

# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST  
AND OF THE CO-OPERATIVE GENERAL ASSOCIATION—FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST EVERYWHERE

Vol. 2. No. 4.

Tecumseh, Oklahoma, April, 1930.

\$1.00 per year.

## "Ye Must Be Born Again" (John 3:7)

By Ora Mae McKinney Davis

(Continued from last issue)

When you first came to Jesus there was a heavy burden upon your heart, your load of care and perplexity was more than you could bear. First must be that of humiliation—you must become humble—then your heart was broken, the sharp two-edged sword had cut asunder the heart of sin, then the "blood of Jesus" was applied, but all of a sudden you began to notice that your burdens were gone. Jesus had come with healing in his wings, and your broken heart was healed. But a change had taken place. The heart became a new heart by the circumcision of the Spirit (Rom. 2:29). Something inward had been wrought, and God had set forth a change in your life.

May the dear Lord help us to bring back the old-time *mourners bench*, on our knees for others. Various steps are sometimes to be taken when you become interested in God. Some people get saved at home, but oftentimes at church they are saved. Nevertheless the unseen form of Jesus the *Holy Spirit* walks among us.

"Jesus of Nazareth is passing by!" What will you do with him? Will you reject him and say, "I do not want to live with you. Just run along, I have no time for Jesus. May be some day, when I get older, I will listen to the voice of Jesus." But *now* is the accepted time, *now* is the *day of salvation*.

"What will you do with the Christ, which is called the Son of God?" Dear reader! This question is

directly yours, if you know not Jesus, the Son of the living God! Jesus gave his *blood* to save your *soul*, and it is *not* God's will for anyone to be lost. Hell was not made for man, but for the devil and his angels. The *cross of Calvary*, and the *blood of Jesus* is between you and this awful place of horror, and if you go there, it will be your own decision, made in this life, for you will have to trample directly over the mangled, bleeding, dying form of Jesus to get there. He is between you and *judgment*; the price for your redemption was paid in agony and death, but if you willingly will walk over his dying, bleeding body, broken in pain and suffering to save you—then yours will be with all the forgotten of God *who knew the way of life*, but you had no time for Jesus, and you rejected the *blood* which was given for your cleansing, and you said, "No, some other time." Then death overtook you; and so will the judgment!

Sinner friend, Oh, won't you get ready to meet God? Dark are the shadows of death just ahead of you. When that hour comes the "execution of judgment follows. Then you will stand before God—guilty. All who read these words who are unprepared, will stand before their Maker unexcusable, without excuse, because Jesus plainly told Nicodemus that "Except a man be born again, he can not see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3).

There must be a change! And the question has now come to you, "What shall I do with Jesus, accept him, or reject him? This is the greatest question in all the world, "What shall I do with Jesus?" It is a question which comes

directly to you, a question you must answer for yourself. No one else can answer it for you.

On this question hinges the verses eleven to thirteen of the nineteenth chapter of 1st Kings—concerning the answer—"Ye must be born again." We find in this sacred record the unfolding of a new birth in Christ Jesus. Elijah stood before the Lord and behold, the Lord passed by, a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks; but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire *a still small voice*.

In this prophecy of Scripture, we find a great and strong wind representing the Spirit as he comes to you. The earthquake is the sword he brings with him to break in pieces your heart, and the fire—"God is a consuming fire."

Elijah stood before God face to face. He did not see his shape or form, but he saw the fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. Elijah felt the presence of God, he felt his power and saw the fire, and yet all these wonderful, mighty powers which came with the presence of God passing by was not as powerful as these words which Elijah heard—a still, small voice. Has the sword of the Spirit cut asunder your heart and "brake it in pieces?" Has there been an opening for the Holy Spirit to enter? If there has been, then listen! A still small voice will speak to you, a voice which is small and gentle, a *still voice of peace* and love, yet a voice that

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## Apostasy

By Eld. Thomas H. Dixon, Hector, Ark.

To the Readers of the Gem: I began to write a few articles on the warnings from the Book of God to His children. I have no other motive in writing on this subject but to help folks to think of the dangers that await us.

When the good mother sees her boys and girls consecrated, she sheds tears of joy, and then, she prays daily for her children, that they may live the life that they should live, in order to gain that home beyond this veil of tears.

May the good Lord help us preachers to sound the trumpet and give the alarm, and warn the people of the dangers that await us. In the fifteenth chapter of St. John, Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away." It is up to us: we can bear fruit and abide in the vine or we can cease to bear fruit and be taken out of the vine. The fourth verse says, "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me." We learn from verse four that except we abide in the vine, we cannot bear fruit. These are the words of Christ, and they are true. These Scriptures need but little comment. Verse six: "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned." Who could read these Scriptures and believe: "Once in the vine, always in the vine," regardless of conditions?

Verse ten: "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love." Isn't that plain? Bearing fruit is keeping His commandments and, in so doing, we shall abide in His love. In Eccl. 12:13 we read: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." Most people know what the commandments are,

so we will not, at this writing, name them. In 2 Peter 1:10 we read: "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall."

Dear readers of the Gem, will you please read the references on this subject? We may differ, but let us reason these things out. Hear Paul to the Hebrews in Heb. 3:12: "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God." Here we see there is danger of departing: an evil heart will cause a man to depart from God. Some of our friends say, when they go back, "They never had anything to begin with." You could not depart from something you had never been up to. Think of a boy falling from a tree when there was no tree to fall from.

Many anxious souls are, no doubt, interested to know what the Bible teaches on this great subject. May God help us who are preachers and teachers to make things plain.

A few questions and answers for the sake of the readers:

1. Can men fall from grace?

Answer—They did fall (1 Cor. 10:8).

2. Will God blot out names

that are written in the Book of Life? Answer—"And the Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book" (Exo. 32:33). And we read in Rev. 22:19: "If any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

3. Will God remember the righteousness done by those who have departed from Him?

Ans.—He will not. Read Ezek. 18:24.

Dear brethren and sisters, if I knew I could not fall, or sin and get away from God, I might get careless about many things, thinking I would be received when I got to the mark any way. If once a sheep, always a sheep is true, we should not fear.

But, dear friends, let me say that we must stay under the blood of a crucified Christ, if we ever walk the Streets of Gold.

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." There is something to do to gain that home prepared for God's children.

I will say in conclusion, May God bless our good editor and all the readers of the Gem. Folks, let's take the paper and get others to take it. I do hope we can make it a weekly paper. I like to hand out copies of the Gem and ask people to read it, and then subscribe for it.

(To be continued)

## The Call of Moses

*"Moses was hidden three months because he was a proper child; then put in an ark of bulrushes in the River Nile."*

Moses was of the house of Levi, nursed by his mother, and named by Pharaoh's daughter. He was so named because she said, "Because I drew him out of the water" (Ex. 2:10). He became her son, and was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, but this was not enough: for when he became grown God had a school for him.

Talk about men learning God's word and God's ways; when God took Moses into His school He had to keep him there for forty years. But now that he is ready, he is just the man God needs, and God calls him. Moses said, "Who am I?" He was very small in his own eyes—just small enough that God could use him. If the Egyptians had been asked who he was they would have said, "The biggest fool on earth." "Why," they would say, "Look at the opportunity that man had, he might have been commander of the Egyptian army. He might have been on the throne, swaying the sceptre over the whole world, if he had not identified himself with those poor

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Organ of

## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Published monthly at Tecumseh, Oklahoma.



Eld. B. F. Brown, *Editor*.

Entered as Second Class Matter, January 4, 1929, at the Post Office at Tecumseh, Oklahoma, under the act of March 3, 1879.

## TERMS:

\$1.00 per year, cash in advance. Paper will be discontinued when subscription expires.

We will be glad to change your address for the Gem, if you notify us. Please give both the old and the new address.

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## Editorial

## Partakers of the Divine Nature

"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Peter 1:4).

Yes, true Christians are partakers of "the Divine nature." *Exceeding great and precious promises* are given to us, that by them we might be partakers of the nature of God, in part now; perfectly hereafter; for "We shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is" (1 John 3:2). God's promises are the object of our faith—*precious promises* are the object of *precious faith*, and both are gifts from God, for God's promises are as sure as if they were already fulfilled.

By the power of God we are enabled to escape destruction from the "corruption that is in the world through lust," and become partakers of the "Divine nature." "The corruption that is in the world" has its seat in the "lust" of men's hearts, and nothing but the power of God, through faith in a crucified Savior can save them from destruction. But praise the Lord, when with the heart we "believe unto righteousness" (Romans 10:10), we become "new creatures in Christ" (2 Cor. 5:17), and the "Love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us" (Romans 5:5). Sanctification then, is God Himself imparted to us by the Holy Ghost in the heart. This is our separation, and Christ lives in us as we yield ourselves to Him and live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved us, and gave Himself for us" (Gal. 2:20).

Paul says in 2 Cor. 4:7, "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of power may be of God, and not of us." It is wonderful to have *such a treasure* in "earthen vessels," the "outward man," afflicted and subject to death, but God wills it so and may allow the vessel to be chipped, broken, that the excellency of the power of the treasure may belong to God. The Lord bestows His precious gifts upon us, that we might be partakers of His nature, having such excellent treasure in such weak, fragile vessels, that the power of the ministry exhibited in winning souls, and in sustaining and blessing His children, might be ascribed solely to God.

In our Christian course here on earth, our lives should be governed by faith in our immortal hope, and not by the appearance of present temporal things.

The other day I heard a sermon over the radio in which the preacher said, "Christians are only sinners, and the Gospel only condemns them." It seems to me that, if he were a partaker of the "Divine nature," he would know that there is "no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:1). And he would realize that the "Kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

## FROM THE FIELD

### MISSOURI

**Flat River.**—Dear Editor of the Gem: I have just gone through a very severe case of sickness, and only for the prayers of the little Gem Family, I might not have been here today. God bless the Gem, and may it live forever.

While confined to my bed and room, in my mind I was carried back through a long and almost ill-spent life.

In traveling backward through the long years that I have lived in this world I was brought up face to face with many sad scenes and changes of which I can not write today, but on one occasion of which I wish to speak I find myself away back in the years of the early seventies, and away out on the frontiers of southwestern Texas, which at that time was a very wild country, whose law was written only on the trigger. And the man that would dare to violate that law soon learned that the way of the transgressor was hard.

On a certain evening, we had gone into camp for the night, and as we were sitting on the grass enjoying our smokes and our games, we saw an old man coming into our camp. His long, white beard as it floated in the breeze, his wrinkled brow and trembling limbs, all betokened to us age and wisdom. We soon began to ask him from whence he came and whither he was going.

He told us that he was a preacher and a missionary from India, and that he was looking for a country whose mansions were not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

As we had never heard any one preach, we insisted on him pitching camp with us and preaching for us that night, to which he readily consented. We soon had our saddles stacked together, making of them

the very best we could a pulpit, naturally supposing that a preacher to preach, must needs have a pulpit.

As the old man looked down upon us sitting on the grass before him, he seemed to know the very secrets of every man's heart that was in that camp. He never wasted any time trying to tell us how nor when we lost our tails, neither did he use a white-wash brush nor any soft soap, but he gave it to us right off the reel.

He had only preached a few minutes until there seemed to be such a "gawwing of files" as was never seen before, and if it had lasted long that way, there would not have been a whole tooth left in that camp.

But the old man let us down easy. He then put us on a run like a bunch of wild steers to the mountains, where the very earth seemed to vibrate from the fierce roaring of the lions that surrounded us on every side.

We could see no way of escape, and all seemed to be lost. But again the old man led us through and we were saved.

He then led us down to the brink of a swift-running river, whose farther side seemed to be wrapped in total darkness. There was no boat nor bridge whereby we could cross over, nor was there any light on the other side to guide us through. Many thousands were attempting to cross by going through the water. The majority of them, when they came in contact with the swift current of the river would go down and sink to rise no more.

This was the first sermon that I had ever heard, but it was the means through grace of eventually leading me back to civilization and to my father's house, and ultimately leading me to a higher plane of life, where I can stand and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

W. H. Adams.

**Monett.**—Dear Editor of the Gem:—Please give me just a little space for a few words to our paper.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8). We find that the latter part of this verse contains a great truth. The devil is walking about trying to devour some precious soul, even one that has been regenerated and filled with the Holy Spirit, the devil is ready to seize and destroy it.

I know of no better way to explain it than by comparing it to the natural life. We are all acquainted with the nature of sheep, and know their way of protecting themselves. They will press close together in a group in order to keep the wild beasts, wolves, lions, etc. from getting an opportunity of springing in among them to catch one.

We'll picture a herd of sheep in pasture field. They are in a firm position, grouped together. A wild beast, a lion or a wolf, is near by watching every move they make. His keen eye scrutinizes them very closely as he walks about unseen by the flock. The herd moves on feeding upon the grass in a union. At last one becomes careless and neglectful and strays off a little from the flock. The enemy is watching and at last he has the chance he has been waiting for. He makes his leap and kills the poor lamb. Had the lamb remained in its place instead of straying, this would not have happened. In my mind it is a lesson to the remaining herd to be more careful, because you can see them draw closer together for better protection, after a tragedy like this.

The same is true with God's creation and the devil, he is present, watching his chance to destroy some soul. We'll take a number of Christian people in our mind. For best results from God and a better protection from the evil one, they should work together in Spirit and be at peace with one another, forming a strong united band for God. Every thing is just fine and life is sweet.

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and pleasant as long as all are at peace and in harmony. The devil is still walking about seeking a chance to do his evil work. He sees when one becomes at outs with the others and he or she gets careless and out of line. We all know the results, the devil takes hold and destroys that soul, the person becomes in a back-slidden condition and dies in that awful state. The others of course may get a lesson but it is too late for that poor soul that strayed away. Had he or she been more vigilant (watchful), it would not have happened.

Let's all group together and live for God. Be strong and firm, do not stray away as the poor lamb that was devoured by the wolf. Just stay in your place, pray God to guide you aright and don't take one step wrong, be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

Are you going to be one whom he finds and devours? Let's always be found in a firm throng for God. I think the church is the best place and the best way to form a strong body for God. I hope these few words will help some one in some way.

God help us all to be sober and vigilant. Let's not stray from the flock, for fear the wolf will spring upon and seize us.

Kenneth Turner.

### Flat River, Mo.

Dear Editor the Gem: I see in the Gem an article to which there is no name attached. The writer is asking some one to write a few words to the Gem that will help one to overcome his besetting sin.

Now I would like to say that sin is sin, let it come to us in any way it will, and the Bible tells us in John first book and 3rd chapter that "He that committeth sin is of the devil." Now this besetting sin is only a *derail block* of the devil's, and if properly set will throw us off the track every time we pass over it, and turn us away from God

and heaven.

Jesus said, "What I say unto you I say unto all, *Watch*." (Mark 13:37). Let us *watch* for all obstructions that may be on the track ahead.

"Keep your hand upon the throttle  
And your eye upon the rail."

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the *sin* which doth so easily *beset* us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto *Jesus* the author and finisher of our faith" (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Now, dear one, if you have a besetting sin, just lay it aside, and look to Jesus, the author and finisher of your faith.

"Ask the Savior to help you;

Comfort, strengthen and keep you  
He is willing to aid you;

He will carry you through."

And:

"If temptations 'round you gather,  
Breathe *that Holy Name* in  
prayer."

Your brother in Christ,

W. H. Adams.

### Le Fors, Texas, March 13th.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:—I will write a short letter to the Gem this evening. As I have not received my paper for March, I sure miss it, for it is so much comfort to me to read those interesting letters from our brothers and sisters in Christ. I think a great deal of our little paper. I enjoy the scripture lessons, and all the rest and read it through and through.

How I missed going to church on our last regular appointment, the second Saturday and Sunday, at Blue Eye, Mo. and hear our pastor, Bro. Winford Davis, preach another good sermon. I am trusting the Lord and hope to be again where I can go to church to hear the Gospel. We are out from town, in the sand hills, and it makes my heart ache to see so many people away from God,

and give not one thought to their condition, unprepared to meet God. May God be merciful to the lost ones.

I have seen the monument of Christ nailed to the cross, and the two women just under it, and it brought tears to my eyes. Then I saw Him laid in the sepulchre, the prints of the nails in His hands and feet. It looked beautiful, yet so sad.

Pray for me and my family, and for our little Free Will Baptist church back home at Blue Eye, Mo.

A sister in Christ,

Birtie Youngblood.

### We Should Watch Our Conversation

By Elizabeth Garner

What does the ninth commandment forbid? "*Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor*."—Ex. 20:16

The evident object of this commandment for us to comprehend and obey, is to guard rights, interests and reputation of our neighbor. These acts may be performed by guarding our conversation, and confining our words to that which is strictly true.

In Luke 3:14 the soldiers came to John and asked him, "What shall we do?" He answered them saying: "Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely, and be content with your wages." We should be kind, respectful, and regard every one's feelings.

One of the old sayings, which I think is good, is "Think twice before you speak."

"If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body." James 3:2.

Christ teaches the great importance of us guarding our speech in Matthew 12:36-37, "That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." It behooves us, the Christian people who expect to have

### Denison, Texas

Dear Gem Family: Have been thinking for some time that I would stop long enough to have a little chat with you through the Free W. B. Gem.

These are busy days for us at Denison. Our women as well as the men are working. We are planning to have our building painted on the inside, and the woodwork completed before Easter.

We have been having wonderful services. In the last few Sundays we have had two conversions, one reclaimed, and six to join the church. God is blessing, praise His dear name.

We have been made happy to have so many visitors in our services. It makes us feel that God is smiling upon us.

I do want to say that I appreciate our paper so much, and certainly do feel that our dear editor and wife are to be commended for their good work. May God bless them abundantly. I have the promise of some new subscriptions, so trust I shall be able to send them in soon.

Just wish some of you Gem Readers could walk in and hear our juniors while they are reciting in class. God bless our young people, the burdens of the church, home and nation will be upon their shoulders tomorrow.

Now, I believe I will give a financial report of our work, so you might see how God has blessed in this respect.

When I came to Denison five years ago last October 22nd, I found an old building sixty by one hundred feet, the roof was no good, it had never been ceiled inside, in fact it was just a hull. The congregation had disbanded, and there had been no services for several months; (all this to my astonishment). I supposed I would find a congregation, and being young in the ministry thought I could rely much upon a band of strong deacons; while my deacons were as bubbles, soon gone. But I thank

the Lord, I found one deacon ready to stand by me, Bro. P. H. Coffman. Sister Sude Coffman and I began to visit and advertise our services. I felt like Nehemiah of old with his few Jews, but praise the Lord forever, He stood by us, and blessed every effort.

This old building had \$1043 16 against it, besides \$65.00 back interest. God bless the Hopewell Association, they came to our rescue by saying, "We'll pay the interest for you, if you can make the church go, so we did. I don't believe we lost many opportunities of making a dollar. Today we are delighted to report the \$1043 16 was paid. The old building was taken down. Our ladies helped with the light lumber and drove out the nails. We worked with the men.

Besides using all the old lumber possible, we borrowed \$800.00 besides these expenses: Our ladies bought the sheet rock for the auditorium, which cost \$128.00, paid for labor \$100.00, for gas and stoves, \$128.00 and paint \$30.00.

The church paid about \$90.00 for seating the building, about \$180.00 for revival work, numbers of grocery showers given to help tie over our dear ones in need beside the clothing given. Several dollars were donated to Tecumseh College, several dollars to help a returned missionary from Bolivia, yes, all this has been given besides what they have paid the pastor, and the pastor has been the happy recipient of many expressions of love and gratitude of her congregation.

Now I might have left out some few things we have accomplished; but really, don't you feel that the good work, and the dear Denison people are to be commended? I believe you do, and we are going to give you an opportunity to express your appreciation of the work here by helping us to raise \$375.00 indebtedness yet against our building. Now, dear ones in Christ, if three hundred and seventy-five Free Will Baptists will send us one dollar each, we could complete our new

church. We lack painting the auditorium, and the Sunday School rooms are yet to be completed. Now if you love us, and appreciate the F. W. B. work in Denison, help us to go over the top. Thanking you for an early donation, I am,

Yours for Jesus.

Miss Tommie Franklin, Box 518, Denison, Texas.

P. S. Please send all donations to above address

### Niangua, Mo., March 5th.

Dear Gem Readers:—May I join your band of good people for a short visit? I will try not to stay long.

I cannot express in words how much I enjoy reading the letters in the Gem each month. We, as many others, received our paper through our worthy pastor, Eld. Selph Jones.

I am glad to say that I am a member of the Free Will Baptist church at Black Oak, and have been trying to serve the Lord for about five years and realize that we, as young people of today, have many temptations along life's pathway that we must be able to overcome if we ever gain a home in heaven. I often think as I look out into the world of today that if *all*, both boys and girls, were trying to live the life God wants us to live, what a good old world this would be.

I wish to say that we people of Black Oak will never forget the series of meetings that Bro. Marion Clift held there just before going on to his final resting place. Many of you, perhaps, knew him or knew of him. I am thankful that I can say that two of my brothers and myself were among the many that Bro. Clift baptized at the close of his wonderful revival, the finishing of his great work, which will live on and on in the hearts of many of us.

I thank God that I was raised by Christian parents, which has been a great help to me.

May God bless you all, and may I ask to be remembered in your prayers?  
Lois Dodson.

## Sulphur, Okla.

### To Whom It May Concern:

Our dear Brother R. H. Emerson's last message through the Gem.

Paul says to "give honor to whom honor is due." And Hebrews 13: 2, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers." I have often thought it was better and more scriptural to give flowers to the living, than to the dead. And inasmuch as I have been around here for about forty years, and am known far and wide I wish to say a few things I know about Brother D. E. Clark and family.

They were charter members of the Free Will Baptist Church at Fletcher, Okla. The writer organized the church there, and was at the head of the presbytery when Bro. Clark was ordained as deacon, with his good wife sitting by his side, and his good children standing around him. God bless them, and I feel it my duty to confer the honor upon him and family that is due them.

First I will say that Bro. Clark and family are what they profess to be, and Bro. Clark has proven himself to be his brother's keeper, and did his duty as deacon as far as he knew, being young in that office. He has also proven his loyalty to his church and pastor by bringing the good things to eat that help to take care of the physical body, and kind words and prayers, mixed with divine love that helps the pastor preach. His good wife joins him in all this, with her fingers on the piano, making it talk, and her voice which lifts the heart of a preacher above the things of the world; and his and her kindness and helpful speech, both in prayer and private conversation that makes the heart glad and thank God for such people. The writer has been their pastor the most of their time, have been in their home; held their children in infancy and have seen the two oldest converted and baptized and have taken some of them into the church. This is a model family, and as such

I recommend them, religiously, honestly and socially. I want to say to every one of our preachers that they come in contact with, that they may rely on anything these parents might promise. They have moved three miles from Chickasha, Oklahoma, at Friend Schoolhouse. I ask that some of our nearby Free Will Baptist preachers hunt them up. There are four members of the church in this family, and in a business way Bro. Clark is very reliable. My heart, with the rest of the community church, overflows with grief because of their departure from our church and community. God bless this model family.

The young Sister Clark is a subscriber of the "Gem." I would just say that is a good example for other young folks to follow. You will later see some of her correspondence in the F. W. B. Gem.

Bro. Brown, find enclosed \$3.00 for subscriptions to the Gem. I will do all I can for it.

Ever for the truth,

Elder R. H. Emerson.

### Purdy, Mo., March 14th

Dear Gem Readers: I certainly do enjoy reading the Gem. I feel that you and I should be proud of the Gem.

I had intended to write on the Resurrection, but we are so busy that I will send in a report of what we are trying to do to help to build up the Lord's work. We are getting along fine with our church, Merl's Chapel. The Sunday school is fine. Singing evenings. Forty to one hundred attending the cottage prayer meetings. They are planning to have an Easter program the fourth Sunday in April. They would have had it the third Sunday, but those taking part on the program have to help on the school program.

We held seven services at Mt. Joy church and three grown young men and one girl were converted.

We all had the whooping cough this winter, so didn't get to be in meetings as we had planned. Bro. Winford Davis filled one of my ap-

pointments on that account.

I went to Jones Chapel and filled an appointment for Bro. Davis when he was in a meeting at Cedar Bluff. This was my first visit to Jones Chapel. I think them a nice bunch of Christian people, and we had a nice time.

We are planning to start a meeting in Purdy the last of March. All you who believe in prayer please remember us in prayer.

Your sister in Christ,

Merl Robberson.

### Blue Eye, Mo.

Dear Editor and Readers of the Gem:—If you will give space, I will put my little report in the paper.

I have been reading our wonderful little paper, the Free Will Baptist Gem and can hardly wait from one month to another for our paper.

I was saved one year ago this last February, during a revival at our church, held by Eld. Winford Davis. Bro. Davis is our pastor and we like him fine. I am a member of the Free Will Baptist church and think we have a wonderful little church of Free Will Baptist.

I feel very young and weak in God's sight, but I still keep praying for Him to make me stronger.

As this is my first letter, I will close, asking you all to pray for me.

May God bless our little paper.

Mrs. Stella Humbard.

### Enon, Ark.

Our dear Savior said, "Take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak." What a wonderful saying, and how encouraging. By His help I am going to cast my bread upon the waters, that it may return again.

Oh, how I love Jesus today! I can't see why every one don't love Him, for we know every good gift comes from above. I feel my weakness before God, but I have a determination to follow Him regardless of what may happen, for I

know that Jesus loves even me.

So glad his precious word is so plain that even one like myself can understand it, and I pray this message may not be from me, but from Him that dwelleth in me, for I believe that every really "born again" person has that Christ-like feeling for poor, lost souls. I just want to stay where I can be useful to Christ at all times, and be his humble servant.

I am just praying and waiting on the Lord to send some one here to preach his Word with such power that Christians will be drawn closer to Him, and sinners converted to Christ. We surely need an old-time revival that makes us love everybody. May God hear and answer our prayers, and I am believing with my whole heart that it will be done in God's own good time. We have his never failing promise, that whatsoever we pray for believing we shall receive it, and I just pray that the hindrances, whatever they may be, will be overcome. For "Every way of man is right in his own eyes; but the Lord pondereth the hearts" (Prov. 21:2). We just pray for such an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that people will confess to our dear Lord what they are, and be not against the truth. For "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

I just pray that what I have said won't hinder any one, for I don't want to stand in the way of any one. I just want all the praying people who read this, to ask the Lord to help the Christian people around Enon that are trying to serve God, that he will send some one to pastor our church and feed his sheep here.

May God bless all Gem readers, and honest hearts everywhere, and remember the lost, is my prayer.

Nellie Badley.

#### Purdy, Mo.

Dear Gem Family:—I have not written anything for the good little

Gem, but not because I do not love the paper, for I do love it. I hardly know how I could live without it, for it greatly helps me in my Christian life. I feel so lonely sometimes that I have had to pray and live close to the Lord to get over the trials and troubles in life, and get my children all on the right road, and thank God they are all Christians now. I have two little girls that I am praying for, that just as soon as they find they are in sin, they will get on the Lord's side. Just myself and my two little girls have church at home. They pray and sing with me and are a great help to me.

We sure have a fine little band of willing workers at old Macedonia and it makes me so happy I can't keep still when I see those little boys and girls take a stand for the Lord. I am praying that they will just keep on climbing till they reach the top and stay there.

We sure have a good faithful pastor who is filled with the power of God.

Pray for me and my children, that we may always be at our post of duty. I am determined by the grace of God to make heaven my home. Pray for my husband that he may be saved that we may have a Christian home. I am so happy that I just thank and praise God for what He has done for me.

A woman asked me if I ever received the second blessing. I told her that I had not only received the second blessing, but hundreds of them, and I am praying for the blessing every day and thanking God that He answers my prayers.

Pray for me and my family.

Mrs. Mary Haney.

#### Evangelist's Report Mar. 12th.

I am writing from Foose, in Dallas Co., Mo., and wish to say that since I last reported to the Gem I have been out fighting the devil every day and souls have been saved, and of course the devil is mad, and saying all kinds of mean things.

I closed the meetings at the Buffalo F. W. B. church in Buffalo, Dallas Co., Mo., and went and held a few nights' meeting at our Cedar Ridge church, near Long Lane, Mo. God gave us a good meeting and one professed and joined the church.

Then I went back to Buffalo and preached a few times for our church there, and baptized four more happy converts. Buffalo is the county seat of Dallas Co., Mo.

I am now holding a few nights' meeting at a place called Foose, a few miles from Buffalo, on a rural mail route. The F. W. B. have no church here but the interest is good and we hope that many souls will be saved.

I am still getting subs for the Gem, are you?

Eld. T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist,  
Permanent address, Ash Grove, Mo.

#### Myrtle, Mo., Febr. 24th.

Dear Readers of the Gem:—I will write a few lines for the poor "Undecided" brother, as I feel that each and every Christian should try to give him a word of encouragement. Brother I think the best way to decide is to go to the Lord in prayer, tell Him your troubles and lay all at His feet, doubting nothing, and He will lift you up, for He says in Matt. 5:6, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."

Pray for me,

Your sister in Christ,  
Josie Young.

#### Niangua, Mo.

Dear Gem Readers:—I have been reading the Gem and think it fine. I am not a subscriber but I like to read it because it is filled with the good Lord's Word.

I haven't been walking in the Lord's way very long. I was converted at Amity last fall under Eld. Mike Cleaver's preaching, and joined the F. W. Baptist church at Amity. Eld. Selph Jones is our pastor and I sure like him.

May God bless you all.

Lola Deckard.



## CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Eld. C. E. Mann, "Uncle Charley," Editor.

Greentop, Missouri

### Robin Red Breast

The other morning while Uncle Charley was busy about the duties of the home, his attention was attracted by the singing of a Robin Red Breast whose song of gladness filled the heavens, banished the shadows, and appeared to make the sun shine just a little brighter. While we were admiring his beautiful beautiful song and his spirit of rejoicing, he descended to the earth a few feet from us, and began to feast on some crumbs that had been thrown upon the ground.

While he feasted upon the crumbs, our mind was occupied with the thought of the message Robin Red Breast tried to tell us. First, I think he wanted to tell us how glad he was to get back, because (you see) he had been away on a long journey. Again, he wanted to tell us what a nice time he had away down where the oranges bloom, and every thing was lovely and green, and the sun shone so warm during our winter days. But most of all I think he wanted to tell us how good God had been to him, and that his presence assures us of another springtime, of the singing of birds, of the blooming of flowers, and the presence of life everywhere, and that Easter time was at hand.

Speaking of Easter reminds me that possibly that day will arrive before this little story reaches my boys and girls, and I am just wondering how many of you know why we have Easter, and what the day stands for.

A long time ago the little boys and girls did not have any Easter time, and people were not so glad and happy as today. For a long long time they had looked for some one to come, and just open up the windows in heaven, and let the sun shine right into their lives, and

drive away many of the dark things. Then one day, when they were not looking for it, the Lord just sent Jesus right down here to live with them, and teach them how to live. Not only did he teach them how to live, but he taught them how to die, and before they had time to cry very long, he came right out of the grave. Then he told them, "Because I live, ye shall live also." How glad they were, and since then we have had the Easter time which tries to tell us that Jesus lives, and that he wants to bring into our lives the springtime, the sunshine, the beauty of heaven, and a hope of life beyond the parting of the way. Uncle Charley hopes his boys and girls will try to learn more of the Easter time and enjoy a fullness of the Easter spirit.

Yours for lots of letters next month.  
Uncle Charley.

### Norwood, Mo.

Dear Gem Readers:—I have been reading our wonderful little Free Will Baptist Gem, and surely do enjoy reading it, for it's food to my soul when I read the good letters from our dear Bros and sisters. May the good Lord help everyone to always be at their posts of duty.

I come this morning with a sad and broken heart as I think of my loved ones who have been taken from me. It is sixteen months today since my dear companion was taken from me, and one year since my dear old father was called home, and sisters have been taken. Sometimes I think, "O, how awful it is." Then I go to the One who is able to bear all our burdens and look to Him for help, for I know He knows what is best, and I remember, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." If it wasn't for the faith I

have in my blessed Savior I could never live in this lonesome world.

I am trying to live every day and hour of my life so I will be ready when He calls for me.

I sure am proud of our little paper and sure enjoy reading it. I don't see why every F. W. B. family don't take it.

I am a member of Oak Grove church. Bro. Selph Jones is our pastor, and I feel that he has done lots of good for our church and community. He has preached for us for the last four years.

This is the first I have written to the Gem, but I use to write to the Star for my husband, whom many of you knew.

May God bless all the readers of the Gem, and ask all that know the worth of prayer to pray for me, that I may live a life that will please my blessed Savior.

Mrs. A. J. Barnett.

### Green Forest, Ark.

Dear Gem Family:—We still take the Gem, and think it a fine paper. I feel that I am one of God's weakest servants, but I feel it my duty to help out with the Gem, and help out with God's services.

I wish I could see every unsaved person come to Jesus while they have time and opportunity. They may not always have the privilege of having ministers, fathers, mothers, brothers or sisters to plead with them, and try to help them come to Christ. Although I am weak and young in God's service my aim and prayer is to go on and lead others to Him. Pray for me.

"I heard the voice of Jesus say,

Come unto me and rest;  
Lay down thou weary one lay down  
Thy head upon my breast.

I came to Jesus as I was,  
All weary, worn and sad,  
I found in him a resting place,  
And He has made me glad.

May God bless the Gem Family.

Iva Head.

611 Rutger St., St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Readers of the Gem: I am writing a few lines to let you know we still have our Young People's Union. We had Union Meeting Tuesday night with fair attendance. We are studying the book of Leviticus, and it is pretty hard to understand. Bro. Mansfield recited a good piece of poetry, and we have some good times in our young people's meeting, and our young people have some good talent.

Our Sunday School held business meeting Monday night, but didn't have much business to handle. Easter Program was turned over to our young people, and committee appointed, Harvey Hill, Opal Hughs and Nellie Langley to take care of program Easter Sunday. Our Sunday School is getting along fine, and we are having good crowds.

F. McCauley, S. S. Supt.

#### Chetopa, Kans.

Dear Readers:—May I come in the Spirit of the Lord to try to help the poor "Undecided" one? We know from experience that life must be miserable for one trying to live a life of service, not having the evidence of the Spirit, nor knowing when and where God saved him and spoke peace to his soul, for the Spirit strives with all. When we are convinced that we are lost in the sight of God and seized with a godly sorrow, nothing can give us joy and peace in our hearts but to go in earnest prayer, believing that His promises are true.

Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Ask the Lord in faith believing to save and bless your needy soul, that you may know the hour and the place where your burden rolled away, and you can truthfully say, "Once I was blind in sin, but now I can see that by the glory of His Spirit His Love doth save even me." That we can recall the time and place that His love did save us, is sure. "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou

hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." Paul says, "Be not deceived, God is not mocked." Be sure that His Spirit will bear witness with our spirit when we are saved.

I hope you may trust Him so fully that all doubts will be lifted and the glory of God fill your heart so full that you will shout and praise His name, as it was with me, praise His name for ever.

A sister in Christ,

Malinda Mayfield, Fairview Church

#### Niangua, Mo.

Dear Gem Readers:—I surely do appreciate the Gem, and thank Bro. Jones very much for his kindness in having the Gem sent to our home. We enjoy reading it and think it a fine church paper. Lois Deckard reads my paper whenever she can and thinks it is fine.

Bro. Selph Jones has been our faithful pastor for five years; everybody around Amity likes Bro. Jones. I try to get to church every meeting day.

Lois Deckard wanted to put in a few lines. She says she feels she is one of God's children and wants you all to pray for her, that she may hold out faithful to do her Lord's will

Remember us in prayer.

Miss Mona Johns.

#### Owens, W. Va., Feb. 24th.

(From a letter from J. E. Cooper.)

We are just about holding our own, with some of our churches getting along fine, while others are dragging. We are trying to get a church in Kanawha City, east end of Charleston. We have one in Charleston doing well. We have twelve churches in our Q. Meeting.

J. E. Cooper, Box 171.

#### MYRTLE, MO., March 10th.

Dear Gem Readers:—I have just finished reading the February issue of the Gem, and sure do enjoy reading it. Wish it would come every week, as the weeks are so long that

they seem like months. We have preaching only once a month by our pastor, Eld. H. C. Crase, and we have no Sunday school nor prayer meeting, and it seems like we had moved out of our country.

I have been looking for articles from the subscribers I sent in, but I haven't seen any yet. Would like to know how they like the little Gem. I think it is fine.

I thank God for the fourteen year old boy who has started out to be a worker for the Lord, for more laborers are needed to help advance the cause of Christ. We need preachers today that can preach with the Spirit and the understanding, and can explain the word of God, for without understanding we cannot believe. I am glad I raised my children to attend Sunday school and church, and now they are all Christians and belong to the F. W. B. church.

As I have told you readers of the Gem, two years ago last August I had to give up my husband, and the sixteenth of last April the Lord saw fit to take my little girl, so you see I've had trouble, but I thank the Lord that I have a hope of meeting them again some sweet day by and by. Many times when I lie down at night and close my eyes, I seem to see her as she puts the record on the portable and begins playing, "In a Land where we never grow old." She marches around the table praising the Lord till it stops, then she says, "I don't want to be old." I often wonder why the Lord took her instead of me, for I feel sometimes that I've nothing to live for.

I am with my daughter now, who is awful low. She has been sick for more than a year. I am doing all I can for her and asking the Lord to comfort us in our lonely hours, and to restore her to health if it be His will. I want to ask all you Gem readers that know the worth of prayer to pray for her. She says she is tired of this life, but regrets to leave her little boy who will be six years old April the sixth. He has missed but three days out of an eight months school.

We thank thee our God for parents who have prayed for us; we thank thee for inheritance and training we have from them; may our lives honor their memory as we honor thee. May we never esteem outward ceremony greater than inner duty, or public service above private devotions. Whether we win applause for success or not we may win thy commendation for faithfulness. We shall not wrong our fellow men, but live so close to thee that our deeds will be prompted by thy loving Spirit. When the way is rough and our feet grow weary, and our hearts faint, may we still cling to thy promises, believing that rest will come.—Mrs. M. B. Cockman.

#### MYRTLE, MO.

Readers and Editor of the F. W. B. Gem:—I take pleasure in expressing my gratitude for the Gem, and I enjoy reading its many articles, and reports of evangelists and their success in meetings, and feel that good is being accomplished for the Lord and salvation of souls. I am truly glad to see the report of the Macedonia Gospel Tabernacle on educational industrial work, and hope each one who can will aid in this work that it may prosper over all opposition.

But what I enjoyed most was the comment on Temperance, written by the Missionary Committee of Macedonia Gospel Tabernacle. I believe that not only that Quarterly Meeting, but every Quarterly Conference should have a resolution in favor of Temperance, because the evils of intoxicating liquors have not all stopped yet, and all Christian people should do all they can to keep it on the go until it is banished from our land. So I am hoping and praying that God will bless the work of this committee.

So with this short sketch I think I had better close by wishing the Gem editor and all its readers great success. So hoping the coming year may be one of prosperity and of gathering sheaves and garnering

grain for the Master's use, I pray for a mighty revival to sweep our land and country.

Yours in Christ  
J R W. Harbison,

#### The Promises

By Mrs. O. B. Davis

In this article we desire to take up principally the conditions in which God's promises are fulfilled.

The promises of God fit every condition of life without exception, and God has also given them to us as a means by which *we are to receive* from Him, and they are to be used in dealing with Him.

The Apostle Peter makes this clear in the first chapter of his second epistle, where he informs us that while God's power has already provided all that we need and desire for life and godliness, yet this provision can be received only through His exceeding great and precious promises (2 Peter 1:3-4). Therefore, it is not unreasonable for God to deal with us through His word, for His word represents His person; but the promises are to be used without alteration of any kind. If we do so, we nullify God's promises. Therefore, if the promises are to be of any value to us in this life, we must shut ourselves up with them to deal with God alone through His word.

Isaiah refers to the principle of repentance in the 55th chapter and the 7th verse, and he also shows us that we cannot mix human power or wisdom with the Word or promises of God. Now, if our repentance is not genuine, or if the least bit of human wisdom is mixed with God's promises, as we have already said, they become null and void. But if we are willing to meet God's conditions, which is forsaking our thoughts and ways, God promises that His *word* will not return unto Him void.

#### "Free Will Baptist"

By Miss Linnie McCoy

That's my Church! I'm proud

of it. There I place my interest, give of my time and receive spiritual inspiration. My Church ministers to my spiritual comfort, and points the way to higher goals in life. I love my church.

No one shall rob me of the positive belief I hold for my Church. People may come and go, members may criticise and withdraw, finances may be near the rocks, opportunities may beckon more largely elsewhere, but I care not. That is my Church.

It is the agency which means more to me than anything else. It is the church of my fathers. I trust it will be the church of my children's children. It is the institution that embodies all of men's heroic strivings throughout the years. I shall add my bit, and trust that it may pass on, its golden tradition slightly enriched.

That's my Church. There I find my friends. They may not be of the earth's fashionable society, but they radiate the joy of Christlike discipleship. I see through them a purpose for my life. I trust they see through me the working of the Master.

That's my church, for better or for worse. It permits me to serve wherein I am capable. Why waste my time in wishing for a larger and more effective place to serve mankind. In the presence of Jesus, all this petty striving for position becomes funny. If I can urge a young man to keep his ideals, or inspire that young woman who has been wondering if it is worth while to keep up the eternal struggle for purity, or reveal God to that friendless soul groping blindly in the dark—then am I well repaid.

I care not whether my Church is a sod shanty on the plains, or a majestic building in the great city, it's my church and I love it. No one shall separate me from it. Somewhere in my church there is a place for me. I'll fill it and be happy in service for my Master:

ElDorado, Kansas.

### The Gem In Missouri

As we announced last month, we expect to move in April, so there will be no paper for May. With packing, moving, etc., April will be a busy month for us; so we'll have no time to print the paper.

We will have some job printing, including a small set of minutes, to put out after we get the Gem out for April, but we expect to get our stuff packed and loaded out, and be in Purdy by April 20th. After April 15th mail should be addressed to us at Purdy, Mo.

As we work and plan, looking forward to our work as we expect to take up our work in Missouri, we get a vision of a greater work—a bigger, better paper with a greater circulation, and more job printing.

The Gem may be good enough so far as it goes, but we all know that it lacks something of being all it ought to be, in order that it shall fully serve our denomination in the accomplishment of greater things. But with our present office force and equipment we can do no more than we have been doing. We know, therefore, that we need a linotype.

From outward appearances, financially considered, we are not justified in moving to Missouri, for our present income doesn't pay expenses, yet we are moving believing that we'll have better support in Mo.

However much you may appreciate the Gem, you know that it should be larger and contain much that it does not at present and, since your editor can do no more than he has been doing, the Free Will Baptist of Mo. must do something to improve and enlarge our paper to fill a larger place in a greater work. If you don't realize this, it is time you should wake up.

Our greatest need is a linotype. With a good linotype one can set as much type in one hour as one can set by hand in eight hours. As many of you know, the State Ass'n agreed to buy a linotype and elected the editor to go out and raise the money, and it is about time to start raising it. Send money for this to Eld. Winford Davis, R1, Monett, Mo.

### The Call of Moses

(Continued from page 2)

Hebrews—think of the opportunity he has lost, and what a privilege he has thrown away."

He had dropped from the public mind for forty years, and they did not know what had become of him, but God had His eye upon him. He was the very man, of all others, that God wanted and when he met God with that question, "Who am I?" it did not matter who he was, but who his God was.

When men learn the lesson, that they are nothing and God is everything, then there is not a position in which God cannot use them. It was not Moses who accomplished the great work of redemption, he was only the instrument in God's hand. God could have spoken to Pharaoh without Moses, He could have spoken in a voice of thunder, and broken the heart of Pharaoh with one speech, if He had wanted to, but He condescended to take up a human agent and to use him. He could have sent Gabriel down, but He knew that Moses was the one to send, so He called him.

God uses men to speak to men. He works through mediators, He could have accomplished the exodus of the Children of Israel in a flash, but instead, He chose to send a lonely, despised shepherd to work out His purpose through pain and disappointments. That was God's way in the Old Testament; also in the New Testament. He sent His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be the Mediator between God and man.

Moses went on making excuses, and said, "When I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, \* \* they will not believe me." I suppose he remembered how he went before he was sent and he was afraid of another failure, so he lost confidence in himself. It is a good thing to lose confidence in ourselves that we may gain confidence in God. The Lord said unto him, "I AM hath sent me unto you." And Moses seemed to draw back and be-

gan to make excuse, saying, "They will not believe me." He was afraid of the Israelites as well as Pharaoh. He knew how hard it is to get even your friends to believe in you.

God told Moses that they would believe him that he would succeed and bring the children of Israel out of bondage, but he seemed even to distrust God who had spoken to him. Then the Lord said, "What is that in thine hand?" He had a rod or staff a sort of shepherd's crook, and he said, "A rod." And the Lord showed Moses that with his rod he should deliver the children of Israel, and that by it he should make them believe that the Lord had sent him. When God linked Himself with that rod it was worth more than all the armies the world has ever seen. Look and see how that rod did its work. It brought up the plague of flies and the thunder storm, and turned the water into blood. It was not Moses, however, nor his rod, that did the work, but it was the God of the rod, the God of Moses; as long as God was with him he could not fail.

Sometimes it looks as if God's servants fail. When Herod beheaded John the Baptist, it looked as if John's mission was a failure, but was it? The voice that rang through the Jordan valley, rings through the whole world today. You can hear its echo upon the mountains and down the valleys yet: "He must increase, but I must decrease." He held up Jesus Christ and introduced Him to the world, and Herod had no power to behead him until his life's work had been accomplished. Stephen never preached but one sermon that we know of and that was before the Sanhedrin, but how that sermon has been preached again and again all over the world. Out of his death probably came Paul the greatest preacher the world has ever known since Christ left this earth. If a man is sent by Jehovah there is no such thing as failure. Was Christ's life a failure? See how His parables are going in earth today.

(To be continued)

## "Ye Must Be Born Again"

(Continued from page one)

will speak to you when the angry troubled waves compass you about, a voice of love in time of sorrow or distress, and when the roaring billows foam around you there will be a still, small voice saying *Peace, be still.*

"Has Jesus come to abide in your life? After *Jesus* comes to abide, the rosebush of glory will be shaken over your head, and God will pour out upon you blessings you would never receive had you rejected the "blood of Jesus. You will receive blessings manifold in this world; and in the world to come, *life everlasting!* Oh, to have a *home* in heaven where all is joy, and where sorrow and sickness and crying shall pass away, where loved ones will again be reunited, and death shall be no more!

"What will you do with Jesus?" The work of redemption was finished at the *cross*. The great sin question was settled. It is *now* the *Son* question. What will you do with this man who is called Christ?

There is pardon for the guilty, and the price has been paid. You can meet Christ *now* as your *Savior*; or meet him after *death* as your *judge*. "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). There is no way of getting away from the question which is before you, *What will you do with Jesus?*

The above question does not mean, Have you joined the church? It does not mean, Have you been baptized, or Are you doing the best you can? No, it is a Divine, Living Person, the Son of God that is before you.

You had better plead guilty to the charges which are against you, and have this matter settled now. Tomorrow may be too late. You have no assurance of another moment of your life—not even the next breath, and remember when your *soul* goes out to meet God, you must give an account to him for the sins you have committed.

Stop, just a moment! You live in a frame that is perishable—think about it—you are only as a shadow! But what about your *soul*? Have you made preparation for the Great Beyond?

What will you do with Jesus? *He died for you.* Will you crucify him afresh? Will you help to drive the nails through his dear hands again? Will you help to pierce his bleeding heart again with the sword? Would you help the sinful, cruel mob who spit in his face and mocked and scourged him to torture him again? Are you guilty of helping to place *anew* a wreath of cruel, cutting, piercing thorns upon the head of glory? If you have rejected the "blood of Jesus" as your Savior, if you will not listen to the *divine living being of Jesus*, the voice of your Lord, if you will not heed—You are guilty! You stand before God *guilty*. What will you do with Jesus? He stands waiting, waiting, speaking to you. Will you hear his voice? or will you turn away with deaf ears and say, "Some other time."

"Some other time" may never come, but death is sure.

What will you do with Jesus? We must answer this question as individuals, because God has proved the whole world *guilty*, both Jew and Gentile (Rom. 3:9). "That every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God" (Rom. 3:19). But Jesus at the cross met every just and holy claim God had against sin and the sinner. "He was wounded for *our* transgressions, he was bruised for *our* iniquities \* \* All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isa. 53:5-6). God will, sooner or later, bring every individual as well as the whole earth to a strict account, as to the treatment of his dear Son. What will you do *then* with Jesus? (John 1,12; 14:6)

What will I do with Jesus which is called the Christ *the Son*

*of the living God?* This great question confronts you. Have you been *born again?*

A little girl stood at Daddy's knee: "Papa," a small voice said, "Sunday is the day I will put in my birthday pennies at Sunday School. Now, Papa, you surely will go with me then, won't you?"

The father of the child hung his head, but at last he said, "Well Betty Jean, I would like to go, but the church is no place for me."

The little girl stood looking into the face of her father. "Why, papa! our Sunday School teacher told us that *Jesus* loves us all, and that even the man that was lame, *Jesus* healed, and she said that if Papa did drink whiskey, that *Jesus* loves him anyway, and could *save* little children's Papas who drink. Oh, *please*, Papa, go just this Sunday, for they all want you to come, and I do so much want you to go for my teacher said I would get a nice little card as a birthday remembrance. Will you go with me, Papa?"

"Well, papa will study it over, Betty Jean, maybe I will go with you." The father promised her in this way, but in his heart he did *not* intend to go.

But God knew his heart. God can see through the human frame at a glance. God was merciful to this man, *Jesus* died to save his soul, and it was through the lips of this little girl that God spoke to this man.

Sunday morning came, but little Betty Jean lay sick and pale. Would those little feet patter away to Sunday School? There was a tug of sorrow clutching at that man's heart. Was that really the little girl with the silken curls that stood at Daddy's knee? He could hear her voice saying, "Sunday is the day I will give my pennies at Sunday School, will you *please* promise to go with me, Papa? The word "Papa" was gnawing at his heart. O no, that could not be his little Betty Jean so sick as that, so soon!

Why only a few brief hours had come and gone, since she had stood at his knee. But now, now—Betty Jean was calling, "Papa."

"What is it, darling? Papa would do anything for you. What is it?"

"Oh, Papa dear, lift me up out of the shadows. It's getting so dark around me. Where is mother?"

"All right, little Betty Jean, papa would do anything for you. I will lift you up."

"Papa, lift me a little higher, for I am still in the shadows."

"All right, darling, papa will do anything for you."

"Papa, it's getting brighter now. Just hold me where I am."

"But now, Papa, lift me just a little higher. It's getting brighter all the time, and I can see Jesus! Her little soul was gone. Jesus took her away to yonder's garden in the skies."

The father laid down the lifeless form of his dear little girl that said, "Oh, Papa, won't you *please* go with me to Sunday School?"

God knew this man's heart. He had no time for God. He would not give God his time nor his respect. But just at the hour when he could have gone to Sunday School, to have made happy the heart of little Betty Jean, he took time to *reach to Jesus* his little girl!

Sinner Friend, will you give your heart to Jesus? Have you time for God? If not, you will some day reach to him something you love, you will take time to do that. If your heart has not been broken by the cruel death of Jesus, it may be broken by the death of your child. Have you considered the cost?

Sin, when it is reaped, brings death. This father rebelled and said in his heart, "I do not intend to go to church. I have no time for that. Some other time, perhaps I might go."

But little Betty Jean went out to meet Jesus. Papa could not go with

her to the beautiful land of heaven, but he could have gone to church and Sunday School with her.

The pennies little Betty Jean did not need now. She had given her own little self to Jesus instead of the pennies. And while over yonder in the streets of heaven little Betty Jean played with the other children, a father knelt by the side of her precious, lifeless body. Little Betty Jean was gone, but some day papa would go to her. His voice could be heard saying, "Oh, God, be merciful to me once more, *once more*."

God had offered him mercy, but he had refused. Now God had let judgment fall, by the cost of his little girl. And God heard his cries, for by the lifeless form of his child, Jesus came to bring salvation, and a *hope* of joy, that some day over yonder he would hear his little girl again say, "Papa!" But, Oh, how many heartaches we could avoid if we would listen to the voice of Jesus.

Now the father could hear the voice of Jesus. Now he had time to listen, and he answered the question and settled it by the side of his lifeless child, "What shall I do with Jesus?"

Will you turn Jesus away until the cost will be so bitter as this man's was, before you will answer this same question? Will it be by the side of a precious, lifeless body in your home that you will settle this question, "What shall I do with Jesus? You must settle this question somewhere. If it is not in this world, it will be in the next, *at the judgment bar of God*."

This question, dear reader, comes to you with force and reality. Will you answer it today? Don't wait until tomorrow, for it may be too late. (Psalms 32:10) "Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about."

What will you do with Jesus? Settle this question *now*, while the door of mercy is open.

## We Should Watch Conversation

(Continued from page 5)

success in reaching the goal which we are all striving for, to really watch our words, for unto God our words are all known. Our words are an index to the feelings of our hearts.

Just what results will there be from backbitings and such like evils? In God's word we read that we should love our neighbor as ourselves, also we should love each other as He has loved us. "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed, one of another." Gal. 5:15.

Backbiting can be controlled by our walking uprightly, and speaking the truth *in our hearts*. "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

As a guard against the misuse of the power of speech, therefore, for what should we pray? "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, keep the door of my lips" (Psalms 141:3).

The vow that David took against offences of the tongue was, "I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue. I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me" (Ps. 39:1). This would be an excellent vow for us to make, for according to the Scriptures, there is much stress put upon the controlling of the tongue.

We should say nothing of a person in his absence that we should be unwilling to say in his presence.

How wonderful it is for our words to be "fitly spoken, for they are 'like apples of gold in pictures of silver'" (Proverbs 25:11).

In conclusion I want to say a word in behalf of our "Gem" I think it an excellent paper. I certainly do enjoy reading it. I enjoy reading the reports of the many Leagues, also the revivals which have been held in the past few months. It makes our hearts rejoice to hear of the many souls being brought to Christ.

May God bless each effort which is put forth for Him.

## Obituary

**Jones**—Susana Calton Jones, daughter of Noah and Mary Calton, was born in Wright County, Mo., July 18, 1855, and departed this life February 1, 1930, being 74 years, 6 months and 13 days old.

She professed faith in the Lord January 18, 1877, and soon after united with Park's Creek F. W. B. Church which is now Mt. Zion No. 3, in which she remained a faithful member all the way through life.

She was married to J. D. Jones, May 13, 1877. To this union were born twelve children, three of whom died in infancy. Those living are Mrs. Enie Dunn, Mrs. Martha Hichman, Mrs. Ava Young, Noah and Emmett, all of Hartville, Missouri; Mrs. Thula McCubin, Conway, Mo.; Mrs. Zilpha Young, Bronaugh, Mo.; Mrs. Effie Richardson, Vanzant, Mo.; and Selph Jones, Mansfield, Mo.

She was old fashioned enough to believe and accept the Bible, and to put her whole trust in an all-wise merciful God. She was modern enough to stand for all things that meant for better individuals, better homes and better communities.

Her life was really Christ-like. No one could doubt that she had been with Him, and continued to walk with Him from day to day. The life that she has lived is a monument of transparent gold, towering heavenward, that will stand all storms, and fire cannot destroy it, for it was fashioned by the hand of God.

We think her ideals were her home and the Church. How she loved her home! What love for her family! What tenderness beaming from that life! Angels, give us words that we may praise the heaven given virtues of our precious mother.

She leaves to mourn their loss a loving husband, nine children, thirty-five grandchildren, five brothers and two sisters, and a host of other relatives and friends; but she

has gone to be with father, mother, brothers, sisters, children, friends, and Jesus who have gone on before.

Her going has pierced our hearts causing a wound that only heaven can heal; but we will turn aside from the roughness of the way and look forward to the end, when we shall see her again.—The Family.

### In Memoriam

On Monday, February 24, 1930, Elder Richard Henry Emerson, after a short illness, departed this life to be with Christ. No better man ever lived than Bro. Emerson. He died as he had lived, in the triumphs of a living faith.

All that medical skill could devise was exerted in his behalf, to relieve suffering and for his recovery, but to no avail. The loving, tender care of a faithful companion and his children, and the ministrations of a trained nurse were gladly and patiently given, but Bro. Emerson's work on earth was done and, no doubt, the presence of the death angel was revealed to his enraptured soul, for he told the anxious watchers around his bedside that he would not recover. Doubtless he heard the Master's voice, saying, "Well done my faithful servant, come up higher."

Bro. Emerson had been a consecrated, loyal minister in the Free Will Baptist church for many years. I became acquainted with him many years ago when he was soliciting funds to build a church in Sulphur, Okla. Through his zeal and efforts we now have a neat building 40x60 feet, and preaching every Sunday. On the second Sunday in February it was the writer's privilege to hear the last sermon that Bro. Emerson ever preached, from the text, "O God, my heart is fixed."

At the time of his death Bro. Emerson was 68 years and 21 days of age. He was born in Montague County, Texas, February 3, 1862.

He had been married twice. To

the first union, with Martha Elizabeth Robbins, there were five children born, four of whom are now living. In 1895, at Roff, Oklahoma, he was united in marriage to Letha Brawley, who has been his faithful companion for thirty-five years, and who remains to mourn his loss. He leaves also a step son, Mr. Brawley of Oklahoma City, and a step daughter, Mrs. Ollie Johnson of Ft. Worth, Texas, and an only brother.

His loved ones with hundreds of sympathizing friends attended the funeral service at the family home, which was conducted by Elder T. J. Townsend. The remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Roff.

In that land where we'll never grow old, in that home of the soul, we'll meet our dear brother some sweet day.—William G. Merritt.

**Emerson**—Please allow me space in the Gem to announce the death of our pastor, Eld. R. H. Emerson. He was the founder of the Free Will Baptist church of Sulphur, Okla.

He died at his home in Sulphur, February 24, 1930. He preached his last sermon in the church he built. He took sick in the pulpit and they took him home, where he was seized with pneumonia and died in a few days.

He was 68 years old, and his place at the church was never vacant when it was at all possible for him to be there.

His funeral was conducted by Eld. T. J. Townsend of Wetumka, and the body was laid to rest in the Roff Cemetery.

Dear friend, thou hast left us  
And your loss we deeply feel;  
When in heaven we shall meet you,  
Then our sorrows all will heal.  
Written by Mrs. D. E. Clark.

—o—

Will some one please send the December issue of the Gem to my address? It will be much appreciated Mrs. D. E. Clark, R4, Chickasha, Okla.



## Information

The Gem office is well prepared to do your job printing, and that at prices that are right.

We do minute work in first class shape, and want your work.

We print letterheads, envelopes, cards, circulars, posters, etc

Ask us for samples of any work you are interested in, and get our prices; perhaps we can make you better prices than you can get elsewhere. Give your publishing house a chance to do your job printing; it will help us to meet our expenses.

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Treatise of the Faith and Usages of the Free Will Baptist, 25c each, postpaid.

### Repentance

"Lord remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom."

Paradise is a place where all disembodied souls of departed Christian friends have gone to await the resurrection, while the body moulders back to mother earth awaiting the call of God to come forth clothed with immortality and eternal life. Now if Jesus fulfilled His promise to the thief on the cross that, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise," he was not in prison preaching repentance to the lost of the antediluvian world as some would have it, which would give them a chance to repent and accept Jesus as their Savior. If that was fact, God would be under obligations according to His just law to send Jesus to the lost of all ages, and if that be so, there never would be a soul eternally lost, because every soul sentenced to damnation would hasten with all possible speed to accept this chance of salvation. But not so; this is one of Satan's ways of deceiving men and keeping them from repenting in this life. He knows that, if he can get men to believe this lie, they are forever lost.

Neither does the millennium mean a chance to repent after death as some teach it does. Men must repent in this life or they will be forever lost. As death finds you, so will the judgment find you.

So paradise is not a place in which to repent, because the soul and body must be together in order to repent. At death the soul goes to paradise and the body to the grave, so a separation of soul and body is brought about. That is

what death means and not annihilation. There they await the resurrection and after the resurrection the righteous will go into eternal happiness, but those that do not repent in this life will go into eternal punishment.

Eld W. F. Millard.

### "Poor, Yet Rich"

Dear Readers of the Gem: I am just a poor farmer boy, yes, just a boy, though I've tried most all kinds of work, including farming. I live on a farm and try to make a living by farming, but it seems that I make a complete failure of everything I undertake. As I said, I am poor, yet I consider myself rich: not in this world's goods. No! but I have lots of wealth from above. There are more riches sent from Heaven than are found here upon earth.

I have opportunities, privileges, welcome, and some people even hold the will of salvation, which entitles them to inherit eternal happiness and joy in that sweet home of the soul. God gives me opportunities to accept Him and His blessing and to worship and praise Him. He gives me the privilege to enjoy life if I choose: and I am welcomed to eat at His table and feast upon His love. I hope soon to feel that I am in possession of that will which entitles me to a sweet home in Heaven.

The Lord gives us strength, and He shields us from dangers seen and unseen. All these blessings and helps are worth more to us than gold, if we would just think so.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt" (Matt. 6:19)

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33).

This earth is not a place to lay up wealth. No, not at all. It is only a dressing place in which to prepare for that great final place of happiness—Heaven.

Now you can see why I am poor, yet rich.

"Destitute, yet Abundantly Rich."