

The Free Will **Baptist Gem**

Vol. 27—No. 3

Poplar Bluff, Missouri

March, 1957

JESUS! WONDROUS NAME OF LOVE

W. W. How

Jesus! name of wondrous love!
Name all other names above!
Unto which must every knee
Bow in deep humility.

Jesus! name of priceless worth
To the fallen sons of earth,
For the promise that it gave—
"Jesus shall His people save."

Jesus! only name that's given
Under the mighty heaven,
Whereby man, to sin enslaved,
Bursts his fetters, and is saved.

Jesus, name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above!
Pleading only this, we flee,
Helpless, O our God, to Thee

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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THE GREATEST EARTHQUAKE

Earthquakes have recently wrought damage to buildings on the Mount of Olives. The greatest earthquake, however, is yet future and will take place exactly as predicted by the Prophet Zechariah. The geological formation of the soil of the Mount of Olives is all set for the coming event. It only awaits God's appointed moment to act. Professor Bailey Willis, the seismological expert of Leland Stanford University, made this startling statement before the British Association for the Advancement of Science: "The region around Jerusalem is a region of potential earthquake danger. A 'fault line' along which an earth slippage may occur at any time passes directly through the Mount of Olives!" Centuries ago, the Prophet Zechariah said, "And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives—and the Mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley" (Zech. 14:4).

—Selected

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Mine La Motte	
Blue Eye	Rev. O. T. Allred
Union Light	Rev. Cecil Sheppard
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SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

	Jan.	Feb.
Fredricktown		
Mt. Pisgah	41	
Coppermines		
First, Flat River		
Fellowship	200	
Leadington	116	
Desloge		
Farmington	55	
Fourth	61	57
Southside		
Monett		
Old Bethel	23	23
Third Church		
Berkeley	190	180
Richwoods	65	65
Neosho		
Mountain Grove		
Joplin		
Mill Creek		
Kirksville		
Grant Ave		
Hazel Creek	57	
Cuba	32	

Please send us your average, too.

Christian Discontent

Ollie Latch

Neh. 1:1-4; 2:1-6

Introduction

Modern fads in religious circles, exalting contentment and peace of mind, have served some very good purposes. There is not the least question about that, and we have needed the emphasis during the past few years, for those years have been extremely trying and fraught with many perplexing problems.

On the other hand, there is a very real danger that the peace of mind cult will get out of hand, for it may become the source of self-satisfaction and an "at ease in Zion" attitude within the church. Let us therefore, remember that frustration and discontent are not, of necessity, evil. The greatest accomplishments of man's history have been made because of frustration and discontent.

In this Bible lesson which I have listed above you meet a discontented and frustrated man, and out of his discontent and frustration came one of the most needed accomplishments of the Bible. Please think upon this with me for a little while.

I—Discontent with Religious State

Nehemiah received the news of the state of affairs in his homeland with a sad heart. Like the truly great Jews of his time, he realized that Judah had a destiny, an appointment with history. He knew that such destiny had nothing to do with military or civil affairs, but with the religion of God among men. So long as Judah and Jerusalem lay under the terrible state which the traveler told him about, that long would her destiny be denied.

Nehemiah's first reaction was one of frustration. He simply sat down and wept. Jerusalem was so far away, and he was in a kind of semi-slavery. That terrible empty feeling of discontent and helplessness which came over him made him spend his feelings in futile tears. Nevertheless, after having wept, he found that this did not bring satisfaction. He still felt that something should be done, and that perhaps he could do something about the situation. He was seized with a discontent that could not express itself in the simple formula which many people follow, that of saying, "Oh, how sorry I am."

In this day when so many people are at ease in the church, and so satisfied with the state of affairs, this man looms large in our thinking.

There is no question about the destiny of the church, and its rendezvous with history. The part and place of Christianity in the present and future welfare of mankind is so clear that those who run may read, but the church is filled with people today who are complacent, idle and satisfied. We are not stirred or moved by the affliction of the world, and we are content to go and sit in the pews on Sunday, drop our mites into the offering plate, listen to the sermon with half our minds, and go home and forget it completely. I would to God that we could find ourselves discontented with the state of religion in our world. Where are a few modern Nehemiah's? How we need them!

II—Discontent with Community Conditions

The people in Judah were in trouble. The community was at the mercy of the marauding bands of robbers. Lawlessness prevailed, and the Law of God was not taught. People were growing up in heathendom within a stone's throw of the place where Solomon's temple once stood. The street which once rang with the voices of Isaiah and Jeremiah now echoed to the profanity of foreign tongues. The children were growing up in the shadow of Jerusalem without God. All this weighed heavily on the heart of Nehemiah. His land and his people were a land and a people of lost causes. But Nehemiah was discontent with the situation.

To talk of these conditions is to think of our own world today. We are impressed by the trek of people back to church, and the increased number of conversions, baptisms and additions are encouraging. But are we closing our eyes to a most terrible truth. The church is barely scraping the surface of the world's needs. Here in our land crime rides an all time peak. Atheism, in the political belief of the Communists, holds vast numbers of this world in a deadly grip. The love of money is greater than the love of God among church people. In the shadow of our churches men and women, boys and girls, die without God. Juvenile crime is a great festering sore on our body politic. Certainly the times demand people who are not contented with things as they are. Surely the times demand that we feel the frustration and discontent which the situation warrants.

Yet we see so many people completely unmoved by the situation. I can look from my pulpit every Sunday at some people who are immune to the challenge of the day. These are

people you could not get to take part in a visitation program. These are people who have never won a soul to Christ, and moreover, they have never tried. Oh how sorry is the spectacle of a church at ease in Zion!

III—Discontent with Personal Contribution

Nehemiah might have excused himself with much more reason than many of us today. As we have mentioned, Jerusalem was far away and he was a semi-slave in the house of a king. Very truly he could have said, "It would appear impossible for me to do anything about this? Who am I to try to set the whole land of Judah in order?" How could Nehemiah go to the king and ask for leave of absence that he might rebuild a wrecked city which had a long record of rebellion?

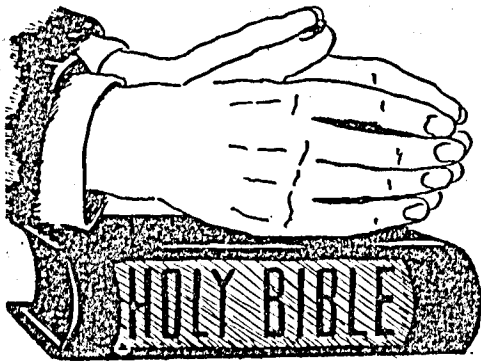
But Nehemiah was discontented with his contribution. He could not lose the feeling that he had some personal responsibility here. He could not drop his head and shrug his shoulders in the face of the problem. True, he did not see how he could do anything, but he resorted to the one thing open to us all. He prayed for the guidance of God that he might do something for the city of his fathers and the work of God. Little did he know that out of his discontent would come a mighty work, but one thing is very certain. If he had not been discontent then he would never have received a place in sacred history.

There are so many of us today who are content to be seat warmers. When problems arise to confront the kingdom of God, the seat warmer remains a disinterested spectator. He says to himself, "I am sorry but what can I do?" Or there are those others who not only just warm seats, but who set themselves up as critics of those who are trying to do something about the work of the kingdom. There are people who never soil their hands at work, but who can tell you everything wrong you do. They never do anything wrong, for they never do anything (period). Content with themselves, they nevertheless try to tear down all anyone else does. If the church had less critics and more people who would become discontent with their personal contributions, the church would go much farther in its labors today.

Conclusion

The frustration and discontent of Nehemiah showed in his face. The king asked him about the matter and
(Continued on page 16)

The Family Altar



Pray for the following requests and read these and other Scriptures at your family altar.

Pray for the State Executive Board of our state as the members of it make decisions for our denomination. Ex. 18:21-26; Acts 15:6-11.

Pray that our Bible College at Nashville, the president, Rev. L. C. Johnson, and all the faculty as they train our youth for service. Matt. 28:16-20; II Tim. 2:15.

Pray for the laity of our churches that they will remain loyal to God and to the church. I Cor. 12:12-28; Ephesians 6:10-18.

Pray for our nation and all those in authority and that this will be a righteous nation. I Tim. 2:1-6; Prov. 14:34.

Pray for the many revivals that will be conducted in March and April in our Free Will Baptist churches and other churches. Acts 8:5-8; II Tim. 4:1-4.

Pray for a greater understanding of God's Word, and a deeper knowledge of God's will for your life. II Tim. 3:16-17; Eph. 5:14-21.

Pray for our newly organized churches—Grant Avenue, of Springfield and Bethel of West Plains, and others that may have been recently organized. Eph. 1:15-23; Rev. 3:7-13.

WHAT JESUS IS TO THESE

To the artist He is the One Altogether Lovely.

To the architect He is the Chief Corner Stone.

To the baker He is the Living Bread.

To the banker He is the Hidden Treasure.

To the biologist He is the Life.

To the builder He is the Sure Foundation.

To the doctor He is the Great Physician.

To the educator He is the Great Teacher.

To the farmer He is the Lord of the Harvest.

To the florist He is the Rose of Sharon and the Lily of the Valley.

To the geologist He is the Rock of Ages.

To the jurist He is the Righteous Judge, the Judge of all men.

To the jeweler He is the Pearl of Great Price.

To the lawyer He is the Counselor, the Lawgiver, the Advocate.

To the horticulturist He is the True Vine.

To the newspaper man He is the Good Tidings of Great Joy.

To the oculist He is the Light of the World.

To the philanthropist He is the Un-speakable Gift.

To the philosopher He is the Wisdom of God.

To the preacher He is the Word of God.

To the sculptor He is the Living Stone.

To the servant He is the Good Master.

To the statesman He is the Desire of All Nations.

To the student He is the Incarnate Truth.

To the theologian He is the Author and Finisher of Our Faith.

To the traveler He is the New and Living Way.

To the toiler He is the Giver of Rest.

To the sinner He is the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the World.

To the Christian He is the Son of the Living God, the Saviour, the Redeemer and Lord.

—Author Unknown

THE BIBLE

The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's character. Here paradise is restored, Heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good design, and the glory of God its end.

It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment, and be remembered for-

ever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

THE SIX REQUIREMENTS -

William H. Leach says it takes six things to make a great preacher. Here they are:

1—A Divine call which will not be evaded.

2—A consciousness that he has a message for hungry souls.

3—A well-grounded knowledge of God's revelation to men.

4—The passion for souls which will not let them rest.

5—An enthusiasm for work which makes his task joyous.

6—Praying laymen to hold up his hands.

Given these six conditions, even the "one-talent" man will challenge the attention of the world.

—The Church Press

TIME WE EXAMINE OURSELVES

"Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away." John 15:2.

Every unused talent will be recalled and the unprofitable servant cast into outer darkness. Matthew 25:24-30.

Everyone with burned out lamps will miss the marriage supper of the Lamb. Matthew 25:1-10.

Every lukewarm professor will be utterly rejected. Rev. 3:15-16.

I count on God to let power loose in my life when I am ready to let something loose—the hurtful habit, the crippled promise, the unsundered ambition, the stubborn resentment to which I have been clinging.

The way to learn strong faith is to endure great trials.

As every limb and organ of the human body has its own function to serve, every member of the church, which is the body of Christ, has his or her part to perform.

Worldliness kills the spirit of prayer.

The world has rejected Christ—The church has rejected the Holy Spirit.

Prayer is the fuel—for the fire of the soul.

The preacher has a responsibility to preach the word, his hearers have a responsibility to hear it.

—"Herald of His Coming"

Remember, Cain in his day asked. "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen. 4:9) I fear most Christians understand all too little what it means to be a worker together "with God."

Look ahead, think as you go.

Four Big Words of Jesus

Sophia Ackerson

Luke 19:10, "For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

This text contains four big words—big in meaning, big in suggestiveness, big in destiny they determine.

"Come." "The Son of Man is come." Jesus emptied himself by divine power and glory, stripped himself of the honor with his Father, came to the earth and took upon himself the curse of man, and clothed himself in sinful flesh to seek and to save the lost.

Born of a Virgin, He came in weakness, without honor and glory. Christ was born into the world as a "lamb slain from the foundation of the world," to redeem lost humanity.

He was born in poverty, reared in obscurity, He faced the Sanhedrin. I can see him there, standing before the Judges as false accusers make slanderous accusation against him.

He claimed He was the "Son of God" and He certainly proved He was. This is the reason He was judged by sinful men—"He who knew no sin."

Slapping His face, plucking His beard and spitting upon Him was not enough revenge for them. They pressed a crown of thorns upon His head, dressed Him in royal garments, bowing to their knees they mocked Him as king of the Jews. He was falsely accused of blasphemy and condemned to die. His back being lacerated with a cat-of-nine-tails, until the flesh was mingled with blood, they led Him outside of the gates of the city to be crucified. Hanging between heaven and earth on the old rugged cross He cried "My God, My God why hast thou forsaken Me?" Isaiah said of Him "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows acquainted with grief... smitten of God and afflicted."

His primary purpose was to fulfill the Law of Moses. "For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin condemned sin in the flesh." Romans 8:3.

He was the hope of Israel. Today He is the hope of the world. "The Son of Man is come"—think of what the condition of man would be today if Christ had not come. I know He lived in poverty and died a horrible death. Yet because of what I feel in my soul, I can look up and say "Thank you, Jesus, because you came." It was a divine necessity. It required a Jesus in the flesh to save a soul for heaven.

"Seek." "The Son of Man is come to seek." God is a soul seeking God. Man through the ages has tried to find God. Today God is seeking man for He is a God of love, of wisdom, and kindness. The woman who lost her coin sought diligently until she found it. God is not an angry God who must be begged to save men, but He is a soul seeking God. He is eager to save the lost. Jesus went in search of the needy. He healed the man at the pool of Bethesda. Jesus heard the cry of the ten lepers and healed them.

Man's condition was the same as that of the one lost sheep lost from the fold. Yet the good Shepherd left the ninety and nine safely in the fold and went in search of the one that had strayed. Through the barren precipice, over the jagged rocks, and near the gushing stream of water, He searched expectantly in the darkness of the night until He found His lost sheep. With rejoicing He brought it again to the fold. The ear of Christ is ever acute to the cry of the helpless, and hopeless.

In the beginning, Adam fell into sin and God came through the garden in the cool of the day seeking him. The entire Bible is a story about God's search for man, and John closes Revelations with this last invitation... "Let him that is athirst come, and whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely." God through the Holy Ghost, God through His Word, God through His Church and God through His people is seeking you.

Many times in the ministry of Christ He could have ascribed Himself the praise and glory for great miracles of healing, but He said, "Believest thou not that... the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, He doeth the works." Jesus came not to seek worldly fame and glory for Himself, rather He was constantly seeking the lost souls of His day and all eternity. Once He was offered the kingdoms of the world by His shrewd adversary, but He refused them so that He might go in the search of the lost. Jesus came to seek.

"Save." "The Son of Man is come to seek and to save." In order for Jesus to save men He needs to do three things. First, He must give to man a new conception of God. He must tell man God cares for him. The world had the wrong conception of God. Man thought that God was autocratic and severe and would punish him rather than bless him. Jesus had to make man feel that God was interested in him and cares for his soul and wants it.

Next, Jesus must get before the world man's need of a Saviour. To do this He laid stress on the soul. He

taught that is is immortal and that the devil is trying to possess and damn it.

Third, in order to save, the cross had to be erected on Calvary. This picture tells man how much God loves him and moves and melts his heart, creating in him the desire for salvation. As we see Jesus hanging on the cross we realize that "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed." We know He was smitten of God and afflicted, bearing the sins of many and making intercession for the sinner. It is the greatest manifestation of the love of God. In the cross is the real essence of what Christ meant when He said, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) Surely, Jesus came to save.

"Lost." "That which was lost." A man lost shivering with cold must come to the fire to get warm. A hungry starving man must eat food to get any benefit. The soul that is lost must come to the Saviour if such a one expects to receive salvation. Lost, is a sad word and a terrifying feeling, doubly so when it has reference to the soul. Christ in His continuous search for the lost said, "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light."

It makes no difference how far from Christ you have wandered of how indelibly sin has stamped its earthly marks upon you. Christ will save to the uttermost those who call upon Him. The Apostle Paul admitted that he was the chief among sinners, yet Jesus saved him and he became a flaming evangelist who led thousands to Christ.

I thank God for the word "whosoever will" because it includes me, and every one in the world, me, especially, the worst of all people. Man's greatest discovery is to realize that he is lost and that Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost.

I love these words of the poet:

"A wonderful Saviour is Jesus my Lord

A wonderful Saviour to me,
He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock

Where rivers of pleasure I see.
He hideth my soul in the cleft of
(Continued on page 16)

From the Editor's Desk

BOOK SALE

The office of the Gem has a selection of books which for the most part were written by Free Will Baptist authors. These books are lying idle but could be of service if only in the hands of our people. None of these books are used books, but in some of them such as the Systematic Theology and The History of the Bible you may find the pages slightly yellow from age, but in good condition otherwise. The other books are of later print. We are offering most of these books at reduced prices as follows:

Systematic Theology	\$1.00
A History of the Bible .....	.50
His Name Among all Nation ..	1.00
Personal Soul Winning .....	.25
Quack Doctor .....	.20
Infinite Love .....	.10
The Beginners Color Book ....	.20

NEWS WANTED

In our conversation with readers of the Gem we have come to the conclusion that most of the readers prefer news from the churches, Sunday Schools, and leagues above all other articles. We want to express our appreciation to all that have been sending in material for the Gem; however, you will notice that for the month of March we did not have too many reports from churches. We would like to urge every church to report news of her work. If necessary, each church could select a reporter and make him or her responsible to send in the news.

NEWS IN GENERAL

"The West Plains Church received seven more members into the charter membership and have purchased two nice lots adjacent to the church they are using."—Rev. Harry Beatty.

The Fellowship Church of Flat River has the highest enrollment of names on her Church Family Plan with a total of ninety-five, and the Good Neighbor Family Plan is second with ninety-four names.

There were 1,265 copies of the Gem printed last month, but to put the paper on a self-supporting basis, we need about eight hundred more subscriptions.

If I read the figures right, Missouri ranked first in giving to Foreign Missions in January, and shared honors with another state for third place in giving to National Home Missions. February report, however, will show a comparatively small amount given to any phases of our work.

CHRIST FOR THE CRISIS

Last month the American people took a retrospective look into the history of their nation and honored two great Americans—George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Their names have become immortal and they themselves symbols of greatness. They lived in a crucial periods that faced our nation, but according to history they let Christ help them face the crisis that existed in their respective era.

No one can deny but that our nation today is facing a crisis. The forces of evil, internally and externally, are pressing upon it and against it, the sound of war is loud and long, and the international situation in which she finds herself is very complicated, if not desperate.

As Christians we have a great part to play in this hour. What Mordecai said to Esther, ".and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" may be said or asked of every Christian of this age and hour. As Christians we are our nation's greatest asset. So "be strong, and quit you like men" and perform your Christian duty.

It has been said that on a crucial night when General Washington during the Revolutionary War was watching for the enemy that he said, "Put no one but Americans on guard tonight." The Christian is our nation's sentinel. "So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me." (Ezek. 33:1) Let us be faithful to this charge and do our best in this age in which we live. In the graveyard beside an English Church there stands a monument with the following epitaph. "Here lies Robert Shirley, who died in 1667. He did the best of things in the worst of times." This is your challenge as you face the crisis with Christ. Let the Christian be on guard tonight.

THE WEIGHTED CROSS

An American business man went to Oberammergau to witness the Passion Play, last given just before the story of the cross, he went back stage at the conclusion of the play to meet Mr. Anton Lang, who played the part of the Christ. Our American friend had equipped himself with an expensive camera which he was eager to use. Abruptly he snapped the picture of Anton Lang, much to Mr. Lang's

discomfort. Then looking about the stage for something more to shoot with his camera, he saw 'way over in the corner the great cross which Mr. Lang had carried up the hill to Calvary in the play. Quickly turning to his wife he said, "Here dear, you take my camera, I'm going over and lift up the cross. When I get it upon my shoulder, you snap my picture carrying the cross. Won't that be a novel and exciting picture to send home to our friends in America?"

He saw that Mr. Lang was frowning severely at the brusque irreverence of the American tourist. "You don't mind do you, Mr. Lang?" he said. "This is very unusual" protested Mr. Lang, but before he could say more the man had hurried over beside the cross. He stooped down to lift it to his shoulder, but he could not budge it one inch off the floor—the cross was made of heavy iron-oak beams.

Puffing with amazement the man turned to Mr. Lang and said, "Why, I thought it would be light. I thought the cross was hollow. Why do you carry a cross that is so terribly heavy?"

Mr. Lang drew himself up to his full height and replied with compelling dignity and rebuke, "Sir, If I did not feel the weight of His cross, I could not play His part."

Can the churches, can any man, can you?

Benjamin P. Browne, in
Let There Be Light
(Fleming H. Revell Co.)

THIS THEY KNOW NOT

A young minister in a college town was embarrassed by the thought of criticism in his cultured congregation. Seeking counsel from his father, an old and wise minister, he said, "Dad, I'm hampered in my ministry here. If I cite something from geology, there is a professor of that science right before me. If I use an illustration from Roman Mythology, another professor is ready to trip me up for my inaccuracy. If I mention something in English literature that pleases me, I'm cowed with the presence of the learned man who teaches that subject. What shall I do?" The gracious old man replied, "Don't be discouraged, son. Preach the gospel; they probably know little of that."

The Balm of Gilead or the H-Bomb—Which?

It takes 3,000 bolts to hold a motor car together and only one nut to scatter it all over the highway.



Youth and Our Church

THE VALLEY OF DECISION

Rev. Clarence H. Burton

"Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision; for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision." (Joel 3:14)

The Scripture which I have given is a good description of the present age. Possibly never before were so many decisions called for concerning religious doubts, social problems, political questions, and never was there so much searching of the heart about the right way of life. It has been said that the mark of the present age is the question mark. The battle between good and evil, light and darkness is always going on.

Because of the many decisions which we are confronted with; because life automatically demands decisions daily; it can be said that we are in the valley of decision. Life is full of choices that must be met. We are constantly coming to a point where two roads meet, and we have to make up our minds which of them we will take. A young lady, who was talking with me a short time ago, stated that she felt God was calling her to serve as a missionary. Naturally I encouraged her and now I am praying for her as she makes this important decision to follow the will of God for her life. The real peace and happiness comes only when we have given our lives in complete submission to the will of the Master. Paul said, "...for I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." (Phil. 4:11) This question which this young lady is facing is basic to all decisions and is the question all of us have to face. Will I live my life God's way or my way? Much of the ineffectiveness of our religious witness in these days is due to our wanting to deviate like Bunyan's Mr. Facing-Both-Ways, who hesitates to commit himself and keeps a foot in both camps. He is quite at home in the church of the Laodiceans and falls under the bitter condemnation of those who are neither hot nor cold. Christians cannot afford to be half-times. For them it is nothing at all. "The people I am afraid of,"

said Wesley, "are the almost Christians." Jesus said, "He that is not with me is against me."

This double-mindedness and half-heartedness is the source of much unhappiness and moral weakness. The necessity to choose frightens many people. It paralyzes their nerves. Street accidents are often caused because people cannot make up their minds. It is the same in moral accidents. It is fatal to dillydally in the choice between right and wrong. All through the Bible the note of challenge; the call to decision; is sounded. "Choose life that thou mayest live." "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." "How long halt ye between two opinions?" "If the Lord be God, follow Him."

We choose life or death. We choose one way and not the other. What we choose is reflected in our life and walk. What we choose shapes our future. Every day in the loom of our life the pattern is being woven. We must not allow circumstances to mold us. We must not take our tone from the society around us. Everything which is really worth having is at stake. The call comes to us today to decide once and for eternity.

Someone has said, "To be in hell is to drift; to be in heaven is to steer." You must choose. You can choose. You do choose. What is your choice?

(About the writer:) Rev. Clarence Burton is the pastor of the Ballew's Chapel Free Will Baptist church in Grubbs, Arkansas and a graduate of our Free Will Baptist College.

—The Banner

WISDOM FOR YOUTH

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Proverbs 9:10.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; but fools despise wisdom and instruction." Prov. 1:7.

"My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not." Proverbs 1:10.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5-6.

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord; for this right. Honor thy father

and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:1-4.

"Goodbye God"

Rev. Frank Brosend

In effect, some people say, "Goodbye God," when they start on a vacation, or to have a party. They act like they can go off and leave him. When they are away from their church and community they do things that they would not do at home at all.

Some people are very "Godly" in church, but "godless" outside. Jesus gave warning about such. He lumped them all into one bunch and called them "hypocrites." He said, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites; for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and all uncleanness."

The ancient idea of God was that he was limited to a very small part of the world. For the Jews, Jehovah was limited to Palestine. The same idea was held by other nations. They all had their national gods who were limited to the confines of their own nation and, perhaps to the nation's people when they made a journey.

The Psalmist who wrote the 139th Psalm had developed a greater idea of Jehovah's presence. He said, "If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall thy hand lead me."

It's a wonderful feeling to know that God is always present for those who know Him. To those who try to hide from Him, it is a disastrous calamity.

Life's victories are not won on the battle field, but on the testing field of life. Are you holding up there?

News From The Mission Field

TRUCK NEEDED FOR AFRICA!

Among the long list of equipment needed for the new field in Africa will be a truck and trailer to be used in hauling building materials, etc. in erecting the necessary buildings. Bro. Bob Hill, of the Master's Men is hoping that the men of our churches will accept this Special Project and provide the funds to buy the truck and trailer. Since April is Foreign Mission month, it is hoped that the project will be complete by May.

The approximate cost of Truck, Trailer, Ocean Freight, etc., to Abidjan, Ivory Coast will be \$4,000.00. How will we raise the money? Easy! Just send today to the Foreign Mission office for as many dime folders as you can use. (each folder holds 30 dimes). Get as many men in your church as possible to accept a folder and during the month of April put 10c per day into the folder. At the end of the month you will have \$3.00. Either collect the folders and send in the money or else send the folder direct to the Foreign Mission office, designated for Truck Project. Remember, trucks are for men! This is a man's project. It will be easy if we cooperate. Pastors how many folders shall we send you?

LETTER TO MELITINO

Among the several films which we have available to promote missions, I think "Letter to Melitino" is among the best. Of course it is our very own film and shows our mission work in action in Cuba. Many of our churches have not yet seen this film, and there are those churches who should show the film again for the benefit of new comers. Keep the Spirit of Missions alive in your church by the use of this and other missionary films. Our films are available on a free will offering basis. How about a film service in the near future?

MISS WISEHART AND NURSE RUEHLE ARRIVE IN CUBA

We praise the Lord for the safe arrival of Miss Wischart and Miss Ruehle to Cuba. Mr. Willey states, "The challenge to such a trained nurse has been emphasized to me this week as never before. There is a field we have been invited to work in over a period of 14 years. Because the distance and difficulty of access, we have

not been able to do much until this past year. I made a trip up there and visited among these wonderful people. This was my first trip among them in nine years. I found that mothers gave birth to their children with no sanitation or medical help at all. Just a few weeks ago a mother died in a crude tobacco barn leaving twins. There was no way to save them until someone found a goat and have thus saved the lives of both babies by feeding them goat's milk. We are arranging a clinic for Miss Ruehle in each of these fields. We also found that 98% of the people over 15 years old are unable to read. Great numbers of fine young people are anxious to learn how to read. Presenting these plans, the men promised to build a house and church.

MISS BERNARD WRITES

"I would like to request you to kindly deduct from your next India remittance the amount of \$75.00, which is my month's salary, and to make this contribution for me to the F. W. B. missionary efforts in Africa. I have been following this 'program' with great interest and would like to have this fellowship in the work."

CARTERET COUNTY CHURCHES

Pledge \$1,341.40 for African Station.

At a recent Missionary Rally among the churches of Carteret County, North Carolina, \$1,341.40 was pledged toward building our first mission station in Africa. To properly man our new field in the Ivory Coast of Africa we will need to build at least four (4) mission stations. The stations will consist of dwellings for the missionaries, a dispensary and school, etc. The approximate minimum cost for each station will be \$10,000.00. We would like to build all four of these stations within the next five years.

The Rally, sponsored by the local pastors, was directed by Rev. Dan Merkh, who plans to go to Africa as a missionary builder, teacher and preacher.

We appreciate the concern of the brethren for this project and also their generous response. May other churches and district conferences "go and do likewise."

Following is a report of the pledges by churches:

Holly Springs Church \$192.00

First Church, Beaufort	226.00
Faith Church	204.00
Edwards Chapel	26.40
Russells Creek	48.00
Sound View	12.00
Crab Point Mission	336.00
Stacy Church	174.00
First Church, Moorehead	
City	99.00
Miscellaneous	24.00
Total	\$1,341.40

FROM THE FIELD OFFERING FOR MISSIONS

Dear Bro. Riggs:

Inclosed is our check from Bear Point Woman's Auxiliary for \$35.00 for missions to be divided as follows:

\$15.00 Cuban Missions.

10.00 Evelyn Hersey Fund.

10.00 to be used where needed.

—Mrs. Chesta Clamplet

FROM OHIO

Dear Friends in Christ:

Once again our Youth Group is happy and thankful to send you \$50.00 to further the gospel in foreign fields.

This amount has been collected over a period of about 3 months. At Halloween instead of begging for candy, apples and such, the children asked for money for Foreign Missions.

Since then we have added enough to send to you this \$50.00. God has blessed the effort put forth and these boys and girls are eager and happy to work for this cause.

May God bless you in your work for Him.

—Youth Group of the Long Run Freewill Baptist Church. Rev. Franklyn Harness, Pastor. Mrs. Mildred Burns, Youth Chairman.

EVER PRESENT

When a father received word that his son, a brilliant lad, had been killed in a railroad accident, he turned to his pastor and cried in desperation, "Tell me, sir, where was God when my son was killed?"

And in that tense and terrible moment, guidance was given to the counseling pastor. "My friend," said he, "God was just where He was when His own Son was killed!"

—Selected

"Go Home and Tell Thy Friends", by Dodd, is an excellent Home Missions study course book and is reduced in price to 25c. Why not place an order for it today? Order from the W.N.A.C. headquarters.

FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION INDIA

Financial Statement December 1956

Balance Brought Forward
Dec. 1, 1956 (\$4500) Rs. 21,595 1 7

Receipts:

From Home Board	\$1585 .				7,550	0	6
Provident Funds	.....				8	0	0
Student Fund Repayments	.....	7,564	0	6	6	0	0
Total Receipts	.....	Rs. 29,159	2	1	Rs. 7,564	0	6

Expenditures:

Nationals	470	0	0				
Missionary	350	0	0				
Christmas Bonuses	195	0	0	1015	0	0	
Property Repairs, Upkeep and Improvements		241	11	3			
Postage Com. & Exchange		16	5	9			
Medical Ministry		106	13	0			
Transportation		158	15	0			
Petrol		67	14	9			
Students		161	12	0			
Subsidy to School		23	5	3			
Office Supplies, etc.		125	1	3			
Membership AASI		15	0	0			
Charities		16	8	0			
Christmas treats for School and Village children		409	14	9			
Purnea Transfer		3003	12	0			

Total Expenditures 5,362. 1 0

Balance Dec., 31, 1956 (\$5000) Rs. 23,797 1 1

Laura B. Barnard

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1, 1957—January 31, 1957

Free Will Baptist Mission

Pinar del Rio, Cuba

Cash on Hand			
Jan. 1, 1957	\$	24.82	
Cash in Bank,			
(General)		59.03	
Cash in Bank,			
Jan., 1, 1957			
(Spec. Bldg.)		245.00	
Cash in Bank,			
Jan., 1, 1957			
(Temples)		1,401.22	\$1,730.07

Receipts:

Mission Board, Regular			
(inc. 49.36 Christmas)		3,011.36	
Mission Board, Temples ..		300.00	3,311.36

Gifts	469.00	
Student quotas and Books	21.35	489.35
		5,530.78

Expenses:

Food (Students	298.58
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Salaries:

Mr. & Mrs. Willey, Sr.	165.00
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(Continued on page 16)

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL HOME MISSION BOARD

Dear Bro. Willis:

Enclosed you will find a check in the amount of fifty dollars for you work. You are doing a very fine job and I want you to know that our prayers are with you.

—Rev. W. A. Hales, St. Louis.

* * * *

Dear Mr. Willis:

We are sending this offering from our Ladies Auxiliary (\$1.50). Use it the way you see fit.

—Mrs. Reasie Lee, East Side Church, Florence, S. C.

* * * *

Dear Bro. Willis:

I have arranged for you to hold services in and near Birmingham Sunday July 14. I think you will have a better year than the Department had last year. Just keep the people informed and keep those reports coming.

—Rev. Charles Craddock, Prom., Sec., Alabama.

* * * *

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a check for twenty dollars (\$20.00) from the Bethany Auxiliary of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church. Please give our State credit for this.

—Mrs. James I. Vause, Mission Chairman, Timmonsville, South Carolina.

* * * *

Dear Bro. Willis:

Please send me some tracts of the Free Will Baptist Church. I want to spend some of my time in visitation work in behalf of our church.

—Claude Pinkston, Wayne, Mich.

* * * *

We have the new Tracts "Who are these Free Will Baptist?" ready for mailing at \$2.25 per hundred plus postage.

* * * *

The National Home Mission Board now has four applications for work in Alaska and one for the State of Colorado. Please pray that these young people may be able to go soon if it is the will of the Lord.

LIFE IS A BOOK

"Life is a book in volumes three, The Past, the Present, the Yet-to-be. The Past is finished and laid away; The Present we're living every day; The Third and last of the volumes three Is hid from sight—God holds the key."

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

By James F. Miller

Since my last report I have been in the following states: Illinois, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. I have attended various meetings such as quarterly meetings, ministers and deacons conferences, special meetings with pastors and regular worship services. I have enjoyed meeting our people and fellowshiping with them.

As promotional director I have tried to point out the ministry of the Bible College to our denomination. I hope they have been able to see how the ministry of the Bible College is not just a ministry to one part of the denominational interest, but to the denomination as a whole.

Our people have expressed themselves to me in a manner that leads me to believe that they are interested in a greater educational program. Churches, pastors, and individuals have promised to make special gifts to the Improvement Program which was authorized by the National Association in July, 1956. A goal of \$50,000 was set; and a date for raising this goal, which is the first step in the program, is April 1, 1957.

To date we have received \$9,000. With only a little more than one month to go, it is time for everyone to begin to do his best. Some churches have come through with gifts ranging from \$100 to well over \$600, but we still need \$41,000.

Now brethren, our young people, 189 of them, have come to this institution this year for training. In every state where I have been, young men and women have said to me, "We are planning to come to the Bible College." Some have said next fall, some have said I have one more year in high school. I want to lay these young people on your heart. If we take care of them, we must have more room. To have more room by next fall we need \$50,000 by the first of April.

I appeal to you pastors out of a heart of love for God and our young people, take this matter to your churches. I suggest you give them one or two weeks to pray and prepare to make a real offering for this Improvement Program. Then take the offering and send as quickly as you can to Free Will Baptist Bible College Improvement Program.

I appeal to you laymen who read this, be honest with yourselves and your Bible College. Pray and ask God what He would have you give and whatever He leads you to give, either give it through your church or send it

direct to the College. If you give the name of your church, your church will get credit for it.

COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

A new record in enrollment has been set at Free Will Baptist Bible College. Eighteen additional students enrolling for the second semester January 23 brought the years registration to a new high of 189.

Fourteen of these additional students are registering for the first time. Four are returning students.

Their names and home towns are listed as follows:

Danny Arnold, Whitesboro, Texas.
John Bradley, Pleasant View, Tenn.
Kenneth Doggett, Warren, Ark.
Ruth Ann Edwards, Cicero, Ill.
Robert Francis, St. Louis, Mo.
Edwin Hughes, Canvas, West Virginia.
Aunilee Hughes, Canvas, West Virginia.
Max Lankford, Birmingham, Mich.
Rosemary Lankford, Birmingham, Mich.
Gene McCully, Monett, Mo.
Margaret Merkh, Lynhaven, Virginia.
Lonnie Palmer, Ft. Worth, Texas.
Lillian Palmer, Ft. Worth, Texas.
Ronald Royal, Tulsa, Okla.
Peggy Royal, Tulsa, Okla.
Billy Gene Sherrill, Flat River, Mo.
William Smith, Darlington, South Carolina
Tony Ziady, Lebanon

LIBERALISM

G. C. Cookman

It was announced, some years ago, that old Bigotry was dead and fairly buried. I am sorry to be under the necessity of informing this audience, that it has been discovered, of late, that he left behind him an only child, a prodigal son, who is arrived at man's estate. His son is known by the name of Liberalism. Young Liberalism is the very antipodes of his old father. He is handsome, polite, insinuating, and although somewhat superficial, possesses that polish and tact which impose upon general observers. He speaks all languages, subscribes to all creeds, holds a levee with all sects and parties, is friendly with everybody, but stands identified with nobody. He professes to abhor controversy, and disposes of all doctrinal questions by a motion of indefinite postponement. He can swallow the wafer with the papist, receive the cup with the Protestant, and thrust the Westminster Confession and the Methodist Discipline into the same pocket. You can never find Liberalism at home, or, rather, "he is never at

home but when from home." He sails all waters under all colors; he exhibits the papers of all nations; but he hails from no port; he charters to no country; and therefore, we strongly suspect that he is, in reality, a pirate.

GIVE ME A LOVE FOR SOULS

One time during my ministry in Chicago, I was deeply disturbed that I had so little love for souls; that I could meet men and women who were lost and be so little concerned about it; that I could preach to them and had so little inclination to weep over them. I went alone with God and prayed, "O God give me a love for souls." Little did I realize how much the answer to that prayer involved.

The next day there came into my class a man who was the most distressing picture of utter despair I ever saw. At the close of my Bible class I walked down the aisle. I saw him in the last seat. His face haunted me. I was burdened. I could not lose sight of him. I cannot tell the pain I had for hours and days as I cried to God for his salvation, but I had the joy of seeing him profess to accept Christ.

Love for souls is one of the costliest things a man can have, but if we are to be like Christ, and if we are to be successful in His work, we must have it. But don't pray for it unless you are willing to suffer.

—Torrey.

NOTICE!

I pastored churches and did evangelistic work for over twenty years in Northeast Mo., Association, and if people want Bible preaching and fellowship I would be glad to come to your church for revival services. My address is Rev. Orville Dobbs, 1003 First Avenue East, Newton, Iowa.

THE DEVIL'S BEST TOOL

By B. N. Miner

An old country legend tells the story of a sale, by the devil, of all of his tools. He laid them out in a row, with a price tag on each—Envy, Jealousy, Hatred, Greed, etc., were in the display.

One much-worn tool was priced higher than the others. "That," explained the devil, "is Discouragement, and I have priced it higher than the other tools because it has been the most useful to me." The legend adds that it was priced too high, and no one was able to buy it. As a result, the devil still owns Discouragement, and it continues to be his most useful tool.

PRACTICAL CONSERVATION

Lady Huntingdon, outstanding lady of early Methodism, with an income of approximately \$6,000 a year lived very simply herself and gave everything she could spare to the work of God. She maintained the college which she had erected at her own expense; she erected chapels in many places, and supported ministers here and there over the world. One day a preacher and a businessman paid her ladyship a visit. As they left the home the businessman turned to look back upon it, exclaiming, "What a lesson! Can a person of her noble birth, nursed in the lap of grandeur, live in such a house, so meanly furnished—and shall I, a tradesman, be surrounded with luxury and elegance? From this moment I shall hate my house, my furniture and myself for spending so little for God and so much in folly."

"A living sacrifice" is strictly a New Testament idea. In Old Testament times, the fundamental conception of a sacrifice involved death. It was the death of the animal that made the ritual effective.

But Jesus Christ added a new meaning to the sacrificial idea. He died on the Cross, shedding His blood to atone for all sin; but on the third day He came from the tomb in resurrection power and is "alive for evermore." He became indeed the first "living sacrifice."

And in this is the pattern of full Christian experience. There is the time of crucifixion for the Christian believer, when he lays all on the altar, and dies to sin and to the carnal self. Like Paul, he is "crucified with Christ."

—Sermon Builder

IT TOOK GOD'S GRACE

One of God's obscure, but faithful, servants spoke on a Bible conference program following a man who, before his conversion, had been a notorious criminal and vertible "jailbird," having spent much of his life in penal institutions. Said the less-publicized and less-glamorized minister, "Friends, I am under the disadvantage today of not having been a safecracker, or a drunkard, or a despoiler of womankind. I was reared in a Christian home. Early in life, Christ came into my heart and completely transformed my life. Having been saved in my youthful years, I did not plunge into the ways of sin and crime. However, make no mistake about it, it took as much of the grace of God to save me as it did to save my brother who has just spoken to you, or to save the chiefest of sinners!" In

many cases, keen edge of the soul, which formerly glorified in the pure Gospel of the heart transforming grace of God, has been blunted! On hearing a simple Gospel message, many, alas, are the victims of that surfeited, fed-up feeling which questions thus, "So what?" All praise be to God for saving a night-club entertainer whose voice is now dedicated to God. How sinful it is, however, for God's children to glamorize or put on a pedestal, this one, and look with less favor upon one who, through the years, by God's grace has escaped the degrading, down-dragging sins of the passing world! Selah!

—Selected.

CHRIST SUFFICIENT

Christ Sufficient—He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted Luke 4: 18). Commissioner Booth Tucker preached in Chicago one day, and out from the throng a burdened toiler came and said to him before all, "Booth Tucker, you can talk like that, about how dear Christ is to you and how He helps you; but if your wife was dead, as mine is, and you have some babies crying for their mother who would never come back, you could not say what you are saying." A little later Booth Tucker lost his beautiful and nobly gifted wife in a railway wreck, and the body was brought to Chicago for the funeral service. Booth Tucker rose and looked down into the face of the wife and mother, and said:

"The other day a man said I could not say that Christ was sufficient if my wife were dead and my children were crying for their mother. If that man is here, I tell him that Christ is sufficient. My heart is crushed and broken but there is a song in my heart, and Christ put it there; Christ speaks comfort to me today." That man was there, and came and fell down beside the casket and said, "If Christ can help us like that I will surrender to Him," and he was saved.

—From the Christian

(Sent By M. H. James, Toronto, Canada).

THE SILENCE OF JESUS

Luke 23:9, "He answered him nothing"

Silence amidst untoward circumstances.

Silence that provoked His enemies.

Silence that was triumphant.

Silence that meant more than speech.

If you build not above the stars, you build away too low.

WITH THE PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY

Since January first, Rev. Willis has been in the following churches for Missionary services:

Missouri—Berkley City, St. Louis (Southside), and First, at Flat River.

Kentucky—Lovely, Louisa, Inez, Paintsville, Southside, Paintsville, Third Street, and attended the Johnson County Conference.

West Virginia—The Kermit Free Will Baptist Church.

North Carolina—Kannapolis: Elwood Lane, Mable Avenue, Ben Avenue, Mt. Zion, Bethlehem, and the Kannapolis Pastors Association.

Nebraska—Shelton Church and the Denman Church.

Tennessee—Richland Creek Mission, First Church Columbia, and attended the District Masters Men meeting at Barren Plains.

Things Are Looking Up

January was a good month for National Home Missions. God is blessing. A new church is reported at Clinton, Oklahoma, by the Chairman of our Board, Rev. H. E. Staires.

ELOQUENT EYES

If you would be popular, learn to smile with your eyes! Successful portrait photographers recognize the value of this technique. They know that if they can get a person's eyes to smile they need not worry about the rest of the face. Hard lines and "stiffness" disappear. So when they want to get an especially attractive photograph they keep suggesting pleasant thoughts to their customers until the eyes soften—and speak. Why should such a good trick be reserved for photographic studios? Why not put your best face forward all the time? It is largely a matter of habit. When you meet people, express cordiality with your eyes. Instead of the rubber smile which you have been clicking on and off, like a camera shutter, on such occasions, give out with a smile that will be remembered—one done with your eyes! Your mouth will take care of itself. You have known plenty of people who could criticize with their eyes. It is just as easy to be gracious and friendly with them. And if you do it often enough it will change your whole personality. Try it. It's the best secret anybody ever gave you.

—Whatsoever Things

Woman's Auxiliary

PRICE CHANGES IN AUXILIARY LITERATURE, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

- #100D. Individual Report Slips—100 35c.
#100E. Secretary's Record Book—\$2.00.

Please add the following items to your Auxiliary Literature Catalog:
Declamations 10c each.

Pure Logic—Rev. R. Riggs.

Home Missions—Rev. Homer Willis.

The Heart of This Year Old (GTA)—Mrs. LaVerne Miley.

Playlets—10c each.

The King's Highway (Enlistment) Mrs. Smith Crockarell.

The Modern Family—The Old Fashioned Family—Mrs. Catherine Waggoner.

* * * *

A combined Missions Conference and Missions Study Course was sponsored jointly by the Florida Home Mission Board and the Liberty District Auxiliary Convention, January 6-13, 1957. There were 23 services conducted with 7 conversions witnessed and 12 dedications. There was an average attendance of 52 in the study classes.

* * * *

Where, oh, where, are the offerings for the Tent Project?

When, oh, when, can we expect your offering? We hope it will be soon for there are only five convention months left!

* * * *

Does your auxiliary contribute regularly to the Co-Laborer Fund? Free tracts explaining the function and purpose of this fund are available from the Executive office.

Also available is a new tract entitled: "Chief Aims of the Woman's Auxiliary". (Free)

February 1, 1957

Dear Co-Laborers:

What do you **plan** to do today for Jesus? Have you thought about it? Do your plans for today include time and place for Him? Or, will He have to wait until tomorrow? Well—tomorrow never comes.

What do you **plan** to do this week for Jesus? Have you definitely planned to do something for Him this week, such as attending the prayer service or the Auxiliary meeting at your church? Have you? Or, do you plan to go next week?

Well—next week never comes.

One of the greatest sins among Christians today is the sin of living above their income.

Jesus said, "And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful." (Mark 4:19)

I fear that the cares of the kitchen, the living room, the garage, and the clothes closets are consuming the time and energies of many Christian women and I have observed that those who do not **plan** to serve Jesus, usually don't.

NEOSHO AUXILIARY

The Woman's Auxiliary of Neosho met January 23 at the home of Mrs. Sarah Davidson. For opening hymn we sang, "Bringing in the Sheaves." Prayer by Mrs. Eva Lucas. Our lesson topic was "God's World Plan."

We had a general discussion with everyone taking part. The closing hymn was "Revive Us Again". Benediction, Mrs. Lorene Knee.

Refreshments were served to the following members: Mrs. Wilma Pogue, Ella Pogue, Virginia Pogue, Sarah Davidson, Lorene Knee, Dorothy Childress, Eva Lucas, Louise McCully, Georgia Freed and two visitors Mrs. Vera Been and Edgar Davidson.

LEADINGTON AUXILIARY

Our auxiliary met February 7th at the church for our last stewardship lesson. We had eleven members present. The business meeting was opened by singing "Send The Light". Prayer was offered by Sis. Anna Lincoln. The minutes of the last meeting was read and approved. The auxiliary has accepted the responsibility of buying a new hot water heater for our kitchen. We also furnished material to be used in dividing some class rooms for our Sunday School.

Our auxiliary met at the church on Thursday, February 14 for our monthly book study, with ten members and five children present. The business meeting was opened by our program chairman, Sis. Davis, with the group singing "Send The Light". Prayer was offered by Berniece Hargiss. Our lesson subject was "Send Out Thy Light to Japan". Sis. Davis gave the introduction and Scripture reading from Matt. 5:14-16. The first topic "Idolatrous Japan" was given by Berniece Hargiss. The second topic "The Japanese Christian" by Pearl Harper, followed by special prayer for

our missionaries by Sis. Anna Lincoln. The third topic "Our Duty As Christians" by Iva Treaster and the fourth topic "Attitudes Among Christian Leaders" by Christine Pinkley. The group sang "Throw Out the Life Line". Roll call was answered by Scripture verses. Minutes of the last session was read and approved. One new member was added to our auxiliary. Benediction by Bro. Davis.

Our auxiliary met at the church February 21 with nine members and five children present. The business meeting was opened by singing "Send The Light". Prayer was offered by Christiane Pinkley. Our lesson was taken from Your Circle Program. The first topic "God's World Plan in Creation" by Anna Lincoln. The second topic, "God's world Plan Announced" by Bro. Davis and the third topic "God's Plan Revealed by Missionary Stories" by Christine Pinkley. The group sang "Bringing in the Sheaves". Benediction by Sis. Hamor.

Our auxiliary is being blessed and we do thank God for His many blessings.

—Pearl Harper, Cor.

DON'T BE ASHAMED OF GENTLENESS

Upon innumerable occasions and under varied conditions and circumstances, the Lord blessed, comforted, made whole, or helped those about him. There are many stories of his encountering a need and how he always completely satisfied that particular need. Invariably, the account is opened with these words: "He was moved with compassion."

The legend is told of a man who died and went to heaven. Upon requesting admittance, he was told to bring the most precious thing on the earth and he would be admitted.

He returned to earth, so the legend goes, and searched in turn for the sword of Alexander the Great, thinking power was the most precious thing; the largest diamond, thinking wealth was the most precious thing. However each time he was rejected.

Finally, in despair, he sat down by the wayside and a traveler came by. The traveler was in deep need and as he told his story, the man's heart was touched. As the tears rolled down his cheeks the gates swung open and the angel exclaimed, "Welcome! you have found the most precious thing in the world—the tear of compassion!"

One of the greatest needs of the world today is the tear of compassion. Do you think it a mark of weakness to be moved to tears? Don't ever be ashamed of gentleness, for the strong—really strong—are always gentle. Don't ever be ashamed of your response to the needs of the world, unless you make your response from a cold heart.

—Mrs. Eunice Edwards

MONUMENT TO A LAMB

Herbert Lockyer, Sr.

A man, fond of travel, always kept his eyes open for anything unique or unusual in the cities he visited. During a tour of a certain town he was attracted by a somewhat remarkable spire over a public building. About two-thirds of the way up he noticed that the stone of a lamb had been inserted. Then, from its back, the spire continued its course.

Stopping a passer-by, the traveler said, "Excuse me, friend, but I am a stranger here and wondered whether you could tell me if there is a story behind that unusual spire?"

"Yes," the man replied, "the spire has a story. I live around here, and saw this building go up. When the masons reached the part indicated by the stone lamb, one of them lost his balance and fell. As you see, it was a good way up."

"Was he killed?" the interested traveler asked.

"No," said the local man, "that's the miracle. When his friends hurried down, expecting to find his mangled body on the pavement, there he was, shaken and badly bruised, but with hardly a bone broken. And the reason for his miraculous escape from death was a lamb. Several lambs were on their way to slaughter, and as the mason fell, he landed on the back of one of them. The lamb was killed, of course, but saved the mason's life. The builder was so impressed with the miracle that he had that stone placed there as a lasting tribute to a lamb dying to save a stone mason from a terrible death."

One can imagine the traveler's reaction to such a story. But what must have been the feelings of the mason whose life had been spared? How he must have been impressed by the fact that he owed his life to an innocent lamb.

Our sins should have crushed us. We deserved eternal death, but the load fell on God's lamb; He was crushed, and we are free!

But the lamb that was the instrument of sparing the mason's life was an unconscious victim. Having no forethought, it did not know what a

terrible death awaited it, and having no will power, it could not have refused to die for a man.

How different was the sacrifice of Christ, God's lamb, on our behalf! He knew he was to die as the sinless substitute for sinners. He was born to die for our sins. His death was a voluntary one, for His life was not taken—it was given. Had He wished, He could have made his blood-stained cross His throne, and meted out judgment upon His enemies. But He remained on the cross. He knew that it was only as "the lamb, the bleeding lamb," that he could give eternal life to all who are dying in their sins.

SOUL LOSS

Such a theory of fatalism has been summoned to explain the character of Judas. In the Divine Comedy, Mr. Longfellow calls this theory into service, in words put into the mouth of Iscariot:

Lost, lost forever lost. I have betrayed

The innocent blood. O God, if thou art love,

Why didst thou leave me naked to the tempter?

Why didst thou not commission thy swift lightning

To strike me dead? or why did I not perish

With those by Herod slain, the innocent children

Who went with playthings in their little hands

Into the darkness of the other world

As if to bed? Or wherefore was I born,

All that I am, and all that I must be?

If thou in my foreknowledge didst perceive.

I know I am not generous, am not gentle

Like other men; but I have tried to be,

And I have failed. I thought by following Him,

I should grow like Him; but the unclean spirit,

That from childhood up hath tortured me

Hath been too cunning and too strong for me.

Am I to blame for this? Am I to blame

Because I cannot love and ne'er have known

The love of woman, or the love of children?

It is a curse, and a fatality,

A mark that has been set upon my forehead

That none shall slay me, more it were a mercy

That I were dead, or never had been born.

Too late. Too late, I shall not see Him more

Among the living. That sweet, patient face

Will never more rebuke me, nor those lips

Repeat the words: One of you shall betray me.

It stung me into Madness. How I loved,

Yet hated Him. But in the other world,

I will be there before Him, and will wait

Until He comes, and fall down on my knees,

And kiss His feet, imploring pardon, pardon.

I heard him say, All sins shall be forgiven

Except the sin against the Holy Ghost.

That shall not be forgiven in this world,

Nor in the world to come. Is that my sin?

Have I offered so there is no hope Here nor hereafter? That I soon shall know

Oh God, have mercy! Christ, have mercy on me!

—Sermon Builder

PROCRASTINATION

A minister of the gospel determined on one occasion to preach on the text, "Now is the accepted time; now is the day of salvation." Whilst in his study, thinking, he fell asleep, and dreamed that he was carried into hell, and set down in the midst of a conclave of lost spirits. They were assembled to devise means whereby they might get at the souls of men. One rose, and said, "I will go to the earth, and tell men that the Bible is a fable, that it is not divinely appointed of God." No, that would not do. Another said, "Let me go. I will tell men that there is no God, no Saviour, no heaven, no hell;" and at the last words a friendish smile lighted upon all their countenance. "No: I will journey to the world of men, and tell them that there is a God, that there is a Saviour, that there is a heaven,—yes, and a hell, too,—but I'll tell them there is no hurry; to-morrow will do, it will be 'even as to-day'." And they sent him.

—Biblical Treasury

You say you can't do anything. Why? Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

EARLY HISTORY OF MT. ZION (CUBA) CHURCH

"We, the Free Will Baptist Church met the fourth Sabbath in November 1876 and after organizing, elected Jacob Steans as Deacon and John D. Jones, clerk, we were constituted on the Old and New Scriptures with six male members and four females baptized by immersion."

The above is taken from the church records of 1876.

The name of this group was New Home No. 2. One of its early meeting places was in a two story building known as "The Hall" near Park Creek, which was about two miles west of our present church house. This building was used as a church house, a school house, a mission hall and for farmers' meeting place until it was destroyed by fire.

After this the Free Will met in the home of its members until 1899 or 1900, when a frame house was erected on the site where our stucco church house now stands, by Highway No. 5, halfway between Lebanon and Hartville, Mo. The name was first New Hope No. 2. Later its name was Hickory Bluff, then changed to Park Creek and in 1900 it became known as Mt. Zion No. 3 but it is better known by its nickname, "Cuba".

The membership increased from ten to sixty-five, then a falling away began and by 1881 it seems from the records that it became hard to get a pastor. Later instead of preaching, there were prayer meetings. Preaching services became farther and farther apart until 1884 when an effort was made to reorganize. It was found that ten were willing, so Toliver Jones and John D. Jones saddled their horses, mounted and rode twenty miles to the homes of Rev. W. H. Copas and Rev. Thomas Conor, to see if they would come and organize the new church. Yes, they would and did on January 14, 1895, when our present church was organized with the following nine members: Toliver Jones, Pheobe Jones, John D. Jones, Susanna Jones, H. M. Vestal, Hulda Vestal, Millie Walks, Enie Jones and Thula Jones.

Interesting is the fact that the nine were the grandfather, the grandmother, the father, the mother, an uncle, two aunts and two sisters of Rev. Selph Jones.

Some of the early preachers were W. H. Copas, Thomas Cornor, J. Scheets, Billie Scheets, D. N. Butcher, Wm. Davis, D. H. Long, J. Williams, Larkin Jones, Elege Jones and J. T. Halcomb.

J. D. Jones served as clerk until he was appointed deacon, then his

daughter, Enie, became clerk. Toliver Jones was our first deacon. For twenty years he was the only deacon while his son John D. Jones, was the clerk. The two names, Toliver Jones and John D. Jones appears often on committees and as delegate to the Quarterly Meeting or to an association, showing that the son and his father, Toliver, were the leaders through all those years, and what a record they have left! We do thank God for them and all the other members. Our first delegates to represent us in a quarterly meeting held in Niangua in 1895 were Toliver Jones and my father, H. M. Vestal. The first delegates recorded were John D. Jones, David Calton, Carrel Jones, and Andrew J. Tash, elected to attend Pleasant Hill Association in 1877.

According to our minutes, church was always held on the Sabbath instead of on Sunday. After every sermon there was a membership call for the first three or four years. The first recorded text was "If A Man Die Shall He Live Again," found in Job and delivered by Rev. Larkin Jones in March 1882. Any member could exhort, preach, or talk at any time he was set at liberty. This was done by a majority vote.

Two of the nine charter members are still living. They are Thula Jones and Millie Walker.

The membership of our church has grown from nine to one hundred and ninety or more. For this growth we are glad to give our God all the credit.

—John M. Vestal, Cor.

AN EXCERPT FROM A 1918 SOUTHEAST MO., YEARLY MEETING MINUTE

Quarterly meeting reports were called for and St. Francois County Q. M. and Madison County Q. M. responded by Letters and delegates.

St. Francois County Q. M. reported three churches. Two without pastors and one without a Sunday School.

The report showed the State of religion at a low ebb but improving. There have been but few conversions and few additions during the year.

Madison County Q. M. reported eight churches. Six with pastors and the state of religion being good. Six churches maintain Sunday Schools. All churches will have pastors this year.

HISTORY OF ST. FRANCOIS COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING

The St. Francois County Quarterly Meeting, located in St. Francois and adjoining counties, was organized Dec. 25, 1869. The first churches were,

one on Doe Run, a second near De Lassus, and a third near Loughboro. The Wood family from Ohio, of which Jeremiah and John were prominent members, and W. H. Copass, also from Ohio, took an honorable part in establishing the Quarterly Meeting. The churches in 1872 were DeLassus, Mine La Motte, Pendleton, Bushy Creek, and Loughboro. The last two named and the Libertyville church added later, have disappeared from the list. The following have been added: Pilgrims' Home, Jonca, Pine Hill (from the Looney Springs Q.M.) Fredericktown, St. Louis Mission, and Knob Lick. Also, in 1888, Annapolis, Bismark, Pleasant Union, and Point Pleasant. This growing Q.M. has been connected with the Central Illinois Yearly Meeting since 1876.

Free Baptist Cyclopedia, 1889

REV. McALLISTER STILL AFFLICTED

Rev. McAllister, a Free Will Baptist minister for over fifty years, suffered a stroke over three years ago and is still afflicted and confined to his room most of the time.

He will be enjoying his seventy-third birthday the 4th day of April. He would enjoy receiving cards and letters, especially from those of his religious faith. Cards may be sent to Rev. C. A. McAllister, Buffalo, Mo., in care of Jewell Marshall.

He has spent many years preaching the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. One of his favorite text was John 3: 5, "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

—John McAllister, Cor.

HAZEL CREEK CHURCH REVIVAL

Due to the absence of Rev. Floyd Hartley of Illinois, who had been called to conduct our revival, Rev. Woodrow Matthews and Rev. William Buster preached the first week of the revival. For the second week Rev. Ogden of Des Moines, Iowa was the evangelist. There were large crowds each night in spite of bad weather. There were no souls saved, but the church was revived and can go forth with more zeal to work for the Master.

—Leona Thompson, Cor.

Tomorrow may be too late. Give God your best today. Today—bitter or better—which? Why? Give thanks for blessings and quit fussing over trials.

YOU CAN PRAY

If you cannot preach a sermon,
You can pray.
Anglo-Saxon, French or German,
You can pray.
Men of every tribe are nation
Are in need in all creation;
'Tis no time for self inflation.
You can pray.
If you cannot be a teacher,
You can pray.
You can stand behind your preach-
er,
You can pray.
You can bear him up each hour
At the throne of grace and power;
You can keep from growing sour,
You can pray.
If you cannot cross the ocean,
You can pray.
You can show your heart's devo-
tion,
You can pray.
Multitudes for Christ are crying,
Myriad of hearts are sighting,
You can pray.
And the heathen world is dying,
If you cannot die for Jesus—
You can pray.
From sin's galling yoke He frees
us,
You can pray.
God designs that His salvation,
God for men of every station,
Shall be preached to every tribe
and nation.
You can pray.
If you cannot give like others,
You can pray.
You can love your needy brothers,
You can pray.
You can call in tones most earnest,
On the Lord,—Oh thou that yearn-
est
Over souls, and sinners turnest.
You can pray.
—Rev. J. Narver Gortner

THE PASTOR

Wm. C. Summers

He stood in the pulpit,
So straight and so tall;
Expounding the truth,
He seemed to know all.
The light on his face
Was as bright as the sun;
It was easy to see
What the Saviour had done.
The chapel was silent,
Except for his voice,
But as he proceeded,
Many hearts did rejoice.
For the Master was speaking,
Through His servant that day;
And at the conclusion,
They rejoiced on their way.

WHERE ARE THE MEN?

W. R. Moore

"Go ye therefore, and teach all
nations, baptizing them in the name
of the Father, and of the Son and of
the Holy Ghost" (Matt. 28:19).

Where are the men for whom
Christ died,
Men of the world now crucified,
Dead to its lust, dead to its pride?
Where are the men?

Where are the men who hear His
call,
Take up their cross, and leaving
all,
Fear not the foe, without appall?
Where are the men?

Where are the men by love con-
strained,
Fitted to serve, the Spirit trained:
Led by the voice of truth un-
feigned?
Where are the men?

Where are the men? "Go ye,"
Christ said,
"Follow the path where I have led;
Over the world the gospel spread."
Where are the men?

Where are the men, the chosen
few,
Counting the cost, the goal in view?
List to His call! Does He call you?
Where are the men?

NO PILOT READY

One night during a severe storm a
vessel was seen beating about near
the entrance to the Golden Gate,
making signals of distress and asking
by signal for a pilot to guide it
through the gate, to the harbor with-
in. It kept on beating about and sig-
nalling for some time, but its signals
were not answered, and so after a
while the imperilled ship turned its
prow again toward the stormy sea,
for whose perils it was seeking to es-
cape. The ship was never heard from
again.

There is many a storm-tossed ves-
sel today seeking guidance through
the golden gate into the harbor but
many of us who profess to be Christ-
ians and know the way into the har-
bour well will not take the trouble to
go out and face the storm and bring
the distressed vessel safely into har-
bor. Thus we leave them to the perils
of the deep and they are never heard
of again. Oh, that God would arouse
us sleeping Christians to a sense of our
duty, and that we would hear the
cry of God and go out to bring the
storm-tossed safely into harbor.

—Torrey.

MERCY

When the old Romans attacked a
city, it was sometimes their custom
to set up a white flag at the city gate.
If the garrison surrendered while the
white was up, their lives were spared:
after that, the black flag was run up,
and every man was put to the sword.
Sinner, to-day the white flag of mercy
is out. Surrender to Christ, and live,
before the black flag of death and
doom takes its place.

—Foster.

"Thank You"

Rev. Frank Brosend

A recent letter in an "Out of the
Mail Bag" section of a trade journal
told how the writer had received a
letter from his congressman thanking
him for a letter which he had sent
expressing thanks for a recent piece
of legislation which the writer con-
sidered particularly good.

The Congressman's reply was, in
part, "I have represented your district
for the past thirteen years. In all that
time yours is the first letter I have
received in which a constituent actu-
ally thanked me for doing my duty
as a legislator."

Every one of us could use this
method to encourage the good in
others, and also create goodwill to-
ward ourselves. It's an undeveloped
resource right at our doorstep, "at the
tip of our pen," we might say.

From time to time we find a news-
paper or magazine article or editorial,
a poem or a cartoon that strikes us as
unusually good. Why not immediately
write the author or editor or public
servant thanking them for their timely
words or service?

I venture to say that a letter of
thanks to your pastor for a good ser-
mon mentioning a few points you
particularly appreciated would do him
more good than a volume of criticism.
Try it next Monday.

YOUR CONVERSATION

No one is more envied, no one cre-
ates a more favorable impression, than
an interesting conversationalist. Peo-
ple judge you the moment you speak.
There is no surer index to your breed-
ing, your education, your environ-
ment, and the sort of people with
whom you have been associating, than
what you say and how you say it.
The secret? It's really simple. Con-
versation is an art that can be readily
developed. (From a letter to prospects
for a correspondence course in con-
versation.)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(Continued from page 9)

Mr. & Mrs. Willey		
Jr. (child)	166.00	
Mr. & Mrs. Phenicie	150.00	
Christmas gifts	49.36	
	<u>530.36</u>	
National workers	1,284.00	1,814.36
		<u>257.50</u>
Rent (9 churches)		96.65
Hospitalization		
Maintenance of Equip.:		
Tires for truck	133.49	
Insurance, bus	40.70	
License plates	78.05	
Gas and Oil	70.45	
Repairs	15.20	337.89
		<u>18.13</u>
General Maintenance		20.05
Fuel		347.75
House, Tommy Willey		
Temples:		
Vinales	83.67	
La Lisa (Property)	993.00	1,076.67
		<u>134.04</u>
Animal Feed		18.40
Passage		19.40
Office Expense		5.77
Printing		32.75
Typewriter Repair		3.24
Bank Charges		5.25
Miscellaneous		4,486.43
		<u>\$1,044.35</u>
Cash on Hand,		
Jan., 31, 1957	94.16	
Cash in Bank,		
Jan., 31, 1957 General	80.64	
Cash in Bank,		
Jan., 31,		
1957 Spec. Bldg.	245.00	
Cash in Bank., Jan., 31,		
1957, Temples	624.55	1,044.35
		<u>1,044.35</u>
Rev. Thomas H. Willey	Edith Phenicie	
Director	Bookkeeper	

CHRISTIAN DISCONTENT

(Continued from page 3)

what he would like to do. Out of his discontent, Nehemiah found that God led him to a way where he could do something for the great work he loved.

Let me tell you friends, that God has a way. There is something which all of us can do about the work of the kingdom of God. But he can never do anything with complacent, self-satisfied, contented people. He can only work with those who are discontent with the situation as it is and who want, actually want, to do something about it. If God finds a

person like that, he can use such a person to overturn the work of Satan and bring Jesus near to millions. How about you?

FOUR BIG WORDS OF JESUS

(Continued from page 5)

the rock
That shadows a dry thirsty land;
He hideth my life in the depth of
His love,
And covers me there with His
hand,
And covers me there with His
hand."

Amen

LETTERS FROM OVER THE FIELD

"I enclose two dollars to use as it is needed, and may the Lord bless." A sister in hope, Mrs. Sarah Kirby, Rt. 1, Pikeville, North Carolina.

"Enclosed is \$5.70 from Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church." Mrs. Thelma English, Clerk, Atkins, Ark.

"I am sending this money order for four dollars. Please give \$2.00 to Foreign Missions and keep \$2.00 for Home Missions". W. F. McDuffie, Blakley, Georgia.

"I am sending one dollar bill for home mission work. I can't send much. I don't have no income. May God bless you in your work for Him. One of God's least servants."

Julia Vaughn, Hindsville, Ark.

"Please accept this five dollars from the Faith, Hope, and Charity, Sunday School class of the Harrison Free Will Baptist Church, for the support of Home Mission teams. May God bless the work." Mrs. Nellie Purdy, Rt. 1, Manford, Ohio.

"This is the sacraficial offering of the Ladies Auxiliary of Hobbs, New Mexico". Shirley West, Hobbs, New Mexico.

"We, the Salem Free Will Baptist Sunday School, are enclosing \$6.00, and we are going to send six dollars each month."

Mrs. Nellie Morris, Cottondale, Florida.

"Our Mission offerings have increased since Mrs. Edwards was here. We Received \$10.00 Sunday before last, and \$30.00 last Sunday. This, of course is in addition to the Co-operative fund."

Rev. G. A. Huchaby, Chipley, Florida.

THE INDWELLING SPIRIT

The heart in which the Holy Spirit dwells will always be characterized by gentleness, lowliness, quietness, meekness, and forbearance.

The rude sarcastic manner, the sharp retort, the unkind cut—all of these have nothing whatever in common with the gentle teaching of the Comforter.

Get the church to its knees and a revival is here.

America on her knees is safer than America under arms! You and I are Americans!

—"Herald of His Coming"

Success is giving God your very best.