unbelievable that one would live over a century, and in this modern age, without ever hearing a Gospel message. Until our Free Will Baptist layman, himself saved from darkness and superstition, conveyed to him the message of salvation by faith, he had never heard.

How our hearts glow with the desire to reach the many other fields, hills, and valleys in Cuba! These places are filled with isolated groups of people still waiting for someone to tell them of the greatest message in the world.

It is to many of our faithful laymen that we must give credit for breaking the soil. Men like the Betancourt brothers—there are three now—Angel, Pedro, and Isaac. Each of them has a Free Will Baptist temple on his farm. We have about 50 of these faithful farmers who go into the villages and valleys making the first contacts. These are followed up by our students and graduates. Others are saved and temples are built—thus our work has grown and continues to grow.

### MISSIONARIES MUST AID SICK; PLAN DISPENSARY

Sonapurhat, Purnea District  
Bihar, North India  
March 3, 1950

Dear Friends:

After some time here we are again. It is beginning to get hot again although we have had unusually cold weather this past season, particularly for tent life. But as we found a nice oil heater and then made friends with the magister who issues the permits for kerosene, we have fared fine indeed. We have our land of a little more than three acres fenced with split bamboos and have planted 23 fruit trees—arms, lichies, and nimbus. We will plant bananas and other trees later. We have purchased and have had cut and hauled a 1,000 bamboos for our kitchen and dwellinghouse. Here the kitchen is always separate from the main house. We are now having our well dug. Tomorrow (today is Sunday) they should reach water. We have finally obtained 10,000 bricks for the foundation, and so after many disappointments and delays we are at long last actually ready to begin our building program.

For the most part, the only modes of

traveling, except on the one main road, are by foot, oxcart, or bicycle. We have purchased a yoke of oxen and have made a few trips by oxcart. One was 18 miles long, fording three rivers twice, two of which came upon the oxen's bodies. Last Tuesday I cycled 35 miles to the nearest town. Not long ago Brother Cronk and I made a 64 mile trip over a faint trail taking three days. It is certain that white missionaries have never been in this territory before and it is doubtful whether Indian evangelists have ever



Rev. Paul Woolsey

visited the area covered by this trip.

At this time we have six serious seekers, only one of which is from this village. One is from a village some 14 miles away. We have service each Sunday with the small group of local Christians. The real part of our work in India has just begun.

Since as we have said before, this is a remote area, not only in the corner of this district and province but of India as well (this district borders on two foreign countries), there are few adequate provisions for the medical care of the people. I might have well said none. For this reason we have been forced more and more to attempt medical work of the more simple kinds. This we have been reluctant to do both because of our lack of training in this field and necessary supplies and equipment, but also because our interests lie in the field of evangelism. However, in spite of our

selves, we have been forced into it and it affords most excellent opportunities for personal work. Yesterday we had a man, who having heard of our feeble attempts in the Name of the Master to minister to the physical needs of the people, came a distance of 18 miles to inquire concerning a sick son whom he said he was bringing this coming week. Two days ago we attempted to treat 21 patients one of whom had come eight miles. "To whom little is given of him little is required"; therefore God has blessed our simple efforts in a wonderful way. As soon as our house is completed, we will turn our tent into a Dispensary where we hope to have trained and qualified workers and we ourselves can be more entirely engaged in the work where unto we are called. So far we have tried to carry on this work with few, if any, of even the simplest medical tools and instruments. These are needed very much indeed.

We often think of you and our many other friends in the homeland and remember you in our prayers. May God ever bless and keep each of you.

Your brother and sister in Christ,

Rev. and Mrs. Paul Woolsey

### JONES CHAPEL CHURCH

We are very happy to report that we are still working for the Lord down this way. We are having church services twice a month now on the first and third Saturday nights and Sunday and Sunday nights of each month. Rev. Cecil Campbell is our pastor.

We are glad to say our Sunday School is growing by leaps and bounds. Our record attendance is 67, and we hope to make it 100 by Easter. We also have a very active Junior League.

We are now enjoying a few nights services with two young men who are expecting to be missionaries in Japan in the near future.

We ask the prayers of all the praying people that our church will keep on the growing list.

Mrs. Hope Eaton, Reporter

**Have YOU made your contribution to "Share the Gem?" Do so now—don't just "intend to."**



## TEN DOLLAR BILLS AT A QUARTER APIECE

Rev. Damon C. Dodd, Nashville, Tenn.

One day last year a man stood on power of God with the missionaries a busy street corner in down town St. Louis, Missouri, and offered for sale on all of this if you attend the National Association. And more than that, you bill for only 25 cents or five for a dollar. There was a limit of five to a customer. All morning the man remained at his post. People came and went. Some of them turned and listened curiously, laughed outwardly at such nonsense, and hurried on. Others stopped and fingered the bills, smiled knowingly, and turned away. Others blatantly demanded an explanation for such an unorthodox farce. No one bought any of the bills. When the morning had passed and the noon hour had come, the man went his way. That night the city newspapers ran a feature article about the incident declaring that the bills were perfectly legal tender, that the man was an honest citizen, and that his theory that men wouldn't buy a "pig in a poke" in this modern age had been proved beyond the shadow of a doubt. Many of those who had spurned the offer read the article with remorse. They had passed up the one and only opportunity of this kind that they would in all probability ever have. But it was too late now to take advantage of it.

Now you need not be guilty of making a decision that you will regret later. I'm not talking about ten dollar bills at five for a dollar. I'm referring to the National Association of Free Will Baptists which convenes in Richmond, California, July 11-14, 1950.

You had better decide now to go, for if you don't when your friends and neighbors come back with glowing and graphic reports of the good associational meeting, you are going to be like some of those people in the story. Too late you'll regret.

Maybe you are thinking in terms of the cost of the trip. And that is well. But remember that you will be the recipient of blessings which will more than repay you for every cent that the trip costs. Who can place dollar valuation on such things as Christian fellowship, planning for the promotion and on-going of the Kingdom of God, and listening to the Gospel as it is preached, rehearsing the marvelous up like a fog.

from Cuba and India? You will be in will have the thrill of knowing that you have sacrificed some time and money for the cause and that you have been made to appreciate your church and her program more than ever before. PLAN NOW TO BE PRESENT FOR THE OPENING SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION IN RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY NIGHT, JULY 11, 1950.

### THE PARABLE OF THE TOBACCO SEED

Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened to a grain of tobacco seed, which though exceedingly small, being cast into the ground grew and became a great plant, and spread its leaves rank and broad, so the huge vile worms formed a habitation thereon. And it came to pass in the course of time that the sons of men looked upon it and thought it beautiful and much desired to make lads big and manly. So they put forth their hands and took it and did chew thereof. And some it made sick and others to vomit most filthily.

And it further came to pass that those that chewed it became weak and unmanly and said: "We are enslaved and cannot cease from chewing it!" And the mouths of all those who were enslaved became foul, and they were seized with violent spitting, and they did spit, even in the ladies' parlors, and in the house of the Lord. And the saints of the Most High were greatly plagued thereby. And in the course of time it came to pass that others snuffed it and they were taken suddenly with fits, and they did sneeze with great sneezes inasmuch as their eyes were red and filled with tears, and they did look exceedingly silly. And others cunningly wrought the leaves into rolls and did set fire to the one end thereof and did look very grave and calflike as they vehemently sucked at the other end thereof. And the smoke of their torment ascended preached, rehearsing the marvelous up like a fog.

And the cultivation thereof became a great and mighty business in the earth; and the merchants waxed rich by the commerce thereof, and it came to pass that the professed saints of the Most High defiled themselves therewith. Even the poor who could not buy bread, nor books, nor shoes for their little ones, spent money for it. And the Lord was greatly displeased therewith, for the Word says: "Wherefore do you spend money for that which is not bread? I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body" (Romans 12:1; I Cor. 6:19-20). But with one accord they exclaimed: "We cannot cease from chewing, spitting, snuffing, and puffing!"

Oh! ye professed followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, will ye be slaves of a nasty, poisonous weed? One is your Master, even Christ! Amen!

—Author Unknown

NOTE: The above article is from the *Free Will Baptist*, March 15, 1950. Therefore many of our readers have read it. We ask your tolerance in reading the same article again with a hope that it may influence our young men and women especially to avoid cultivating the tobacco habit and encourage those now addicted to it to throw off its yoke of bondage.—Editor

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