

Volume 60, No. 3 March 1990



# "Washing The Saint's Feet" A Church Ordinance

by Reverend Vernon Long

Part I

We as Free Will Baptists believe there are three symbolic ordinances taught in the New Testament. We realize that all of these ordinances have been misinterpreted, perverted and abused by other beliefs. Many have misinterpreted the ordinance of baptism as a means of salvation, we do not. Roman Catholics misinterpret the Lord's Supper ("Eucharist") as actually eating of Christ's body and drinking of His blood. This is called transubstantiation. Loraine Boettner writes in his book, "Roman Catholicism," and I quote:

"According to Roman teaching, in the sacrifice of the mass the bread and wine are changed by the power of the priest at the time of consecration into the actual body and blood of Christ."

The Lutheran view of the Lord's Supper is called "consubstantiation." R.C. Sproul in "The Encyclopedia of Christianity," explains consubstantiation:

"The term has reference to the co-existence of the substance of the body and blood of Christ with the substance of the elements of bread and wine. The substance of Christ is said to be really present "in, with, and under" the bread and wine. In this view the real, substantial presence of Christ in the sacrament is confessed without any metaphysical change of the substance of the bread and wine."

As Free Will Baptists we believe the Lord's Supper is "a commemoration of the death of Christ for our sins in the use of the bread which He made the emblem of His broken body, and the cup, the emblem of His shed blood."

Most churches of our day interpret the words of Christ in John 13:1-17 to mean that "we ought to be willing and eager to serve one another in all kinds of humble and menial tasks," and do not recognize feet-washing as an ordinance. Before dealing with the question, "Why do Free Will Baptists wash feet?", I want to quote from the West Virginia state paper what some prominent men said about feet washing:

Dr. Torry said: "It is in the Book; what are we going to do about it?"

Kitts says: "Feet-washing became, as might be expected, part of the observances practiced in the early church."

Godfried Arnold says: "Among the services of duties which were observed by the first Christians, that of feet-washing was included."

Henry Ward Beecher, in a sermon, declared that he could not understand why feet-washing never was made an ordinance. He said: "It sinks deeper than the Lord's Supper. It has a profounder grip upon man's nature, duty, and destiny."

Dr. Lynn Abbott said: "Is the Lord's Supper commanded? The language is not one-half so explicit as that which accompanied the rite of feet-washing, which the church discarded because it ceased to be profitable."

Dr. Yoder said: "The same arguments that would dislodge feet-washing from the gospel as a church ordinance, would dislodge all other ordinances." Jesus said: "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done unto you." — John 13:14, 15.

I will address some questions in answering the question, why do we as Free Will Baptists wash feet?

What is an ordinance? There is no Scriptural definition given of a church ordinance. But it is from Scripture that we decide what the ordinances are and then define them. An ordinance is this: "a divinely instituted rite that has symbolic meaning and is to be practiced by the church."

Some will ask, "Wasn't it a practice to wash feet during Biblical times? The answer is, yes, but the custom was for people to wash their own feet (cf. Gen. 18:4; 19:2; 43:24; Il Sam. 11:8) You will find nowhere that the Lord or Master washed the feet of his guests, friends, or comrades, but water was provided and they washed their own feet. Peter would not have registered such shock in John 13:6-9 if it had been a custom. Besides, it came at the wrong time—after supper (John 13:2). The custom of Biblical times was to wash their feet upon arriving.

Is feet-washing then to be practiced and considered as an ordinance, or is it to be acts of hospitality to other believers? In addressing this question, we must ask, Was it practiced by the early church? I Timothy 5:10 indicates that it was, as Paul made it a condition, or prerequisite for the widows to receive aid from the church (vv. 9,10). It doesn't say, if she has washed the feet of strangers, or her friends or children's feet, but it says, "if she has washed the saint's feet." I cannot conceive of the idea of Paul just simply requiring the widow to wash the saint's feet, and no one else being under obligation to do so.

Some would say, Since feet-washing is mentioned only this one time in the New Testament epistles, isn't that a weak argument for it as an ordinance? The ordinance of the Lord's Supper is mentioned only once in the epistles in I Corinthians 10 and 11. This reference doubtless never would have been made, had not the church corrupted the ordinance. True, the Lord's Supper is mentioned in Acts 20:7 as a practice of the early church. Most do not question the Lord's Supper as an ordinance because it is only mentioned one time in the epistles.

(to be continued next month)

All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 10th of the month preceding the issue month. Business Office: 202 West Commercial, Lebanon, Missouri 65536. Clarence Burton, Editor. Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, including subscription and mailing information, to the above address. The sermons and articles published in the GEM represent the personal views of the authors and not necessarily the views and policies of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists or of the editor. Subscription rates: Single subscription, \$4.50 per year, cash in advance. Church Plan \$4.00 per year consisting of five subscriptions or more. The Church Plan will continue until it is canceled by the church. This magazine is published monthly.



# Reports from the Churches

NEW LIFE CHURCH, Licking, MO — The New Life Church is praising the Lord for the marvelous work He has been and is doing in the ministry of the church, writes the pastor, Reverend David Brawley. We have seen hearts healed, souls turning back to the Lord, and a great "turn-around" in the life of the church.

The Lord is blessing with more open praise, more willingness to serve, and people are doing this with joy in their hearts and a song on their lips.

We are challenging ourselves to increase our Cooperative giving this year and also to reach other goals for which we believe the Lord is leading.

Recently we have had many new visitors, souls have been saved, and some have united with the church. On Sunday, January 24, the Lord blessed with an attendance of 107. This was not a record breaker, but it did indicate an upswing.

We are thankful for the prayers of God's people for our labor with the New Life Church. May the Lord continue to bless as we trust Him for His blessings.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Lebanon, MO - The First Church held a Sweetheart Banquet Saturday evening, February 10. The theme was "Heaven In Your Eyes." The program began with a welcome by the pastor, Reverend Gary Sheets. This was followed by Stephanie Sheets singing "Wind Beneath My Wings."

Reverend Clarence Burton gave a devotional thought, "Reflections of Love." A humorous skit, "Adam and Eve," was presented by Bruce and Connie Myers.

The couples who had entered the King and Queen Contest were recognized. A humorous event that had occurred either before or after marriage was read when the married couples were announced. The entries were: Heather Myers & Landon Griffin, Brooke Weddle & Eric Boston, Sandy Anderson & Jeremy Myers, Errin Johnson & Philip Day, Loni Stansberry & Scott Anderson, Dennis & Virginia Boston, Marvin & Judy Cochran, Kenny & Judy Pierce, Calvin & Gerri Plummer, and Gary & Betty Sheets. The winners were: Double winners for Pre-Teen



Landon & Heather



Eric & Brooke



Calvin & Gerri



 Heather Myers & Landon Griffin and Brooke Weddle & Eric Boston; Teenage — Errin Johnson & Philip Day; Adult — Calvin & Gerri Plummer. Following the crowning of the Kings and Queens, Stephanie Sheets sang, "Heaven In Your Eyes."

A delicious dinner of Heavenly Delight, Cupid's Arrows, Heavenly Delicacy, Fleecy Clouds with Sweet Nothings and Raindrops was enjoyed by everyone. Special guests included Cupid and his Helper, who shot Valentine Arrows towards everyone.

The event raised almost \$500.00

for the Young People.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH. Monett, MO - We want to share with your how the Lord has blessed the church the past year, writes Mrs. Charles Smith, church reporter. Our giving to missions from November 1, 1988 to November, 1989 was \$25,119.67. In November we were involved in our annual Mission Conference, and our offering was \$7,676.00. We are thankful that we can share in fulfilling the Great Commission that preaches

the gospel to the whole world.

CHAPEL OF THE OZARKS, Rocky Comfort, MO — The Chapel of the Ozarks Free Will Baptist Church at Rocky Comfort, Missouri united with the Indian Creek District Association the latter part of 1989. This was done under the guidance and leadership of Reverend and Mrs. Bill Barton who serve this congregation.

The Chapel of the Ozarks has very adequate church facilities. The sanctuary (auditorium) and education unit provide space for Sunday school and church growth. The church and Sunday school are experiencing growth. The pastor and congregation are excited about recent professions of faith and additions to the church.

Reverend and Mrs. Bill Barton state, "We love the people of this church and we enjoy working with them. We pray the Lord will continue to bless the labor of the church with souls being saved and Christians growing in the Lord."



**Rocky Comfort Congregation** 



Rev. & Mrs. Bill Barton



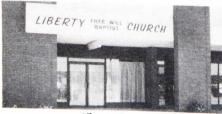
**Leadington Parsonage** 

**LEADINGTON CHURCH, Leadington, MO** — The Leadington Free Will Baptist Church has, through careful planning and faithful giving, purchased and built a new modular house, writes the church reporter, Shirley Wills. This will be used as the parsonage. The pastor and his wife, Rev. & Mrs. Vernon Long, are enjoying the new facilities. It is located at 218 Woodlawn Drive in Leadington.

The church is engaging in "New Goals" that will enable it to be a full-ministering church. A group has been organized named the Sonshiners for 55 years and up. This organization will be ministering to Nursing Homes and folks confined to their homes in this area.

The Youth Ministry has sowed the seed and laid the groundwork for an outreach endeavor towards youth in the Leadington area. The men of the church, through a Prayer Breakfast ministry, are working at an endless task of enabling the church to function at its fullest potential.

The Lord has blessed with new converts and six new members in the church. May His blessings continue.



**Liberty Church** 

**LIBERTY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Sikeston, MO** — Just to let you know that the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church is alive and well, writes Wanda Hale, church reporter.

For the past two years the church has met in the home of the pastor since it was necessary for the previous church property to be sold. But the Lord has blessed, and we now have been able to move into a beautiful storefront building in an excellent location. We are looking forward to God's continued blessings on the work of the church.

The Kids Korner Class recently

completed a series of lessons where, for one month, their classroom was transformed into a "Dinosaur Land." During this series their teacher, Wanda Hale, taught them about Dinosaurs and the Bible. They answered several questions such as, "Are Dinosaurs in the Bible?"; "Why did God create Dinosaurs?"; "Were Dinosaurs on the Ark?"; and "Could Dinosaurs be alive today?" They also learned that much of what is taught as fact today in schools and through news media is in conflict with what the Bible teaches. They were taught that the Bible and true science do not conflict and that when anything conflicts with the Bible, the Bible is always right.



**Kids Korner Class** 

We request your prayers for God's continued blessings and growth for Liberty Free Will Baptist Church.



HARMONY CHURCH, Parkville, MO

The Harmony Church building has undergone a "face-lift", writes the church reporter, Laymon "Red" Stamper. Brick has replaced the former siding. New stained glass windows have complemented the new look. Also, a beautiful cross has been attached to the front side of the building.

Improvements on the inside include a new baptistry. The church family is very pleased with the "New Look" and so thankful to the Lord for His blessings in making this possible. This was done under the leadership of the former pastor, Rev. John Bullard.

The church is enjoying the present pastor, Rev. Kevin Jackson, and his family in their new labor with the church.

CENTRAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Grandview, MO — A Stewardship Banquet was held at the Central Church on Wednesday evening, February 14. Prior to the time for the Banquet Dinner, the Youth hosted a "Get Acquainted and Refreshment Time."

Reverend Kent Hubbard, pastor



Stewardship Banquet



After Dinner

Following a delicious dinner, the pastor, Reverend Kent Hubbard, said, "Even though it is sleeting and cold on the outside, I am pleased to see a large number in attendance for the Stewardship Banquet." He introduced the speaker, Reverend Clarence Burton. In keeping with the theme, he presented two central thoughts, "A Loving Heart Sees the Need At Home, and At Church."

The pastor gave the opportunity for private commitments to the stewardship ministry of the church. A beautiful medley of "songs of consecration" was sung by Cheryl Hubbard.

FRIENDSHIP FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Branson, MO—The pastor and the church extends a warm welcome to one and all to a Missions Conference, April 4-7, writes church reporter Betty Kellerman. The services will be held at the Friendship Church. This can be a time of meeting new friends and seeing old acquaintances.

The church is involved in saving "Best Choice Food Labels," especially the magnetic code lines on the labels. The funds raised will be applied to the Bus Fund. Please help us with this project. The mailing address is Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, P.O. Box 337, Branson, MO 65616.

# Free Will Baptist State-Wide Singles Retreat

Sponsored by: C.E. Board

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Workshops · Group Outings · Panel Discussions · Concert · Optional Activities · Fellowship

Registration Fee: \$30

Includes: Late night snacks on Friday, Continental Breakfast Saturday Morning, Buffet Lunch on Saturday, and 1 night's stay at Days Inn

Arrive Friday, May 4th, between 4:30 & 6:30 p.m., depart Saturday, May 5th, after 6:00 p.m.

\$20 Non-Refundable Deposit Due By April 14th

#### An invitation is extended to all pastors to attend this retreat!

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#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1989-90**

CHURCHES	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN
Belton	47	51	45	47	39	54	51	49	58	45	45	54
Calvary Fellowship	222	254	233	201	193	194	194	203	259	201	190	232
Cape Girardeau	51	45	45	48	47	39	38	35	39	39	60	
Central	88	105	90	96	91	96	90	105	105		110	112
Copper Mines	77	89	87	85	87	75	91	80				
Cuba	62	77	60	69	66	65	63	58	79	65	68	72
DeSoto	177			189	180	183	183	194	197	193	192	187
Farmington	309	381	323	302	313	300	312	321	333	337	310	325
Flat River, First	121	174	143	147	135	131	130		154	133	152	151
Hannon	77	102	81	94	73	72	83	77	94	81	85	91
Harmony	59	77		62	56		61	57	69		68	
Hartville	91	100	97	91	93	77	85	90	92	82	90	94
Houston	93	83	89	87	83	74	76	73	77	82	76	86
Lebanon, First	83	87	94	86	86	89	85	91	98	99	89	84
Myrtle	31	37			37	41	36	35			36	
Parkview	44	61	61	55	54	50	55	62	65	61	60	61
Richwoods	46	46										
Rock Chapel	63	65	63	60	59	62	65	57	69	69	59	65
Springfield, First	168	155	146	130	129	138	125	126	136	133	121	135
Thayer						122	129			133	128	
United, West Plains	138	164	128		158	145	132	162			174	180
Victory, K.C.	64	95	70	66	63	65	70	70	71	61	57	65
West Plains, First		129	116	111	112	124	141	131			135	
Willow Springs	58	79	66	67	66	65	69	77			62	68
-					470	-						

The above is only a partial listing — there are 170 Free Will Baptist churches in Missouri. Every church is encouraged to send its Sunday School averages in each month to be listed in the above report.



Looking
Out My
Parsonage
Window
by Ve Ann Tilson

### Part II: "Who Is In Control Of Your Household?"

Recently my husband made a statement that sent chills down my spine. He commented, "If something doesn't change, we're going to lose a generation of children." I had never thought of it that way before, but deep down, I knew it was true. More and more, parents are expressing feelings of being overwhelmed and powerless in dealing with their children. This generation has children that are so strongwilled they are controlling the parents who are supposed to be leading and guiding them.

According to Proverbs 29:15, "The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." (Note also: Proverbs 13:24; 22:15) If we, as parents, do not give correction and guidance, our lives and the lives of our children will be

filled with heartache and sorrow.

What can be done to change the attitudes and behaviors of our children? The best resource guide I've found (other than the Scriptures) is "Assertive Discipline for Parents," by Lee Canter. The following are some helpful suggestions taken from his book . . .

(1) Take charge and be the BOSS. Tell your children you care too much about them to let them misbehave. Don't hesitate to say "NO." Set limits. Children need to know the boundaries. Teach your child respect. If he respects you, he will also respect teachers, police officers, church workers, etc.

(2) Communicate assertively . . . Tell your child exactly what you want or expect. Avoid vague statements like, "You're driving me crazy!" Instead, pinpoint the problem and communicate it to the child.

(3) When disciplining, stay calm, use normal voice, and look your child in the eye while you are speaking to him.

(4) Back up your words with actions. Let your child know there will be consequences for misbehavior. The consequences must be something that your child does not like, but that will not be physically or psychologically harmful. To be effective, you must find something the child WILL NOT enjoy. Above all, BE CONSISTENT. When you continue to merely threaten to discipline and do not follow through, you are teaching that he need not listen to you, at least not until he's been threatened several times.

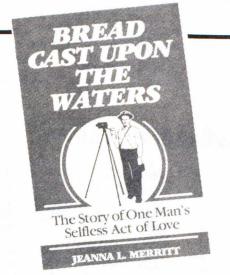
(5) Avoid arguing with your child. Use the broken record technique. With this, you simply repeat the same thing over and over.

(6) Last, but certainly not least, reinforce POSITIVE behavior.

Don't take their "good" behavior for granted. Let your children know that you appreciate it when they behave appropriately.

No one ever said parenting was going to be easy. It is an awesome responsibility, and parents today are challenged more than ever before. We must arise to the challenge. Our children are depending upon us. Their future is in our hands today!

"Assertive Discipline For Parents," by Lee Canter, 1988.



BREAD CAST UPON THE WATERS throbs with the missionary burden carried by Rev. Ken Turner, an early promoter of foreign missions in Free Will Baptist ranks. Mrs. Jeanna Merritt has succeeded in capturing his pioneering spirit and sacrificial ministry.

This interesting, factual, and sometimes humorous travelogue of one man's adventures in promoting foreign missions is enjoyable reading for young and old alike.

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#### **Attendance Booster Clubs**

Randall House Publications wants to see the National Association of Free Will Baptist grow. We are convinced that Free Will Baptist churches can — must — grow. That's why we are committed to work with your church to help Free Will Baptists grow for God's glory.

A widespread concern for growth gave birth to Target 90 in 1985. This is the fifth year of that five-year growth strategy. The overall goal for this campaign is to increase total membership by 50,000 and start 100 new churches.

Each of us rejoices that we have already surpassed the church planting portion of our goal. We at Randall House want to do our part to help achieve our membership goal. To be more specific, we want to help your church grow.

That's why we created the Attendance Booster Clubs. Each church is asked to select the attendance goal that can best be attained by them. Various materials are available to help your church achieve its goal. You must maintain your goal for 13 Sundays.

Once your goal has been attained, your church should notify Randall House of this accomplishment. (Special forms are available upon which this can be done.)

When we receive your report form, the following steps will be taken:

- The name of the church will be engraved on a plaque that will be displayed at Randall House Publications in Nashville.
- 2. An appropriate plaque will be sent to the achieving church for them to display.

#### Take the following steps now:

- 1. Choose your attendance goal today.
- 2. Choose the time period in which you plan to work toward your goal.
- 3. Order the materials that will help you achieve you attendance goal.

### Missouri **Exceeds** Foreign Missions Goal For 1989

Nashville, Tenn. - Free Will Baptists of Missouri did it! They topped the 1989 state goal in giving to foreign missions by \$22,992.74. A total of \$262,992. 74 was given to overseas outreach by the state during the year.

R. Eugene Waddell, general director for foreign missions, issued this commendation to Missouri Free Will Baptist: "Congratulations! All of us in the foreign missions family are thrilled with your faithfulness. Your continuing support will enable missionaries to keep winning souls and planting Free Will Baptist churches overseas."

Waddell continued, "Because of your success in exceeding your suggested goal, your state will receive special recognition at the National Association in Phoenix.'

According to foreign missions records, giving by Missouri in 1989 increased by \$14,217.68 over the previous year.

Missouri's gifts are enabling many missionaries to share the good news of Jesus Christ overseas, including the Carlisle Hannas, the Jerry Pinkertons, the Jim McLains, Charolette Tallent, the Ken Baileys, the Stan Bunches, the Steve Reeves, the Steve Lytles, and the Ron Moores. Despite the increase in gifts overall, several of these families are urgently in need of additional support: Steve and Judy Lytle in Panama, Ken and Judy Bailey in Japan, and Steve and Linda Reeves who need to return to Spain.

#### Missouri State Home Missions Board

### **Project Gideon Is Launched For** The Wentzville Mission

The Missouri State Home Mission Board has officially launched a new and dynamic program called "Project Gideon." To help meet the tremendous demands upon a new mission to build its first church building is the

purpose for the project.

The Wentzville Mission, led by Pastor Jim Mertz, has been in existence for four years now, and it is time to build. However, due to the high costs of property and its present small house in which they are meeting, they cannot borrow to add to the already heavy mortgage. If they do not build, they stand to lose people and opportunities, pushing the date to establish the church further into the future.

Project Gideon is a simple plan in which we have asked the Lord for 300 (like Gideon's army) churches, individuals or groups within churches to give a \$300 offering sometime during 1990. The total would equal the estimated amount to build and finish the building. The love offering would amount to about \$6.00 a week or 89¢ a day! If this miracle could happen here in Missouri in 1990 in Wentzville, the money saved, the interest saved, the time saved could bring the mission years closer to becoming a selfsupporting church.

Will you be one of the "Chosen 300" in Project Gideon this year? Those who give this offering will have their name or the name of a loved one engraved on our special "Chosen 300" plague to be displayed in the

entrance to the new church and will receive a nice picture of the new building upon its completion.

Your offerings to this special program should be sent to:

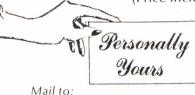
Missouri State Home Missions Rev. Dale Skiles, Treasurer 3249 S. Pinehurst Springfield, MO 65807 Please designate your offering: "PROJECT GIDEON"

#### THE FOLLOWING ARE THE **NEWEST NAMES THAT HAVE BECOME ONE OF THE** "CHOSEN 300"

Glenn Moore Roger Navarro Lee Evans First FWB Church, Flat River Carrol Matthews (in memorium) Merritt Harless (in memorium) lim Mertz Ken Koch Ixthus Teen Group, Wentzville Steve Smith Art Cook Quinton Marshall Bill Whitaker Ruby Welliver Ed Welliver Debbie Bramlett Terry Collins Robert & Barbara Hardy Arlo and Lois Starnes Adam Mann Trinity FWB Church, St. Louis Lester & Martha Nutting

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**RESERVATION FORM FOR WNAC'S SIXTH ANNUAL NATIONAL RETREAT, 1990** 

rooms for the Free Will Baptist WNAC retreat, September 20-22, 1990, at Ridgecrest for the following: (Please list all the names.)

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_deposit. (Make check payable to Ridgecrest.)

#### Missouri Students On President's and Dean's List at Hillsdale

President's List with a 4.00 grade point average:

Marlene M. Hartman, Kansas City, MO - Sophomore

Dean's List with a 3.00 grade point average:

Gerald Bass, Fordland, MO - Senior Patricia Dinwiddle, Marshfield,

MO - Sophomore

Ginger Harrison, Flat River, MO

- Freshman

Kim Johnson, Parkville, MO -Sophomore

Scott Keith, Mansfield, MO -Freshman

Randall Lovelace, West Plains, MO - Sophomore

EDITOR'S NOTE: Congratulations!

#### Southeastern Free Will **Baptist College**

Southeastern Free Will Baptist College announced its Spring Semester enrollment at 116, including 3 enrolled in Extension Studies.

#### **Tenth Annual** Writers' Conference

May 18, 19, 1990

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#### **FWBBC** Family Exceeds \$75.000 **Christmas Drive Goal**

January was a big day at Free Will Baptist Bible College. This was the day set aside in chapel to tally all the money brought in by the College Family for the Paul Ketterman Memorial Christmas Fund Drive. Excitement was obvious as Brother Shockey called out each name and the amount raised. Imagine the thrill as the goal was met and passed. Chapel ended with a total of \$77,526.15 being tallied through the efforts of the College Family, with more on the way. The last figure was \$82,923.00, but more is coming!

#### The Bible and Science

A group of scientists have made an amazing discovery - EVE! Trained in molecular biology, they looked at an international assortment of genes and picked up a trail of DNA that led them to a "single" woman from whom we all descended. "If it's correct, and I'd say that it is," says Stephen Jay Gould, the Harvard paleontologist and essayist, "it makes us realize that all human beings, despite differences in external appearance, are really members of a single entity that's had a very recent origin in one place. There is a kind of biological brotherhood that's much more profound than we ever realized.'

The logical conclusion, why, Adam, of course. Once again modern science has scaled the mountain of knowledge to reach the peak and find the Word of God set firmly in truth.

- Pam Hudson

#### From Our Missionaries

"It's A Boy!" is the happy message from the McDonalds in Japan. EDITOR'S NOTE: From all of us in Missouri -congratulations!

"CPE Is Exonerated" is the good

news from Abidjian, Cote d'Ivoire. "Praise items for being able to end the year in the 'black' " is the good news from the Baileys in Japan.

"Thanks for your faithfulness for the past decade" is the good word from the Pooles in Brazil.

"Continue to pray for the work in Panama as the country rebuilds" is the news from the Bunches (on itinerant). "The Lytles are safe and well."

#### **Evangelist Team**

Rev. Bernard and Perlene Roberts 522 E. 7th Hutchinson, KS 67501 Phone (316) 665-6852

The Roberts are available for revivals and concerts. Brother and Sister Roberts have been married for 30 years. Brother Roberts has been in the ministry for 33 years and has pastored churches in Missouri, Arkansas, Washington State, New Mexico and Kansas. Reference can be given if desired.

#### **Foreign Missions Praise Sheet** & Prayer Guide

PRAISE THE LORD for his abundant provision through faithful supporters during 1989. Missionary deficits are at the lowest point in several years.

PRAISE THE LORD for safety for the Steve Lytles and the Christians in Panama during the recent turmoil.

PRAISE THE LORD for the Christian witness to the parents of Ruben, a member of the Villalba, Spain, church. The wedding ceremony for him and Maria Jesus was held in his parent's home in November. Jeff Turnbough performed the ceremony.

PRAISE THE LORD for the monthly faith-promise commitments totaling approximately \$275 made by the St. Nazaire, France congregation.

PRAY FOR Paul Sparks, son of missionaries Lonnie and Anita Sparks. Paul is undergoing chemotherapy treatments for acute leukemia.

PRAY FOR Sherwood Lee as he ministers at the hospital at Doropo, Cote d'Ivoire for several months. His wife and family remain in the U.S.

PRAY FOR Dwain and Debbie Crosby and their children as they adjust to life in Spain and begin language study.

PRAY FOR Christians in the European countries which have recently shaken the bonds of Communism. Ask the Lord to bless them as they are free to worship and witness more openly for Christ.

PRAY FOR Norman and Laura McFall in Brazil as they await the birth of their first child in January.

PRAY FOR Foreign Missions Month coming up in April. Pray for a good response to the World Missions Offering on Sunday, April 29.

# --EVANGELISM--

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WORLD MISSIONS OFFERING on April 29, 1990,

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"on the cutting edge"
of evangelism!

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\$75,000

will help your missionaries reach their objectives for <u>direct evangelism</u> and <u>soulwinning</u> efforts around the world.



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P. O. Box 1088
Nasliville, TN 37202



# Points for Pastors

by James McAllister

I realize I am dealing with a touchy issue. I know the subject, and certainly the conclusions I draw and the suggestions I offer will be unpopular with some, but I am convinced these are essential matters. This is a critical issue and we had better be concerned with solving this problem and bringing the crisis to a successful conclusion.

Why is it a fact that it is rare to find a church where there have been two successive successful pastorates? Why is it that one pastor builds a church and the next almost invariably takes it downhill to small attendance, small offerings, disunity, and increased trouble? In this article I will give what I think are some possible reasons for this plague.

First, the resigning pastor may con-

tribute to this plague. Though he has had a good and successful ministry, he may fail to prepare the congregation for his departure. He fails to plan for his successors. He may build the church around his personality and not around biblical ministry. He may, in fact, have a secret desire for the church to fail so he will look good and everyone will recognize how important he is to the church, and how indispensable he is to the success of the church.

Second, the new pastor may be the cause. He may be too anxious to become successful and fails to give the congregation time to adjust to a new man. He may be so insistent on becoming leader, destroying the influence of the previous pastor, making a name for himself, or feeding his own ego, that he insists on changes before they are needed, or will be accepted by the congregation. He may insist on fixing what isn't broken.

Third, the church and church board

may be the cause of this plague. They may choose the new pastor for the wrong reasons, without ample prayer, without asking the necessary questions, without requiring references, or without considering his inadequacies in directing this kind of church program. They may cause the demise of his ministry by refusing to accept his differences in ministry style. They may insist that he do everything exactly like the previous pastor.

All these may contribute to the destruction of the church: The old pastor, by not turning loose of the church even after he left; the new pastor, by feeding an over-riding ego; and the church board by turning against either the old pastor and offending a lot of his friends and followers, or by turning against the new pastor and shortening his ministry and destroying the hopes of the church. Regardless, whoever is to blame will one day answer to God for this damning work of death to Christ's bride.

#### CLeaR-TV

Rev. Clarence Burton, Executive Secretary Missouri Association of Free Will Baptists Post Office Box 991 Lebanon, MO 65536

Dear Rev. Burton:

The boycott by Christian Leaders for Responsible Television is working! There was a 32% decrease of sex, violence and profanity between monitoring last spring and last fall, the largest decrease of any monitoring period for the past 12 years!

SPRING 1989	REPORT				
Network NBC ABC CBS TOTAL	Sex 4.01 2.08 2.59 8.68	Profanity 5.33 4.06 5.77 15.16	Violence 3.87 3.05 3.31 10.23	Total 13.21 9.19 11.67 34.07	
<b>FALL 1989 RE</b>	PORT			0 1107	
NBC ABC CBS TOTAL DECREASE	3.25 1.70 2.21 7.16 18%	3.38 2.22 3.41 9.01 41%	2.25 1.96 2.93 7.14 30%	8.88 5.88 8.55 23.31	DECREASE 33% 36% 27% 32%

The figures represent sex, profanity and violence incidents aired per hour. They confirm that CLeaR-TV has the attention of the advertisers. It is critical that we continue the boycott against Clorox and Mennen and bring it a successful conclusion.

The Executive Committee will meet later this month to plan our next step. Your active support, prayers and our society.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Wildman

Donald E. Wildmon Executive Director

# Financial Information Property

OOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS	Friendship	304 16	Mt. Pisgah	200.00	MISSOURI HOME MISSIONS	
NUARY 1990	Richwoods		O'Fallon		Joplin\$	
.50% Mo. State Home Msn Bd.	Hickory Grove		Parkview Miss. Group		Grant Avenue	
	Crossroads		Hannon	608.00	Myrtle	
50% Exec. Off. & Gem 5,905.12	Parkview		Brent Thompson		Columbia	
50% General Fund 1,181.03	Springfield, First		South East District		New Life, Fellowship	
50% Youth Camp Bd 2,868.20	Stockton		Flat River, First		Thayer	
50% Youth Ministries Bd 843.59	Potosi		Bethel, Festus		Pleasant Ridge Scott City	
50% C.E. Board 843.59 50% Senior Adult Ministries Bd.	Union Grove		Lebanon, First		Richwoods	
	Hurryville		Parkview		South Side	
00% Mo. State Ret. Program	Mine La Motte		Fourth		Central	
1,687.18	United, W.P		United, W.P.		Cuba	
50% Nat'l. Ministries, Hillsdale &	Leadington		Leadington		Mountain Grove	
CA Christian Col 10,291.79	DeSoto	870.00	De Soto		Oak Hill, Union	
Foreign Mission Board	Sedalia		Oak Grove		Victory, K.C.	
National Home Missions Board Free Will Baptist Bible College	Freeman Chapel		Sedalia		O'Fallon	
Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	Riverview, IA		Freeman Chapel		Hannon	
Executive Department	Wilderness		Wilderness		Flat River, First	
Layman's Board	Trinity Belton	280.17	Trinity		Bethel, Festus	
Radio & TV Commission Theological Commission	Farmington		Belton		Parkview	
Historical Commission	New Life, Licking		Farmington		Fourth	
Board of Retirement & Insurance	Copper Mines		Marshfield		United, W.P.	
1.00% Calif. Christian College	Marshfield		Faith & Hope		Leadington	
0% State Office & Bookstore Bldg.	Viburnum		Neosho		DeSoto	
	Salem		New Testament		J.W. Rader	
al 33,743.56	Faith & Hope		Blue Springs		Trinity	
Cooperative giving for the first	Neosho		Beacon		Belton	
nth of this year was unusually	Chapel of the Ozarks		Berkeley	104.00	Farmington	5
d! We praise God from Whom all	Berkeley		Monett	. 2,323.95	South East Dist. (Union Light)	1
sings flow! We pray in faith that	Jones Chapel		Pleasant Home		Marshfield	
will continue to bless this ministry	Cabool		New Harmony		Viburnum	
oughout this year, 1990. May His	Monett		Calvary Fellowship		New Testament	
sings be showered on the faithful	Wolf Creek		West Plains, First		Berkeley	
s who are sharing in this.	Pleasant Home		Fordland		Monett	
The allocation for National	New Harmony		Grant Avenue		Pleasant Home	
nistries goes undesignated for this	Tyrone		Grace		New Harmony	
r with FWBBC & Hillsdale receiving	Pleasant Hill		Shelva Hart		West Plains, First	
equal amount. C.C.C. will continue	West Plains, First		Kirksville		Fordland	
receive the 1%.	Fordland		Willow Springs		Grant Avenue	
NUARY 1990 RECEIPTS	Grant Avenue		Total	\$12,233.93	Grace	
OOPERATIVE	Victory Hill		NATIONAL HOME MISSIC	ONS	Total\$	
din\$ 307.14	Black Oak		Joplin	\$ 15.00		_,_
w Rock Springs 112.00	Merl's Chapel		Grant Avenue	60.25	FWBBC	¢17
int Avenue 581.04	Myrtle		Myrtle	240.00	Grant Avenue	
tern Gate 554.00	Grace	500.00	Columbia		Central	
rtle	St. Francis Association	16.50	Thayer		Parkview Miss. Group	
umbia	New Rock Springs	106.00	Buffalo, First		Leadington	
w Life Fellowship 474.03	Macedonia		Fred Clayton		DeSoto	
k Hill, Fredericktown 108.00	Kirksville		Richwoods		Farmington	
yer	Central		Central		Berkeley	
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/al Oak	Mill Creek		South East District		Buffalo, First	
tory, Alton	New Harmony Unity		Flat River, First		Bethel, El Dorado	
d	Cape Girardeau		Bethel, Festus		Central	
ppy Home	Total		Lebanon, First		Hartville	
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uston	McCLURE ACCOUNT	¢ 12.00	Esther Bates		New Home, Hartville	
l Creek	Thayer		Parkview		Mountain Grove	
rl's Chapel 249.00	Victory, K.C		United, W.P	15.00	Mt. Pisgah	
gsway	Berkeley	20.00	Leadington	110.00	Parkview Miss. Group	
ck Oak 278.60	Total		DeSoto		Hannon	
erty300.00			Sedalia		Bethel, Festus	
ntral	FOREIGN MISSIONS	4 450 00	Trinity		Leadington	
tville	Rock Chapel		Farmington		DeSoto	
vet 400.00	Joplin		Viburnum	50.00	Trinity	
0a	Grant Avenue		Faith & Hope	71.71	Calvary Fellowship	
vary, Conway 213.35	Myrtle		Neosho	15.00	Fordland	
untain Grove 942.66	Columbia		New Testament	85.00	New Rock Springs	
ritage	New Life, Fellowship		Bob & Glenda Keith Blue Springs	10.00	Willow Springs	
k Hill, Union	Thayer		Blue Springs	10.00	Total	8
Pisgah 182.00	Pleasant Ridge		Beacon Berkeley	193.00	IIIII CDAIR COLLEGE	
. Pisgah	Niangua	400.00	Monett	15.00	HILLSDALE COLLEGE	
tory, K.C	Richwoods		Wolf Creek	15.00	Grant Avenue	
bberly	South Side	195.00	Pleasant Home	15.00	Thayer	
la	John Schebaum	120.00	West Plains, First	24.00	Central	
	Carl Layman	20.00	Fordland	34.00	Victory, K.C.	
nnon				20.00	Hannon	
nnon			Grant Avenue	171 67	Exeminator	-1
t River, First 564.03	Central	262.75	Grant Avenue	115.00	Farmington	1
		262.75	Grant Avenue	115.00	Farmington	

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"Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly." Jonah 2:1

Jonah has been referred to as the book of a second chance. I sometimes wonder instead of having to pick up the pieces of our lives so often, why can't we get it right the first time.

I'm thankful for a merciful, loving God who is patient and prepares things to draw us back to him. It seems, however, that it would be much easier on all involved if we just obeyed God to start with.

I would like to pick the first three words of this verse for us to consider. The words are, "Then Jonah prayed."

THEN denotes the time in Jonah's fe. It was after disobedience, during fliction, and before God's delivernce. Did you ever wonder where Jonah would have been THEN if he had gotten it right the first time?

JONAH denotes the troubled man of God who was chosen to perform a specific ministry to a specific people. He wasn't in Nineveh because he was sidetracked by his own hangups. Who would have been in the fish's belly if Jonah had gotten it right the first time? Probably what big fish usually eat.

PRAYED denotes the travail that he was in because of his realization that he was where he was because of disobedience. He threw himself upon the mercy of God, and the fish threw him up on dry land.

I'm thankful we serve a God of second chance; but as a boss of mine used to say, "Why do we have time to do things over when we don't have time to do it right the first time!"

#### **Senior Adult Retreat**

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State	Zip Church					

Please return Registration Form to: Senior Adult Ministries Board, 2040 Osage St., Lebanon, MO 65536 by May 1, 1990