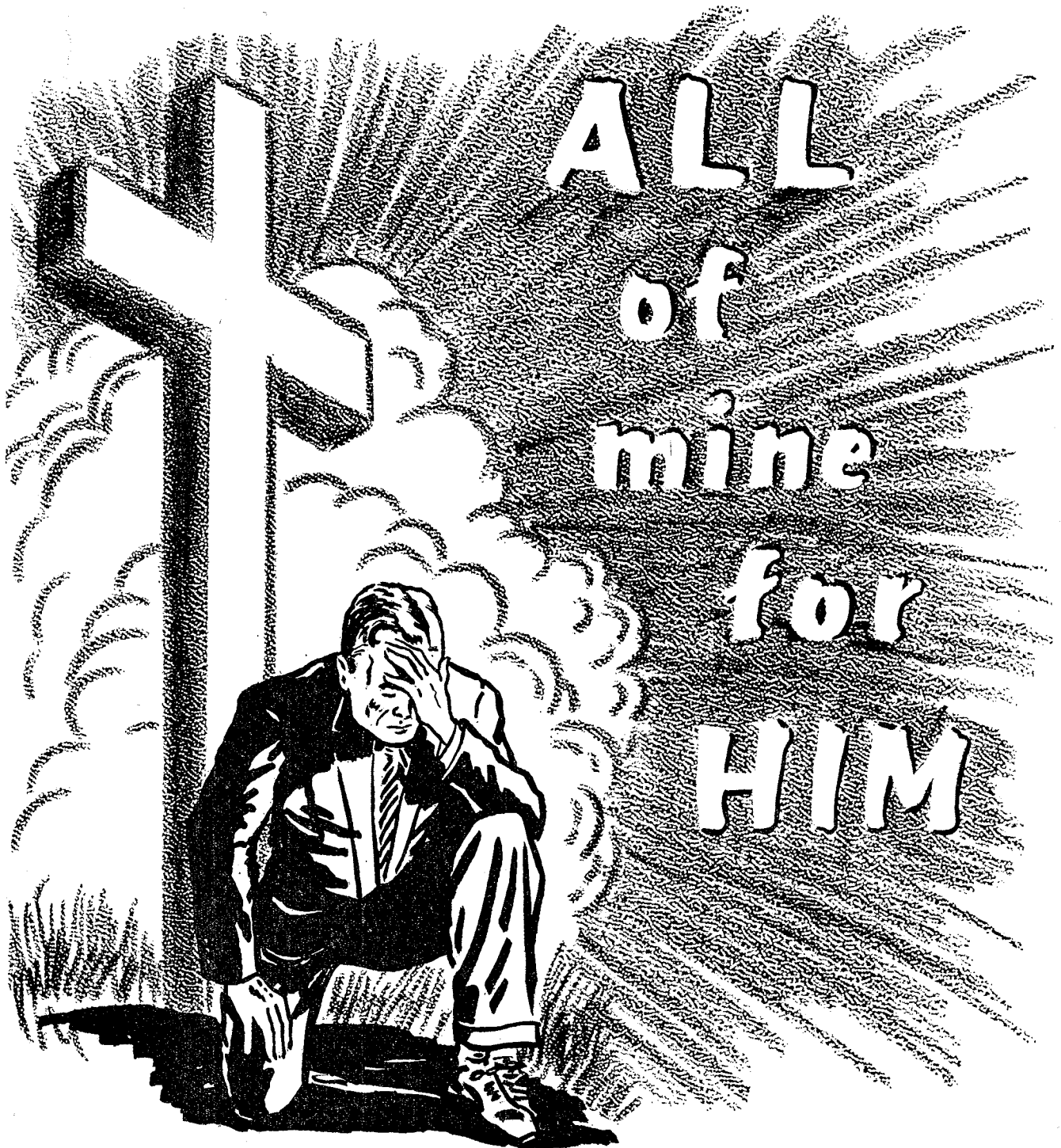


Contact

of the
National Association
of Free Will Baptists

APRIL, 1954

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



april is stewardship emphasis month

Rev. Harvey E. Hill X
Box 295
Elizabethton, Tennessee

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Urges Tithing

"I am happy to be a CONTACT subscriber. I think it is a wonderful paper . . . Our Free Will Baptist people have been taught so little about church finance that they don't think it needful. I pray our preachers will preach tithing so our churches can have full-time pastors and our other denominational work can be supported. Keep reminding our churches of their duty to our missionaries and the other worthy causes."—Willard Peck, Bartlesville, Okla.

Sends Subscriptions

"We have received every issue of CONTACT and have enjoyed them immensely. We truly praise God for the progress being made in each phase of our denominational work. May God keep us humble where he can use us. I am enclosing a money order for three subscriptions."—Mrs. K. V. Shutes, Blakely, Ga.

Questions Point

"The article on more prayer in our mid-week prayer meetings was good. We are giving more time for prayer starting now. I also enjoyed the sermon by Brother Sapp, but question calling Bathsheba a "woman of the street." According to II Samuel 11 it was the selfish indulgence of David that led him into a terrible temptation and wrought his fall. To cover his crime, he sets in motion the forces that caused the death of Uriah rather than did Bathsheba. Her hands are not entirely clean, but virtue should not be darkened just to prove a point."—Rev. Joe Mooneyham, Tulare, Calif.

Contact

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The Greatest Victory

An aged caretaker of Winchester Cathedral, in southern England, loved to tell the story of how the news of Wellington's victory over Napoleon reached England. In those days there were no modern means of communication. News of the history-making battle came by a sailing vessel to the south coast of England and then, by semaphore was signaled overland to London.

Eagerly the Empire waited for the news from the battlefield. Atop the cathedral the semaphore began slowly to spell out the message, letter by letter, "WELLINGTON DEFEATED"—and then a dense fog settled over the city. The signals could no longer be seen, and thus the sad, heart-sickening news of the incomplete message went to London, spreading gloom and utter despair—"Wellington defeated."

In due time the fog lifted, and again the cathedral semaphore became visible, spelling out the complete message: "WELLINGTON DEFEATED THE ENEMY." The news spread like prairie fire over the land, lifting the people from gloom to gladness and praise.

Nineteen centuries ago, on a rough, barren hill outside the gates of Jerusalem, a battle of more far-reaching importance was fought and won. Jesus Christ entered into combat with sin and death. He gave Him-

self willingly in a shameful death upon Calvary's cross. It was for the sins of others—for you and me—that the sinless One died that He might bring us to God.

To His disciples, at the time, it may have seemed a colossal defeat as His limp body was placed in the tomb of Joseph. To them Calvary meant but one thing: JESUS DEFEATED. Listen to the disciples' dismal dirge during those three days of Christ's entombment: "We trusted that it had been He which should have redeemed Israel, and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done" (Luke 24:21).

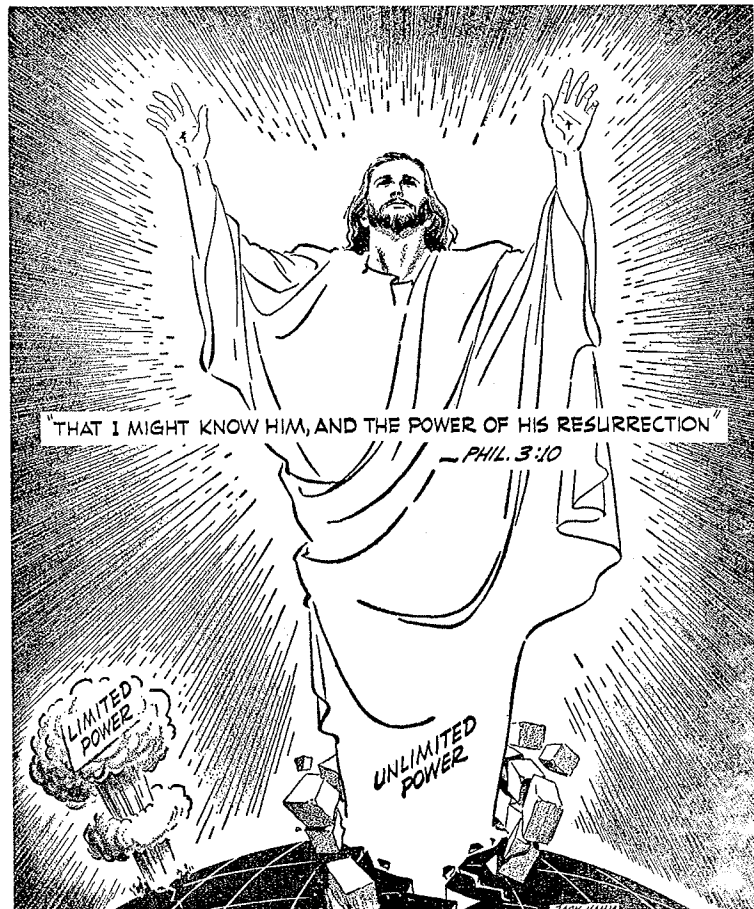
But suddenly the fog lifted, and the glorious radiance of the first Lord's Day morning flooded Joseph's garden, announcing the joyful gloom-dispelling news: JESUS DEFEATED DEATH.

Thank God, Jesus Christ arose in His body out from among the dead, and now, in a glorious resurrection body, lives forevermore. In the same body in which He died for our sins He also rose from the dead, thus utterly defeating and conquering once for all man's greatest enemy—death.

Because of that victory He promises to those who believe upon Him that He is "the resurrection and the life . . . Because I live, ye shall live also."

—George C. Westberg

ECLIPSING THE ATOMIC



Nineveh or Tarshish?

With the book of Jonah we have usually concerned ourselves with the fish story and have not considered the more important spiritual implications in the book. Despite the ridicule hurled at it, the book of Jonah is one of the best and richest in the Bible.

Let us consider some of the things that are ours to enjoy.

Notice first Jonah's commission to take a message to the Ninevites. His message was to be "the word of the Lord." He had a definite commission and a message for a particular people. Usually in a case like this we would find the individual doing exactly what the Lord had commanded, but here is a different situation.

Jonah, instead of rising to his duty, "rose up to flee from the presence of the Lord." In this action Jonah was a real Cainite in that he went out from the presence of the Lord. See his gross disobedience—instead of going to Nineveh he goes another way.

Nineveh Is God's Way

Here is a definite spiritual lesson for us. Nineveh stands for God's way. Tarshish stands for man's way where a person does as he pleases. A great many people know where their Nineveh is. Perhaps it is a next door neighbor or member of their own family—or it might be in some other state or another country. How often has it been that men and women have been "Jonah's" when God's voice has tried to lead them into a job prepared for them? Our denomination would have more missionaries and ministers and there would be enough money to support an increased staff if only God's people would listen to Him.

Tarshish is always man's way. Jonah sought to get away from doing what God had commissioned him to do. He went in search of a ship to carry him away. It is evident that any time a person wants to flee from the presence of the Lord or to shirk his duty the devil will always provide the means of getting away.

But as Jonah, we always pay a very dear price for going our way. After paying the fare and getting on board, Jonah went down into the ship and went to sleep. It is always the devil's policy, when he has drawn men away from God and duty, to lull them to

Rev. Winston Sweeney

Bristol, Tennessee

sleep in a moral security. It is a dangerous state not to be able to distinguish the voice of the Holy Spirit. The work of God is hindered when people are in this sad condition.

Disobedience Concerns God

Another precious truth is found in 1:4, "But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea and there was a mighty tempest in the sea so that the ship was like to be broken." God literally hurled a storm after Jonah to show that he is concerned when people persist in not obeying him. No man gets away from God easy. He will send many things to arrest us when our course of life is not in accordance with His will.

Here we find the ship about to be broken up because of the severity of the storm. The mariners are afraid and begin to pray, every man to his god. When this doesn't avail, they try lightening the ship by throwing overboard everything that could be spared, but neither did this help. They finally reach the conclusion that something is extraordinarily wrong.

The shipmaster finds Jonah asleep and awakens him with these words, "What meanest thou, O sleeper?" Here is another golden nugget—often by chastening, God awakens us to danger that might beset us.

Jonah Is Humiliated

You cannot run away from God. These heathen mariners cast lots to see who was responsible for the disaster and the lot fell upon Jonah. They start to question him and we see something of the humiliation that comes with not obeying God. Jonah confessed, "I am an Hebrew, and I fear the Lord." So here he is—citizen of a nation that feared God, being disdained by heathen and confessing that he is running away from God.

Oh, the humiliation we experience by not following on. Some have let Satan slip in

and divert their talents to other channels. Persisting in such a course contrary to God's will for your life will bring loss of influence and make your testimony for Christ powerless. That is a part of the price people pay when they go to Tarshish.

In this particular scene Jonah is more heathen than are the mariners because he is trying to get away from God while they were trying to *find Him*.

He Learns a Lesson

Since Jonah was responsible for their predicament, they look to him for the answer to their problem. Jonah now really becomes missionary-minded and asks them to throw him overboard. He knew he was the cause of their misfortune and was willing to give himself. The mariners were not yet resigned to this and tried with all their might to bring the ship to port, but there was just one thing that would straighten everything out.

So Jonah was cast overboard. Ordinarily, this would be the end of Jonah, but not so when we realize that God is not yet through with him. God prepared a great fish to swallow the disobedient prophet, and there Jonah learned what it means to be out of fellowship with God. Someone has rightly said that was the time Jonah went to college.

Confession Brings Restoration

Inside the whale Jonah begins to pray and acknowledge his sin and wrong-doing. Sometimes God has to get us in some pretty close places to cause us to realize our condition. This repentance of Jonah, however, moved God to speak to the fish to vomit Jonah out on dry land, from whence he went in a great hurry to do God's will.

It seems that it was a three days' journey to Nineveh, but Jonah was so keyed up that in one day he was entering the city crying, "Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown." At the forceful preaching of this restored prophet great Nineveh bowed in sackcloth and ashes and God spared them.

How much better it is to go to Nineveh in the beginning than to start to Tarshish and suffer the chastening of God.

God Touches India Conference

There was much stirring around, excited talk, in fact a real hub-bub was centered that morning in a little bamboo and grass-housed village. The wattle and mud huts had not contained such intense excitement for over a year for this was the day to go to conference at Sonapurhat.

Dark feet plodded the dusty paths sending up a puff of dust with each step. Looking up we see flat-nosed dark faces but with an open-faced, clean outlook about them, babies tied up in cloth on their mothers' backs. Bright saris, clean clothes give rhythmic color to the scene. Yes, they are the aboriginal Santals on their way to conference at Sonapurhat.

A truck lurched and bounced along in a great cloud of dust, its load not composed of rice or jute but jam-packed full of people yelling, carrying on loud conversations and singing. Above the noise you could hear bits of song "King Jesus has come to destroy Satan," or "Come people of the world, Jesus calls." They, too, are headed for the conference at Sonapurhat.

Come by Jeep

Stinging, filthy dust burned in your missionary's nostrils as he banged, bumped, jerked along the oxcart road, the sweat and dust making an itchy covering from head to foot. Kiddies breathed down his neck, babies drooled on him as he sat squeezed half outside the jeep by the eighteen women, children and babies crammed into the little jeep while eighteen men and boys were rammed into the trailer. There's no doubt about it, it's conference time at Sonapurhat.

The mission compound had the look of a country fair, either American or Indian. Eight tents were scattered about to sleep in. A bamboo-walled, tin-roofed, temporary conference shed stood in the center of things. The cooking was done in salvaged kerosene tins over six open fires out under the trees. Plates were all descriptions, including banana leaves as each brought his own cup and plate. The ferocious appetites consumed over eight hundred pounds of rice and gallons and gallons of curry (a sort of highly spiced, vegetable hash or stew).

Three Hundred Attend

Two hundred men, women and children poured into the little compound. These were Christians and a few Hindu friends, seekers whom they brought along. At the main evening service these with about another hundred from outside, Hindus and Muslims sat down to hear the word of God preached. How can I describe my feelings

Rev. Dan Cronk Missionary in North India

as I looked upon this group, the largest gathering of Christians in this sin-darkened area. What prayers, tears, and sweat had gone into the work. They had come this time not only for rice but for fellowship, and a few out of curiosity, but how the Lord answered prayer!

About twenty or twenty-five of them had been baptized by our mission. About a hundred and fifty were Christian in name, many of them not baptized but descendants of Christians or having married into the Christian community and therefore called Christians. There were ten or fifteen Roman Catholics and the rest Hindus and Muslims. I say it kindly but as far as man can know there were only about twenty or twenty-five that were giving hopeful signs of having been born again. But for the last six months God had been moving among them in a new way.

Many Are Converted

The special conference speaker was a young Indian evangelist who is the Youth for Christ worker in Northeast India. He stood and preached a God-inspired, God-powered message that reached our people to the depths. For the first time most of them stood face to face with Christ and had to make a decision.

Praise His name, about thirty-seven stood to take Christ as their personal Saviour. In the three nights twenty-seven Christians accepted Christ as Saviour. Twenty-four Christians stood to reconsecrate their lives to the Lord and three Roman Catholics and seven Hindus acknowledged Christ as their personal Saviour.

These who had a special touch from the Lord either in salvation or in rededication represent the major portion of the adults in the Christian community. And I trust that they have carried the message back to every little hut where there were those left behind to watch the house and couldn't attend the conference.

A Time of Reaping

For weeks I had been praying to God to call out a church. He longed for this more than I and glorified His own name. I believe with all my heart that a permanent foundation is now laid along with the great Foundation Stone. We rejoice to begin to reap after long sowing.

Any morning between 4:30 and 7:30

you can hear the fervent prayers of our Bible woman going up to God. Or in Kishanganj behind closed doors you can hear one of our young men pouring out his heart and voice to the Lord. In one village the people have started a nightly prayer meeting which has been going on since the conference. In another village we could often hear the Christian songs bursting forth and most conversations were filled with the name of Christ as we camped there last week.

I exhort you to inscribe these new brethren in Christ Jesus round about with your prayers. Pray for a strong and witnessing Church. Send workers that we may go and witness in our wide still-unreached area. Pray that we might strengthen them through teaching these that have been given into our care. "Fear not . . . be glad and rejoice for the Lord will do great things" Joel 2:21.

"Lights for Cuba" Gets \$120 During February

Offerings since February 15 have helped push the amount needed to install electric lines in the Cuban Mission School a little higher, according to Rev. C. F. Bowen, secretary of the National League Board. However, since the offerings for the past month were few, the balance needed in the "Lights for Cuba" drive remains quite large. About \$120.00 was received since CONTACT's last report on this fund. The total in the fund stands now at \$1,657.43.

In the few weeks remaining, Mr. Bowen hopes to be able to receive enough in cash and pledges to pay the entire \$2,500 needed by the time the sixth nationwide league conference meets in June.

Latest receipts to the fund are as follows:

South Carolina District League Convention	\$10.00
West Bristol Church, Tenn.	7.00
Bethlehem leagues, Tenn.	22.70
Darlington First Church, S. C.	5.00
Porterville leagues, Calif.	10.00
Amarillo First Church, Texas	5.00
East Nashville leagues, Tenn.	12.84
Mrs. C. Phipps, Ark.	1.00
Horsebranch leagues, S. C.	25.00
Junior league, Goldsboro, N. C.	5.00
Missouri State Association	3.50
Beulah leagues, Turbeville, S. C.	15.00



The Prayer Fellowship

Rev. C. F. Bowen, Director
Pastor, East Nashville Church

Before our very eyes we have seen the Lord move many obstacles in answer to our prayers. His promise is still sure. He still has the power to do the "impossible." Let us pray diligently—not just to be praying, or to be seen and heard of men—that his name may be glorified in the ultimate answers to our prayers.

Thurs. April 1—(Matt. 21:18-22)—Remember in prayer today the last sessions of the Bible Conference at the Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee.

Fri., April 2—(Luke 14:7-14)—Keep remembering the National Home Mission Board's "Crusade for Christ" which continues this month.

Sat., April 3—(Luke 14:15-24)—Pray for a wonderful service in your own church tomorrow.

Sun., April 4—(Luke 14:25-33)—Pray for your pastor.

Mon., April 5—(Luke 15:1-7)—Pray for a continual growth of subscriptions to CONTACT, our national publication. We have asked God for at least 5,000 by July of this year.

Tues., April 6—(Luke 16:1-13)—Pray for the extension schools of the Bible College to be held this summer. Pray that more churches may become interested in them.

Wed., April 7—(Luke 17:1-10)—Keep praying for the builders of the program for the sixth nationwide league conference to be held June 15-17 at the Bible College in Nashville.

Thurs., April 8—(Luke 18:31-34)—Pray for Rev. Raymond Riggs and Rev. E. C. Morris as they conclude their mission tour of India.

Fri., April 9—(Luke 18:35-43)—Pray for Mrs. Carlisle Hanna who has a birthday today.

Sat., April 10—(Mark 14:3-9)—Pray for your Sunday School teachers.

Sun., April 11—(Matt. 21:1-11)—Pray for victory through the Holy Spirit in your church services today and throughout our denomination.

Mon., April 12—(Matt. 21:12-20)—Pray for the many revivals being held in scores of our churches this month in connection with the Crusade for Christ.

Tues., April 13—(Matt. 21:23-32)—Spend a few moments in prayer today for the Billy Graham revival efforts in Europe.

Wed., April 14—(Mark 12:28-34)—

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Again this month we welcome quite a number of new members into the Prayer Fellowship. God is definitely moving and bringing to pass many of the things for which we are praying because through the Prayer Fellowship we have claimed His promise: "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." If you are already, or will become a prayer warrior with us in this crusade, send your name and address to national headquarters so we may add your name to the growing list and send you a free membership card.*

Pray for the stewardship emphasis to be stressed this month throughout our denomination.

Thurs., April 15—(Luke 22:7-18)—Pray for the 250 alumni of the Free Will Baptist Bible College. Pray that God may be using everyone of them.

Fri., April 16—(John 19:13-30)—Keep remembering the "Lights for Cuba" project. Less than a thousand dollars is needed now. Pray about it and then send an offering to the National League Board.

Sat., April 17—(John 19:31-42)—Pray for your pastor as he plans tomorrow's services.

Sun., April 18—(Mark 16:1-20)—Pray for a deep spirit of revival in your own church today.

Mon., April 19—(Acts 1:1-9)—Pray that many of our people will begin to see the great need of adequately supporting the program of our Bible College.

Tues., April 20—(Acts 7:54-60)—Pray that many of our people will become stewardship conscious this month as a result of our stewardship efforts.

Wed., April 21—(Acts 26:12-21)—Continue to pray for the proposed Cooperative Plan of Support to be presented to the National Association in July.

Thurs., April 22—(Acts 26:22-32)—Stop awhile today and remember our foreign missionaries in sincere prayer.

Fri., April 23—(Rev. 1:12-16)—Pray for the work of our valiant women throughout the denomination.

Sat., April 24—(Luke 17:26-32)—Remember your Sunday School teacher and officers today. They will do a better job if you will.

Sun., April 25—(Matt. 25:31-46)—Do you ever tire of praying for your pastor?

NAE Extends Invitation To All FWB Pastors

CHICAGO, Ill.—All pastors of the Free Will Baptist Church are eligible to be seated as delegates to the twelfth annual convention of the National Association of Evangelicals to be held April 27-30 in Cleveland, Ohio, according to an announcement from the NAE office.

The convention will officially open at 8:30 a. m. Tuesday, April 27, featuring meetings of the various commissions and affiliated organizations representing the common evangelical front in America.

Featured evening speakers are Dr. Harold John Ockenga, the first president of NAE and pastor of the Park Street Church of Boston, Dr. Wilbur M. Smith, professor of English Bible at Fuller Theological Seminary, and Dr. Paul S. Rees, president of NAE, who will return from the Billy Graham campaign in England to direct the convention and to bring a special report of the progress of the London meetings in which he is assisting.

Pastors who wish to attend the convention as delegates will be seated upon the presentation of the form below properly certified by their local church.

"This is to certify that _____ of _____ (church or organization) of _____ (location) has been duly appointed to represent the said organization at the convention of the National Association of Evangelicals in Cleveland, Ohio, April 27-30, 1954."

These credentials should be signed by an official of the local church.

He doesn't tire of having you pray for him. And he will be the first to tell you he needs it.

Mon., April 26—(Matt. 24:37-44)—Pray for our college students as they come toward the close of this school year. Remember especially those who are graduating in June.

Tues., April 27—(Rev. 1:13-16)—Pray for those who plan the Billy Graham campaign scheduled for August 15-September 12 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Wed., April 28—(Rev. 5:11-14)—Pray for a personal infilling of the Spirit of God

Thurs., April 29—(Phil. 2:1-11)—Pray again for 5,000 subscribers to CONTACT and for its editor, Rev. W. S. Mooneyham.

Fri., April 30—(1 Peter 3:18-22)—Pray for our Sunday School leaders both at home and those on the National Sunday School Board.



SAILOR LEADS SERVICES William W. Rumsey, a seaman in the U. S. Navy, leads the men of his ship, USS The Sullivans, in a worship service. The seaman, who was active in the Free Will Baptist church prior to the entering the service, has been a lay leader aboard his ship since June, 1951. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Rumsey of Toccoa, Georgia, and husband of the former Catherine Farmer, also of Toccoa.

Advance Look at League Conference Program Is Given

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—An advance look at the program of the sixth nation-wide League conference to be held June 15-17 at the Free Will Baptist Bible college in Nashville has been released by Rev. C. F. Bowen, League Board secretary.

The keynote of the conference will be "Learn from Me." An outstanding feature will be "Forty Fruitful Years," a retrospective glance at the birth and growth of the Free Will Baptist League, he said.

"Fruit-bearing in Denominational Service" will be an inspiration sketch of some of the past and present leaders who have given so much to the work. Three prominent denominational leaders will extend "Greetings to the League on Attaining Its Fortieth Year."

A forward look will be taken in the message, "Tomorrow Beckons." Following through on the idea of the forward look, the theme for one of the days will be "Mobilizing for Christian Conquest," and will feature music, drama, and messages by world-conscious young people.

"Claiming Sunday Evening for Christ" will be an inspirational message serving as a stimulus to better attendance at League and the evening preaching service. Our similar messages will include "My Ideal for My League" and "Through Learning We Choose the High Roads of Life."

The missionary emphasis will be highlighted by such features as "Joining Hands With Our Cuban Neighbors," "The League a Missionary Force," "The Challenge of the Orient to the Free Will Baptist League," and "Hands-Across-the-Sea."

Spearheading the missionary emphasis will be a featured service led by Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Stevens, our missionaries to Africa, now home on furlough.

Dramas and plays to be presented during the conference will include "The Challenge of the Cross," "A Good War," and "The Spirit of Missions." As usual, music will dominate the entire three days with Rev. Everett Hellard, Houston, Texas, as conference soloist.

The heart of the conference will be the afternoon simultaneous study sessions for all ages.

"Write now for helpful information regarding reservations and costs," Mr. Bowen advises. Address inquiries to National League Board, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn.

Thirty-One Churches Report S. S. Averages

A record number of Sunday schools—thirty-one—have reported their averages for February and seven of that number have reported the monthly League average.

Averages for February were:

	S.S.	League
ARKANSAS		
Phillips Chapel, Springdale	165	
Mt. Harmony, Saffell	72	40
CALIFORNIA		
First Church, Kerman	98	30
KENTUCKY		
Virgie	64	
MISSOURI		
Mtn. Grove	193	76
Berkley, St. Louis	166	37
Third Church, St. Louis	93	
Richwood	67	
NORTH CAROLINA		
Hull Road, Snow Hill	308	
Warden's Grove, Lowland	126	
Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie	121	32
OKLAHOMA		
First Church, Tulsa	380	
Capitol Hill, Oklahoma City	216	
Ada	204	
Lawnwood, Tulsa	167	
New Home, Tulsa	150	
Wewoka	142	39
Oilton	133	
Haskel	115	
Holdenville	111	
First Church, Bristow	109	
Ardmore	103	
Greenbrier	65	
Eufaula	35	
TENNESSEE		
First Church, Elizabethton	217	
New Hope, Joelton	116	
Heads Church, Cedar Hill	90	
Dodson Branch, Cookeville	56	
TEXAS		
First Church, Bryan	151	
Odessa	73	54
Mt. Olive, Laneville	51	

Headquarters Furniture Fund Now Over \$300

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Three states had already reached their suggested quota for funds with which to help furnish the headquarters building, and two of the states were over-subscribed, on March 15, according to Mrs. H. B. Sloan, WNAC executive secretary.

California, Georgia and Michigan responded with enough to meet their quotas, Mrs. Sloan said, with the first two states exceeding their goal by a combined total of \$19. A little over \$300 has been received toward the \$800 total.

All but six of the states had made some contribution. No offerings have been received yet from Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, Virginia and West Virginia, Mrs. Sloan said. State totals are as follows:

State	Quota	Gifts
Alabama	\$ 40.00	\$ 14.00
Arkansas	10.00	9.50
California	40.00	45.00
Florida	20.00	—
Georgia	40.00	54.00
Illinois	25.00	—
Kentucky	20.00	—
Michigan	40.00	40.00
Mississippi	20.00	—
Missouri	70.00	24.10
North Carolina	140.00	46.50
Ohio	10.00	5.00
Oklahoma	80.00	13.00
South Carolina	90.00	8.00
Tennessee	90.00	35.00
Texas	45.00	8.00
Virginia	10.00	—
West Virginia	10.00	—
	<u>\$800.00</u>	<u>\$302.10</u>

Secretaries Interview India's Delegate to UN

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Before leaving for a six weeks' tour of the Free Will Baptist mission field in India, Rev. Raymond Riggs and Rev. E. C. Morris met and talked with India's permanent delegate to the United Nations, Mr. R. Doyal, at the UN building here.

"Since we were enroute to India, we thought it would be helpful to have an interview with one of India's delegates," Mr. Riggs wrote. "The young lady at the information desk in the UN building, who spoke with a slight accent, was very kind in arranging the interview."

"After making our way to the delegates' lounge where we waited a few minutes, we were introduced to a rather slender man, about five feet, ten inches tall, who looked to be around forty years old. His complexion was quite dark, and his eyes were a piercing steel grey.

"He seemed to be pleased to learn that we were on our way to his country, and he proceeded to tell us of the recent visit he had made back home. He stated that India was a tolerant nation and he felt that we could do much good there, especially in the fields of education, sanitation, agriculture and medicine.

"But he expressed a dislike toward proselyting from any religion," Mr. Riggs said. "He placed the teachings of Jesus along with the teaching of many other religions. He seemed to think that all of them have made contributions to the world, but that no single one of them had all the answers to world problems. In his conversation, however, Mr. Doyal quoted several phrases from the Bible."

"It was a very interesting interview and I am sure will help us as we go to India," he said. The men left New York for India on March 11.

Texas Church Has Dedication Services

FT. WORTH, Texas—Dedication services for the Trinity Free Will Baptist church here were held February 28, with Rev. H. Z. Cox, Dallas pastor, preaching the morning sermon.

Others appearing on the program during the day included Rev. C. B. Thompson, Braxton Chaffin, E. R. Wilkinson, H. B. Dean and O. B. Braune.

The church, which is twenty years old, has recently finished an educational plant and a complete redecorating job of the main building. Rev. M. L. Sutton, who has pastored the church since the beginning, organized it in 1934 assisted by Rev. W. V. McPhail, now in Oklahoma.

The church moved to its present location in October of that year and worshipped under a tabernacle constructed at a cost of \$300. From that tabernacle came the present buildings which were dedicated.

God's Power Shown In Thrilling Stories By Cuban Missionary

Rev. T. H. Willey

I am sure you will recall our visit to Varaces last August for the first time. We had not been able to escape the words of a bronzed fisherman who said, "It is too late for us, but our children can learn." Never have we seen such children or so many. In fact, it is a village of children.

We have held five meetings and interest continues to grow. Last week some dear friends from the States were with us. Their hearts were thrilled as yours would be to see the intense interest as they, for the fifth time, listen to a Gospel message. How many times have you listened to the glad glorious news of a great Saviour? Each Sunday there have been those who heard for the first time.

The streets of the village are ringing with gospel choruses. There is a joy beyond words when we know people are hearing from our lips this great Gospel for the first time. What a sight to see a whole group of people arise and say, "I accept Christ for my Saviour"—to hear them praying in unison, the sinner's prayer of confession, as we have heard them.

As we look into their faces and realize the tremendous task of teaching we cry unto God, "Who can we send and who will go?" We want you to pray with us that God will raise up someone for a teaching ministry in this place. One of our boys and his wife, who are already over-worked, are taking one day to do visitation on horseback.

I want you to know and pray for Miguel Sambrano. Miguel has a large family of beautiful children. The family is all converted and the children are taught to take part in family devotions.

Miguel and his brother have been the more adventurous type of Cuban country boys. They left their isolated community and went to the great "Paris"—Havana. Their lives were that of success and failure. Miguel became a soldier of fortune. He tried the sea, he tried the army, but he could never find satisfaction. In his final desperation and failure, he contemplated ending it all.

He took a small boat which was in bad condition and sailed out into a rough sea hoping to be capsized and drowned. Nothing happened. He came back to shore, then returned to his backward farm home. Years before he had been given a Bible by a Bible colporteur. He didn't want to read the Book, yet feared it, so he had put grease all over it and placed it among other old papers hoping the rats would eat it.

Missionary Services in Two States Net \$4,500

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Missionary services in two states during February brought nearly \$4,500 in cash and pledges for foreign missions, according to the report of Rev. Raymond Riggs, promotional secretary.

On the spiritual side, the services were highlighted by nine decisions for Christ and 184 consecrations.

Leading in offerings was the four-day missionary conference held at Reedy Branch church, Winterville, N. C. During the services \$434.49 was received in cash offerings with \$825 more pledged.

Services at Belmont and Cramerton, N. C., held in connection with a revival brought \$52.84 and \$17.04 in cash and \$155 and \$112 in pledges from the churches.

From North Carolina, Mr. Riggs went to Georgia for twelve services in which nearly \$3,000 was given and pledged. The tabulated report is given below with the first figure being the cash offering and the second figure being pledges.

St. Mark's church, Phenix City, Ala., \$22.23 and \$145; Turner's Chapel, \$34.20 and \$200; Christian Hill, \$62.53 and \$400; Lower Corinth, \$14.40 and \$60; Oak Hill, \$45.50 and \$60; Spring Grove, \$22.73 and \$35; Corinth, \$49.29 and \$195.

Midway church, \$29.77 and \$100; Bellview church, \$38.95 and \$210; Patmos church, \$105.52 and \$325; Traveler's Rest, \$37.02 and \$305, and First church, Albany, \$63.81 and \$250.

On his return home and in the midst of all his misery, he had a desire to read the Book. To his amazement, the rats had eaten the other papers, but the Book was complete. He read it eagerly and was wonderfully converted—alone with the Bible. He had never heard a Gospel message! Oh! the power of God's Word!

The old Miguel died and the new man became so surrendered to the Master that he had to tell the story. Then I found he was riding without a saddle to witness to others. He built a chapel on his farm and not long ago we went to visit him. I cannot begin to tell you the terrible conditions under which these people live, but you would have to confess if you could see them that the Gospel of our glorious Lord triumphs in the redeemed.

We are badly worn, not tired of our work, but tired in our work. Pray that God will strengthen and renew our strength.

The Free Will Baptist Story—

In Spiritual Darkness, A Light Shines

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of articles by Mr. Dodd giving a layman's history of the Free Will Baptist movement. The series will run for several months and if the demand is great enough they will then be issued in book form. Because of the wonderful heritage of the Arminian movement as represented by Free Will Baptists, and because of God's blessings upon it, we are proud to present this first installment of "The Free Will Baptist Story."

Rev. Damon C. Dodd
Promotional Secretary,
Home Mission Board

I shall endeavor in this writing to steer away from the mechanical historicity which could well become boresome. Instead, I hope to make it thrilling, stirring, down-to-earth account of the Free Will Baptist movement.

Perhaps in the truest sense of the word this writing could not be considered historical, for there will be much by way of allusion and comparison to events and parallels which will make for momentary deviations. Then, too there will be references to personalities which, in some instances may occupy an entire chapter. Suffice it to say that more emphasis will be given to the presentation of our story and growth spiritually and numerically, rather than the setting forth of documented records and statistics.

There may also be areas of disagreement in your facts and mine. Seldom do writers or statisticians agree to the letter in matters involving as much lapse of time and research as are involved in this story. Then, too, it must be remembered that records are inadequate and sources few, so that there must of necessity be a certain amount of "reading between the lines."

The story here presented is given with a prayer that our Lord may be glorified and our denomination more appreciated.

The Story:

The background of Free Will Baptist history is set in Europe during the latter part of the 16th and the early part of the 17th centuries.

The prevailing theology of the day was that of a fatalistic predestination known as Calvinism. Augustine, one of the early church fathers, taught that the salvation of the elect depended on the "bare will of God, and that his decree to save those whom he chose to save was unconditional."

In the 9th century, Gottschalk supplied the second part of the doctrine; that those who are not saved unconditionally are "foreordained to be damned, or reprobated to be lost."

In 1535 John Calvin united the "foreordination unto life eternal unconditionally" of Augustine, and the "foreordination of the rebroate to hell unconditionally" of Gottschalk and sent them out as the center of his system of Systematic Theology in the Christian Institutes. This doctrine received the name "Calvinism."

In substance, Calvinism held that God was under no obligation to save the human race as such, but that He chose certain ones to become the recipients of saving grace. These were called the "elect" and were to be saved regardless of their personal desires or ideas.

The Calvinistic doctrine as it was set forth in the early part of the 17th century could be summarized under these cardinal points:

1. The Atonement of Christ was limited only to the "Elect of God."
2. The election of the "elect" was unconditional, since they had been chosen of God to be saved.
3. The Gospel call was not coextensive, but reached only the "elect."
4. The grace of God and the call of the Holy Spirit were irresistible, for they came only to those who were "elected to salvation."
5. That a person thus saved would persevere to the end of life, with no possibility of falling away.

Calvinism had become supreme in most of the Protestant countries in Europe by the beginning of the 17th century, but the very rigor of its uniformity and the inconsistency of its demands provoked a reaction.

It was a practice in those days to persecute severely those who did not agree with the prevailing religious ideas. These "heretics," as they were called, were considered most dangerous and malicious persons and were to be dealt with accordingly.

These unfortunates had a champion in the person of Richard Coornhert, who held that religious convictions should be a personal matter and that the individual should not be forced or coerced into accepting any teaching against his will. In his defense of these unfortunates he assailed the prevailing Calvinism, especially the "fatalistic predestination" angle and opposed anything other than the exercise of "the free will" in matters of religion.

Richard Coornhert (sometimes spelled Koornhert) was Secretary of State of Holland and was a man of learning. He had a most thorough knowledge of the Scriptures.

Introduction

For many years Free Will Baptist people have been clamoring for the story of the denomination's history. Various efforts have been made to answer the requests and some of these are most commendable. However, that which has been done has not been made available to the rank and file of our people who want and need such information.

It is the purpose of this series of articles to make the Free Will Baptist story available to everyone.

There is no denomination now in existence that has a more glorious heritage than Free Will Baptists. If this sounds like boasting, let it so be to the glory and honor of God for some of the "elite" of Christendom had a leading role in the Free Will Baptist drama. Many of these "stalwarts of the faith" will be referred to during the unfolding of our story.

Played National Role

Making its advent as it did during the early days of our national life, the Free Will Baptist denomination played a leading part in the formation of religious policy in the infant country. Even before there was a United States of America, there was a Free Will Baptist movement. The influence of this movement was very definitely felt in every phase of national life.

In presenting the Free Will Baptist story, it will be necessary to go back into the pages of the church's history in Europe to get the background material. To the reader who is impatient to get along with the actual story, this may be a bit trying but it is the request of the writer that you indulge him this privilege.

No claim is laid to prior-discovery or originality in the presentation of this material. I have used all the source-material available and have consulted with people who have been involved personally in the making of much of this history.

In 1589, he published at Amsterdam several works in which he attacked the doctrine of predestination. So skillfully did he prepare and present these arguments that the theologians of Holland could not refute them.

Coornhert's objection to Calvinism was that "the doctrine of absolute decrees represented God as the author of sin, as such decrees made sin necessary and inevitable no less than damnation." This view was published in book form. Immediately the book was condemned as being contrary to the teachings of the church because it advocated "free thought and liberal interpretation of God's plans." The officials of the church at Delft decreed that the book must be answered or refuted.

Coornhert was immediately set upon by two outstanding ministers of Holland, who took up the argument in favor of Calvinism against his more liberal views. However, when they saw that they were losing—the fight in the eyes of public opinion, they adopted an infralapsarian view of the Scriptures and thus incurred the wrath of the High Calvinists.

In order to combat the Coornhert doctrine of "free will" and the heresy to which the two Calvinistic ministers had given place, the High Calvinists called for their champion to refute these teachings and to publicly reprimand these heretics. This champion was Jacobus Arminius.

Let us deviate for a time and study something of the life of Arminius.

Jacobus Arminius was born at Oudewater, South Holland, October 10, 1560. His father, Herman Jakobs, a cutler, died while his son was an infant, leaving a widow and two other children. A converted Catholic priest, Theodore Aemilius, adopted Jakobs and sent him to school at Utrecht. Aemilius died when Jakobs Arminius was 15 years of age and it seemed that this would be the end of the education of young Jakobs. However, Rudolph Snellius, a mathematician who was a native of Oudewater, visited in the home of Jakob's mother and seeing the promising young man, undertook his maintenance and education.

They moved to Marburg and had just got settled when news of the Spanish attack on Oudewater reached them. Arminius hurried home, only to find that all his relatives had been slain by the Spaniards.

Arminius was sent to school at the newly established University of Leyden to study theology. During his six years there (1576-82) many things of importance were taking place. A war for independence in Holland had started men to thinking on the matter of personal liberty in religion. Some held that the state should tolerate only one religion while others thought that all religions should be tolerated. Among the latter group was Richard Coornhert, who argued in private and public that it was wrong to punish heretics and that men should be al-

lowed to exercise their free will in religious matters.

The pastor of the University Church of Leyden, Casper Koolhaes, pleaded against a rigid uniformity and begged for unity and tolerance in religious matters.

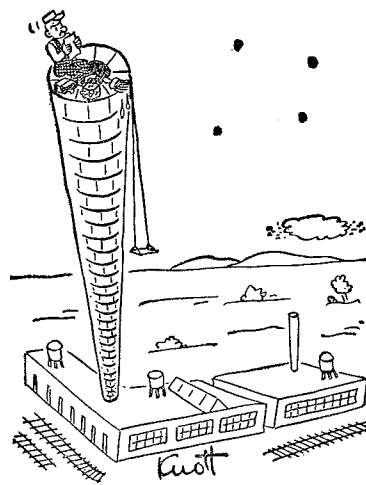
The professors at the university had a great influence on the life and thinking of Arminius, as we shall see later. Such men as William Feuguersis who taught, "men could be led, not driven," in religious matters, and John Killmann, who said that high Calvinism, "made God a tyrant and an executioner" had much to do with shaping Arminius' broadmindedness toward religious freedom.

From Leyden, Arminius went to Geneva and studied under Theodore Beza. He was three years in Geneva and then went to Rome, where he learned much that stood him in good stead later. In 1588 he was called to Amsterdam and ordained and in 1603 he was appointed professor of theology at the University of Leyden.

It was about this time that he was called on to defend the Calvinistic teachings against the ideas of Coornhert and some others of the radicals. In this study he was led to confront the question of necessity and free will. The further he pursued this study, the more his old views gave way to the new ones. At last, a study of the Book of Romans, especially chapter 7, convinced him of the matter of personal faith and he became fully persuaded to assert the "freedom of the will" in all religious matters.

So far as we are able to determine, this marks the first genuine effort on the part of any theologian to defend the "free will" idea, so for Free Will Baptists this was an important event!

Next Month: Arminius vs. Calvin



"Dear Herb — I didn't have time to fix your lunch today! Here's 50c to buy it with — Love, Mary."



REV. W. A. HALES

Rev. Hales Resigns Norfolk, Va., Church

NORFOLK, Va.—After a pastorate of eight years, Rev. W. A. Hales has resigned the Fairmount Park Church here effective May 30.

His resignation was read to the congregation at the Sunday night service, March 7. Mr. Hales said after his resignation is effective he will rest for an indefinite period. During his pastorate in Norfolk the church has completed a building program which totaled \$125,000 and a parsonage was constructed at a cost of \$15,000.

The church membership was increased from 66 to 800 persons and gifts to the church amounted to nearly \$250,000. Another highlight of his ministry is the fact that nine men have entered the ministry during his pastorate.

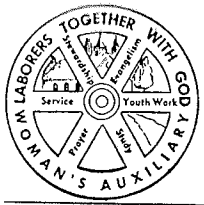
Mr. Hales is assistant moderator of the national association and has been in the ministry since 1927. His other pastorates have included churches at Elizabeth City, Columbia, and Wilson in North Carolina.

Fort Smith Church Organizes Brotherhood

FT. SMITH, Ark.—A men's brotherhood has recently been organized at the First Free Will Baptist Church here with nineteen charter members. L. E. Denton was elected president of the group with E. C. Clark named as vice-president. Other officers include Melvin Nookes, secretary-treasurer; Doc Marchant, program director, and Leo King, benevolence chairman.

Other names listed on the charter membership roll were James Evans, Ted Coble, Harold Schuler, John Hampton, N. D. Wedge, James Organ, Erwin Mearite, Rev. R. E. Pixley.

John B. Williams, Claud Evans, N. J. Wilder, Bob Smallwood, J. M. Hatfield and Albert Charlestown.



Woman's Auxiliary

"His Command — Our Task"

MRS. H. B. SLOAN, Executive Secretary



MRS. H. E. WILLIS
Stewardship-Prayer Chairman

Reports from the Field

GREENBRIER, Ark.—A Woman's Auxiliary was organized at the Free Will Baptist church here December 14, 1953, with a membership of 13. Officers include Mrs. C. E. Sawrie, president; Mrs. Billy Nichols, vice-president; Mrs. R. G. Lane, youth chairman; Mrs. D. L. Thomas, study course chairman; Mrs. Daniel Loveless, stewardship-prayer chairman; Mrs. I. B. Tucker, benevolence chairman, and Miss Glenna Loveless, recording secretary.

The members of the Auxiliary worked at the state encampment site in Conway February 13.

* * *

COLQUITT, Ga.—Two new members have been added to the Woman's Auxiliary of the Macedonia church since it was organized November 4, 1953. The organization was completed with the help of Mrs. K. V. Shutes, vice-president of the WNAC, with eleven members.

Officers of the new organization include: Mrs. S. T. Shutes, president; Miss Kizzie Mae Phillips, enlistment chairman; Mrs. Martha Everson, youth chairman; Mrs. Flora Lovering, study course chairman; Mrs. Flossie Phillips, program-prayer chairman; Mrs. Linnie Tabb, benevolence chairman; Mrs. Reuber Tabb, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Ida Tabb, secretary-treasurer.

* * *

SPRINGDALE, Ark.—The Woman's Auxiliary which was organized at the Philip's Chapel church near here last fall has already contributed \$200 to the building fund of the church, according to Mrs. Vada Netherton, publicity chairman. Mrs. Jim Davidson is the president.

* * *

RUSSELLVILLE, Ark.—The officers of the Woman's Auxiliary of the First church here assisted in the organization of Auxiliary at the Union Grove church February 26. There were 17 charter members of the new organization.

The following officers were elected: Mrs. E. L. Hill, president; Mrs. Mansfield Eaks, vice-president; Mrs. L. A. Roberts, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Dewel Wright, program chairman; Mrs. Truman Hill, reporter; Mrs. Delma Gene McVey, pianist; Mrs. Benner Tyler, song leader.

A promotional committee was elected composed of Mrs. R. C. Sanders, Mrs. Doyle McVey and Mrs. Joe Stevenson. The new

Auxiliary will meet at 7:30 p.m. on the third Friday of each month.

* * *

HOBBS, N. Mex.—A GTA was organized February 26 for the juniors and intermediates of the Free Will Baptist church here. There were five charter members, with three others pledged to join. Officers elected included Penny Higgins, president; Jane Pixley, vice-president; Sybil Flippen, secretary; Joe Flippen, treasurer, and Ruth Holmes, song leader.

* * *

RUSSELLVILLE, Ark.—Marlene Hawkins was elected president of the GTA which was organized here March 9. Other officers are Diana Burns, vice-president; Lynda Dee Dixon, secretary, and Victor Buchanan, treasurer. Twenty children attended the first meeting. Adults leading the group include: Mrs. B. F. Davis, sponsor; Mrs. Frank Duvall, devotional leader; Mrs. Ira Sparks, recreational leader, and Mrs. J. B. Patterson and Mrs. W. H. Brady, refreshment committee.

* * *

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, national executive secretary, spoke at a stewardship study course supper held February 23 at the East Nashville church. The program also featured a duet by Loyce Marshall and Jean Youree and an offering was received for Mrs. Trula Cronk, missionary in India. Eighty-one attended the service.

* * *

PLEASANT VIEW, Tenn.—A play on missions, "God Bless America," was given recently by the Auxiliary of the Goodsprings Free Will Baptist church near here. An offering of \$14 was received following the presentation.

* * *

TECUMSEH, Okla.—The district Auxiliary convention of First Oklahoma association met at the campground near here February 18 for a quarterly workshop. The program was built around the WNAC theme for the first quarter's workshop, "Know God's Word." Rev. Robert Duncan, Norman, brought the convention sermon.

While in session the convention voted to give \$25 toward retiring the college indebtedness and \$10 for headquarters furniture.

WNAC Officer Urges Stewardship Revival

Stewardship includes the development and use of our time, talents and resources for God's glory. Our time is not our own. God gave us sixty seconds in a minute and we are accountable to Him for our use or misuse of that time.

Our talents includes our natural and acquired abilities, all of which we owe to God. The resources which we have are His also. Yes, you labored for it, but did not He give you the strength? He asks only for a portion of it but when we refuse even that to Him, He often takes much more than that!

There comes a joy in giving to God in return for all He's done for us. In order that His cause may be carried on, we must be willing to give and sacrifice. Missionaries can't be sent to the foreign field unless we are willing to give.

Churches cannot be established by the Home Mission board until we see the vision and the need for the Free Will Baptist cause to be spread throughout the states. We have need to give less selfishly and yet we are so willing to slip silver into the offering plates. Some one has said that the reason we have so many pennies in the offering plates is because we have no smaller coin.

Scriptures recommend to us that we bring our tithes into the storehouse. Nowhere in the sacred writings does it substantiate the present-day method of raising funds for the church. Paul didn't write about fairs, festivals and box socials as a means of supporting any of the early churches.

A woman came to Horace Greeley one time seeking his ideas for some new method of obtaining funds for the church. It seems that they had tried every conceivable way and everything had ended in failure. His apt reply was, "Try religion."

(Continued on Page 12)

Home Mission Work Shows Giant Strides

Sixteen new churches, six missions, a recently discovered Free Will Baptist church in Boston, Massachusetts, and a quarterly meeting of Free Will Baptists in northeastern Pennsylvania all shine as new lights on the Free Will Baptist horizon as reports coming through the Home Mission office indicate a gigantic stride toward our goal of 100 new churches in 1953-54.

A letter from Rev. Walter Carter, Rockingham, North Carolina, tells of two Independent Baptist churches from Albemarle, North Carolina, who have voted to join the Free Will Baptist movement. Plans are to conduct revivals in these churches and set them up as full-fledged Free Will Baptist churches.

Brother Carter also reports new churches in Hamlet, and Cordova, North Carolina, both of which have been organized recently and another church in Kannapolis. All these churches are under associational sponsorship and bid fair to develop into strong churches.

Arkansas comes into the limelight this month with four new churches reported. This is not to say that all of these churches were organized during the month but they are just now being reported through the Home Mission office.

Thirty members made up the charter membership of the church in Rogers, Arkansas. Rev. Arman Howard is pastor of this church which was organized in January, 1954. Greenwood, Arkansas, is the site of another new church, as is Searcy. The charter membership of the Searcy church went to 62 before it was closed Sunday night, February 28. This group has bought property valued at \$6,000. They have a full church program organized and functioning.

The newest organization in Arkansas is at Hot Springs. Rev. J. B. Ewing, Rev. T. H. Dixon, and Rev. Bob King completed this church on the fourth Sunday in January. There were 11 charter members. In regular services and revivals 20 more have been added making a membership of 31.

Other new churches include Miami, Oklahoma; Wasco and Oxnard, California; Fordville, Kentucky, and Saco, Missouri. Missions are functioning in Buies Creek, North Carolina; Conway, Arkansas; Nashville (Woodbine), Tennessee, and Marshall, Texas. Immediate plans call for churches to be organized in Duncan, Arizona and Panhandle, Texas.

The existence of a Free Will Baptist quarterly meeting consisting of 14 churches in northeastern Pennsylvania recently came to our attention. Further investigation has verified the fact that this work exists but whether or not it remains true to the Free Will Baptist faith is yet to be determined.

“NEW CHURCH OF THE MONTH”



Organized September 7, 1949, with 22 charter members, the First Free Will Baptist church of Russellville, Arkansas, has a present membership of 152. The beautiful brick building shown above was completed by the congregation in 1952 under the leadership of Rev. O. T. Dixon, pastor. The present property is valued at \$24,000, but the church recently voted to construct an educational building to accommodate the growing Sunday school and League. The church was organized after a revival led by Rev. T. H. Dixon of Checotah, Okla. Rev. W. S. Isbell was called as the first pastor. He was succeeded by the present pastor, who is a graduate of the College of the Ozarks, Clarksville, Ark.

Home Mission Honor Roll Lists Sixteen

Since the announcement was made concerning the need for supporting the home missionary teams, response from over the field has been most gratifying. Here is the Honor Roll of \$5.00 per month contributions as of March 15:

Bethlehem Church, Tennessee
 Heads Church, Tennessee
 Leagues of West Nashville Church, Tennessee
 Holdenville Church, Oklahoma
 McAlester Church, Oklahoma
 Weleetka Church, Oklahoma
 Pryor Church, Oklahoma
 Grand River Ministers Conference, Oklahoma
 New Home Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
 Rev. Willard Day, Missouri
 Rev. H. E. Staires, Oklahoma
 Mrs. Mary Wellbaum, Missouri
 Claude Sawyer, South Carolina
 Rev. D. H. O'Donnell, Oklahoma
 R. B. Tipton, Oklahoma

Mrs. J. E. Frazier, Ashland City, Tennessee, sent an offering for this team work and pledged continued support.

Take up this matter with your church, League, Sunday school, Auxiliary, or other organization and arrange to send \$5.00 per month for the support of these home missionary teams. We are praying that 64 more pledges will come in by July 1.

The Florida state association, through its Home Mission Board, has agreed to underwrite the salary of a team to go to Ybor City to work among the Cubans there.

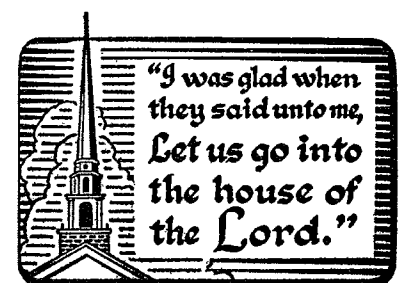
Home Mission Activity Increases in Florida

DOTHAN, Ala.—Home mission activity is increasing at a rapid pace in Florida with the report of four new church possibilities in as many areas of the state, according to Rev. D. W. Poole, promotional secretary.

The first mission point has been established at Slocomb, Ala., under the leadership of Rev. Rufus Hyman, pastor of Piney Grove church. Rev. Chester Pelt has answered the call from a group of people at Quincy, Fla., for help in establishing a church there.

Rev. Edd McKinney of Tennessee and Rev. W. A. Hales, Norfolk, Va., have been working with groups at Clearwater and Winter Haven, Fla., and church organizations are planned for both places.

At Tallahassee, the capital city, where a mission point was established a few months ago the congregation has completed a building valued at nearly \$20,000.





SHRUBBERY CONTRIBUTED More than \$200 worth of shrubbery was collected by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Fayette, Ala., church for transplanting at the Alabama children's home. Shown above is some of the shrubbery which was collected on the new church building site. Left to right are Rev. W. H. Ryland, orphanage superintendent; Rev. O. L. Fields, pastor; Rev. Herbert Stalnaker, and some members of the Woman's Auxiliary. Mrs. Ada White is president and Mrs. Fred Ham is secretary of the Auxiliary which has 16 members.

"Crusade for Christ" Reports Encouraging

First reports clearing through the Home Mission office indicate the "Crusade for Christ" is off to a flying start in many places over the denomination.

Rev. Harold Dunlap, of Nashville, Tennessee, conducted a successful "Crusade" campaign in Thomaston, Georgia, where Rev. L. S. Anthony is pastor, resulting in 14 decisions and as many additions to the church. Thomaston church is a new one, just a bit over a year old.

Rev. W. S. Mooneyham led the First church, Greenville, North Carolina, in a revival in which nine first-time decisions were made. Rev. Mooneyham reports that this revival was characterized by many marvels of the Lord's grace. Overflow crowds attended many of the services. Rev. Robert B. Crawford is the pastor.

The newly-organized church in Searcy, Arkansas, added 21 members to its charter as a result of a revival conducted by Launie Coffman, Rose Bud pastor. At the close of the revival the church reported 62 charter members.

Sylvan Park church, Nashville, Tennessee, experienced a great revival with Rev. Raymond Riggs, evangelist. This "Crusade for Christ" lasted one week and there were 21 decisions reported. Rev. E. A. Craft, pastor, reports this to be one of the best revivals ever witnessed at Sylvan Park.

Edgemont church, Durham, North Carolina, enjoyed a spiritual uplift under the ministry of Rev. Tommy Steele, of Raleigh. Rev. Joe Ange, pastor at Edgemont says that this revival reached the church members and resulted in many rededications.

Rev. Wade Calvert and his church in Belmont, North Carolina reports 14 decisions in their "Crusade for Christ" campaign. Rev. Raymond Riggs was the evangelist for this revival. In addition to the good revival, a wonderful opportunity for a new church in Concord, North Carolina, developed during the meeting.

"All of Mine for Him" Is Stewardship Theme

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—"All of Mine for Him" will be the theme for the observance of Stewardship Emphasis Month in hundreds of Free Will Baptist churches during April.

Material for study courses and special stewardship services has been prepared for the Stewardship Commission by the WNAC and the Home Mission Board and orders are already being filled.

Five hundred packets containing all materials available for promotion of the campaign in the local church were sent to a selected group of church and state leaders late in March.

In the packet also is an order blank for ordering any of the materials in quantity for congregations. If purchased separately, the material in the packet would cost \$1.60. The Stewardship Commission is asking those who receive the packets to remit one dollar to defray printing and postage costs.

For those who do not receive a packet, the materials may be ordered from the Stewardship Commission at the headquarters address. Prices are as follows:

- "All of Mine for Him," 112-page book.....\$1.00 each or \$10.00 a dozen
- By Rev. D. C. Dodd
- Two-color posters10c each
- "God's Plan"
- "Let's Quit Tipping God"
- "Free the Pastor's Hands"
- "Who Is the Owner?"
- Stewardship tracts40c a hundred
- "I Can't Afford Not to Tithe"
- "Stewardship"
- "New Testament Giving"
- "I'd Tithe"
- Stewardship playlet and declamations.....10c each
- Stewardship pledge cards30c a hundred

Summer Camp Sought By Tennessee Board

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—An appeal for Tennessee Free Will Baptists to help find a site for the 1954 state youth encampment has been sounded by Rev. Roger Reeds, secretary-treasurer of the Youth Camp Board.

The board, of which Rev. Harvey Hill, Elizabethton, is chairman was elected at the last session of the state association and charged with locating a campsite in a central area between the Cumberland and Union associations near Cookeville.

Thus far the board has been unsuccessful in attempts to secure a suitable location. In addition to a campsite, the board urged Tennessee churches to adopt some plan of regular giving to support a camp. Bethlehem church, near Ashland City, is the only church which is supporting monthly, the secretary said.

Offerings for the camp should be sent to Rev. Rogers Reeds, 4100 Media, Nashville 9, Tenn.

Cape Fear Conference Starts Mission Church

BUIE'S CREEK, N. C.—The initial service in an effort to organize a Free Will Baptist church here was held February 21 under the direction of the Cape Fear conference.

Rev. Thomas E. Beaman, chairman of the Board of Missions for the conference, brought the sermon. Rev. L. R. Ennis, conference moderator, presided over the service.

The Sunday school was organized Thursday night, February 25, and the Woman's Auxiliary was organized March 4. The mission will continue to have services under the direction of the conference mission board until the group is strong enough for a church organization.

WNAC Officer

(Continued from page 10)

Many would like to see the cause advance and yet not be obligated to help in any way. Church members can be divided into three classifications: first, the wishers, they'd really like to see things go; next, the wobblers, they might try to help some, but are not dependable; lastly, the workers, the faithful few who will get the burden and carry it along.

If Free Will Baptist women and preachers, too, would PREACH, PRACTICE, and PROVE stewardship, we could blaze a trail across America and leave churches in the wake!

*"It's not what you'd do with a million,
If riches should e'er be your lot,
But what you are doing at present
With the dollar and quarter you've got."
—Selected*

You Can Have a Stewardship Church

To operate, with proper concept, as Christian stewards, it is imperative that our thinking and terminology be correct, lest we major on minors and minor on majors. Our sympathies may run ever so agreeably in the realm of a declaration of "all of mine for Him," but we must needs go back to a most fundamental law of spiritual things and, first of all, acknowledge that *all I am is for Him*.

The secret is that all truly fruitful stewardship is found in the Christian's devotion to Christ rather than in the challenge of needs to stated objects in our Christian relationships. Christian stewardship places the one charged as a steward, first in order, with the superintendence of self rather than of that which is his, thereby making the character of the steward first law in order that first devotion may be to his Master.

His devotion to instituted objectives thus becomes an outgrowth of surrender to Christ. No misgivings will be encountered when there is assurance of the operation of this principle.

Hence, plans for our Stewardship Emphasis Month inhere in the concept, *all I am for Him* as the enablement which makes all of mine for Him.

I. A Pre-Emphasis Month.

1. A declaration of the Biblical principle.

With the declaration of the Biblical principle, *all I am for Him*, as the enablement for declaring *all of mine for Him*, I feel that a pre-emphasis month must precede the Stewardship Emphasis Month. The church officers and workers must first be led by the pastor in a thorough study of true Christian stewardship of no less than five consecutive sessions. The greater per cent of time in these sessions should be spent in prayer for seasoning sentiment favorable to the stewardship emphasis which is to follow.

2. The Official and Working Staff.

The official and working staff of the local church, having made special preparation through the prayer and study, and now fervent in their desire to see the entire church brought through the Holy Spirit in the relation of stewards to their sovereign Lord, shall bring recommendations to the church for approval which propose that the succeeding month be declared *Stewardship Emphasis Month*.

II. Stewardship Emphasis Month.

1. The First Sunday.

(1) The Church Bulletin on the first Sunday of Emphasis Month should carry information of plans for this special stewardship emphasis, and stewardship literature should

**Rev. J. R. Davidson, Pastor
First Free Will Baptist Church
Goldsboro, North Carolina**

be placed in the hands of all members of the congregation, and select passages of Scripture should be assigned for reading and study during this initial week.

(2) The Pastor's Message.

Let the Pastor's Message on the first Sunday proclaim the Doctrine of Stewardship, and let all subsequent worship hours be featured with stewardship truths.

2. Participation by Auxiliary Organizations in the church.

(1) Sunday School Teacher Participation.

All teachers should distribute stewardship literature among the members of their classes each Sunday throughout the month, having read and evaluated such literature before passing it out. The Sunday school lesson should also be planned with the view of giving great emphasis to stewardship in the lives of all pupils.

(2) League Participation.

At the third-Sunday-night preaching hour of Emphasis Month the Leagues should render a stewardship pageant, which has been wisely selected and well prepared. The materials for use in this contribution should be acquired from the Stewardship Commission, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville 5, Tennessee.

(3) Woman's Auxiliary Participation.

The Auxiliary should conduct a House-to-House Visitation Month throughout the Stewardship Emphasis Month, making sure to call (two ladies should be assigned together) on every home in which the husband or wife, or both husband and wife, are members of the local church. Suitable literature should be distributed in this visitation service.

3. Important Features for third and fourth Sundays.

(1) Third Sunday.

Have on hand suitable stewardship pledge cards, or print in the church bulletin a facsimile of the pledge card, and distribute to all members of the congregation at the worship period on the third Sunday morning of Emphasis month.

(2) Fourth Sunday.

The fourth Sunday of Stewardship Emphasis Month should be designated as "Dedication Day." At this meeting on the fourth Sunday morning pledge cards which were distributed the previous Sunday should be

signed by all who will conscientiously enter into special contract with the Lord, and the brethren, and placed on the offering plate, or, if space is adequate, presented at the altar in a dedication service following the pastor's message.

III. Pastoral Duties Relating to Emphasis Month.

1. Preparation to lead in the Emphasis:

(1) By a thorough personal study of Christian Stewardship.

(2) By assembling and reading all essential materials.

(3) By holding a special conference with officers and workers regarding need of stewardship emphasis. In this meeting plan at least five consecutive meetings of church officers and workers for prayer and the study of stewardship—seventy-five per cent of each period to be spent in prayer.

(4) By planning the use of mid-week prayer meetings for stewardship emphasis throughout Emphasis Month, making sure that all officers and workers shall be in attendance to bring specifically planned reports on work accomplished during the week.

(5) By planning to, early in the week following the third Sunday of Emphasis Month, write a pastoral letter to mail to each family; one that will magnify loyalty to Christ and His Church, and urge attendance at the dedication Day Service.

(6) By planning worship services, including a series of appropriate sermons for Emphasis Month, which will climax in the great day of dedication on the fourth Sunday at the morning service. This day's emphasis should include a pastoral sermon on "The Spirit-filled Life and the Joys of Service."

Appendage:

The following stewardship pledge card may be ordered from the Stewardship Commission in Nashville, Tenn., or it may be printed in the church bulletin "Dedication Day."

AN EXPRESSION OF MY CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

"In acknowledgment of my Christian stewardship, and as an expression of my gratitude to God I purpose with His help to contribute at least a tenth of my income into my Lord's treasury for the support of His cause. My tithe is one-tenth of any money or produce which I call 'mine.' I will bring my tithe regularly for kingdom use.

Name _____

Address _____

Date _____"

Glancing Around the States . . .

New Church Organized At Columbus, Georgia

COLUMBUS, Ga.—A council from the Chattahoochee Union was called on the fifth Sunday in January to set in order the Emmanuel church, 1028 4th Ave., Columbus. Rev. L. E. Sheffield had gathered the group together and a temporary organization was set up with fifteen charter members. A Sunday school, League and Woman's Auxiliary have all been organized. The congregation plans to purchase property in the near future.

Two New Churches Join Oklahoma Association

TULSA, Okla.—Two new churches, Miami and Trinity church at Tulsa, came into the First Mission association when it met in a quarterly conference here in February. Lawnwood church was host to the meeting at which every church in the association was represented but one.

New Building Finished, Church Attendance Doubles

CALVIN, Okla.—The congregation of the Free Will Baptist church here, which is less than three years old, has recently finished a new building. Attendance at the church services have doubled since last September. Rev. Claude Chisum is pastor.

New Church Organized In Florida Capital

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—The Capital City Free Will Baptist church was organized here Sunday night, March 7. The organization was completed after a full day of service. Speakers during the day included Rev. D. W. Poole, Rev. Dan Rivers and Rev. D. F. Pelt.

Oilton Church Adopts New Building Project

OILTON, Okla.—In order to provide more and better educational facilities, the Free Will Baptist church here has voted to begin construction of an educational unit. The new building will be 24' by 36' and the board of trustees are receiving bids for the job.

Core-Creek Youths Win Memory Awards

COVE CITY, N. C.—Seven young people of the Core Creek church near here were presented awards from the Bible Memory association of St. Louis, Mo. Rev. T. O. Terry, pastor, made the presentations to Leslie C. Hawkins, Arlyn White, Jewell Watson, Charles Riggs, Eugene Riggs, Sue Ormond and Ronald White.

Texas Young People Conduct Monthly Rallies

FORT WORTH, Tex.—Monthly "Youth for Christ" rallies are being conducted in the West Fork association of Free Will Baptist churches.

George A. Wetzel of Trinity church here, where the February rally was held, is the director. Four churches were represented with a total attendance of 84 at the February meeting.

College Official Speaks At Wolverine Association

DETROIT, Mich.—Rev. Bayless McDonald, treasurer of the Free Will Baptist Bible college in Nashville, was the featured speaker at the quarterly session of the Wolverine association which met March 4-6 at the Hazel Park church. The association responded with a \$200 gift toward paying off the college debt which was presented by the moderator, Rev. Mark Lewis.

The association went on record approving the Co-operative Plan for the national association and pledged their full support of the plan. Delegates instructed the Business committee to draw up a Cooperative Program for the association and present it at the next meeting. They also went on record endorsing the full program of the national Home Mission Board.

Construction Begins on New Alabama Church

ELDRIDGE, Ala.—After worshipping for four years in one of the buildings of the Free Will Baptist orphanage here, the congregation in this town has started construction of a new brick church. The new site is just one and a half blocks, from the children's home. Excavation for the two-story building, which will be constructed of blocks now and brick-veneered later, has already begun. Rev. W. H. Ryland, orphanage superintendent, is pastor.

Jasper Congregation Has First Service in Building

JASPER, Ala.—On February 14 the congregation here met in their own building for services. Since the organization three years ago by Rev. A. J. Lambert and Rev. W. H. Ryland they have been conducting services in a rented building. The new structure is a 45 by 72 basement with a second floor to be added later. Rev. Ryland is serving as half-time pastor during the building program.

Forty Certificates Given At Arkansas Worker's School

WALNUT RIDGE, Ark.—Forty certificates were awarded to those attending a school for Christian workers held here recently. Courses taught included Bible, Home Missions, Stewardship, Sermon Outlining, Sunday School Organization and Teacher Training.

Dallas Church Completes First Unit of Plant

DALLAS, Texas—The First Free Will Baptist church here has completed and moved into the first unit of a \$70,000 master

church plant. The all-masonry plant is located on a five-lot site in the new section of South Oak Cliff.

The church plans to start the next phase of the church plant in the very near future, according to Rev. H. Z. Cox, pastor. Present membership of the church is 165.

Heads Sunday School Awards Attendance Pins

CEDAR HILL, Tenn.—Twenty-eight members of the Sunday school at Heads church near here were presented with perfect attendance pins recently. Of the total, four were 4-year pins, seven were for three years, eight for two years and nine for one year. The Sunday school has an enrolment of 115 with an average attendance of about 90.

Alabama S. S. Convention Scheduled for April 24-25

ASHVILLE, Ala.—The Liberty No. 2 Sunday school convention is scheduled to meet April 24-25 at the Pleasant Grove church near here. The business session of the convention will begin at 2 p.m. Saturday. Rev. Chester O'Donnell is secretary.

Rapid Progress Marks History of Hobbs Church

HOBBS, N. Mex.—From eleven members to 51 in six months tells briefly the story of the Free Will Baptist church here, but it is not all the story. Of the forty additional members, 38 are new converts, and this small membership is doing more than many churches much larger. The church has been completely remodeled and redecorated with fully-equipped kitchen, rest rooms, pastor's study, new pews, new piano and church bus all added.

Three Sunday school rooms are now being built and a loan is being negotiated to purchase a two-bedroom parsonage. Rev. L. C. Pinson is pastor of this thriving church.

Building Program Launched By Alabama Congregation

TOWNLEY, Ala.—Construction has begun on a new building for the Free Will Baptist church here. The church went on full time the past year with Rev. H. L. Key as pastor. Since then the Sunday school has reached a membership of nearly 150. They will continue to worship in the old building until the new one is completed, at which time the old one will be offered for sale.

New Alabama Church Plans to Start Building

GUIN, Ala.—Organized last summer after a revival conducted by Rev. O. Z. Johnson, the Free Will Baptist church here hopes to start construction of their building this spring. They are presently meeting in a rented building. The church is making

Glancing Around the States . . .

good progress under the leadership of Rev. Johnson.

Chipley Pastor Elected As Ministerial Secretary

CHIPLEY, Fla.—Rev. Chester A. Huckaby, Free Will Baptist pastor, was elected to the office of secretary-treasurer of the Washington County ministers association, an organization of pastors of all denominations in the county.

California Church Has Homecoming Services

KERMAN, Calif.—Homecoming services were held February 14 at the Free Will Baptist church here. The day also marked the ninth anniversary of the church. Messages during the day were brought by Rev. Wade Jernigan and Rev. Virgil Wilson. Rev. O. H. Doss is the pastor.

Cordova Completes New Church Building

CORDOVA, Ala.—The Free Will Baptist congregation here has recently completed what has been described as "one of the most beautiful churches in Alabama." A frame building has served the congregation since its organization by Rev. J. B. Bloss in 1927. The new building was started under the leadership of Rev. Lester Jones. Rev. Paul Long is the present pastor.

Ten Dedications Made At District League Rally
TECUMSEH, Okla.—Ten dedications to the Lord were witnessed during a League rally held at the First Oklahoma association campground February 27-28. An estimated 400 people attended the rally. Both the attendance and program banners went to one of the newer churches in the association, Sunny Lane of Oklahoma City.

Arkansas League Rally Will Convene April 11

BATESVILLE, Ark.—The White River League rally will meet April 11 at the Coffman church, with an invitation extended for visitors to come and enjoy the day with

them. Rev. Austin Mullen is president and Geraldine Johnston is secretary.

New Organization Formed in Oklahoma

MIAMI, Okla.—Rev. Harry E. Staires, member of the national Home Mission Board from Tulsa, preached the organization sermon when a new church was organized here February 19. The organization came at the close of a revival conducted by Rev. E. M. Kennedy, Tulsa, pastor.

Fayette, Ala., Church Plans New Building

FAYETTE, Ala.—Work is scheduled to begin soon on a \$75,000 structure which will be the home of the Free Will Baptist church here. Since its organization three years ago by Rev. H. A. Pitts, the congregation has rented a church building which was not in use. During that time they have bought and paid for a \$4,000 building lot and an additional parking lot in the heart of the city. Rev. O. L. Fields, pastor, says that several thousand dollars is already in the building fund and that construction on the 45 by 75 two-story brick building will begin soon. The plans are to complete it by the end of the year.

New Mexico Church Organizes Good League

HOBBS, N. Mex.—Twenty-seven charter members joined three Free Will Baptist Leagues organized here February 7. Junior, Intermediate and Senior Leagues were included in the organization. By the third meeting the attendance had jumped to 50.

Officers include: James D. Moore, president; Ray Pinson, vice-president; Mrs. Tommy J. Reynolds, general secretary; Syble Flippen, treasurer; Mrs. L. C. Pinson, recording secretary; Bill Pinson, chorister and Ada Holmes, pianist. Group captains for the three Leagues are G. E. Melton, Bill Pinson and Walter King.

Mrs. J. O. King is nursery superintendent.

Hazel Park Changes Address, Not Location

HAZEL PARK, Mich.—The address of the First Free Will Baptist church has been changed from 921 E. Granet to 21800 Stephenson Highway, Rev. Mark M. Lewis, pastor, informs friends of the church. The location of the church is the same, but it now faces a new thoroughfare. Mail should be addressed to the new number.

Oklahoma Church Purchases Parsonage

ARDMORE, Okla.—The property adjoining the church property has been purchased by the church here, which now gives them a parsonage as well as some much-needed parking space. The pastor occupied the parsonage on January 15. The church was organized less than two years ago and now has a membership of 75. On February 1 the congregation accepted a \$100 weekly budget which gives them a full-time pastor and a weekly radio program at 2:15 p.m. each Sunday over KVSQ, a local station. Rev. E. J. Wilson is pastor.

Thirty-Four Churches Report Revivals

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Thirty-four churches have reported revival campaigns held or scheduled as a part of the denomination-wide "Crusade for Christ" during March and April. Revival reports to CONTACT should give the church, evangelist, pastor, dates, number of professions and additions to the church.

Church	Evangelist	Pastor	Date	Profs.	Add.
Greenbrier, Arkansas	O. T. Dixon	R. G. Lane	April 15—		
Haskell, Oklahoma	Several Ministers	Bill Ketchum	February 1-14	8	6
Piney Grove Church, Chipley, Fla.	Henry Melvin	Chester Huckaby	April 21-28		
Heads Church, Cedar Hill, Tenn.	D. C. Dodd	Robert Wilfong	April 16-18		
Hazel Park, Michigan	W. C. Day	Mark Lewis	April 25-May 9		
Oilton, Oklahoma	Bill Ketchum	Ben Scott	April 18—		
Flint, Michigan	Charles Thigpen	Paul Lee	March 7-21		
Lockhart, S. C.	Wayne Smith	A. F. Lawter	March 7—		
Alice Brooks Church, Sharum, Ark.	Ralph Staten	Eugene Davis			
Wewoka, Oklahoma	Elvis Priest	Ralph Staten	April 5—		
Hull Road Church, Snow Hill, N. C.	James Raper	Burkette Raper	April 4-11		
Haskell, Oklahoma	Jake Drake	Bill Ketchum	March 14—		
Pryor, Oklahoma	Bill Ketchum	J. W. Gage			
Berkeley Church, St. Louis, Mo.	William Buster	Don Ellis	February 14-28	7	
Jameson Memorial Church, Henderson, Texas	Noah Tuttle	Noah Tuttle	April 18—		
Phillips Chapel Church, Springdale, Ark.	Vivan Rhodes	Tommie Day	February 15-28	34	8
River Rouge, Michigan	William Mishler	James Gillim	February 14-21		
Cofer's Chapel, Nashville, Tenn.	James Raper	J. L. Welch	March 10-21		
Bixby, Oklahoma	H. E. Staires	Jess Stepp	March 1-14		
Cramerton, North Carolina	Winford Floyd	Roy Pikard	April 25-May 9		
Good Hope Church, Henderson, Tex.	E. D. Hellerd	Gaston Clary	April 4—		
Mt. Olive Church, Laneville, Tex.	Gaston Clary	A. A. Williams	March 21—		
Lawnwood Church, Tulsa, Okla.	Dale Munkus	H. E. Staires	March 28—		
New Home Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma	E. M. Kennedy	L. A. Yandell	March 15—		
Calvary Church, Durham, N. C.	W. S. Mooneyham	Adam Scott	April 18-25		
Mt. Elon Church, Pamplico, S. C.	Earl Glenn	Paul Kettelman	March 22-28		
Hazel Creek, Kirksville, Mo.	Marvis Lee	Wayne Parsons			
Sublette, Missouri	Lester Jones	Orville Dobbs			
Graysville, Missouri	Lester Jones	Alta Mikel			
New Harmony, Green Top, Mo.	Fred Kirby	Mildred Gilliam			
Shibley's Point, Green Castle, Mo.	Lester Jones	Bobby Jones			
Martinstown, Missouri	Lester Jones	Alta Mikel			
Low Ground, Green Top, Mo.	Lester Jones	Mildred Gilliam			
Shawnee, Okla.	E. M. Kennedy	Paul Pursell			

Still Thanking God!

We are still thanking God for the 5,000 subscribers we believe we will have to CONTACT by the time of the meeting of the national association on July 13. We have dared to ask God to lay this number upon your hearts as well as ours and to give us this many subscribers. We believe it. This issue will go to a few more than 2,800 people and it would be an easy thing for each one of these subscribers to be responsible for getting one or two other subscribers. In this way we could double the circulation almost overnight.

Ask someone to subscribe, get their dollar and send the subscription to us today. Certainly do it this week!

Sunday Bulletins Will Be Ready for Distribution on July 1

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The dream of many a Free Will Baptist pastor—a Free Will Baptist Bulletin Service—will become a reality on July 1, according to an announcement from the Executive Department of the national association.

A sample bulletin was distributed to pastors attending the spring Bible conference, Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, executive secretary, said, and the response was very favorable.

A mail survey of between five hundred and a thousand ministers will be taken soon, he said, to determine how many churches will subscribe to the service. At least one hundred churches must subscribe for a minimum order of 100 bulletins per week, the secretary said in order to get the service started.

The bulletins will be lithographed in attractive colors on top-quality paper. The back page each week will contain a denominational, seasonal or inspirational message.

Bulletins will be mailed flat once a month for local mimeographing or printing. The first bulletins will be shipped not later than June 15 for use on July 4.

Above the minimum order of 100 bulletins a week, they may be ordered in multiples of fifty; that is, 150, 200, 250, etc. The price will be 95c a hundred postpaid, and statements will be sent to the church monthly.

For further information and an actual sample of the bulletins, write to Sunday Bulletin Service, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

To My Pastor

The pew and I

Develop friction,

When you delay

The benediction.

Sinners in Prison

The sight of men in chains being unloaded from a patrol wagon and herded into the county jail a few days ago still brings a sense of sadness over me. The car had come to a halt before the county courthouse in the midst of downtown Portland, Oregon, armed guards opened the door, and out filed men in chains.

Chains bound wrist to wrist and ankle to ankle, limiting freedom of movement, and chains linked man to man. Out of the patrol wagon they came while people stopped to watch them. There were six or eight of them—all young men.

There they were—created to be free, to come and go as they wished, to aspire, to plan, and to achieve—but they had been deprived of freedom and were led instead in chains and under guard to a prison cell. The sympathy I felt for them as individuals blended with a broader feeling of sadness for the race of man as a whole.

God created man to be upright, to walk in fellowship with Himself, to know the freedom of walking obediently in the perfect will of God. But sinful rebellion against God forged chains of servitude to Satan. Chains of spiritual blindness, chains of uncontrollable lust, chains of arrogant pride, chains of lawlessness, chains of wicked unbelief make the race of man move through

life like chained prisoners moving steadily toward God's prison house. That God has such a place for the wicked is clearly taught in the Bible:

“ . . . Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matthew 25:41).

Men must suffer for their past crimes, and society must be protected from future ones. Likewise God must separate in eternity the righteous from the wicked and place the unrepentant and unbelieving in His prison house.

“And . . . it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27).

But God is rich in mercy, and He has provided His own Son to be our Saviour. The Lord Jesus Christ suffered the penalty of our sins; He satisfied the claims of divine justice so that we could be set free—saved from the chains of sin and delivered from the prison house of eternal death.

Men in chains under guard being taken by force where they don't want to go is a pitiful sight—and principally because it is a graphic picture of the race in its lost and undone condition. “If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed” (John 8:36). *Trust Him!*

—Willard M. Aldrich

