

The Free Will Baptist Gem

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

Vol. 18. No. 8.

Monett, Missouri, August, 1947.

\$1.00 per year.

The Second Coming of Christ

By Gweneth Talley, Aurora, Mo.

Text:—"Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:1-3).

This is one of the grandest themes in the Bible, THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST. This subject is very important, and is referred to many times in the Old Testament, and more than three hundred times in the New Testament.

Many of the modern preachers of today seldom refer to this subject. Many bold sermons were preached in times past in regard to our Lord's return, by the great evangelists, Moody, Spurgeon, Calvin, Luther, and others. Today the world is in need as never before of these great soul-stirring messages. This should be one of the great themes of all ministers of today.

Christ's return is a necessity. The gospel work must be finished. (Matt. 24:14; Matt. 28:18-20). The glorious Gospel tidings, "Jesus is coming again," is to be spread around the circle of the earth. This cheering message brings the same joy to the aching heart of the mourner by the open grave in foreign lands as it does to us in our own country.

The second coming of Christ is just as important as His first coming. The second coming climaxes His first advent. The plan of salvation cannot be completed until Jesus has gathered His redeemed.

In the world's condition of sin and self-destruction of today, there can

be but one way out, no way except upward. Only a Savior from heaven can deliver us.

Jesus' second coming is to take us from this land of sin and sorrow to a better land (John 17:24).

Jesus' coming again is the only solution of the world's great economic problems (Jas. 5:1-9). James describes the strife between employers and employees as it is so clearly seen today. Our only hope is that, "the coming of the Lord draweth nigh."

Disease and mortality conditions now prevailing necessitate a Deliverer from sickness and the grave, without which there would be no hope of eternal life (Phill. 3:20-21; 1 Cor. 15:52; Rev. 1:18).

None but Christ has ever been able to solve death's mystery. He is the only one that has ever been able to bring the dead to life. He is our only hope of life beyond the grave (1 Cor. 15:16-20). The second coming of Christ is necessary if we are to rise from the grave.

Matthew 24:24, 25—Jesus forewarned us here of false prophets and false Christs, who would deceive many. Let us carefully study God's Word, that we be not deceived. In the study of the Old Testament we find many of the old prophets and inspired writers believed in the second coming of Christ. Isaiah, a dear old man of God, believed in the second coming of Christ (Isa. 25:8-9).

Enoch believed in the Lord's return (Jude 14).

Job, one of the earliest of Bible characters, believed in the literal coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Job 19:25-27). God revealed to David the coming of our Lord

In the New Testament we find Paul, a messenger to the Gentiles, who never saw Jesus while He was on earth, preaching and teaching the second coming of Christ (2 Thess. 2:2; 3; Phill. 3:20; Titus 2:13). Paul was a firm believer in the literal coming of Jesus.

Peter was also one who thought it worth while to bear all the trials and opposition one must face in preaching the second coming of Christ (1 Peter 1:7).

John (who, we are told outlived all the other disciples), did not waver in his faith in Jesus' coming again (Rev. 22:12-20).

Jesus' second coming will command world-wide attention. As He went away in the clouds, His ascension was literal, personal, bodily, visible; so shall He return in like manner. (Acts 1:9-11; Matt. 26:64; 24:27; and Luke 9:26).

Every eye shall behold Him, even the lost shall see Him (Rev. 1:7; Matt. 24:30; Rev. 6:14-17).

He will come at an hour when the world, or the wicked, are not expecting Him; and they shall mourn.

Just prior to our Lord's return many scoffers and mockers shall be found among professed believers. Many will be lulled into a false sense of security by these false teachers (2 Peter 3:3, 4; Matt. 24:48; 25:5-6).

Only two classes of people will be found at the coming of our Lord: The saved and the lost. With which group will you be when Jesus comes?

The saved: Those who will exclaim, "Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us, this is the Lord: we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His Salvation."

The lost: Those who will cry out, "Rocks and mountains, fall on us and hide us from Him that sitteth upon the throne."

The Free Will Baptist Gem, Organ of Missouri State Association

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Eld. Sherman H. Oakes, Editor.
Eld. B. F. Brown, Acting Editor.

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REPORT NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSION TREASURER GIVEN BY STATES

Bro't forward from June.....	\$2,133.23
Rec'd by States during July as follows:	
North Carolina	\$556.87
Missouri	428.33
Illinois	181.22
Alabama	119.65
South Carolina	100.00
Oklahoma	65.65
Texas	62.68
Tennessee	47.47
Mississippi	26.31
Georgia	23.07
New Mexico	20.00
Michigan	15.00
Arkansas	9.90
Virginia	6.99
Kentucky	1.00
Taken in by Bro. Willey and designated for Cuba.....	374.73
Offering at Nat'l Ass'n.....	291.80
National Aux. Convention....	166.27
Received from sale of books titled "His Name Among All Nations".....	83.00
Rec'd as gift for paper.....	1.00
Total	\$2,583.05
Grand total	4,716.34
Disbursements for July.....	1,909.38

Bal. in treasury Aug. 1, 1947, 2,806.96
Winford Davis, Treasurer.

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724 Rinker Ave., AURORA, MO.
August 1, 1947.

Dear Gem Editor:
Since I thought it might interest your readers to hear a report from the Aurora F. W. B. Church, I am sending one in.
We closed a three weeks revival

last Saturday night, with Rev. Bert Hall from Springfield as evangelist. Bro. Hall did much good in stirring up the Christians, and there were five conversions, and eight new members were added to the church. The word was preached with much power, and Bro. Chris Haley was a good song leader. Our little pianist, Norma Lou Barnes, 12 years old, was so faithful in coming to play for us, besides we had some fine specials by different groups. We wish to thank all who helped us out so willingly.

Rev. John Mace of Springfield will pastor our church three Sundays a month, and Bro. Earl Bandy will preach the remainder of the time. He is one of our new members.

A business meeting will be held Saturday night, August 2, for electing new church officers and delegates to the Association. Rev. John Mace will be our moderator then.

—Mrs. O. B. Hughes, Reporter.

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WANTED IMMEDIATELY

Fifty churches that will take the support of one student each in the Cuban School of Missions during this coming school year at \$15.00 per month per student. The Director over the Cuban field, Rev. Thomas H. Willey, says there will be approximately fifty students this next term. They must have more funds with which to operate the school, and the treasury is not in a condition for us to advance any more money than what we have been paying. If we could get churches or auxiliaries to take the support of the students at \$15.00 each per month it would solve the problem. If you will take a student, write and let us know. You will be furnished a picture of your student together with their testimony, and you will send the money in to the treasurer each month designated for that purpose. If we can get a sufficient number of churches to adhere to this plan, it will keep the Cuban School going in nice shape. Remember we want this done in addition to what your church is already doing for missions. If it is not done then there is no use to do it. It would be of no help after all. Why not let us hear from you telling us you will take the support of one student?
—Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.

Old Time Religion

By Rev. Sherman H. Oakes

West Gastonia, North Carolina.

"But I certify to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man, for I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ"—Galatians 1:11-12.

INTRODUCTION

When we speak of the old time religion, we do not mean in the common acceptance of the term; what we do mean is salvation—old fashioned Holy Ghost regeneration. To the average person, religion and salvation are synonymous terms. A person may be ever so religious and know nothing of salvation. Many think because they have adopted the Christian philosophy of life, and believe the Bible contains the word of God that they are saved.

It is easy to take emotion for salvation. All heathen and false religions have feelings in their services, in their rituals, and ceremonies. See how Israel had feelings worshipping the golden calf, an Egyptian idol. They were shouting so loud that Moses heard them while he was away up on the mountain. Salvation is based on fact, and that fact is the plain word of God.

RELIGIOUS BUT LOST

"Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? Then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matt. 7:22, 23). How tragic, going through life, living a religious life, and doing religious work, and all the time thinking, because of these, he or she, is saved; and finally hearing the Lord say, "I never knew you."

The following Scripture makes clear the condition of many religious people: "For I bear them record that have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that be-

lieveth" (Romans 10:2-4).

The self-righteous philosophy is contrary to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Gospel says: "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8, 9).

WHAT IS OLD TIME RELIGION?

It is the divinely revealed plan of God. He will not recognize any other plan. His word reveals how we may be saved, and on what ground or condition. Paul said: "The gospel that was preached of me is not after man, for I neither received it of man, neither was taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." We need a new generation of preachers who will stand up and preach the old time gospel despite other and new gospels. Yes, despite the philosophy of men or modern psychology, and the babbling of modernistic preachers. We need to call men to repentance, and faith in the shed blood of Christ, God's only and all-sufficient remedy for sin. **THE OLD TIME RELIGION IS HEART FELT RELIGION**

"He that believeth on the Son of God, hath the witness in himself." (John 5:10.) "And because ye are sons, God hath sent the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba Father" (Gal. 4:6). The Holy Spirit which is the Spirit of Christ, comes into the heart of the penitent by faith; and we are adopted into the family of God. Paul makes this clear in Romans 8:15, 16, we read, "For we have not received the spirit of bondage, again to fear; but the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry Abba Father. The Spirit beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."

THE OLD TIME RELIGION

CENTERS IN A PERSON

Salvation is not in works, not in character, not in morality, not in externals of religion. It is in a Person, the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul said, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." Note, Paul said, "Whom I have believed."

Not what, not what I am, not what I have done. It depends on knowing whom we have believed.

When Mary took Jesus into the Temple, the Prophet Simeon took Him in his arms, and said, "Now Lord, let thy servant depart in peace; for I have seen thy salvation." The Lord Jesus Christ through His atonement is God's salvation for all who will believe on Him as their personal Savior. Christ said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me." Get your eyes and minds off everything else, and depend on Him.

THE OLD TIME RELIGION RESTS ON THREE GREAT FACTS

The atonement of Christ is the first great fact. "He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor. 5:21). The righteousness of God, saves and keeps because it is not our merit. It is wholly the meritorious work of Christ's blood. He took our place, bore our sins, paid the penalty, for us. Modernistic and self-righteous preachers say, we are saved by imitating the beautiful life of Christ. If that is your hope, you have no hope; because it cannot be said of you as it was of Him: "In Him I find no fault."

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the second great fact. His resurrection is God's witness, that he is the Son of God; the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world—the capstone of God's plan of salvation. He lives and resurrects those that are dead in trespasses and sins; and lives in their hearts by faith. He is the incorruptable seed, the eternal principle, that works to produce consecration, and the maintenance of good works.

The intercession of Christ is the third great fact. "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." (Hebrews 7:25.) The word "Uttermost" means, in every battle, in every trial, in every temptation and sin; it means every step of the way until I am safe in glory. That is why Paul said, "He is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." What a glorious salvation, we do not

do the saving, we do not do the keeping, we just do the letting. We simply receive. Our faith is an empty hand that reaches out and receives. That is eternal life. It is a gift that is offered without money or merit. "The gift of God is eternal life." Any preaching short of this is not the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

PROGRAM FOR MISSOURI STATE AUXILIARY CONVENTION

MONDAY NIGHT

Theme: "Exalt ye the Lord our God and worship at His foot stooi."
(Psalm 99:5)

Watch Word: "Exalt ye the Lord."

7:30—Hymn, "Lift Him Up."

Devotional . . . Mrs. Thelma Louis

Hymn, "Help Somebody Today."

Special Music

7:45—Organization and appointment of committees.

8:00—Hymn, "Make Me a Channel of Blessing."

Convention Message by Mrs. Marie Hyatt. Alternate, Misalta Mikel.

9:00—Benediction.

TUESDAY MORNING

9:30—Devotional, Thora Arbogast.
Scripture reading, Matt. 25:14-30.
Hymn, "Jesus Calls Us."

9:45—Fellowship Greeting by State Moderator, Eld. O. T. Allred & others.

10:00—President's Message by Mrs. Marie Hyatt.

10:15—Exalt ye the Lord through Enlistment . . . Mrs. Jewel Campbell

Exalt ye the Lord through Christian Education, Mrs. Evelyn Alyea

Exalt ye the Lord through Missions by Mrs. Verdeen Bingham.

Exalt ye the Lord through Stewardship, . . . Miss Melba White

Exalt ye the Lord through Personal Service . . . Gussie Hamblien

10:45—Seating of the delegates.

Report of National Women's Conv.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Appreciation Committee.

Report of Obituary Committee.

Report of Pusiness Committee.

Report of Nominating Committee.

Election of delegates to the National Women's Convention.

Miscellaneous Business.

Reading of the Minutes.

—Mrs. Roy Alyea, Monett, Mo.

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT OF W. N. A. C.

Mrs. Marie Hyatt, Centerview, Missouri

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the Lord our God is holy.

As born-again Christians it is our duty to glorify God by praise, good works, fruit-bearing, spiritual unity, and entire consecration. May we go forward as co-laborers in spiritual unity—"That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. To obtain spiritual unity there must be an entire consecration in the heart and life of every member of our Auxiliary organization. Then, good works and fruit-bearing will be produced by our activity for the Lord. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." —Matt. 5:16. "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit"—John 15:18.

With God as our great leader, let us go forward throughout this coming year and do greater things for him. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

The following is a list of the officers of our W. N. A. C. Please keep them in remembrance when you pray. Also, they want to serve you in the Lord's service—our auxiliary work.

President—Mrs. Marie Hyatt, Centerview, Missouri.

First Vice President—Mrs. Alice Childers, Lucasville, Ohio.

Second Vice President—Mrs. Melvin Bingham, 1904 S. Central Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Third Vice President—Mrs. Gertrude Ballard, Middlesex, N. Carolina.

Fourth Vice President—Mrs. Hubert B. Sloan, 128 Pasadena, Highland Park, Michigan.

Fifth Vice President—Mrs. J. B. Bloss, 311 W. 15th St., Columbia, Tenn.
Executive Secretary-Treas.—Mrs. Huey Gower, 3716 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. J. E. Frazier, 1624 Cahal Ave., Nashville 6, Tenn.
Ass't Recording Sec'y—Mrs. Alice E. Lupton, 612 New St., New Bern, N. C.

As your president, I feel a deep need of prayer on my behalf. I do desire to serve our women to the best of my ability with the Lord's help. Whenever I can be of any assistance to you, feel free to call upon me. I shall be happy to serve you. I love the women of our work. We're trusting that this year will be the greatest in the history of our W. N. A. C.

"I have seen the vision

And for self I cannot live;

Life is less than worthless

Until my all I give." —Oswald J. Smith.

Note—My address is Centerview, Mo. at present, but will be Greentop, Mo. after September 1, 1947.

AN EXTENSION CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

During the recent session of our National Association an extension campaign was launched in the interest of our missionary program. If you will help us put this campaign over the top it will be one of the greatest achievements ever in the history of Free Will Baptist missions. It is a settled and known fact that we are going to have to do something in the interest of missions which we have not done before. Our fine young people are presenting themselves to us, bringing us as a denomination face to face with the greatest challenge we have ever met. Yes, I say it again, the greatest challenge we have ever met. From this hour forward we must enlarge, or we go backward. We must enter in upon a gigantic missionary program, or else we fail. No, we are not going to fail. We have fallen on this plan of expansion as presented here so as to enable

YOUR WINGS

By Sherman H. Oakes

POWER OF IMAGINATION

The power of imagination should not be used FRIVOLOUSLY—Everything was first created in the imagination—Not a Toy for Fantastical Play—Mould Your Future.

Most folks think of imagination lightly; even as a faculty entirely frivolous. That is a great mistake. It can be used frivolously, yet it is most sensible and useful; and one of the great abilities of thought. Your thought determines the value of imagination to you, as thought produces pictures in the mind, useful or useless, depending on the direction you give your thinking.

Everything you see thought pictured it in the image room of the mind of God and man; and after the imagination filmed the picture, thought force directed by will created it in reality. Look at the great buildings of architectural design, thought first produced them in the laboratory of imagination. See the great airplane, subduing air and space, thought created it in the laboratory of imagination. Everything great or small, good or bad was created in the imagination of some individual mind and thought impowered by will forced it to pass.

We imagin a lot of fairy tales. Have ourselves in states of wealth and joy; yet receive no benefit, other than the -sensation of imagination. Why? Because we think imagination is just a toy to play with, therefore we use it in a fantastical way, not expecting anything to be derived from its use. The imagination if properly used, can create for you anything, or any condition possible in the realm of life. What are you desiring to do or be. Go into the laboratory of your mind. Make up your mind in regard to what you want to create or be, get the picture clear in your thought; let your imagination see it actually in the present, see it clearly by your mind until you can feel its reality. then hold the thought, I will, and follow it up. Without inward vision the world would be an uncivilized wilderness, and much is undone because so few are intelligently using this faculty of the mind. "Where there is lack of vision My people

Continued on next page

us tobring to materialization the potentialities and possibilities that are rising before us.

We have set forth a suggested quota for each of nineteen different states for the three ensuing years. These quotas when reached will bring our annual income up to the figure of \$60,000.00 by 1950, and the combined total for the three ensuing years amounts to \$146,500.00. These quotas as suggested are based upon the extent of financial support these various states have been giving the last year or so. Of course these quotas, as we have stated, are only suggestive. We cannot say you must do thus and so. It is not ours to tell the various states what they have got to do. We can only ask you to do it, but truly in all sincerity we do ask you to do your best to reach your quotas as set forth in the table shown here. This campaign is launched with the intention of sending at least two new missionaries to the foreign field annually. A Director is being appointed in each of the states charged with the responsibility to push this campaign in his respective state, and to work in co-operation with the National Foreign Mission Board in putting this campaign over the top. Each state is to have a certain month designated as missionary month; during which month the Free Will Baptists of the particular state are to focus their interests and unite their efforts toward the attainment of the goal set forth in these suggested quotas.

You will notice on the left side of the list of states is listed the amount which was given by each state during the past associational year of 1946-47. Thus you can compare the increase we are expecting you to make during the coming year over that of last year, and so on until 1950.

Amt. Given | STATE QUOTAS FOR EXTENSION CAMPAIGN

1946-1947		1947-1948	1948-1949	1949-1950	Total
\$ 6,469.04	N. Carolina	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 9,250.00	\$11,000.00	\$28,250.00
4,546.75	Missouri	6,000.00	7,250.00	9,000.00	22,250.00
4,072.25	Tennessee	6,000.00	7,000.00	8,500.00	21,500.00
2,076.77	Michigan	3,000.00	3,500.00	4,100.00	10,600.00
1,717.52	Ohio	2,500.00	3,250.00	4,000.00	9,750.00
1,492.00	W. Virginia	2,000.00	2,250.00	3,000.00	7,250.00
1,250.33	S. Carolina	1,800.00	2,250.00	3,000.00	7,050.00
1,207.78	Oklahoma	1,800.00	2,250.00	3,000.00	7,050.00
1,186.13	Illinois	1,800.00	2,250.00	3,000.00	7,050.00
949.95	Alabama	1,200.00	1,550.00	2,100.00	4,850.00
873.27	Texas	1,200.00	1,550.00	2,100.00	4,850.00
581.82	Georgia	850.00	1,150.00	1,550.00	3,550.00
428.66	Kentucky	850.00	1,150.00	1,500.00	3,500.00
410.20	Florida	700.00	1,000.00	1,500.00	3,200.00
374.86	Mississippi	600.00	850.00	1,200.00	2,650.00
143.00	California	200.00	275.00	400.00	875.00
125.16	Arkansas	200.00	275.00	400.00	875.00
115.00	Virginia	200.00	275.00	400.00	875.00
70.00	Kansas	100.00	175.00	250.00	525.00
\$28,090.49	Com. Totals	\$39,000.00	\$47,500.00	\$60,000.00	146,500.00

Winford Davis, Treasurer, Monett, Missouri.

MISSOURI STATE TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts for June, 1947

State Unified Fund

Merl's Chapel Sunday School	\$ 10.00
Desloge Church	28.99
Mine LaMotte Church	3.37
Leadington Sunday School	2.50
Sublette Church	14.37

Aurora Church	8.37
Verdella Church	3.84
Missouri State Auxiliary Convention	5.00
Carterville Church	12.56
Sublette Church	14.10
Norman Church	13.35
Copper Mines Church	3.00
Oak Grove Church	8.00
Merl's Chapel Church	13.22
Total	\$140.67

Foreign Mission Fund

Mrs. Lou Carter, Aurora, Missouri	\$ 1.00
St. Louis Third Free Will Baptist Church.....	12.76
Hickory Grove Church	5.19
Rock Chapel Church	19.00
Buffalo Sunday School	4.00
John W. Adkins, Kirksville, Missouri	25.00
Union Light Sunday School	20.31
Hannon Church	5.00
Amity Church	24.00
Carterville Church	19.06
Flat River Church	16.85
Rev. & Mrs. James Barker, Desloge, Missouri	20.00
Gen. W. Mo. & S. E. Kans. 5th Sunday Meeting.....	6.96
Jewel Church	7.96
New Harmony Sunday School	21.98
Mrs. Lizzie Large, Flat River, Missouri	5.00
Dr. T. V. Poole, Monett, Missouri	5.00
Mrs. Opal Frazier, Monett, Missouri	1.00
Myrtle League	10.00
Rock Chapel Church	25.82
Mrs. Earl A. Baker, Cabool, Mo.	1.00
Pleasant Grove Sunday School	8.80
Norman Church	3.35
Hazel Creek Union Church	57.61
Hannon D. V. B. S.	5.00
Total	\$331.65

Home Mission Fund

St. Louis Third F. W. B. Church.....	\$10.98
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Receipts for July, 1947

State Unified Fund

Leadington Sunday School	\$ 4.15
Fredericktown Church	100.00
Monett Church	18.81
Mine La Motte Church	6.05
Flat River Church	124.00
Aulsbury Chapel Church	5.90
Carterville Church	20.25
Verdella Church	1.82
Sublette Church	14.57
Total	\$295.55

Foreign Mission Fund

Tour of Missouri churches by Rev. Kenneth Turner: Granby, Monett, Mt. Olivet, Macedonia, Pleasant Grove, Jones Chapel, Prairie Chapel, Wheaton, Carterville, Hannon, Brunswick, Hickory Grove, Neola, Verdella, Merl's Chapel	\$213.81
Providence Church	15.50

Continued on page thirteen

Continued from page five

perish" (Proverbs 29:18). Vision is a mental picture in your mind; a creation of the imagination. The good and great things you accomplish are the result of the great picture you have in your mind and heart. Even faith is involved although faith works according to mental vision. Jesus said, "If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you shall say unto this mountain remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove" (Matthew 17:20). You must have vision as the objective for faith and works to accomplish, or bring to pass.

What could our great denomination do; if we utilized the ability of mind and heart that God gave us when He created man in His likeness and image?

Rt. 4, NEOSHO, MISSOURI

Dear Readers of the Gem:

On July 19th our church met on its regular meeting day; and our pastor, Rev. L. R. Black of Miami, Oklahoma, preached a wonderful sermon. After preaching services the church was called in council for a business meeting and elected and ordained Bro. J. W. Hollingsworth as a deacon of Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church, located ten miles west of Neosho, Mo., on highway 60. Rev. Paul Williams of Carterville, Missouri assisted with the ordination service, and gave a wonderful charge to the church. We also elected Bro. Sharp and Bro. Hollingsworth as Trustees of the church, and Sister Sharp as church clerk.

Met Sunday morning for Sunday school, at 9:45 a. m. Bro. Black preached at 11:00. We had dinner at the church and, as there were five ministers present, had preaching all afternoon and heard some wonderful sermons. Services dismissed with all feeling that the Spirit of the Lord had been with us and that we had really been blessed in these services.

The third Sunday in August will be our regular preaching day. Rev. Black will be here and preach Saturday night the 16th, Sunday the 17th, preaching at 11:00 a. m. and Sunday night at 7:45. We are hoping and praying that more people will come out and take part in our services.

—Mrs. Grace Sharp, Clerk.

P. S. Written by Mrs. J. W. Hollingsworth, Route 4, Neosho, Mo.

DON'T Live in the Past

By James Wayland McGlathery, Th. D.

Are you facing the right way in your Christian life? Check yourself against these five subtle dangers.

FORGETTING those things which are behind . . ." The Apostle Paul wrote those words as a directive for Christian living.

It is easy to see the value of forgetting past failures, once they are forgiven, and not continuing to be defeated and depressed by them. The glory of the gospel is that Christ delivers not alone from the legal penalty of sin, but from the continuing power of it as well. We may "forget" and go on. We may start again.

We need to learn the lesson voiced by Whittier when he said:

*God pity them both, and pity us all,
Who vainly the dreams of youth
recall,*

*For of all the words of tongue or
pen,*

*The saddest are these; It might
have been.*

But Paul had in mind more than failures and defeats when he said, "Forget." He meant, "Forget the victories, the blessings, the accomplishments." Too many Christians try to live in the present by feeding on the blessings of the past. To live in the past, even a past of victory, is dangerous. Our testimony for Christ will be damaged by the practice.

TO LIVE IN THE REALM OF PAST EXPERIENCE indicates that the Christian is living in an unreal world.

Millions of people seek an escape from reality by attending the motion picture theater, or by drink. The Christian, though he may not be guilty of these, may try to escape reality of present problems by drawing too heavily on past experiences. Such a retreat is an indication of inability to cope with the present situation. This, in turn, reveals that he is living by a principle of "struggle and strive," rather than "trust and yield."

During their forty years of wilderness wanderings, Israel failed miserably in meeting the challenge of their

present situation. A major factor in their failure was constant crying for the past plentifulness of food and water they had had in Egypt.

Remember how they said: "Wherefore have ye made us to come up out of Egypt, to bring us in unto this evil place? It is no place of seed, or of figs, or of vines, or of pomegranates; neither is there any water to drink. . . And the people spake against God, and against Moses, 'Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread'" (Num. 20:5; 21:5).

Their hearts were so occupied with the past advantages of Egypt that they did not realize the value of the miraculous present provision. The future held no hope because they were living too far in the past.

Even Peter was not able to escape this temptation to live on past experience. When upon the Mount of Transfiguration, instead of letting that experience be an incentive toward the future, he wanted to preserve the memory of the experience by building monuments of commemoration.

After the resurrection of Christ, instead of pressing on in the new life, Peter returned to his past occupation. He went fishing. If he could not have the company of Christ, then he would live on the memory of past experiences with his Lord.

TO LIVE IN THE REALM OF PAST EXPERIENCE indicates a lack of progress in spiritual things.

One of the key characteristics of a Christian is his discernment of spiritual things. "Now the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth (discerns) all things, yet he himself is judged (discerned) of no man" (1 Cor. 2:14, 15).

Peter speaks of those who progress in the virtues of those of Christ by faith as being neither "barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see

afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins" (2 Peter 1:8, 9).

The personal privilege of every Christian is that of walking constantly with Christ. Through this fellowship he learns new and precious spiritual truths. This fellowship and its accompanying acquisition of truth can make the present so blessed that the past will hold no attraction.

When the disciples returned from the Mount of Transfiguration and were unable to heal the demon-possessed boy, they asked Christ, "Why could not we cast him out?" They had not discernment to see their own lack of faith. This lack of the disciples was due to their pride in past experiences, which thwarted their present spiritual progress.

TO LIVE IN THE REALM OF PAST EXPERIENCE indicates a lack of power in service and testimony.

Continuing with the account of the transfiguration valley experience of the disciples, we notice that the frantic father said to Christ, "I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him." As we examine this situation it becomes evident that the disciples reasoned thus: "We have healed demons before, we can heal this one."

Pride, that specter that follows all of us, had clutched the disciples in his grasp. "We're good," they thought; "let's heal this one as we have the others." And they could not! They had no power. Their testimony was gone.

The moment any one of us begins to think back on our past experiences and tries to live on them, our present power in service will be hindered. Too many Christians are willing to get up in a testimony meeting and tell what the Lord did for them forty years ago. And it usually sounds that bears fruit for Christ is one that is vital with present victory. The person who can tell what Christ is doing for him now in his daily experience is the one who is powerful for Christ.

TO LIVE IN THE REALM OF PAST EXPERIENCE indicates a lack of prayer and application to the Word of God.

Mueller, Hyde, and Hudson Taylor

were men of great spiritual power because they were in constant contact with God through prayer. Their continual experience with God was that of receiving answers to prayer. This made for a present experience that was rich with fruits for God. They had no time to live on past experience because the path of prayer made the present exceedingly pleasant.

Great teachers and preachers like Bishop Moule, Griffith Thomas, and J. Wilbur Chapman applied themselves diligently to the Word of God. Their experiences were new and fresh every day, because the Word yielded up its precious treasures to their seeking hearts.

Time spent in prayer and with the Book makes the present a thrilling experience for the Christian. We may avoid the danger of living on past experiences by having new ones daily through communion in prayer and the Word.

TO LIVE IN THE REALM OF PAST EXPERIENCE indicates we are occupied with the experience and not with Christ.

The secret of a joyous Christian life lies in having a continual experimental knowledge of Christ. "To know him, and the power of his resurrection," this is the longing of every surrendered saint. The object of our desire should be not an experience but a Person. Whether we walk through pleasant or unpleasant experiences, He, and not the experience, should be the joy of our hearts.

Peter and Lazarus had unique miraculous experiences. Peter walked on the water; and Lazarus, after being in the tomb for four days, was raised from the dead. Both had experiences that no other human being had ever had. But experiences! They spoke about Christ!

Why talk about our experiences when we have our Lord Jesus Christ to talk about? With such a lovely Lord who does so much for us, how can we do other than talk about Him? When we talk of experiences, people see us; when we talk of Him, they see His beauty, His loveliness, His grace; they love Him, and desire Him, and receive Him.

Let the reality of our present fellowship with Christ make impossible for us the dangers of living on past experiences. —From *Moody Monthly*.

NILGIRI, SOUTH INDIA

Dear Friends in Christ:

Our thoughts and prayers are turned in your direction tonight. We are thinking of the wonderful fellowship we have had together in the Lord Jesus Christ. May your efforts for the salvation of the lost and the growth of the church of the Lamb of God in America ever meet with success. You will soon, no doubt, be making your way to Detroit for the annual session of the National Association. For the first time in more than a decade we shall be with you only in spirit. We trust that it will be the best yet, because of the presence of the Holy Spirit in every one present.

God has been good to us—so much better than we deserve. A whole hearted response among our people in America, a most wonderful journey across calm seas with the most congenial companions and a hearty welcome in India have all been ours. We thank God for this call to work among the millions of His creation in India, who realize that the religion of their fathers (indeed it never has) no longer meets the hunger and the thirst of their immortal souls. The need of the pure and simple Gospel in both South and North America is great indeed; but oh, that God would give us power of expression so that we could adequately portray the ignorance, the depravity, economic poverty, social evils, and the moral and spiritual bondage that centuries of heathenism, have wrought upon the inhabitants of this land. Their eternal salvation will be the reward of our faithfulness to God's will and commandments. Misery and distress unspeakable in this life and eternal night in the life to come will be the results of our failure; and the saying of the Master: "In as-much as ye did it not unto the least of these," will doubtless ring in our ears.

We found Sister Barnard cheerful and strong in the grace of God, but suffering under the triple handicap of indifferent health, insufficient help and lack of funds. The Lord has used Miss Barnard in a most wonderful way indeed. The two schools entirely under her direction are meeting a real need and the people among whom

she works have the uttermost respect for her. The native helpers are devoted to the Lord, to Miss Barnard, and to their work.

The need of the Gospel and bearers of the Gospel cannot be over emphasized. Over a century and a decade ago Free Will Baptists first sent missionaries to India. By the year 1888 we had sent out fifty-four missionaries from United States to India. Over one thousand native converts had been baptized, two high schools established along with a Bible school and two orphanages, and twenty-two native preachers sent forth. In the year 1888 the Free Will Baptist Mission in India included over a hundred schools with more than three thousand students, eleven churches (two entirely self-supporting), six hundred adult members with 1300 people in the Christian communities, 2900 in the Sunday schools. Or course as you know, these were lost to the denomination, but not to God. In 1888 Free Will Baptists in United States numbered 86,201, in 1947 they number almost three times that many. We thank God that once more our people are not only interested in all phases of the work, but are actively carrying it on, to the glory of God and His Kingdom. We are counting on you to help keep the fires burning at home. God has and will continue to lead and to bless, if we will but trust and obey. Yours in Christ,

—Paul Woolsey.

APPOINTMENT OF STATE DIRECTORS FOR MISSIONS CAMPAIGN

In launching the Foreign Missions Extension Campaign. Rev. Rashie Kennedy and myself were authorized by the board to appoint a State Director in each of the nineteen states which have been given a suggested quota to raise. These State Directors are to have the supervision of all itinerate work which may be done in their respective states, be responsible for the distribution of literature from time to time, do what traveling they may have time to do in the interest of missions in their various states, etc., etc. In fact the State Director is to be a general promotor of this extension campaign in his state. He

is to lead the people of his state in raising their quota. Whom-so-ever the National Board of Foreign Missions have authorized, or may authorize, to do itinerate work in a national way will be expected to work in connection with, and in co-operation with, these various state meetings and the state men of course will be expected to give due consideration to those who have been, or who may be, recommended to do itinerate work by the National Board.

The appointments have been made as follows:

- North Carolina, Rev. Rashie Kennedy
713 Simons St., Goldsboro, N. C.
- Missouri, Rev. Damon C. Dodd
406 Keith St., Flat River, Missouri.
- Tennessee Rev. E. A. Craft
4609 Illinois Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
- Michigan Rev. Homer Willis
921 N. N. Granet, Hazel Park, Mich.
- Ohio Homer Nelson,
Wheelersburg, Ohio, Route 1.
- West Virginia, Rev. Kenneth Brown,
Canebrake, West Virginia.
- South Carolina, Rev. H. J. Sawyer,
452 Railroad Ave., Rock Hill S. C.
- Oklahoma, Rev. Bert F. Rogers,
Cushing, Oklahoma
- Illinois, Rev. Wallace Malou,
Sesser, Illinois.
- Alabama, Rev. J. B. Bloss,
Leeds, Alabama.
- Texas, Rev. C. B. Thompson
4406 Brady St., Houston 11, Texas.
- Georgia, Rev. E. C. Morris
Glennville, Georgia.
- Kentucky, G. E. Rathiff,
2826 Holt St., Ashland, Kentucky.
- Florida, John Howard,
Dukes, Florida.
- Mississippi, L. E. Duncan,
East Tupelo, Mississippi
- California, Rev. Dean Moore,
Porterville, California
- Arkansas, Rev. J. White
New, Edinburg, Arkansas.
- Virginia, E. J. Kilgore,
Coeburn, Virginia.
- Kansas, Revs. Mr. & Mrs. Wellbaum
Haddam, Kansas.

Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.
Rashie Kennedy, Goldsboro, N. C.
Note—Rev. Kennedy consented to take the appointment for N. C. at my own individual suggestion. —W. D.

Salvation--Prepared

By Northcote Deck, M. B., Ch. M., F. R. G. S.

LOOKING DOWN THE AGES WITH GOD

IN HIS sermon on the Day of Pentecost, Peter makes the important declaration: Christ "delivered by the *determinate counsel and foreknowledge* of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain" (Acts 2:23). Thus the fact is revealed that even in this cruel injustice, the "wicked hands of men" were but unconsciously fulfilling the "determinate counsel of God." And the more we examine the great subject of human redemption in the light of Scripture, the more we become aware that long beforehand, the whole drama of salvation had been carefully planned and purposed by an all-wise, all-seeing God.

Sin in Eden did not take God by surprise. On the other hand, God's salvation must have taken Satan very much by surprise. It must have seemed to the enemy of souls that man's fall was irremediable. For surely at that time he was ignorant of the fact long later revealed in 1 Peter 1:19, 20 that "Christ, as a lamb . . . was foreordained (by God) before the foundation of the world."

LET US THEN TRACE some of the plans and careful preparations of God which later led Christ up to Calvary, and so men back to God.

In Proverbs 8:25-30 the scene is evidently creation as recorded in Genesis 1, of mountains and hills (v. 25), of earth and fields of the world (v. 26), of clouds above and deeps below (v. 28). "For chaos was on earth with rebellion in heaven, and the world was without form and void."

Now the stage must be set and the scene made ready for the reception of man and later, the Son of Man. It was then that God, in the company of His only Begotten Son ("I was there" (v. 27), "prepared the heaven" anew specially for the reception of His Son.

But God is a spirit, and it was needful to the plans of God that His Son should become incarnate in human form. So the scene having been set, the announcement was made in Hebrews 10:5: "When He (the Son)

cometh into the world, he saith . . . *"a body hast thou prepared me."* Sublime plan! Wondrous preparation! For when the One by whom all things are and were created needed a babe's body of a few pounds weight, God the Father graciously intervened and prepared the tiny body.

The word "prepared" here is *katartizo*, which is translated in Hebrews 13:21, "make you perfect," and in 1 Corinthians 1:10, *be perfectly joined together.*" It was used by surgeons then to describe the reduction of a dislocated joint, putting it into "perfect adjustment."

What a suitable word for that body "prepared" for Him by the Father. What a body it was! How perfectly "adjusted" to every future need and ministry of God in man, the first perfect body since Adam's creation, housing not man only but God.

It was perfect as a babe, perfect as a boy, perfect as a man, and finally perfect as the "one sacrifice for sins forever" (Heb. 10:12). It was perfectly prepared and adapted for the great purpose of redemption, when He bore "our sins in His own body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24).

BUT FURTHER CAREFUL PREPARATIONS had to be made. A Monarch had to be announced. His welcome assured before He set out. So John the Baptist was born by a miracle for a special purpose, and that purpose was revealed to and through his aged father, Zacharias; "Thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to *prepare his ways*" Luke 1:76).

So this courier of heaven was created and his cry in the wilderness was, "*Prepare ye the way of the Lord*" (Luke 3:4). Was not that "way" already prepared in the mind of God, who long before had foreordained Him as a Lamb. Was any small detail left to chance or error? Surely not!

And what plans they were! How detailed and how dear to God! Caesar Augustus must decree the taxing that would entail His birth in Bethlehem;

angels must announce His coming from the stry skies; shepherds and sages must surround Him with their incense and their homage.

Indeed, many details of that life and later death had not only been planned long ages before in heaven, but announced by the prophets long years before on earth. Hence the hurried infant journeyed into Egypt, for "out of Egypt have I called My Son." His future residence too was chosen long before it was needed, that He might "be called a Nazarene."

How every loving detail must have been planned in holy consultation in heaven, of those many journeys and detailed conversations under the hot Syrian sun. "Make His ways straight," cried the herald, yet how crooked, how steep and stony were many of the winding paths He trod in Galilee, as He went His shining way to the cross.

What holy satisfaction it must have been in heaven to plan the Nocodemus interview, perhaps the most important ever recorded with its conception of the birth from above. How gracious of the Father to so arrange His Son's itinerary that He might grace the humble wedding at Cana with His presence and benediction, and that one day He might be ever so weary and meet one dishonored woman at the well. How needful and prophetic for Him to still the storm, to comfort the bereaved.

How important were to be the sacred scenes in the "upper room," and the cries from the cross. Surely the final verdict, "It is finished," had long been anticipated by the Father of mercies. Does it not add to the preciousness of these tender mercies. Does it not add to the preciousness of these tender memories and loving details in Scripture to realize they were all "parts of His ways," ordained and prepared in heaven long before they were wrought out on earth, in a world of sinners who needed to hear His voice and heed His call!

Then godly Simeon came on the scene. He "came by the Spirit into the temple," and taking the child Jesus in his loving arms, he raised his voice in a thanksgiving, the *nunc dimittis*, which has since echoed around the world and risen from countless other hearts.

He cried, "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people." Was he speaking of salvation in general, or of the Babe he held in his arms, the great Author of salvation? Probably of both, for the one includes the other. "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation." Where was he looking as he spoke? Up to God the Father he was addressing, or down to the Babe in his arms? Probably he could keep his eyes off neither!

And how much did he see, and foresee? Did he see the Babe grown to a Man, becoming a sacrifice, stretched on a cross against the Syrian sky? Well, he spoke as a prophet, and perhaps his vision even then outranged that of the disciples long later, who were so often dim of sight and slow of heart to believe.

"Oh, the love that drew salvation's plan!"

Oh, the grace that brought it down too man!"

LONG YEARS AFTER; "Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the passover must be killed. And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover" (Lk. 22:7). There came on the program of God in eternity and now on earth. These two disciples are to have the privilege of sharing with the other John in, preparing His ways. They had careful, detailed instructions given them in doing so, for they were following a master plan, blueprinted in heaven.

The place had long been chosen, now it was revealed. They were to ask for a guest chamber, a *kataluma*, that is, the room on the ground floor, open to the public where guests were received. The Savior foresaw what they would be given, though He did not ask for it. It would be a place more suitable and private.

"He will show you," He says, "a large upper room," an *anogeon*, the room upstairs where the family is born and lives in privacy, where the doors can be shut on the outside world. So the Savior deliberately gives this now unknown "goodman of the house" the opportunity of giving Him more than He asked. How often we give less!

"So they made ready." That was the human aspect of the supper, as kindly hands prepared the place and

provided the bread and wine for the table.

Thank God, there is ever the divine counterpart expressed for all time in Psalm 23, "*Thou preparest a table.*" Does He not do so still? Is it not His table, though sometimes men forget it? Human hands may prepare the bread and wine. He must bless the bread and grace the table with His presence, to make it a feast; the Lord's Supper, He is ever essential to the supper.

ONE OTHER PREPARATION we might notice, a preparation of love. The women "the first day of the week . . . came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared," that they might anoint Him (Luke, 24:1). No least details of His plan had been overlooked by God. Whether these women were in that plan and missed their place in it, we do not know. For they were too late with their love, and "they found not the body of Jesus" for "he is risen."

Yet the Father did not, could not, allow His Son to be deprived of the last tender ministrations we give to our beloved dead. While these women who prepared their spices were too late that morning, God had prepared another woman's heart for this sad another woman's heart for this tender attention to the Savior. For Mary of Bethany came, "having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious, and poured it on His head" (Mark 14:3). Wise woman! For she came, as the Savior explained (v. 8), *aforehand* to anoint His body to the burying.

Is not the situation similar today for us? In heaven we shall more perfectly know Him, love Him, serve Him. Yet here, and here alone, in this His day of rejection, it is given to us to sacrifice for Him, to suffer for His sake. Have we no alabaster box? May we not "aforehand," before He returns, lay at His feet our lives, our love, to render Him the daily anointing of our devotion?

That this is the desire and plan of God is clear from Philippians 4:18, where kindly ministration to the apostle is lifted to a higher plane. For He describes these simple acts of love to him as "an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well-pleasing to God." How delightfully

described, how divinely ordered! Such privileges are planned by God for each of us.

For God has planned that each of us may be meet for the Master's use, "prepared unto every good work" (2 Tim. 2:21). Link that statement with Ephesians 2:10, and God's master plan for each of our lives becomes clearer. For we are "his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." This is a wonderful statement of a wonderful truth that all my little life has been planned in detail in advance by One who knows each of His children's possibilities.

So, thank God, salvation has been prepared for sinners, the way of the Son of God on earth was prepared from all eternity, and the way of the children of God has been divinely purposed and prepared. May we each cry: "As for me, I will run in the way of thy commandments" (Psalm 119:32). —From *Moody Monthly*.

A GREAT PARADOX

By Fred Potter, Oklahoma City

"I came not to bring peace, but a sword" (Matt. 10:34).

These words spake our Lord to His disciples. What did He mean? How could the Prince of Peace bring a sword, when His entire mission was one of "peace on earth?"

The answer is to be found in the savage breast of man. Jesus, knowing the hearts of all men, was able to foretell the great upheaval that would come because of His advent into the world. He, no doubt, looked with dread into the centuries to come and knew that, because of the failings of mankind, there would be blood-shed because of Him. He also knew of the final conflict that is yet to take place between the forces of good and evil in the last days.

I like to imagine a conference between Jesus and the Father, long before He ever made His advent into the world, in which that certain Two of the Holy Trinity pondered the awful downfall of man and sought to rectify the trouble. They, being all-wise and all-powerful, knew that to bring God closer to man would

tend to increase the fury of Satan and the powers of darkness. They also knew that with the coming of the Messiah there would come the anti-Christ. Men would kill in the name of God, yet they would be tools of Satan. Yet, counting the worth of the souls of men, they also knew, with Divine insight, that the outcome would be well worth the cost.

It is not surprising then to hear Jesus speaking these words, clearly, yet not without misgivings: "I came not to bring peace, but a sword. . ."

724 Rinker Ave., Aurora, Mo.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

Following is a report of the Yearly Business Meeting of the Aurora Free Will Baptist Church.

Rev. John Mace of Springfield, Mo. has been elected as our pastor for the ensuing year, to preach the first, third and fourth Sundays in each month, Bro. Earl Bandy taking the second Sunday for practice preaching.

Attendance has increased and a very good spirit is shown.

The Women's Mission Circle has voted to send \$10.00 to help erect the girls' cottages at the Orphanage at Greenville, Tennessee.

—Mrs. O. B. Hughes, Reporter.

NOTICE!

After September 1, 1947, my address will be Greentop, Missouri, instead of Centerville, Missouri.

—Marie Hyatt, Clerk-Treasurer, of Missouri State Association.

GRAPH - O - BRIEFS

By The Editor

"SATAN HINDERED US"

By Charles H. Spurgeon

"Satan hindered us" (1 Thes. 2:18). Since the first hour in which goodness came into conflict with evil, it has never ceased to be true in spiritual experience that Satan hinders us. From all points of the compass, all along the line of battle, in the vanguard and in the rear, at the dawn of day and in the midnight hour, Satan hinders us. If we toil in the field, he seeks to break the ploughshare; if we build the wall, he labors to cast down the stones; if we would serve God in suffering or in conflict,

everywhere Satan hinders us. He hinders us when we are first coming to Jesus Christ. Fierce conflicts we had with Satan when we first looked to the cross and lived. Now that we are saved, he endeavors to hinder the completeness of our personal character.

You may be congratulating yourself, "I have hitherto walked consistently; no man can challenge my integrity." Beware of boasting, for your virtue will yet be tried; Satan will direct his engines against that very virtue for which you are the most famous. If you have been hitherto a firm believer, your faith will ere long be attacked; if you have been meek as Moses, expect to be tempted to speak unadvisedly with your lips. The birds will peck at your ripest fruit, and the wild boar will dash his tusks at your choicest vines, Satan is sure to hinder us when we are earnest in prayer. He checks our importunity, and weakens our faith, in order that, if possible, we may miss the blessing. Nor is Satan less vigilant in obstructing Christian effort. There was never a revival of religion without a revival of his opposition. As soon as Ezra and Nehemiah begin to labor, Sanballat and Tobiah are stirred up to hinder them. What then? We are not alarmed because Satan hindereth us, for it is a proof that we are on the Lord's side and are doing the Lord's work, and in His strength we shall win the victory and triumph over our adversary.

THIS WAY TO THE PIT

A young man entering a theatre heard an usher call out, "This way to the pit." The thought was at once forced upon him, "This place leads to the bottomless pit." He found pleasure in the theatre no longer, and afterwards became both a Christian and a minister.

Fly from all occasions of temptations. If still tempted fly further still. If there is no escape possible, then have done with running away. Show a bold face, and take the two-edged sword of the spirit. Some temptations must be taken by the throat, as David killed the lion. Others must be stifled, as David hugged the bear to death. Some you had better keep to yourselves, and don't give them air. Shut them up, as scorpions in such con-

finement soon die; but if allowed out for a crawl and then put back into the bottles and corked down, they will live a long while and give trouble. Keep the cork down on some temptations, and they die of themselves.

—Poeman.

IN CONSTANT COMMUNICATION

At the corner of two busy thoroughfares, where traffic was noisiest, the writer watched a man who worked quietly at the foot of a telephone pole. He seemed to know by instinct what was wanted by his mate who was at work way up at the top of the pole first one tool then another, or a bit of wire would be sent up, and the two were working together in such harmony, that I looked more carefully and saw that the man on the sidewalk had clamped on his head what looked like a small telephone apparatus; one ear could hear the sounds around him, but the other was deaf to them, and was listening all the time to the voice from above. Being in constant communication they could work together in wonderful unity; and then I realized anew the need for us as Christians to be ever listening for the voice from above.

—Christian Action.

SOLID CITIZENS

"I have been profoundly impressed with the fact that the 'churchgoing people' are the most substantial group of citizens in the nation."

—J. Edgar Hoover of the F. B. I.

"Lord, Hit Him Again!"

While taking the offering at the successful Moody Centenary Conference in Denver, Mr. Steward told the following story.

In a certain church the pastor started taking a collection for greatly needed repairs on the ceiling. Finally old deacon Tight stood up and said, "I will give \$5.00." Just then a peice of plaster fell off from the ceiling and hit him on the head. So deacon Tight looked up and said, "Well, I guess I'd better give \$10.00." Then the pastor, with rare common sense and pointed discretion, looked up to Heaven and said, "Oh Lord, hit him again!"

Welcome Strangers at Church

A minister in the pulpit saw a man in a back pew with his hat on. He beckened to a deacon who went to the man and asked him if he were aware his hat was on. "Thank God! said the man, "I thought that would do it. I have attended this church for six months, and you are the first person who has spoken to me."

When Communism Fails

After a well-known Socialist had made a speaking tour of the south, two Negroes were discussing the socialistic idea of having everything in common. Joe had been converted to socialism.

"So," asked Amos, "if you had two horses you would give me one?"

"I sho' would," answered Joe.

"And s'pose you had two pigs, would you give me one of them too?"

"I done told you I would."

"And," continued Amos, "if you had two goats you'd give me one of them too?"

"Go on there, niggah, you knows I've got two goats," answered Joe contemptuously. (W. J. Bryan)

There seems to be a difference with a lot of us between practising and preaching; between what we are willing to do and what we expect our neighbor to do. The average communist thinks communism is a wonderful thing for the rich; but it isn't so practical for him.

A BAKED BIBLE

Several hundred years ago the people of Bohemia were forbidden to possess or to read the Bible by an edict issued by the Emperor of Austria to which country Bohemia then belonged. Nevertheless, many of the people did have Bibles and refused to give them up. So soldiers were sent out to search the houses and seize any Bible which might be found. When the people of any village heard that the soldiers were coming to their locality, they made haste to hide their Bible in some secret place. So, although the soldiers searched the house thoroughly and roughly, yet many Bibles were not found.

One day the report came to a house that the soldiers were coming. There

was only a young girl there, and she was kneading dough for bread. On hearing the breathless whisper of the sentinel, the quick-witted girl spread out her dough, placed the Bible in the center, and quickly doubling the dough over it, put it into a big pan and slipped it into the oven.

When the soldiers arrived a few minutes later the girl met them at the door, and in answer to their demand for the Bible, calmly told them to search and see if there was one in the house. They looked into every corner of the cottage, but found no Bible. When they opened the stove door they saw only a large loaf of bread baking.

Years afterwards the grandson of the heroine of this story emigrated to America and settled in northwestern Ohio. He brought with him the Bible which his grandmother had saved from the soldiers. It had been carefully kept as a relic of days which, fortunately, are no more.

The Holy Bible is a perfect Book from our perfect God. It is His love letter to all the human race. Here the Father plans, the Son executes, the Spirit operates. The way of salvation is given; Heaven is revealed; hell is described. The Cross is its center, eternal life its fruition, and God's glory its end. By it the soul is cultured, the mind enlightened, the memory enriched, and the heart established. "The Bible is the traveler's guide, the pilgrim's staff, the warrior's sword, and the fighter's shield. It is the telescope of faith, the microscope of conscience, the mirror of Christ's face, and the castet of God's grace. It is food for the heart-hungry, drink for the soul-thirsty, medicine for the sin-sick, cordial for the world-weary, and life for the Spirit-dead.

Read it to be godly; use it to be fruitful; believe it to be faithful; and trust it to have peace. God has magnified His Word above His great Name, and commanded that it be preached and practiced. It is His standard of judgment. By it men are warned and woked, saved or doomed. Read it in the company of the Author. Be a Bible-read, Bible-fed Christian. It covers the course of time between two eternities and will live for ever.

—Christian Graphic.

IN MEMORY

In Loving Memory of our darling daughter, Mabel Louise Francis, who departed this life one year ago, Sept. 3, 1946, in her tenth year.

Remembrance is a golden chain
Death tried to break, but all in vain.

To have, to love, and then to part,
'Is the greatest sorrow of one's heart.

Her memory is as dear today,
As the hour she passed away.

Memories are treasures that no one
can steal;

Death is a heartache that nothing
can heal.

Some may forget since you are gone,
But we'll always remember, no matter how long.

Sadly missed by parents and brother,
Mr. and Mrs. Alvie Francis and Robert, and all her friends of the Third Free Will Baptist Church and Sunday School, 1330 Geyer Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

—Mr. & Mrs. Alvie Francis.

HONOR ROLL

We are running a six months honor roll. Two subscriptions—yours may be one—puts you on the roll. And, as you send in subscriptions, your number will be increased.

We are giving a first, second and third prize. The prizes are our own secret until the time is up. It will be a great honor to win one of these prizes, and besides the Lord will bless you for your service. Get your name on the Honor Roll, by sending in one or more subscriptions; then send in the most subscriptions and receive first prize.

HONOR ROLL

Hazel Creek Union Church	54
Rev. Billy King, Fredericktown,	24
Rev. O. T. Allred, Monett, Mo.	14
Dave Bowers, Myrtle, Mo.	10
J. K. Stephens, Stockton, Mo.	7
Rev. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.	6
Opal E. Jeffreys, Lockwood, Mo.	5
Rev. Harvey E. Hill, Lemay, Mo.	4
Rev. W. F. Willingham, Mt'n Grove	4
J. W. Holdingsworth, Neosho, Mo.	3
Eulah Wisheart, Myrtle, Mo.	2
Woodrow Matthews, Mine La Motte	2
T. O. Dunn, Purcell, Okla.	2
Albert Halbrook, Mine La Motte,	2

Continued from page six

John W. Adkins, Kirksville, Mo.	25.00
Richwoods Church	7.00
Pleasant Ridge Church	20.25
Monett Church	11.80
Hickory Grove Church	5.26
Amity Church	25.00
Union Light Sunday School	13.47
Myrtle F. W. B. League	12.61
Jewel Church	12.00
Nannon Church	5.00
Golden Oak Sunday School	3.48
Golden Oak League	7.92
Carterville Church	11.77
Hickory Grove Church, Haddam, Kansas	2.50
Mrs. Jessie Thompson, Anderson, Mo.	10.00
Shibley's Point Church	6.25
True Blue Class (Neola)	1.00
Mt. Olive Church	6.95
Golden Oak League	2.72
Golden Oak Sunday School	9.04

Total \$428.33

State Entertainment Fund

Hazel Creek Union Church	\$ 25.50
St. Louis Third F. W. B. Church	50.00
Mine La Motte Church	10.00
Norman Church	11.00
Myrtle Church	11.11

Total \$107.61

Superannuation Fund

Rev. & Mrs. Winford Davis, Monett, Mo.	\$2.00
Marie Hyatt, Sec'y-Treas., Centerview, Mo.	

REPORT NATIONAL FOREIGN MISSION TREASURER

Receipts during the month of July, 1947

Franklin County, Quarterly Meeting of Illinois	\$ 70.00
Mr. & Mrs. John R. Wilhite, Johnson City, Ill.	10.00
Glennville Church, Glennville, Georgia	11.73
National Auxiliary Convention	66.27
Waltonville Church of Illinois	10.50
Clayton, Texas Church	4.40
First Church of Shawnee, Oklahoma	11.27
Union F. W. B. Church and S. S., Johnson City, Tenn.	5.00
Oak Grove Church of Tennessee	2.50
Taken up by Bro. Willey and designated for Cuba	374.73
Mrs. Edwin Roper, Ramsonville, N. C.	1.00
Elder Ray Purdom, Ft. Smith, Ark.	2.00
Rev. C. J. Hearron, Waco, Texas	7.00
Freedom Church of Illinois	20.00
Union Meeting of South Carolina Conference	60.00
S. P. Easley, Portales, New Mexico	20.00
Mrs. C. F. Miller, Mulga, Alabama	100.00
Mrs. Anna Crumpton, Tarrant, Alabama	5.00
Ebenezer Church of Georgia	11.34
Offering taken during National Association in Detroit	291.80
Reedy Branch Sunday School, Winterville, N. C.	10.00
Dorothy Conley, Crockett, Kentucky	1.00
Lillie Herring, Morrison, Virginia	5.00

Central Avenue Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.....	5.00
D. B. Hellard, Treasurer, Sapulpa, Okla.....	5.00
Oklahoma Auxiliary, by Mrs. F. W. Keiffer	8.88
West Fork Quarterly Meeting of Texas	24.28
Union F. W. B. League, Thompsonville, Illinois.....	10.00
Andrew L. George, Edge, Texas	12.00
Shady Grove League, Hickory Point, Tenn.	5.00
Mamie L. Palmer, Castleberry, Alabama	2.65
Mrs. J. F. Dyer, Northport, Alabama	2.00
East Tupelo Church, East Tupelo, Mississippi	26.31
Daily Vacation Bible School, Bright Light Ch, Bryan, Tex.	15.00
Opie Hargrove, Mountain Home, Arkansas	7.00
W. J. Gibbs, Pamplico, S. C.	25.00
Wewoka Church, Wewoka, Oklahoma	10.00
Oak Lawn Sunday School of Tennessee	14.72
Young People's Missionary Meeting, Stacy, N. C.....	5.00
Prospect Sunday School, Dothan, Ala.	10.00
Rev. John B. Elliston, Oklahoma City, Okla.....	5.00
Ina Church, Ina, Illinois	50.72
Intermediate S. S. Class, Elon Church of S. C.	15.00
W. S. Gardner, Springer, Oklahoma	20.00
Mrs. John Worsley, Mendota, Illinois	10.00
National Auxiliary Convention	100.00
Prayer Band of Highland Park Church, Highland Park, Mich.	15.00
Bible School of Liberty Church, Chucky, Tenn.	6.00
Midway Church and Auxiliary, Midway, Tenn.	8.00
Holston Hills Church, Knoxville, Tenn.	3.00
Free Will Baptist Church, Joelton, Tenn.	3.25
State of North Carolina, by J. W. Alford, Treas.....	540.87
Missouri State Association, by Marie Hyatt, Treas.	428.33
Received for subscription to paper during the month.....	1.00
Rec. from sale of book, "His Name Among All Nations".....	88.00
Total	\$2,583.05
Brought Forward	2,133.29
Grand Total	4,716.34
Total disbursements during month of July	1,909.38
Balance in treasury August 1, 1947.....	\$2,806.96

—Winford Davis, Treasurer.

HOW SOON WE FORGET!

By Rev. Al Pepper, A Converted Jew, West Gastonia, North Carolina.

"Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; and when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; and thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt; from the house of bondage; who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, where were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and draught, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; who fed thee in the

wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that He might humble thee, and that He might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end; and thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth."
 "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is He that giveth the power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He sware unto thy fathers as it is this day, and it shall be, if thou do at all forget thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish. As the nations which the Lord destroyeth before your face, so shall you perish; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the Lord

your God?—Deut. 8:12-20.

When the evening is cool, and the sun begins to set in the west, and the evening star begins to twinkle, telling us the day is done; and as we sit on our porches deep in thought, we drift away into yesterday. And as we look back upon our lives, we see ourselves as we used to be in a sinful life. And as our eyes turn toward the twinkling star, it seems to be saying in a code message sent from God: "Yes, my child that was you once in your sinfulness. Now you stand on the Rock of Ages, you have been cleansed with My blood, and robed in My love, and My goodness is about you." And we utter a prayer, "Lord, how can I forget? how can I forget Thee?" Yes, how can we forget? But some of us do, and very much so.

How soon we forget how we sinned, and how we were burned by Satan's fire! How soon we forget the torture chamber Satan had us in! and how soon we forget how merciful the Lord was; forgiving us and healing our wounds; how good and kind He was when we cried for mercy and help!

Remember you were once lost sinners, and when through faith you died with Him and arose in newness of life; it was then you realized how sinful the world is. When you were in sin, your eyes were blinded, and you could not understand righteousness; therefore you could not realize the Lord's sinfulness; but when the Lord lifted the veil from your eyes, you got a glimpse of the other side, and you were able to compare values; and then you cried, "Lord, I want to see more!" Brother, if you can show me a better life and a better world than what God has in store for you and me, I sure would like to see it. But you know you cannot, because I have seen the truth. I was on Satan's merry-go-round, and around and around we went, until I got so dizzy that I fell off and nearly broke my neck. We are just like little children, watching the flame in a hot stove, and are fascinated by the flame that looks so nice that we reach out and grab for it, because it seems so nice to play with. But oh, how we jump and cry because it hurts so much. Mother hears our crying and comes and takes us on her lap, and fixes our hand, and comforts us with

her love, and holds us close to her breast, wiping away the tears. But oh, how soon we forget, and go right back playing with the fire, ready to grab that flame again.

The Israelites had forgotten the great things God had done for them, and also forgot how they suffered in the land of Egypt while in bondage, building the great pyramids, and suffering untold miseries. God saw how His people suffered, and heard their crying unto Him day and night. And Pharaoh's heart was hard, and he would not let them go. The Lord turned the dust into lice, and the lice were on everything they put their hands on, and sent the plagues of boils and locusts, and darkness, and killing the first born. And the wicked king had to let them go. And Pharaoh and his army, trying to bring them back, were destroyed in the sea. But oh, how they forgot. When they were where there was no water, they complained to Moses, that he brought them into the wilderness to die. He answered their complaining, "Why do you tempt the Lord?" Oh, how they forgot God's providence; how He supplied their every need, and made ways where there was no way! And when Moses was forty days and nights on the mount, they decided that he was not coming back. They forgot what the Lord had done for them, and asked Aaron to make them a god to go before, and a golden calf was made, and put on an altar, and Aaron said: "Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord." And they gathered about the idol god, and worshipped it, shouting and making a great noise. When Moses came down from the mount with the two tables containing the ten commandments, and all the history of creation, and instructions for the nation of Israel; he heard the shouting of the people, which did not sound right, as it did not ring true; and when he saw them worshipping the calf, his anger waxed hot; and he threw the tables of stone down and broke them. Moses took the calf and ground it to powder. He drew a line and said, "He who is on the Lord's side, let him come unto me." And all came except three thousand, and the Lord forgave them. Moses commanded those on the Lord's side to draw the sword and go through them. They were slain as the result of forgetting their God.

How often do you think the Lord will forgive? He will draw the line with you also. When you are down on the rocks, and members of your family get sick, you call upon the Lord, and He hears and blesses you so you can stand on your feet again; then you forget there is a God, you forget there is a church. When you are tired of going fishing on Sunday, and you have seen all the shows in town, you say, "Well, there is nothing to do today, I will go to church and see what is cooking." Well brother, the Lord is cooking a broth that will be so bitter in your mouth that it will make you sick, and make you spit; but you will not be able to lose the taste of it. Oh, you vile creatures, all you know to do is to take and forget who gave.

"Can the rush grow up without mire? can the flag grow without water? Whilst it is yet in his greenness, and not cut down, it withereth before any other herb. So are the paths of all that forget God; and the hypocrite's hope shall perish: whose hope shall be cut off, and whose trust shall be a spider's web"—Job 8:11-14. The Lord has a better life for us to live; yes, He will lift up the dark veil, and give us a glimpse of what is on the other side, as He did before; if only you will ask Him. And He will put you on a solid rock, and say to you: "There is no harm that can come to you, if you will remember Me." And He says, "Here is the key to all the treasures in heaven, and My will concerning you." If you will remember and serve Me, you may receive them."

You make all kinds of promises to the Lord, but how soon you forget! Have you forgotten the goodness of God? Are you bringing His judgment upon your defenseless head? What a shame to be guilty of the subject of this message: "How Soon We Forget!"

REPORT OF YOUTH ENCAMPMENT

We are happy to report on our first Youth Encampment, which was held at our Youth Camp, near Niangua, Missouri, July 21st to July 31st.

There was a total enrollment of 45 in the two departments, twenty-five in the Christian Workers Institute,

and twenty in the Vacation Bible School. Nine certificates were given. Some came the last week and, not having the opportunity to take all the work, could not qualify for a certificate, also four who were there the first week were not able to stay for the second week.

It has taken work, prayer and sacrifice to be able to give the youth of our State this opportunity for Christian training, fellowship and recreation. It was a blessing to all who could attend, especially the closing service at 11:00 o'clock, after certificates had been awarded, then a call for any one who felt a definite call for service, as four came forward, knelt in the sawdust and presented their lives to God for service wherever God would lead them. The presence of God was so definitely manifest, that no one could doubt that this work is of the Lord. Then as Camp was breaking up, the parting words of each student were, "We'll be seeing you next year."

This is our challenge: To go forward with work thus begun. Churches and individuals who plan to build cabins or make other contributions, should form definite plans to do so now, and not wait until near Encampment time next year. We had to borrow some money to put up another cabin and complete other work to make it possible for this year's Encampment. We have faith in our people, that they will take care of this obligation, also contribute to the support of the work in such a way, that we can go forward, if the need is presented to them by the pastors. Not a church in the state has failed to support the Encampment work, where the pastor has shown an interest in the work.

We have two cabins 14X20, one complete with bunks for twelve people, the other for sixteen people, which we could sell to churches or individuals at what it cost to build them—\$150.00 each for material and \$75.00 for labor, a total of \$225.00 for each cabin, but we feel it would be better to keep these cabins as property of the Missouri State Association; and for churches and individuals to build other cabins; as we expect to need much more room next year.

—Rev. O. T. Allred, Chairman
Rev. William Reeves, Sec'y-Treas.

Price List and Order Blank

SEP 5 730A 1947

Free Will Baptist Sunday School Supplies

- Class Book No. 1 (For Beginners & Primaries) 25c each \$.....
- Class Book No. 2 (Jrs., Inter., Young People, Adults), 25c each \$.....
- General Secretary's Book, No. 6 75c each \$.....
- Large Wall Card (Six Point Credits), Form 3..... 35c each \$.....
- Information Card (Six Point System), Form 9..... 20c each \$.....
- Individual Report Slips, Form 10..... \$1.50 per (pad) 1,000 \$.....
- Class Report Envelopes, Form 11..... 75c per 100 \$.....
- Request Slips, Form 12..... 20c per pad of 100 \$.....
- Monthly Report Blanks, Form 13..... 50c per pad of 100 \$.....
- General Secretary's Report Blanks, Form 14, 15c per pad of 25.....
- Convention Report Blanks, Form 15..... 75c per pad of 50 \$.....
- Superintendent's Report Blanks, Form 16..... 40c per pad of 25 \$.....
- Visiting Report Card, Form 17..... 25c per 50 \$.....

IMPORTANT

Please order all supplies by form number. Be sure to state the correct number or amount desired. Enclose check or money order with each order. Order from "The Free Will Baptist Gem," 211 Bond St., Monett, Mo.

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES

Beautiful Baptismal Certificates, 8 1/4 x 5 3/4 inches, printed in two colors, beautiful border, and suitable for framing. Every Church needs these for a record. These are in books of 25, and stubbed check book style. Price, Post Paid, \$1.00

BUTLER-DUNN THEOLOGY

Price, Post Paid, \$2.00

Free Will Baptist Treatise

Price, Post Paid, 30c each

BLANK FORMS

Ministers' License Blanks, 10c
 Ministers' Ordination Blanks, 10c
 Deacons' Ordination Blanks, 10c
 12 Blanks, either kind, 90c
 These blanks are 8 1/2 x 11 inches, and are suitable for framing.

Letter forms for Letter from a Church to a Quarterly Meeting, Association or Yearly Meeting, also forms for Letter from an Association or Yearly Meeting to the State Association.

Price, 5c ea., 6 for 25c, 12 for 45c.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION of Free Will Baptists will meet, at the regular time, with Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, located about eight miles southeast of Monett, Missouri, and four miles northeast of Purdy, Missouri, beginning on Monday night, September 15, 1947.

The State Executive Board met at the Gem office, on Friday, June 20, 1947, for the purpose of appointing a place to convene this year's session of Missouri State Association, and to transact other important business. We found that three churches: Monett, Macedonia and Flat River, had asked

for this session of the Association. And the Board, after due consideration, chose Macedonia Church to entertain this year's session of our Missouri State Association.

Three meals each day, and lodging each night, will be furnished to all who attend the Association. It is getting late, and the host church will have quite a task providing all that will be necessary for the proper entertainment of a large delegation, and the expense will be heavy; but we know that our other F. W. B. Churches will bear their share of the expense. Each church should see that their budget is paid in full, and remember to make a liberal offering

(at least \$10.00) besides the budget. Send all funds to Marie Hyatt, Treas., Centerview, Mo. Send your offerings early, so the host church will have the money to pay for the many things that must be provided before the Association convenes.

The Auxiliary Message on Monday night will be delivered by Mrs. Marie Hyatt, Mrs. Alta Mikel, alternate.

The League Sermon at 11:00 a. m. on Tuesday, will be preached by Rev. Harvey Hill, Rev. Frank Linton, alt.

The Introductory Sermon on Tuesday night will be preached by Rev. Frank Linton, Rev. O. T. Allred, alt.

The Sunday School Sermon at 11:00 a. m., on Wednesday, will be preached by Rev. LaVerne Miley, Rev. Woodrow Matthews, alternate.

Marie Hyatt, Clerk, Centerview, Mo.

NORTHWEST MISSOURI ASSOCIATION of Free Will Baptists will convene with Center Point Church, near Santa Rosa, Missouri, beginning on Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1947.

Miss Portteus Latimer, Clerk, Haddam, Kansas.

CENTRAL W. MISSOURI and S. E. KANSAS ASSOCIATION will be held, with Hickory Grove Church, near Archie, Missouri, beginning with Ministers' Conference on Tuesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1947. Rev. Harold Hoover, Speaker. R. L. Nutting, alternate.

District League Session Wed. p. m. Association begins on Wednesday night, Rev. Lowell Martin to bring the Introductory Message. Harold Hoover, alternate. Tessie M. Cross, Clerk, Stockton, Mo.

INDIAN CREEK ASSOCIATION will convene with the Blue Eye Church, at Blue Eye, Mo., beginning on Monday night before the first Sunday in September, 1947.

Ministers' Conference Monday night and all day Tuesday.

Introductory Sermon for the Association on Tuesday night. Paul Williams, Clerk, Carterville, Mo.

NORTHEAST MISSOURI ASSOCIATION of Free Will Baptists will convene with Lowground Church, near Stahl, Missouri, beginning on Thursday night before the first Sunday in September, 1947.

Ethel Thompson, Clerk, Greentop, Mo.