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A QUIET PLACE

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



“I am basically a quiet person. I love quiet things: a soft voice, a gentle breeze, a still morning; a sleeping child, a rippling stream, a floating cloud; a sprinkling rain, a quiet home, a peaceful night.”

The Only Answer to Oppressing Noise

by Joyce Proctor Beaman

Man has many needs: food, shelter, clothing; air, sunshine, water; love, forgiveness, God. Without these, he suffers physically and emotionally, and even dies.

Yet, if we are to maintain our sanity in our modern world, for many of us, the need for quietness competes with many of the so-called basic needs. We read much about environmental pollution of air, land, and water. There is much written about noise pollution: much more should be written!

Almost everywhere, noise seems to compete with price increases for first place. Turn on the radio and one immediately hears the exaggerated enthusiasm of swiftness and loudness, which, in the desperation to sell or to seem happy, takes on an air of artificiality. Many television commercials and programs cater to loudness: "Get attention, create excitement, shock people" seems to be the motto.

Business meetings, social gatherings, family reunions, and school assemblies seem to equate noise with enthusiasm, and even love. If there is not so much excessive noise that one cannot hear another speak, someone immediately asks, "What's wrong with everybody?"

It takes all kinds of people to make a world and all kinds of things to satisfy the needs of all these differences. Yet, appropriate, too, is the thought that there is much "reverse discrimination" against those who crave quietness. To escape noise, one must almost completely isolate himself from society.

These thoughts by an anonymous writer seem appropriate:

"I am basically a quiet person. I love quiet things: a soft voice, a gentle breeze, a still morning; a sleeping child, a rippling stream, a floating cloud; a sprinkling rain, a quiet home, a peaceful night . . ."

I am told by a noted physician that many of the ills of society could be cured if people would breathe deeply, and consciously, through thought and effort, relax their shoulders, faces—their entire body—eat a

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Cover Photo by Carolyn Burress
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Tommy Manning, Editor

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

A NEW YEAR'S GIFT OF COURAGE

by Pepper Worthington

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(This is the story of Janet Ruth Brewer, a 21-year-old Free Will Baptist from Aurora. Jan finished her last semester at Mount Olive College in December, 1979 and will receive her diploma at graduation in May, 1980. She and her mother, Mrs. David L. Brewer, are members of Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church.)

My parents discovered I had cystic fibrosis when I was four," said Janet Ruth Brewer of Aurora as she sat down in a corner chair in the Mount Olive College lounge.

Settled comfortably, she gracefully tossed her blond hair from side to side as she opened her bright eyes, gazed through the venetian blinds, looked out the window, and talked. Words tumbled out, easily, freely, bravely. "I've always known I was going to die, but I had never accepted it until two of my best friends at Duke Hospital actually died. I was in Duke when one of my cystic fibrosis friends died. Physically she was the worst off of all the patients. She kept on and on, living one month after another. If she can do it, I thought, then I can do it. And it scared me. Another friend had cystic fibrosis and she was 27. A couple of years ago she had a bad hemorrhage and was dying. One night she saw an angel at the foot of her bed. The angel told her not to worry. The angel was white. She felt peaceful."

'More Than Anything'

Jan Brewer is a Mount Olive College alumnae, a young woman whose self-discipline, confidence, and courage create a special aura for those fortunate enough to know her. "More than anything in the world I've wanted to earn my diploma from Mount Olive College," she asserted. "I have worked hard, studied, attended classes, and one day I am going to hang that diploma on my wall. That will be the proudest day in my life."

No Other Place

Asked if Mount Olive College was the place for her to be now, she smiled, twirled her green pencil and declared, "No other place would have helped me like here. I'm determined I am going to get that diploma. Mount Olive has given me dealings with different kinds of people. The College has shown me that strangers can care. People you don't know and think wouldn't give a hoot, do care."

And the one staff member who has been nicknamed "mother hen" is Mary Atkinson of the Admissions Office. Jan laughed, "Everyday I go into her office, she asks me if I've eaten right, if I'm too tired, if I've over-exerted myself. Everytime I do something, it gets back to her. She's really uncanny. She seems to know everything about me."

'Each Day Is Precious'

Jan is 21 years old. She lived beyond the doctors' expectations, beyond her family's expectations, and beyond her own expectations. Her disease is incurable. Currently she takes a pile of antibiotics, because part of her problem is her inability to digest food. Before each meal she takes the drug Cotyzm, an inch-long pill which she learned to swallow at four, because she didn't want the Cotyzm powder on her cereal. At four she told her mama, "That stuff tastes like ear wax." She then swallowed the gigantic pill.

Turn the Page



Jan Brewer talking to roommate, Lois Venable.

To Jan each day is precious. She admitted, "Sometimes it is so hard for me to breathe. If the weather is humid, I may have to sleep with oxygen at night." She has an oxygen tank in her room. Her roommate, Lois Venable from Pink Hill, helps her both with her oxygen tank and with her physical therapy. Jan said, "Lois beats on my back. It gets the mucas unclogged in my lungs. The mucas blocks the air-passages in my lungs and at times I feel like I am suffocating."

'Courage to Live'

But Jan has the will to live, the courage to face each day as a gift, the discipline to strive for something. "I'm going to get a degree in sociology," she declared. "I want to get a job at Duke Hospital to work with teenagers who have cystic fibrosis. There should be a place for these teenagers to go to talk. There should be a group therapy place. I could help because I understand. I'm 21 years old and I have to go to the pediatric floor at Duke. There is no place for teenagers who make it to their teen years. I want to help with teenagers."

Quietly Jan sat, looked down at her small feet, sighed. She looked up at the window, over to the coffee pot, down again to her feet. Softly she said, "My faith is not as strong as I want it to be. I believe everything has got a purpose. This disease was given to me so I could feel for somebody else. Everybody's got something wrong with them."

'Look at What You Have'

The room was silent. Jan coughed; her face reddened with the pressure of the mucas choking her lungs. When her voice cleared, she looked up and confessed. "I go through depressions a lot. The best thing for me to do then is to look at what I have. I've got all these people who want to help me. I've got opportunities to share with other people. Sometimes I get depressed when I think about time. It used to bother me. Up until a couple years ago I thought I had all the time in the world. I was told I would live until I was five. Then I reached 15. Now I am striving to reach 28. Everybody is expecting death just to happen to you. That used to bother me. Now I feel I must do what I feel is right, and then death doesn't bother me."

'Facing Fears'

Jan Brewer talks openly, bravely, freely. She believes in the therapy of bringing fears up from the subconscious to the conscious, looking fears in the eye, confronting fears, overcoming fears. "It is necessary to talk," she said. "A lot of my troubles depressed me because I wouldn't talk. But I've tried to talk. My roommate can attest to it. I talk about everything, all my problems. I'm trying to talk more. For one thing, it doesn't drive you crazy. You feel like someone else has got a hold of the problem and can help you through it. This is a little reassurance. Believe it or not, it seems like the more I think about death, the less afraid I am."

Cautiously she paused, looked about her and whispered, "Death used to scare me, but not any more. I feel like death is going to be a lot better than life, because I believe there is a place ready for me. Just think, I'm going to be able to go to that place, I'm going to be able to breathe, I'm going to be able to do and do and do until my heart's content! Everybody is so worried today about everything, all the trouble of oil and death. When you worry, like before a big exam, and when the exam is over, you discover that, well, the exam wasn't so bad."

'Learned Not to Give Advice'

When asked to give advice from what she had learned, Jan stopped, grinned mischievously, and exclaimed. "Never give advice."

This is the New Year of 1980—a special New Year with its own sunny days, lonesome wind, winter darkness, fireside warmth.

Jan said, "I want to do something for people. I kind of feel like I don't have a talent. But really, all you have to do is to live and you do something for people."

And Janet Ruth Brewer lives. She is 21 years old. She will walk across the stage with her graduation class and receive her diploma from Mount Olive College in May, 1980. And she does have a talent. Her talent is the courage to be.

“. . . really, all you have to do is to live, and you do something for people.”

A MODERN DAY CORNELIUS

submitted by Lizzie W. Dawson

Hastily I glanced at my watch as I sped down the congested highway. "Quarter till one, I'm going to be late for lunch again. Why did the instructor have to call a meeting after class today?" Suddenly an overwhelming impulse seized me. Stop here at this house and witness!" came the urging command. Hastily I turned on the left turn signal and made a quick exit across the lane. How the horns blasted and brakes squealed and I saw a few clenched fists and disgusted faces as the traffic picked up speed again.

Once in the quiet of the yard, I sat contemplating what I had done: already late for lunch, not giving the left turn signal at the proper time and here I sat contemplating witnessing to people I barely knew who were probably right now having their noon meal. I bowed my head and prayed for guidance; there was no doubt, God wanted me to go into this very house and tell these people about Jesus. Shyly I knocked at the door. Perhaps nobody would be home.

A stern-faced woman opened the door a crack, "Yes?" was all she said and when I asked permission to enter she opened the screen. An elderly man lay on the couch. I spoke to him, explained who I was and talked about the weather. Dirty dishes could be seen on the table in the adjoining room and I was thankful their meal was finished. Then summoning all my courage I asked permission to share my faith in my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. The woman retorted that it was a free country so I could proceed. Speaking directly to her I gave the clearest presentation of the gospel I could; she snorted,

turned her head and left the room and did not return.

Then I noticed that the man on the couch was leaning forward, straining to catch what I had been saying. Quickly I pulled my chair close beside him and asked, "Would you like to know how to be saved?" Never as long as I live will I forget the intensity and sincerity in his clear, blue eyes as he replied, "Yes ma'am. I have been sick a long time and I know if I died I would go straight to Hell. I have been lying here praying that God would send someone to show me how to be saved." I thought of Cornelius and silently thanked God for assigning the role of Peter to me.

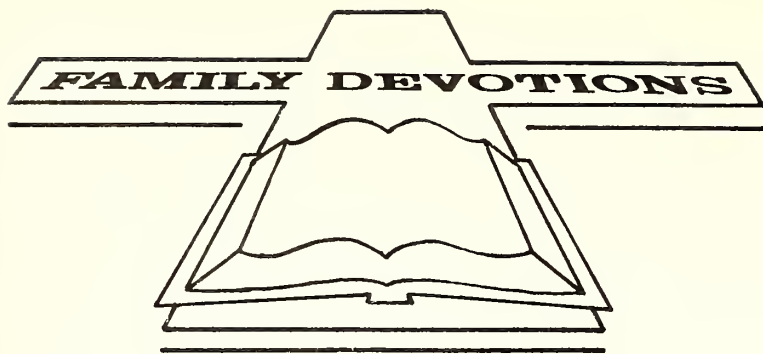
It was the easiest conversion I ever witnessed. Like Cornelius of old, he was just waiting to be shown how to be saved. He humbly bowed his head, confessed his sins and invited Jesus to come in as his Saviour and Lord. Promising I would visit him again soon, I went on my way rejoicing.

I learned that among many other afflictions he had cataracts and was unable to read the small print of his Bible. The Sunday school class I taught bought him a New Testament with large print. Each time I visited him he was either reading his Bible or it was lying close by where he had laid it to rest his eyes. "He has read more Bible this week than he had read all of his life together," his wife retorted. Sometimes he talked about the wonders of what he had read; other times he asked questions concerning what he had read. He was like a thirsty sponge, absorbing all he could contain of God's truths, resting and meditating upon what he read and then coming back for more.

The Holy Spirit was his infallible Teacher, for he was never able to attend church or Sunday school. He sent word to the church, however, that he wanted to be a member and if he was ever able he wanted to be baptized.

Soon I began teaching in the shut-in ministry of our church and he, of course, was one of my pupils. At first, his wife would invite me in, go immediately to the kitchen and engage herself with the noon meal. As I was leaving I would call out to her and thank her for allowing me the privilege of teaching her husband. Then one day I caught her at the kitchen door listening to the lesson; noticing she had been observed, she moved away. Christmas came and wonders of wonders! she bought him the entire Bible, both Old and New Testament in large print. I was so thrilled I could barely hold back the tears. "Well, he acts like that's all he's interested in," she said. Shortly after this, she began coming into the bedroom to hear the lesson. Again, I witnessed to her and back to the kitchen she went. I prayed for enlightenment and the Holy Spirit said, "Wait." Soon she again took her place as a pupil and this time she was an eager one. Never will I forget the morning I began to teach and each time I mentioned "Jesus" she would burst into tears. Hesitantly I waited and prayed to be shown what to do. Finally I asked if there was something she wanted to tell us. She almost shouted, "I am God's child; He has saved me!" I looked at the man on the bed and his face was radiant as tears trickled from his clear, blue eyes. Together we wept and rejoiced, thanking God for His marvelous grace and mercy. I explained that the Lord would want her to make a public profession of her faith and asked if she would like to. She replied eagerly, "Yes." That night one of the church members sat with

(Continued on Page 14)



SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

Scripture Reading—Hebrews
2:4-15

THIS YEAR IS YOURS
 God built and launched this year
 for you,
 Upon the bridge you stand;
 It's your ship, your own ship,
 And you are in command.
 Just what the twelve months'
 trip will do
 Rests wholly, solely, friend with
 you,
 Your log book kept from day to
 day—
 My friend, what will it show?
 The log will tell, like guiding
 star
 The sort of captain that you are.
 For weal or woe, this year is
 yours;
 Your ship is on life's sea, your
 acts
 As captain must decide
 Which ever it will be.
 So now, in starting on your trip,
 We ask God to help you sail your
 ship.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*A new year, unscarred, un-
 broken, awaits you. It is yours
 "for weal or woe." Approach it
 seriously with the aim to make it
 decidedly better than the last.*

MONDAY, JANUARY 14

Scripture Reading—John 13:8-
18

I'D RATHER SEE A SERMON
 I'd rather see a sermon, than
 hear one any day:

I'd rather one should walk with
 me, than merely show the
 way;

The eye's a better pupil, and
 more willing than the ear,
 Fine counsel is confusing but
 example's always clear.

And best of all the preachers,
 are the men who live their
 creeds,

For to see good put in action is
 what everybody needs.

I soon can learn to do it, if you'll
 let me see it done;

I can see your hands in action,
 but your tongue too fast may
 run.

And the lectures you deliver may
 be very fine and true;

But I'd rather get my lesson by
 observing what you do;

For I may not understand you
 and the high advice you give.

But there's no misunderstanding
 how you act and how you live.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*It cannot be overstated that
 the best lesson is taught through
 example. Live so that those
 around you can "see a sermon"
 every day.*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

Scripture Reading—John 4:10-
24

SOME WHO DO NOT GO TO CHURCH

Mr. Speeds will clean his auto,

Mr. Spurs will groom his
 horse,

Mr. Gadds will go to Coney,
 With the little Gadds, of
 course,

Mr. Flite will put carbolic
 On his homing pigeon's perch,

Mr. Weeds will mow his
 bluegrass,

Mr. Jones will go to church.

Mr. Cleet will drive a golf ball,

Mr. Tiller steer his boat,

Mr. Popper, on his cycle,
 Round and round the state will
 mote.

Mr. Swatt will watch a ball
 game,

Mr. Stake and sons will search
 Through the bosky woods for
 mushrooms,

Mr. Wilks will go to church.

Do you ask me what's the
 matter?

Do you wonder what is wrong?
 When the nation turns from
 worship,

Sermon, prayer and sacred
 song?

Why do people rush for pleasure,
 Leave religion in the lurch?

Why prefer a padded auto
 To the cushioned pew in
 church?

Reader, well I know the answer,
 But if I should speak aloud

What I think is the real reason,
 It would queer me with the
 crowd.

You'll be popular, dear reader,
 When you wield the critic's
 birch;

You'll be safely in the fashion
 If you blame things on the
 church.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*There are many excuses, but
 few good reasons given, for
 staying away from church.
 Reevaluate your attendance, its
 frequency and purpose. Are you
 among those who avail them-
 selves of every worship op-
 portunity?*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

Scripture Reading—Daniel
12:1-5

WHEN I'M ON TOP

When I'm on top of the moun-
 tain,

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

He's the bright and morning
star.
When I'm on the side of the
mountain,
He is the Rose of Sharon.
When I'm in the valley,
He's the lily of the valley.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Christ is always Christ
—whenever and wherever. If
we don't find Him, it is we who
have departed from Him—not He
from us.*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

Scripture Reading—John 1:1-10

THE MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE

The Bible is concerned only
incidentally with the history of
Israel or a system of ethics. The
Bible is primarily concerned
with the story of redemption of
God as it is in Jesus Christ. If
you read the Scriptures and miss
the story of salvation, you have
missed its message and
meaning. There have been those
who have gone through the Bible
and traced the story of Jesus:

In Genesis He is the Seed of
the Woman.
In Exodus He is the Passover
Lamb.
In Leviticus He is the Atoning
Sacrifice.
In Numbers He is the Smitten
Rock.
In Deuteronomy He is the
Prophet.
In Joshua He is the Captain of
the Lord's hosts.
In Judges He is the Deliverer.
In Ruth He is the Heavenly
Kinsman.
In the six books of Kings He is
the Promised King.
In Nehemiah He is the
Restorer of the nation.
In Esther He is the Advocate.
In Job He is my Redeemer.
In Psalms He is my All in All.
In Proverbs He is my Pattern.
In Ecclesiastes He is my
Goal.
In the Song of Solomon He is
my Satisfier.

In the prophets He is the
Coming Prince of Peace.
In the Gospels He is Christ
coming to seek and to
save.
In Acts He is Christ risen.
In the Epistles He is Christ at
the Father's right hand.
In the Revelation He is Christ
returning and reigning.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The whole Bible—every book
therein—speaks profoundly of
the Saviour. No one can read the
Word and not know that He is
real.*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

Scripture Reading—Leviticus
19:1-18

MY NEIGHBOR'S BIBLE

I am my neighbor's Bible
He reads me when we meet;
He reads me in my home—
He may be my relative or
friend,
Or slight acquaintance be;
He may not even know my name
Yet he is reading me.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The only Bible some people
have is the exemplary life we
live. With that realization, we
must carry forth with diligence
and sincerity of purpose.*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy
2:1-15

A TEACHER'S PRAYER

Lord, in another hour I stand
Before a wide-eyed, wond'ring
band
Of little ones—and mine to
teach—
My little school! What longings
lie
Behind this moment now so
nigh?
Now, ere from out my room I
fare,
Hear Thou, O Lord, a teacher's
prayer.

Great Teacher—God, oh, make
Thou me
The teacher that I long to be—
Who sees beyond the smiles and
tears
Of schoolroom life to coming
years,
Who touches children now, that
then
His impress may be seen on
men,
Who labors not for fame, or fee,
Who teaches e'en as unto Thee.

Help me, O Lord, as comes each
morn
And with it countless cares are
born—
The little things that mean so
much
To every childish heart I touch.
Help me to laugh, and tho' tired
and sad,
Help me to make my children
glad,
Help me, O Lord, when things go
wrong,
To carry on with cheery song.

Keep Thou each day my lips,
dear Lord,
From sharp or harsh or hasty
word,
Would patience yield to weary
nerve,
Help me to remember Whom I
serve.
I go to face this waiting band—
Oh, make me wise to understand
Each little heart within my
care—
Grant Thou, O Lord, a teacher's
prayer.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*"To understand each heart
within my care"—the teacher's
prayerful desire! Let no teacher
take his responsibility lightly.
Molding hearts and lives is
serious business.*

Selected from *The Speaker's
Sourcebook*, Zondervan Pub-
lishing House.

The greatness of our fear shows
us the littleness of our faith.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

PAUL PALMER COURSES OFFERS INSTRUCTION

The Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies offers courses of interest and help to pastors' wives, Sunday school teachers, and other Christian workers as well as pastors who are not able to attend regularly scheduled college classes.

The following Institute courses will be held on the Mount Olive College campus every Monday evening from January 14 through March 3:

7:00-8:15 p.m. The Free Will Baptist Church (History)
Dr. Michael Pelt, Instructor

8:30-9:45 p.m. Basic Communications Skills I
Mr. Sidney Johnson, Instructor

The following courses will be held off-campus at Kenly Free Will Baptist Church beginning Tuesday, January 15, and running every Tuesday evening through March 4:

7:00-8:15 p.m. The Four Gospels
The Rev. DeWayne Eakes, Instructor

8:30-9:45 p.m. The Letters of Paul
The Rev. Ray Wells, Instructor

Courses may be taken for credit toward an Institute degree for \$20 per course, or for non-credit at \$10 each.

For more information contact Frank R. Harrison, director, at Mount Olive College, 658-2502 or home at 658-9363.

SPRING REGISTRATION BEGAN JANUARY

Registration for Spring Semester courses at Mount Olive College began Monday, January 7.

Night classes begin the week of January 15, and feature several areas of study Monday through Thursday nights. All classes meet from 7-10 p.m. in the Henderson Building.

Monday night courses:

Accounting and Lab
Introduction to New Testament
English Composition

Tuesday night courses:

Introduction to Business
Preaching and Pastoral Care
Public Speaking

Wednesday night course:

American Literature

Thursday night courses:

Introduction to the Theatre
Introduction to Psychology
Courses at Mount Olive College are also available for audit at a cost of only \$20 per course. For more information contact the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phone (919) 658-2502.

FELLOWSHIP FILLS CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH EVENTS

The Free Will Baptist Fellowship of Mount Olive College participated in several Christmas events this season.

The group sponsored a trip to the Morehead Planetarium for the annual presentation of "The Star of Bethlehem," which portrays the annual search for the Christmas star.

The Fellowship's annual meeting featured a candlelight service and program entitled "How Far to Your Bethlehem" by Fellowship Advisor, Dianne B. Riley.

The Christmas events ended with a trip to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home for a party with "Santa Claus," a worship service, singing, refreshments, and gifts for everyone. The Children's Home party was sponsored in conjunction with the College Phi Beta Lambda organization.

NIGHT COURSES OFFER VARIETY

Mount Olive College is expanding their night course studies to include Monday through Thursday evenings due to the demands for educational opportunities.

Courses will begin Monday, January 14. Registrations for the spring semester are now accepted. The College Admission's Office will be open on Saturday, January 5, from 9 a.m. to noon in addition to regular 8-5 hours Monday through Friday.

Monday night courses include Accounting and Lab, Introduction to the New Testament, and English Composition.

Tuesday night courses are Introduction to Business, Preaching and Pastoral Care, and Public Speaking.

American Literature will be offered on Wednesday evenings and Introduction to the Theatre and Introduction to Psychology will be offered on Thursday nights.

All classes are held in the Henderson Building from 7-10 a.m. More information is available through the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phone (919) 658-2502.

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWED



Mrs. Cora Forrest Foyles

An endowed scholarship has been established at Mount Olive College by Mrs. Cora Forrest Foyles in memory of her late sister, Nora Ida Forrest. President W. Burkette Raper announced that the first award would be available for the 1980-81 academic year with first preferences being given to great nieces and nephews of Miss Forrest and students from Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church near Snow Hill.

Miss Forrest was a native of Greene County and a long-time employee of Branch Banking and Trust Company.

FREE WILL BAPTIST STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

The following Free Will Baptist students have been named to the Dean's List at Mount Olive College for the fall semester, 1979.

Bernice Kay Barbour from Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church near Smithfield, Trudy

Lynn Corbett from Howell Swamp Free Will Baptist Church in Walstonburg, Lisa Arleen Heath from Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church in Cove City, Jackie Jones from Grant's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church outside Mount Olive.

Also Teresa Dawn Kelly and Sheri Kay Slaughter of Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church in Newport, Jeanne Yvette Kittrell from Faith Free Will Baptist Church in Morehead City, and Sonya Faye McCoy from Hugo Free Will Baptist Church in Lenoir County.

And Mary Lynette Turner from Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church out from Goldsboro, Roy Ben Twisdale from Community Free Will Baptist Church in Weldon, Angela Kay Windley from Free Union Free Will Baptist Church in Pantego, and Mrs. Jo Ann Lewis Grubbs (Mrs. Adrian) from Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church in Deep Run.

A REMINDER TO LEARN

Paul Palmer courses will be offered on the Mount Olive College campus beginning Monday, January 14, and at the Kenly Free Will Baptist Church beginning Tuesday, January 15.

These eight-week courses give the Christian layman or minister an excellent opportunity to study God's work in a systematic program of study. For more information call Frank Harrison, Director, at 658-2502 (office) or 658-9363 (home).

Life with Christ is an endless hope; without Him it is a hopeless end.

TO THE MEMORY OF BROTHER KEMERY ARD

His First Christmas in Heaven

I have just had Christmas in Heaven:

A glorious wonderful day!

I stood with the saints of the ages,

Who found Christ the truth and the way.

I sang with the Heavenly choir!

And oh, what celestial music We brought to our Saviour and King!

We sang the glad songs of redemption,

How Jesus to Bethlehem came,

And how they had called His name Jesus,

That all might be saved through His name.

We sang once again with the angels,

The song that they sang that blest morn,

When shepherds first heard the glad story

That Jesus the Saviour was born.

O, how I wish you had been here:

No Christmas on earth could compare,

With all the rapture and glory

We witness in Heaven so fair.

You know now I always loved Christmas:

It seemed such a wonderful day,

With all my loved ones around me:

The children so happy and gay.

Yes, now I can see why I loved it:

And oh, what a joy it will be,

When you and my loved ones are with me.

To share in the glories I see.

So dear ones on earth, here's my greetings:

Look up till the day dawn appears,

And oh, what a Christmas awaits us,

Beyond all our partings and tears!

Mrs. Ethel Stephenson
Powhatan Church
Clayton, North Carolina

The Rev. James A. Evans

Submitted by Mrs. William A. Davis and Reginald T. Styron

DAVIS FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Davis, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. James A. Evans. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A SERVANT OF GOD



The Rev. James A. Evans

“. . . he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised” (Luke 4:18).

After a ministerial career spanning over half a century, James Evans came back to Carteret County in July, 1975, to pastor the Original Free Will Baptist Church at Davis. We were told he was retired or semi-retired; however, this turned out to be a completely inaccurate

report since the daily activities of this servant of God as he moves among his people will leave most younger men lagging far behind. Nor does he restrict his ministry only to those members of his church. Throughout this entire coastal area he is well-known, rendering a wide range of services which has caused him to be loved and respected to a degree seldom witnessed in a lifetime. In a baggy pair of coveralls, he will help someone perform a task for which help is not readily available, and those who are sick

or hospitalized, no matter where, know that “Big Jim” will be there as soon as he can.

The extraordinary life and ministry of James Evans are well known to the readers of **The Free Will Baptist**; therefore, we will only attempt to briefly summarize a career which has been both distinguished and sometimes sacrificial, from a personal standpoint. Born in Lucama, North Carolina, November 10, 1905, he was converted at age 13 under the preaching of evangelist Ira Waterman in the Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church. He was licensed to preach December, 1923, and was ordained January, 1925.

His educational background includes attendance at Eureka College, the Free Will Baptist Seminary at Ayden, North Carolina; participation in summer sessions of the Rural Pastor's Institute at Duke University, and involvement in University of North Carolina social studies. He also attended Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. It is interesting to note that after college training he returned to receive his high school diploma from Middlesex High School in 1945, some twenty years after studying in the Ayden Seminary.

During his years of service to the Free Will Baptist denomination, he has pastored these churches: Fremont Chapel; First Church, Jacksonville, Florida; Union Grove; St. Mary's, Wilson County; Stancil's Chapel; Pleasant Plain; Holly Springs, Johnson County; White Oak Hill; Kenly; Hull Road; Spring Branch; Friendship, Jones County; First Church, Wilson; Sound Side; Malachi's Chapel; Gum Neck; Piney Grove, Pitt County; Stoney Creek; First Church, Bryan, Texas; First Church, Goldsboro; First Church, Kinston; Dublin Grove; and Davis Original, Davis.

It was while serving the First Free Will Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, in 1927, that he met Ethel Fay Andreu, and they were married in the church there. To this union were born five children: Ann, Lorraine, J. Arthur, Kay, and Elizabeth (deceased). They now are the proud grandparents of ten grandchildren.

An outstanding contribution to the denomination was serving as Superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home from 1940 through 1949. Scouting has also had his enthusiastic support wherever he has pastored and he also sponsored one of the first Daily Vacation Bible Schools in North Carolina during the 1930's. As Public Relations Director of the new struggling Mount Olive Junior College, his encouragement and support of the young president, Burkette Raper, were major factors that helped develop that institution into one of which all Free Will Baptists are proud. Serving as moderator of various conferences and union meetings, he has been an inspiration to many younger pastors. He has written articles for publication, been active in civic affairs and gained a reputation for being dependable in every endeavor he has undertaken. As one of the founders of Cragmont Assembly, he helped bring to Free Will Baptists a religious retreat that continues to be a blessing to all. Very missionary-minded, he served on the National Foreign Mission Board and continues to actively support all phases of missions activity. Space will not permit the listing of many positions and offices which he has held but to each he gave his best in service to the Master and he continues serving faithfully to this day.

Supporting and standing by him through the years has been a good wife and mother to their children. Serving in various fields of service—the Sunday school, the leagues, auxiliary and other positions both in the

church, the denomination and the community—her contributions have been tremendous and played a vital role in the overall success of his ministry.

While serving as our pastor here at Davis, he is active in County ministerial activities. He was instrumental in setting up a chaplain's program at Sea Level Hospital and Sailor's Snug Harbor, a home for retired mariners. He is constantly engaged in visitation in homes and hospitals. Participating in activities of the Free Will Baptist Historical Commission and serving on the conference examining board, he is on the go continually. In the words of Dr. Raper, president of Mount Olive College, "Many men have served for half a century, but few have served so well."

At Davis we have found him to be pastor, father, and friend who always gives his best no matter what the situation or circumstances.

Late in the evening as the sun sinks beyond the wind swept shores of Core Sound at Davis, the powerful lamp atop Cape Lookout lighthouse can be seen in the distance as it beams its rays across the treacherous shoals stretching seaward. For over a century, it has warned mariners of the danger lurking in this Atlantic graveyard for ships, and untold thousands have been saved from a tragic end and directed to a safe harbor by this light along the shore. Today, in the troubled world of men where the old principles and values are being questioned and everything seems to be going wrong, James Evans continues to stand as he has for so many years, setting an example and pointing the way to the deeper waters of Christian living. There is no doubt that he will continue to serve his Lord and the Free Will Baptist denomination until that final day when he receives his call to come up higher, and he will come forth rejoicing, bring his sheaves with him.

From the Children's Home

THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA— MAY BE FOR YOUR CHURCH

The Boy Scouts of America is an organization your church might want to take a look at. Since its beginning, around the turn of the century, this organization has turned out some of our country's greatest statesmen and leaders in all fields of endeavor. The Boy Scouts of America organization seeks to provide love of God and country in the lives of young men.

One such young man, working on his Eagle Scout Award, recently raised several hundred dollars in food, clothing, and toys in his home community of Williamston, North Carolina. Boy Scout Troops in several of our churches take on many projects each year that benefit their local communities, their churches, and/or denominational enterprises.

The Children's Home has Cub Scout, Girl Scout, and Boy Scout Troops. The training and instruction received through scouting is both Christian and mind and body building. We feel our children are significantly helped by having the opportunity to participate in scouting.

Contact the denominational committee on scouting and consider a scouting program in your church. You'll find the committee listed in your year-book.

BOARD TO MEET

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference will meet January 21, 1980, at 9 a.m. in the meeting room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, Kinston, North Carolina. Anyone that has business to bring before the Board is invited to this meeting. There is a parking lot behind the bookstore.

W. H. Willis
Secretary

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For January 13

ISSUES OF LIFE AND DEATH

Lesson Text: John 11:20-32, 38-40
Memory Verse: John 11:25, 26

I. INTRODUCTION

Jesus was a frequent guest in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, who lived in Bethany, a little village about two miles southeast of Jerusalem. It was on one of these visits that Martha became upset with Mary because she apparently was not helping in the kitchen as much as Martha thought she should (Luke 10:38-42). Jesus mildly rebuked Martha for not having her priorities in the right order. Jesus' last visit occurred just before His crucifixion (John 12:1).

Just prior to the events recorded in today's lesson, Jesus had been campaigning in Perea. Then word came to Him that Lazarus was ill (John 11:3). Jesus deliberately delayed His departure for two days. Then He dramatically announced that it was time to go to Bethany. This decision created no little concern for the disciples, who immediately reminded Him of the danger in Judea. Jesus compounded their perplexity by informing them that Lazarus was only sleeping.

Then Jesus plainly told them that He had been using figurative language, that Lazarus was not sleeping but actually was dead. At this point Thomas, realizing that Jesus had every intention of going to Bethany, pledged himself to accompany Jesus, even if it meant death (vv. 6-16).

By the time Jesus arrived at Bethany, Lazarus had already been buried four days. Many Jews, members and friends of the family, had come to Bethany to console them. Such condolences were often extended for several days, and so it is not unusual that these mourners were still there when Jesus and the disciples arrived (vv. 17-19).

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In every congregation of God's people will be found some who are bearing a weight of sorrow of some kind. It may be caused by physical infirmity, by concern for another's grief, or by the event of a death in one's family. This latter cause of sorrow may at times be so overwhelming as to affect one's mental state. Strong emotions can literally alter one's personality and can result in bitterness or outright rebellion. Such persons desperately need our understanding and compassionate support.

B. We can help such persons if in the spirit of Christ we are willing to share their sorrow as Christ shared the sorrow of those whom He loved. This was the case with two sisters He knew and loved—Martha and Mary of the little town of Bethany. They were sisters to Lazarus who on the occasion in question had died and had been buried for four days.

C. None of us is able to do all that Christ did on this occasion; certainly we are unable to raise the dead, but we can surely raise the hopes and feelings of grief-stricken friends when we come

to them in the spirit of sympathy which characterized Christ's attitude toward these two emotionally burdened sisters.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. A little girl came to her mother in tears, asking, "Mama, how can I untrouble trouble?" As understandingly as possible, the kind mother talked with her child, telling her that Jesus knew all about her trouble and, better than anyone else, could help her "untrouble" her problems.

B. We face daily the issues (or crises) of life and death, many of which appear to be unsurmountable, and may indeed be when coped with inhuman strength. But Jesus can help when no one else can; He dissolves our troubles or, at least, enables us to bear them. Someone has said it this way: "Trouble may drive you to prayer, but prayer will drive away trouble."

C. Jesus can even lessen the sting of death. Most of us have had a precious loved one to die, and the presence of family members and friendly neighbors—sometimes even total strangers—may ease the pain of death and the pangs of sorrow. But try as they may, these dear ones cannot do for us in times of crisis what Jesus can. The presence of loved ones is great, but the presence of Jesus is greater.

D. Martha and Mary, two of Jesus' dear friends in Bethany, had their share of sorrow in the death of their brother Lazarus. In their sorrow there were questions, doubts, and even a misunderstanding of Jesus' purposes, but in the end tears were changed to smiles and sorrows to joy. Jesus did it all, and what He has done for others He will do for you and me.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

NEWS NOTES

Deacons Honored

On December 30

Every fifth Sunday is designated as Youth Sunday at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church in Greene County. During the fifth Sunday services on December 30, the young woman's auxiliary dedicated the flowers in honor of the deacons of the church. The deacons are Jasper O. Beaman, Harvey Cobb, Raymond Cobb, Linwood Cobb, Walter Stanley, Carlyle Oakley, and Carlos Tyson. They have a very important job in the church.

The young people of the church served as ushers. For the month of December they were Dennis Beamon, Bobby Tugwell, Danny Tugwell, and Marvin Morgan. Johnny Lewis presided as master of ceremonies for the services and the Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor, gave the morning message.

First Union of

Western Conference Meets

The First Union of the Western Conference met Saturday, December 29, 1979, with the Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson County. The host pastor was the Rev. Dewey Boling. The Rev. Milton Davis preached the union message.

Revival at

Pleasant Grove Church

Revival services will be held at the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Erwin, North Carolina, January 14 through January 19. The Rev. Mike Scott will be the evangelist. The Rev. Arnold Price is the pastor of the church. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Second Union of

Western Conference Met

The Second Union of the Western Conference met with Free Union Free Will Baptist

Church, Nash County, Route 2, Spring Hope, North Carolina, on Saturday, December 29, 1979, at 7 p.m. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Lester Duncan.

Tee's Chapel Church Has Inspiring Service



Leon Olive, Mildred Olive, Sharon O. Watson, Billy Greene, Michael Thompson, Monty Allen, and Earl Myers.

On Sunday night, December 2, 1979, Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Smithfield, North Carolina, had a very inspiring service. The Rev. Elmer Thompson brought the evening message, after which the pastor, the Rev. T. C. Farmer, baptized seven converts. They were Leon Olive, Mildred Olive, Sharon O. Watson, Billy Greene, Michael Thompson, Monty Allen, and Earl Myers.

Observances and Celebrations By Plymouth, First Church

Wednesday, December 12, was Choir Recognition Night at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth. The choir honored Mrs. Jackie Sadler, pianist-choir director, and Mrs. Mary Miller, assistant, with a fellowship in the social room of the church, which was decorated most beautiful with holly, greenery, and candles.

During the same occasion, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Bateman were recognized as having the most faithful choir attendance during the past year.

Honorable mention also went to Mrs. Monroe Bateman, Mrs. Mary Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Sadler, Mrs. Charles Spruill Jr., and Mrs. Charles Spruill Sr. for having been faithful choir members for the past thirteen years.

On Sunday night, December 16, the church presented its annual Christmas program. There were many recitations by the small children, and the adults and young people presented a drama entitled, "To Be Rich," the theme of which was "If we have Christ in our hearts and serve Him daily, we are rich."

On Tuesday, December 18, the Junior Sunday School Class distributed boxes of groceries and fruit arrangements to seven needy families in the Plymouth area. Those who received the food were very grateful for the kindness.

On Friday, December 21, at 7 p.m., about forty members gathered at the church to go Christmas caroling. They sang carols through the streets of Plymouth and the surrounding area, stopping at the homes of elderly citizens.

YFAers sent a box of useful things to Rusty Ambrose who is now serving in the Air Force in Korea. Rusty was active in the youth programs of the church before he went into service.

A candlelight service was presented on December 23, at 7 p.m. Christmas hymns were sung, followed by a reading after each. Mutual lighting of candles was observed, while the pastor, the Rev. Floyd Burkey, read the Scriptures. The service was a blessing to everyone as it focused the attention on Christ as the Light of the world.

Coming Events . . .

January—Entire month designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Retirement Homes Month

January 19—Central District Youth Fellowship, Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, 7:30 p.m.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Mrs. Ruby Stewart received the highest honor her auxiliary could bestow on her as she was given the Life Membership Award. The presentation was made at the Shady Grove Auxiliary annual Christmas dinner. Mrs. Carolyn Jernigan, whose life has been especially blessed by Mrs. Stewart, made the touching presentation. She began by reading the description of a virtuous woman from Proverbs 31. Mrs. Stewart has been active in auxiliary work longer than any other member in her local auxiliary. She is faithful in her attendance at all meetings and always carefully records the proceedings and sends them to the local newspapers.

Married to C. Nelson Stewart, the couple have no children and so they "adopted" two needy, deserving girls in the community and bestowed on them all the love and care they would have given their own. Both of the girls are now married and the grandchildren are also claimed as Mr. and Mrs. Stewart's very own. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart also have a great love for elderly people. For years they have taken elderly widows into their home and given them a vacation, a time when they are made to feel that they are indeed special persons. They often take time out to carry an older person for her regular check-up at the doctor's, or on a shopping spree, or to the grocer's.

Mrs. Stewart is a retired school teacher and librarian. A conservative guess would be that her life has touched and influenced at least 5,000 young people. Presently she is librarian at Shady Grove church, Route 5, Dunn, North Carolina. She is also assistant teacher of the Betty Dawson Bible Class and in addition to her secretarial job in the auxiliary, is assistant financial secretary of the church.

After Mrs. Jernigan finished her tribute to Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Stewart came forward and presented his wife the auxiliary pin. He then gave an oral preview of their life together; beginning with the statement that he knew the first time he saw her that she was the one he wanted for his life's mate and closing by stating that he would not change anything about her.

The auxiliary women, their husbands and other invited guests then joined hands and sang, "Joy to the World, the Lord Is Come." The Rev. Jeff Scarborough then prayed the prayer of benediction.

A MODERN DAY CORNELIUS

(Continued from Page 5)

her husband and she went forward at the invitation and was baptized that same night.

My Cornelius grew weaker and weaker physically but his spiritual strength gained momentum. One day I went to teach and realized he was too tired to listen. Gently I pulled my chair close to his bed and talked about all the glories of Heaven and the things God has prepared for those who love

Him. "I believe all that and I know whom I have believed."

The following Sunday I stood by an open grave and thanked God again for giving me the privilege of knowing and loving a modern-day Cornelius.

Are there others, like him, out there? praying, waiting and hoping that God will send someone before it is too late? Surely, he was only one of whom Jesus spoke when He said, "The fields are white unto harvest but the laborers are few . . ."

MEETING TO BE HELD

The Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship will meet January 21, 11 a.m., at the Three Steers Restaurant, Greenville, North Carolina.

MEETING TO BE HELD

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet January 21, at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina, at 1 p.m. Anyone having dealings with the council please attend this meeting.

Royce Reynolds
Secretary

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

well-balanced meal, take a warm bath, and get a good night's sleep. Though many are physically and mentally ill, many others suffer from frustration, strain, stress—from noise pollution! The French philosopher, Blaise Pascal said, "All men's miseries come from the inability to sit quiet and alone."

Noise seems here to stay, but many of us, if we are to maintain our sanity, must often escape the frantic rush and clamor to retreat to a place of quietness to gain strength. God, through His Word and His Spirit, is the answer to our needs, in sickness and in health, and in coping with our daily problems. One can always recall that promised wisdom of the ages, "Be still, and know that I am God: . . ." (Psalm 46:10). Be still and reach: God is always there!

RETIREMENT IS IN YOUR FUTURE

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

There are nearly 50 million people in this country over the age of 55. A large percentage of these people have retired. Each year for a number of years the older worker has left the job earlier to retire. Retirement communities have sprung up all over the country. Retirement homes and nursing homes are enjoying great success.

Unless an accident or illness takes our life, all of us will reach retirement age. Like death, it is a bridge that we must cross if we live. With the work force flooded with younger workers, the older worker finds himself facing early retirement.

The retiring years can be a dismal period or they can be active and creative. It is true what they say, "you are as old as you feel." Some of those who have reached retirement age do not feel old and are definitely not ready to quit. They want to remain active and still have a great deal to offer an employer or as a volunteer in a community.

Retirement homes such as our own must consider these needs along with the other basic needs of the retirees. One of the advantages of having our retirement ministry near our

children's ministry is that those retirees who want some part-time work to do can find it in the cottages, in the office, maintenance, and other areas of work. Many retirees are capable of babysitting and performing numerous community functions. Every effort is made to give the retirees every opportunity to do as much as he or she feels they can do. Our directors seek to keep the retirees informed of denominational activities and encourage them to attend as many of these functions as possible through the year. Every retiree will not want to work after retirement but for those who want to, community planning should include programs for the retired person.

Retirement is in your future. It will offer you a time when you can do many of the things you've always wanted to do. Work when you want rather than out of necessity. On the other hand, many retirees may need to supplement their income and the availability of part-time work is a basic need that must be met. Our retirement directors are taking all these things into consideration in an effort to make our Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes more attractive to our people.

ATTENTION

The Board of Ordination of the Western Conference will meet on Friday, January 11, at 10 a.m. at Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, North Carolina. All ministers and/or churches having business with the Board of Ordination are urged to meet with the Board at this time. Please contact the Board Chairman, the Rev. J. B. Godwin, at Route 2, Selma, North Carolina 27576 or call 965-3054. This will enable our chairman to give you a definite appointment. This will save you

time and enable the work of the Board to be carried out in a more orderly manner.

J. B. Godwin, Chairman
DeWayne Eakes, Clerk

NOTICE

Dear Sir:

The following resolution was passed by the Central Conference at its most recent meeting. We would like to have this resolution printed in THE FREE WILL BAPTIST. We would like to express our appreciation to the Press for providing our churches with

Sunday school literature, especially the new Bible Series for Children.

Be it resolved that we express our appreciation to the Free Will Baptist Press for their improvement of Sunday school literature, especially for the new Bible Series for Children.

Be it further resolved that we recommend this literature and encourage our people to continue to use Free Will Baptist literature in their churches.

Be it further resolved that this resolution be published in THE FREE WILL BAPTIST and a letter of thanks be sent to the manager and the Board of Directors.

Sincerely,
Leon Grubbs
Central Conference Clerk

A PLACE BY ME

"A place by Me," the Master said

Is what I plan for you.
Not restless striving
Here and there
But just My will to do."

"How shall I serve Thee,
Saviour dear?
I have more talents true."
His answer came with quiet
love—
"Not talents, child, but YOU."

Peace—longed for oft,
But sought in vain
Is now my portion o'er.
'Tis best to do the
Master's will
And let Him choose the where.

Oh, why should I delay so long
His perfect will to see?
He takes my all, but in return
HIMSELF reveals to me.

—Loveday

It costs nothing to become a
Christian, but it costs everything
to be a Christian.

DUKE UNIVERSITY
DORRANCE H. C. 27708

JANUARY
is
RETIREMENT
HOMES MONTH



GOAL
\$2.00 per Member

Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc.
PO Box 250
Middlesex, NC 27557

485 76

A CHRISTIAN WILL NOT STOP AT IMPROVING HIS BODY AND MIND—HE WILL BE INTENT ON IMPROVING HIS SPIRIT, AND WILL EXERCISE TOWARD STRONG CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT.



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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JANUARY 16, 1980

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Tommy Manning, Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$6.24; two years, \$11.44; four years, \$22.88 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$6, \$11, and \$22 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and address to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING IN SHAPE

For some time now attention has been focused on keeping fit and healthy, with emphases placed on the cardiovascular system (heart and blood vessels), the lungs, and general muscle tone.

More than a few contemporary Americans (and other nationalities) follow rigid exercise programs in well-equipped gyms; numbers (in family groups and singly) take late afternoon bike rides for health and pleasure; others follow a systematic program of jogging two miles a day; still others frequent the health spas where they twist, bend, lift, run in place, sweat, bathe, cool off, and, after months of conditioning, get back into shape and attest to feeling better.

For a time, only the physically assertive and professional athletes followed exercise programs of physical training; but now the housewife, the attorney, the minister, the college professor, the retired Army officer, the office worker, the secretary, the artist, the English teacher, the musician, the newscaster, and the movie star practice keeping fit. Perhaps the impetus came when the late President Kennedy stressed physical health as one of the factors of national pride and success.

And since that time, many physicians have gone on record as approving a program of exercise and commend the public at large for implementing physical fitness. They see long-range benefits in terms of a physically stronger and a mentally more-alert society. (It has been shown that the physically healthy concentrate better.)

A diligent person, especially a Christian, will not stop at improving his body. While he recognizes that his body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and realizes that it must not be defiled, he will be most intent on improving his spirit and satisfying incorporeal needs; he will (or should) exercise toward strong character development. To "feel good" spiritually, one must keep in tune with his Creator; he must fortify himself with spiritual exercise and conditioning: increasing the spiritual intake and practicing it consistently.

As overstated as it might be, it is nonetheless important that one spend considerable time in daily prayer and reading of God's Word. Just as valuable are the quiet moments of meditation during which all but God is forgotten, when God and the spirit really communicate, where spiritual growth and conditioning are realized and achieved.

One can bank on spiritual fitness, just as in the case with physical fitness. In times of adversity or weakness, one can muster forth the reserve and feel that there is something to fall back on; there is support.

(Continued on Page 16)

A VISION OF THE FUTURE OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Michael R. Pelt

TO speak of the future of Mount Olive College is to describe a vision or to tell of a dream. It is not my intention to make predictions about the future. Predictions are hazardous at best. In any case it is not predictions that we need but a vision of the possible, a dream of what can be. It is those individuals who have looked at things as they are and dared to dream of a different world who have kindled the hopes of mankind.

The Prophet Joel said, "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions" (Joel 2:28).

First, let me say that this college would not exist unless there had preceded it the dreams of old men and the visions of young men. And those who had such dreams and visions could do so because they believed in a God with whom all things are possible. When the motion was presented to the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists in September, 1951, that a college be established, there was nothing at hand with which to build such a college; it was only a vision shared by men and women who remembered that in the previous generation this people had built a college only to see it lost in a great depression and a devastating fire. Some dreams will simply not die, even though the dreamers suffer from deprivation and loss and sometimes do not live to see their dreams come true.

Dream of a Four-Year College

I want to share with you a dream about the

future of this college. Such dreams must be told if they are to begin taking on the force of reality.

I have a dream of this college as a center of education awarding baccalaureate degrees in a variety of disciplines. The curricula to be offered will continue to be built upon a foundation of liberal arts or general studies, for I do not see how liberal learning can be displaced by the growing number of specialist fields if we are to maintain free institutions and a humane society. Nor can we look to the secondary schools to provide this important ingredient of American education if recent trends in the high schools continue.

Since I am not offering predictions, I will not try to identify the curricula in which majors or concentrations of courses will be offered, though I hope it would include a balance among the various disciplines and career fields and that each major field in which a degree is offered will not be too narrowly conceived. The curriculum in some of the major fields will provide strong undergraduate and pre-professional programs for those students who wish to enter careers that require advanced study in graduate and professional schools.

If Mount Olive is to meet the needs of its constituency and the demands of a competitive society, it must provide quality education for its students. No amount of curriculum planning will assure this without well-trained and dedicated faculty. This means, among other things, that the majority of the faculty will have the doctorate in the fields in which they are teaching and the rest will have advanced study beyond

Turn the Page

the master's degree or will be otherwise qualified by special training and experience. They will continue to be persons who have a genuine interest in their students, for this should always be a hallmark of Mount Olive College. But they will have to devote more attention to personal and professional development, as well as research and writing for publication and/or involvement in community action programs. They will receive adequate compensation even though it may not be enough to prevent them from feeling discriminated against by a society which values other kinds of work more highly than the service of teaching.

Christian Commitment

Because Mount Olive is a church-related college which sees the value of a partnership between the church and Christian higher education, there will continue to be a Christian orientation to life and learning on this campus. For this reason, the administration and faculty will not relax their efforts to actualize the claims of the College to provide a distinctive program of Christian higher education. Such an aim will mean a continuing search for ways in which faith and learning will be integrated and each will strengthen the other. This search will continue only as long as the personnel of the College are committed to it; hence, this must be one of the major qualifications for employment here. In this way scholarship, as well as student development, will be directed toward goals that enhance the quality of human life and our graduates will strive to make their life goals coincide more with the all-embracing claims of the Kingdom of God and less with the pursuit of a cankerous and deadening materialism.

A genuine commitment to Christ on the part of all who have a part in shaping the future of the College will help to save us from false pride and pettiness, from partiality and party-spirit, from overweening ambition and self-destructive strategies. On the other hand, it will be a continual reminder of why we are here; it will provide motivation for the difficult tasks we are expected to perform; and it will season with grace our daily contacts with our colleagues and students.

Commitment to Learning

Such a faculty and administration as we

have described will make this college not just a youth hostel with adjoining classrooms, but a genuine community of learning, one in which scholarship will not be just a shibboleth or a fancy word to designate a form of financial aid but a genuine mark of achievement and learning.

This community of scholars will include a student enrollment of six to eight hundred young men and women, some of them in their thirties and forties, and as many as four to five hundred enrolled in evening and off-campus centers. More of them will know why they are in college because of the presence of upper division students and the fact that the average age of the students will be in the mid-twenties. A majority will be North Carolina residents, but there will be a significant number from other states and from foreign countries, a fact which will make the campus outlook less provincial. These students will be more conscious of national and world issues and problems. The factor of shrinking resources as these affect the entire world will make them less wasteful and more concerned about the proper use and distribution of the world's resources. They will be more open toward the idea and the responsibilities of world citizenship and of the necessity of cleaning up the environment.

If the future students and faculty of Mount Olive are going to be challenged to think creatively about how to deal with such issues and problems, they will necessarily be introduced to the best learning resources available. For this reason the library will be well-stocked with books (at least 100,000) and periodicals and will also have films, slides, filmstrips, video-tapes, microfilm, and all the latest equipment for effective use of these and other learning resources. Faculty will plan their courses to make greater use of the library as a resource center. The reading areas in the library will be places where students will spend more of their time, quietly pursuing their research and the preparation of papers and reports. There will, however, be more emphasis on learning in relation to life.

Our students will be stimulated and guided in such a manner as to maximize their learning experiences while enrolled here. They will devote less time to things which add nothing to their lives because their schedules will be

crowded with task-oriented experiences which increase their knowledge and appreciation of what is best in our culture and they will be involved in learning activities which develop their critical faculties, their social awareness, their spiritual sensitivities, and their soundness of mind and body. They will be impatient with teachers and staff members who fail to challenge them to develop their full potential as human beings and they will identify with those who provide a model of growth toward responsible citizenship.

Our students will be interested in acquiring certain skills that will prepare them for the world of work, but because of the atmosphere of learning created on this campus, they will be eager to learn more about themselves as human beings, about how to live, how to relate to the mystery of God and the lesser mysteries of the world. They will be raising the larger questions of life, such as, what makes us truly human? How did we arrive at this moment in history? What are the possibilities for the future of mankind? And how can we help to shape that future? They will want to know more about their natural environment and man's relation to it, how the earth as man's home can be nurtured rather than exploited. They will be more interested in the question of our ultimate destiny—death and beyond. They will be searching for values in a world that will be changing at an even more rapid pace than we have known.

There will be more alternative life styles, especially those which emphasize a tighter discipline and restraint. It will be as always an opportunity for the Christian college to present to its students the way, the truth, and the life that is in Christ. Many of them will have had some acquaintance with the Christian message and will welcome an opportunity to see how it can provide an anchor for their lives and enable them to find meaning and purpose in their daily existence.

Since Mount Olive College will not be large by current standards, it will still provide abundant opportunity for developing meaningful and lasting relationships. Such relationships will enhance both the personal and social development of our students and will foster a spirit of genuine community. There will still be something of the family atmosphere that

now prevails in that each person will feel that he belongs to a community of learning in which he is expected to make significant strides toward the full realization of his own potential while at the same time he contributes toward the growth of his fellow learners.

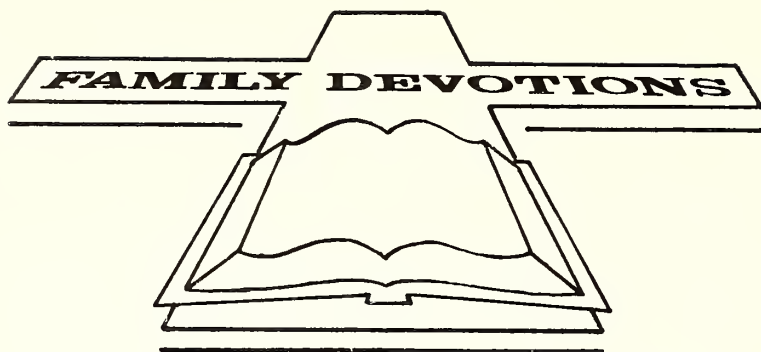
New Buildings

There will, of course, be a need for more facilities to accommodate the programs by which this vision of the future of the College is to be carried out. The proposed College Hall, for which architectural plans are already complete, will be the next phase of campus development. It will meet a variety of pressing needs, not all of which can be mentioned here. The practical matter of providing classroom space and indoor facilities for physical education will cheer the hearts of everyone. The basketball program and other indoor sports, both intercollegiate and intramural, will receive a great boost with the completion of this facility. It will do much toward making the people of this area and the friends of the College everywhere more conscious that the College exists by bringing them to the campus for sports events and meetings of various kinds.

A fine arts building, complete with facilities for art, music, and drama, will be the next phase of campus development. This area of the curriculum will receive far more attention with the completion of this building. A Christian liberal arts college can and should offer an excellent program of education in the fine arts, for the arts provide opportunity for creative expression and the development of the creative capacities of students. Moreover, the creative and performing arts are among those kinds of experiences by which a college can help its students become aware of the truly human qualities that need to be discovered and drawn out in all of us. Art exhibitions, great musical performances and recitals, and outstanding theatre productions will be regularly featured on the college calendar.

Other buildings to be added to the campus will include a student center, administrative offices, and more student housing to accommodate a larger enrollment. The campus will be landscaped to enhance the beauty of each new addition with the possibility of a pool of water near the center of the quadrangle

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 6:1-11

KEPT!

A man whose heart had been deeply touched by the death of a friend expressed a desire to begin the Christian life, and he told the minister so.

"There's just one thing makes me hesitate," he added. "I'm afraid I can't hold out. You know, where I work there are some pretty rough fellows. I don't believe there's a real Christian in the crowd."

For answer the minister reached down and lifted a flower from the vase on the table.

"Do you see this flower, Arthur?" he asked. "It grew right in the mud and slime of a marsh. Yet see how clean and spotless it is. That's because God kept it. And He can keep you, too!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we truly trust in God, He will keep us from worldly influence—He will help us hold out. Christian faith and strength must be fortified daily with a sampling of His Word.

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

Scripture Reading—Psalm 68:1-11

WHY SHE HID THE BIBLE

Some Christian women met in a home in Hollywood for their weekly Bible study. The leader,

standing before the group, said, "O my, I came away without my Bible!" The hostess hurried away to get her Bible. She looked where she usually kept it, but it wasn't there! She searched for it, but couldn't find it. "What will those ladies think of me?" she thought. Running downstairs, she said to the newly employed cleaning woman, "Mattie, have you seen my Bible?" Mattie exclaimed, "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" "Why, what do you mean, Mattie?" Beamingly, Mattie said, "The first thing I do when I go to work at a new place is to hide the Bible." "But why?" asked her employer in astonishment. Mattie said, "Just to find out how long it takes the people to miss it. You'll find your Bible in the linen closet under the sheets!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

No Bible should be hidden away from those who desire it. It should always be within easy reach for solace and edification.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 9:1-10

IF GOD FORGOT

If God forgot the world,
 Forgot for just one day—
 Forgot to send the sunshine,
 And change the night to day;
 Forgot to make the flowers
 grow,
 Forgot the birds and bees,
 Forgot to send the sweetness
 Of the south wind in the trees;
 Forgot to give us friendships,

Forgot to send us rain,
 Forgot to give the children play,
 Forgot to soften pain;
 What would happen to this world
 and us?
 Would we still be gay?
 If God should forget—
 Forget for just one day?

PRAYER THOUGHT

God is faithful toward us; He supplies our needs, our desires, many things we have too often taken as a matter of course. Let us be diligent in serving and thanking Him.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

Scripture Reading—John 4:18-24

AN OLD QUESTION

Question: Can I be a Christian without joining the church?

Answer: Yes, it is possible. It is something like being:

- A student who will not go to school.
- A soldier who will not join an army.
- A citizen who does not pay taxes or vote.
- A salesman with no customers.
- An explorer with no base camp.
- A seaman on a ship without a crew.
- A business man on a deserted island.
- An author without readers.
- A tuba player without an orchestra.
- A parent without a family.
- A football player without a team.
- A politician who is a hermit.
- A scientist who does not share his findings.
- A bee without a hive.

PRAYER THOUGHT

A Christian should become a part of God's family. He should join himself with the fellowship of believers, the brotherhood. Only then can he enjoy the real benefits of his Christian experience. Sharing with others through church membership is very important.

Scripture Reading—Psalm 5:1-

GOD'S VOICE IN THE MORNING

"My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up" (Psalm 5:3).

If we felt more the majesty of life we should be more careful of our mornings. He who rushes from his bed to his business and waiteth not to worship is foolish as though he had not put on his clothes or cleansed his face, and as unwise as though he dashed into battle without arms or armor. Be it ours to bathe in the softly flowing river of communion with God before the heat of the wilderness and the burden of the way begins to oppress us.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Never begin your day without God. Just as you would not begin in any task without some preparation, never attempt to live through one day without consulting with God.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

Scripture Reading—Philippians 2:1-8

THREE CROSSES

Three crosses on a lonely hill,
A thief on either side,
And, in between, the Son of God
...
How wide the gulf—how wide!
Yet one thief spanned it with the words,
"Oh, Lord, remember me";
The other scoffed and turned aside
To lost eternity.

Forsaken is the hilltop now,
And all the crosses gone,
But in believing hearts of men
The center cross lives on.

And still, as when these sentinels
First met earth's wondering

view,
The presence of the Lord divides—
Upon which side are you?

PRAYER THOUGHT

Scoffers and repenters—they are on each side of us, in front of us, back of us, and among us. They are not hard to distinguish. Let us rebuke the scoffers, commend the repenters, and always concentrate toward a closer walk with Him.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

Scripture Reading—Colossians 2:1-14

HE BECAME SIN FOR US
O the mystery of His mercy!

Ungussed depths of matchless grace,
Christ became that which He hated,
While God turned away His face.

Turned in wrath from His Beloved,
Hanging there upon the tree,
Strangely changed, and strangely bearing
All the sins of you and me.

Angels dared not look upon Him,
But averted stricken eyes,
Seeing, not the Lord of glory,
But a bleeding Sacrifice.

Through the circling, endless ages
Such a sight had never been;
He, the spotless Lamb of Heaven,
Christ the Lord, becoming sin!

PRAYER THOUGHT

The message has been so often told: Christ died for sinful man. Let us not become insensitive to that haunting thought that God made His Son to become sin in our stead. What matchless love!

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

SCRIPTURES AVAILABLE FOR "BOAT PEOPLE"

Thousands upon thousands of refugees from Vietnam can turn to the American Bible Society and its fellow Bible Societies overseas for God's Word in their native languages.

The refugees have become known throughout the world as "boat people" because of the boats they use to flee their homeland.

Many have been subject to extreme dangers while at sea, including bad weather, inadequate food and water supplies, and pirate raids.

In an attempt to reach the boat people with the Word of God, the Bible Societies have prepared Scriptures for distribution in both refugee camps abroad and to individual refugees here in America.

The American Bible Society maintains a large supply of Bibles, New Testaments, and Scripture Selections in Vietnamese and is providing Scriptures for distribution here at home.

Since the mother tongue of many of the boat people is Chinese, ABS is also maintaining a large stock of Chinese Scriptures.

Overseas, the Bible Society in Hong Kong and the Bible Society of Singapore are publishing and distributing Scriptures for refugee camps.

The American Bible Society is a nonprofit organization that has had only one goal for the past 163 years: the translation, production, and distribution of the Holy Scriptures without doctrinal note or comment.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Douglas Skinner announces that he now has a new address. It is P. O. Box 117, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510. His old address was 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711.

everyone to attend and worship the Lord in these services.

Friendship Church to Have Revelators

Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Farmville, will feature the Revelators in the evening service on February 19, 1980. The group will present a program of gospel music and a production called "Noah's Ark." An offering will be taken for the Children's Home at Middlesex. All area churches are invited to attend the service.

The Rev. Walter Reynolds is pastor of Friendship church.

Lord's Acre Harvest Day at Sidney Church

The Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Belhaven, had a special day, November 25, 1979. This day was called Lord's Acre Harvest Day. This day was special because of the tremendous offering given. The service was as usual. Sunday school opened at 10 a.m. led by Superintendent Linwood Jones. Worship service began at 11 a.m. The Rev. Steve Hargrove, pastor, opened the service with congregational singing and prayer. Mr. Hargrove then brought the morning message concerning "The Emphasis of Giving." After the worship service the pastor announced the amount of the offering in the amount of \$9,810.22.

Bible Conference to Be Held at Marlboro Church

The Rev. David W. Hansley will be the guest speaker at a Bible Conference to be held at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina, January 27-30. The topic of the conference will be the Book of Daniel. The conference will begin with the evening worship service at 7 on Sunday. The other sessions will begin at 7:30 each evening.

Mr. Hansley is pastor of Daly's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Lenoir County. He will be using visuals as he shares

GREAT COMMISSION VISITING IN NORTH CAROLINA



The Great Commission Company

The Great Commission Company is a twelve-member vocal and instrumental group which is a part of the music ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ. Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, it is one of five such groups working with Campus Crusade in the United States.

The Great Commission Company will be visiting in the North Carolina area next week and have concerts scheduled in the following places: Sunday, January 20, the 11 a.m. service at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson, the Rev. Clyde W. Cox, pastor; Tuesday, January 22, the 11 a.m. chapel services at Mount Olive College; Wednesday, January 23, the 7:30 p.m. service at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, the Rev. Norman Ard, pastor; Friday, January 25, a 7:30 p.m. service at the Sherron Acres church in Durham, the Rev. Harry Grubbs, pastor; Sunday, January 27, the 7 p.m. service at Daniels Chapel church near Wilson, the Rev. David C. Hansley, pastor.

All of these pastors and congregations extend a special invitation to everyone to join them when this group is in the area.

Weekend Revival at Watery Branch Church

Revival services will be held at Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Stantonsburg, North Carolina, beginning January 17 through January 20. The Rev. C. M. Coats of Smith-

field, a former pastor of the church, will be the evangelist. Services will begin each night at 7:30. Special music will be presented by the church and local groups. The Rev. A. G. Smith, pastor, and the church membership cordially invite

background material and expounds upon the meaning of the Book of Daniel. Mr. Hansley has done much study and spent many hours preparing for his presentation.

The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor, and congregation extend an invitation to everyone to share in the conference.

Deacon Ordination Service At First Church, Plymouth

On Sunday, January 6, at 8 p.m., the Plymouth First Free Will Baptist Church held a deacon ordination service for Edgar Pierce and a reinstatement service for Lewis Sullivan.

The Rev. Floyd Burkey, pastor of the church, read Scripture from Acts 6. He assured the deacons that the Holy Spirit would always guide them in the authority that the church had entrusted to them.

The Rev. John Sexton assisted in the services by reading from 2 Timotny 3, followed by the charge of service to the deacons, which was followed by the laying on of hands by the pastors and deacons.

Mr. Charlie Spruill Sr., Mr. Wilmer Barfield, and Mr. J. L. Sadler rotated off the deacon board. The pastor presented each of them with a beautiful plaque of appreciation for their service in God's work.

Mrs. Floyd Burkey sang "Little Is Much." The church then gave the right hand of fellowship to the new deacons.

Senior Citizens Entertained

The Young People and Young Married Sunday School Classes at Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, entertained the Senior Citizens within the church and church community with a country Christmas dinner on Sunday night, December 9, in the church kitchen.

Invitations were designed and hand delivered to the Senior Citizens by class members. Transportation was made avail-

able to those who needed it. The guests had fun talking with old friends, meeting new ones, and eating a delicious meal, followed by special music led by the Young People's Class.

JOHNNIE THOMAS BOYD

Johnnie Thomas Boyd, better known to everyone as Johnnie, was born in the year of our Lord 1911 to Sadie and Richard Boyd in Beaufort County and the Ephesus church community. During his early youth, Johnnie accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour and united with the Ephesus Free Will Baptist Church.

Johnnie was married to Hazel Cayton of Aurora, North Carolina, Tunstall Road community of Beaufort County. Johnnie and Hazel continued to live for a short time in the Ephesus community. They soon moved to the Tunstall Road community, at which time they transferred their church membership to White Hill Free Will Baptist Church. Johnnie loved, served, and remained faithful until his death on June 12, 1979. Hazel Cayton Boyd still serves and loves White Hill Free Will Baptist Church.

On January 19, 1958, Brother Johnnie Boyd made a covenant with his Saviour. He would never offer an excuse when asked to teach, speak, or witness for Jesus Christ. This covenant was kept by Johnnie, and God gave him the grace and talent to be an effective teacher and a Christian that came to be recognized as a strong pillar in the church.

Johnnie Boyd was ordained as a deacon of White Hill Free Will Baptist Church on February 16, 1958, by the Rev. A. Graham Lane, pastor. Johnnie served in this capacity until his calling home to be with God. He served with kindness and patience; yet, he stood for church doctrine, always seeking what was best for the church.

Johnnie's first great love was

Christ and the church. Yet, he never forgot the needs of His family; spiritually and materially, he stood before them as an example.

Johnnie saw the need to serve his county and community and offered his services wherever they could be used to promote progress in the community he loved. He served for many years as chairman of the County Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service. He served with honor and was respected by those who knew him.

His life was blessed by three children, Chestine, who lives in Greensboro; Nelda, who died as a young child; and Barbara, who lives near Ayden. His children have followed the example that was taught them by Christian parents. White Hill Free Will Baptist Church has been blessed and strengthened by the presence of this man through the years.

The younger people of the church and community can see what great things God can do with persons who allow themselves to be used as with Deacon Johnnie Boyd. We, the church, thank God for sending this man to serve and work in White Hill Free Will Baptist Church.

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold" (Proverbs 22:1).

—A. Graham Lane

STEWARDSHIP STUDY COURSE

A stewardship study course based on the book, "Living on Less and Liking It More" by Maxine Hancock, will be presented at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston at 7 p.m., Sunday, January 20. Miss Melissa Brantley, Lenoir County Home Extension Agent, is to be the guest speaker.

Visitors are invited to this service, which is expected to give practical hints on coping with inflation while maintaining true spiritual values in one's life.

CRAGMONT NEWS

by the Rev. Doug Skinner

Cragmont Assembly officially closed its 1979 season on December 2. Overall, it was a very good year for Cragmont. There were record-setting attendances for conferences and retreats. Praise the Lord for that!

November was a slow month for weekend retreats and overnight guests. King's Cross Roads visited Cragmont on November 2-4 bringing 47 campers. November 9-11 was an open weekend as the scheduled group had to cancel their reservation at the last minute. On November 16-18 Rock Springs church visited Cragmont bringing 30 campers. Our last retreat of the season was November 23-25 with 21 people from Grimsley church at the camp.

Let me take this opportunity now to thank everyone for helping make my four years as manager of Cragmont Assembly such enjoyable ones. I will miss the camp and will miss working with the various people. However, God has called me back into the pastorate, and I must follow His leading. I know you will give the new manager, the Rev. John Williams, your full support just as you have given to me.

There was a Cragmont Rally at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson on Saturday, December 29, at 7 p.m. The Foundations were guests bringing special music. You came to visit old friends made at camp, met the new manager, and saw slides of the first summer in our new main building. Also a special offering for Cragmont was taken.

Many of you said to be sure to let you know when our addition to the family arrived. Johnathan Douglas Skinner was born on December 1, 1979, at 5:50 p.m., weighing 8 pounds 11 ounces and measuring 19 1/2 inches long.

"Johnathan" means "gift from the Lord," and he has already proven to be a blessing to us. Both baby and Mother are doing fine. Thanks to all who have remembered us in their prayers and who have sent cards and best wishes.

Continue to remember Cragmont in your prayers. God bless you all.

"ARE PANTSUITS APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR CHURCH?"

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

This question comes up often. We hear some say that pantsuits should not be worn in church. Then some say that it makes the women look just like the men and they don't believe that they should be that way. Regardless of the styles and fashions there will always be criticism.

The custom of wearing our best clothes to church on Sunday has been given to us by tradition and not by Scriptures. I can remember when people would go to church with their work clothes on and barefooted.

In the days of Emperor Constantine, the dress for both men and women consisted of an inner garment, outer garment, girdle, and sandals. The inner garment was a long shirt that reached down to the knees or below. A familiar sculpture representing the siege and capture of Lachish shows Jewish captives, male and female alike, dressed in a moderately tight fitting garment close to the neck and reaching almost to the ankles. It was a shift; that is, a dress with an unfitted waistline.

The girdle was a belt sometimes about six inches wide. It was made of cord, cloth, or leather. The sandals were flat pieces of wood or leather bound with straps or strings.

One kind of outer garment was a piece of cloth two or three yards long and two yards wide. It was wrapped around the body.

This garment was also used for a poor man's bed clothing.

In the home the outer garment usually was not worn. Both the husband and the wife wore the same style of shirt or inner garment. The outer garments differed some, but very little. The veil worn by unmarried women was a sign of modesty (Genesis 24:65). Married women wore the veil as a sign of subjection and reverence (1 Corinthians 11:3-10).

The barbarians of northern Europe are credited with introducing the trousers to Europe in the fifth century. They got the idea from Asia. European men liked the practical utility of trousers. Soon the loose garments gave way to coat, vest, pantaloons, and tight fitting stockings. Shoes soon replaced the sandals.

While men's styles have changed at a snail's pace, women's fashions have had a field day—but not without criticism. Sermons were preached against the thirteenth-century horned head dress and grotesque footwear. In the sixteenth century the corset was under attack. One preacher was said to have attacked Queen Elizabeth's starched ruffs, saying, "There is a certain liquid which they call starch, wherein the devil hath learned them to wash and dry their ruffs, which being dry will stand stiff and inflexible about their necks." Of course the hoopskirt received its share of criticism, and so did the hot pants, short shorts, and the miniskirt. Could it be that the ones who enjoyed these the most are the ones criticizing the pantsuits now?

Since fashions seem to revolve in cycles, jeans and pantsuits will be out someday. We may hope for a more feminine style or fad to replace them. Meanwhile we should be careful not to criticize too harshly those sincere worshipers whose definition of "appropriate dress" is different from ours. Modesty is the fashion key word (Timothy 2:9).

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

AUNT AND NIECE ROOMMATES AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Pepper Worthington



Lillian Esther Heath and Lisa Arleen Heath

Blond-headed Lillian Esther Heath is the aunt of blue-eyed Lisa Arleen Heath. Both attend Mount Olive College and both are teenagers. Lillian, the aunt, is 19, and Lisa, the niece, is 18.

When asked why both chose Mount Olive College, Esther replied, "My brothers and sisters came to Mount Olive. Glenda, my eldest sister, who is 35, came here; Rebecca, who is 34, came here; Calvin, who is 23, came here. Calvin is now a Free Will Baptist minister. We Heaths love Mount Olive College. Our whole family has come to this place."

Lisa smiled, looked up at Esther, and said, "I came because of Esther. She talked me into it. 'Please,' she'd say. 'Please come with me.' We've done most everything together."

"That's true," echoed Esther. "We don't look at our relationship as aunt and niece. As a little girl, I played with Lisa."

"We went to the same church," added Lisa. "The Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church was our second home. We attended the same school, Jasper Elementary. We played together at Fort Barnwell. Now we go to

college together."

Though friends in childhood, blood relatives in birth, roommates in college, Esther and Lisa are as opposite as gingerbread and potato chips. Lisa declared, "It's as if Esther thinks things are going to go bad so she can have a good cry," teased Lisa. "Her feelings are easily hurt, too."

"But you," interrupted Esther, "You are stubborn. Once she's made her mind up, there's no way to change it. But Lisa is seldom depressed. She loves to make other people laugh."

Esther's father is Hugh Otha Heath Sr., a 63-year-old Cove City man. Lisa's father, Hugh Otha Heath Jr., is 39. Hugh Heath Sr. presented his daughter, Esther, to the world on December 8, 1960. Hugh Heath Jr. presented his daughter, Lisa, to the world on August 22, 1961.

And this aunt and niece hope to be presented to the world as Mount Olive College graduates in 1981.

Esther said, "I'm learning here at Mount Olive. I feel like my work is preparing me for my future."

Lisa added, "I have had some good times here. The time from home makes you think a lot."

LAST WEEK TO REGISTER FOR NIGHT COURSES

The week of January 21 will be the last week to register for night courses on the Mount Olive College campus. Registration for day classes ends January 22.

All courses meeting at night will be held in the Henderson Building from 7-10 p.m. A day or night class may be audited for only \$20.

Night courses offer a variety of subjects from religion, business, to psychology. For more information, contact the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phone 658-2502.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For January 20

ANDREW AND PHILIP

Lesson Text: John 1:40-46; 12:20-26

Memory Verse: John 12:25

I. INTRODUCTION

Some years ago a young man was passing a house in his neighborhood when he saw smoke and flames belching from the roof. Without a moment's hesitation, he plunged into the burning house, emerging sooty and singed, but carrying another young man to safety.

Later in a public ceremony he was honored as a local hero and presented a medal for his courage. Obviously embarrassed by the ceremony, the young man said, "Shucks, it wasn't any big deal. The fellow I saved was my best friend. He'd have done the same for me."

In like fashion Philip and Andrew, when they learned that Jesus was the Messiah, didn't pause to weigh all the implications of the profound fact. Instead, they immediately went out to share the good news with those closest to them.

Today's lesson text is drawn from two widely separated passages. The first (John 1:40-46) comes at the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. As John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him after His temptation, he hailed Jesus as the "Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). The next day he identified Jesus in the same manner in the presence of two of his disciples (vv. 35, 36). Hearing Jesus so acclaimed, the two disciples began to follow Him. When Jesus saw them, He invited them to spend the day

with Him. This experience so excited Andrew that he immediately sought his brother, Simon, to share his discovery.

The second part of the printed text (John 12:20-26) relates an incident that occurred near the end of Jesus' ministry in which some persons desired to see Jesus. Once again, as we shall see, Philip and Andrew were involved in leading others to the Lord.—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The good news of the gospel is for all people. How often we have said that! But do we mean it? If you are talking about the heathen in some distant land it is easy to work up some kind of holy concern for "the poor lost souls in benighted Africa," and the like. But what about your own family members? Do you have a brother or a sister who is unsaved? What about your parents, your husband or wife? How do you suppose they feel, knowing that you know they are lost, when you talk so glibly about what you are doing in your missionary meetings? One wonders how a brother feels whose sister is always raising money for the lost in South America when he himself has been lost all his life.

B. Many Christians find it easier to witness to strangers than to family and friends. Such was not the case with the subjects of our lesson today. They had family and friends they wanted to see saved and they went about getting it done. Then, as a by-the-way, they led some strangers to Christ also. You will

find the story very interesting and quite exciting if your heart glows with the same warmth as theirs.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Our principal task in serving Jesus Christ is the bringing of others to Him. As Christians ourselves, therefore, our first obligation is to win souls to Christ. Our lesson today primarily concerns the bringing of family members and friends to Christ.

B. The latter is more successful than the former. When we think of witnessing to others it usually means the neighbors a few doors off or perhaps total strangers we may encounter in our visitation evangelism efforts. Winning those in one's own family is seldom easy. The fact is, most of us would have to admit that we have a brother or a sister who is unsaved and how we dread talking with them about Christ. This should be terrifying when we realize that they, too, are lost and will go to Hell if they die in their sins! Why would we spend so much time witnessing to total strangers when we have a precious loved one at home unsaved?

C. It was not easy for Jesus to win His own family members to salvation in His early ministry (John 7:5). Winning one's own calls for courage, character, and a firsthand experience with Christ. Yet we hesitate to do it. To many of us Christ would say, as God said to Cain, "Where is your brother?" We have a responsibility to try to bring our family members and friends to Jesus as Andrew and Philip did. Let us learn from these "two who brought others."

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

In 1980 a small coffee plant was sent to Africa, and within sixteen years five million coffee trees had been produced by the

one parent tree. A good seed planted in favorable soil produces far more than sixty or a hundredfold.

Only a word for Jesus,

Spoken in fear with sense of need;

Yet with the Master's blessing,

Thousands that word may heed.

—Author unknown

There is magnetism in the story of the Cross of Christ. Since the first time it was preached it had drawn men to the Saviour. When you rub a piece of steel across a magnet, it finally becomes magnetized itself and will draw other particles of steel. When we stay close to Christ, He gets into our lives and draws men through us.—Selected

If you can't get another to go with you to win others, be faithful to Christ and go by yourself. Christ can use you to bring others to Him whether you are alone or accompanied by another. —The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

For January 27

SIMON PETER

Lesson Text: John 13:36-38; 18:25-27; 21:15-19

Memory Verse: John 21:17

I. INTRODUCTION

A teacher was once discussing with his students the meaning of Acts 2:38: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you" One student who obviously had the Catholic Douay Version said, "Sir, my Bible doesn't read like that. It says, 'Do penance, and be baptized'" This led to a discussion about the difference between "repent" and "do penance."

After several students had expressed their opinions, one student seemed to sum it up with this observation: "Judas did penance—he was sorry and he gave back the thirty pieces of silver, and then went out and

hanged himself. Peter repented—he wept bitterly and then went and got right with Jesus."

Today's lesson, based upon three different passages from the Gospel of John, deals with Peter's denials of Christ and his restoration. The first Scripture selection (John 13:36-38) takes us into the upper room where Jesus spoke to His disciples as they shared the last supper. In the course of the discussion Peter vigorously affirmed his devotion to our Lord, expressing even his willingness to die for Him if need be. But even as Peter made this assertion, Jesus informed him that before the night was over he would betray Him.

The second passage (John 18:25-27) reports events that took place in the court of the high priest's palace, where Peter waited during the trial of Jesus. The printed text reports Peter's second and third denials.

The final part of the lesson text (John 21:15-19) tells of an incident that occurred in Galilee following Jesus' resurrection. Seven of the apostles were fishing on the Sea of Galilee when Jesus appeared to them. The text reports the poignant dialogue that took place afterward between Jesus and Peter.—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Perhaps it is right to say that Simon Peter was the most human of all the apostles of Jesus. In many ways he was so much like you and me—a good start with Jesus, if somewhat impetuous; a boastful self-assurance along the way; faced with a test of devotion and faithfulness; a sad denial of the Lord; and a final vindication.

B. Jesus had said he was Cephas, a rock. But the rockman was also at first a wave-man, now up and now down. And it was without excuse, for Christ had given him a clear warning. At the Last Supper Jesus had told His headstrong disciple (Luke 22:31-34) that Satan had

asked for him, to test his faith, and that his Saviour's prayers would be with him in the trial; then, when Peter boasted that he was already to go with his Lord to prison and even to death, Jesus told him plainly that before the cock should crow at the dawning he would deny his Lord three times, even declaring that he did not know Him. Of course, Peter protested, declaring he would never do such a thing. But Jesus knew Peter far better than Peter knew himself.

C. Our lesson speaks of Peter's boasting, of his sad fall, and of his step by step comeback. In an extended look we will glance at his ultimate victory over self.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The devil always knows when to strike. He watches for the moment of weakness when the Christian is tempted and before strength can be regained, the blow comes.

B. The devil knew when to strike at Eve. He bided his time until she looked too long upon the fruit God said should not be eaten.

C. He knew when to strike at Esau. Catching him when he was tired and hungry, the devil struck at Esau's sense of responsibility, causing him to lose his birthright to his brother Jacob.

D. He knew when to strike at David. Waiting until the king had chanced to see his neighbor's wife bathing, the devil struck with powerful temptation which resulted in adultery and murder on David's part.

E. He knew when to strike at Jesus. After (or during) Jesus' long fast in the wilderness, the devil tried to get Jesus to change stones into bread to satisfy His hunger. But Satan's tempting did not work in this case.

F. He knew when to strike at Peter. Bewildered, confused, and frightened, the apostle wandered afar from Christ and found

(Continued on Page 15)

WHEN ALL ELSE HAS FAILED

By Taylor Hill
Director of North Carolina
State Church Extension



Pictured above, on a hospital visit, Taylor Hill has just asked young Phillip: "Phillip, what do you like most about your church?" Phillip replied, "All the nice people there." Phillip's mother renewed her vows with Christ just after this picture was taken.

I suppose most of us have tried about everything conceivable in our Christian labors. We have gone all out to get special training and fresh ideas. We have seen success to some degree but usually run our course and find ourselves as a car that has run out of gas.

I have found that it helps a great deal to know that we have an old reliable and effective method that always works when all else has failed.

As for me, it is necessary to have this assurance. It helps to release the pressure at times. That, dear friend, which has never let me down is "charity." (See 1 Corinthians 13—acts of love and good will.) This is one friend that will always work for us. When you feel like you have spent out, burned out, and have nothing else to turn to, just remember—"charity never fails."

I sincerely believe that if all of our people will let 1 Corinthians 13 "charity" be our theme in reaching others this year we will

see a significant increase in good fruit and more love and unity that we are so badly in need of which includes the home, community, and the church. Just like any other good thing, it must be applied in order for it to work. Let's be sure to put our personal feelings aside and make a kind gesture toward someone today and every day.

TRIBUTE TO DEAN AND TREVA KENNEDY

by Taylor Hill

I have been Dean and Treva's pastor and friend for thirteen years and I feel that it is very fitting that I pay them the tribute that they deserve. They are some of the most dedicated Christians and church members that I have ever known. While most Christians are faithful in a few things, Dean and Treva have been faithful in almost anything that you can mention that concerns the church, such as faithful attendance and support, visitation, youth ministry, ministry to the elderly, the poor, and denominational affairs. I cannot recall a single time that they have ever been a problem in the church. They have conducted themselves in such a way that people in general have a very high regard for them. They are a pastor's dream when it comes to respect, support, and cooperation. They have a very keen awareness of the feelings of others, trying not to hurt anyone, and if they do, they are quick to try to make things right again.

Dean and Treva are not only good friends to the local church, but also to every phase of our denominational work. As most of our people know, Treva is the bookkeeper for church extension, but what most people don't know is, her love and dedication to her work. In the beginning, she worked with no salary in order to help get the Home Missions Department underway. Brother Dean has answered the call to the ministry and is presently devoting his time in promoting

Home Missions and Church Extension without pay, because he believes so strongly in what we are doing in reaching souls for Christ. Any of our home missionaries will tell you that they love and appreciate Dean and Treva and enjoy being in their company. I'll be one of the first to say that "nobody is perfect," but when it comes to loving our Lord and being dedicated servants, I think Dean and Treva are setting a good example. They are blessed with two fine Christian children, Melanie and Rocky. We are very fortunate to have them on our team of Original Free Will Baptists. Dean will be happy to give a slide picture presentation of church extension in your church. They reside at Route 2, Box 344-E, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572; phone: 568-3732.

THE FAITHFUL FEW

by Earl C. Day

We missed you Sunday morning
At Sunday school—church too;
We hoped that you would be
among
The very faithful few.

We looked and looked o'er where
you'd sat,
We saw an empty pew;
It told us very plainly:
Not of the faithful few.

One time you made commitment
To God—to your church too;
You desired to be a part of
The very faithful few.

We haven't seen you lately;
So what is wrong with you?
We hope you haven't deserted
The very faithful few.

Your church is always open
For weddings, funerals too;
Who would be your mourners?
The very faithful few.

Come back to church on Sunday;
A welcome's awaiting you
From your church, your friendly
pastor,
And the very faithful few.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

A VISION OF THE FUTURE OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued on Page 5)

which lies in front of the chapel. The pool will be surrounded by shrubs and flowering plants of all kinds. The Mount Olive campus will be among the most attractive and aesthetically pleasing college sites in this region of the country.

Gift Support

In order to undergird these educational programs and provide the necessary facilities there must be adequate financial resources. The total will amount to several million dollars during the period of campus development. I do not predict what will be made available to us. I can say with some confidence that the resources for development of this college are out there. It

remains for us to find and attract them as the future needs of the institution are identified and made known to potential benefactors.

Whether or not such a vision of the future of Mount Olive College is to become a reality depends on several factors. The most important one, however, is the extent to which this vision or some variation of it is shared by those who love this college and whose desire to see it prosper is deep enough that they will give unselfishly of their labors and their resources to achieve the fulfillment of the vision.

I want to close with these lines from the Ode "We are the Music Makers" by Arthur William Edgar O'Shaughnessy:

One man with a dream at pleasure,
Shall go forth and conquer a crown;
And three with a new song's measure
Can trample a kingdom down.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

himself in the enemy's camp where Satan struck at his integrity, causing Peter to deny his Lord.

G. But Peter received a second chance to renew his bold commitment, this time with humility. Jesus always gives the second, third, fourth, and many other chances. He sees the potential in us that we fail to see and that the devil ignores.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Someone has said that the Christian life is like a bicycle, if you do not go on, you go off. Another has said, "It takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place." A story is told of a little boy who fell out of bed. As his mother tucked him in again she asked him how he came to fall out. "I don't know, Mother," he replied, "unless I went too near where I got in." This is a tragedy of many a Christian life—falling asleep soon after getting saved and joining the church.

How would you say Peter "fell asleep" too near to "where he

went to bed"? How does one wake up in time to keep from backsliding?—The Bible Teacher
(F.W.B.)

FREE WILL BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES NEWS

Submitted by Harold J. Dunn

Free Will Baptists care about their senior citizens. As long as I can remember, there have been offerings taken for the care of the poor and elderly. The Superannuation Program of the Free Will Baptists has helped and is still helping our retired widows, ministers, and minister's wives.

In 1974, the Superannuation Board met with the Children's Home Board and started a building program to benefit retired ministers, laymen, and denominational workers of ten years or more. This Joint Board became the Retirement Homes Board, a separate denominational enterprise.

There are now five very beautiful and convenient Retirement Homes apartments on or near the Children's Home campus. They are all occupied by Free Will Baptist ministers'

widows, laymen and denominational workers.

The Retirement Home Program has been a success. But can we afford to stop here? Does God expect us to furnish five apartments and stop?

The average life span in 1900 was 47 years, in 1948 it was 67 years, and the average life span in America now is 77 years. People are living longer than they used to. This means there are more people of retirement age than ever before.

Do Free Will Baptists still care about their senior citizens? I believe they do. Include the Retirement Homes in your church budget as well as your own budget.

January is Retirement Homes Month. Remember to set aside one Sunday for Retirement Homes. Remember the retirees in your prayers and offerings. Invite us to your church.

COMING EVENTS

January—Entire month designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Retirement Homes Month

January 19—Central District Youth Fellowship, Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, 7:30 p.m.

IN HONOR OF IOLA H. BARROW

by Sarah McCoy and Carolyn Barrow



Iola H. Barrow

As members of Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church we would like to show our appreciation for the many years of loyal, devoted service you have so graciously rendered. Thank you "Miss Iola." We love you!

Miss Iola is the daughter of Edith Herring and Levi Hill of Greene County. She has one sister, Ina, who is married to Milton Harrison. They also reside in Arba.

She was so small when she first began playing for Hull Road church that her mother had to peddle the organ for her.

She graduated from Snow Hill High School and furthered her musical education at Southern Conservatory of Music in Durham. This school is no longer in existence. She taught music in the public school at Shine for two years. Later she began teaching private lessons in her home and continues to do so.

Miss Iola married Carl B. Barrow, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Barrow Sr. of Greene County, on November 28, 1928, in Goldsboro, North Carolina. The Rev. J. C. Griffin officiated at their wedding. They made their home with her parents at Arba until Mr. Barrow's death on December 1, 1966.

She has continued to be our pianist and organist throughout the years and has been so faithful and devoted in the various activities of our church work. Many of these activities include weddings, funerals, receptions, and etc.

She has served as Secretary of the Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention. She has been President and Secretary of our local Woman's Auxiliary. She received a Life Membership Award from the Central Conference.

She has one son, Carl Boyd Barrow Jr. who married Bertie Jean Wade. They have two children, Kim, a sophomore at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina, and Neil, who is a freshman at Greene Central High School.

A portrait of Miss Iola was placed in the vestibule of the church in loving honor of her, Sunday, December 30, 1979.

Preacher's Diary

By Taylor Hill
Director Church Extension

I have found that one of the greatest shortcomings of Christians is that they don't like to be preached to, although almost all of the Scriptures are directed at so-called believers.

My youngest daughter once said to me, "Daddy, we have many acquaintances in this life but we are fortunate if we have only one true friend." I agreed. A true friend is a priceless treasure and should be respected.

A lady said to me, "Preacher, I believe that you and I are about the only ones in our church that are intelligent enough to understand spiritual things. I disagreed and she turned against me and finally left the church.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

For more than half a century the Boy Scouts of America have projected a philosophy which, when exercised, aids one toward physical and spiritual fitness. To wit: "On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty, for God and my country . . . to keep myself physically fit, mentally awake, and morally straight . . ."

Perhaps we should reconsider that philosophy in its entirety.

F857W



GOD AND ERA

*Are feminists
considering
His wishes?*

**THE
FREE
WILL
BAPTIST**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

GOD AND ERA: ARE FEMINISTS CONSIDERING HIS WISHES?

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Tommy Manning, Editor

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ERA proponents (especially those who admit to the feminist philosophy and woman's liberation thought) try to set us straight as regards the female gender. For those of us who strive not to offend them in the least (in word and/or action) a group encounter can prove disconcerting.

For instance: In a recent conversation with several males and females, this writer referred to someone as "one of the nicest ladies I know," whereupon he was informed by one of the most vocal females of the group that "lady" was a put-down, a real insult to the contemporary female.

It seems that it would have been more proper (and kinder) for me to have called the one so complimented "one of the nicest persons I know," or, if I had wanted to be specific, "one of the nicest women I know." "Lady," despite its intended courtesy, was (and is) totally unacceptable. I was informed that "lady" is the usual male chauvinistic term used for "woman," which I and many others use to "diminish female value."

I have a lot to learn, admittedly, but "lady" to me has always connoted more kind regard and honor than "woman"—especially when considering the tone with which some persons have been heard to utter "woman."

I protested that "lady" was the counterpart of "gentleman," a term I favor highly and which I appreciate being used in reference to me, and which, I assured those present, is appreciated by most men. At that point I was advised that mine was typical male thinking. I felt a sound rebuke but no resolve.

The discussion ultimately reached salary and how most professionally qualified women are underpaid when compared to compensations given to males. I responded that I was not in a position to offer a blanket remedy for that actuality, and reminded them that our present discussion evolved from the attributive noun "lady" which I had used without malice of forethought. It was interesting, too, that those professing Christian females of the group took no exception to the use of the term. (I would not suggest here or anywhere else that woman advocates are unchristian; it was a matter of individual assertion and probably not directly related to religious persuasion or philosophy.)

Not many Christians would insist that God prefers man. We are made to wonder nonetheless what His intentions were when "male and female created He them." Man wrote the words (another cause for feminist complaint), but we must remember that God breathed the inspiration. Whether He inspired the preponderance of male nouns and pronouns, we cannot say; but if we accord Him wisdom (and every sensible person does), we must believe that He gave us His Word in form and fashion that

(Continued on Page 9)

MORE THAN A NURSE

"One of the best nurses I ever knew, and one of my instructors in training, died with cancer. I'm no better than she."

A MINISTER'S TRIBUTE TO HIS DECEASED WIFE

by C. H. Overman



Janice Howell Overman

It has been almost two years since the death of my first and beloved wife, Janice. The deep grief and sorrow has now passed, and a marvelous healing has taken place through the grace and goodness of God. Memories, however, do not completely pass; but they do grow dimmer with the passing of time. Now with a clearer vision and an acceptance of God's divine providence, we pay tribute to the life of one who was loved dearly.

Janice Howell Overman was born on August 1, 1931, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Howell of Pikeville, North Carolina. Her public school education took place at Pikeville High School, where she graduated in 1949. From an early age, Janice had planned to become a nurse. So, upon graduating from high school, she entered the Wilson School of Nursing; first as a nurses' aide during the summer of 1949, and then beginning the regular course of study in the early fall. Graduation came in the spring of 1952.

Janice and I were married on August 16, 1952. The ceremony was performed at Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, North Carolina, by the Rev. James A. Evans. For more than twenty-five years we traveled the road of life together, and to our union were born two children—David Howell (Hal), and Jeanne Clare.

Janice's nursing career included employment at Wayne County Memorial Hospital, Goldsboro, North Carolina; the Columbia Hospital, Tyrrell County, North Carolina; the Fitzgerald Medical Center, Farmville, North

Carolina; Cherry Hospital, Goldsboro, North Carolina; and the Medical Department at the DuPont Plant, Kinston, North Carolina. Her nursing career was a major part of her life's ambition. She was always conscientious and sincere—always concerned about others.

During the last six years of her life, Janice fought a most difficult and yet brave battle against cancer. From December of 1971 until the summer of 1974, there were three major operations and one minor, exploratory operation. In the summer of 1974 the decision was made for treatment to begin at Duke Hospital in Durham. For a period of over three years, Janice underwent at least three types of chemotherapy and during this time she experienced two periods of regression. In the late summer of 1977, however, the doctors kindly told us that her condition was growing worse and that another type of chemotherapy was necessary. After two treatments there was

Turn the page

no improvement and during the months from October, 1977, through January, 1978, her condition rapidly grew worse. A total of twenty-seven days was spent at Duke Hospital. During the last stay of seven days we learned that, short of a miracle from God, there was nothing more that could be done. Thus, on February 5, 1978, a few minutes after 8 p.m., Janice departed this life to enter into the presence of her God and Saviour. Her funeral was held at the Farmer Funeral Home, Ayden, North Carolina, on February 7. The service was conducted by the Revs. N. Bruce Barrow, James A. Evans, and Ronnie Hobgood.

Those last years together were not without trials and testings, but there are also times of rejoicing and deep happiness. Life together took on a new meaning and friends rallied around us. Being a nurse, Janice understood her condition and at all times her concern was for those close to her. She did not want to be a bother to anyone, not even the doctors and nurses who became so much a part of her life. And as God so ordained it, she was only confined to the bed for about thirty-six hours before her death.

During the last few months, Janice unselfishly expressed her wishes for her family; that each would find happiness and success. As much as anyone can, she accepted her condition and death—if that was His divine will. She believed that her soul belonged to Him and she was not afraid of death and met it with resolve.

Perhaps this tribute can best be summed up in her own statement about her illness: "I'm no better than anyone else. One of the best nurses I ever knew, and one of my instructors in training, died with cancer. I'm no better than she."

There were many evidences of the deep impact her life had made on others. There was the love offering received from her co-workers at the DuPont Plant about three months before her death. At her family's request, friends made donations in excess of \$1,500 to the building fund of the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church in lieu of flowers. The church then decided to use a part of this amount to erect a new bulletin board in front of the church, as a memorial. Also, in recognition of her love and concern for those about her, and in response to the goodness of God upon us, a memorial

Endowment Fund was established at Mourning Olive College in her name with the hope that some person will be helped as he or she enters the nursing or medical profession.

Just previous to her death, I remembered reading a poem which she had been given before her graduation from the Wilson School of Nursing. At our request the poem was read by Brother Ronnie Hobgood and indeed it expressed a final tribute. To her family and loved ones, however, she was "More Than a Nurse" for she was a wonderful wife, a loving mother and concerned daughter.

"MORE THAN A NURSE"

She seemed more than a nurse as she entered the door;

The sweet smile on her face I'd ne'er seen before.

I was longing for something I didn't know what,

As I lay there stretched out on my hospital cot.

She started to talk as nice as could be,

And then I was sure GOD had sent her to me.

I was weak and I could not read for myself,

So she pulled the Old Bible down from the shelf.

She read me a verse, it suited me fine,

And she seemed like an angel, pure and divine.

Thereafter each morning I'd wait for my verse.

As it came from the lips of my hospital nurse.

She told me the story that never grows old.

That CHRIST is the DOOR of the great sheepfold.

And when I got strong and could read for myself.

The Bible was nevermore found on the shelf.

She placed it beside me, and told me to read,

And the verses she showed me fully met every need.

LORD, grant that more girls, when they train for a nurse,

Will be like my friend who was more than a nurse.

—Charles Rodney

Editor's Note: Mr. Overman is now remarried and resides in Ayden with his wife, Ruby, his daughter, Jeanne; and two step-children: Jeffrey, age 12; and Tina, age 9. He is pastor of the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, and for eleven years served as editor at the Free Will Baptist Press.

DO WE REALLY SEE?

submitted by Frank R. Harrison

“SOMEONE, it is reported, once said to Helen Keller: “Isn’t it terrible to be blind?” Miss Keller replied, “It is more terrible to have eyes and not see!”

As sight never penetrates far without becoming **insight**, so insight never achieves depth and usefulness without the agency and aid of the Holy Spirit. Am I not right in feeling that we tend to emphasize those biblical references in which the Holy Spirit’s presence is associated with **power**? Do we not appear to be less fascinated by the passages in which His presence is associated with **vision, perception, knowledge**? In a beautiful Isaiah prophecy we are told that He will be to the Messiah the Spirit of “wisdom” and “understanding,” “counsel” and “knowledge.”

In Ephesians the Apostle Paul relates this enlightening ministry of the Spirit to the life of the Christian community. Since he is the Spirit of “wisdom and of revelation,” He will “enlighten” its members and they will “know.”

Significant **seeing** is an art that moves in two directions: the discovery of the extraordinary in the ordinary and the discovery of the ordinary in the extraordinary. Let’s illustrate that claim. Take Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s verse:

Earth’s crammed with heaven
And every common bush afire with God;
But only he who sees takes off his shoes,
The rest sit round it and pluck black-berries

There is the disclosure of the extraordinary in the ordinary. The glory of Heaven aflame in a

garden bush if there are eyes to behold it!

The second claim—that insight consists also in discovering the ordinary in the extraordinary—may be seen in our Lord’s act of washing the feet of His disciples. The superlatively extraordinary background fact was announced by John in the words, “Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God . . . !” But then came the astoundingly ordinary service, normally reserved for slaves, of washing the feet of guests who had come for supper.

The incident ends with a query: “Do you know what I have done to you?” Do you see the meaning of it? It is not ours to say exactly how much or how little they saw in that moment. With greater confidence we can say that later, when they were filled with the Spirit, meanings that were vague became clear, people who were remote from them were drawn near, tasks that were half-apprehended claimed them with compelling conviction.

In the history of the church’s world mission we have come to a time when, in the view of many of us, we need a new realization of what the Holy Spirit offers us in a ministry of enlightenment. We need a new openness to contemporary reality in mission, a fresh way of perceiving **where we are, what to do and how to do it**. The central certainties of our faith may be clear enough. They should be. But that is not the point. Eyes that are open to theological propositions about Christ are not necessarily eyes that are open to the living Christ

himself and His beckoning hand in this crucial and confused hour.

Specifically, if you are a Sunday morning pew-holder and a furloughing missionary is your speaker, are you perceptive enough to realize that in 20 or 30 minutes it is impossible for him (or her) to give a balanced and realistic portrayal of the situation on which he is reporting?

The problem goes even deeper. Are you sufficiently “with it”—informed and sensitized—to understand that even a highly seasoned and knowledgeable Western missionary is simply unable to convey to you all of the subtleties and ambiguities, the tensions and strands, that bear significantly on the communication of the evangel in today’s Third World?

Or, if you are on the missionary committee of your local church do you see, perceive, understand that in countries (Burma, for example) from which all missionaries have been withdrawn, new links must be forged between your congregation and the Christian nationals who are there in their sole responsibility for evangelism and church growth? The fact that **our** missionaries have been expelled should never leave us drained of interest in, or support for, the Christians who remain.

Of, if you are a mission agency executive, do you see, perceive, understand the changeful, even revolutionary, mission scene today with enough clarity to admit the restless, probing state of mind in which you should find yourself? Do you feel that your vision is sharp enough to make you more open to people and to people-needs than you are to traditions and structures and precedents?

Let’s be open to the Holy Spirit for the very good reason that it is He who gives us openness to the living Lord on the one hand and to people on the other.—Used by permission, **World Vision Magazine**.

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 2:1-14

CHURCH MEMBER
BEATITUDES

Blessed is he who will not strain at a drizzle and swallow downpour.

Blessed is he who tries a little harder when all around say, "It can't be done."

Blessed is he whose program contains time for regular Bible reading.

Blessed is he who serves faithfully on a committee.

Blessed is the church official who is not pessimistic.

Blessed is he who loves his church before his business.

Blessed is he who can walk a fast to a religious service as to town.

PRAYER THOUGHT

A really dedicated church member may be a rarity. Why don't you consider becoming such a person?

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

Scripture Reading—Acts 11:1-26

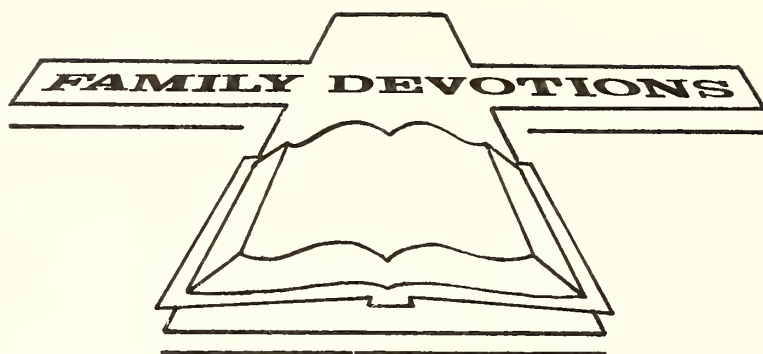
DEFINITION OF A CHRISTIAN

He has a mind and knows it;
He has a will and shows it;
He sees his way, and goes it;
He draws a line and toes it;
He has a charge and takes it;
A friendly hand and shakes it,
A rule and never breaks it;
If there's no time, he makes it.

He loves the truth, stands by it,
Nor never tries to shy it,
Whoever may defy it,
Or openly deny it.
He hears a lie and slays it;
And as I've heard him praise it,
He knows the game and plays it;
He sees the path Christ trod,
And grips the hand of God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

A real Christian places the cause and concern of Christ



SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Scripture Reading—John 10:11-22

MYSELF

One day I looked at myself,
At the self that Christ can see;
I saw the person I am today
And the one I ought to be.

I saw how little I really pray,
How little I really do;
I saw the influence of my life—
How little of it was true!

I saw the bundle of faults and fears
I ought to lay on the shelf;
I had given a little bit to God,
But I hadn't given myself.

I came from seeing myself,
With the mind made up to be
The sort of person that Christ
can use
With a heart He may always
see.

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we consider what we are and what we ought to be, we should be prompted toward improvement—so that God can be pleased with our efforts toward a holy life.

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 15:15-33

LISTENING IN

God has a wireless to everywhere:

We call it the Word of God and prayer.

And every one may daily win God's choicest gifts by "listening in."

First you must shut out every sound

From the heedless world that throngs around.

Vanity fair makes a deafening din

On purpose to hinder "listening in."

The devil will use his utmost power

To keep you from having this quiet hour.

He knows that you can be freed from sin

Always and only by "listening in."

But when you prayerfully read God's Word,

The still small voice is clearly heard.

And wondrous peace and power within

Daily results from "listening in."

God longs to give His best to you
To keep you loyal and strong and true.

If you haven't begun, today begin

To prove the joy of "listening in."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God wants to bless His children. He speaks to them and directs them through His Word. Let us not neglect the opportunity of "listening in."

before his own. Can you meet
the qualifications of real
Christianity?

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

Scripture Reading—1 Peter
1:10

MY FATHER KNOWS
so often in a time of stress,
in hours of trial and unrest,
his thought comes like a sweet
caress,

"My Father knows."

and often in a time of pain,
When I am tempted to complain,
his tender thought comes back
again,

"My Father knows."

and then in times of fear and
doubt,
of storms within and clouds
without,

his thought has turned me face
about,

"My Father knows."

My Father knows and cares for
me,

His Word can still the troubled
sea,

his thought brings peace and
victory,

"My Father knows."

My Father knows what perfect
bliss,

How real, how sweet a love like
this,

No greater cure for all my woes,
than simply this,

"My Father knows."

PRAYER THOUGHT

"God knows everything," it
has often been said. When we
acknowledge that fact, we should
realize a peace that only He can
provide.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Scripture Reading—John 1:1-10

THE GREATEST MISSIONARY

There are still 2,000 dialects
spoken by native peoples in all
parts of the world that do not

have a written language. We
have translated the Bible into 132
new dialects, and have trained
more than 3,000 persons to do
this kind of work. Today we
could use at least 7,000 more
persons to work on the languages
that still remain. *The greatest
missionary* is one that never gets
sick, never needs a furlough, is
never considered a foreigner,
lives constantly with the people,
and is the means of mak-
ing other missionaries un-
necessary—the Bible in the
language of the people!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The Bible—if accessible—is the
greatest witness of the Lord and
salvation. Let us not neglect its
message, nor the sharing of it
with others.*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Scripture Reading—Romans
1:10-20

GOD MANIFESTED IN HIS WORDS

Is there a God? Yon rising sun
In answer meet replies,
Writes it in flame upon the earth,
Proclaims it round the skies.

Is there a God? Hark! from on
high

His thunder shakes the poles;
I hear His voice in every wind,
In every wave that rolls.

Is there a God? With sacred fear
I upward turn my eyes;
"There is," each glitt'ring lamp
of light—

"There is," my soul replies.

If such convictions to my mind
His works aloud impart,
Oh, let the wisdom of His Word
Inscribe them on my heart.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Every created thing speaks of
God, as do the lives of Christian
men and women. Let us share
His love with everyone.*

Selected from *Knight's
Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter
B. Knight.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

To my many friends, churches,
Sunday schools, and woman's
auxiliaries, I say thank you for
the gifts and checks from North
Carolina and Georgia. My
heartfelt gratitude goes to each
one. May God bless each of you
in 1980. Pray for me that God
will help me to live closer to Him
each day.

Thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Ralph
Lightsey.

—Mrs. E. C. Morris

Preacher's Diary

Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

I found this engraved in
the building stone of an old
courthouse in Cumberland
County, North Carolina.
"Though justice be thy plea,
consider this, that in the
course of justice none of us
should see salvation. We do
pray for mercy and the same
prayer doth teach us to
render the deeds of mercy."

"Self Esteem Is Not of
God"

I witnessed a certain
evangelist coming down real
hard on the church
congregation for vulgarity: yet
he himself committed the
most vulgar gesture in the
pulpit during that same
message that I have ever
seen. Many others who were
there were also startled
because of his own vulgarity.

The most valuable time
that I spend is usually at
night when I go outside the
house alone and talk with
God. It's amazing how close
one can get to God that way.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.

Submitted by Virginia M. Skinner, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward, December 1, 1979

\$ 2,109.37

Receipts

Albemarle Conference

Sidney \$ 75.68 \$ 75.68

Central Conference

Ayden

C. L. Westbrook 15.00

Celia Hart Garris Auxiliary 50.00

Bethany

YFA 10.00

Friendship

Sunday School 25.00

Gum Swamp

Floyd P. Harris 250.00

Hugo

25.00

King's Cross Roads

Joan Little (Cragmont Rally) 20.00

Connie Corbett (Cragmont Rally) 10.00

Marlboro

75.00

Reedy Branch

Couples Class 668.00

Couples Class, in honor of their

teacher, Mrs. Willis Wilson 25.00

Rocky Mount, First

85.00

Tarboro, First

400.00 1,658.00

Eastern Conference

Bridgeton

25.00

Juniper Chapel (Cragmont Rally)

515.00

Mrs. Mable Rowe 40.00

Cash Offering 20.00

Sandy Plain

Percy Kennedy 100.00

Sarecta

The Rev. Philip Wood 15.00

Warden's Grove

58.12

Westside

Hulon Whitehead (Cragmont Rally) 773.12

1.00

Western Conference

Durham

Verena P. Johnson \$ 100.00

Friendship

100.00

Little Rock (Cragmont Rally)

10.83

Milbournie

23.00

The Rev. John Williams (Cragmont Rally) 20.00

Marsh Swamp (Cragmont Rally)

W. L. Fulghum 25.00

Franklin Baker 5.00

A. G. Glover, Jr. 10.00

Ray N. Vandiford 10.00

Philip Norville 15.00

Frances Boyette 10.00

Mrs. Eula F. Boyette 10.00

L. E. Nichols 5.00

Roney B. Bunn, Jr. 10.00

C. Charles Barnes 25.00

James B. Hunt, Sr. 50.00

Fred F. Boykin 25.00

Cash Offering 100.00

Mount Zion, Nash County	100.00	
Harold Rackly (Cragmont Rally)	50.00	
People's Chapel	200.00	
Pine Level	50.00	
Selma	100.00	
Sherron Acres	10.00	
Trinity	25.00	
James Burgess (Cragmont Rally)	10.00	
Unity, Durham	25.00	
Wilson, First		
J. D. Skinner (Cragmont Rally)	10.00	
The Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner (4 sq. ft. in honor of their son, Jonathan Douglas Skinner)	350.00	1,448.83

Others

Ministerial Association		
The Rev. David Hill	100.00	
Cragmont Rally Loose Offering	43.32	143.32
Total Receipts from Churches and Individuals		\$ 4,098.95
Withdrawal from General Savings	5,000.00	5,000.00
Withdrawal from Main Building Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total for Which to Account		\$16,208.32

Disbursements

Operational Expenses	\$ 2,501.24	
Burress Insurance Agency, dining hall fire coverage	93.00	
McMurray Chevrolet, van repair	46.58	
Burgess 66 Servicer, van tires	46.16	
Stewart and Sons Plumbing Company winterizing camp	169.09	
The Foundations, singers at Cragmont Rally	250.00	
Church Finance Association, loan payment	11,143.68	
Transfer to Main Building Fund	525.00	
Total Disbursements	\$14,774.75	\$14,774.75
Balance on Hand, January 1, 1980		\$ 1,433.57

EARMARKED FUNDS

General Fund	\$ 1,433.57	
General Savings	228.19	
Main Building Fund	122.64	
Total in Bank, January 1, 1980	\$ 1,784.40	

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

would be acceptable to the majority of believers—regardless of gender.

One thing feminists apparently do not consider is that history, not man, has placed them where they are (or are not). They must remember that man does not write history alone; and, alone, neither can woman alter it.

As with all serious matters, God and His will must be sought. If feminists feel despair, perhaps sincere petitioning of God will help. And surely all persons—female and male—should accept what God says. The trouble with this hope is that everyone is not Christian. It is therefore safe to assume that God's leadership in the matter (should He deem it appropriate) will not be respected. Those who resent the noun "Father" and the pronouns "He, Him, His, and Himself" used with the Divine Being will find it difficult to seek "His" guidance, anyhow.

If God does speak—through the Word, a human messenger, or the individual heart—may we resolve to listen and act, despite personal wishes.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685			
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9. OWNER (If owned by a corporation, its name and address; if not a corporation, the names and addresses of all individual owners; if owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address; if the publication is published by a single individual, his name and address)	Free Will Baptist Press Found., Inc., P. O. Box 155, Wden, Pitt, N.C. 28513		
10. KNOWN BONDHOLDERS, MORTGAGEES AND OTHER SECURITY HOLDERS HOLDING OR HOLDING BY TRUST OR MORTGAGE OR IN FULL OR PART PAYMENT OF DEBT OR OTHER FINANCIAL OBLIGATION	None		
11. FOR COMPLETION BY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AUTHORIZED TO MAIL AT SPECIAL RATE (SEE 39 U.S.C. 3686)	The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:		
12. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME?	No		
13. STATE AND NATURE OF CIRCULATION	AVERAGE NO. COPIES EACH ISSUE DURING PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS	ACTUAL NO. COPIES OF SINGLE ISSUE PUBLISHED NEAREST TO FILING DATE	
a. Total (including sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales, and other retail channels)	3,163	3,700	
b. Paid circulation	3,193	3,500	
c. Total paid circulation (sum of b. and c.)	None	None	
d. Total paid circulation (sum of b. and c.)	3,193	3,500	
e. Total distribution (sum of d. and e.)	3,193	3,500	
f. Copies not distributed	170	200	
g. Total (sum of f. and g.)	None	None	
h. Total (sum of f. and g.)	3,163	3,700	
14. Estimate the statements made by me above are correct and complete	Signature and Title of Publisher, Editor, Business Manager, or Owner <i>James L. Harrison</i>		
15. FOR COMPLETION BY PUBLISHERS MAILING AT THE REGULAR RATE (SECTION 39 U.S.C. 3686)	Signature and Title of Publisher, Editor, Business Manager, or Owner <i>James L. Harrison</i>		
39 U.S.C. 3686 (a) (1) (B) (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (v) (vi) (vii) (viii) (ix) (x) (xi) (xii) (xiii) (xiv) (xv) (xvi) (xvii) (xviii) (xix) (xx) (xxi) (xxii) (xxiii) (xxiv) (xxv) (xxvi) (xxvii) (xxviii) (xxix) (xxx) (xxxi) (xxxii) (xxxiii) (xxxiv) (xxxv) (xxxvi) (xxxvii) (xxxviii) (xxxix) (xxxx) (xxxxi) (xxxxii) (xxxxiii) (xxxxiv) (xxxxv) (xxxxvi) (xxxxvii) (xxxxviii) (xxxxix) (xxxxx) (xxxxxi) (xxxxxii) (xxxxxiii) (xxxxxiv) (xxxxxv) (xxxxxvi) (xxxxxvii) (xxxxxviii) (xxxxxix) (xxxxxx) (xxxxxxi) (xxxxxxii) (xxxxxxiii) (xxxxxxiv) (xxxxxxv) (xxxxxxvi) (xxxxxxvii) (xxxxxxviii) (xxxxxxix) (xxxxxxx) (xxxxxxx) (xxxxxxx) (xxxxxxx)			

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

TO A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER

by
CECIL TEACHOUT

Don't say a child's too little
When he's five or six or seven;
Don't neglect to ask him if he's sure
He'll go to heaven.

Don't wait until a week from now
To make salvation plain;
That little one within your reach
May not be there again.

Remember that our Father sees
The end from the beginning;
And these little ones so precious
Should be saved from lives of sinning.

We must bring each one to Jesus,
They must meet Him face to face;
They must take Him as their Saviour,
They must know His matchless grace.

He is knocking at their heart's door now,
As you give to them God's Word;
He is seeking to gain entrance,
So that He may be their Lord.

If one of those, whom you have taught,
Is never saved—but lost,
And spends eternity in hell—
How can we count the cost?

God caused that little one to come
So we could point the way,
And lead him to accept the Christ,
So he'd be saved today.

So let us use each class time
As though it were the last;
And lead each one to Jesus,
Before the chance is past.

LOCAL BUSINESSES SHOW SUPPORT

The College recently received several annual gifts from local businesses in the area.

"We are fortunate for having the interest and support of the many local businesses in the Mount Olive area," commented Nancy Sampsell, Director of Development.

Among recent presentations is a \$1,000 annual gift from the Piggly Wiggly Food Store, represented by Moses King. Smitty's Restaurant also contributed a \$100 annual gift toward a scholarship fund.

Lonnie Rackley, Manager of the Belk Store in Mount Olive, presented a \$500 gift on behalf of the Belk Foundation.

The Belk gift was given "in appreciation of the educational contribution Mount Olive College is making to this area and all of eastern North Carolina," Rackley said.

SPRING SEMESTER OPENS WITH MORE STUDENTS/GOOD ADVICE

Over 350 students registered for the spring semester at Mount Olive College on the opening day of registration for classes.

Registration for day classes ends today and night class registration ends Thursday, January 24.

"We have a large increase of new and transfer students for the spring this year," commented Mary Atkinson of the Admission's Office.

The Convocation message officially opening the spring

semester, was given by Dr. Jerry Wallace, Chairman of the Religion Department of Campbell University.

Entitled "Toward Broad-minded Christians," Dr. Wallace stated, "We do not want to restrict our lives so that others do not relate to us. We want to relate to others not as a little grain of mustard seed, but in the fulness of a tree. We do not want to be timid or limit our responsibilities to others. Whatever we are, to some people may be the only evidence of some salt in their lives. We want to be as broad as the world is."

The second session of Paul Palmer Institute courses will begin early March.

For more information concerning any of the academic programs offered at Mount Olive College, call (919) 658-2502.

FOUR WEEK PAUL PALMER COURSE OFFERED

A special four week Paul Palmer course, entitled History of the Free Will Baptist Church will be offered at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church beginning March 10.

The regular eight week course will be offered in four weeks on Monday evenings from 7:30-9:30. Books will be available at the first class meeting.

Persons interested in taking the course without credit may do so for only \$10. Registration will be the first night of class.

For more information concerning this class or any Paul Palmer classes, please contact Frank R. Harrison at 658-2502 (office) or 658-9363 (home).

ATTENTION

The Revision Committee will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, February 11, 1980. All Revision Committee members are urged to be present and visitors are welcomed.

JANUARY IS RETIREMENT HOME MONTH

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For February 3

WOMAN OF SAMARIA

Lesson Text: John 4:7-11, 25-30,
39

Memory Verse: John 4:14

I. INTRODUCTION

Jesus' early Judean ministry involved Him in several exciting incidents. Coming to Jerusalem for the Passover, Jesus was distressed to find that the temple had been made into a marketplace. Divine anger flashed as He drove the merchants from the temple area.

This aroused the antagonism of the religious leaders, which may be the reason that Nicodemus, "a ruler of the Jews," came to Him by night. Jesus continued His ministry in Judea for some time, growing so much in popularity that His followers came to outnumber those of John the Baptist.

Finally, the time came for Jesus and His disciples to return to Galilee. For the return trip, Jesus chose to go through Samaria rather than around it, as was the usual practice. This trip through Samaria provided the occasion for Jesus' meeting the woman at the well of Sychar.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The experience of Jesus with the sinful woman of Samaria is one of the best illustrations of how He shattered the smug, complacent, and even contemptuous attitude of the Jews toward people outside their narrow, pious social world. As we look at this story it seems we

can hear Jesus' voice as He tells us to closely examine our own racial, sexist, and religious attitudes toward others—not the least being women and their important role in Christian service. Our attitudes may be barriers to the spreading of the Word of God among minority races, people on low poverty levels, and among the high middle classes and the very rich. If we miss the need to make this kind of examination we have missed the whole purpose of the Holy Spirit in giving us this story.

B. When we look at the dead churches all around us, the deadening lethargy of so many nominal Christians, and the sickening lukewarmness of so many congregations, we know the time has come for Christians to become more like Jesus in their relationship with unfortunate persons who need the help that only Christ can give. If we miss this boat we will end up with the Loadiceans and Jesus will spew us out of His mouth. (See Revelation 3:14-19.)

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. "Receiving Jesus' Love and Care" is the title of this third unit, which consists of five lessons (the fifth one carrying over into next quarter), dealing with the special needs of different persons who encountered Jesus. These studies will show Jesus' love, compassion, understanding, and forgiveness which radically changed the life styles of these individuals.

B. In dealing with these persons, Jesus offered us the means by which we may over-

come barriers that hinder our reaching people who may look with suspicion upon us and our purposes because of racial and religious differences, because of our reaction to their handicaps, and because of our real or fancied disapproval of their social and moral standards.

C. We start with the story of the woman at the well, a person of ill repute and one considered outside the scope of decent womanhood, yet a person to whom Jesus showed the same kind of love He manifested to more highly moral persons. It should be noted that the Samaritan woman was among the first to whom Jesus revealed His Messiahship. It is also noteworthy that she, despite her unsavory reputation, became a disciple of Jesus and a witness to His saving grace, bringing many others to salvation. She learned that she had very little of importance to lose and everything worthwhile to gain in making her decision to believe in and follow Jesus.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

D. One of the most wonderful things about soul-winning is that you never know what God will do with and through the one you win.

E. Some of the world's greatest Christians were once as bad or worse than the woman of Samaria—or the woman taken in adultery.

F. Jesus did more for womanhood than anyone else in the world. Every woman and girl ought to thank Jesus every day for His exaltation of her.

G. We can thank God for the work of women in the church. What would happen to some of our churches if every position now filled by women was vacated?

H. The woman of Samaria left her waterpot at the well. What have we left at the altar when we confessed our sins and received the Lord Jesus as Saviour?

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

NEWS NOTES

Harvey Hinson Honored

Mr. Harvey T. Hinson was recently honored by the Cape Fear Union Meeting commemorating his fifty-five years of faithful service.

Mr. Hinson has been active in the union meeting since 1924 and has served as treasurer since 1950. The union convenes quarterly and since this time he has missed only three meetings; this was due to his being hospitalized.

His pastor, the Rev. Henry Armstrong, commended him for outstanding service rendered to his local church and the Cape Fear Conference. He stated that Mr. Hinson has been a member of the Lee's Chapel church since 1924, has served on the board of deacons for fourteen years, and as church clerk since 1948.

He has been active in the Cape Fear Conference since 1930, has served as treasurer since 1941 without having been absent from an annual meeting. He has served on the conference executive board for more than thirty years and has visited every church in the conference.

He is married to the former Vada Williford, to whom he gives much credit for his achievements. Mr. and Mrs. Hinson observed their golden wedding anniversary in January, 1975.

The union moderator, the Rev. Ed Taylor, declared December 29, 1979 "Harvey Hinson Day" and presented him a plaque on behalf of the Cape Fear Union Meeting. He received a standing ovation from the congregation.

Gospel Concert At Hugo Church

The youth quartet of Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina, will be in gospel concert at the Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Grifton, North Carolina, on Sunday night, January 27,

beginning at 7 p.m. The youth quartet is very much in demand and is one of the youngest groups in Eastern North Carolina to be outstanding and featured in gospel music. For the last two years this group has had more opportunities to perform than they have been able to accept.

The Hugo church is located in the Hugo section of Lenoir County about four miles northwest of Grifton. The public is invited to attend.

Third Union Mission Rally Held at Beulaville Church

At a Third Union Mission Rally held at Beulaville Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday night, January 6, a check for \$933.10 was presented to Camp Vandemere in honor of the Rev. and Mrs. James A. Evans.

Mr. A. Stanley Jenkins presented the check on behalf of the North Carolina Brotherhood of Original Free Will Baptists in Kinston to the Rev. Ralph Sumner, Chairman of Camp Vandemere Board of Directors.

Mr. Evans was pastoring Kinston, First Church, at the time the Brotherhood was established and was an influential guiding force in the early days. He has given many years of service to the denomination.

YOUTH CONVENTION TIME

Dear Youth Sponsors,

Our spring convention will soon be here. Let's plan now to make it a success. We will meet with St. Mary's church in New Bern on March 15, 1980, at 9:45 a.m.

The Bible Bowl Quiz will be on Missions in the Free Will Baptist Church. This book by the Rev. C. F. Bowen is free and can be received by writing to the Rev. Joseph Ingram, P. O. Box 979, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

The Declamation Topic is "Lord, You Light Up My Life."

The Essay Topic is "Youth, Helping the Church Grow."

Rules are the same as always and may be found in any YFA or AFC program book.

I must know by February 10, 1980, if you plan to have a Bible Bowl team, Declamation or Essay.

I will need a copy of the Declamation and Essays by March 1, 1980. Later entries will not be judged.

Please feel free to call me or write at any time. Pray for our officers and our convention. My address is Linda Ford, Eastern District Youth Chairman, Route 2, Box 37-A, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510; phone, 249-0651.

—Linda Ford

FULL HOUSE!

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

During the month of January, Mrs. Winifred Holt from the Black Jack church community in Pitt County came to the campus of the Retirement Homes to live. All five of our apartments are now occupied. We can praise the Lord for making our retirement ministry a 100 percent success in such a short time.

What about the future? With the retired community growing, it follows that we will, no doubt, need additional space. Expansion of our facilities at the Retirement Homes depends solely upon the contributions of our people. Current income, about \$10,000 per year, is sufficient to operate the program at its present stage. There are no surplus funds, however, for expansion of the program. Construction funds for new apartments must be raised above operating expenses.

We have several inquiries about apartments at this time. We sincerely hope our churches will include the Retirement Homes in their budgets for the year to come. Receive a generous offering during this month, Retirement Homes Month, for advancement of our retirement ministry.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

FINDING PEACE WITH GOD

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

In studying the life of Job, we see how well Job had lived and served God, and how terribly he had to suffer in the testing that Satan brought upon him to try to show that Job served God for his own personal gain.

Job lost all his flocks and herds, his children, and even his wife's sympathetic understanding. Then he was smitten with a horrible disease, bringing constant misery, weakness, and pain. Feverish dreams disturbed his sleep. His nights and days were so bitter and hard to bear that he yearned for the relief of death. He knew no reason for his agonies and no hope for deliverance, except to call on God for help.

Three friends heard of his troubles and came to comfort him. His appearance was so changed that they could not recognize him. They wept and sat down on the ground with him for seven days before they spoke. Job eloquently bemoaned his afflictions and expressed the anguish of his soul.

Elihu spoke at length. "The innocent do not suffer like this, but the wicked must perish," he said. "Happy is the man whom the Lord reproves. Now seek God and live."

In reply Job complained, "God will not let me die and you are unkind friends. Show me how or where I have sinned." And he prayed to God. Bildad called Job a hypocrite and urged him to repent. "Surely God will forgive you if you get right with Him."

Job's answer elaborated on God's power and justice. He admitted that he could not answer God. Then He said to God, "I am frightened by my suffering. You are condemning me. There is no umpire between us. Quit beating me. The dread of God terrifies me. You once granted me life and steadfast

love, but now you are hiding these from me."

Zophar accused Job of lying about his pure heart, and said, "God is giving you less than you deserve. Put away your sin, and you will be secure and full of hope."

Job denied the accusation and said, "What do you know that I don't know? I will defend my ways to God's face. I know that I shall be vindicated."

A local checkers champion was proud of his skill, and took on all comers and dispatched them all with ease. He would even play several challengers at the same time and beat them all. Then someone suggested that he knew an opponent who could put the champion in his place. The champion agreed to meet this new challenger and the match was set.

When the day arrived, the champion came face to face for the first time with his opponent. But it was not an opponent of flesh and blood. It was an opponent of transistors, wires, switches, and lights, in other words a computer. But if the champion was taken aback by this, he showed no evidence of it. And so the match began. But it ended quickly with the champion suffering defeat. Another game followed, and another, until ten games had been played with each ending in defeat.

Of course the champion really had no chance to win, for the computer operators had programmed into the computer every possible move. Any move he could make would be countered by the machine.

Job's experience must have been rather like that of the crestfallen champion. Any way he turned to protest, he immediately met a countermove. Job's only response could be, "I know that thou canst do everything . . . I understood not . . . I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

ABS PUBLISHES OLYMPIC SCRIPTURES

A special Scripture Portion for visitors to the 1980 Winter Olympic Games in Lake Placid, New York, has been published by the American Bible Society.

Entitled "Strength for the 1980 Winter Olympics," the 41-page booklet contains selected readings from the Bible in English, French, and German.

ABS published the booklet in consultation with the Religious Affairs Committee of the Olympic Games Committee.

The Scripture Portion contains passages from Psalms, Isaiah, Matthew, Romans, 1 Corinthians, Philipians, and John.

"Strength for the 1980 Winter Olympics" also contains a series of attractive color photos of the Lake Placid area in winter.

ABS will also publish a companion piece to "Strength for the 1980 Winter Olympics" with a similar design that will be distributed to all English-speaking athletes participating in the games. The Scripture passages in this booklet will come from the Good News New Testament.

The American Bible Society is a nonprofit, nondenominational organization whose sole purpose is the translation, publication, and distribution of the Holy Scriptures. ABS has pursued this one goal since 1816.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Fred Baker announces that he now has a new address. It is P. O. Box 98, Puerto Princesa City, Philippines 2901. His old address was c/o Free Will Baptist Mission, P. O. Box 346, Greenhills, Rizal 3113, Philippines.

THE FEAR OF GOD CAN DELIVER FROM THE FEAR OF MAN.

IN MEMORY OF RENEE ALMOND

Last December 23, Renee Almond, an eleven-year-old girl in our church, was struck and killed by an automobile. She was a sweet girl with a contagious enthusiasm for life. Since her death, her mother, brother, step-father, aunt, and uncle have accepted Christ. Our church has been greatly affected by it all. God's grace is indeed amazing!

Renee's cousin, Anna Voliva, has written the following poem that I and the family would appreciate being published.

IN MEMORY OF RENEE

"It's been a year now, Renee,
since you went away,
And we miss and think about you
each and every passing day.

When the family gets together,
it's not the same anymore;
Your smile and clowning around
is something we all long for.

You and Wayne were like one,
and sometimes you'll hear it
replied,
'Where's Renee and Wayne?'
Then it hits them, 'Renee
died.'

We don't know where to start;
it's still hard to understand
why,
But we know you're safe and
happy in that mansion in the
sky!

To hear the laughter of kids
playing from time to time
tears us apart.
Because we always think of how
cheerful you were, your
laughter rings in our hearts.

The season that is upon us now,
which is usually enjoyed by
all men

Will be a Christmas hard on us
all; we'll relive the tragedy
again.

The one thing I want to say is,
'You're missed and loved a
lot,

And although you're gone
forever . . . in our hearts,
you'll never be forgot.' "

—The Rev. Ray Williamson

MARLBORO JOINS THE EVERY-FAMILY PLAN

Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Farmville, has become the sixteenth church to join the Every-Family Plan. As a result, THE FREE WILL BAPTIST in now received at a 25 percent discount by each of the one hundred and thirteen families who attend the church. The Rev. Scott Sowers is pastor.

Why not make your church a member of the distinctive group of churches who participate in the program? Discuss the plan with your church membership and let us know at the Press when you desire to implement this plan in your church.

Put THE FREE WILL BAPTIST in every Free Will Baptist home. Subscribe through the Every-Family Plan. Do it today!

THE INDISPENSABLE SWORD

Edward VI was crowned king of England, Ireland, and Scotland when he was only nine years of age.

At the ceremony, various swords were presented to indicate the threefold kingdom.

In a serious tone of voice, the young king said, "One thing is missing."

"What's that?" asked the master of ceremonies, thinking that possibly some detail had been overlooked in the preparation of the occasion.

"The Bible is missing," replied young Edward. "It is the sword of the Spirit, and without it we are nothing and achieve nothing."—Nettie Kroeker.

MAKE EVERY HOME A "FREE WILL BAPTIST" HOME

Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving THE FREE WILL BAPTIST. We would like to suggest the Every-Family Plan, in which a 25 percent discount is given when local churches send the magazine to the home of every church family. (The names and addresses are provided by the churches; the churches are billed quarterly for the subscriptions.)

As added incentive, the Press is prepared to offer a free one-year subscription to the pastor of any church which participates; and a certificate signifying the church's participation in the Every-Family Plan will be presented.

Fifteen Free Will Baptist churches and missions are presently active in the Every-Family Plan: Aspen Grove, Fountain; Core Creek, Cove City; Davis, Davis; Dawson's Grove near Scotland Neck; Free Spirit Mission near Wilson, Free Union, Pinetown; Friendship, Farmville; Happiness Mission, Fayetteville; Hickory Grove, Bethel; Oak Grove, Newton Grove; Reedy Branch, Winterville; Rock of Zion, Grantsboro; Saint Paul, Newton Grove; Tarboro, First, Tarboro; and White Oak, Maysville.

Why not make your church a member of this distinctive group? Discuss the plan with your church membership and let us at the Press know when you desire to implement this plan in your church.

Put THE FREE WILL BAPTIST in every Free Will Baptist home. Subscribe through the Every-Family Plan. Do it today!

PADDY BEAR'S NEW YEAR RESOLUTION

There was company at Paddy Bear's home. Auntie Bear and her son, Fuzzy, had come to spend Christmas, and New Year's Day with Paddy Bear and his folks in the blue-black cave in the heart of the woods.

Every day, while Mama Bear and Auntie Bear "visited" with each other in the cave, Paddy Bear would take Fuzzy out to play. Fuzzy was bigger than Paddy Bear, and his play was often rough. When they rolled and tumbled around, he would bump into Paddy and hurt him badly. Paddy Bear, though, tried not to mind, and because Fuzzy was his guest, he always would let him choose what to play next.

That is why, on New Year's Day, when Fuzzy said, "Oh, I know what let's do—let's make New Year's Resolutions!" Paddy Bear answered, "All right," although he didn't know what a New Year's resolution was.

He was afraid Fuzzy might make fun of him if he asked about it, but he knew Mama Bear wouldn't tease.

"Wait a minute before we start," he told Fuzzy. "I want to go ask Mama something."

Then he ran into the kitchen of the blue-black cave, where Mama Bear was making bread.

"Mama," he asked, all out of breath from running, "how do you make a New Year's resolution?"

"Why," said Mama Bear, "If, on New Year's Day, you make up your mind to do something all the rest of the year that will make you a better little bear, or will help make some one else happy, you call that a New Year's resolution."

Paddy Bear thought, for a minute or two; then he ran back to his cousin.

"All right," he called. "I know what my New Year's resolution is going to be."

"What is it?" asked Fuzzy.

"Every day I am going to go down to the spring to get the

water, so that Mama Bear won't have so much work to do."

"Humph!" said Fuzzy. "I don't think that's much of a resolution."

"But I am going to do it without grumbling," said Paddy. "That's part of the resolution."

"Well, I can make one a lot better than that!" said Fuzzy. "I am going to exercise every day until I'm so strong that I can push the big rock in front of my house right down the hill."

"My," said Paddy Bear, "that is a fine resolution!" He felt ashamed he hadn't been able to think up something big like that. Just bringing up the water every day seemed like such a little thing to do.

But just the same, every morning after Fuzzy Bear and his mother had gone home, Paddy would go down to the spring with his two buckets, fill them with water and carry them back to Mama Bear. At first they seemed very, very heavy. He had to stop two or three times going up the hill to rest. After awhile, though, he could carry them all the way without stopping. You see, although he didn't know it, carrying that water was very good exercise, and he was growing stronger every day.

He would often think of Fuzzy Bear. "My, I wonder if he's grown strong enough yet to push that rock down the hill! I certainly would enjoy watching him do it."

Finally, Mama Bear and Paddy Bear started to visit Auntie Bear. Paddy could hardly wait until dinner was over and he and Fuzzy would go out to play.

"How's your New Year's resolution?" he asked right away. "Can you push that rock down the hill yet?"

Fuzzy Bear looked sheepish. "I didn't practice more than a day or two," he said. "It was too much work. I guess I could push it, though, if I tried."

He went over to the big rock and began to push and tug at it, but he couldn't move it even a

teensy-weensy bit. At last he fell back, puffing and grunting.

"It is not such a big rock, though," said Paddy Bear. "I believe I'll try it myself."

So he began pulling and tugging. And, would you believe it? Carrying that water up the hill every day for months had made his arms so strong that pretty soon—puff! puff! push—that rock began to roll down the hill!

"My, but you are strong!" cried Fuzzy, and Mama Bear and Auntie Bear, who had come out to watch, began to clap their paws.

"You see, it was a good New Year's resolution after all," said Mama Bear. "You've not only been helping me; you've been helping yourself, too."

"And you kept your resolution," Auntie Bear added. "It wouldn't have made any difference how good it was, if you hadn't kept on working over it after you had made it."

"Can you make resolutions any time but New Year's Day," asked Fuzzy. "Because I want to make one right now just like Paddy Bear's, and I am going to keep it just as he did, too."—Selected

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Note the increase in the subscription price of **The Free Will Baptist**, effective November 1, 1979:

- 1 year—\$6
(plus 24 cents tax for NC residents)
- 2 years—\$11
(plus 44 cents tax for NC residents)
- 4 years—\$22
(plus 88 cents tax for NC residents)

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of December, 1979, totaled \$1,239.50 and are as follows:

In Memory of

Atherleen Grimsley Albritton by Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Grimsley, Ayden.

Sandra and Kristen Aldridge by the Rev. and Mrs. Melvin K. Everington, Cove City; Mr. and Mrs. Wade Howell, Kinston.

Mrs. Emily Barbour by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Barefoot, Dunn; and Vessie Johnson, Dunn.

Mrs. Ella Barwick by Mr. and Mrs. Donnell Whitfield, and Mrs. Effie C. Wilson, Mount Olive.

Robert L. Beaman Jr. by Mrs. Helen T. Beaman, Snow Hill.

Mrs. Elizabeth Best by Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

Howard Best by Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Mrs. Rachel Best by Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

Willie H. Beville by Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Watson, Kenly.

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David Sasser by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama; and Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Mr. Groves Simpson by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Bertha Smith by Woman's Auxiliary, LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kennedy, Beulaville; Miss Leah McGlohon, Winterville.

Bruce O. Smith by Mr. Charles W. Pittman III, Wilson.

Catherine Vail Smith by Ann Crawford, Pikeville.

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Mrs. Alice David Stroud by Miss Thelma Dilday, Albertson.

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Joseph W. Temple by Mr. Eugene L. Gaskill, Fayetteville.

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Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Lee Braswell by Mrs. Flonnie W. Creech, Princeton.

The Rev. and Mrs. Davie Brinson by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards, Wilson.

(To be continued next week)

F857W

CHURCH OF THE MONTH



GUM SWAMP FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina
Bobby Taylor, Pastor

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

FEB 1 1980

DURHAM, N. C.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

THE CONFSSIONAL: NEEDED OR UNNEEDED?

Disclosing one's sins, revealing them to a priest, minister, or friend, stating one's wrongdoings, acknowledging the error of one's ways, pouring out the inner feelings of the heart—**confessing**.

Anyone can hear confessions—a priest or a layman. Most Protestants rightly disdain the practice of confessing to a clergyman (after the manner of Roman Catholics, at least), for in belief and practice, the Catholic priest hears and **forgives sins for God**, giving instruction as to the penance that must be worked out to complete the forgiveness.

By virtue of his office, the priest is accorded forgiving powers, and, in effect, acts as God's spokesman. We can't accept that as a logical job of the clergy; though they can hear and offer suggestions for improvement and self-actualization, the clergy **cannot forgive for God**.

"Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned" is the usual prelude to the confession. Then come the play-by-play descriptions of the wrongs. The usual setting is one of secrecy, behind a screen or in a compartment having some separative barrier between the priest and the confessor, affording a measure of privacy. The confessional (the place where the priest hears confessions) offers a kind of security and affords a "secret place" of sorts where one can pour out his heart. Seclusion is perhaps the greatest merit of the compartment.

Sincere sorrow for sins committed can be spoken to anyone—minister or friend—but the forgiveness must come from above. God's Law is transgressed through sinning, and it is only He who can truly forgive sin; it is He who is ultimately sinned against, and retribution lies with Him—not with a priest, nor even with the Pope for that matter.

What, then, is the real worth of the confessional? While it might provide a tangible relief (in that it is set apart for the very purpose of confession), it is not available nor easily accessible for everybody. The "secret place" of one's own privacy—at home or elsewhere—where he communes with God, bares his soul, acknowledges and confesses his sins, is the best kind of confessional, notwithstanding the area set aside in some churches.

Any sincere Christian will certainly want to seek forgiveness of his sins, whether those sins are intentional or unintentional, but he does not have to go "to confession" to reach the heart of God.

"Father, forgive me, for I have sinned." Spoken to God, in sincerity of heart and purpose, this plea will be heard and registered. But no one should expect any human person, however pious, to afford divine forgiveness of sins.

Only God can forgive sins and remember them no more.

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Tommy Manning, Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$6.24; two years, \$11.44; four years, \$22.88 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$6, \$11, and \$22 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and address to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

GUM SWAMP FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

submitted by the Rev. Bobby Taylor

GUM Swamp church is located about nine miles west of Greenville and one mile north of Belvoir in Pitt County. Even though the exact year of the church's establishment is unknown, there are a few generally agreed upon conclusions about her early development.

The original church was established in the late 1750's in the Conetoe settlements of what was then Beaufort County (Pitt County was not created until 1761). Along with Grimsley and Wheat Swamp churches, Gum Swamp was probably a branch or arm of the Little Creek mission center founded by Joseph Parker on Little Contentnea Creek in the mid-1750's. The founder of the church was probably William Parker who, along with his relative Joseph Parker, provided pastoral duties for the congregation until his death in 1794. William Parker was also pastor of the Meherrin church near the present town of Murfreesboro in Hertford County while serving at Gum Swamp and because of the distance between the two churches, his visits to Gum Swamp were probably infrequent.

During the formative years of her development, Gum Swamp remained faithful to the teachings of William and Joseph Parker, survived the proselyting efforts of various religious groups, and today is one of the three oldest remaining Free Will Baptist churches in North Carolina.

The building presently in service was started in 1946 and was completed in 1947 while W. L. Moretz was pastor.

Additional Sunday school classroom facilities were added to the back of the church in 1959, while A. B. Chandler was pastor.

It was during the time that W. L. Poythress was pastoring the church that the building of the parsonage began, November 25, 1966. Mr. Poythress worked diligently to press forward in completion of the parsonage before his leaving the church. The parsonage was completed March 23, 1967, at the cost of \$26,000. It was dedicated June 15, 1969, while Jerry Rowe was pastor. He was the first pastor to live in the parsonage.

In 1972 a fellowship-educational building was started while Jack Mayo was pastor. It was completed in 1975 and was dedicated on September 28, 1975, while Stewart Humphrey was pastor.

Over the years many improvements have been made to all facilities to keep them in proper maintenance and up-dated for the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.

There is recorded evidence of William Parker, Levi Braxton, and Elder Roach having held services at Gum Swamp, but the dates of these services are unavailable.

From the records of Mrs. Marie Carraway comes this list of pastors who have served the church:

1882—Elder Parker; 1886—R. K. Hearn; 1896—T. J. Barnhill; 1900—P. J. Lucas; 1906—T. McLawhorn; 1910—D. A. Windham; 1912—W. D. Alexander; 1920—Thomas Beamon; 1921—N. D. Wiggs; 1922—D. W. Alexander; 1925—E. B. Joyner; 1931—M. A. Woodard; 1932—M. E. Tyson; 1935—W. L. Jernigan; 1938—W. L. Moretz; 1944—J. C. Griffin; 1946—W. L. Moretz; 1948—D. W. Alexander; 1955—A. B. Chandler; 1959—Guy

(Continued on Page 5)

HOW TO UNDERSTAND YOUR MINISTER'S WIFE

by Denise Turner

submitted by Gary M. Bailey

LAST year I typed "Be Kind to the Minister's Wife Week" on our family calendar. My efforts were blissfully ignored by all (possibly because, in our family, I am the minister's wife). Still, there is always next year. Perhaps I should try a different approach—a sit-in at my Sunday school class or a cooking strike on the eve of a covered-dish dinner. Why not? The cause is a worthy one. Minister's wives have heavy burdens to bear.

To be a good minister's wife, a woman must be kind, compassionate, generous, and tactful. To be a happy one, she must have a fantastic sense of humor. Evidently, in view of the tremendous pressures of the ministry and its divorce rate, there is not enough laughter in many "parsonages" today. I can understand why there are problems. I was not laughing in the beginning either. In fact, when I married "my" minister, I was harboring a deadly secret: I make terrible coffee.

When I got married, I was determined not to spend my life presiding over teas. (I am much too clumsy to pour.) But I decided to marry the man I loved and wait until afterward to develop talents that would fit my hallowed new state as a minister's wife. I never developed any of them though. I am not a budding pianist. I am a less-than-mediocre nursery attendant. And I make lousy fried chicken. For a while, I wondered if my husband would be doomed to preach his first funeral sermon on the death of our marriage.

It only made matters worse to meet adoring young females who would give their Pepsodent smiles to be married to ministers. I was amazed that there were so many women who would actually seek to marry men who could never

afford trips to Paris. Men who would expect their wives to go to church every Sunday, Saturday night late movie or not. I asked myself why I had been chosen the lucky one. Others seemed so much better qualified.

I plugged along though, fully aware of my limitations. Then, one day, it hit me like a ton of Bible tracts. Of course. The last thing a starry-eyed young seminarian needs is a wife who wants to worship him. I decided to start utilizing the one attribute that can make a marriage to a minister last—my sense of humor. Here are a few of the times I have found it indispensable.

. . . the day my husband's car was smashed into and the other driver was so glad she had only hit a nice minister.

. . . the morning everyone ooo'ed and ahhh'ed over my husband's sermon which, the night before, had contained the forty-six grammatical errors that I had corrected.

. . . the morning everyone criticized, or napped through, my husband's sermon, and I was expected to remain wide-eyed and complimentary.

. . . any morning at 2:00 a.m. when I remember that a minister is on call twenty-four hours a day. (So is a doctor, but my clothing budget always reminds me that I am not a doctor's wife—and my husband even makes house calls!)

. . . when I realized that ministers, at best, take only one day off, and many of them spend the day going to church—"to see if I have any mail."

. . . the day I discovered that any children I have will automatically be called PK's (preacher's kids)—the only children in the world

who are expected to enjoy staying home and reading the Bible more than going out to the pizza parlor. (Even in nursery school, a PK's little friends expect him to use his modeling clay to sculpt "the Holy Spirit" while they create duckies and doggies.)

. . . the afternoon my daughter's little friend asked her what her daddy does for a living and, after hearing that he is a minister, replied, "But what does he do for a living?"

. . . the dinners where it is assumed that the minister's wife is the only person present who is capable of saying grace (and the meetings which must be "closed in prayer" always by the minister's wife, who is supposed to whip out prayer number 301 for such a purpose).

. . . the evening I applauded a speech given by my professional, respected minister husband and was the only one who knew that he had left ten pairs of dirty socks scattered throughout my home.

. . . the mornings when the minister's family stood at the door to greet the congregation, and my two-year-old daughter decided to lie on the floor and wave both hands at the passers-by.

. . . the day I realized that ministers' wives are not permitted to hear the punch lines of jokes they walk in on and are not permitted to visit homes until the magazines have been hidden away.

. . . every payday, when I wonder why a man with seven years of higher education makes less than my old boy friend who never even attended college.

. . . the days when everything goes wrong and I feel like going to the minister for counseling, until I realize that I would be going to the person who had made everything go wrong.

. . . the time my husband was giving an excellent talk on "Creating the Future," and my eighteen-month old daughter jerked away from me and danced around the podium with her "clackety" pull toy.

. . . whenever I think about the future and the day I will have a child old enough to say, "Mr. Jones, are you the chairman of the deacons? I heard my mommy say that you were a stuffed shirt. What's a stuffed shirt?"

It is a fact. In today's world, combining a thriving marriage with a flourishing ministry is

no accident. It takes work, communication and sacrifice. It takes a wife with her own interest and no desire to piggyback on her husband's successes and failures. It takes two people who know that the best gift they can give their children is to be the best spouses they can possibly be. It takes a Christian couple who know that in Christ, they have the means to conquer any problem that might invade their home. And, when times are toughest, it takes a lot of understanding hugs and the ability to laugh at oneself. Yes, a sense of humor is definitely an indispensable aid to a happy minister's wife.

. . . I still think a "Be Kind to the Minister's Wife Week" would not be a bad idea though.

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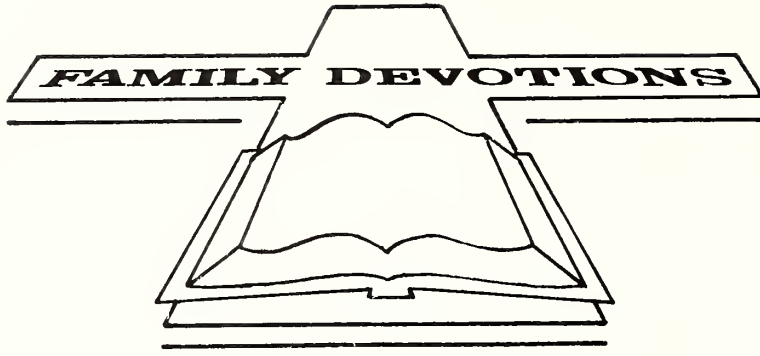
Church of the Month

(Continued from Page 3)

Owens; 1962—Luther Burns; 1963—Austin Carter; 1965—W. L. Poythress; 1967—Jerry Rowe; 1969—Harry Jones; 1971—Jack Mayo; 1973—Stewart Humphrey; 1978—Jerry Rowe; and 1978—Bobby R. Taylor.

The Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church maintains its stand of loyalty to the denomination and dedication to God and continues for one purpose only: to further the cause of Christ among men. To this end, the pastor and members pledge their faith.

When you THINK, when you
SPEAK,
When you READ, when you
WRITE,
When you SING, when you WALK,
When you seek for DELIGHT—
To be kept from all evil
At home and abroad, live always
As under the eye of the Lord.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Scripture Reading—Romans 1:
10-20

GOD MANIFESTED IN HIS WORKS

Is there a God? Yon rising sun
In answer meet replies,
Writes it in flame upon the earth,
Proclaims it round the skies.

Is there a God? Hark! from on high
His thunder shakes the poles;
I hear His voice in every wind,
In every wave that rolls.

Is there a God? With sacred fear
I upward turn my eyes;
"There is," each glitt'ring lamp
of light—
"There is," my soul replies.

If such convictions to my mind
His works aloud impart,
Oh, let the wisdom of His Word
Inscribe them on my heart.

PRAYER THOUGHT

For centuries man has questioned the existence of a living God. All of nature proclaims Him. All one has to do is look around himself and discover the evidence of His Being.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23:
1-6

WHAT GOD DOES

Everything I ever see

Tells me God is good to me;
All the flowers seem to say
He takes care of them each day.

Rivers flowing calm and still
Show us that they do His will;
Birdies in the tops of trees
Praise Him with the greatest ease.

Skies above so bright and blue
Show us what our God can do;
Oh, a million wonders He
Does which none of us can see!

PRAYER THOUGHT

When one beholds the wonders of God he truly knows that God is a loving, caring Father. The human mind, however perceptive, cannot ever fully understand what God is and how He works. Faith in Him is a necessary ingredient for righteous living.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Scripture Reading—Matthew
5:1-11

CHURCH MEMBER BEATITUDES

Blessed is he who will not strain at a drizzle and swallow a downpour.

Blessed is he who tries a little harder when all around say, "It can't be done."

Blessed is he whose program contains time for regular Bible reading.

Blessed is he who serves faith-

fully on a committee.

Blessed is the church official who is not pessimistic.

Blessed is he who loves his church before his business.

Blessed is he who can walk as fast to a religious service as to town.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Being a good church member is serious business. One should approach his church affiliation much as he would a contract—with the full intention of living up to "the provisions."

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Scripture Reading—2 Corin-
thians 6:1-10

MY TIMES ARE IN HIS HANDS

My times are in that mighty
Hand
That formed the earth, the
moon and stars;
That measured oceans, heaven
spanned,
And for the sea set doors and
bars.

Why should I fear what man can
do,
When in that Hand I rest
secure?
In life, or death, 'twill bear me
through
There I have shelter, safe and
sure.

My times are in my Father's
Hand
How could I wish or ask for
more?
For He who has my pathway
planned,
Will guide me till my journey's
o'er.

My times are in my Saviour's
Hand,
Nail-pierced upon the Cross for
me,
And He will lead me to that land,
Where I with Him shall ever
be.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"I'm in His hands; whatever

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

the future holds, I'm in His hands. The path I cannot see; He has it planned for me; I trust in Him, you see; I'm in His hands." Let's speak with assurance our affirmation of faith.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Scripture Reading—Matthew 8:1-8

GOD'S UNCHANGING WORD
For feelings come and feelings go,

And feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God,
Naught else is worth believing.

Though all my heart should feel condemned

For want of some sweet token,
There is One greater than my heart
Whose Word cannot be broken.

I'll trust in God's unchanging Word

Till soul and body sever;
For, though all things shall pass away,
His Word shall stand forever.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's Word is constant and sure. Nothing can replace it. He will live forever, and so His Word will stand forever as the perfect guide to Him.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Scripture Reading—John 8:1-16

WHEN GOD LET IT ALONE

Someone remarked to a farmer who was very proud of his growing oats, "That is a fine field of oats!" "Yes," said the farmer, "if God Almighty lets it alone, it ought to be a bumper crop." The crop immediately stopped growing. God withdrew the rain and elements that would have made it a luxuriant crop, and it withered and died. Something like this can happen to us unless we have a greater sense of dependence upon God. Too many feel they can get along

better without God than with Him, and so God, the Bible, the church, and religion are discarded. But if God let us alone, like the oats, we will perish.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Without God, we are nothing. Let us never forget that He nurtures and protects us. What a sad state of affairs exists for those who dissociate themselves from Him.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Scripture Reading—Colossians 1:10-18

GOD BUILDS NO CHURCHES

God builds no churches. By His plan

That labor has been left to man.

No spires miraculously arise;
No little mission from the skies
Falls on the bleak and barren place

To be a source of strength and grace.

The humblest church demands its price

In human toil and sacrifice.

Men call the Church the House of God

Toward which the toil-stained pilgrims trod

In search of strength and rest and hope,

As blindly through life's mists they grope.

And there God dwells, but it is man

Who builds that House, and draws its plan;

Pays for mortar and the stone
That none need seek for God alone.

The humblest spire to mortal ken
Where God abides was built by men.

And if the Church is still to grow,

Is still the light of hope to throw

Across the valley of despair

Men still must build God's House of Prayer.

God sends no churches from

the skies.

Out of our hearts they must arise.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Prayers to the Almighty do not have to be offered in grand cathedrals—just from the sincere heart. The best church is found in the heart; in the heart is where man and God meet.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

THE TWO TEMPLES

"A builder builded a temple,
He wrought it with grace and skill;

Pillars and groins and arches—
All fashioned to work his will.

And men said they saw its beauty,

'It shall never know decay;
Great is thy skill, O builder!
Thy fame shall endure for aye.'

A teacher builded the temple
With loving and infinite care;
Planning each arch with patience,
Laying each stone with prayer.

None praised unceasing efforts,
None knew of the wondrous plan;

But the temple the teacher builded
Was unseen by the eye of man.

Gone is the builder's temple,
Crumbled into dust;
Low lies each stately pillar,
Food for the consuming rust.

But the temple the teacher builded

Will last while the ages roll;
For the beautiful unseen temple
Was a child's immortal soul.'

—From **Victory Poems**

Children's Home

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
 QUARTERLY REPORT
 (October, November, December,
 1979—\$80,656.01)

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Belhaven	\$ 100.00
Corinth	100.00
Free Union	362.92
Gum Neck	50.00
Hickory Chapel	1,048.85
Malachi's Chapel	429.30
Mount Tabor	371.17
Mount Zion	245.00
Auxiliary Convention	25.00
Sunday School Convention	58.40
District Convention	50.05
Fifth Sunday Singing	128.00
Union Meeting	16.98
Plymouth, First	77.05
Shiloh	370.00
Sidney	277.49
Sound Side	357.38
Saint Paul	190.00
Trinity	175.00
Union Chapel	105.76
TOTAL	<u>\$4,538.35</u>

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	\$ 315.00
Casey's Chapel	197.00
Daly's Chapel	15.00
Goldsboro, First	1,393.13
Haymount Mission	196.23
Hopewell	394.93
Johnston Union	385.14
Lee's Chapel	1,357.12
Auxiliary Convention	23.19
Oak Grove	720.00
Palmer Memorial	152.08
Pleasant Grove	142.00
Robert's Grove	73.00
Riverside	125.00
Saint Mary's Grove	10.00
Shady Grove	680.00
Smithfield, First	300.00
Tee's Chapel	1,189.50
Victory Mission	52.08
Wooten's Chapel	23.85
Yelverton Grove	284.04
TOTAL	<u>\$ 8,028.29</u>

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	\$ 669.25
Ayden	365.00
Bethany	132.02
Black Jack (Pitt)	2,037.79
Cedar Grove	250.00
Community	135.43
Daniels Chapel	715.00
Dawson's Grove	20.00

Dilda's Grove	325.59
Edgewood	25.00
Elm Grove	1,132.00
Free Union	560.67
Friendship	390.98
Gum Swamp	2,180.20
Greenville, First	360.00
Grimsley	10.00
Harrell's Chapel	493.25
Hickory Grove	223.82
Howell Swamp	1,170.00
Hugo	434.00
Hull Road	560.00
King's Cross Roads	2,179.15
LaGrange	325.79
Little Creek	495.00
Marlboro	311.57
Union Number 2	10.75
Auxiliary Convention	41.78
Ormondsville	8.00
Otter's Creek	393.07
Owens Chapel	988.33
Peace	31.00
Piney Grove (Pitt)	231.85
Pleasant Hill	445.00
Reedy Branch	1,018.00
Roanoke Rapids	35.00
Rocky Mount, First	260.00
Rose Hill	550.00
Rose of Sharon	870.00
Saratoga	5.00
Spring Branch	972.90
Sweet Gum Grove	550.05
Tarboro, First	890.00
Walnut Creek	200.00
Watery Branch	265.00
Williamston, First	318.28
Winterville	768.12
TOTAL	<u>\$24,353.64</u>

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	\$ 355.00
Arapahoe	500.00
Bethel	190.00
Bethlehem	502.00
Beaufort Mission	5.00
Bridgeton	297.00
British Chapel	500.00
Core Point Chapel	69.00
Cabin	325.00
Christian Chapel	309.46
Crab Point	45.00
Croatan	100.00
Deep Run	362.00
Dublin Grove	391.75

Edwards Chapel	90.00
Ephesus	237.79
Friendship	329.64
Gethsemane	120.00
Core Creek	260.17
Gray Branch	320.00
Hillsberry	81.78
Holly Springs	818.60
Indian Springs	115.00
Jackson Heights	82.32
Juniper Chapel	50.88
Kinston, First	700.00
Lanier's Chapel	159.00
Long Ridge	100.00
May's Chapel	300.00
Memorial	415.38
Moseley's Creek	100.00
Mount Pleasant	207.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	190.00
Mount Zion (Onslow)	100.00
Union Number 5	60.70
Fifth Sunday School	
Convention	60.00
Mr. W. R. Jarvis	10.00
Union Number 3	50.00
Union Number 4	52.75
New Bethlehem	131.25
New Haven	188.61
Northeast	263.29
Oak Grove	325.00
Oriental	72.00
Otway	44.05
Pearsall Chapel	420.00
Pilgrim's Home	450.00
Pilgrims Rest	100.00
Piney Grove	137.85
Reunion Chapel	165.00
Rock of Zion	335.98
Rooty Branch	143.00
Sarecta	30.00
Sandy Plain	465.21
Smith's New Home	500.00
Snead's Ferry	100.00
Smyrna	832.82
Snow Hill	623.00
Sound View	25.00
Spring Hope	100.00
Saint Mary's	615.00
Trent	20.00
Vanceboro	378.90
Verona	219.40
Wardens Grove	194.59
Warsaw	155.00
Westside	372.15
Whaley's Chapel	220.00
White Hill	50.27
White Oak Grove	100.00
Wilmington, First	15.00
Wintergreen	20.00
Woodrow, First	145.41
TOTAL	<u>\$16,920.00</u>

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Beaverdam	\$ 525.00
Cypress Creek	115.50
Emerson	140.05
Union Number 1	53.00
Pee Dee Association	421.47
Oak Grove	75.00
White Oak	552.49
TOTAL	<u>\$ 1,882.51</u>

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE		
Baptist Cathedral	\$	20.00
Bethany		30.00
Community		75.00
East Rockingham		25.00
Eritage Mission		50.00
Fish Point		288.00
Fishland Pines		20.00
Fly Cross		62.00
Fewell		170.00
Mount Calvary		20.00
Mount Olive		325.00
Auxiliary Convention		50.00
TOTAL	\$	1,135.00

ROCK FISH CONFERENCE		
Mount Moriah	\$	50.76
Conference Meeting		10.50
TOTAL	\$	61.26

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE		
Boaring Creek	\$	75.86
TOTAL	\$	75.86

WESTERN CONFERENCE		
Gap Mission	\$	50.00
Arnes Hill		894.25
Jack Jack Grove		150.00
Ranch Chapel		675.00
Calvary		445.61
Wood Lane		117.47
Verrett Chapel		854.90
Fellowship		32.00
Wood's Chapel		167.00
Tree Spirit Mission		10.00
Remont		525.41
Tree Union		275.00
Friendship		356.50
Polly Springs		1,010.00
Kenly		15.00
Little Rock		811.80
Marsh Swamp		1,167.92
Memorial Chapel		300.00
Ticoro		140.00
Hilbournie		375.00
Mount Zion		209.53
Union Number 1		100.00
Union Number 2		35.00
First Western Sunday		
School Convention		25.00
Youth Fellowship		371.01
New Sandy Hill		529.78
People's Chapel		260.00
Line Level		1,307.86
Pleasant Grove		1,657.50
Kenly Grove		375.00
Pleasant Hill		230.00
Pleasant Plain		237.00
Sains Cross Roads		200.00
Lock Springs		262.14
Rosebud		116.98
Delma		100.00
Herron Acres		610.00
Spring Hill		625.00
St. Mary's		616.54
Cancel Chapel		306.37
Stoney Creek		3,325.19
Stoney Hill		300.00
Trinity		985.00
Union Chapel		97.50
Union Grove		251.50
Unity (Durham)		75.00
Unity (Wilson)		340.84

Watson's Grove		75.00
Wilson, First		76.00
TOTAL		\$22,073.60

FRIENDS: (RELIGIOUS OFFERINGS) THANKSGIVING		
Vernon and Linda McCoy	\$	25.00
Fay Rouse		10.00
Brenda Mills		5.00
Lula Driver		1.00
TOTAL	\$	41.00

OTHER RELIGIONS		
Wilson, First Baptist	\$	18.00
Methodist Church		15.00
Spring Hope Crusade		248.40
New Hope Baptist		20.00
Faith Auxiliary		15.00

Joint Thanksgiving		196.64
Faith		75.00
TOTAL	\$	588.04

OTHER STATES		
Bim Ladies Aid	\$	40.00
Boone County Youth League		100.00
Laurel City Sunday School		342.13
Shelby Free Will Baptist Church		73.50
Youth of Oceana		100.00
TOTAL	\$	655.63

STATEWIDE		
Church Finance	\$	25.00
North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary		213.66
Thanksgiving Services		64.17
TOTAL	\$	302.83

MEMORIALS GIVEN DURING THE QUARTER - \$1,672.00

Given By:	For Whom:
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Merrell	Mr. George R. Merrell
Victory Council Number 19	The Rev. Romulus H. Mason
Trent Free Will Baptist Church	Wesley Ireland
Roscoe Hales Jr.	Bertha Smith
Coastal Production	Bertha Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Worthington	Bertha Smith
Church Finance	Bertha Smith
Church Finance	Essie Burress
	Bertha Smith
Kinston, First	
White Oak Grove	Bertha Smith
(Heath Memorial Class)	
Kinston, First	Jesse Woodard
Sam Bundy	J. T. and Hulda Bundy
Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Pittman	W. Herman Pittman
Onnie Whitley	Bertha Smith
Dublin Grove	H. W. Hudnell
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Briley	Selma Ray Briley
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Briley	Frances Bowie
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Briley	Margaret Briley
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Perry	W. H. Moseley Sr.
Trent Free Will Baptist Church	Ivan Hoffman
Sudie May Auxiliary	W. H. Moseley Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Faulkner	William Allen Faulkner
Lanier's Chapel Auxiliary	Bertha Smith
Cabin Free	
Will Baptist Church	Sandra Elaine Mercer
Green County ASCS	Mary Moye Mewborn
Hollowel Oil Company	Mary Moye Mewborn
Mrs. Charles Vandiford	Mary Moye Mewborn
Kenly, First Auxiliary	Jesse Woodard
Cherry Hospital	Titus Mewborn
Mrs. Blanche Herring	Mary Moye Mewborn
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Herring	Mary Moye Mewborn
Edna Mewborn	Mary Moye Mewborn
Mrs. B. A. Avery	Mr. B. A. Avery
Marie and James Cutrell	Mrs. Veva C. White
Marie and James Cutrell	Zennie Taylor
East Rockingham Auxiliary	Mrs. Virgie Pratt
Durham Veteran	
Medical Center	
(Sick and Recovery Room)	
Mrs. Herman Ward Jr.	Mrs. Mary Moye Mewborn
Mrs. Thomas Harrington	Mrs. Mary Moye Mewborn
Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Pittman	Mr. Marshall Williford
Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Baldree	Bertha Smith

Turn the page

Emerson Free
 Will Baptist Church
 Kenly, First
 Mrs. C. H. Baker
 P. A. Tyndall
 Mr. and Mrs. William Cutler
 Edward and Frances Coppedge
 Edward and Frances Coppedge
 Edward and Frances Coppedge
 Mr. and Mrs. Ron Day
 Mr. and Mrs. Ron Day
 Mr. and Mrs. Ron Day
 Mrs. Bonnie Ray
 Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt R. Perry
 Dr. and Mrs. James Guin Jr.
 Eunice S. Pierce

Guido Schober
 Jesse Woodard Memorial Fund
 Dona P. and Wiley R. Davis
 Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Tyndall
 Bertha Smith
 Elizabeth Thomas
 The Rev. Kemery Ard
 Johnny Robert Hendricks
 Elizabeth Thomas
 The Rev. Kemery Ard
 Johnny Robert Hendricks
 Mrs. Mary E. Mewborn
 Mrs. Mary E. Mewborn
 Mrs. Emma E. Casey
 Blanche Snell

HONORARIUMS (\$90)

Elm Grove Free
 Will Baptist Church
 Number 1 Sunday
 School Class
 Fremont Free Will
 Baptist Auxiliary
 Earl Wooten
 Marie Hudnell

Gerald Briley and Merriam Jones

Sally Renfrow Whitley
 A. F. Balance
 H. W. Hudnell

TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED

by Mrs. Hersel Bowen

As I was reading our church paper, **The Reminder**, written by our pastor, I thought about the time and the planning that goes into this little paper. I've read this paper so often and enjoyed it so very much. Yet, I've never really thanked our pastor for his time and concern for me. It means a lot to me to know these things about my church and church family. Have I just taken for granted that it is his place to do this? So many times I take for granted the good things that come my way.

Have you ever come into a Sunday school class late? There stands the teacher (bless her heart) ready to teach. Have I taken for granted Sunday school will go on without me? Can a teacher teach if class members are not on time? A teacher spends a lot of time standing to teach. She is in the right place at the right time. I owe her respect and love and to be a good listener. I should never take for granted it is easy for her. I am so very thankful for all our Sunday school teachers and say to each of them, "May God grant

you the wisdom you need and the knowledge to use it. You all are doing a wonderful job."

I am so thankful for those that bring us so much joy with the beautiful music we share each Lord's day. May I never take them for granted.

As I watched a television program seeing the children abusing their parents, I felt so thankful for **our** children. I think about all the nice things our children do for us. May I as a parent never take my family for granted. I thank God they care enough to want to help me.

Take nothing for granted—give love—you will receive love, be understanding, and you'll be understood. Be friendly and you'll have friends. I always reap what I sow. Please God, grant me good seed.

Happy is the church whose members know what a church is for. May we keep the main aim—Jesus Christ—in view. A church is a shelter for love. It is a place for joy and growth. It is a hallowed place. We, as members, can turn to our church with a lifting of our hearts. Our

future is unknown. It is a path we have not walked. We know we have a friend, which is God. Let Him be our guide on this path. So again may I say "Take nothing for granted." Put your trust in Jesus Christ.

Preacher's Diary

Taylor Hill
 Home Missions Director

I was at a ministerial meeting and I heard a preacher behind me whisper to another, "I kinda have my doubts about that church over yonder." Having heard what he said, I turned and asked why. He said, "Because I don't like the way they pray; they pray out loud and everybody is praying at one time and it's confusing and upsetting to me." I immediately answered and said, "Brother, there are three things that I want to remind you of: First, they are not praying to you, and second, how they pray is not any of your business, and third, you don't have to worship with them." Deep down inside, I knew that those people over yonder would probably disapprove of his form of worship also. I think that salvation lies in respect for one another.

God develops spiritual power in our lives through the shaping pressure of hard places.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MOC EXPANDS PROGRAM

by Martha Stokes

(The following editorial appeared in the MOUNT OLIVE TRIBUNE, January 8, 1980, and is reprinted for interest and information.)

Expansion of night course studies at Mount Olive College is another indication of the college's commitment to meeting the educational needs of this area.

The night classes expansion announced last week by Vice-president and Dean Dr. Opey D. Jeanes will broaden the college's continuing education program. Dr. Jeanes explained the reason for the addition of night classes: "We've had requests for more courses by adults participating in our continuing education program who hold full-time jobs during the workday and can't attend college except at night."

Night classes will be offered at the College Monday through Thursday. That's good news for adults who are interested in continuing their education and an example of the College's responsiveness to the needs of the community.

DEAN'S LIST STUDENT

Janet Ruth Brewer was named to the Dean's List of Mount Olive College for the fall semester, 1979.

She is the daughter of Mrs. David Lee Brewer of Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Aurora.

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS Mount Olive College Mount Olive, North Carolina

(Continued from Last Week)

Janet Brown by Heath Memorial Bible Class, White Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange.

Debbie Moye by Dr. and Mrs. Bob Moye, Raleigh.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Carr by the Rev. and Mrs. Donald A. Coates, Blakely, Georgia.

Mrs. Flonnie Creech by Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Barnes, Fremont; and Mr. Henry D. Hinnant, Wrightsville Beach.

Sallie Dawson by Cynthia J. Wood, LaGrange.

The Rev. Melvin K. Everington by Mr. and Mrs. Wade Howell, Kinston.

Joyce Hinnant by Woman's Auxiliary, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Julie Leann Jackson by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Cora Johnson by Woman's Auxiliary, Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly.

Mrs. Pearl Johnson by Mr. and Mrs. Felton Watson, Kenly.

Mrs. Bertha L. Morris by Mr. Floyd A. Morris, Fremont.

Betty Moye by Dr. and Mrs. Bob Moye, Raleigh.

Susan Marie Narron by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Pittman Jr by Mr. Charles W. Pittman III, Wilson.

Mrs. Sophia H. Potts by Mrs. William A. Potts, Mount Olive.

Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper by Mr. and Mrs. Felton Watson, Kenly; Mrs. Anna H. Moretz, Swannanoa; the Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Coats, Smithfield; and Mr. and Mrs. David W. Sampsell Jr., Beulaville.

Mrs. Sarah Rodgers by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards, Wilson.

Mrs. Viola Barrow Turnage by Mrs. Helen T. Beaman, Snow Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Whitfield by Dr. and Mrs. Bob Moye, Raleigh.

The Rev. and Mrs. Leonard Woodall by Mr. and Mrs. Ike Hart, LaGrange.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Yates by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards, Wilson.

Gifts

Mrs. Gertrude M. Edwards, Clinton.

Elaine Jones, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Lora W. King, Mount Olive.

ATTENTION: "THE HISTORY OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS" TO BE TAUGHT

By motion in the Second District Union Meeting of the Central Conference (December 30) it was decided to investigate the teaching of a series of classes on "The History of Free Will Baptists." Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the Department of Religion at Mount Olive College, agreed to teach the course at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina. Meeting nights are on Mondays: March 10, 17, 26, 31, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Cost of the course is \$10 per person, with a mandatory registration of 10 persons. The text to be used is AN INTRODUCTION TO ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS by Floyd B. Cherry (the cost of book, \$3.25, additional to course fee).

All ministers and laymen interested in the course are urged to avail themselves of this opportunity to learn more about the history of the denomination. Interested persons should be present at the church for the first meeting, Monday night, March 10.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For February 10

THE PARALYTIC MAN

Lesson Text: John 5:2-15

Memory Selection: John 5:24

I. INTRODUCTION

A woman once was involved in a serious accident that required her to have several painful operations. She was confined to a hospital bed for weeks that eventually stretched into months. Discouraged by her long confinement, she once asked her physician, "How long must I stay in this bed?"

"Just one day at a time, my dear," came his reply, "just one day at a time." She soon learned to face her confinement one day at a time, and this sustained her through her long trial.

Our lesson today tells us about a man who had every reason to become discouraged. He had suffered physical affliction for thirty-eight years. Yet it appears that he never gave up hope; he learned to live one day at a time.

The dating of the events that form the basis for today's lesson provides some problems, and scholars have been far from unanimous in settling these problems. The controversy centers around the reference to a "feast of the Jews" mentioned in John 5:1. John does not specifically tell us which feast this was. Some scholars feel it was one of the minor feasts, while others feel it was one of the three major feasts—Passover, Pentecost, or Tabernacles—which required the attendance of all male Jews each year. It seems best to follow those interpreters who take this to be one of the major feasts, most

probably Passover. This appears to be the best explanation for Jesus' interrupting His successful Galilean ministry and traveling all the way to Jerusalem to observe it.
—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. God is not the cause of sickness and death; He wants us to live and be healthy. Sin is the cause of these things. Jesus came to earth to save men from their sins, but while He was here He also healed many people of their illnesses and afflictions. Do you believe Jesus can still heal those of us who need His healing? This does not mean that everybody is going to be healed. God may allow some to go on to glory in due time. If He does allow this, it means He has a very good reason for it, and we must trust Him for that.

B. But Jesus is still in the healing business. If this were not so, why did the apostle write this: "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up . . ." (James 5:14, 15).

C. But let us go back to Jesus' time and see for ourselves how He raised a man who had been afflicted with paralysis for thirty-eight years.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In the lifetime of many of us we have seen the population of our nation increase by as much as 100,000,000. Thanks to

the mercy of God and the skill of medical science, many of the people in our nation are in better health than ever before—we live longer and enjoy life more. But the fact still remains that there is much illness, and because of the great increase in our population—now about 230,000,000—our hospitals and clinics are overrun, medical costs are spiraling, and there is an alarming shortage of doctors and nurses.

B. Even so, never before have we heard of so many who want to help and heal others. Books flood our newsstands with stories of how God is healing; millions testify to the help they have received at the feet of Jesus, and at the touch of dear Christian friends. Never before, perhaps because there are more people, have been more who need the healing of Christ and the helping touch of friends. Is it any wonder that we love the beautiful song, "He Touched Me"?

C. Our responsibility is to help adults who have been ill a long time to find the right attitude toward sickness—that it can be more of a blessing than a curse!

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

D. The belief that waters had a certain healing value was not entirely superstitious. The waters were supposed to heal any disease whatsoever, regardless of its stage. Modern science has proved the potency of mineral waters for a variety of human ailments. In America and in Europe there are many resorts built adjacent to the beneficial waters. Remember President Roosevelt who actually found relief from the dread infantile paralysis at Warm Springs, Georgia.

E. The Jewish rulers were more concerned with their rules and regulations than they were of the health and spiritual well-being of the man at the pool. How much like them we may be with our church rules and disciplinary dictums.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

RETIREMENT HOMES NEWS

by Harold J. Dunn

Aging is a process, not a static experience. Nobody is old without having first been young. In a rapidly changing society such as ours, the elderly as well as the very young are more often than not put into discriminatory groups and left to fend for themselves.

We, as Free Will Baptists, must remember that out aged people are people with needs and desires like we have. We must not "put them out to pasture" because they are older and cannot work like they once did. They need support and love more than ever. We must not let them feel as if they are alone and no one cares. We must not let them feel alienated. We, as members of the working class, must help. We should visit our older people and help our older people to visit others. We should tell them we love and appreciate them. We can carry them to church and the doctor and the hair dresser and help them attend to business matters. We can always listen. Many times their words of wisdom fall on our deaf ears just because they are old. We should help them physically; maybe a piece of furniture needs moving or a railing needs to be put on their steps.

Many of us say "I don't have time," and some don't. The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes are taking time to help our retired ministers, laymen and denominational workers of ten years or more service. We have five apartments occupied by retirees. They are comfortable homes, well insulated and well heated. They have access to friends who love them. They are close to doctors, churches and transportation when needed.

The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes are doing something for the elderly. Help us help them! January is Retirement Homes Month. Your

contribution is needed. Help your church meet its goal for this year.

CENTRAL DISTRICT YOUTH FELLOWSHIP NEWS

On behalf of the Central District Youth Fellowship, I would like to thank Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church for having us with them January 19, 1980. I am sure everyone who went enjoyed the program, "To Everything There Is a Season," and the delicious refreshments.

The next meeting will be held at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church near Farmville, on March 15, 1980. We are having a "Talents for Christ" exhibition then. All Cherubs, AFCs, and YFAs are asked to participate. You may have a part on the program with music, or you may make or create something using photographs, building things, knitting, painting, carving, sewing, sketching or whatever you can think of. These will not be judged; these will be on exhibition. We hope all of the churches will participate in this new event of the young people in the Central District. The registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Also essays and declamations for district competition in the Central District must be mailed to Mrs. Dot Dail, Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina 28590, no later than March 7, 1980. If you need information concerning the essays or declamations, contact Mrs. Dot Dail or Lynn Chapplear, 403 Grimmsburg Street, Farmville, North Carolina 27828. Everyone please plan to attend the March 15 meeting!

Lisa Mayo
Publicity Chairman

JANUARY IS RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH

ATTENTION: ALL STUDY COURSE CHAIRMAN AND WOMAN'S AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Please refer to Page 4 of your 1980 DEVOTION.

History of Free Will Baptists should be listed under Methods. Both a study of the history of our denomination and a study of the Faith and Discipline were approved in the 1979 Woman's Auxiliary Convention, if taught by a qualified individual.

Under Stewardship, **Living on Less and Liking It More** is listed at \$1.95. As of this writing, it is available only in hard cover at \$4.95.

We regret these two errors and would appreciate it if you would make the corrections in your DEVOTION.

If you have any questions about study courses, or want to recommend any books to me, write to me at 604 Rountree Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

Nina Grace Register
State Study Course Chairman

LIVING BEFORE GOD

Just live thy life before thy Lord,
It matters not what others say,
Look thou upon His wondrous face,
And catch His smile from day to day.

Just live thy life before thy Lord,
It matters not what others do,
Thy actions will be weighed by Him,
Who metes out judgment just and true.

Just live thy life before thy Lord,
It matters not what others think,
Have conscience clear and step alert,
To follow Him and never shrink.

Just live thy life before thy Lord,
Rise to that higher, nobler plane,
With single eye His glory seek,
And thou shalt His approval gain.

Then on those lofty, sunlit heights,
The tempests far beneath may blow,
But not a breath can touch the soul,
Who lives that life while here below.

—M. E. Rae
—From Victory Poems

INFORMATION AND RULES FOR THE ESSAY CONTEST

1. Essay subject will be "Youth Helping the Church Grow."

2. Essays are to be from 1,000 to 1,500 words in length for the YFA; 700 to 1,000 for AFC.

3. Participants must be a member of the YFA, ages 13 through 19; or the AFC, ages 9 through 12.

4. An elimination committee in the local church will judge the essays, and the winning essay will be sent to the district. Only the essay placed first in the district will be sent to the state youth chairman for the state contest.

5. Names of the contestant and a copy of each essay must be sent to the district youth chairman or the state youth chairman at least two weeks prior to the convention.

6. Essays will be judged on the following points: (a) Subject matter, 50 percent, (b) neatness and style, 25 percent, (c) grammatical construction, 25 percent.

7. Suitable awards will be given to the winner and the runner-up in each age group.

8. Essays may be typewritten, but they do not have to be. No essays will be returned.

INFORMATION AND RULES CONCERNING THE DECLAMATION CONTEST

There will be two contests: (1) Boys and girls, ages 9 through 12, who are members of the AFC, BA, and GA are eligible.

(2) Boys and girls, ages 13 through 19, who are members of the YFA are eligible.

1. Each district in the convention will represent with one speaker from each age group.

2. Each church may represent with a contestant from each age group to the district. Winner of the district contest will represent at the State Youth Fellowship Convention.

3. The subject for the oration for 1980: "Lord, You Light Up My Life."

4. Maximum time will be eight minutes, and the minimum time limit will be six minutes. Two points will be deducted for each declamation going over or under the allotted time.

5. Contestants will be judged on the following basis: Personal qualities (appearance, poise, personality, attitude) 20 points; material organization (subject adherence, theme, value, logic, color) 20 points; delivery and presentation (voice, enunciation pronunciation, gestures, sincerity, and emphasis) 40 points; overall effectiveness (appeal, impression, effect) 20 points.

6. Contestants must appear before an elimination committee in the local church, and the winner will be presented at the State Youth Fellowship Convention.

7. Name of the contestant and a copy of each declamation must be sent to the district youth chairman or the state youth chairman at least two weeks prior to the convention in which it is to compete. Those not in on time will be disqualified.

8. Suitable awards will be given to the winner and runner-up.

9. No props, please.

10. The state contest will be held during the annual State Youth Fellowship Convention in the Spring.

Essays and Declamations for District Competition in the Central District must be mailed to: Mrs. Dot Dail, Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina 28590 no later than March 7, 1980.

**Most churches don't need new
preachers
They need renewed congregations.**

—Florence Taylor

IN MEMORY OF A DEAR FRIEND

by Sallie Ingalls Carraway

A dear friend from us has gone
and a voice so many loved is
still.

Also, there's a vacant spot within
this home that no one else can
fill.

She was a good neighbor, also a
wife, who loved God our
Father and His Son Jesus
Christ.

In this world, she did her best
and we her friends feel so
sure she's at rest

Up in Heaven with her two
children who had gone on
before,

Waiting to greet her at Heaven's
open door.

Maud, dear, I loved you too and
am hoping to meet you
beyond the blue,

Where all is peace and love with
our Father up above.

No more tears or either sorrow;
just one long sweet tomorrow.

Resting on the banks of that
beautiful sea with our loved
ones we will be.

So now we will bow our heads
and try not to think of her as
being dead.

Only resting in the quiet by and
by with God our Father and
her loved ones who are
waiting on high.

Oh what a joyful time that will be
when we greet one another on
that beautiful sea.

Yes, I know she's gone but not
forgotten, never will her
memory fade.

Sweetest thoughts will always
linger around the grave
where she is laid.

A friend of yours, I know your
family is deeply grieved while
on earth they must stay.

But what a sweet reunion some
bright and happy day.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

HOME MISSIONS

Second Quarterly Report
from OCTOBER 31 thru DECEMBER 31, 1979

submitted by Taylor Hill

ALBEMARLE	
Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	\$ 123.85
Albemarle Union Meeting	7.00
Albemarle District Auxiliary	88.68
Tree Union (Beaufort County)	72.00
Hickory Chapel	189.15
Malachi's Chapel	212.75
Mount Zion	69.38
Piney Grove	25.00
Midney	315.34
Union Chapel	132.20
Total	<u>\$1,235.35</u>

CAPE FEAR	
Cethel (Johnston County)	\$ 100.00
Cape Fear Conference	158.38
Waldsboro, First	45.00
Laymount Mission	457.87
Hopewell	79.58
Johnston Union	120.00
Lee's Chapel	130.29
Palmer Memorial	47.58
Shady Grove	40.42
Smithfield, First	10.00
Victory Mission	52.11
Wooten's Chapel	201.81
Wilmington Grove	20.00
Total	<u>\$1,463.04</u>

CENTRAL	
Open Grove	\$ 25.00
Lyden	10.00
Methany	89.60
Black Jack	122.20
Central Conference	
Layman's League	337.57
Community	10.00
Daniels Chapel	590.00
Dawson's Grove	10.00
Dodgewood	19.07
Elm Grove	10.00
Tree Union (Greene County)	376.42
Friendship (Greene County)	90.18
Greenville, First	10.00
Hum Swamp	10.00
Marrell's Chapel	230.00
Hickory Grove	26.49
Hopewell Swamp	60.00
Hugo	135.00
Hull Road	276.25
King's Cross Roads	10.00
LaGrange	101.77
Little Creek	10.00
Marlboro	60.16
Matter's Creek	233.00
Mawns Chapel	110.00
Mace	24.50
Meedy Branch	60.00
Moanoke Rapids	5.00
Rocky Mount, First	169.50
Rose of Sharon	60.00
Rose Hill	100.00

Saratoga	10.00
Second Union	10.75
Spring Branch	10.00
Tarboro, First	760.00
Watery Branch	15.00
Williamston, First	139.70
Winterville	311.35
Total	<u>\$4,638.51</u>

EASTERN	
Antioch	\$ 100.00
Arapahoe	47.00
Beaufort Mission	66.00
Bridgeton	59.00
Core Creek	50.00
Crab Point	54.00
Croatan	20.00
Davis	9.00
Dublin Grove	10.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	20.00
Fifth Union Meeting	20.00
Friendship	5.00
Holly Springs	727.13
Jackson Heights	41.16
Juniper Chapel	20.00
Laniers Chapel	6.00
Mount Zion	50.00
Oak Grove	20.50
Oriental	18.00
Pearsall Chapel	75.00
Pilgrim's Home	150.00
Pilgrims Rest	46.92
St. Mary's	275.00
Sandy Plain	545.79
Smith's New Home	150.00
Third Union District	90.00
Verona	100.00
Wardens Grove	49.06
Whaley's Chapel	20.00
Wintergreen	20.00
Total	<u>\$2,864.56</u>

PEE DEE	
Beaverdam	\$ 25.00
Oak Grove	570.83
Pee Dee Association	148.78
Total	<u>\$ 744.61</u>

PIEDMONT	
Heritage Mission	\$ 50.00
Hopewell	80.00
Piedmont District Auxiliary	40.00
Total	<u>\$ 170.00</u>

WESTERN	
Barnes Hill	\$ 200.00
Branch Chapel	500.00
Calvary	100.00
Durham, First	10.00
Elwood Lane	729.62
Everett Chapel	84.07
Flood's Chapel	12.00
First Western District	

Sunday School Convention	25.00
Kenly	20.05
Little Rock	269.20
Mount Zion (Nash County)	87.38
People's Chapel	105.50
Pine Level	180.00
Piney Grove	75.00
Pleasant Grove	565.67
Pleasant Hill	60.00
Rains Cross Roads	40.00
St. Mary's	240.00
Selma	50.00
Sherron Acres	100.00
Trinity	450.00
Unity	75.00
Western District Auxiliary Convention	108.78
Wilson, First	61.55
Total	<u>\$4,148.82</u>

INDIVIDUALS	
Duncan, Lester and Nancy	\$ 20.00
Harris, Dennis I.	75.00
Harris, Floyd P.	500.00
Hansley, David W.	16.00
Howell, Johnny	8.00
Kennedy, Percy	200.00
Total	<u>\$ 819.00</u>

OTHERS	
North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Christian Service Fund	\$ 142.44
Total Contributions:	<u>\$16,226.33</u>

"FOCUS ON THE FAMILY" FILM SERIES TO BE SHOWN AT HOPEWELL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

A new film series featuring James C. Dobson, Ph.D., will be shown each Sunday night for seven weeks at Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Smithfield, North Carolina, beginning February 3, 1980, at 7 p. m. Entitled "Focus on the Family," the series presents seven of Dr. Dobson's most popular presentations, all of which were filmed live at family seminars.

Titles of the films are:

- "The Strong-Willed Child"
- "Shaping the Will Without Breaking the Spirit"
- "Christian Fathering"
- "Preparing for Adolescence"
- Part 1: The Origins of Self-Doubt
- Part 2: Peer and Pressure and Sexuality
- "What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women"
- Part 1: The Lonely Housewife
- Part 2: Money, Sex, and Children

This series offers one of the nation's most popular authorities on family life in a format that combines information, entertainment, and inspiration. Every interested person is invited to attend.

James C. Dobson, Ph.D., is Associate Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Southern California School of Medicine. He is a licensed psychologist in the State of California, a husband, father, and author of several best-selling books including: **Dare to Discipline** (over one million copies sold), **Hide or Seek**, **What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women**, **The Strong-Willed Child**, and his last book entitled **Preparing for Adolescence**. He also speaks on a radio series "Focus on the Family," which is syndicated to 134 stations.

NEWS NOTES

Revelators to Conduct Service at Hopewell Church

The Taylor Family from Indiana, better known as the Revelators, will conduct a special evening service, Friday, February 1, at 7:30. They will perform a musical program called "Noah's Ark" and deliver additional gospel music. This program will benefit the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex when a Free Will offering will be received at the end of the service.

This program is sponsored by Hopewell Ladies Auxiliary of Route 1, Smithfield, and they cordially invite the local churches and surrounding communities to come and enjoy this special event.

There will be a social hour with light refreshments in the church annex following the program.

Leagues to Meet at White Oak Church

The North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will meet at White Oak Free Will Baptist Church at Bladenboro on Saturday, March 8, 1980, at 10 a. m. Registration will begin at 9:30 a. m. Looking forward to the Eighties, the Executive Committee selected as a theme "Fear Not, Stand Still and See" (Exodus 14:13).

Each general league is requested to send at least \$75, or as much as possible, to the convention for the state project—building fund for Cragmont. In addition each league should send \$10 as a contribution toward the expenses of the convention. The program is planned to conclude at 12:30, followed by lunch. Therefore, when report blanks are received from the corresponding sec-

retary, it is urgent that reports and contributions to the convention plus the money for the state project be mailed in so that the information can be tabulated before the convention. This help will greatly lessen the work of the Digest Committee and allow them to participate in more of the convention.

Reports and funds should be mailed to Miss Leah McGlohon, P. O. Box 2, Winterville, North Carolina 28590.

A regular feature of the convention is the Junior and Intermediate Sword Drills. Only one contestant from each junior league (ages 9-11) and one contestant from each intermediate league (ages 12-15 this year) should enter. Study materials were passed out at the convention last year, or were mailed to each general director

afterwards. However, if any league needs copies of the study materials, they may be obtained by writing to Mrs. Norman Ard Route 1, Pink Hill, North Carolina.

Revival Services at Living Waters Church

Revival services will be held at Living Waters Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville, North Carolina, February 4-8, at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Winford Floyd will be the guest speaker. The public is cordially invited.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Davie Brinson announces that he now has a new address. It is Route 1, Box 321, Smithfield, North Carolina 27577. His old address was 110 Bryan Drive, Greenville, North Carolina 27834.

CHANGED ADDRESS? LET US KNOW

As soon as you know your new address, please let us know so we can bring our records up to date. Our subscribers and patrons are important to us and we want to keep current addresses on them. Please cooperate with us so we can serve you better.

Your Name _____

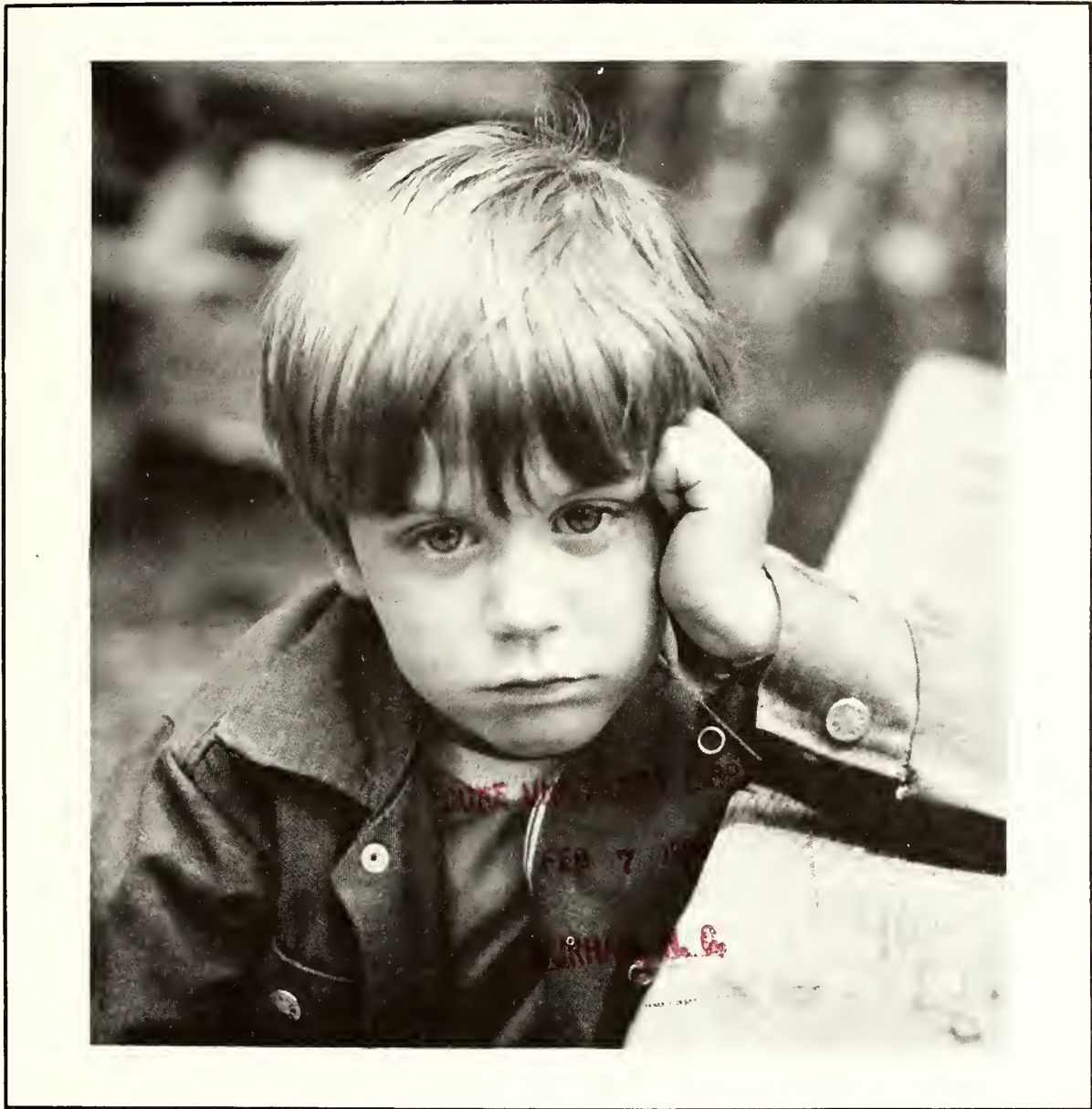
Old Address _____

New Address _____

Phone Number _____

TALENTS and AGE notwithstanding . . .

D. P.
F857W



YOU are important.

**THE
FREE
WILL
BAPTIST**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

YOU ARE IMPORTANT

"Just do what you can—great or small." This was the exhortation of the gentleman occupying the pulpit. He had stood there many times before in his minister's place, devoting attention to what he called his meager ability, citing that since he was not a preacher he was not expected to give a preacher's worth. He insisted at the same time that he **must do his best**. "Then," said he, "God will take care of the rest."

Out of genuine humility the gentleman spoke—out of experience and knowledge. Though at retirement age, he communicated as well to young people as to adults and delivered his points with confidence, reading short passages from the Bible to support his claims. His forthright manner led the congregation to believe what he said, to accept it as God's truth for the hour. He spoke on, perhaps restating what had been said on other occasions, but driving the points home in a deliberate but courteous manner so typical of him. He gave fresh meaning to known truths.

"I can't sing or play a musical instrument," he admitted, "but I have two good ears with which I can enjoy the music. That I can do—listen and enjoy." Then he added, "And nobody enjoys the music more than I."

Then on to another point. "Somebody has to occupy the pews, you know. Somebody has to listen to the preacher. Those who can't be preachers or teachers can certainly be listeners—and doers. Make no mistake about it, we must be doers." He underscored the necessity of putting the Word into action and life.

The underlying theme of his message was the importance of the individual. According to him no one place is more to be valued than another. The diligent and faithful follower is as important as the talented leader. The listener is as important as the performer.

It takes all to make a service. It takes all to make a church. It takes all to get things done for the Lord.

A combination of efforts: leading, following; providing music, listening; preaching, being instructed; inspiring, accepting the inspiration; praising, being led to praise; praying, being led in prayer; reverencing, being favorably influenced toward reverent honor—the minister, musicians, and congregation—all these together produce the desired end product, **worship**.

"You are important, even if you think you aren't." The words came across simply. Perhaps their simplicity is what gave them added meaning. Everybody has his place; everybody is needed."

Needed! Everybody is needed. This affirmation rings well to the uncertain mind. To know that **everyone**—no matter how lacking in self-worth—is important to the work of the Lord!

(Continued on Page 14)

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FEBRUARY 6, 1980

Volume 95

Number

Tommy Manning, Editor

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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GOD

EXPECTS

by the Rev. Charles E. Branch

SEPARATED

LIVING

Pastor, Ephesus
Free Will Baptist Church
Blounts Creek, North Carolina

This article is submitted in response to "Are Pantsuits appropriate for Church" printed in THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, January 16, 1980.)

THE wearing of pantsuits to church is only an indication of the declining standard that is so prevalent today. Somewhere along the way we have forgotten what is meant by "Come ye out from among them and be ye separated" (see 2 Corinthians 6:17). Our line of separation is so indistinct that it is becoming increasingly difficult to distinguish between the world and the church. Some Christians even believe the wearing of shorts, hot pants, miniskirts, attending the movie theatre, taking a social drink, and the like is acceptable. The Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina takes a clear stand on these matters. The Church Covenant states: "We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusement and unholy conformity to the world" (Page 42). If there is a

question, it is better to leave it off lest we offend our weaker brother and cause him to stumble and fall.

The treatise under "Dismission of Members" (Pages 50, 51) states: "If a member . . . cast his influence against the church, he is admonished . . . If any member shall attend the race ground, ballroom, card table, shooting matches, or any other place of disorder without lawful business, such a member may be censured by the church." Thank God for those faithful, dedicated servants who framed the Statement of Faith and Discipline firmly and uncompromisingly upon the Bible principles of separated Christian living. In modern days, we seemingly have forgotten what separation and holy living means.

God's people are a peculiar people. We are called upon to come out from among unbelievers; from a gay and vicious world. We are to be separated from the world and

Unless Christians and Free Will Baptists in particular come back to God's standard as plainly taught in the Scriptures, we are in for serious trouble.

ALL its corrupting influences.

Lack of separation is a major problem in the church today. This is why the church has so little influence in the world. This is why the Christian's influence is so weak. This is why so few people are being saved. We cannot be like, live like, look like, and act like the world and expect the world to listen when we try to tell them about Jesus. Our actions and deeds speak so loud that they cannot hear what we are saying.

The standard set by the world is not acceptable for Christians. When we weaken our standard, we hurt the cause of Christ. Have we forgotten our mission? Have we lost sight of the multitudes about us that do not know Jesus Christ as personal Saviour?

Jesus said, "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world . . . Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which

(Continued on Page 15)

A CHRISTIAN

VIEW . . .

OF DEATH

by Mike Scott

DEATH ? extinction

death? the end of life

Death? the state of

being dead

Death? loss of life

(Mr. Scott is minister at Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, North Carolina.)

DEATH is mostly viewed with fear and trembling. We have precious little experience as to what lies beyond the grave. We "see through a glass darkly" and have little or no knowledge as to what awaits beyond that glass. Death is the opposite of life. In fact, death is the enemy of life. We have our life and existence because God has so willed it, and with every ounce and fiber of our being we will, for the most part, seek to preserve that life. It is hard for us to picture a here and now without us in it.

There is a great mystery that surrounds death. It is dark and unknown, and no matter how pressing or urgent our questions, they must remain unanswered until that time when "all things shall be known." Fear, and doubt, and mystery—all of these things and many more enter into the mind when death is mentioned. Yet, some of our questions can be answered, some of our fears can be quieted, and some of the mystery can be removed.

Our text states, "unto God the Lord belong the issues from death." Death is basically a spiritual matter. It has to do completely with God. Unto Him belong the issues of death. Death is first mentioned in the earliest parts of the Bible. In Genesis 2:16,17 God states, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." It isn't long after this warning that we come across the first physical death, Cain slaying Abel. All through the Bible men ponder the mystery of death. Job asks, "If a man die, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14), and on the brevity of life James states, "What is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a

little time, and then vanisheth away" (James 4:14).

The issues of death do belong unto God, and under the leadership and guidance of His Holy Spirit I feel that there are three positive affirmations that we can make concerning death.

First death is a beaten foe. As we have already stated, death is the enemy of life. It is feared by many, shunned by most, and not completely understood by any. We who are among the land of the living spend a good part of time fighting death. Yet, we can pick up any newspaper, or turn on our radios, and find that death is ever-present.

Paul states in 1 Corinthians 15:26, "the last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." As powerful a foe as death may be, the power of God as it is made manifest in Christ is

Turn the Page

"He that is our God is the God of salavation; and unto God the Lord belong the issues from death"

Psalm 68:20.

greater. Through the resurrection, Christ has made mockery of death. He overcame the grave with the victory shout, "because I live, ye shall live also" (John 4:19). When Jesus came out of the grave, He left death behind. The forces of sin and evil, and the power of Satan himself were, and are, stifled by the endless life of Christ.

But death is not destroyed as far as Christ is concerned **only**. Death is destroyed as far as we are concerned **also**, if our faith is placed in Him. We have the promise of abundant life on this earth, along with the assurance of eternal life through faith and trust. For the child of God, the grave is not an end within itself, but only a beginning. When we leave this world we are not condemned to be throughout eternity with our bodies rotting in the **GROUND**. According to the Scriptures, we shall rise again. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first" (1 Thessalonians 4:16). Death has no hold on us! As Christ arose, so shall we arise; as Christ lives, so shall we live; as Christ overcame the grave, so shall we obtain the victory that is ours through Him. Jesus Christ our Lord has destroyed death! He has removed the sting and pain, and has put to shame one of the most powerful weapons that Satan has at his disposal.

Yes, death is a beaten foe. But a second positive statement which can be made about it is death is not to be feared. Because there is so

much about death which we do not know or understand, there is a certain amount of fear and dread which accompanies it. It seems to be human nature to fear the unknown. Yet, the Bible teaches that we shouldn't be afraid, even in the face of death. In Psalm 23 David states, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me" (v. 4). The all knowing and wise God has removed all of our fears, if we will but exercise faith and trust within Him. God is greater than **all** of our fears, and His love is all encompassing, even during the darkest of nights.

Why should we fear? Of what shall we be afraid? Let us with the Apostle Paul give the victory shout "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:55-57). Death is not an enemy to be feared. It is not so powerful that we should cower within its shadow; rather, we should stand firm within the knowledge, and rejoice in the hope that "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8).

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints" (Psalm 116:15) states David. And John writing from the Isle of Patmos says, "... Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they

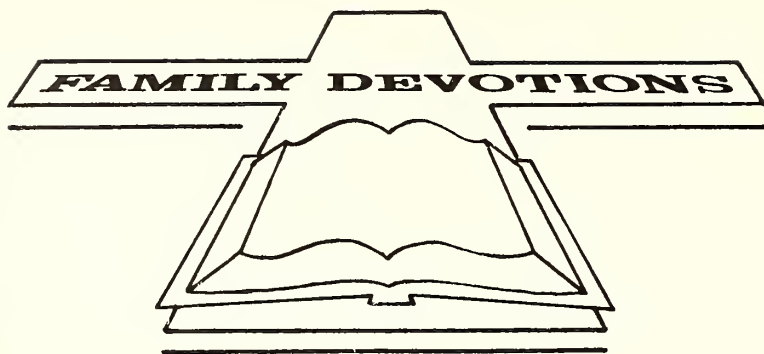
may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them (Revelation 14:13). There is a certain amount of hope and blessing that goes along with death. We then should not be afraid, rather we should rejoice in the assurance that "Jesus doeth all things well," and that even the dreaded enemy death can be used for His glory.

This brings us to our third positive statement concerning death; it is through death that we find life. As we live and dwell upon the face of this earth, we are either lost or saved; we are in accordance to the will of God, or we transgress that will by our every thought and action. If we are to be justified in the sight of God, then we must die to sin, self, and the world. Paul says of the redeemed, "... ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3). If we are alive to God then we are dead to all that is opposed to Him and His righteousness and holiness. It is only when we die to self that we can be made alive unto God.

There is much sin and evil upon the face of this earth. It's hard to be good in such a bad world. Yet, as Christians we are called upon to live in this world, but not to be polluted by those things that are considered worldly. Hence, we must be dead to this world. Paul says, "I die daily" (1 Corinthians 15:31). We too must strive to be free from the corruption of the world.

Yet, the statement, "through death we find life" has another meaning. It is through physical death that we find the literal eternal life that is ours through

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 6:1-11

THAT'S ENOUGH

A pastor in Norfolk, Virginia, phoned the editor of religious news for a paper and gave him the topic for his Sunday morning's sermon, "The Lord Is My Shepherd." The editor asked, "Is that all?" The pastor replied, "That's enough." The editor, thinking that the words were a part of his subject, announced the pastor's topic as follows: "The Lord Is My Shepherd. That's Enough." To know the Lord as our protector and provider is enough to allay all fears and assuage all our sorrows.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What more comforting thought can one have than that of the Lord as one's Shepherd? With Him by our side protecting and directing we need have no fear.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Scripture Reading—Philippians 2:1-10

THE CONVINCING FIFTY-THIRD CHAPTER

I was traveling some years ago with one of the most eminent Jews of our time, the late Dr. Cappadose of Amsterdam. He said to me, "Would you like to know how I became a Christian?" "I should, very much," I replied. He said, "I was reading my Hebrew Old Testament, and I came to the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah. I had read it before, but this time my eyes seemed opened. I began

to think it was the New Testament I had gotten hold of by mistake. I turned the back of it toward me to make sure it was my own Bible. As I read it again and again, I saw what I had never seen before—sin laid on another. And who could it be but the Lord Jesus? The end of that was that I became a Christian without the New Testament at all!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

All of the Bible speaks of Christ—the Old as well as the New Testament. One only has to read a small portion to find Him.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 32:1-17

HITHERTO

Hitherto thy hand hath led me—
Oh, how sweet to feel thy care;
When the way is dark and dreary,
Love's enduring strength is there.

Hitherto thy love hath blest me—
Oh, what changeless love divine!
When my heart was weak and faithless,
Thou didst bind it fast to thine.

Hitherto thy word hath fed me—
And my soul is satisfied;
Thou wilt be forever with me,
Daily manna to provide.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Lord cares for and sustains His children. How

blessed are they who love and trust Him!

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Scripture Reading—Acts 2:35-41

IN THE MORNING, SOW THY SEED!

Years ago in the city of Toronto, Canada, a young man passed a street meeting. He heard only one verse from the Bible: "Son, give me thine heart." At the time, the verse apparently went in one ear and out the other. More than fifty years later, the verse, which had lain dormant in his heart, became accusingly and convictingly alive. Then he fell on his knees, crying to God for mercy and forgiveness.

Let us be alert and aggressive in obeying the command, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good" (Ecclesiastes 11:6).

Even the weakest and unworthiest ones may sow the seed, remembering that the life lies not in the sower, but in the seed!

PRAYER THOUGHT

His word will not return unto Him void. Sow the seeds of the gospel and rejoice in their fruition.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Scripture Reading—Luke 11:35-45

TAKE! BREAK! MAKE!

Lord, TAKE me,
Me, with all my selfishness,
with
All my pride and jealousy,
All my willful disobedience,
All my lack of love to Thee,
Me, with all my faults and frailties,
All my secret, hidden sins.

And BREAK me!

Break my stiff and stubborn will, Lord.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Break my self with all its
pride;
All its dearest dreams, am-
bitions. . . .
Break my heart, its idols
smash, —
Till in splintered, shattered
fragments
I lie helpless at Thy feet.

and MAKE me!
With Thy tender, skillful
hands, Lord,
Make me like Thyself to be,
Moulded in Thy glorious
image,
Sweet and loving, humble,
kind,
Faithful, gentle, finding
pleasure
Only in my Father's will.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*A soul submitted to God! What
better way can one have spiritual
success? Only the yielded life
can truly enjoy His blessings.*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy
5:1-16

THEY WON'T MISS ME!

"They won't miss me!" said
the mother as she repeatedly left
her children for rounds of teas
and parties. The devil did not
'miss' the children either.

"They won't miss me!" said
the soldier as he went AWOL.
But he spent 30 days in the guard
house after that.

"They won't miss me!" said
the man on the assembly line, as
he slipped away without per-
mission. But that airplane
crashed and killed his brother
for lack of a single part.

"They won't miss me!" said
the sentry as he slipped away
from duty. But the enemy
surprised and massacred his
comrades that very night.

"They won't miss me!" said
the church member as he shed
his responsibilities in a day of
crisis, and then wondered why
his country gave way to softness
and demoralization.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

"They won't miss me!" said
the church member as he
omitted worship one Sunday, and
then another, for trivial reasons,
and then wondered why he no
longer enjoyed a victorious
Christian life.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The serious church member
will realize the importance of
being in his place each Sunday.
Let no one discount the im-
portance of being in God's house
at each appointed time.*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Scripture Reading—Matthew
8:1-10

I WILL BE WAITING FOR HER UP YONDER!

A soldier had been mortally
wounded when Pearl Harbor was
attacked. He lingered for a few
days in a hospital. There a
chaplain gave him a New
Testament. Before the soldier
died, the chaplain visited him
again. Said he to the chaplain:

"Just as I was leaving home
my mother put her arms on my
shoulders and said, 'Son, if
anything should happen that you
do not return, I have comfort in
knowing that I'll see you up
yonder in glory.' I bowed my
head and said, 'Mother, I am not
a Christian, and I cannot tell you
that I will see you again, if
anything should happen.' I left
my mother weeping with a heavy
heart. Mother is a very devout
Christian. I have called you to do
me a favor. After I am gone
write Mother telling her I found
the Lord by reading this little
Testament, and that I will be
waiting for her up yonder.'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

*All do not have the opportunity
of a few days to find the Lord;
some deaths are immediate. Do
not put off the important decision
concerning your soul.*

Selected from *Knight's
Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter
B. Knight.

CHANGED ADDRESS? LET US KNOW

As soon as you know your new address, please let us know so we
can bring our records up to date. Our subscribers and patrons are
important to us and we want to keep current addresses on them. Please
cooperate with us so we can serve you better.

Your Name _____

Old Address _____

New Address _____

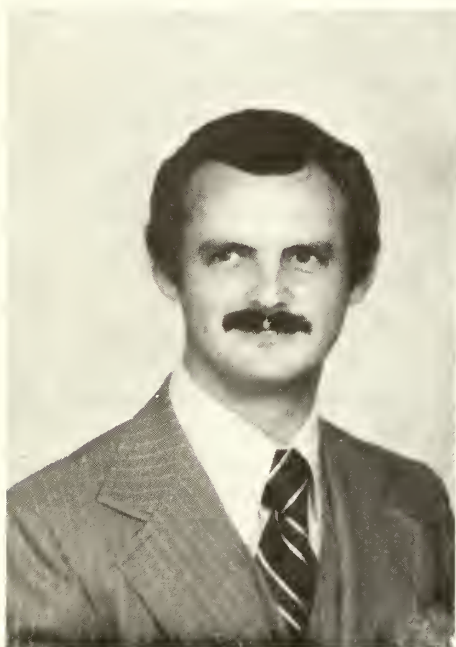
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The Rev. Harry Grubbs

SHERRON ACRES FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Durham honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Harry Grubbs. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

"A PASTOR WITH MANY TALENTS"

submitted by Mrs. C. E. Ladd



Harry Grubbs

Harry Grubbs sings in the choir, he sings solos, he leads congregational singing, he directs the choir, and teaches the Intermediate Sunday School Class. He also is an excellent writer: He has written articles for **The Free Will Baptist** and "An Outline of Christian Beliefs" which is a well written Bible study which he has presented on Wednesday nights.

He also can play softball and basketball. He's a painter and a carpenter. He has helped with many projects in the church such as helping build a ramp beside our church so that we do not have to climb steps. He has done other things to make it easy for our elderly people.

He also works with our youth through the YFA and Cragmont. He's on the Cragmont Board and is very interested in Cragmont, Mount Olive, and our Children's Home.

He has been a blessing to our older people; he visits our sick and shut-ins.

Besides all of this, he can preach God's Word, and what we appreciate about him is that he is a real Free Will Baptist. He preaches our doctrine. He believes what the Free Will Baptists teach and that is the Word of God.

Harry attended Mount Olive Junior College, received his B.A. from Atlantic Christian College in Wilson, and received his M. Divinity from Southeastern Theological Seminary in Wake Forest. He has studied Clinical Pastoral Education at Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh, and at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill.

He is the son of Mrs. Lillian K. Grubbs and the late Rev. Herman A. Grubbs Sr. Mrs. Grubbs lives in Mount Olive and works at Mount Olive College.

His sisters are Mrs. Muriel Overman and Mrs. Sandy Kosalka. His brothers are Adrian, Frank, Paul (all who are Free Will Baptist ministers) and Darrell. His wife's name is Doris and they have two fine children, Gina, six years old; and Jody, three years old.

Doris is certainly an asset to him in that she sings in the

choir, sings in a trio, meets with YFA, teaches Sunday school and is an active member of the Woman's Auxiliary.

Harry and his family began their ministry with Sherron Acres in August, 1975. Our prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless him in all he endeavors to do for the glory of God.

ATTENTION ALL WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT

There will be a District Study Course on February 16, 1980, at Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church, Deep Run, North Carolina, from 10 a. m. to noon.

Our study course will be on prayer, and the book **Prayers That Changed History** by R. Earl Allen will be used. We have three excellent speakers from various auxiliaries in the district lined up to give this course, and I am sure that everyone who attends will receive a blessing from their efforts.

The host church will furnish drinks and coffee, and each person is asked to bring a bag lunch if you prefer to eat before you leave after the session is over.

Please bring your Bibles as we will be referring to Scriptures during the course.

You are reminded that if half of your active auxiliary members attend that you are given credit for having the course. It is my prayer that each of you will put forth a special effort to attend this meeting, and that each one who attends will be richer for having done so. Only as we draw closer to Him can we draw closer to each other, work together, and unite in our efforts to win the lost.

Eva Belle Brinson
District Study Course Chairman

HAVE YOU RENEWED
YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

TREASURE IN EARTHEN VESSELS

by the Rev. DeWayne Eakes

It has been said that the Christian church is an anvil which has worn out many hammers. Even a cursory reading of its history would prove the truth of that observation. The Christian church on an anvil has been hammered through different stages in its history—both cruel persecution and killing indifference—one is at a loss to determine which is worse, though I think the stronger case can be made for indifference—and yet it has survived. Because the Christian church is composed of people, it has suffered from every weakness known in human experience, both in its clergy and its laity, and yet it has stayed alive. It has lived throughquisitions and persecutions, dark ages and times of corruption, superstitions and heresies. It has survived weakness from within and attacks from without. The earliest writings in the New Testament reveal that from the very beginning the fabric of the Christian church was torn by disputes and was subjected to persecution from those outside its body.

And yet it not only survived, but also it conquered. When Constantine the Great embraced Christianity in the early fourth century A. D. and made it his state religion, it marked the astonishing fact that not only in Rome and Constantinople but in the entire western world Christianity was destined to be hailed and to emerge triumphant. Century after century this has remained true. Christians consider this to be miraculous, and secular historians think of it as an amazing phenomenon, incomparable in the recorded annals of human experience.

It is quite clear that "we have this treasure in earthen vessels," as St. Paul reminded the

Christians in Corinth. Alas, the earthen vessels have all too often revealed human weakness. And yet the treasure has been preserved and it survives. How can this be? Surely it is so because the treasure is Jesus Christ. Michael Grant, former professor of humanity at Edinburgh University, writes of Jesus Christ: Some of the things he was believed to have said and done showed that this was the only religion to profess and practice total, revolutionary, unrestricted charity, compassion, and consolation. Thus Jesus, whose life ended in

disaster, had converted this failure into a large, unique, triumph." It is Jesus Christ who is at the very center of our religion. It was He who claimed, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." That audacious claim was accepted by those who became the early Christian church, and it is embraced by Christians even unto today. In this fact is to be found the secret of the survival of the faith.—Charles L. Copenhaver, The Reformed Church, Bronxville, New York (Used by permission: **Pulpit Digest**, Jackson, Mississippi, 39216.)

THEY READ IT IN THIS PAPER

30 Years Ago

"The tenth annual meeting of the Church Finance Association, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 1950, at Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, located just off N. C. 42 about twelve miles West of Wilson, N. C. The meeting will begin at 2:00 P.M."—Church Finance Association, Inc. Holds Annual Meeting

"Mrs. L. E. Ballard of New Bern, North Carolina, has been quite ill for several days. She was taken to one of the hospitals in New Bern some days ago for treatment and rest for a nervous condition. Just recently she was returned home for recuperation, but she is still unable to be up and out of the home."—Mrs. L. E. Ballard Is Quite Ill, Editorial Comments

"Rev. James A. Evans is resigning the Field-Treasurership of the Middlesex Orphanage to become effective on January 2, 1950. He wishes to extend his sincere thanks for the cooperation and help from the ministers, church officers, and the various congregations for their hearty support of the home for the more than nine years that he was head of the institution. His future address will be: Rev. James A. Evans, 1108 South Tarboro Street, Wilson, North Carolina."—Superintendent-Treasurer of the Orphanage Returns to Pastoral Field

"The Lord has been so wonderfully good to me that I want to say that I have been in the good old way something like 56 years. The blessings have been so wonderful in spiritual and temporal things, and of late the presence of the Lord has been so real that I wish to exclaim as did the Psalmist: 'Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all his benefits.' I have often wondered if the majority of the people give much thought to the question: 'Where shall I be when the trumpet shall sound so loud as to wake up the dead?' That is something everyone should be thinking about very seriously."—My Testimony, Mrs. May Rouse, Dudley, North Carolina

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

NEW CREATIONS OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



NEW CREATIONS OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE—Front row from left, Sherry Herring from Dudley; Debbie Sharp and Nancy Boykin (Marsh Swamp church) in Wilson; Lynette Turner (Spring Hill church) in Goldsboro and Wanda Wortham, also of Goldsboro. Back row, from left, Shirley White of Ahsokie; Tony Souder (Trent church) near Arapahoe; Charlene Richardson (Smyrna church) in New Bern; David Merritt of Fayetteville; Caroline Castelloe, professor and advisor; David Paul (Arapahoe church) and Avis Holland of Dudley.

FILM "DECEIVED" TO BE SHOWN FEBRUARY 11

The Free Will Baptist Fellowship of Mount Olive College is sponsoring a film entitled "Deceived," by Mel White, to be shown Monday, February 11 at 6 p.m. in Rodgers Chapel.

"Deceived" is described as a documentary film about the

Jonestown tragedy—what every Christian should know. The public is invited to attend.

SPEAKERS BUREAU TO BE FORMED

A Speakers Bureau is being organized at Mount Olive College to provide the Free Will Baptist Church and surrounding com-

munities with the names and topics of expertise of College faculty and personnel willing to speak to outside groups.

Speakers Bureau members will be available free of charge to speak to churches, civic clubs and other organizations. A brochure describing each speaker and listing his or her area of expertise will be distributed in the near future.

NEW CREATIONS TO SING FEBRUARY 10

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of song and testimony at Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church between Tarboro and Fountain on Highway 258 on Sunday, February 10 at the 11 a.m. worship service.

The group will also sing at Antioch Presbyterian Church in Rosewood on Sunday evening at 7 p.m.

PARENTS TO MEET

A meeting of the Parents Association of Mount Olive College will be held Sunday, February 10 at 2 p.m. in Moye Library. All parents of Mount Olive College students are invited to attend.

WESTERN CONFERENCE BOARD OF ORDINATION TO MEET

The Western Conference Board of Ordination will meet February 29, 1980, at 10 a.m. at the Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Rock Ridge, North Carolina. All persons having business with the board please contact the Rev. J. B. Godwin at 965-3054 and let him schedule you to save everyone's time. Any licensed ministers wishing to take the ordination exam should contact the clerk, DeWayne Eakes, at 239-1058 and make arrangements to complete the exam prior to the meeting date.

J. B. Godwin, *Chairman*
DeWayne Eakes, *Clerk*

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

'WELL DONE'

by the Rev. DeWayne Eakes
for Cragmont Assembly Board of Stockholders

This article is in appreciation of the Rev. Douglas and Mrs. Virginia Skinner for four years as "good and faithful servants" of the work of Cragmont Assembly. Doug accepted Christ when he was 9 and has been active in the church all of his life, holding various offices as a young person in his home church, First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina. As an older teenager Doug also served as president of the Western Conference Youth Fellowship. He accepted the call into the ministry in 1970 and was ordained by the Western Conference in 1972.

Doug graduated from Mount Olive College in 1972 and from Oakland City College in 1974. While at Oakland City College another major event took place in Doug's life. He met Virginia Skinner who became Mrs. Douglas Skinner, May, 1974. Virginia (Jenny) is a native of Portland, Tennessee, became a Christian at age 11, and was active in the General Baptist youth activities, including the General Baptist Guild, an organization for teenage girls. Jenny served as pianist for the chorales, a contemporary gospel choral group which toured the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Churches two consecutive years.

Doug was honored in 1978 as one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America." Doug pastored the Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson for two years.

Doug and Jenny were blessed with the birth of a son, Jonathan Douglas, December 1, 1979.

We truly appreciate Doug and Jenny for their tireless efforts on behalf of our denomination's ministry at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina. Some of the major improvements made during their four years at Cragmont are as follows: the Massey House remodeled inside and out (Doug did this himself, primarily using material left over from other work at Cragmont); the tabernacle was converted to a gym; a storage building was erected; the old main building was torn down, and at long last a new main building was erected. During their years as directors of Cragmont, Doug served as manager, host, publicity secretary (traveling thousands of miles promoting Cragmont), general caretaker of the buildings and grounds, and general handyman. Jenny served as hostess, dietician, and camp treasurer the first three years, and the fourth year she assumed the duties of the general treasurer as well.

Doug's first public announcement of his call into the ministry came while at Cragmont, and he preached his first sermon as an ordained minister in the tabernacle at Cragmont. Doug has been involved with Cragmont since 1962 as a camper, counselor, co-director, and manager. Doug's personal statement sums it up well, "In the fall of 1975 God began speaking to our hearts about the needs of Cragmont, and He eventually led us to assume the managerial duties of the Assembly. I love Cragmont very much. God is working

through Cragmont, reaching hundreds of people each year. That is why I love and support Cragmont, because it is a tool of God bringing people to Christ."

Again, we of the Cragmont Board of Stockholders say thank you, Doug and Jenny Skinner for a job well done. Much success to you now in the pastorate of the Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church.

NOTICE

In response to many telephone calls and other inquiries regarding my possible retirement from the ministry: This is to inform my friends and acquaintances that I have not. I am still preaching.

The Rev. Eddie Edwards
308 Old Midway Road
Rockingham, North Carolina
28379
Phone 997-1996

PREACHER'S DIARY

It has been said that, "there is no end to what can be accomplished by a single person so long as he doesn't care who receives the credit."

I think it would be good to have funeral services at night when it is most convenient and the family have a private burial for the deceased later.

I ordered a fellow to leave our church because he had proven to be a wolf in sheep's clothing. I think it is a pastor's duty to protect his flock.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR FEBRUARY 17

THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY

LESSON TEXT: John 8:1-11

MEMORY VERSE: John 8:7

I. INTRODUCTION

Today's lesson poses a special problem. Many of the oldest and most respected Greek manuscripts do not contain the verses included in John 7:53-8:11. Even the manuscripts that do contain these verses display many differences and variations. As a result of this fact, most modern language translations carry them either in the footnotes or indicate in some other manner the textual problem.

We can only speculate about how these verses came to be included in some of the manuscripts, or, on the other hand, how they came to be omitted from so many of them.

While we cannot settle the textual problem, we can make some other important decisions about the passage. Whatever else we may say about it, it has the ring of authenticity about it. Although some feel that it is an interruption of the controversy between Jesus and the Pharisees, yet it really is a continuation of that controversy. Jesus' enemies seeking every means possible to embarrass Him and blunt the force of His teaching, seized this hapless woman and used her as a means of striking out at Jesus. Jesus' response was so typical of His behavior that there is little doubt that this incident actually happened in Jesus' ministry, even if it does not properly belong in the text of John.

If we accept the placement of this passage where it is located in John, then this incident occurred during the feast of Tabernacles, a week-long feast that came early in the fall (John 7:2). Jesus had delayed making His appearance at the feast until it was half over (v. 14). His delayed appearance in the temple had created no little stir, and as soon as His presence was made known, He was plunged into the midst of the controversy with the religious leaders. The incident reported in today's lesson is one episode in that running battle—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. We can all be eternally grateful that others are not to judge us, but Christ is. This does not mean that Christ shuts His eyes to our sins just because He is more compassionate than we; rather, it means that in our judging others we often show a vindictiveness unbecoming Christians, perhaps because we want to hide something in our own lives, or perhaps because we simply lack the spirit of compassion and mercy we should show. It also means that Christ is more capable than we of gaining the proper perspective of human nature. He will never condone sin in any form, but knowing human beings as He does, He is better prepared to reprove us with love.

B. The woman in our story had sinned; there is no doubt about that, but she needed a friend. She had none in the men who brought her to Jesus—men who perhaps in many ways had sinned far worse than she. But

the double standard in that He permitted them to take the pious route, even when they were sinful themselves. Has the double standard (men can do wrong but women can't) changed much since Jesus' time?

C. Our lesson today will give us ample opportunity to reflect on this question.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. We are continuing our studies of the people Jesus encountered, people with special needs to whom He ministered, as we said in the lesson for February 3, with "love, compassion, understanding, and forgiveness which radically changed the life styles of these individuals.

B. The two we have already studied were the Samaritan woman at the well and the afflicted man at the Bethesda pool in Jerusalem. In both cases Jesus dealt with them in love even though they did not know who He was and, as far as we know, He had had no prior contact with them.

C. The same is true of the individual we will study today, one whom we may call "the woman in the case"—an adulteress who had been caught in the act of her sin.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

D. Augustine told of a man who complained to Almighty God about one of his neighbors, saying, "O Lord, take away this wicked person," And God asked, "Which?" Such a question would change many prayers.

E. If the truth were known, the woman in our lesson today was no more sinful than some or all of her accusers. One thing we may be sure of is that hiding our sin does not lessen its blackness.

F. There are some sins worse than adultery, but none that will bring more anguish to sensitive hearts which are not accustomed to such sins.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

ANATOMY OF A RUMOR

by John Hudson Tiner

We don't hear much about "rumor mills" anymore. Maybe they no longer exist. But 20 or 30 years ago, they were one of the common institutions on the American landscape.

Rumor mills operated out of an office much like a legitimate public relations firm or advertising agency. They would contract to spread detrimental rumors about a political opponent or rival businessman.

The procedure was simple. Two employees of the rumor mill would enter the building which housed the opponent's offices. There they would ride the elevators or walk the halls and talk to each other, but in a voice loud enough to be overheard. They would discuss the business deal, saying he was being investigated by the attorney general, or that he was undergoing treatment for mental depression, or that the bank had lowered his credit rating, or that he would soon be removed as president of the company—whatever story would do the most damage. Up and down the men would ride—telling the same story or variations of it.

Once the story took hold it couldn't be easily refuted. Rumors seem to have a life of their own, especially if new life is breathed into them by people who are not too particular about the "facts" they repeat.

Today such rumor mills probably no longer exist. Even so, there are still a large number of rumors which circulate through the religious community, some even being printed in church bulletins. We remember the Associated Press (AP) story about a vote in Abilene, Texas, which reported that around Abilene Christian University, ballot boxes went 85 percent in favor of liquor. Church bulletins picked up on the story, making dire predictions about the state of Christian education. Then, AP retracted the story. The com-

munity had voted against the proposition by 85 percent—exactly opposite the original report!

Bulletins which carried the false story were asked to see that a correction was prominently displayed, although the likelihood of all errors being corrected was vanishingly small. The Associated Press was at a loss to explain how the numbers became reversed.

Recently there was the rumor that profits from McDonald's hamburgers went to Satan worshippers. Some Christians went so far as to avoid doing business at McDonald's.

As is usually the case, it was impossible to discover exactly how the mistake had been made or how the false story got started.

But not long ago a rumor began which we can trace. Maybe you read the reports that Pat Boone said on a television talk show that he and his wife watch X-rated movies at home on a video-cassette system. Although the story has been carried in a variety of publications, being changed and amplified in various ways, here is one rumor whose origin is documented.

It began when William F. Buckley Jr. appeared on the Merv Griffin Show. With him were other guests including an actress in porno movies and a rock-ballad singer noted for his warm, clean songs. In the show the singer stated that he showed X-rated movies at home.

But in describing the singer in his newspaper column, Buckley described him as a Pat Boone **type**—a standard literary device such as saying a Gunga Din type.

Buckley's column was distributed. An editor noticed that the word "type" had been omitted. He immediately sent over 300 telegrams (at a cost of \$2,300) to subscribing newspapers calling attention to the error. Most reached the papers in time. But a few, a very few, didn't.

It was the few that didn't which started the rumor. Buckley later corrected the error again in a separate column. He wrote, "I am deeply sorry that Boone is suffering so grievously." Pat Boone said, "The terrible irony of this is that I was the only entertainer who came out in favor of Proposition 18, the anti-pornography measure on our (California) ballot."

It is our duty and obligation to admit an error without delay or excuse. William Buckley made the correction as soon as he realized the mistake.

What can we learn from stories like this one? More important, what can be done to prevent such tragic mistakes? First, if you are in a position to propagate information of a disturbing nature, check your sources. Most competent reporters use the rule that they will not even think of reporting a "fact" until after they have verified it from two separate sources who are in a position to know—an idea expressed in 2 Corinthians 1:13.

Decide if passing along the information in your possession will serve any useful purpose. If it is about another Christian, then you are duty bound by Biblical command to contact the person to hear the facts as he sees them. Read Matthew 18:15-17.

Even if the subject of the information isn't a Christian, a telephone call will take less than five minutes and cost only a couple of dollars. The truth is worth the expense.

The entire third chapter of the Book of James is devoted to the subject of evil words. He wrote "... lie not against the truth." And, talking about an unruly tongue he said, "My brethren, these things ought not so to be." Today, the potential for good (and evil) is greatly amplified by the speed and prolific nature of modern communication.

(Continued on Page 15)

NEWS NOTES

Deacons Ordained at Johnston Union

In a special service held Sunday evening, January 27, at 7, five men were ordained to the deacon board of the Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton. They were Dennis Powell, Hubert Gower, Linwood Barnes, Dan Warrick, and Bobby Wood. All of these gentlemen have served their church well over the years, and we are certain that their wisdom and integrity will add much to the leadership of the church.

The service was opened with a congregational hymn followed by prayer. Afterwards, another hymn, "Amazing Grace," was sung by Brother Roger Matthews. The evening message, "Called to Serve," was given by the Rev. Mike Scott with the text coming from Acts 6:1-4.

Following the message, a charge was given to the newly elected deacons and to the congregation. The ordination prayer was given by Mr. Scott with the laying on of hands by the official deacon board.

Deacon Ordination Service at Pilgrim's Home Church

On Sunday, January 27, at 7 p.m. the Pilgrim's Home Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Dover, North Carolina, held a deacon's ordination service for Horace Whaley.

The service was opened with the congregation singing "In the Service of the King," followed with prayer by Carl Ipock.

The pastor of the church, the Rev. Eldon Brock, read and commented on Scripture taken from 1 Timothy 3:8-13 and Acts 6:1-8 concerning the qualifications and duties of a deacon.

After the charge to Mr. Whaley and the laying on of hands by the pastor and deacons, each deacon received a certificate of recognition for faithful service.

Mr. Carl Ipock rotated off as chairman and was replaced by Bobby Moore.

Each of the deacons' wives was then asked to stand beside her husband. They received a gift for faithfully supporting their husbands.

The church gave the right hand of fellowship to Mr. Whaley and expressed their love and appreciation to the other deacons and their wives who are Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ipock, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ipock, Mr. and Mrs. Bob White, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Maguire, and Mr. and Mrs. Horace Whaley.

There was then an hour of fellowship with refreshments served by the Ladies Auxiliary.

Mrs. Strickland Receives Life Membership Award



Mrs. Sandra Strickland and Mrs. Daphne Strickland

The Woman's Auxiliary of Stony Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Middlesex, honored Mrs. Daphne Strickland on January 6, by awarding her a Life Membership Award. Mrs.

Strickland was presented a membership certificate along with a Woman's Auxiliary pin for her devoted love and time spent in service, not only to the Woman's Auxiliary, but also to her church and community. The presentation was made by the president of the auxiliary, Mrs. Sandra Strickland.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Bob Fussell announces that he will be available for pastoral or supply work within driving distance from Kinston (Woodington section), effective in June. He also states that if your church is in need of an interim pastor, he may be reached at Route 2, Box 297, Walstonburg, North Carolina 27888, or by phone at 747-2824 (Snow Hill).

Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church of Hamlet, North Carolina is without a pastor. Interested persons should contact Mrs. Pat Taylor, Route 3, Box H-35, Hamlet, North Carolina 28345.

**THINK!
IF EVERY CHRISTIAN
WERE LIKE YOU . . .
WHERE WOULD
THAT LEAVE
THE CAUSE?**

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

"Just do what you can—great or small. Then God will take care of the rest. Your little work for Him will be as praiseworthy as somebody's mighty work. Don't forget, you are important."

After all, the Bible teaches that he who is faithful over little will be ruler over much. Perhaps we need reminding from time to time.

“A CHRISTIAN VIEW OF DEATH”

(Continued from Page 4)

Christ. Before He left, Jesus promised His disciples, “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” (John 14:23)

The Bible speaks of a “land that is fairer than day.” It talks about a city with streets likened unto purest gold, and gates made out of pearl. The description given of the New Jerusalem in Revelation is beautiful indeed; but, even Scripture itself cannot contain an adequate description of the beauty and splendor that await the true child of God. Heaven and all of its glory has been prepared by God himself for the called, the chosen, and the faithful.

We shall only enter that eternal bliss through the medium of death. We must leave this life to enter into the next life; we must cross Jordan to enter Canaan. This is the way that God ordained it. Through death we find life.

An old familiar song suggests that this world is not our home, we’re just passing through, and that God has untold blessings awaiting us ‘on the other side.’”

Here we have a Christian viewpoint of death. There are many people who view death with fear and trembling. It is our prayer that these comments will help to calm those fears, and will bring strength and comfort to all.

“GOD EXPECTS SEPARATED LIVING”

(Continued from Page 3)

is in heaven (Matthew 5:13-16).

When we get caught up in the ways of the world, our Christian testimony becomes so dim that our salt is no good and our light cannot be seen. The world today is a seeking world. It is truly white unto harvest, but lost souls want to know if we are for real. Do we have anything to offer them? They want to see Jesus in us that call ourselves Christians.

Charles Sheldon, in his book, **In His Steps**, poses a question that we would do well to consider seriously: “What would Jesus do?” What would Jesus do in every circumstance of life? How would He live, act, and dress?

If we honestly face the issue, I believe we will come to the conclusion that the Christian should live a holy, separated life. We, as Christians, should live in such a way as not to create doubt as to whose side we are on. “For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself for the battle?” (1 Corinthians 14:8).

Unless Christians and Free Will Baptists in particular come back to God’s standard as plainly taught in the Scriptures, we are in for serious trouble. Our church will only continue to weaken as have other groups that once had a strong influence and testimony for Christ. God help us to be beyond any doubt a separated, holy people lifting high the Cross of Jesus.

ANATOMY OF A RUMOR

(Continued from Page 13)

What can we do to avoid destructive rumors? One way is to remember the words of Oliver Cromwell. Almost 400 years ago he said to one who disagreed with him, “I beseech you, in the bowels of Christ, think it possible you may be mistaken.”

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY

In speaking of a person’s faults,
Pray don’t forget your own;
Remember those with homes of
glass
Should seldom throw a stone;
If we have nothing else to do,
But talk of those who sin, ’Tis
better we commence at home,
And from that point begin.

We have no right to judge a man
Until he’s fairly tried;
Should we not like his company,
We know the world is wide;
Some may have faults—and who
has not?
The old as well as young—
Perhaps we may, for aught we
know,
Have fifty to their one.

I’ll tell you of a better plan,
You’ll find it works full well;
To try my own defects to cure
Before of others’ tell;
And though sometimes I hope to
be
No worse than some I know,
My own shortcomings bid me let
The faults of others go.

Then let us all, when we com-
mence
To surrender friend, or foe,
Think of the harm one word
would do
To those we little know;
Remember, curses, sometimes,
like
Our chickens, “Roost at
home,”
Don’t speak of others’ faults until
We have none of our own.

—James J. Boucher
—From Victory Poems



Mount Olive College

POST OFFICE BOX 151—MOUNT OLIVE, N. C. 28365

To High School Seniors and Their Parents:

High school graduation is not far away and during this season of the year many young people make decisions that shape their future. One of your most important decisions is the selection of a college. College years are filled with people, experiences, and challenges that will determine your character, career, home, and the total quality of life.

Perhaps you have many questions as you choose the school that is best for you. Ask questions about college and evaluate the answers. Your future depends in a large measure on your selection of the college that is right for you.

Mount Olive College is a fully-accredited College owned by the Free Will Baptist Church. It is known for its educational excellence, its Christian commitment, and its desire to meet the individual needs of students. The College provides opportunities to combine academic experiences with an on-going process of spiritual and social development.

Mount Olive College offers a comprehensive program of scholarships, grants, and other forms of financial assistance which assures that no qualified student will be denied admission for financial reasons.

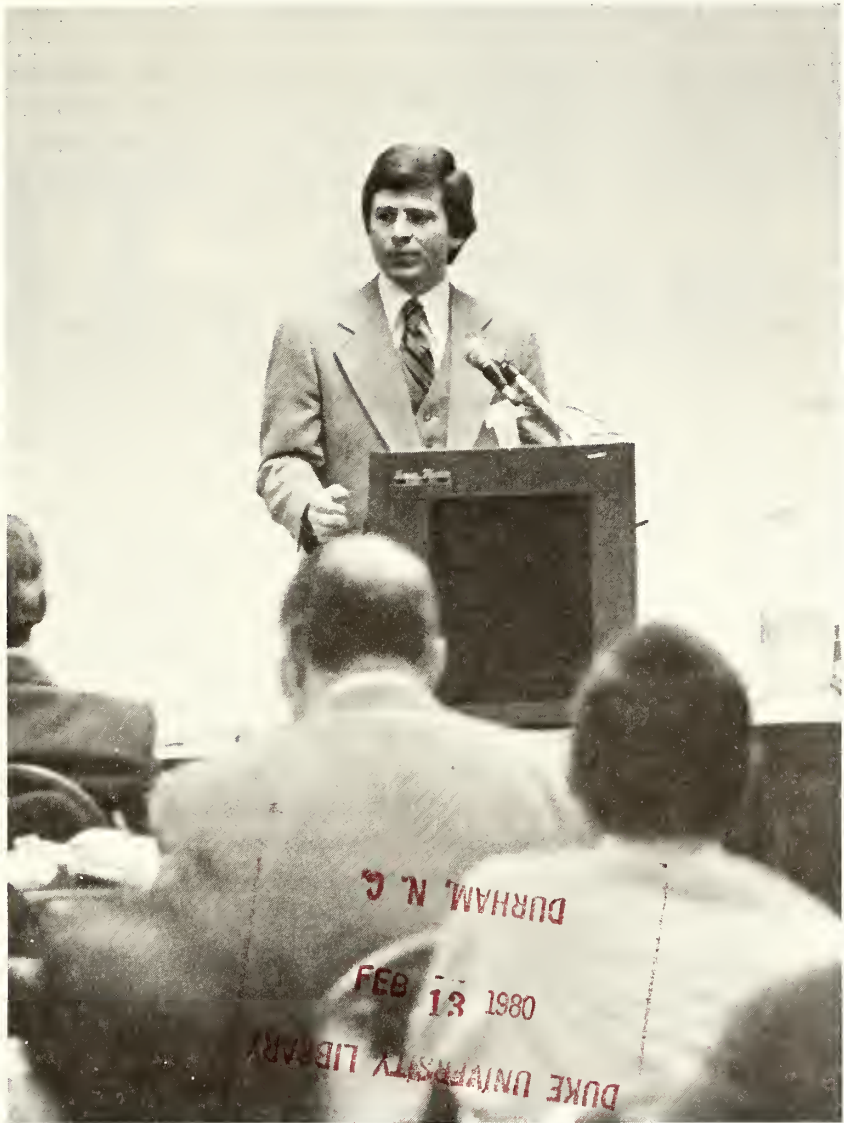
There is still time to apply for acceptance in the summer or fall of 1980 and to talk with College personnel about the need for financial assistance.

Mount Olive College welcomes visitors and prospective students to the campus throughout the year. You are invited to visit the campus and to meet students and faculty. Write or call the Office of Admissions for additional information or to schedule a visit. The telephone number is (919) 658-2502.

W. Burkette Raper
President

WBR:jl

*Those who are
blessed with
talents, however
small or large,
must accept them
as a sacred trust
which, in order to
be effectually
beautiful, even-
tually must be
returned to God.*



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1980
RAYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

THE CASE FOR A TALENT: WHO DESERVES PRAISE?

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Tommy Manning, Editor

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and address to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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I was in the company of a man recently who was complimented for his outstanding speaking voice. He was lauded for having the kind of voice that affords clear speech and articulation, the kind of voice that is pleasant to listen to and easy to understand. During the meeting both men and women praised him for what they termed a **real attribute**.

After some discussion the gentleman thanked his complimenters humbly and then added that he never thought much about his voice, that he accepted it as nothing to be really proud of (though other people had drawn attention to it from time to time). Then he made a statement that not many of those present were prepared for. "If my voice is good or in any way remarkable, I consider it a gift, and I thank God that He has given it to me. If it has any merit at all, it is not of my doing—it is an undeserved but much appreciated gift." Then, with a nod of his head, "It's just that simple."

A gift from God. It's just that simple. His affirmation caused me to think of a Scripture found in Romans 1:3 which admonishes man not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think, but to think **soberly**. The interpretations of that Scripture and their applications are perhaps many, but in this instance I believe it speaks to us of humility—not to think or act proudly, and to acknowledge that whatever one has of excellence or remarkableness is because of, and given from, God. It should follow then, that the glory should go to the Giver, not to the receiver, though it is the receiver's duty to use the gift for the glory of the Giver and to the edification of men.

God gives His gifts as He deems fit, in measure and abundance. His method and determination of what is "fit" are mysteries which shall be revealed only in the hereafter. Human nature causes us to remark about the seemingly numberless gifts which many persons have in such excellence. We remember, however, that with gifts comes responsibility—the responsibility of using to full potential what one has. And, "to whom much is given, of him much is required." We dare not forget that. We remember too that the buried or unused talent, however large, amounts to **nothing**.

Perhaps modesty prevented the complimented gentleman above from accepting any personal praise for his voice. It is conceivable that he had been encouraged to put his talent to work and that he had developed it through much training and practice. In any case, he did not allow his gift to lie dormant, and for that he deserves commendation.

The goodness of God is seen in His gifts to us. He has endowed us all with different qualifications (even if they are not termed gifts, after the manner of some). It is our godly duty, then, to apply ourselves as best we can with what we

(Continued on Page 16)

DOUBT: A FRIEND TO FAITH

by Bass Mitchell

WHAT is the opposite of faith? Perhaps your answer would be doubt. "Thou shalt not doubt" has been an unwritten commandment in the church for some time. But is doubt really the great enemy of faith? I have come to see, along with many other Christians, that doubt can actually be a friend to faith as a means to strengthen and nourish faith. I would like to share this insight with you with the desire that it may lead to a source of nourishment for your faith.

We must begin by examining the meanings of doubt and faith because they are being misunderstood when they are placed opposite to each other. The *Oxford English Dictionary* says that doubt is "the state of uncertainty with regard to the truth or reality of anything; undecidedness of belief or opinion; to hesitate to believe or trust." When doubt is seen as the opposite of faith then it is being equated with unbelief, that is, a stubborn refusal to accept certain doctrinal teachings as truth. But doubt is not unbelief or an unwillingness to believe; it is an inability to believe; a confusion and uncertainty about what to believe. Unbelief, on the other hand, is a conscious, constant determination not to believe. Unbelief is choosing

NOT to believe while doubt is choosing WHAT to believe. Doubt is always concerned with believing, but when it is served from its desire to believe, then it degenerates into skepticism and cynicism. There is a great difference between the person who chooses not to believe in God and the person who is uncertain about what to believe about God, especially in light of the diversity of claims made about God. The person who doesn't believe in God is not seeking to believe and doesn't desire to believe. The person who is uncertain about what to believe about God is seeking and desiring to believe, if not, then he wouldn't be concerned enough to doubt.

Equating doubt with unbelief takes for granted a certain view of faith, that is, faith is seen as the mere acceptance of a set of creedal statements that can be held as absolute truth for all time and in all circumstances. However, the Bible has a different conception of faith.

Turn the Page

Equating doubt with unbelief takes for granted a certain lack of faith . . .

“Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1, Revised Standard Version). Faith is not the acceptance of infallible doctrines but the assurance that forgiveness, hope, love, the things that give life meaning and we most long for are present and real in our lives through Christ. Faith is not the kind of conviction that comes from what we have seen and thus know to be absolutely true of the basis of that sight. Faith is the conviction of the significance for our lives of events that happened long ago and yet recur over again in our experiences. We have not seen Jesus. We cannot prove that He was the Son of God, that His death has saving significance, that He arose from the dead, but faith gives us the assurance and the conviction that God was in Christ and is still in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, in spite of the fact that we can’t prove this to the satisfaction of a scientific age. As a matter of fact, faith is the acceptance of our inability to provide such proof, but faith is also the conquering of our need for such proof through the assurance it gives about the reality of God’s presence and love. One important result of this understanding is that the ultimate object of our faith cannot be the Bible or any set of doctrinal beliefs because this would be idolatry. Our faith must be directed toward the Living God proclaimed in, yet beyond, the Bible, and all our doctrines. William Temple addresses this problem in his book, *Nature, Man, and God*. He says that “faith is not the holding of correct doctrine, but the personal fellowship with the Living God. Correct doctrines will both express this, and assist it, and issue from it; incorrect doctrine will misrepresent this and hinder and prevent this . . . I do not believe in any creed, but I use certain creeds to express, conserve and to deepen my belief in God.” I shall deal further with this matter later on in this article.

Having said these things, we must now confront the fact that doubt and faith are inevitable parts of human life. Everyone doubts and everyone believes. All of us have to confess with the man who said to Jesus, “I have faith, help me where faith falls short” (Mark 9:24, New English Bible). Doubt was not even absent from the life of Jesus when He cried out on the Cross, “My God! My God! Why hast thou forsaken me?” Have you never asked yourself if God really exists? Have you never questioned

some of your beliefs? Have you never struggled with what it really means to be a Christian? If you will be honest with yourself then you will have to admit that you doubt some time, but why? We doubt because we are human and to be human means that we are severely limited in what we can know and understand. I have never met a biblical scholar who was openly arrogant enough to boast that he knew all there is to know about the Bible. Are there any farmers, teachers, doctors, lawyers, who can truthfully say that they know all there is to know about their respective occupations? We will never know everything about anything! This is especially evident in regard to our knowledge of God. If we admit, as we must, that we cannot know God in a total, complete sense, then we are saying that all our conceptions and doctrines about God are limited and incomplete. One day St. Augustine was walking on the beach trying to understand the doctrine of the Trinity. He saw a little boy with a sea shell running to the water, filling it and then pouring it into a hole which he had made in the sand. “What are you doing my little man,” St. Augustine asked? “Oh,” said the boy, “I’m trying to put the ocean in this hole!” Trying to fully understand God and limiting Him to the Bible and doctrine is like trying to put the ocean in a hole in the sand. This does not mean that the Bible and doctrine are unimportant, but it means that they must always be incomplete for they can never contain the fullness of God. This fact should not produce despair, but comfort, for our God is greater than and transcends all of our conceptions and understanding. In light of the fact that we do not have a monopoly on the knowledge of God, we should be humble and tolerate, especially of those who do not believe as we do. The history of the church is stained with blood that was shed in the name of a self-righteous orthodoxy that was totally alien to the gospel. It seems to me that Jesus had much more trouble with the know-it-alls like the Pharisees than He had with the people who came to Him with honest doubts and questions. This is why we doubt because we do not know it all; that is, doubt is an expression of our limitedness. We would never doubt if we were capable of knowing everything. We would never disagree because you would know all and I would know all and there would not be any grounds on which we could not agree. Doubt

an inescapable part of our lives and it is good that this is so, for doubt can protect us. Perhaps many of the nine-hundred people who died in Jonestown would be alive today if they had been honest doubters rather than blind believers.

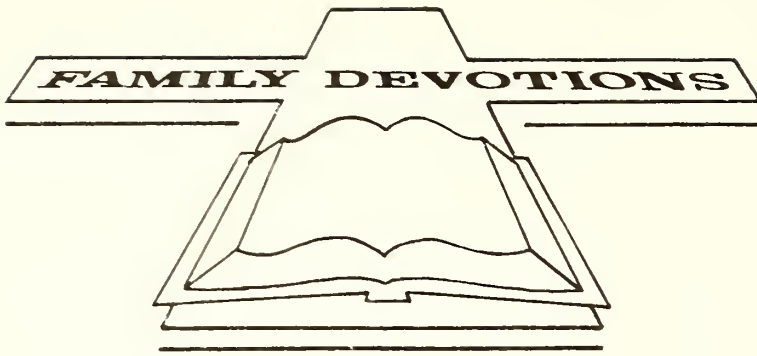
Just as it is true that everyone doubts, so it is that everyone believes. Faith is more a part of our existence than we realize. No one could live without faith. The farmer would never plant his crops if he did not have the faith that they would grow by getting enough sunshine and rain. The teacher could not teach without the faith that learning is possible, even though it might seem impossible for some students to learn anything. The scientist would not spend his life in the laboratory had he not faith in his scientific methods and in a world so ordered that those methods could give him accurate data. Faith is involved in everything that we do. This is an elementary faith that we all have built into the very fiber of our lives. There is another kind of faith, a radical faith. This faith is the inner assurance and conviction that God exists, that he is revealed through Christ as Love, and that our lives are radically changed because of Christ. This faith begins when Christ reveals to us our self-centeredness as He makes Himself known to our deepest selves. This faith is expressed in unreserved commitment to God that is nourished daily as we love God and others. This faith produces a hunger and thirst for God and it is in this that the value of doubt can be seen.

We must remember that doubt is not unbelief but an inability and uncertainty about what to believe. We have doubts as Christians not because we do not want to believe but because we are seeking to believe. It is possible to use this doubt to stimulate us to a greater seeking, a more intense study and examination of what we believe, in order to come to a clearer understanding of that about which we have questions. When we follow up on our doubts and questions in such a manner, then we will not believe less but will know more about what we believe. After all, what kind of faith do we have if it can be destroyed by a little doubt or question? If doubt could destroy faith then faith would have been disposed of long ago. As a matter of fact, we have yet to recognize our debt to those labeled heretics by

the church because they had doubts and ideas that the church wouldn't allow. The central figure in the Protestant Reformation in the 16th Century was a man filled with doubt, Martin Luther. Luther had quite a struggle with the teaching of his day about the relationship between God and man. He had been taught that this relationship was like a contract in which God makes the rules and stipulations and man must live up to them. It seemed to Luther that salvation depended more upon what man does than God. He could not see any grace in giving laws that couldn't be fulfilled in the first place, and that only condemned sin without forgiving it. These doubts drove Luther to the Scriptures and to the discovery of Paul's teaching on justification by faith through grace and not by works. After this he was able to say "I felt that I was altogether born again and had entered paradise itself through open doors." Luther used his doubt to nourish his faith. Not only was doubt a friend to his faith, his doubt was actually an expression of his faith! It was not really his doubt that made him seek God, it was his faith, but his faith took the form of his doubt. He doubted because he believed. He could have never faced his doubts had he not believed in God and that God would resolve his doubts and answer his questions. His doubt was not an indication of his unwillingness to believe, to the contrary, it was an indication of the depth of his concern about his relationship with God. Paul Tillich says much the same thing when he says that "serious doubt is confirmation of faith. It indicates the seriousness of the concern." Our doubt can be an indication of the depth of our concern about our relationship with God and how seriously we are taking his claims on our lives. Doubt can be a sign that we are really searching, really struggling; really longing to understand what we believe. In this sense, doubt is an expression of faith.

Thorton Wilder, in one of his books, tells of an aged missionary bishop who was spending the last two years of his life in retirement in France. Wilder sums up those two years with these words: "His was a fighting faith; and when he no longer had battles to fight, his faith withered away." If our faith is to be a vital faith, then it must be a fighting faith. The battles that we have with our doubts can be a sign that our faith is indeed a vital Living God.

(Continued on Page 16)



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Scripture Reading—Revelation
19:1-10

STAYING HOME FROM CHURCH

Some stay home because its
cold.

And some, because it's hot;
And some, because they're
getting old.

And some, because they're not!
Some stay home because their
hat

The milliner's not finished;
And some because their liking
for

The minister has diminished.

Some declare they don't enjoy
The singing of the choir;
And others, because their fellow
saint

Aroused their wrathful ire.

Alas! alas! our excuses grow
To drive our thoughts from God,
And turn us from the House of
Prayer.

The place our fathers trod.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Whatever your "reason," you
should not stay away from
church. It is the place where
saint and sinner meet and hope
to meet their God.*

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel
20:1-18

THE EMPTY PEW

The empty pew has an eloquent
tongue. Though its message is

unpleasant, it is one that all may
hear.

To the preacher, the empty pew
says, "Your sermon is not worth
while."

To the visitor it whispers, "You
see we are not holding our
own."

To the treasurer it shouts,
"Look out for a deficit."

To a stranger who is looking for
a home church it suggests, "You
had better wait a while."

To the members who are
present it asks, "Why don't you
go visiting next Sunday, too?"

The empty pew speaks against
the service. It kills inspiration, it
smothers hope, and it dulls the
fine edge of zeal. The empty pew
is a weight; the occupied pew is
a wing.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Empty pews are caused by
your absence. Empty pews lead
to empty churches. Don't you be
responsible!*

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Scripture Reading—Acts 26:22-
32

DEFINITION OF A CHRISTIAN

He has a mind and knows it;
He has a will and shows it;
He sees his way, and goes it;
He draws a line and toes it;
He has a charge and takes it,
A friendly hand and shakes it,
A rule and never breaks it;
If there's no time, he makes it.

He loves the truth, stands by it,
Nor never tries to shy it,
Whoever may defy it,

Or openly deny it.
He hears a lie and slays it;
And as I've heard him praise it,
He knows the game and plays it
He sees the path Christ trod,
And grips the hand of God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The true Christian loves God
serves God, and tells other
about Him. With all diligence one
should make His salvation
known.*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Scripture Reading—Matthew
18:1-10

WHEN IS A CHILD TOO YOUNG

I was admitted into the church
at the early age of eight. I loved
Christ and felt a strong desire to
be identified with His people
When I mentioned the fact to
some of the deacons, they looked
askance and expressed grave
doubts whether I should be
allowed to sit at the Lord's table
Among them, however, there
were wiser men. Their counsel
prevailed, and after some
months of probation I was ad-
mitted. From that day until now
I have never ceased to thank
God that I was induced to take
the important step at the time I
did. Had I not done so I doubt
whether I should have been a
missionary—if a member of the
Christian church at all.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Sometimes "a little child shall
lead them." Never let us
discount the importance of
children in the Lord's work.*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Scripture Reading—John 3:16-
18

I KNOW HIM PERSONALLY

One summer I spent some time
at Mount Robson, British
Columbia, where I camped and
climbed with fellow moun-
taineers of the Alpine Club of
Canada. On a rainy day a group
of us were drinking tea in a tent.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

When a discussion arose about religion. A young scientist turned to me with a patronizing air and said, "But you don't really believe, do you, that Jesus is the Son of God?" I replied, "Yes, I do." "But how can you prove it?" he said. "How do you know it is true?" I shall never forget what followed. I simply did what any other convinced man would have done: I looked him straight in the eye and said: "How do I know that Jesus is the Son of God? I know it, *because I know Him personally.*" For at least a half minute our eyes locked. Then he turned away. The argument was over. When Christ saves really our life, we know Him with an immediacy of personal knowledge that is unmistakable.

PRAYER THOUGHT

To know Christ personally is the only way to explain Him effectively to others. If you don't know Him now, make haste to secure a saving knowledge of Him.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Scripture Reading—Exodus 0:1-13

BIBLE SAVES LIFE!

"I bought a rifle today," said a boy to a missionary in the Kentucky mountains, "and I am going to kill the man who killed my father. I swore I would do it on the day of my father's funeral!" Pleaded the missionary, "But, my boy, if you do that terrible thing, you will have to flee from home. When caught you will go to prison or be hanged! Do you know what God's Word says about it?" The boy answered, "We ain't got no Bible at our house." The missionary talked earnestly to the boy about the Lord Jesus, and forgiveness. The boy began to weep. The missionary took a Bible from his bag, wrote his name in it and gave it to him. The boy began to read the Bible. Shortly thereafter, he made a public confession of his faith in

Christ. That little Bible saved an old man's life, and a boy from becoming a murderer!

PRAYER THOUGHT

What wonderful events a Bible can bring about! Its words can transform a life from hatred to love, from degradation to salvation. Make no mistake about it: the Bible is God's Word.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Scripture Reading—Mark 10:10-15

WHEN TO BEGIN INFLUENCING A CHILD

A mother's meeting was discussing the question, "How early in a child's life ought one to seek to influence that life to accept Jesus as Saviour and Lord?" Many views, variant but vital, were expressed. The presiding mother, observing that a visiting gray-haired grandmother, though evidently much interested, did not share in the discussion, invited her viewpoint. The aged visitor rose and made this arresting reply: "I'll tell you when I began to influence my daughter Christward. I began twenty years before she was born, by giving myself to the saving and keeping power of Jesus Christ."

PRAYER THOUGHT

The best way to influence children or those under our care toward Christ is to prepare ourselves. If we know Him ourself, it is not too difficult to influence others favorably.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

A Christian home is
earth's
sweetest picture
of Heaven.

OUR COUNTRY

by Mrs. Luther Tugwell

We know our country is in an awful situation—
And all that love this great nation;
Know that if we put our trust in God—
He will protect us as through life we trod.

So I can't complain, not a sound,
Just spread God's Word around.
He will help us through, you see
And walk with us to eternity.

Just remember Pearl Harbor—
We were really in a jam.
We lost many lives—
Fighting in Viet Nam.

Now we are looking at Iran—
Dear God—hold our hand.
Set our hostages free
Send them safely home is our plea.

Give our great leaders the strength,
And the ability to do right,
To save our nation—
From an awful plight.

Peace is our dream,
Dear God come to our rescue—
Give us a solution
To protect our red, white, and blue.

Church Available

Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Box 237, Hamlet, North Carolina, is seeking a pastor. The church has beautiful buildings and a modern parsonage with unlimited potential for continuing growth. The church is a member in good standing in the Piedmont Conference. Those interested and feels God's leadership contact Alec Brown, phone 582-4142.

Mrs. Mattie Lane Becomes 98



Mrs. Mattie Lane and Mrs. Matthew Prescott

Most old churches can only remember their history, but part of Rock of Zion's history is still living in the presence of Mrs. Mattie L. Lane, who became 98 on January 31. Because of her lifetime faithfulness, the church designated Sunday, January 27, 1980, as "Mattie Lane Day" and observed it with a special service. After depositing 98 cents in the birthday jar, Mrs. Mattie was given a corsage by Mrs. Ray Dixon Jr. With some of her family in attendance, Mrs. Mattie was presented an engraved plaque by the pastor, who also read her biography. Mrs. Matthew Prescott, on behalf of the Woman's Auxiliary, awarded Mrs. Mattie the Life Membership Award and Pin. In addition, the proposed baptistry will be dedicated in her honor upon its completion.

Mrs. Mattie was baptized and joined the church August 12, 1901, during the pastorate of the Rev. Robert Stilley. Since she was five years old when she can remember watching her father and Mr. George Keel build the church, Mrs. Mattie has always been in the center of anything going on at Rock of Zion. She has served in a number of capacities, especially music, all because of her great love for her Lord's

church. Even now, Mrs. Mattie fills her seat every Sunday, attends the Woman's Auxiliary meetings, the Golden Ager meetings, and accompanies her pastor to nearly every revival. Mrs. Mattie says it best herself, "If everyone loved to go to church as much as I do, it would be full every Sunday."

Luke 18:8 asks, "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" Yes, He will, but there will be a lot less of it after Mrs. Mattie departs.

**The Rev. Davie Brinson
New Pastor at Hopewell**

The Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Smithfield, North Carolina, is happy to announce that the Rev. Davie Brinson began his pastorate on December 23.

Davie was called to preach the gospel and licensed to preach and ordained in and by the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina in 1968. His home church was the Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church in Morehead City. Being a member of the Eastern Conference of Free Will Baptists, he attended school at Mount Olive, Carteret Tech, Daniels Chapel Bible Institute, Carolina Bible College, and Universal Bible College. He has pastored numerous churches, the latest being the First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina. He has also served as Director of Religious Life at the Children's Home.

Davie; his wife, Jean; daughter, Lynn, 16; and two sons, Alan, 11, and Mickey, 4; reside on Route 1, Smithfield, North Carolina.

He can be heard on local radio station WMPM, on Spiritual Outreach, each Sunday at 12:30 p. m.

Revelators Present Program

The Revelators will present their program Sunday night February 10, at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, at 7:30 p. m. The church is located three miles off Highway 222 between Falkland and Fountain. A free will offering will be taken with all receipts going to the Children's Home.

The Rev. Franklin Brinson is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Revival at
Sandy Plain Church**

Revival services will be held at the Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina, February 25 through March 1. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each evening. Everyone is invited. The Rev. Ralph Sumner is the evangelist. The Rev. Ransom McAbee is the pastor.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

No time, no time for study
To meditate and pray—
And yet much time for "doing"
In a fleshly, worldly way.
No time for things Eternal
But much for things of earth,
The things important set aside
For things of little worth.
Some things, 'tis true, are
needful
But first things must come
first;
And what displaces God's own
Word
Of God it shall be cursed.

—M. E. H.

IN MEMORY OF JOY FULGHUM

by the Rev. C. L. Patrick

Eulogy for Joy Fulghum who died
Thanksgiving Day, November 22,
79

Scripture—Matthew 5:2, 4, 8, and 1
Thessalonians 4:13-18



Joy Fulghum

Today for all of Greene County and a host of friends from other areas, I wish to express a heartfelt thank you to the James R. Fulghum family. God has blessed you, and you have been a tremendous blessing to so many of us. Your work with our youth, your courage and abiding faith have been like a ray of sunshine on a dark, cloudy day. I remember so well when you came to Greene County, and "Jimbo" was about the height of two basketballs. What a blessing it was when little Jackie came to bring more happiness! Then a little over six years ago another child was born, another little girl was given. An angel must have whispered, "Her name shall be called Joy." Like so many of God's children, she lived up to her name. Oh, how she loved to bring the little children's choruses! She was so young and yet she delighted in "Standing on the Promises." So little, but she loved Jesus with a love that would have put many to shame. Just as it is written that John the

Baptist was filled with the Holy Ghost at birth, I think the Holy Spirit must have filled her little heart too, for the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy and a lot of other good gifts. I think if she could speak today she might say, "Rejoice in the Lord alway; and again I say, Rejoice" (Philippians 4:4). She might remember the words of Jesus who said, ". . . rejoice, because your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20).

But about nineteen months ago it was discovered that the dreaded disease was already at work trying to destroy the little earthly body in which she lived. I remember so well the hurried call to the hospital the night she had surgery, how so many relatives, friends and neighbors came during the night to say, "I love you Joy, and I love your family too." As the news spread, Greene County was moved with compassion more deeply than I had ever observed before. Friends wept and prayed and showed how much they cared as they searched for ways to show their love. It became a saying all over the County, "It's for the love of Joy."

Who could help but admire the courage of that little girl as she fought her battle with disease? But that was to be expected for she was part of a brave family.

Even now it is a great comfort to remember, "We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28). It fills our hearts with assurance when we read, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21), and ". . . to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better" (Philippians 1:23). I like to think of her today as being where there is no more pain or sorrow, and no more death, and that sweet little smile a part of that beautiful place.

While Jesus was here on earth, He took little children up in His arms, put His hands upon them and blessed them (Mark 10:16) and said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and

forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). Since He is the same yesterday, and today and forever, I think He must have said Thursday evening, "Suffer little Joy to come unto Me, that where I am she may be also." A poet may well have described the event when he wrote:

The golden gates were open
And heavenly angels smiled,
And with their tuneful harpstrings
Welcomed the little child.
They shouted "High and holy,
A child hath entered in;
And safe from all temptation
A soul is sealed from sin."
They led her through the golden streets
On to the King of Kings,
And a glory fell upon her
From the rustlings of their wings.
The Saviour smiled upon her
As none on earth had smiled,
And heaven's glory shone around
The little earth-born child.
On earth they missed the little one,
They sighed and wept and sighed,
And wondered if another such
As theirs had ever died.
Oh! had they seen through those high
gates
The welcome to her given,
They never would have wished their
child
Back from her home in Heaven.

—Selected and Revised

A tribute was written by a friend, Jean Jones, and follows:

My Little Friend

It was a few weeks ago today
Little Joy was taken away
To sing with the angelic host on high
And to "March in the Lord's Army in
the sky.
For Joy, "Standing on the Promises"
has all come true
Since her short life on earth is through.
It's hard to understand the reason she
died
But listen, a soft voice cries,
"God needed another angel up there
And Joy was the best He could find
anywhere."
She left behind a sister, brother, and a
dear Mom and Dad
And their hearts are very heavy and
sad.
May we all pray that their broken
hearts may be mended
And their prayers all be blended
To meet her in Heaven one sweet day.
The chair is empty—the tiny child
drawn in affliction,
The gasp for breath, the little cries, the
smiling face
The joy she brought to everyone have
all passed.
But the life and memory of little JOY
FULGHUM will last—forever.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

A REPORT TO FREE WILL BAPTISTS ON MOC

In Observance of February As Christian Education Month

W. Burkette Raper, President

The months of February and July are designated by the North Carolina State Convention for "Christian Education" for the purpose of emphasizing the work of Mount Olive College. In this report, we want to share information on the major developments which will be of interest to Free Will Baptists.

Record Enrollment

Our enrollment is at an all-time high, with an 11 percent increase over last year. Nationwide the increase in enrollments was 2.4 percent for all colleges but only .9 percent for private institutions, so we have good reasons to be thankful for our growth at Mount Olive College. This year we are serving nearly 400 students on campus and more than 200 in off-campus programs.

Applications for the fall are holding steady with a small increase in the number of accepted students who have paid their advanced deposits. For both semesters this year, our dormitories were filled to capacity.

Important events

Two special events are being planned in March to assist students in making college plans.

On Saturday, March 1, beginning at 1 p.m., Mount Olive College is sponsoring a **Financial Aid Workshop** to assist parents and students in identifying sources of financial aid to help meet the ever rising cost of attending college. This event is

planned to assist any interested persons, regardless of the college they plan to attend, and will include a review of funds available for scholarships, grants, loans, and student employment. For more information, the contact person on our campus is Dr. Opey D. Jeanes, Vice-President and Dean.

High School Day is planned for Saturday, March 22, beginning at 10 a.m. The purpose of this event is to acquaint high school students with the opportunities and advantages of an education at Mount Olive College. Our records show that one of the most influential factors in a student's decision to attend our College is a visit to the campus. We hope that the Youth Chairman in each church will serve as a Captain to contact and encourage each high school student—grades 9, 10, 11, 12—to participate in the events of this day. Parents and pastors are also cordially invited. Mrs. Dianne Riley is the contact person for High School Day.

Progress Toward Senior College Goal

We are currently going through an extensive and intensive self-study for purposes of reaffirmation of our accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. An out-of-state visiting team of educators will be on our campus in the spring of 1981 to evaluate our entire program, and to be above the minimum standards for junior colleges is essential for us to pursue Senior college status.

Already much planning and work are in process toward our goal of adding the Junior year in 1984 and the Senior year in 1985.

The standards for four-year colleges are much, much higher than those for two-year colleges and include:

- The doctor's degree for at least one-third of our faculty and work beyond the Master's degree for most others,
- An additional 20,000 volumes in our library at an average cost of \$15 per book,
- A physical plant adequate for our educational program and to meet this standard "College Hall" (physical education and athletic center) is an absolute requirement and a College Union will also be needed at an early date,
- Financial resources adequate to assure a stable operation, which means reliable gift support and an endowment,
- An expanded program of student that will prepare students for work and graduate study in the areas of their majors.

These requirements are not all, but they represent the standards we must reach to make Mount Olive a Senior college. A conservative estimate of the gift support needed is \$7.5 million:

\$3,700,000	Educational Development and Services (library resources, laboratory equipment, instructional services, faculty development, scholarships and student services)
2,200,000	College Hall
1,600,000	Endowment (In addition to our current endowment of nearly \$ million)
<hr/>	
\$7,500,000	Total

We are seeking to raise this amount over a five-year period ending in 1984, and we believe that at least one-half of the goal must come from Free Will Baptists. This level of giving is equivalent to \$100 per Free Will Baptist or \$20 per member an-

ally. The cost is great but not as great as our not having a Christian college for our children.

Area meetings will be held this spring to acquaint both ministers and laymen with the requirements and progress of Mount Olive College toward four-year status. The schedule will be announced and all interested persons will be welcome.

Annual Report

For the first time Mount Olive College has published a "Report from the President and Honor Roll of Donors." The report covers the 1979 fiscal year and contains significant information on the development and operations of the College. Interested persons may obtain a copy by writing to me.

To Serve

The primary mission of Mount Olive College is service to original Free Will Baptists through Christian higher education. Our objective is to help both youth and adults equip themselves to fulfill God's purpose for their lives. We ask for your prayers as well as your support that we may know and do God's will.

We invite you to visit the college, and upon invitation we will be glad to visit in your church and in your home to share with you more fully the great work being done here.

We thank you for your prayers, for your work on behalf of the college and for your financial support.

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of song and testimony Sunday, February 17, at Sarecta Free Will Baptist Church in Seulaville at the 11 a.m. worship hour.

The group will also present a program at First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, at 6:30 Sunday evening.

The Book Corner

by Frank Harrison, Chaplain, Mount Olive College

The book, MUCH MORE, by the Rev. Jack R. Taylor, was first published in 1972 by Broadman Press. However, it is a book whose truth is eternal. MUCH MORE is a book that will bless you as you read it.

The author seeks to move the reader deeper into additional spiritual truths about faith, prayer, family life, evangelism, and death to self. He points to the biblical truths of how a Christian may move from a life of powerless defeat to victory and triumphant living by being united to Christ, who is our life and our victory. The author calls upon the church and individual Christians to experience for themselves the "much more" of God in Christ Jesus. To be in Christ is to share in His victory and power for daily living.

The author says of the church: "To a large extent, we are going around beating on trees with bare ax handles. At intervals, under the suspicion that this is not getting the job done, we call for strategy conferences on how to make our ax handles more effective or how to improve our swing. We take a census of the trees, motivate the wood choppers, declare that this is the day for felling forests and, with polished ax handles and persuasive personnel, we embark toward the woods.

"But, alas, though the noise of the workmen is great the sound of falling trees is missing. There is movement without might, energy expended without effectiveness, much doing but little dynamic! There is little to show after all is done but bruised hands, tired bodies, and wounded trees. What is missing? Why, the axe head, of course—the cutting edge of it all. But what is the 'axe head' of the church?

"IT IS THE LIFE OF GOD IN CHRIST RELEASED IN OUR WORLD THROUGH THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT! OUR BODIES, THE LARGER BODY, THE CHURCH, WITH ALL OUR ABILITIES AND PROGRAMS ARE BUT THE HANDLES UPON WHICH SWINGS THE AXE HEAD OF HIS LIFE. THIS IS THE MUCH MORE—THE AXE HEAD—WHICH WE MUST RECOVER."—P. 17.

February is Christian Education Month

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For February 24

The Man Born Blind

Lesson Text: John 9:1-7, 29-38

Memory Verse: John 9:25

I. INTRODUCTION

Some months ago, Harold Hughes, who formerly served the state of Iowa as a United States senator, was being interviewed by a television commentator. Senator Hughes at one time had been brought to the depths by alcohol, but he won this battle and moved upward until he became senator. After serving in the senate, he became convinced that he ought to serve God in some special way, and so he gave up his senate seat to serve in a Christian vocation.

The reporter by his questions seemed to be making light of Hughes' commitment. Pressing harder, he seemed intent upon embarrassing him. Finally, the senator brought the discussion to a pointed conclusion. "Sir," he said, "there are many questions I cannot answer. In those areas I must walk by faith. But this one thing I know. I was once blind, but now I see. I was once an alcoholic, but now I am no longer a slave to liquor." No critic can answer this kind of testimony.

Jesus had appeared at the Feast of Tabernacles after the Feast had already begun. This was about six months before His death. His appearance immediately set off a furious debate with the scribes and Pharisees. Last Sunday's lesson dealt with the woman taken in adultery, whose case was injected into the controversy.

Even though the Pharisees were rebuffed in their efforts to

trap Jesus in this case, their defeat did not deter them. The furious debate continued as Jesus brought the sermon on the light of the world. As a result of this sermon and the exchange that followed, the Jews were so angry that they sought to stone Him. But Jesus passed through the crowd and left the temple, thus escaping their wrath.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Recall some person you may have known who was either born blind or has been blind for a number of years. Suggest how he was able to "see" in other ways, etc. The point is that those who see may have blindness of other kinds. The question is, "Who is blind?"

B. Say that this lesson will cause us to think again of that wonderful saying which we have heard so often: "I once was blind, but now I see." We have heard Christians say something like this when giving their testimony. Of course, they were referring to spiritual blindness, the condition the sinner is in before he is saved.

C. Mention that while this is the last lesson in this quarter, the list of persons who encountered Jesus does not end with it. These persons continue on into the next quarter. Then proceed with your lesson.

D. Today we take up the story of still another unnamed person who encountered Jesus. All of those mentioned in this unit have received Jesus' love and care. The blind man in this lesson was no different. Jesus gave him sight and with it a beautiful

understanding of Jesus' love and care for him.

E. One thing we must look for in this lesson is that sickness or misfortune is not always the result of some single sin or a series of them. We must discover what causes sickness and death and put the record straight. Too often people blame God for their sickness and for the death of someone they love, and this is unfair to God and distorts the Christian's clear concept of God's love and care.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

The great evangelist, Charles Spurgeon, used to tell of an aged Christian who was born blind and yet was a happy saint. Let us tell this story as it was told by another evangelist, Dr. H. A. Ironside:

One day when speaking with another believer he said, "You know, I have so much more to give thanks for than you."

"What! More than I?" the other exclaimed. "Why, I have been able to see for years!"

The blind man looked up with those sightless eyes and said, "Oh, yes; but you have had to see so many things which have been disagreeable and distressing, so many faces which were unkind and angry and unholy, but the first face that I shall ever see will be the face of my blessed Saviour, who loved me and gave Himself for me. So," he said, "I have more to be thankful for than you."

Today's lesson brings us to the fourth person whom Jesus performed a special service. He was blind from birth, and Jesus gave him his sight. He did not restore it, because the man had never had it. The story is given not only to show Jesus' compassionate love for unfortunates but also to raise the question, Who is blind? Are all blind persons only those who have sightless eyes? Is there a spiritual blindness also? Let us find out.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

UNCHURCHED SET TO RESPOND''

By Paul Benjamin

The American Festival of evangelism is a call for concerned Christians to consider the United States as a mission field. Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, July 27-30, 1981, the four-day gathering will focus on the unreached peoples in America. Twenty thousands participants from more than 150 major church bodies in America are expected to attend.

Each day will begin with a plenary Bible study. Each day will close with a plenary worship service. Sandwiched in between will be nearly one hundred workshops and seminars meeting daily. Every session will be focused on the importance and the methods of carrying out the Great Commission in this nation.

According to the latest estimates, 80,000,000 Americans are not members of any church or religious group. Of the 220,000,000 who are members, only about fifty percent have any active relationship with a church in their community. Using the term in a broad sense, we can therefore refer to 146,000,000 Americans as being "unchurched." Here is the "mission field" in the United States which embraces nearly three out of four homes in every community.

The regard for almost 80,000,000 unchurched Americans coupled with the commission of Jesus to "make disciples of all nations" is the mandate for the American Festival of Evangelism. The focus of the Kansas City gathering will be upon the local churches in this nation, with the festival program designed to help congregations carry out the Great Commission more effectively in their own community.

While some of the unchurched may deeply resent any intensified efforts toward Christian evangelism, the polls clearly indicate that millions of Americans are now open to a more active faith. Thirty-two

million, in fact, indicate that they are willing to become Christians sometime in the near future.

The American Festival of Evangelism is an attempt by American churches to assess its responsibility to those who are willing. Furthermore, it seeks to encourage every local church to reach out in love to the people of its own community, and to help provide the evangelistic tools and resources.

In many instances, Christians themselves must be encouraged and taught before they are willing to share the "good news" with their neighbors and friends. For the most part, they are not unbelieving or unconcerned, but

they are afraid of being rebuffed by those who are disinterested. The majority of American church members are not brash and overconfident evangelists. Instead, they are timid souls who must muster up all their courage before they will speak a word about Jesus to anyone.

The American Festival of Evangelism is not one more effort on the part of Christians to drag unwilling Americans into the church fold. It is a planned endeavor to encourage American churches to be more sensitive to those outside the faith, and the attempt to build bridges to the vast numbers in this country who are now indicating deep concern for the Christian way of life.

THEY READ IT IN THIS PAPER

22 Years Ago

"Gary Barefoot, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Barefoot, Route 5, Dunn, North Carolina, has been elected superintendent of the Sunday School of Mount Olive Junior College, Mount Olive, North Carolina. Mr. Barefoot, who graduated from Plain View High School last spring as the salutatorian of his class, is preparing for a vocation in business administration. He is a member of Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Cape Fear Conference."
—Superintendent of College Sunday School.

"The Cape Fear District Woman's Auxiliary of North Carolina is planning an area fellowship night to be held on January 24, 1958, at the Smithfield, North Carolina, Free Will Baptist Church. The speakers will be those who composed the staff at the 1957 Cragmont Woman's Auxiliary Conference at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina. All the women of the Cape Fear District who have ever been to Cragmont are especially invited to attend. All others are also urged to be present."
—Cape Fear District Plans Fellowship Night, Woman's Auxiliary Department

"The members of May's Chapel Church near Goldsboro, North Carolina, wish to express their appreciation to Mrs. May Rouse for her recent donation of a tract of land to the church. The land which was donated adjoins the church property. The church is making plans for additional classrooms and was in need of more building space. May's Chapel Church was organized in 1923 by Mrs. Rouse and her husband, the Elder Alfred E. Rouse. Mrs. Rouse has been a member and faithful worker since its organization."
—Land Donated to May's Chapel Church, News Notes

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Treasurer's Report, End of Third Quarter, January 31, 1980

Balance in Bank, October 31, 1979

	Receipts	
		\$ 3,980.3
General Fund:		
Life Membership Fees	40.00	
Contributions	59.90	
Per Capita Dues	4.00	
Promotional (CSF)	86.50	
Interest	211.20	
Refund of Camp Fund	<u>80.00</u>	
Denominational Enterprises		481.60
Total Receipts		<u>1,049.61</u>
Total for Which To Account		<u>11,531.2</u>
		15,511.5

	Disbursements	
Convention Expenses and Allocations	357.93	
Denominational Enterprises	<u>11,049.61</u>	
Total Disbursed		<u>11,407.5</u>
Balance in Bank, January 31, 1980		<u>\$ 4,104.0</u>

	Banks	
Branch Banking & Trust Co.	\$ 1,104.02	
Church Finance Association	<u>3,000.00</u>	
Total	<u>\$ 4,104.02</u>	

Denominational Enterprise Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions)		\$ 1,342.04	1,342.04
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	215.00		
Mexico	225.00		
Baker	110.67		
King	10.00		
State Project (Missionary Wives)	<u>1,524.22</u>	2,084.89	2,084.89
Central Conference Missions		10.00	10.00
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	324.99		
Alice E. Lupton Scholarship	58.00		
J. C. Griffin Scholarship	40.00		
Anna Phillips Student Aid	123.00		
Books	15.00		
State Project (College Hall)	<u>370.37</u>	931.36	931.36
Children's Home:			
General Fund	2,057.40		
Clothing	160.00		
Allowance	15.00		
Child Support	255.00		
Christmas for Unsponsored Child	50.00		
Music Lessons	60.00		
Linens	105.00		
State Project (Microwave Ovens)	<u>802.48</u>	3,504.88	3,504.88
Superannuation		645.04	645.04
Cragmont Assembly			
Building Fund		1,373.05	1,373.05
Retirement Homes		269.90	269.90
Life Membership Fees (Mount Olive College)		110.00	110.00

Christian Service Fund:
 Missions
 Mount Olive College
 Children's Home
 Cragmont Assembly
 Retirement Homes
 Superannuation

172.99
 172.99
 129.74
 129.74
 86.50
 86.49

778.45
\$ 11,049.61

778.45
\$ 11,049.61

* 10 percent retained for promotional
 (see receipts \$86.50)

Respectfully submitted,
 Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, Treasurer

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser
 State Treasurer

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time for your district convention. The dues are \$.40 per member per year.

Send these dues to your district treasurer: she will keep \$.20 and send \$.20 to your state treasurer.

It is necessary that you cooperate in this as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenses of your convention. Singly we can do very little; together we can accomplish much.

CRAGMONT NEWS

by John Williams

The new manager of Cragmont has arrived in Black Mountain safe and sound. We are still packing and trying to get settled in our new home here at Cragmont. We wanted to let you know that we are here and waiting to hear from you.

Many of you are probably wondering about booking weekend retreats. By the time this article is printed in THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, all churches should have received a letter addressed to your pastor giving the information you need. If further information is needed about booking a retreat or anything else to do with Cragmont, please contact me.

Please continue to remember Cragmont in your prayers and also us as we assume our new responsibilities.

My address is the Rev. John Williams, Manager of Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711; phone, (704) 669-7677.

HOME MISSIONS NEWS

AGAPE MISSION PROGRESS REPORT

by Ronnie Hall

We have had 10 new visitors to come in the last two months. They are not coming regularly, but indicate they will. Pray that the Holy Spirit will convict them and will guide us in leading them into a closer relationship with our Lord in the near future.

I have had the opportunity to counsel with a prisoner at Polk Youth Camp for the past few months. I had talked with him some before he was arrested, but was unable to get anywhere with him. He asked his parents to get in touch with me soon after he was imprisoned and on the first visit he accepted Jesus as his Lord and Saviour. It has been a wonderful experience watching him grow in Christ. They have a class on baptism at the center, which he attended and asked if I could be allowed to baptize him. Permission was granted and I baptized him last week in the prison baptistry. This was also a wonderful blessing to see three prison inmates eagerly awaiting baptism in an outside baptistry

in forty-degree weather. He will be up for parole in mid-February. Pray that he will be able to stand strong for the Lord and lead many of his friends to Jesus.

CATALPA MISSION

by Alton Howard

We thank God for Catalpa Free Will Baptist Mission and for the prayers and support of our Free Will Baptist friends. Many wonderful things have happened since the mission began on May 5, 1974. We rented a house and later bought it and the property and moved the house back on the land to make room for our new sanctuary which stands completed as of this date. This year we plan to complete our Sunday school rooms. Many precious souls have been saved through this ministry and followed on with baptism. This past year our attendance averaged in the 60's.

We are looking forward to a beautiful year with the Lord; one in which many souls will come to know Christ as their Saviour and friend. With your prayers and support, we can and will achieve this goal. May God richly bless.

(Note from Taylor Hill. I feel that it is noteworthy that the Catalpa Mission people have been self-supporting in their building program.)

Now is the time to honor your pastor in our "Pastor of the Week" column in this paper. The editor will be happy to assist you in making it a surprise for him and his family.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

have—even toward the diligent improvement of our meager ability. Let no one insist that he has been given nothing.

The gentleman was right to express modesty, especially since that modesty was genuine. He never exalted himself, but rather gave glory where glory was due. He was quick to point out (an interesting observation, I think) that there were many others more blessed than he, more talented, more articulate, more pleasant to listen to. Those in his company found it difficult to believe the "many." But it was refreshing to see presented here the proper attitude and acceptance of a compliment.

Let no man think more highly of himself than he ought. Be proud in nothing, but give all glory to God. After all, every good and perfect gift comes from above. Those who are blessed with talents, however small or large, must accept them as a sacred trust which, in order to be effectually beautiful, eventually must be returned to God.

PREACHER'S DIARY

Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

A French lady who worked in a German construction camp during World War II told me that she made German pistol holsters for Hitler's Army that bore the inscription, "God is with us."

Just can't take
prissy preachers.

One of Satan's most effective methods in confusing and deceiving people is mixing truth with lies.

His sins were probably forgiven, but its side effects are still with him.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 5)

So I say to you, do not fear your doubt but make it lead you to a greater understanding and nourishment of your faith. Realize that your doubt is not but an expression of the depth of your concern. And in the midst of your doubt proclaim with the modern poet, Gamaliel Bradford:

"But my one unchanged obsession, wheresoever my feet have trod, Is a keen, enormous, haunting, never-sated thirst for God."

Now is the
time to renew
your subscription.

NOTICE

The Albemarle Union Meeting, Sunday School Convention, and League Union will meet at the Corinth Free Will Baptist Church. The program will follow in the paper at a later date.

Charlie Overt

IF I WOULD BE MY BEST

I cannot be, by half, the man
should
If jealousy finds favor at my
door,
For jealousy but mocks
another's good
And sets my heart on what
should ignore.
If I would be each day and hour
my best
This canker must not lodge
within my breast.

I cannot do, by half, the things
should
If envy twines its roots about
my soul;
For envy seeks but death
brotherhood
And sets my eyes on some
ignoble goal.
If I would do each day and hour
my best
This foe to good must leave
my request.

But I can be and do whatever
should
If love for others overflows my
heart;
For love will act just as the
Master would,
Bid carnal thoughts forever
depart.
Since I would be and do each day
my best
The Christ of love shall ever be
my guest.

—O. A. Newlin

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

75576
A MESSAGE FOR PERSONS OF ALL AGES

*Wine is a mocker, strong drink
is raging: and whosoever
is deceived thereby
is not wise (Proverbs 20:1).*



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

STRONG DRINK IS RAGING

(causing great pain or distress, violent, wild)

"The Boy Who Drank Too Much" aired on CBS television Wednesday night, February 6, was one of the best commentaries I've seen on drinking. The very fact that it was (and is) recommended by the National Education Association is encouraging. And in view of sharp criticism CBS has come under recently for unfavorable telecasting, one is perhaps better able to accord the network a measure of respect.

Alcoholism, something which the movie dealt with vividly and with great truth, has long been recognized as an evil and more recently designated a disease. Evil or disease, it is serious and deserves sober attention.

The many AA centers and meetings set up in various communities have steered a lot of confirmed alcoholics to better lifestyles, and better lives in general. The people who attend the meetings find themselves among those who have similar professions and who share similar concerns, whether physical or moral. Doctors, lawyers, businessmen, unemployed persons, housewives, even ministers can be found at these meetings—an indication, at least, that no one is immune from the dangers of alcohol addiction. The main character of the movie, a teenaged boy, was the only one in his age bracket attending for therapeutic purposes, though a friend of similar age attended for moral support.

Highballs and other fancy drinks have become symbols of society much as the dirty wino lying on the street corner has become the symbol of the drunk. Measure for measure, there is really little difference. Mark it well: one doesn't have to be a whiskey guzzler to be an alcoholic; neither does one have to be twenty-one—a point so strongly made in the movie. Anyone—twelve or fifty—who is alcohol-dependent qualifies as an alcoholic. It is sad that all too many "respectable" people delude themselves and deny their dependence. The drinkers who protest most that they "don't have to have a drink" are probably those who would not like to consider living without it.

It is hardly possible to go to any kind of party nowadays where punch is not doctored up a bit with some stronger stuff. If the host or hostess happens to be a teetotaler, something with a kick can usually be procured from the glove compartment of one or two cars outside. If not there, it takes very little time to excuse oneself, run down the street, and grab a beer or a bottle of something "more sophisticated." Availability must afford popular use.

Even a little alcohol is too much. More and more I become aware of the wisdom of a university professor's remark of several years ago: "If you never take a drink you never have to worry about becoming an alcoholic."

A drink, or two, or three may dull the senses to some problem for a while, but drinking neither makes the problem go away nor alters the situation. More often than not drinking creates new problems.

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Illustration by
Tim McClanahan

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Tommy Manning, Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and address to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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The positive nature of the statement is accented by the finality injected in the words.

'I DECLARE'

by the Rev. Beverly Ballard

EACH owner of property in North Carolina is required once a year to "list" or "declare" his taxable property.

Under a law recently enacted in this state, all political office holders must "declare" or "account for" their business interests and financial status.

Just last week, I was going through books and materials my late father had in his possession. A prized volume was a Bible that had belonged to his father, and one, I must say, that was well worn. Found scribbled in one of the margins was the statement, "I declare"—a favorite expression of amazement used by my grandfather and other mountain folk. His pronunciation of "declare" was some different than that we hear in Eastern North Carolina. I recall hearing him say many times, "I declarrh." It had the same sound of the word "here" often referred to by outsiders who have visited and heard a native say, "I live way up harr in the hills."

After seeing this familiar expression written in the

margin, I read to see what was printed opposite the scribbling. It was the memorable account of Christ's death on the Cross—certainly something amazing.

Then I looked farther to find a small strip of paper which appeared to be torn from a larger sheet or an old envelope. I recognized my dad's writing. It was a brief outline headed by the words "I declare."

I turned to the reference in Isaiah. I read how God declared His own omnipotence and the repeated use of the first person pronoun "I" and the frequent "I am" dictated to the prophet by God.

Finally, I came to the 19th verse and read the text: "I declare things that are right."

I studied Dad's simple outline. It consisted merely of three major points and a half dozen other Bible references. It listed the declaration of God to Isaiah, the personal testimony of the Psalmist David to his own declaration, and the declaration of the disciples in the Early Church recorded in

Acts 13 and stating a defined purpose of "declaring the glad tidings."

More study on my own caused me to see the importance of the short exclamation: "I declare!"

This is a most positive statement. It leaves no room for doubting the sincerity of the declarer. Its positive nature is accented by the finality injected in the words. This positive statement could well be likened to that made when a ruler announces the decision of his nation to "declare war" upon the enemy. It is a serious statement.

This is a very purposeful statement. When God revealed His feeling to the Prophet Isaiah in His declaration, He added that He declared "things"—this term represents commodities of reality. There was nothing fictional nor imaginary about God's declaring. And then the Father went on to say these "things" He wished to declare were "right." God's intention here definitely defines a direct

Turn the Page

appeal. He had no thought to deceive His creation—Man. This was a statement marked by accuracy. No one is more concerned than God with good and bad, with right and wrong, with righteousness and sinfulness.

This is a uniquely personal statement. On many occasions when God gave direct dictation to the prophets, He used the term "we" to include, I believe, the Trinity. On this occasion, however, the divine Creator became very personal. My thinking is that He did so for two reasons. First, He wanted to have it known that He was the Father of Righteousness; second, He wanted man personally within himself to make a "declaration" of righteousness. God is an extremely personal God. On other occasions He declared Himself to be the "Great I Am." He would be the closest of friends with any who will permit Him that personal, inside dwelling in the soul.

David reveals God's personal involvement in Psalm 66:16. "Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul." David also admonishes believers to "sing praises to the Lord . . . declare among the people his doings." Christ set an example (see John 17:26) when He said, ". . . I have declared unto them thy name, and will (continue to) declare it: . . ."

And, this is a professional statement. The angels appeared on the hillside outside Bethlehem to declare "tidings of great joy" and witness to the birth of the Christ child. The shepherds had visited the lowly manger, they became excited about what they saw.

They left that place so overjoyed that, Luke tells us, "they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child."

After Jesus first appeared to Andrew when it came time for the Saviour to select His disciples, Andrew went immediately to find his brother, Simon Peter, and it was Andrew's professional declaration, "We have found the Christ" that drew Peter into the number. The Apostles were told in Acts 20:27 to "declare the counsel of God." This professional was to help establish and strengthen the Early Church for the torturous days to follow. Even the elements confess to the wonders of God. In Psalm 19:1 we read: "The Heavens declare the glory of God."

What we Christians do to carry out Christ's commission will be known in that day when Christ will "confess before my Father" those things He can reveal in our favor. So, I challenge all of us to do more to "declare" the wonderful Grace of God, the Power of the Holy Ghost and this Great Salvation available as a free gift through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ. □

IN MEMORIAM RUFUS MILLS

It was midafternoon on March 29, 1979, that the death angel entered the room of our beloved brother, Rufus Mills, and took him home to be with the Lord. This room was in Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville, North Carolina.

Rufus was born in Pitt County and spent all of his life in the Black Jack Community and was a retired farmer. He was a member of Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, and had served

as deacon, trustee, and a member of the building committee.

His funeral was on March 31, at 3 p. m., at Black Jack church, conducted by the Rev. Floyd Cherry, Free Will Baptist minister of Pine Level, and the Rev. Cedric Pierce, his pastor.

Rufus left to mourn his wife, Mrs. Alberta Harper Mills; a son, H. Brooks Mills of Charlotte; a daughter, Mrs. Joe C. Sumrell of Hawaii; and five grandchildren. He also had four brothers and three sisters.

It is true that Rufus has left a weakened spot in our family and his church that he loved so much. God was the most important thing in his life. He left a place which cannot be filled by anyone but him. We can be thankful that we are left with a beautiful memory of him.

Let us use our memory of his untiring efforts, his loyalty, his dedication, and his love as a challenge for us to do greater things for our Lord in the future.

He was a good husband and father and always attended and participated in the programs, services, and activities of his church.

He attended worship services, Sunday school, and prayer services until his illness. Indeed Rufus was an active church member who was willing to put his faith into action—a very special person to everyone.

He was so kind, compassionate to all. He loved people, always ready to help in anyway he could.

He knew what he believed and stood for it firmly, but arrogance, vanity or pride were never a part of life.

In words of the prophet, he did justly, loved mercy, and walked humbly with his God (see Micah 6:8).

Rufus was one in whom there was neither guile nor deception. He was honest and genuine; integrity was his hallmark and his word was his bond.

If he could not say something good—he said nothing at all. He never sowed discord among his

(Continued on Page 14)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Retirement Homes

by Harold Dunn
Director

"AFTER LIFE"

Now is certainly a good time to begin making some definite plans for the future. Now is a good time to do some of those things you had planned to do but just never got around to doing.

It is a startling fact that six out of every seven Americans die without a will. There's an old concept that's fast passing, and that is that wills are associated with death. But wills are written so that one may live with a carefree mind about such matters.

How can a person benefit from a will?

-a will can provide for the protection of your property for the surviving members of your family;

-large gifts can be made to Christian causes by people who could not ordinarily provide large gifts during their money-making years;

-a large amount of one's estate can pass tax free to surviving members of the family for their lifetime when the estate is designated for charitable purposes. An example is that money that would be paid out in estate taxes can be placed in a charitable remainder trust, with a member of the family receiving the income from the trust for their lifetime.

-our Christian stewardship extends beyond our lifetime. We know that God has full ownership, and we express our Christian priorities by how we use and dispose what He has put in our care.

Most Christian institutions depend on incomes from wills for capital improvements, as well as day-to-day expenses.

In order for one's estate to pass to the charitable institution of their choice there must be a directive in their Last Will and Testament.

Today is the first day of the rest of your life. We have no promise of tomorrow.

People who have not made out their wills should see their attorney, CPA, or estate planning advisor.

NEWS FROM THE RETIREES

Miss Farmer has taken on the responsibility of organist for Friendship Free Will Baptist Church just out of Middlesex. She is really thrilled at the opportunity to use her talents for God's work. She also plays for the choir at the Children's Home. She stays busy every day and really enjoys it.

She went to Charlotte and spent Christmas with her sister. Last weekend she visited her sister in Angier. I don't know how she does it.

Mr. Vowell was out this morning getting his snow tires on. He says snow does not keep him inside for long at the time.

Mrs. Ballard went with the Revelators and me to St. Mary's church at Kenly last Sunday night and made a short talk on the Retirement Homes which was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Rulli is really enjoying the snow from her picture window. She still serves as relief houseparent when needed.

Most any day you can see the retirees on their way to Middlesex to enjoy a hot meal at the Senior Citizens Dinner in Middlesex.

Our retirees would really enjoy a visit or card. Their addresses are: Box 250, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557.

NEW RESIDENT

Mrs. Winifred T. Holt is moving into the left apartment of the George P. Best Home. Miss Farmer lives in the right apartment. Mrs. Holt is from Black Jack church near Greenville. She is the widow of James A. Holt, who died in 1974, after a long illness.

Mrs. Holt is a nurse but has been unable to work since an automobile accident a few years ago. She is able to wait on herself and is looking forward to living at the Retirement Homes. She is a very close friend of Mrs. Gertrude Ballard and they spend a lot of time together. Mrs. Holt has her own car and is able to drive.

I received this letter from her that I would like to share with you.

"Hello there: a happy and prosperous year to each and every one. I'm very happy and thankful for the opportunity of living at the Retirement Homes.

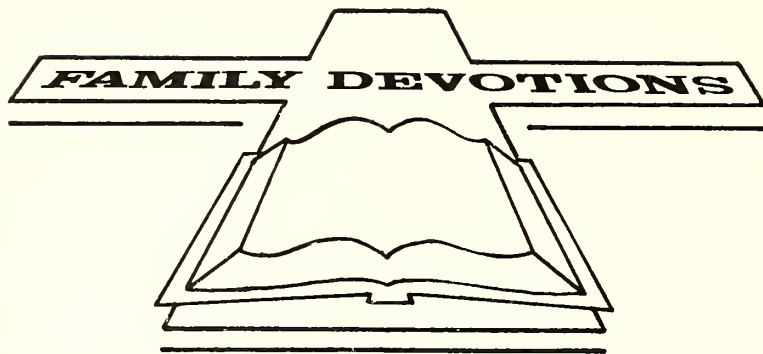
"But first of all I want to thank the Lord for the wonderful Christian parents of mine. I have such beautiful memories of our nightly devotions held by the fireside and Mother tucking us in bed and the wonderful friendships we enjoyed at St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church in New Bern, serving and worshiping with them.

"My family moved to Alexandria, Virginia, where I met and married my husband, James A. Holt, United States Navy.

"We traveled a lot due to his military assignments, always looking for the nearest church in the area, so when his duty called him to sea, our daughters and I would be able to walk and attend services. I did not drive until years later.

"Upon his retirement we settled in the Greenville area of Black Jack church, which we joined

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Scripture Reading—Matthew
7:12

THE GOLDEN RULE

In your daily round of duties,
As you make your way through
life;
As you gaze upon its beauties,
And you look upon its strife,
There's a rule of conduct given,
Which I will commend to you:
Always do unto another
What you'd have him do to
you.

If, perchance, along life's high-
ways,
You should meet a man that's
down,
Or you meet him on the byways,
Where he meets with many a
frown,
Won't you try to help him,
brother,
Ere he passes from your view?
Won't you do unto another
What you'd have him do to
you?

Once upon a time the Saviour
Came into this world of sin,
Came into this world to suffer,
Precious souls that He might
win.

And He gave to us a precept
Did this Saviour, kind and
true:
Always do unto another
What you'd have him do to
you.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*From youth up we have been
taught to "Do unto others."
Perhaps no other rule of conduct
is so representative of Christian
living. Practice it daily!*

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Scripture Reading—Acts 9:31;
Romans 5:5

WHICH KIND ARE YOU?

A lot of Christians are like
wheelbarrows—not good un-
less pushed.
Some are like canoes—they need
to be paddled.
Some are like kites—if you don't
keep a string on them, they fly
away.
Some are like kittens—they are
more contented when petted.
Some are like a football—you
can't tell what way they will
bounce next.
Some are like balloons—full of
wind and ready to blow up.
Some are like trailers—they
have to be pulled.
Some are like lights—they keep
going on and off.
And there are those who always
seek to let the Holy Spirit lead
them.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The best kind of Christian—the
kind that God must have in-
tended—is the one who allows
the Holy Spirit to lead and yields
without questioning.*

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Scripture Reading—Titus 1:9; 1
Peter 3:1

HOW COULD GOD TELL YOU?

A girl was happily converted.
Immediately she began to read
God's Word. One who disbelieved
the Bible took delight in
ridiculing it asked the girl, "Why
do you spend so much time
reading a book like that?"

"Because, Sir, it is the Word of
God," said the girl. "Nonsense!
Who told you it is the Word of
God?" scornfully asked the
unbeliever. After a moment's
silence the girl asked, "Who told
you that there is a sun in the
sky?" "Nobody," quickly replied
the scoffer. "I don't need
anybody to tell me. The sun tells
me." "Yes," said the girl in
triumph, "and that is the way
God tells me about His Word. I
feel His warmth, and sense His
presence as I read His wonderful
Word!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

*God's living Word, the Bible, is
its own best defense. No sincere
person can read it without
realizing its worth and its self-
assertion.*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Scripture Reading—Psalm
51:13; Luke 22:32

CONVERTING THE SOUL!

An English merchant, on
leaving India on a business trip,
left with the Hindu overseer a
New Testament.

A year passed. The English-
man returned on a Saturday.
Around ten o'clock on Sunday
morning, he heard a bell ringing.
He saw a number of natives
wending their way into the
schoolhouse. Then he heard them
singing. He called a servant and
asked what the people were
doing there. The servant said
they had church every Sunday.
"Has any missionary been here
since I left here?" "No, Sir,"
replied the servant. "Then who
started this church, and who
conducts it?" The servant
replied, "The sahib you left in
charge when you went away, and
to whom you gave a New
Testament." "And what do they
do in church?" asked the
Englishman. "They sing, and
pray, and then the sahib talks to
them about Jesus!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Let no one underestimate the
power of God's Word to convert.
A seed of faith, however small,*

can yield an abundance of fruit for the kingdom.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Scripture Reading—2 Thessalonians 3:9; 1 Peter 2:21; Jude 7

A MOST CHRISTLIKE PERSON

A Christian storekeeper in a small town was thoroughly honest in his business, as Christians should be. A family came to the town and moved into a home across the street from the store. Almost daily the father, who was not a Christian, entered the store. After a year he went to a minister and said, "The storekeeper is one of the most honorable and Christlike persons I have ever known. I want what he has. Will you help me?" The minister told him of Jesus and of His power to change our lives. The man accepted Christ. His home became a Christian home. Two of his daughters became missionaries. How did these wonderful things come to pass? Simply because a storekeeper lived as Christians should live.

PRAYER THOUGHT

A witness, though sometimes silent, will give testimony to the saving and transforming power of the Saviour.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Scripture Reading—Matthew 4:10; Psalm 29:2

MY CHILD AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Shall I make my child go to Sunday school and church? Yes! And with no further discussion about the matter. Startled? Why? How do you answer Junior when he comes to breakfast on Monday morning and announces to you that he is not going to school any more? You know! Junior goes. How do you answer when Junior comes in very much besmudged and says, "I'm not going to take a bath." Junior bathes, doesn't he?

Why all this timidity then, in the realm of his spiritual

guidance and growth? Going to let him wait and decide what church he'll go to when he's old enough? Quit your kidding! You didn't wait until you were old enough! You don't wait until he's old enough to decide whether he wants to go to school or not—to start his education. You don't wait until he's old enough to decide whether he wishes to be clean or dirty do you? Do you wait until he's old enough to decide if he wants to take his medicine when he is sick? Do you?

What shall we say when Junior announces he doesn't like to go to Sunday school and church? That's an easy one to answer. Just be consistent. Tell him, "Junior, in our house we all go to church and Sunday school, and that includes you." Your firmness and example will furnish a bridge over which youthful rebellion may travel into rich and satisfying experience in personal religious living.

The parents of America can strike a telling blow against the forces which contribute to our juvenile delinquency, if our fathers and mothers will take their children to Sunday school and church regularly.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Send them to Sunday school? No! Take them. A parent who tries to enforce "rules" will not succeed. A parent who teaches through example most surely will.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 1:23; Proverbs 11:21; Micah 2:15

WHY, WE KNOW HIM!

A missionary who had been in Africa for many years was assigned to a new tribe. Immediately he began to preach Jesus. As he spoke of Jesus' healing, helpful ministry, the natives said, "Why, we know Him! He used to live here!" "Oh, no," said the missionary, "He never lived here. He died some two thousand years ago. But He arose again and is now in

Heaven!" The natives, however, insisted that they knew Him. Here's why: years before, a missionary had lived in this tribe. He lived so like Christ among them that when the second missionary came preaching Christ, the natives thought he was talking about the missionary who had lived among them.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We who claim the name of Christ should live such Christ-centered lives that He is visible in us and in our actions. That is the true Christian example which reaches and teaches others.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

IN MEMORIAM

(Continued from Page 4)

friends nor was he a source for dissension. If others could not agree, he quietly chose what he thought was right and sought to be a friend!

Even though he suffered he always had a smile and a kind word.

He had a terminal illness which caused great pain and sorrow, but he still tried to be tall and strong as he grew thin and yellow. In all this in a remarkable and poignant way he still called upon his Lord. He handled his illness with truth and honesty unto the end.

MY CHOICE

If I had the choice of another day,
I'd choose the same Saviour
That led us today.

I'd choose the same brother
Who helped me along,
I'd choose the same sisters

Who sang me a song
Because in them there was love
And good things that I saw.
I'd choose the same Jesus
To lead each day.

I'd choose the same dear wife
Son and daughter, and families
Who stood by me in everything to
Make life right.

I'd choose the same Mother and
friends,
Who taught me to pray!

Respectfully submitted,
Novella Stokes

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.

Report of Receipts and Expenses February 7, 1980

Balance brought forward January 1, 1980 in checking account

\$1,433.57

	Receipts	
Albemarle Conference		
Albemarle Union Meeting	12.98	
Albemarle District		
Sunday School Convention	6.00	
Hickory Chapel		
Sudie Mae Auxiliary	<u>341.15</u>	360.13
Central Conference		
Second Union Meeting	15.41	
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	4.81	
Otter's Creek	128.00	
Bethany	95.28	
Edgewood Sunday School	15.00	
Greenville, First	200.00	
Black Jack	300.00	
Friendship		
Sunday School	25.00	
Williamston, First	34.92	
Rose Hill	25.00	
King's Cross Roads	55.10	
Reedy Branch	25.00	
Reedy Branch Sunday School	44.50	
Grimsley	<u>50.00</u>	1,058.02
Cape Fear Conference		
Goldsboro, First		
Dorcas Circle	10.00	
Victory Mission	42.32	
Palmer Memorial	42.50	
Lee's Chapel Fellowship		
Class	62.86	
Wooten's Chapel	80.61	
Smithfield, First	50.00	
Haymount Mission	55.89	
Lee's Chapel Sunday School	<u>29.03</u>	373.21
Eastern Conference		
Fifth Union	39.00	
Mt. Zion	25.00	
Oriental	18.00	
Smith's New Home	150.00	
St. Mary's	137.50	
Folkstone	<u>300.00</u>	669.50
Western Conference		
Spring Hill Church		
Alma Dale	160.00	
Milbournie		
Bessie Lamm	25.00	
Sherron Acres	100.00	
Milbournie	23.00	
First Union	150.00	
Flood's Chapel	5.00	
Piney Grove	<u>40.00</u>	503.00
Others, not identified by Conference		
Foy C. Futrelle	50.00	
Close-out of camp account	153.05	
Lester and Nancy Duncan	20.00	
Beaufort Mission	5.00	

Second Union Sunday School Convention	100.00		
Third Union District	50.00		
Williamson Truck Lines	250.00		
Fourth Union Convention	10.55	<u>638.60</u>	
Total Receipts			<u>3,602.46</u>
			<u>5,036.03</u>
Expenses			
Salaries		1,010.00	
Insurance		170.00	
Travel and meeting expenses and mileage		267.33	
Professional services		991.64	
Utilities and phone service		741.55	
Transfer to savings			
General Savings	1,186.76		
Main Building Fund	<u>210.00</u>	1,396.76	
Gifts			
Paid by check	1.60		
Deducted from account	<u>10.77</u>		
Employee Benefits		12.37	
Miscellaneous expenses		89.58	
Travel expenses		<u>63.77</u>	<u>4,743.00</u>
Checking account balance January 31, 1980			293.03
Balance brought forward in General Savings account January 1, 1980			228.19
Deposits			
Transferred from checking	1,186.76		
Interest earned	<u>44.69</u>	1,231.45	
Tax deducted		<u>1.28</u>	<u>1,230.17</u>
Balance in General Savings January 31, 1980			<u>1,458.36</u>
Balance brought forward in Main Building Fund January 1, 1980			122.64
Deposits			
Transferred from checking	210.00		
Interest earned	<u>106.79</u>	316.79	
Tax deducted		<u>6.55</u>	<u>310.24</u>
Balance in Main Building Fund January 31, 1980			<u>432.88</u>
Total of all funds in bank January 31, 1980			<u><u>\$2,184.27</u></u>

Submitted by
John R. Watson, Treasurer

CRAGMONT NEWS

by John Williams
Manager

Cragmont is broadening its ministry. Recently the president of our State Convention was approached by the General Baptists requesting the use of Cragmont for their 1980 Ministers' Conference. It was presented to the Board of Directors of Cragmont who voted unanimously to extend an invitation for them to come. Their conference will begin May 12 and end through May 15. We look forward to continuing our

friendship with the General Baptists.

We also have two college students residing with us here at Cragmont; Wanda Sweat from Roanoke Rapids, and Sidney Clark from Wilson, North Carolina. Both of these young people worked on the Cragmont Staff last year and we look forward to having them again this year. Wanda and Sid are living here at Cragmont while attending Mars Hill College. While here, they are helping us get ready for the 1980 camping season. Since this is my first year as manager, they will be an

invaluable help to me because of their working experience at Cragmont.

We encourage your continued support financially and we desire your prayers for a successful year.

Now is the

time to renew

your subscription.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Janice Weston

"Working with deaf children is my greatest thrill," sighed brown-eyed Janice Weston of Richlands.

"You really learn a lot, and love a lot," she added shaking her short brown hair with excitement.

A sophomore at Mount Olive College, Janice, at nineteen, looks forward to a long, rewarding career helping deaf children.

"It's a lifelong dream that really started when a cousin of mine, now 13 years old, was born deaf. There just aren't enough people able or even interested in working with the deaf," Janice explained.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Weston, Janice has taken courses in deaf communication whenever they have been offered near her home. For the past two years she has been teacher, recreation leader, and craft

assistant at a deaf camp held for a week each summer at Eagles Nest Conference Center.

"It makes my summer wonderful. I can't wait until we begin this summer," she said.

At College, Janice is active in the Free Will Baptist Fellowship. She is also active at Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Richlands, serving as a pianist, working with youth, and teaching a Sunday school class.

"I had a young deaf girl in my class and loved working with her, but when she turned 7, she transferred to the next class. Working with the deaf is so rewarding," she said smiling broadly, "I just love it."

WINS SCHOLARSHIP



Mike Wallace and Hain Ficken

Mike Wallace, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Mac Wallace of Winston Salem, was recently named the recipient of the Mount Olive Jaycees "Latney Pittard Memorial Scholarship" by Mount Olive Jaycee President, Hain Ficken. The award is a \$500

scholarship given to the most outstanding Mount Olive College athlete in the Pickle Class Basketball Tournament held annually in Mount Olive. Mike's father is an alumnus of the College and a Free Will Baptist minister.

NEW CREATIONS PROGRAMS SET

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of song and testimony at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Middlesex, Sunday, February 24, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

They will also present a program at Long Ridge Free Will Baptist Church near Mount Olive, at the 7 p. m. worship hour.

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Gifts to Moyer Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of January, 1980, totaled \$593 and were as follows:

In Memory of

Mrs. Luena Huffman Ball by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Lula Beamon by Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama.

Mr. Howard Best by Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church Sunday School, Pikeville, and Men's Bible Class, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Mrs. Rhoda Boykin by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mr. Gerald Briley by Board of Deacons, Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Mr. Tom Britt by Mr. and Mrs. Randall Albertson, and Miss Pamela R. Wood, Mount Olive.

Mr. Glenwood Brown by Mrs. Anne Felton, and Miss Louise Edgerton, Pikeville.

William and Micky Bunn by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd A. Morris, Fremont; Miss Louise Edgerton, Pikeville; and Mrs. Anne Felton, Pikeville.

Mrs. Fanny G. Edgerton by

and Mrs. Johnnie G. Howell, Pikeville.
 Mr. Wilbur Edgerton by Mrs. Martha Hinnant, Pikeville, and Mrs. Maybelle B. Fleming, Pikeville.
 Mr. Melvin Garris by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.
 Mrs. Sallie Hawkins by Mr. and Mrs. Randall Dawson, Denton; and Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow McCoy, Cove City.
 Mrs. Lois Hight by Mrs. Annie E. Albertson; Miss Pamela Wood; Gary F. Barefoot; Miss Eleanor Dickinson; Mrs. Lillian Tubbs; Mount Olive College Cafeteria Employees; Mount Olive College Faculty; Dr. and Mrs. Michael Pelt; Mr. and Mrs. H. Smith; Mr. and Mrs. Connell Whitfield; Mr. and Mrs. Abbott Wilson, Mount Olive; the Rev. and Mrs. Earl Glenn, Goldsboro; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove; and Mrs. Kathleen B. Warren, Goldsboro.
 Mrs. Thelma P. Howell by Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Howell, Goldsboro.
 Mrs. John D. Jennette by Miss Rachel Jennette, and Mr. and Mrs. James F. Howell, Mount Olive.
 Mr. Henry A. King by Mrs. Vera King.
 Mrs. Alice D. Nichols by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.
 Mr. Leonard Parnell by Men's Bible Class, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.
 Mrs. Irene P. Porter by Gary Barefoot, Mount Olive.
 Mr. Hosea Raynor by Miss Pamela Wood, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wood, Four Oaks.
 Mr. Rotha W. Reardon by Mrs. Norma Reardon, and Miss Faye Reardon, Mount Olive.
 Mrs. Molly Rice by Woman's Auxiliary, Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Beulaville.
 Mr. Preston D. Sasser by Men's Bible Class, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.
 Mr. David Sasser by Sunday School, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.
 Mr. Oscar G. Simpson Sr. by

Mrs. Daisy Simpson, Lucama.
 Mr. R. S. Slade by Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Gray Coltrain, Williamston.
 Mrs. Lula C. Smith by Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Howell, Goldsboro.
 Miss Annie Swinson by Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive.
 Mr. R. G. Turnage by Mrs. R. G. Turnage, Snow Hill.
 Mr. Cecil Wells by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Anderson; Gary Barefoot; Mr. and Mrs. Doug Connor; Mount Olive College Cafeteria Employees; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Andrews; Mr. Norman Simmons; Mrs. Arlene G. Talton; and Miss Cathy Talton, Mount Olive.
 Mr. Boyce Williams by Mrs. Ola Mae Williams, Princeton.
 Dr. Louis R. Wilson by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

In Honor of

Scott Woodrow McCoy Jr. by Fifth Union Eastern Conference, New Bern.

Mrs. Annie Mae Howell by Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxiliary, Pikeville.

Gifts

Elaine Jones, Mount Olive.

Hymnbooks Requested

The new Fellowship Free Will Baptist Mission, Dunn Road, Kinston, North Carolina, is badly in need of hymnbooks. Brother Jimmy Sowers, the young licensed minister serving this mission, asked me if I would do all that I could to get them some Free Will Baptist hymnbooks. I called several of our ministers and laymen, but as of today I have not received any response. Of course many of them have not had the time to bring it before their proper boards.

A hymnbook will cost \$3.50. If there are any churches, pastors, or individuals that would like to donate one book or a dozen or more, you may send your check or money order direct to me and I will personally get the books myself and get them to this mission. Perhaps some of you

may want to donate a book in memory of someone. I am sure that the mission will be glad and happy to place your request inside the hymnal.

You may say, "This mission is having an attendance large enough to support itself." They are having about forty in attendance, but the rent and utilities on this building (the Northview Christian Missionary Alliance) are taking about all that this group can bring in at this time. In due time I am firmly convinced that they will be self-supporting, but at this time they need some help. So Christian brother and sister, here is an opportunity for you to do some home mission work.

I will also make a report to the proper home missions boards of all receipts and disbursements so that your church may get credit. Remember also, that this gift is tax deductible for you as an individual.

So hoping that I will hear from many of you NOW so that we may get about one hundred books for this mission, I prayerfully pray in Christ's name.

W. H. Willis
 P. O. Box 314

Kinston, North Carolina 28501

PREACHER'S DIARY

An elderly gentleman told me about how his pastor used to scare the congregation out of their wits with stories about that old ugly Devil with a pitchfork in his hand and horns on his head. I explained that that is not the real way that the devil appears before people; he appears to be attractive and also to be desired; otherwise he couldn't attract followers.

I see every new day as a new adventure; with new opportunities, discoveries and fresh ideas.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 2

Nicodemus

Lesson Text: John 3:1-10; 7:50-52
Memory Verse: John 3:15

I. INTRODUCTION

The first portion of today's lesson takes place early in Jesus' ministry when He visited Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover. During this visit Jesus cleansed the temple of the merchandisers. This angered the authorities, who began to challenge Him, demanding that He give the source of His authority for these actions.

While in Jerusalem at this time, Jesus performed several miracles. As a result, many came to believe on Him, and His popular following began to grow. It was in this rather tense situation with friends on one side and critics on the other that Nicodemus sought an audience with Him at night.

The second portion of the printed text (John 7:50-52) tells of an incident much later in Jesus' ministry. Jesus had come to Jerusalem for the Feast of Tabernacles, about six months before His crucifixion. The nation's leaders were by now deliberately seeking means to attack Him and trap Him. They were especially infuriated by His healing on the Sabbath of the paralytic by the pool of Bethesda and by His claim to be equal with God, which had occurred perhaps eighteen months earlier (John 5:18). Now, in the ensuing debate during the Feast of Tabernacles, the authorities actually sent guards to seize Him (7:32). When the guards returned empty-handed, the rulers debated among themselves as to how

they could get rid of Him (7:45-49). At this point Nicodemus arose to His defense, which we shall see.—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Of all the persons Jesus contacted, or who came to Him, Nicodemus is the only one of whom it is recorded in the gospels that he must be "born again." However, Peter said that the dispersed Christians to whom he wrote were "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible . . ." (1 Peter 1:23), and his words were not in a conversation between Jesus and another, but in a letter.

B. John called Nicodemus a ruler of the Jews, so we know he was a rather important person. But as we look at him, his importance lay not in the position he filled, politically or religiously, but in the fact that he came to Jesus and, as the record shows, became His follower. There are only three places—all in the Gospel of John—where Nicodemus is mentioned. The first two will be covered in this lesson; the third is found in John 19:38-42, where John tells us that Nicodemus took part of the preparation for the burial of Jesus, an act, we might add, which was done openly and boldly.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The first six lessons in this quarter will complete sixteen special studies in the Gospel of John. We are still in the unit entitled, "Receiving Jesus' Love and Care," embracing a series of

studies on persons who certain needs and how Jesus those needs in a dramatic way.

B. Thus far in this unit have taken a candid but careful look at the woman at the well, the paralytic man, the woman caught in the act of adultery, the man born blind. In each case Jesus showed real love, care and compassion, and each of these persons apparently became His disciples. Today's lesson Nicodemus will complete the unit.

C. The last seven lessons under the general theme, "Writings of Christian Encouragement," will engage us in studies on the messages of the last seven books of the New Testament. It appears that we have an exciting thirteen weeks ahead of us.

D. Listening is a lost art with many of us—if we have ever had it. It is quite certain that many people talk more than they listen—talking when they should be listening. We learn so much more when we listen, because when we are talking, or engaged in some kind of activity, we can only hear ourselves and we teach ourselves very little. Have you ever realized how much you may have lost by not listening? And this goes for listening to children, too!

E. Jesus had much to say to those who listened to Him and away the richer. One such person was Nicodemus. Let's see what it was all about.

—The Advanced Quarter (F.W.B.)

F. "Nicodemus was a learned, respected, and successful man with high social status and probably considered wealthy. As far as religion was concerned, he was a layman—a moderate conservative—devoted to the law. He was a man who wanted to do what was right and fair."—Paul B. Maves

G. It took some time for Nicodemus to come out openly for Jesus. His defense of Jesus before the Sanhedrin may have been the beginning. His open

(Continued on Page 14)

JUDGMENTAL PREACHING

Submitted by DeW. Eakes

Who wants to preach about judgment? Maybe most preachers do not. We don't like to think about judgment as applying to ourselves. Almost as often we don't like to envision it for other people. But can we avoid the subject?

Jesus said, "Blessed are they who mourn." Who are these people but those who are grieved because of war, injustice, needless suffering, and other evils that afflict the world? If a preacher merits this beatitude of the Lord, he will be so concerned for the persons affected that he will identify the sources of the evil, he will expose the evildoers, he will warn the unwary and innocent of their danger, and he will seek a remedy.

The temptation to say nothing and do nothing is great. There may be immediate rewards for silence and immediate penalties for speaking out. Micaiah the prophet found it so. He spoke the truth, though it was truth that cost him, and was thrown into prison and fed scant bread and water. He spoke the truth while four hundred peers were telling the king just the opposite but precisely what the king wanted to hear.

Perhaps we have little fear of the physical consequences of preaching judgment, but fear of rejection is real, as well as, perhaps, fear of going at our own rate in the wrong way. Is there a place for judgmental preaching?

We can hardly avoid the preaching of judgment if we preach the Bible. The Old Testament prophets identified the evils of the day and warned of wrath to come. And wrath came. Jesus warned of the doom of Jerusalem and wept over the city. And destruction came. The apostle Paul spoke of the outpouring of wrath, and the generations since have been a witness to the truth of what he said.

Nor can we avoid the preaching of judgment if we are sensitive to God's loving purpose for His creation, if we see the destructive ways in which even God's own people hurt themselves and each other, and especially if we believe there is a ghost of a chance of doing something, however small, to help and heal. Obviously we are not prophets of the Old Testament variety, we cannot usurp the place of Jesus and we do not claim the inspiration of the Apostle Paul. But we are Christians called to love one another. Many of us are pastors with the task of keeping the flock from being ripped to shreds by the wolves. How can we keep silent?

We hesitate, and perhaps rightly, because we run the risk of obscuring a possible solution to an evil situation by fixing our attention too much on the problem itself. This is the age-old business of having more confidence in the law than in the gospel. It is ironic that the word "preach," which is often a translation of a word meaning "tell the good news," has come to mean to many people nothing more than to pick a fuss over moral issues. Isn't there a danger of substituting analysis, accusation, and moral indignation for positive programs and remedies?

Furthermore, our judgmental preaching could be a way of working out our personal problems than problem-solving on a larger scale. Here is a preacher who has a streak of meanness in him and loves to see people squirm. Or here is a preacher who so closely identifies his own interpretations of the Bible or his own ideas of what is best for the church with the will of God that he views people who disagree with him as enemies of God and deserving only to be dealt with harshly. Or here is a preacher so strongly tempted in a certain way that he

makes his own weakness his favorite sin for Sunday-by-Sunday denunciation. Isn't there a danger of preoccupation with moths in the eyes of other people because of the immensity of the obstruction in our own eye?

Our judgmental preaching may also oversimplify moral issues, whether of society or of the individual. We may apply a narrow ethic—narrow not because we see the value of a disciplined way but narrow because of an inability or refusal to see all sides of a question.

Or we may apply a worldly success standard to moral issues and as thoroughgoing utilitarians decide all matters on a pragmatic basis.

There ought to be some ways to "exhort and reprove with all authority" (Titus 2:15, RSV), yet without doing more harm than good.

Moral improvement ought to begin with the preacher himself. Life is a pilgrimage, but it is not intended to be perpetual wandering in circles or in sliding downhill. Surely as a man of God he will gain some foothold on the heights, precarious as the journey may be. Sometimes the preacher's weakness is the best he can offer in a given situation, but strength, leadership, and example are what are required most of the time. This does not come without some pain and much effort. The experience can make the preacher sympathetic, but it will keep him from being sentimentally indulgent. Sometimes the preacher may be tempted to say to a congregation that he thinks they expect too much of him. "Take me or leave me the way I am—I'm only human," but then he remembers the prayer of his Lord. "For their sake I consecrate myself," and with the help of God he tries to become a better man.

It is important to know what true moral improvement is. Occasionally a person—preacher or otherwise—who has a moral awakening constrains his devotion in the direction of an extreme asceticism, a joyless,

Turn the Page

self-punishing, hangdog approach to life. It is far from what the Apostle Paul could say, even from prison: "May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again: rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4, TEV). There is little chance of permanent moral improvement without inner compensations for whatever one has to give up and without what Thomas Chalmers called, "the expulsive power of a new affection." Focusing on old sins and forbidden fruit will not do half the good that turning to new goals and opportunities with hope and enthusiasm will do.

The preacher cannot do without perspective and balance in ordering his own life and in setting up a plumbline for his congregation and his larger sphere of influence. Knowing that he can hang himself and the people he cares for with an isolated verse of Scripture or with a private ethical eccentricity, he will test and enrich his private interpretations with a knowledge of the Bible in all its parts, with the experience of the church through the ages, with the counsel of his contemporaries, and yet with the willingness to accept and speak some special word of the Lord which, as William James put it, "will thrust a thorn into his side."—James W. Cox, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky (Used by permission: PULPIT DIGEST, Jackson, Mississippi 39216). □

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page 12)

allegiance was seen in his readiness to help prepare Jesus for proper burial. Why do you suppose he was not more vocal in his discipleship?

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

Now is the time to honor your pastor in our "Pastor of the Week" column in this paper. The editor will be happy to assist you in making it a surprise for him and his family.

THEY READ IT IN THIS PAPER

20 Years Ago

"Fifth Sunday is Mount Olive College Day. Churches, Sunday schools and leagues are asked to designate their offerings or to make a special contribution to Mount Olive College. Individuals are also urged to send their personal donations. This plan has the endorsement of our State Convention of Churches, Sunday schools and leagues; and many churches in other states are also using this plan of support."—Christian Education, Fifth Sunday Mount Olive College Day

"The Rev. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina, will be the evangelist for revival services at Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, North Carolina, April 11-14. Following the revival, pre-Easter services will be held Friday and Saturday nights, April 15, 16, conducted by the pastor, the Rev. Ed Miles. A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to attend these services."—News Notes, Rev. Raper to Conduct Spring Branch Revival

"The Rev. C. L. Patrick will conduct evangelistic services at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church in Greene County, North Carolina, April 17-24 at 7:45 each evening. There will be special music and congregational singing during each service. A very cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend all of these services."—News Notes, Revival Scheduled at Free Union Church

"The Pulpit Committee of the Faith Free Will Baptist Church of Morehead City, North Carolina, announces that the Rev. J. B. Starnes of Kinston, North Carolina, has accepted a call to pastor the Faith Church. Mr. Starnes will assume his duties as pastor of this church the first Sunday in September."—News Notes, Rev. J. B. Starnes Accepts Morehead City, North Carolina, Pastorate

"The Rev. R. N. Hinnant, president of the Free Will Baptist Press announces that the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow of Ayden, North Carolina, will assume the position as manager of the Free Will Baptist Press on September 1, 1960. Mr. Barrow is presently serving as pastor of Elm Grove Church, Ayden, North Carolina, which he will continue to do until January 1, 1961. He has served as a member of the board of directors for the past several years. The Rev. C. H. Overman, who has served as assistant editor for nearly three years, will be elevated to the position of editor, also to be effective on September 1. His duties will be in the area of editorial responsibilities as head of the editorial department."—News Notes, New Press Manager and Editor

NEWS NOTES

Classes for Certification of Sunday School Teachers

Classes for the certification of Sunday school teachers will be held at the Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church on February 21, 28 and March 6 and 13. Classes run from 7 until 9 p. m. All teachers, assistant teachers, and members of the Sunday schools are urged to attend. The cost will be \$20 for Paul Palmer Institute credit and \$10 for non-credit.

The Rev. Sheldon Howard of Mount Olive College will teach the course.

For registration, contact Wood Hill, P. O. Box 68, Deep Run, North Carolina; phone 568-2222.

Holly Springs Revival Set

Revival services will be held at Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly, North Carolina, from February 25 through February 28. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each evening. The Rev. Royster Martin, pastor of Holly Springs, and the church membership extend an invitation to the public to attend. The Rev. S. Burns will be the guest preacher for the services.

RETIREMENT HOMES

(Continued from Page 5)

Jack became affiliated with many friends and neighbors, we felt we had a lovely home for retirement in our later years.

"Since Jack's illness of three years and death in 1974, I find the upkeep and loneliness of a home is too much for me.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

The boy who drank too much was (and is) not alone. There are certainly others who share his dilemma. I personally believe, however, that the title of the movie implies that a little drinking is all right, while most of the Baptist faith disdain drinking in any quantity. I am constantly reminded that he who never takes a drink can never become an alcoholic.

We remember too the Word of the Lord: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1).

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUES

Convention Place: White Oak Free Will Baptist Church
Bladenboro, North Carolina

Date and Time: March 8, 1980
9:30 A. M., Registration

Convention Theme: "Fear Not, Stand Still and See"

"I thank God for the Retirement Homes and the people whose contributions make it possible for us to live as one happy family.

With a grateful heart,
Winifred Holt"

(We welcome Mrs. Holt as the newest member of our Retirement Homes family.)

A PRAYER FOR COMPASSION

by Frank Ray Harrison

Lord, can we hear the children crying? Can we hear the voice of the hungry, while we are warm and well-fed? Yes, Lord, there is a child who is sick, whose frail body is almost lifeless from the ravages of hunger and disease.

There is the aged, Lord, who have no home and no place to be. They are bent with age and time.

Lord, there are those whose wounds are not cleaned and

cared for—wounds from bullet and rocket mortar. They despair of life rather than live under tyranny and dictatorship.

Lord, there are those whose land is dry and parched in the heat of the sun. They have no rain and no crops, while we have abundance.

Lord, there are those within the prison walls and imprisoned in the darkness of illiteracy and poverty. They will be emotionally and intellectually crippled throughout their life.

Lord, do I hear your voice? "For I was hungry, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger and ye took me in: naked and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison and ye came unto me . . . Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:35-40).

Lord, give me a compassionate heart to share my life and your message with your children.

Amen.

NOTICE

There will be a Revision Committee Meeting on March 3 at 9:30 a. m. at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina.

BEAUFORT MISSION PROGRESS REPORT

by James H. Gurganus, Pastor



Beaufort Mission

The Beaufort Original Free Will Baptist Mission is now in its new location on the West Beaufort Road, Beaufort, North Carolina. We have 4.79 acres of land financed with the Church Finance Association.

In May of 1979 Mr. Tom Tunstall of Tom's Mobile Homes, New Bern, North Carolina, gave the mission a 12' x 60' mobile home that had suffered fire damage but had been valued at \$1,000. The unit has been renovated and redesigned into a mobile church with two Sunday school rooms and two restrooms and a sanctuary area that will seat 48 to 58 people. The mission furnished the materials and the men of Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Brotherhood furnished most of the labor for the project.

The road frontage of the lot is 172 feet and Carteret Construction Company of Newport cleared, filled in, leveled the front 100 feet, and put marl in the parking lot and driveway at a cost of \$3,332.30 This was at a discount of over \$1,100 of the normal cost.

Angola Free Will Baptist Church furnished the material and the Rev. Luther Swinson built a nice sign for the mission.

Mr. Nolan Burns, a plumber in Beaufort, furnished part of the restroom fixtures and installed plumbing as a donation to the mission. Holly Springs church furnished the remainder of the fixtures.

The youth of Holly Springs church have donated sixty folding chairs, and Holly Springs church has donated around \$4,000 at various times.

Sound View Free Will Baptist Church has supported with a regular offering in excess of \$125 each quarter.

Coastal Solar Equipment Company of Newport has installed a water source heat pump at a discount of over \$900.

The State Home Mission Department and the Eastern Conference Mission Board have furnished three-fourths of the pastor's salary and other support.

The Carteret Union sponsored a rally for the Beaufort Mission. They had set a goal of \$1,500 and received over \$2,700.

Last, but certainly not least by any stretch of the imagination, the mission members and regular attending non-members have done their part with tithes, offerings, work, and witnessing.

Attendance has increased since moving to the new location from an average of 22 to around 30, and one new member has been added. The weekly offerings have averaged \$174 per week. Previously there were two Sunday school classes, adult and little folks. A junior class has now been added. Everything is paid for, with the exception of the land, and all regular bills are being paid with no difficulty and the building fund is increasing.

God has richly blessed us and we give Him the praise for it!

HAYMOUNT MISSION PROGRESS REPORT

by Taylor Hill

The Haymount Mission is getting along very well; it was established in May of 1976.

Many people are accepting Christ and becoming members. The present attendance for worship is approximately eighty. The mission gave approximately three thousand dollars to other denominational enterprises last year and over two thousand dollars for local benevolence.

They carry on an active youth program, ladies auxiliary, and layman's league.

They minister to a local residence home on a regular basis and have always been self-supporting.

We are very fortunate here that God has blessed us with concerned and faithful members to help carry on this ministry and we appreciate all of our friends throughout our denomination.

February is

Christian

Education

Month

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

CHURCH OF THE MONTH

THE
FREE
WILL
BAPTIST

BLACK JACK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Route 3, Greenville, North Carolina
Cedric D. Pierce Jr., Pastor

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DURHAM, N.C.



DON'T BE TAKEN IN BY THE GLITTER

More than a few popular singers have confessed belief in Christ as their Saviour, yet their songs carry the same types of messages as before their purported conversions.

At least one burlesque queen has vowed allegiance to Christ and insists that it is her duty to Him to keep her body beautiful and share it with others. What for? To feed the lustful nature of those men who frequent the establishment where she "performs for the Lord"?

At least one publisher of pornography made headlines a few years ago when he confessed faith in Christ, and made greater headlines when he stated that the subject matter of his publication would not change, that there was nothing sinful about his sex-filled material, that it was God-given and made to be enjoyed.

It has become almost fashionable for figures in the public eye, including Hollywood stars, to voice a passing interest in Christianity, if not active involvement. Talk shows are replete with the glitter world variety of transformed individuals who talk about God but who reportedly indulge in the same habits and frequent the same night spots as their non-professing colleagues. Talking without living amounts to nothing.

More than one transformed (or perhaps reformed—there is a difference) star has written a book about his or her experiences "from sinner to saint." And, admittedly, many seem to be authentic conversion stories. Others seem to be, at the very least, a little padded, and, except for the popularity of the performer/author, would offer little appeal to most readers.

Such books supposedly tell it like it is—or was. Something within the inquisitive nature of the reading audience wants to know the sordid details of the way things were before the performer had a change of heart and decided to seek and follow God's will.

And performers are not alone. It has gotten to the place where politicians can commit wrongs and write an account of what, where, why, how, and with whom—and have a best seller. If they aren't literate enough to write for themselves there is always a ghost writer or co-author available who is skilled in tapping the interest wells of the public. In some instances convicted felons have been crooks going into prison and have become heroes coming out.

The face of society is marred with more than a few blemishes. But we have come to expect bad news, and only at the expressed dismay of older, more established moral persons, do we take a second, more critical, look at what's going on.

Where are those quiet, consistently faithful Christians who have lived exemplary lives for so many years? Why aren't they

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FEBRUARY 27, 1980

Volume 95 Tommy Manning, Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect the spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and address to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptist" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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History of Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church

by Alice Mills Elks

A Free Will Baptist church was begun as early as 1831 at Black Jack, which is located in the southeastern section of Pitt County. Ancestors have handed down the word that prior to this there was a log meeting house of worship in the community. To meet the spiritual needs of the people, it might have been used by ministers or traveling evangelists of different church denominations.

On August 17, 1831, William Mills sold a parcel of land to Urias Elks, Robert Dixon, and Jordan Cox, appointed trustees for the Free Will Baptist Church Meeting House, which was intended to be built at the crossroads between William Mills and Harvey Mills. This deed was registered in 1835 and witnessed by Noah Arnold and Ares Buck. The church was named the Imitation Free Will Baptist Church Meeting House. One of the initial trustees, Urias Elks, died in 1852 at the age of ninety-six. His obituary in *The North State Whig* newspaper stated that he had been a member of the Baptist church for forty years. At the Bethel Conference in 1838, another trustee, Jordan Cox, was petitioned by the Imitation church to be ordained at the next annual conference. The Imitation Free Will Baptist Church reported at the conference in 1845 that it had twenty-four members on roll and preaching each first Sunday.

From 1851 to 1860 Cullen Smith was treasurer of the church and recorded the names of male members who were assigned dues in a handsewn book that has been preserved through the years. He noted that Noah Arnold

was treasurer prior to himself. Under the heading of Imitation Meeting House, one entry showed that John S. Dixon was paid for furnishing the church with basins, towels, pitcher, and candles. Other entries denote payments to William Dixon and P. W. Arnold for communion, and to Cullen Smith for keeping house. After Cullen Smith's last treasury report at the end of 1860 no more records were kept until an unidentified treasurer wrote financial entries from April, 1865, to October, 1871, in the same book.

During the Civil War the church house was sometimes used as a shelter for Confederate soldiers, so on Saturday, March 26, 1864, the Federals burned it. A wooden plank church was built back with two front doors, with the men and women using separate doors and sitting on separate sides of the church. When the new building was constructed its name was changed to Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church and appeared thus so in the 1871 conference minutes, which also reported ninety-seven members on the church roll.

Elder Oliver Harper was a pastor of the church for a considerable number of years during this time. Other pastors of the church during this era are not known, but records show that Elder Bryan Heath officiated at marriages and funerals of the church populace during 1876 and Elder W. H. Slaughter from 1887 through 1889. A newspaper account of a wedding held in the church in 1883 stated that Elder A. A. Tyson was the officiant.

Turn the Page

The church has a complete record of church minutes from 1894 to the present date. The following seven clerks served the church during these eighty-five years: Adam Gaskins, 1894-1905; John A. Clark, 1905-1911; W. Lafayette Clark, 1911-1924; John S. Dixon, 1924-1948; Adam Glen Gaskins, 1948-1964; Morris Elwood Elks, 1964-1977; and Harry Allen Jones Jr., 1977 to this time.

Elder Malachi Linton was pastor of the church in 1894 and ministers who served the church thereafter were Elders W. H. Laughinghouse, 1894-1896; B. B. Albritton, 1896-1897; W. H. Laughinghouse, 1897-1898 (recalled); T. N. Manning, 1898-1903; Willis Lupton, 1903-1905; T. H. Barnhill, 1905-1906; Willis Lupton, 1906-1909 (recalled); C. J. Harris, 1909-1911; J. T. Butler, 1911-1915; M. C. Prescott, 1915-1917; R. F. Daughety, 1917-1918; M. C. Prescott, 1918-1920 (recalled); Duffy Toler, 1920-1921; M. C. Prescott, 1921-1933 (recalled); the Revs. J. C. Griffin, 1933-1947; J. R. Davidson, 1947-1950; W. L. Moretz, 1950-1951; Sam R. Kennedy, 1951-1952; P. C. Wiggs, 1952-1952; Floyd B. Cherry, 1952-1968; Cedric D. Pierce Jr., 1968-1971; Harry A. Jones Sr., 1971-1972; Bobby G. Bazen, 1972-1978; and Cedric D. Pierce Jr., 1978 to the present time (recalled).

With the Lord's blessings the church flourished so greatly that by 1916, with a membership of 364, the existing building became inadequate and a building committee was appointed to contemplate building a new and bigger church house. In May, 1917, John A. Hudson, Lewis A. Arnold, and Nasby Mills were named as directors and empowered to make, sign, and receive any contracts in regard to building the new church. Upon completion in 1918, the church was furnished with new pews. In 1929, a bell was erected in the church steeple.

Over the years a tremendous building program has taken place at Black Jack. During the 1940's the church windows were replaced with memorial stained glass windows. A parsonage was built in 1950 and 1951, with the Rev. Sam Kennedy beginning his pastorate in the fall of 1951 and becoming the first occupant of the parsonage. The church voted to go on half-time preaching services at this time.

Sunday school rooms were added to the church building in 1947, in 1953, and again in

1956. Full-time preaching services began September, 1957. New pews and pulpit furniture were placed in the sanctuary in 1958. A fellowship building with kitchen facilities was constructed in 1960 and 1961 and named "The Cherry Educational Building" in honor of the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry. In 1966, the sanctuary and classroom wings were brick-veneered and new lights were installed in the sanctuary.

During the years, adjoining tracts of land were secured and annexed to the church property. In 1973, a nineteen-acre tract of land located across the street from the church, was purchased and has become the site for a Boy Scout hut, a parking lot, and a recreation field. A new educational annex was added to the church in 1977 at a cost of \$113,000. The church facility has central heating and air conditioning throughout. Three restrooms for men and three restrooms for women are appropriately situated in the building complex. Through prayers and offerings, the church is free of debt and has set up a sanctuary fund to completely renovate the interior of the sanctuary.

Besides supporting the other phases of the Free Will Baptist denominational activities, Black Jack church voted in 1975 to be a mother church to the Heritage Mission at Charlotte, North Carolina, and give it moral and financial support. The church voted to contribute \$3,000 to the Palawan Bible Institute in the Philippines for the 1979-80 church year. A men's softball team and Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops are sponsored by the church. Black Jack's Sunday school consists of eight departments and twenty-five classes. Other programs within the church include three Woman's Auxiliary Circles, a Girls' Auxiliary, Children's Church on Sunday mornings, and Family Circle on Wednesday nights. With a membership exceeding more than 700, the church felt a need for additional leadership, so in April, 1979, the church voted to employ a youth director.

Although the Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church has been the focal point of the community for one hundred and forty-eight years or more and through God's blessings it has grown and prospered, it must not rest upon the glories of the past, but strive for spiritual growth of its members and to bring the unsaved into the fold. The church's motto is "a friendly church, with a warm welcome." □

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

DISCOVER YOUR FUTURE AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Dr. Opey D. Jeanes
Vice President and Dean

Spring is the season of the year in which many high school students make important decisions concerning their selection of a college. This decision should be made only after one obtains the necessary information about colleges, programs, and available financial resources.

Mount Olive College is sponsoring two events during the month of March which should be of special interest to high school students and their parents who face decisions about college. A special Financial Aid Workshop will be held on Saturday, March 1, 1980, and Spring High School Day will be held on Saturday, March 22, 1980. The purpose of these events will be to share relevant information for high school students and their parents.

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

Mount Olive College and the North Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators are sponsoring a Financial Aid Workshop for students and their parents to acquaint them with resources that are available to assist with college expenses. This workshop will begin at 1 p. m. on Saturday, March 1. Information about various sources of available funding for scholarships, grants, loans, and student employment will be presented at this meeting. Resource persons from public and private colleges will make presentations and will be

available for specific questions by students and parents.

This workshop is open to all interested persons regardless of the college they—or their children—plan to attend.

SPRING HIGH SCHOOL DAY

The annual Spring High School Day will be held on the campus of Mount Olive College on Saturday, March 22, beginning at 9:30 a.m. and extending through lunch. The program will provide an overview of the educational opportunities available at Mount Olive College. It will include campus tours, special musical presentations, information sharing, and opportunities for conferences with faculty members, admissions staff, and the financial aid officer at the College. All high school students, their parents, church youth leaders and pastors are cordially invited to attend this important day.

Mount Olive College offers you an invitation to visit the College and share in these special events. It is our hope that these programs will provide answers to many of your questions and concerns about college.

PAUL PALMER COURSE BEGINS MARCH 10

A Paul Palmer course on "The History of the Free Will Baptist Church" will be taught by Dr. Michael Pelt beginning Monday, March 10, at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church from 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Unlike the regular Paul Palmer schedule, this course will run only four weeks. Books will be available the first class meeting and persons desiring to

take the course for non-certificate credit may do so for only \$10.

For more information, contact: Frank Harrison, Director; Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phone 658-2502.

COLLEGE PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, located on Highway 70 west, Sunday, March 2, at the 11 a.m. worship service.

The Rev. Mike Scott is pastor.

PREACHER'S DIARY

People don't trust other people these days, even those who are working diligently for Jesus. The reasons are usually because someone has disappointed them in the past. Jesus said, "No man, having put his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the Kingdom of God."

I see every new day as a new adventure, with new opportunities, discoveries and fresh ideas.

Satisfaction is imperative for a healthy relationship in religious circles as well as at home or on the job. I have seen recognition and achievement build morale and satisfaction while too much policy, administration and supervision have depressed and damaged many a person.

The Rev. C. L. Patrick

BETHANY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH of Winterville honors its pastor this week, the Rev. C. L. Patrick. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

WITH CALM SPIRIT AND DEDICATED PURPOSE



The Rev. and Mrs. C. L. Patrick

The Rev. C. L. Patrick is most often a quiet, unassuming man, but firm in conviction. His thoughts are deliberate, and voiced opinions are weighted with the wisdom of years and experience.

When questions are asked of C. L. Patrick, the answers are usually slow in coming because he seriously considers all the implications and believes every detail must be evaluated. He is a diplomat, a counsellor, a trusted confidant, a willing listener and advisor.

In a very quiet, calm way, he has been seen to mediate dissension, frequently quelling the tempest before its full fury

could be unleashed. His calmness of spirit and dedication of purpose are obvious trademarks of the man, and his gentle nature serves to strengthen his Christian example which is lived as a matter of course rather than plan. His steady faith is manifested in every action and heard in every shared conversation. His prayers are heart-reaching, simple yet eloquent, and a witness to his sincere belief in God and His Word.

At sixty-nine, Mr. Patrick still expresses interest in and is able to relate to young people. Many will remember revival meetings and other services in which he has told about "Bird Life in

Wingdom," a series of moral lessons having special appeal to young persons. He employs such stories effectively today; their message is eternal.

C. L. Patrick very quickly acknowledges his imperfections though those who have experienced his pastorate will just as quickly insist that his favorable qualities so outweigh his shortcomings that those few flaws are inconsequential.

It is for the aforementioned reasons, and many others, that the Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville North Carolina, feels especially privileged to have Christopher Lafayette Patrick as its pastor. A statesman among ministers Mr. Patrick has been seen to serve in various denominational positions of leadership—from the local church to the state body—and may be best remembered for his parliamentary expertise, having served as parliamentarian of the State Convention and Central Conference numerous times. In this capacity he also served the Central, Eastern, Western, and Cape Fear Conferences during the conflict between the State Convention and National Association. His present duties include being Assistant Moderator of the Central Conference.

Born in Ayden (August 17, 1911), Mr. Patrick was graduated from Ayden High School in 1929 and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After four years' service with the U.S. Marine Corps (1932-36), he married Clara Smith of Winterville, October 12, 1937.

His conversion experience is recorded at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, April, 1940; and he was licensed to preach by the Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church (Ayden) in 1946. He served as minister for the Greenville Free Will Baptist Church immediately following his licensing. Ordination followed at the Greenville church, April 20, 1947, at which time he was

ected pastor and served until October, 1948. For a period of four years (1949-1952) he served several churches simultaneously: Free Union (Central), Pleasant Hill (Central), Lawson's Grove (Central), Smith's New Home (Eastern), Rose Hill (Central), and Trimsley (Central).

In November, 1952, he was called as full-time pastor of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg. One very notable aspect of his ministry is the fact that he pastored this church for 16 consecutive years. He was called to Bethany in November, 1978, and the members attest to progress of both a physical and spiritual nature since he assumed duties. Twenty-three members have been received at Bethany since Mr. Patrick came: seven by letter and 16 by baptism. Last fall it was noted that Bethany gave more per member at the Mount Olive College Benefit Dinner than any other church in Pitt County.

C. L. Patrick has been accorded many honors during his ministry. Of special significance is the Rural Minister of the Year Award (1964) granted by **The Progressive Farmer** magazine and Chandler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. He is the only North Carolina Free Will Baptist minister to have this distinction. Also, he was chosen Free Will Baptist Minister of the Year in 1970.

Mr. Patrick credits his wife, Clara, with having made possible much of his success as a minister and leader. She has always served at his side, lending her ability to all phases of church work: the youth, the choir, the Sunday school, and the woman's auxiliary. At Bethany she serves as director of the chancel choir and male chorus, is president of the woman's auxiliary, and on district and state levels is secretary of the Central District Woman's Auxiliary Convention and benevolent chairman for the

State Woman's Auxiliary Convention. She holds a life membership award in the woman's auxiliary.

The Patricks have three daughters and one son: Becky Clark, Barbara Herring, Sue Hamm, and Wayne Patrick. They are the proud grandparents of five grandchildren who obviously enjoy the stories of Wingdom told by their grandfather.

In a word, Bethany Free Will Baptist Church is happy with the Rev. C. L. Patrick as pastor. The members are thankful that God led such a dedicated man to them and pray His continued guidance as together they continue to serve.

Mrs. Jack Dail asserts the sentiments of the membership in the following statement:

"Bethany church has a rich heritage. Ministers who have served our church in the past have contributed to our growth through their God-given talents, and we are indebted to them for their leadership.

"In November, 1978, the Rev. C. L. Patrick accepted the pastorate of Bethany. The members were filled with joy and thanksgiving that our Lord through His guidance led Mr. Patrick to us. Each day of his stay with us has been another step up the spiritual ladder of growth. He and Mrs. Patrick set an example of a walk through life by faith in our Lord. Theirs is a life of love, service, and devotion for our Lord that finds greater meaning only when shared with others.

"Mr. Patrick, through his love for our Lord, his diligent study of the Word, and leadership of the Holy Spirit presents the gospel message in a way to stir people's hearts to daily seek a closer walk with God. His messages inspire us to recognize the needs of our fellowman in ministering to the needy, loving each other with a greater love, and having a burden for the lost.

"Mr. Patrick is a friend. He understands the deepest needs of

the people he meets. The love of our Lord abiding in his heart flows through him and touches the lives of all he meets. We at Bethany are so happy and humbly grateful to have this quiet, humble man of God, our Lord's ambassador in this sojourn of life, to lead us to greater heights that we might all together bring glory and praise to our Lord and Saviour."

FREE SPIRIT MISSION PROGRESS REPORT

by Dale Albertson, Pastor

Things are progressing marvelously at the mission here at Wilson. We have had five people saved and accepted into the church just recently, and we have two more who are awaiting baptism. I have never been so pleased as now in all the years that we have been working on the Home Mission field. It is as if God is pouring His blessings upon us; not only in material things but also in His peace and love.

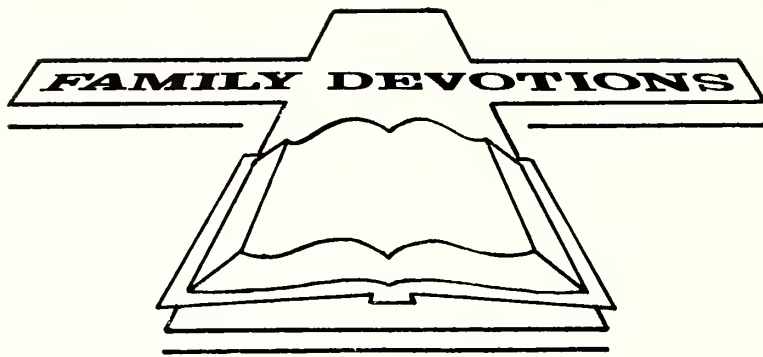
Attendance has been good during the past months. Our offerings have been meeting our expenses, and I see hope for a grand future at the mission. Praise God!

We are still looking forward to becoming self-supporting in the near future.

Remember, we love you all.

ATTENTION!

At the annual meeting of the Cragmont Assembly, Inc. stockholders, held January 7, 1980, at the Free Will Baptist Press, the following board of directors was elected: The Rev. Harry Grubbs, chairman; the Rev. DeWayne Eakes, vice-chairman; Mrs. Ruby Hancock, secretary; the Rev. Willis Wilson; Mrs. Sara Willoughby; the Rev. Gary Bailey; and Mr. Clyde Hines. Mr. John R. Watson was elected treasurer.



SUNDAY, MARCH 2

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 13:1-8

THROUGH FAITH

Through faith we understand
 The things we cannot know—
 The hidden pattern God has
 planned,
 And why each threat is so;
 We trace life's vast design
 And lose His golden strand,
 But when our wills with His
 entwine
 Through faith we understand.

Through faith we understand
 What to our sight is dim,
 And still Love's sweet, all-
 knowing hand
 Leads those who trust in Him.
 Ours not to know the way,
 But bow to His command;
 And when our childlike hearts
 obey,
 Through faith we understand.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Through faith we endure;
 through faith we see God;
 through faith we are saved;
 through faith we dwell with God.*

MONDAY, MARCH 3

Scripture Reading—Matthew 17:20-25

AS A MAN THINKETH

Amazing, but true! Psychologists have proven that if a person thinks often enough and long enough about committing a crime he will commit the crime, or at least try. They say, "What you believe is what you are."

Behind every wicked act is a process of wicked thinking. Murder is preceded by murderous thoughts; immorality is preceded by unclean thinking. It is impossible to think wickedly and do righteously. "As he (a man) thinketh in his heart, so is he." Outward actions and words are just the expressions of inner thoughts.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We must take care not to harbor evil thoughts in our minds and hearts. Pray for pure thoughts and purposes.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 13:14

SWEET COMMUNION

When you awoke from sleep this morning,
 Though the hour was rather late,
 Did you stop to speak with Jesus,
 And His benediction wait?
 Did you thank Him for His mercy,
 For His care through all the night,
 That no evil had befallen,
 That no tears now dim your sight?

Did you ask Him for the blessing
 Of His presence through the day,
 For His leading safely onward,
 For His guiding, lest you stray?
 Did you tell Him that you'd gladly
 Go wherever He would lead;

That you'd try to do His bidding
 Helping every soul in need?

If you go without these blessing
 As you start another day,
 Be assured your strength will
 fail you,
 And you'll faint along the way
 Oh, live closer to the Master;
 For unless you're very near,
 Words of love He whispers to you
 Will not reach your listening
 ear.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Each day must be begun with Christ in order for it to be successful. Neglect not a single opportunity to commune with Him.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:1-10

CHURCH MEMBER BEATITUDES

Blessed is he who will not strain at a drizzle and swallow a downpour.

Blessed is he who tries a little harder when all around say, "It can't be done."

Blessed is he whose program contains time for regular Bible reading.

Blessed is he who serves faithfully on a committee.

Blessed is the church official who is not pessimistic.

Blessed is he who loves his church before his business.

Blessed is he who can walk as fast to a religious service as to town.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Blessed is he who allows nothing to keep him from his church. God's house is the most logical place to find Him.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

Scripture Reading—John 3:16-18

A CHRISTIAN

Could I be called a Christian
 If everybody knew

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

My secret thoughts and feelings
And everything I do?
Could they see the likeness
Of Christ in me each day,
Could they hear Him
speaking
In every word I say?

Could I be called a Christian
If everyone could know
That I am found in places
Where Jesus would not go?
Could they hear His echo
In every song I sing
Eating, drinking, dressing
Could they see Christ in me?

Could I be called a Christian
If judged by what I read,
By all my recreation,
And every thought and deed?
Could I be counted Christlike
As I now work and pray,
Unselfish, kind, forgiving
To others everyday?

PRAYER THOUGHT

*A real Christian must be more
than good words and deeds. A
Christian is one who has ex-
perienced an inward change and
lives accordingly for Christ.*

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 5:7

HE CARETH FOR YOU
What can it mean? Is it aught to
Him
That the nights are long, and the
days are dim?
Can He be touched by the griefs
I bear
That sadden the heart and
whiten the hair?
About His throne are eternal
calms,
And strong, glad music, and
happy psalms,
And bliss unruffled by any
strife—
How can He care for my little
life?

And yet, I want Him to care for
me,
While I live in this life where
sorrows be!
When the lights die down from
the path I take,

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

When my strength is feeble, and
friends forsake;
When love and music, that once
did bless,
Have left me to silence and
loneliness,
And my life-song changes to
silent prayers,
Then my heart cries out to the
God who cares.

O wonderful story of deathless
love!
Each child is dear to the Heart
above!
He fights for me when I cannot
fight,
He comforts me in the gloom of
night,
He lifts my burden, for He is
strong,
He stills the sigh and awakes the
song;
The sorrow that brought me
down, He bears,
And loves and pardons, because
He cares!

So, all who are sad, take heart
again—
We are not alone in our hours of
pain;
Our Father stoops from His
throne above,
To soothe and quiet us with His
love;
He leaves us not, when the storm
is high,
And we have safety, for He is
nigh.
All of our troubles He truly doth
share;
Oh, rest in peace, for the Lord
doth care!

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The Lord cares and is with us
when all else have forsaken.
Don't discount the value of
sincere faith and trust in Him.*

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

Scripture Reading—Hebrews
6:5

MORE THAN 500,000,000
More than 500,000,000 volumes
of the Bible have been
distributed by the American
Bible Society since it was

founded in 1816. At that time, the
Bible had been translated into 73
languages. Today that number
has risen to 1130 languages and
dialects. The goal of the society
is the distribution of as many
copies of the Bible, and portions
of the Bible, during the next
twenty-five years as have been
distributed during the last 140
years.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The greatest, most important
book in the world is the Bible.
Let us make every effort to place
a copy within reach of every
person that all may benefit from
its message.*

Selected from *Knight's
Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter
B. Knight.

MINISTER ILL

The Rev. N. B. Barrow, pastor
of the Piney Grove Free Will
Baptist Church, Albertson,
suffered a heart attack, on
February 17, while visiting his
relatives in Cincinnati, Ohio.
Reports are that his condition is
stable at this time. His address
is the Rev. N. B. Barrow, Christ
Hospital, Seventh Floor, CCU,
2139 Auburn Avenue, Cincinnati,
Ohio 45219.

February is

Christian

Education

Month

CRAGMONT MEMORIES

by Sidney Clark

Everyone sighs with relief as the bus labors up the winding mountain road leading to that picturesque point on Mount Allen known as Cragmont Assembly. Hard work, around the year planning, and the people of the Free Will Baptist denomination make this beautiful mountain retreat a reality. All of us cherish memories of times gone by and rejoice in the times to come. Cragmont holds many cherished memories and also a promising future filled with growth both in Christ and in the church.

What makes Cragmont so special? Every individual has their own answer to that question. The children anticipate meeting new friends, or maybe greeting old friends. They enjoy learning about Christ, and get a chance to experience His love within the realm of Christian fellowship. Seeing people accept Christ for the first time or praying with someone who rededicates his life instills inspiration within our hearts.

The women relish the idea of leaving their kitchens behind. Cragmont furnishes the food, so they can spend most of their time relaxing, usually conversing while keeping the rockers warm or carousing on the footpath up the mountainside. The men also enjoy relaxing and the easy feeling that prevails throughout this cool, quiet, mountain atmosphere.

Reflecting on the past here at Cragmont Assembly, no other word adequately expresses my feelings other than gratitude. It was right here during the 1979 season that I decided to dedicate my life to full-time Christian service. Everyone we meet influences our lives, therefore, Christian fellowship is always important. Being involved here at Cragmont has put me within the border of Christian fellowship year-round. I would like to thank everyone in the

Free Will Baptist denomination for this opportunity to serve—especially the management and staff of the 1979 season. The 1980 camping season is quickly approaching and promises to be better than ever. So here's to the people that make it all possible, because without them, Cragmont would be a lonely place.

BUILD CHAPELS FOR MENTALLY RETARDED?

by Bobby C. Stallings

Why spend \$2 million to build chapels on the campuses of the State centers for the mentally retarded?

The best answer to that is a visit to a worship service at one of the centers.

A school auditorium serves as a sanctuary at one institution. The chaplain came early to move the pulpit and the piano out onto the stage.

As we arrive residents are coming to "church" from all areas of the campus. Some are pushing their friends in wheelchairs.

At the door of the school, several young men come quickly to shake your hand. One hands you a program and stands by until you have commented on it. Another shows you a card he received last Christmas.

The service begins with songs. The chaplain prays and reads

from the Bible. Several of residents are on the stage participate in the service.

The message is of God's love . . . for everyone. If God love you, then you must be all right because—as a sign in one of cottages notes—"God don't make no junk."

No, it isn't like the main street church service. At times, there's talk, vocal support for what the chaplain is saying about patience in trying to face some of the difficult things in life—things like tying a shoe or learning to write your name.

On this particular Sunday, one of the residents plays the piano and sings. It's a popular song—"You Light Up My Life"—and the light in her soul is God.

At the end of the service, the residents leave happy. Several stop to hug you, or to comment on your tie or their new caps, to ask, "When are you going to get us a real chapel?"

Sometimes the Lord
calms the
storm; sometimes He
lets the storm rage
and calms His child.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUES

Convention Place: White Oak Free Will Baptist Church
Bladenboro, North Carolina

Date and Time: March 8, 1980
9:30 A. M., Registration

Convention Theme: "Fear Not, Stand Still and See"

Committed

to Make Him Known

To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom (Psalm 145:12).

By C. F. Bowen

INDIA—a land of religions, people, and poverty. The name **India** comes from **Sindu**, a name given to the river Indus. From **Sindu** came the words **Hind** and **Ind**, meaning “the land beyond the Indus.” The people of India later became known as **Hindus**.

Second only to China in population—about 500 persons per square mile as compared to our sixty per square mile—and most of these live in northern India where Dr. Immanuel Lall, our missionary, serves as the head of our work.

The principal religions of India are Hinduism or Brahmanism, Sikhism, Islam, and Christianity. Only about two out of every 100 are Christians. One of our great commitments is to make known to these “sons of men” the “mighty acts” of our Lord, that they may share the “glorious majesty of his kingdom” with us.

Dr. Lall is doing a good work with his people, and you have helped him more than you know. For instance, in the picture below you see Dr. Lall (extreme right) presenting one of the bicycles you helped purchase to two of his pastors (extreme left and center). There are many

other bicycles which take these and other pastors to their people. They joyfully go and boldly tell of the Christ who alone can save India.

That we may do a little more toward making Him known there, we dedicate the month of March in a concerted effort to witness in this land of religions, people, and poverty.

Will you join us in this endeavor?

What We Can Do

We can help Dr. Lall and our mission work in India, especially during March, by doing the following:

1. Use the special foreign mission inserts in your church bulletins during the month.

2. Arrange a missionary program on March 16 in the morning service, built around the theme given above, using Psalm 145:12 as a scriptural background. We hope our pastors will preach on this text that day. If March 23 is better, use that Sunday.

3. In this special service, receive an offering for foreign missions. Then join in the great TELETHON that day by calling (919) 734-5946 and telling Mr. Ingram how much you are sending to missions in March, or what your people have pledged to give.

4. Finally, please pray a great deal for missions during March. Ask each class and other organizations to spend some time in prayer each Sunday. This is a mission to remember; we believe you will help.



JoyFULLY GO... BOLDLY TELL

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 9

JUDAS ISCARIOT

Lesson Text: John 12:3-6; 13:21-30

Memory Verse: John 13:21

I. INTRODUCTION

A man once discovered a nest of newly hatched rattlesnakes. He killed many of them, and others escaped before he could kill them, but one of the tiny snakes he kept alive. He took it home with him and cared for it, feeding it by hand each day.

The snake not only survived; it began to grow. A strong attachment began to develop between the man and the snake. It would take food from his hands and he could play with it, coiling it about his arms and neck. The snake continued to grow, and even after it was four feet long it remained quite gentle and harmless. The owner often displayed the snake to visitors, who went away marveling that a poisonous snake could be so trained. Then one day, while the man was playing with it, the snake, in a split second and without warning, reverted to its vicious nature. With a speed almost quicker than sight, the snake struck, burying its fangs deep into the owner's throat. In a few minutes the man lay dead, smitten by the creature he had cared for and befriended.

We have nothing but fear and contempt for a wild beast that will turn on its benefactor. How much greater is our contempt for a human being who in like manner will turn and strike down his benefactor! Is there any wonder, then, that the name of Judas has been a name of infamy through the centuries?

Today's lesson and the two that follow it deal with persons who knew Jesus or had the opportunity to know Him. Yet that experience, instead of becoming a rich blessing, became the basis of a terrible judgment upon their lives.

The events recorded in today's lesson text occurred during the last few days of Jesus' earthly ministry. The first incident took place in the town of Bethany just east of Jerusalem. John tells us that it was six days before the Passover.

The second incident occurred during the last supper. There Jesus pointed out Judas as the traitor, and Judas, once identified, left the upper room to consummate his wicked plot.
—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Few experiences scar a person's life more than to be betrayed by someone whom he thought was his close friend. A business partner embezzles money from the firm, thereby robbing one who trusted in him. A "best friend" alienates the affections of a neighbor's wife, thereby destroying two homes and perhaps several friendships. A young man betrays the trust of a lovely girl in a burning moment of uncontrolled sexual activity, thereby ruining her life—and his, though he may not think so. The list of examples is endless because the ease with which betrayal is carried out is ever too apparent.

B. All the above examples of betrayal, and thousands like them, are bad. But the most infamous betrayal the world has ever known was perpetrated and

executed by one of those close to the most faithful Man the world has ever known. The betrayer was Judas Iscariot; he betrayed, Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The events leading up to that betrayal form the basis of our lesson today. Lying in the background—fueling the flame of betrayal—were the attitudes, the greed, the subtle temptations.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. "Rejecting Life's Best" is the theme of the unit which begins with this lesson and continues for two more Sunday lessons. The persons we will study in these three lessons all had the opportunity of experiencing meaningful and lasting relationships with Jesus Christ. Because of greed or expediency they rejected the opportunity and missed out on life's greatest blessing.

B. All great movements have had their weaklings—some even had traitors, betrayers of the people's trust. The American Revolution had its Benedict Arnold; in World War II Norway had its Quisling; and Jesus' apostles had their Judas Iscariot.

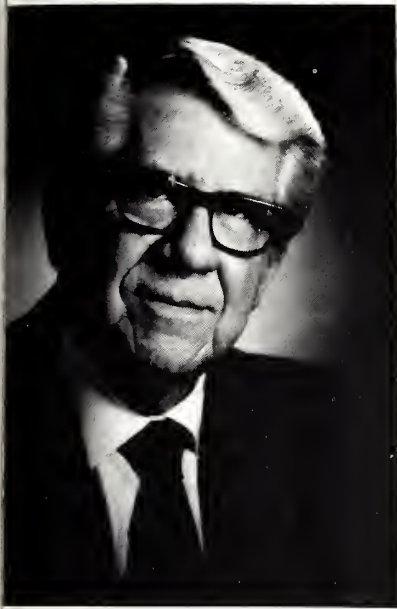
C. Aside from the necessity of the sacrifice of Christ as foretold in Isaiah 53, what could have been the forces at work in the tragic man to cause him to betray the greatest Friend he ever had on earth? Are there any similarities between Judas and ourselves? Before anyone becomes incensed at such a question, let him go with us in this lesson and then draw his own conclusions.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Barry had a chance to attend the university, having a good scholarship, and could have chosen an admirable vocation in life. Instead, he gave all this up to spend his life trying to find satisfaction in the things of the world. He died at an early age because of dissipation. What was wrong?—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

**Revival at
Rose of Sharon Church**



The Rev. C. F. Bowen

Revival services will be held March 3 through March 7 at the Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church, Bear Grass, North Carolina. The Rev. C. F. Bowen will be the evangelist. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 p.m.

The revival is sponsored by the youth of the church. An invitation is extended to all. The Rev. Ronnie V. Hobgood is pastor.

**Robert's Grove Church
to Have Revival Services**

Revival services will begin Monday night, March 3, and will continue through Friday night, March 7, at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina. The evangelist will be the Rev. Ray Wells of Wilson. Services will start at 7:30 p.m. Special music will be rendered each night by the chancel choir, chapel choir, cherubs, and the quartet.

The pastor, the Rev. A. B. Bryan, and the church membership are asking all Christians to pray with them that they will have a great revival.

**Revival Services
At Micro Church**

Revival services will be held at Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Micro, North Carolina, March 3 through March 7. The time of the services is 7:30 each evening. The Rev. J. C. Yates will be the guest speaker. Special singing will be rendered each night. The pastor, the Rev. Roland C. Cherry, extends a warm welcome to everyone to attend.

**Teachers' Appreciation Banquet
Held at Winterville Church**

The Winterville Free Will Baptist Church Sunday School observed a Teachers' Appreciation Banquet on January 13, at the Winterville Community Building. Assistant Superintendent Karl McLawhorn gave the welcome. Leo Tripp gave the invocation. A valentine motif was used throughout. Red candles, greenery, valentines, hearts, and cupids created a lovely atmosphere for the delicious meal.

Superintendent Ron Braxton gave devotions followed by a short message by Pastor Bobby Futrell. The V I P class was in charge of the program. Emerson Hobgood and Debby Gray rendered special music. Erwin Hines led the group in writing valentine poems. Billy Churchill was declared the best poet and received a box of candy. The speaker for the occasion was Billy Peede. He delighted the guests with his humorous "Jerry Clower" type stories.

Gladys Corbett, Cradle Roll teacher for 17 years, and her

husband, Guy Corbett, who has taught the Nobles Men's Class for 18 years, were honored. They received a bouquet of red carnations. Other teachers honored were: Ginevra Hardee, Clyde Hines, Leah McGlohon, Arlyn Branch, Louise Hines, Randolph Harris, Lena Churchill, Billy Churchill, Jack Weathersby, Bruce Gray, John Vernelson, Pallie Avery, Emerson Hobgood, Greg Smith, Donald Ribeiro, Rachel Wade, Delois Wingate, Cathy Vincent, Linda McLawhorn, and Annette Cayton.

John Vernelson pronounced the benediction.

**Singing Group at
Gum Swamp Church**

The Young Believers from Raleigh will be in concert at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, March 2, at 7 p.m. A freewill offering will be received. The public is invited for an hour of gospel singing. The Rev. Bobby Taylor is pastor.

**Special Presentation
At Rose of Sharon Church**



The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood and Mr. Marvin S. Cowan

On Sunday, January 27, 1980, Mr. Marvin S. Cowan was presented an appreciation award for serving the church as treasurer for 53 years. His pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, made the presentation. Mr. Cowan is a deacon in the church and is a very hard worker for the Lord.

(Continued on Page 16)

Quarterly Yoke Letter

VOLUME XXII

MARCH, 1980

NUMBER

Dear Friends:

The revolution in Iran which has shaken people all over the world, is significant, partly because it represents one extreme answer to the perennial question of church and state. The answer so confidently given to the world by the Ayatollah Khomeini, is that of a total rejection of any tension between religion and government. The tension is eliminated by the simple device of maintaining that the ecclesiastical and the political spheres are and **should be identical** in scope. The Ayatollah claims to have rejected all secularism and to have established a state that is completely dependent upon Moslem ideology. The basis of all law, therefore, is the divinely revealed Koran, and right and wrong are what the spiritual leaders say that it is.

That this simplistic solution of the problem of church and state is violently evil is obvious to the great majority of thinking persons. A problem is indeed solved, but the price of the solution is high. It is the price of the rejection of the freedom of the individual person. We do not have to be very wise to see that the Ayatollah's plan will eventually be rejected, however fanatical his following may now be. The clock cannot be turned back!

In strong contrast to Iran, the major danger of our western culture lies, not in the identification of religion and government, but at the opposite end of the spectrum, i.e. in **total separation**. Very strong forces are at work to produce a system in which there is a total rejection of all religious influences. The drive in this direction is to be observed on many fronts, one of which is the practical

elimination of religious influence from the public schools. The popular view is that prayer cannot be part of education. Part of the sorrow of our situation lies in the fact that those who would drive a wedge between religion and education have been remarkably successful, but their very success may be rationally seen as one of the causes of the manifest decline in the quality of the schools.

If the fanatical separatists could have their way there would be no more connection between God and government in the United States than there is in Russia. The full taxation of church property is naturally one of the goals of those who are fanatically dedicated to separation of church and state.

Fortunately the positions of the Iranians and of the American separatists do not exhaust the logical possibilities. There is a **third way!** What we seek and what we partly have in North America is a pattern of life equidistant from either theocracy or secularism. We seek a vision of wholeness in which all aspects of experience, including the political and governmental, are influenced by a positive and conscious spiritual ideal. We think, and with good reason, that the best life for mankind is that in which we act justly, love mercy and walk humbly (see Micah 6:8), and we do not see much evidence that a purely secular state is likely to promote the ideals which the good life requires. Indeed, there is evidence that pure secularism leads normally to pagan self-aggrandizement. If people have no conviction that there is an objective moral order, rooted in the very being of Almighty God, the forces which inhibit self-interest are not likely to be

sufficiently strong to produce really good society. Even with all of the accumulated spiritual forces of history, we do manifestly inadequate job; what would it be like if the spiritual influences should cease to operate entirely?

We do not want to have a nation dominated by any particular religion and we do not want a nation which is independent of all religion. To get out of the gutter of ecclesiasticism is no gain if, as a consequence, we fall into the opposite gutter of sheer paganism. That is why we print on our money "In God We Trust," and adorn the walls of Congress with the same reverent words. We are thereby saying, in a most vivid fashion, that we dare not depend upon our own unaided powers. We know that we need all of the help that we can get. There are, of course, radicals who sneer at the famous motto, which was first adopted under the leadership of Abraham Lincoln, but we hope that those who sneer are never able to prevail.

The most solid barrier faced by those who seek to remake the United States of America into a purely secular state, without any reference to the will of Almighty God, is the Federal Thanksgiving. When they claim, as many do, that there is no legal connection between our government and the love of God, they are overlooking Thanksgiving Day. It is an important part of our history that, beginning with President Lincoln in 1863, every succeeding president has called this nation to an expression of prayer and gratitude. Anyone who overlooks this fact is not likely to understand the development of American culture. Here is

something totally different from the continuation of some local colonial pattern. It is, instead, a declaration by the highest elected officer of the nation speaking to all, of every faith or no faith. It is, indeed, one of the most beautiful things that has occurred in our total history.

It brings a certain clarification of mind to try to see the distinction between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Christmas is chiefly for Christians, though not limited to them, but it was not instituted by government, whereas Thanksgiving has been. Christmas comes because Christ was born; Thanksgiving comes because Abraham Lincoln and all of his successors have perceived that **God can call a nation.** We may fail to respond to the call, but that is no evidence that we are not called.

At this point, a small addition to my autobiography may be in order. Fortunately, I attended a High School which, with no apology whatever, encouraged both excellence and reverence. The Christian commitment of our Principal was well understood throughout the entire community. All of our assemblies began with Scripture and prayer and, on one afternoon a week, I attended, at the close of school, a meeting of the High School Y.M.C.A. From this potent organization teams of young men were sent to the surrounding towns, and I was one of those involved.

Was this a breaking of the wall of separation between church and state? It most certainly was, and for that we can be grateful. Moreover, the action of the devout Principal accorded with the wishes of the overwhelming majority of the citizens. Why should they be denied such a boom? Was it a denial of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States? Most certainly not. So far as denominations are concerned, there was no "establishment of religion." Our Principal was indeed a Methodist, but there

was not even a hint of the establishment of Methodism. No student was forced to attend the meetings of the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. and no one was made to feel like an outsider. I never felt any pressure to conform.

As I have thought carefully about the matter in succeeding years I have realized that, in our High School, we were being faithful to the First Amendment, which, as is sometimes forgotten, has a positive as well as a negative emphasis. Congress, we are told, shall make no law concerning religion which prohibits "the free exercise thereof." Our beautiful assemblies, like our learning of the Latin text of Christmas carols, were examples of "free exercise." The notion that this was harmful to anyone else is so preposterous that only a fanatic would take it seriously.

It is important to realize that those who now put great stress on the separation of church and state, leading, in practice, to the

enthronement of a dogmatic atheism, are really proposing a radical alteration in the entire character of America. The burden of proof is upon them, not upon the defenders of a noble heritage.

Modern Russia claims to be a wholly secularized state, just as contemporary Iran claims to be totally Islamic. In Russia, the idea of prayer in the Kremlin gatherings is unthinkable, while in Iran the absence of prayer is equally unthinkable. We can be grateful for the fact that we belong to a nation which however numerous our failures may be, seeks a third way. We are glad that our Congress opens with prayer for divine guidance; we are glad that, at inaugurations, we still employ the Holy Bible; we are glad that we appoint chaplains in prisons and the armed forces. When there is such a wonderful middle way, it is strange that anyone opts for either gutter.

Sincerely,
D. Elton Trueblood

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE

REUNION AND RALLY

March 15, 1980 at 7:00 P.M.

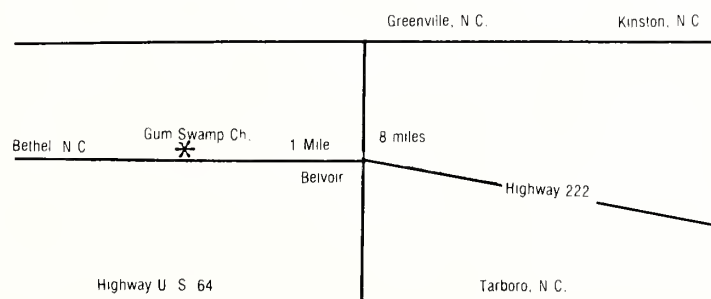
Where

Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church
Route 6, Box 147-A
Greenville, North Carolina 27834

MEET your camping FRIENDS,
SEE slides of camp 1979,
SINGING and special music,
Counselors would like to see YOU again.

Campers, parents and friends, we will see you for this special service. Enjoy a wonderful time of REUNION, RALLY and WORSHIP.

Gum Swamp church is located off Highway 33 near Belvoir



NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 13)

Deacon Ordination Service At Sweet Gum Grove Church

On Sunday, February 3, at 10 a.m., Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes, North Carolina, held a deacon's ordination service for Herbert Brown.

The service was opened with the congregation singing, "Give of Your Best to the Master," followed with prayer by Willie Briley. A special, "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," was sung by the choir.

The Rev. David Hill, pastor of the church, read Scripture from Acts 6:1-7 stating that just as Stephen, the first deacon, was tried, so will men who are chosen to lead the church, but not to be afraid but do as God leads them. After reading from Acts 10:9-16, he said he thought this was God's way of showing Peter that the Gentiles were just as eligible as the Jews to receive Jesus. Then reading from Romans 8:28, 31, 33, he stated, "Who are we to criticize when we are not perfect ourselves and if God be for us who can be against us." His last Scripture was taken from 2 Timothy 3.

Mr. Hill read the oath to Herbert, followed by the charge of service to the deacons and their wives. The deacons gathered at the altar with Herbert; the pastor leading in prayer committing Herbert into the Lord's hands for service. The deacons' wives, with the treasurer and his wife, joined with the deacons after which a prayer was said in behalf of the wives.

The church gave the right hand of fellowship to Mr. Brown and expressed their love and appreciation to the other deacons and their wives who are Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Meek, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Barnhill, Mr. and

Mrs. Esper Futrell, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Briley, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Brown, and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Brown.

On Monday night, February 4, at 7 p.m. there was a covered dish supper in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Brown with the minister, his wife, and deacons and their wives. A wonderful fellowship was had by all.

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARY SECRETARIES

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention will be held on Thursday, March 20, 1980, at Saint's Delight Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton, North Carolina. Directions to the church are as follows: From New Bern, take Highway 17 north through Bridgeton, cross the railroad tracks, go about one-half mile, turn right at the Old Country store. From Washington-Greenville, take Highway 17 south about 3 miles from New Bern, turn left at the Old Country store.

There is a church sign at this turn. The church is a short distance down this road (Aurora Road) on the right.

The report blanks have been mailed. If your auxiliary does not receive one by March 6, please contact me at Route 1, Box 294-A, New Bern, North Carolina 28560, or 745-3539 by phone. If your auxiliary is no longer active, please return the blank and so state. We need to update our records. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

We would like to set a record and have 100 percent reporting to this convention.

I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Carol Prescott, Secretary
Eastern District Auxiliary
Convention

CHURCHES PARTICIPATING IN THE WIDOW'S FUND

Please note that one minister has died since our last announcement: the Rev. Lesh Hawley. Gifts of \$50 are now due from those churches participating in the program. Please respond accordingly.

Churches will be notified through THE FREE WILL BAPTIST when a participating minister dies.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

thrust to the forefront as the way folks ought to be? Perhaps they aren't glamorous enough to merit public attention, and because of their calm attitudes they lack the appeal of the too-good-to-be-true limelighters. These unsung heroes of the faith must deserve some mention.

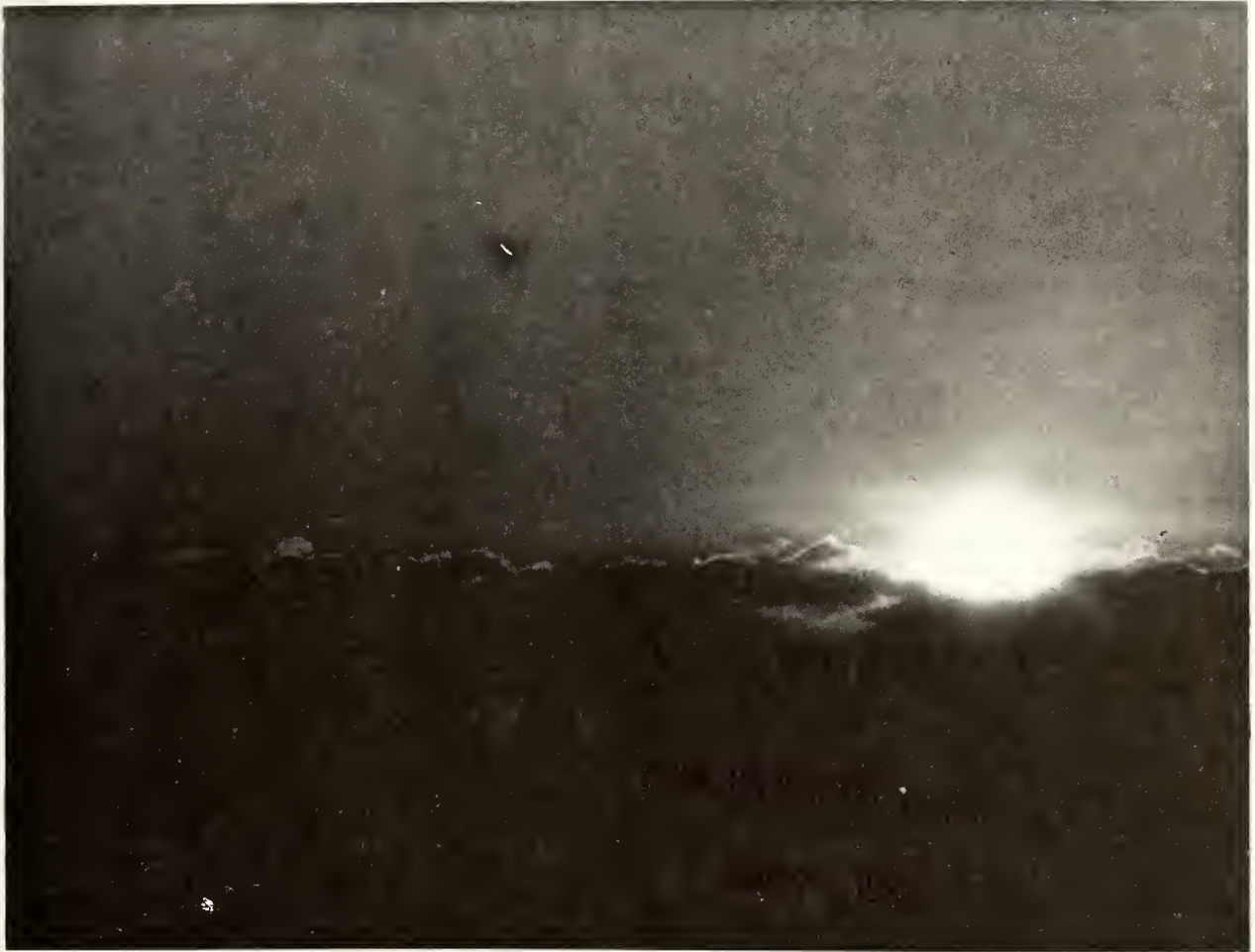
Lest we be misunderstood, let it be known here that we personally applaud anyone—from Hollywood to skid row—who has experienced true conversion and is willing to share it. What we detest, however, is the way too many big-timers capitalize on "the most wonderful thing that ever happened" to them. A book here, a talk show appearance there (in dollars and cents) amount to more than a token.

If anyone claims Christ for the sake of popularity or with the intention of personal gain—financial, political, or whatever—there is cause for serious doubt as to what power compelled the change.

Gold plate is far less valuable than the solid metal. And gold-plated Christians will not long endure—despite the constant polishing.

DS
F857W

OUT-OF-THE-BODY EXPERIENCES—AND DREAMS



DURHAM, N.C.

Will they be
persuaded if one
comes back from the
dead and tells about
out-of-the-body
experiences?

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

OUT-OF-THE-BODY EXPERIENCES AND DREAMS

It is amazing how many persons have claimed to have died and come back to tell about out-of-the-body experiences. A select few claim to have come bodily and spiritually into the presence of Christ and state how they had seen Him face to face and had talked to Him. Others have described glimpses of Heaven and Hell and have related the splendors of the former and the horrors of the latter.

It was about fifteen years ago that the first such experience was reported as factual through the pages of a popular magazine. The man described in the article told about seeing and conversing with departed loved ones (who had gone to the other side) and expounded upon the immense joy of the place. When brought back to the earthly realm, he expressed regret at having had to leave the spiritual plane he had just visited.

Since that time, numerous other accounts have been exploited through magazine articles, newspaper stories, television segments, and recorded interviews. The experiences seem to have a common ingredient—happiness. Some skeptics might describe it as delirium. At least one psychologist I talked to suggested that those who tell of such experiences (while sincere) are in actuality recounting hallucinatory happenings.

We can't help questioning the validity of reports of out-of-the-body experiences. But credibility doesn't seem too hard to come by when physicians, men of science, and ministers attest to having such true life personal experiences themselves. And to make matters even more believable, the same or similar accounts of death-and-life experiences have been told by the simple and uneducated, those who seemingly have nothing to gain by possibly trumping up accounts.

But I personally doubt that **anyone** has died and gone to Heaven or Hell and been allowed to come back to tell about it.

We remember the account in Luke 16 about the rich man and Lazarus, the beggar. We remember how the rich man fared sumptuously and how Lazarus hungered for the crumbs that fell from his table. When both died, Lazarus was carried to Abraham's bosom (accepted by most as the Paradise of God, or Heaven). The rich man found himself in Hell and cried for mercy, begging that Lazarus might be allowed to return to earth to the home of the rich man's father that he might testify to members of his family, lest they join him (the rich man) in the place of torment. "If one went unto them from the dead, they will repent," insisted the rich man.

The answer: "If they hear not Moses and the prophets (the Word of God), neither will they be persuaded, **though one rose from the dead.**"

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MARCH 5, 1980

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Number 3

Tommy Manning, Editor

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and address to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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LENT

What About It?

Mrs. A. B. Bryan

It is possible that over the years you have heard something about Lent. This year Lent began with Ash Wednesday, February 20, and ends on Easter Sunday, April 6.

Observing Lent can be a rewarding experience. In this article I want to share some ideas as to how it can be a rich spiritual experience for you. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon and conveys the idea of "Spring" or "Long days." Its true meaning is of great spiritual value. We refer to the biblical practice and doctrine of repentance, self-examination, and preparation. Lent is closely associated with the experience of Job on the ash heap, the repentance of Nineveh, the sacrificial life of John the Baptist, and the forty-day temptation of Jesus in the wilderness. We can use Lent to prepare for the Easter celebration which in its true meaning gives true life to the church.

The fourth-century Christians used Lent as a season of spiritual exercises to prepare them for Easter. The church then developed a Christian understanding and even adopted the yearly cycle

of the events in the life of Christ. Lent was observed by the whole church up to the Reformation. In the sixteenth century the reformers insisted on removing certain ceremonial rites along with other Christian seasons. In opposition to the Roman church, the reformers concluded that the Lenten observances were an unnecessary evil and as much as possible of Lent should be done away with.

Protestant churches broke from the past in ceremonial rites, and traditions were changed and took on a new beginning. Secular society then began to make inroads on the new church through the newly adopted traditions. Gradually the Protestant church year became organized to a great degree around holidays such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, and many of the national holidays as they came into being. These changes in their place might have been good, in some respects, but Lent is still a most important season for the spiritual preparation for Easter.

The church year should take into account that we need an organized spiritual life. Without such a life we become

lost in the meaning of constant worship and service. It is common knowledge that in a well-organized life there is some sacrificing to be done. Lent is a time to give up something that retards spiritual growth. If one gives up smoking, sweets or something for personal sake or even gives up something for greater financial gain, this can do very little for them spiritually. Lent is a time to be concerned with spiritual growth.

What have you given up? How are you going to prepare for Lent? You could make the season of Lent into a journey of love.

How often do we think of God's love for us? Do we take time to thank Him, or do we take Him for granted? If we could put ourselves in His place how would we feel after we had gone to such an extent as God did in sacrificing His Son? Would we give our son? Even to give Him a little time often causes us great pain.

Turn the Page

Mrs. Bryan is the wife of the Rev. A. B. Bryan, pastor of Robert's Grove FWB Church near Dunn.

One way we can show our love for God is to show our love to others. During these six weeks before Easter let us take a little journey and show Him how we can love Him by loving our fellowman.

FIRST WEEK: We could call this week "The Hand of Love Week." We might have written a letter to a friend near or faraway (not a relative, we often express love to them) and tell them how much we appreciate them for the interests of their life.

SECOND WEEK: This could be called "The Voice of Love Week." You could have telephoned two or three people each day for a short chat, just to say "Thank you" or "I am sorry," or called people you intended to call but just have not gotten around to doing it.

THIRD WEEK: This is the "Deed of Love Week." Take something you have made or bought—a pie, a plant, or an apron—to two or three friends who mean so much to you. Let these be people you seldom express your love to. Take them some small remembrance that has your love as a wrapping.

FOURTH WEEK: This should be "The Heart of Love Week," not only for friends, but for God also. Make a list of ten people for whom you will pray daily. Include your friends, enemies, those you seem not to like. Call them by name. They will mean more to you after you have prayed for them by name as fervently as possible. Forgive them if they have wronged you and ask God's forgiveness for them.

This will almost always make a change in your relationship with them.

FIFTH WEEK: This is "The Mind of Love Week." God has given us good minds and we should use them wisely. We should use this week to pray for ourselves and to look inward to see if there is wrong in our own lives. Read the Gospel of John this week. Plan to go to church early on Palm Sunday morning to meditate in the sanctuary. If we did this each Sunday we would get more out of the church services anyway. Let this be a special for the Easter season.

SIXTH WEEK: This is our most important week, "Victory of Love Week." We should be celebrating victory by now anyway. God loves us. He has revealed His love in so many ways. Get out and look around, breathe the spring air. Look at all of God's handiwork. This should reveal His love for us in great array. Let life be filled with **Life Abundant, In Faith and Love.**

If we do these they will not make up for all that God has done for us but they will help. He gave His Son to die for our sins so we can live and love each other, and in the end, we may have more abundant life with Him in the beauty of Heaven. What have you given to Him?

Cragmont News

by Wanda Sweat

Cragmont is the same today, yesterday, and tomorrow. To me, it is a place to feel God's presence, and to share that feeling with others. Even when

no one else is around, the quietness reveals the spirit of God.

Cragmont almost seems like home to me. I have enjoyed working here for the past four summers and last fall. I look forward to the coming summer when groups come from all around to share God's love.

It is a great feeling to see the buses leave on Saturday after a hard week. But I have to admit it's even better to see another bus take its place the following Monday. Just to know the group will have such a delightful experience makes the work worth while.

For the workers, the summer is a time to meet different people and to actually live with them for three months. It's great to get to know people that well and learn to love and appreciate them like a brother or sister.

Of course, the workers have a chance to meet new campers and see the old ones. I think that is very rewarding in itself. I myself look forward to the different conferences and being able to fellowship with old friends.

Cragmont also has weekend retreats for different churches. They have the opportunity to get away from the everyday problems and relax. They have a chance to spend time with their church members as well as their families. They, too, have the chance to feel the presence of God as a "mountaintop experience."

Being able to live here at Cragmont has given me the opportunity to become closer to God and place my life in His hands to use me the way He has planned. I can feel myself growing in His love and I look forward to the day of His return.

As the summer draws near, make sure you get in on these blessings. A week at Cragmont is a week of memories you'll never forget. Hope to see you this summer.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

USE OF HUMOR IN THE PULPIT

Submitted by DeWayne Eakes

A church caught on fire. The minister was standing beside one of the leading parishioners when the parishioner asked, "Have you removed your things from the study?" The minister replied, "No, not a thing." "What! Not your sermons?" was the parishioner's response. "No, not a one," the minister responded. The parishioner called to the firemen: "Get the minister's sermons from his study. They are so dry they are sure to go up fast."

Preaching calls for the highest measure of faculty, imagination, faith, intellect, knowledge of the world, passion for your people, and humor. The pulpit today must contend with everything from mobility to the electronic church. The fact that it survives at all is a miracle. The pulpit discourse often says more for the fortitude of the layman than it does for the skill of the gospel messenger. More and more it is an example of the survival of the fittest, and only the best will survive in the years to come. The best will not be the dry discourse delivered by a humorless preacher. Yet what course in homiletics gives the use of humor more than a side glance?

There is an order in the use of humor. It is the same order I use in all sermon preparation. First, think of the situation you wish to illustrate. Think of the humorous stories, anecdotes, and one-liners you have heard. Second, read. You should have in your library books of humor. Not joke books but light verse, classic American humorists like Will Rogers, and contemporary writers like Russell Baker. One indispensable volume for me is **Beecher as a Humorist**. See what they have to say on the subject at hand.

Third, write your humor into your sermon. Rewrite it. Can it be reworded? Can you rework the story in such a way that it hits your congregation where they are now? Fourth, absorb the story so that it becomes a part of you. Make it fit your style. Be sure you are comfortable with the punch line, the flow, the vocabulary. Fifth, preach. Now you are ready to preach your point. To receive a smile and hit home with the message.

As you have refined your humor for a sermon, remember that common sense is of most importance in story telling. Humor is and will be a two-edged sword. It can be used as effectively from the pulpit as it can be used in television, radio, literature, or drama. On the other hand, used wrongly, it can kill you as a preacher. The pulpit has no room for sick, off-color, or bitter humor. Like all else, humor has its levels. Your pulpit deserves the highest.

I watched a man doing a copper etching. I realized that biting acid in the hands of an artist produces beauty. In the hands of one who has not studied the skill, it cuts all human features away and leaves corroded the very intent of the user. In your use of humor, you should always use the KISS principle (Keep It Simple, Stupid). Never attempt too much in a single story. When it comes to humor, you must cultivate simplicity and variety. Your illustration should never need explanation. If it does not make your point by itself, you can never extract your point from it. Keep sentences short and to the point.

Your humor should never be an end in itself. It is always a

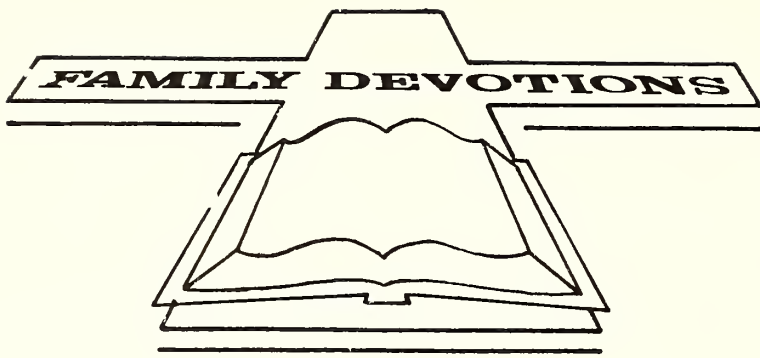
means to an end, relaxing the rigidity of your congregation, giving spice to your point, and giving the good news the avenue it needs to be heard. You cannot use humor as a substitute for good, solid ideas. Your subject must be developed and your supporting illustrations must be solid. Use humor to undergird the rest. To neglect the use of humor is to neglect one of your most important tools.

A major complaint from lay members of the Christian community is carelessness on the part of the preacher in sermon preparation. Preaching is an art. Carelessness on the part of any artist comes close to the unforgivable sin. There are clearly three kinds of preachers in the church today: those it is nothing short of pain to listen to, those we can listen to with neither pain nor satisfaction, and those we cannot help listening to. To make your sermons so interesting that one cannot help listening, humor is an absolute ingredient. Humor, used well, will create new mountain peaks from which the gospel truths may be proclaimed for your people. Used poorly, it will create a continent of mud, leaving your folks to wallow till they finally drown in the quicksand of trivia.

It has been said that humor "rips off the lion's skin from the jackass." One good shaft of humor can do more to expose the folly of a congregation, theological position, or personal fault than a thousand labored sermons or theological doctrines quoting all the great learned sources from the past.

Humor is a part of wisdom. You cannot read any of the great minds without finding humor

(Continued on Page 14)



SUNDAY, MARCH 9

Scripture Reading—Psalm 19:
10

PRICELESS AND PRECIOUS

A man inherited an antique desk. One day by accident he touched a secret spring. A hitherto unopened drawer opened. In it lay a great sum of money! The antique desk was valuable, but the treasure it contained was much more valuable. God's Word is priceless and precious. Unknown spiritual riches await those who will search therein for them: "More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb" (Psalm 19:10).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible is the greatest of treasures. Its riches are obtainable only through the reading of it. Let no one consider it lightly.

MONDAY, MARCH 10

Scripture Reading—Ephesians
2:1

BEHOLDING HIS FACE IN A GLASS

It is good for us to see ourselves as others see us.

A police magistrate in Philadelphia has a novel way of sobering some of the daily stream of drunks brought into the station. They are lined up before a large mirror on the wall. They see themselves as they are—bleary-eyed, filthy, and ragged! Some are

humiliated and are ready to sign the pledge.

The Bible is God's looking glass. It is the only Book which shows man as he really is—"dead in trespasses and sins," with a deceitful and desperately wicked heart.

PRAYER THOUGHT

While reading the Bible, one can see a true picture of his wretched self. Surely all who read the Bible will want to change! The only worthwhile change is that realized through the acceptance of God's Son.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy
3:16

WHY ARE PAGAN RELIGIONS STRONG?

The devotees of the great pagan religions of the world put Christians to shame in this regard: They memorize their sacred writings! Their minds and hearts are "saturated" with them. No one can teach in a Mohammedan mosque until he has memorized the Koran! For twenty-one hours, some Buddhist priests, and others adhering to Buddhism, quoted from memory their sacred scriptures, making no mistakes and not repeating anything!

The Christians who are most effective in soul-winning are those who hide away much of God's Word in heart and in head.

PRAYER THOUGHT

To be a strong Christian one

must study the Word and pray. Commit Scriptures to memory make them a permanent part of your living and thus witness more effectively.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy
4:2

CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES IN BUSINESS

We need to define, much more clearly and implicitly than we have yet defined it, the intimate relationship between a man's religious faith and what he does in his business. Our need to demonstrate that religion is just as relevant to the individual in his office as in his home or church. Especially do we need to establish explicitly-understood Christian principles for the conduct of business affairs. The decisions they are required to make often require courage that can come only from conscious adherence to eternal verities, not the shifting sands of expediency.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's principles are as important for successful business as for the church. If a man is truly Christian, this greatest of philosophies will be reflected in every business transaction of which he is a part.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians
5:17

WHY ARE YOU DIFFERENT?

The man was not a preacher. He could not sing or speak in public. He worked in a factory with men who swore and cursed. There he lived a quiet, Christian life, and spoke for Jesus when there was an opportunity. One day as he ate his lunch, one of the men asked him, "May I sit by you, Bob? There is a question I have wanted to ask you for some time, but I was ashamed to do it. I want to know what makes

you different from the rest of us. You never get angry, no matter what we rough fellows do or say to you. What do you have that we don't have?" Bob replied, "I am no better than others, but Christ is in my heart. He enables me to live differently from others. To Him be the glory!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christ in the heart makes the living different! Do others see Him manifested in you? If not, perhaps you need to reevaluate your relationship with Him.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 3:5

WHEN GOD LET IT ALONE

Someone remarked to a farmer who was very proud of his growing oats, "That is a fine field of oats!" "Yes," said the farmer, "if God Almighty lets it alone, it ought to be a bumper crop." The crop immediately stopped growing. God withdrew the rain and elements that would have made it a luxuriant crop, and it withered and died. Something like this can happen to us unless we have a greater sense of dependence upon God. Too many feel they can get along better without God than with Him, and so God, the Bible, the church, and religion are discarded. But if God lets us alone, like the oats, we will perish.

PRAYER THOUGHT

If God were really to "leave us alone," how utterly desperate we would be! How thankful we should be that, through His Son, He promised never to leave us.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 2:6

I REARED A CRIMINAL

In the August, 1960, issue of the *Ladies' Home Journal* is an

article entitled, "I Reared a Criminal." It is the true story of a heartbroken mother.

We quote:

We loved him, but—

His father was too busy to be with him when he was young.

I couldn't bring myself to punish him for misbehavior.

We sided against his teachers when they complained about his work (and conduct) in school.

As he grew up he would hardly discuss the time of day with us.

He was expelled from school.

We gave him money so he wouldn't steal again.

I wept when the police called and I had to turn my boy over to them As I watched them search him my life seemed to end.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Our youth must be instructed in the Word and godly living. Let us never underestimate the good of Christian example.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Coming Events . . .

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

March 8—North Carolina State League Convention, White Oak Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro

March 10—"History of Free Will Baptists" Course to be taught at Winterville Free Will Baptist Church (4 weeks)

March 15—Eastern District Youth Spring Convention, St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern

March 15—Central District Youth Spring Convention, King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church

March 20—Western District Youth Fellowship Spring Convention

March 20—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention

March 22—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention

March 30—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention

March 30—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Con-

vention, 3 P. M., Ayden Free Will Baptist Church

March 30—Mount Olive College Sunday in Local Churches

NOTICE

The Eastern Conference Mission Board gratefully acknowledges the gift of \$933.10 presented to them by the North Carolina Brotherhood of Original Free Will Baptists in honor of the Rev. and Mrs. James Evans.

Walter J. Sutton
Chairman of the Board

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Beverly Ballard announces that he now has a new address. It is 749 Fairmont Village Drive, Ayden, North Carolina 28513. His new telephone number is 746-6046. His old address was 1225 South Washington Street, Greenville, North Carolina 27834.

PREACHER'S DIARY

Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

A fellow once said to me, "There shouldn't be any need to fear a snake in the grass as long as you know his exact location and what he is doing; then if you get bitten, it will be because of your own stupidity."

I have learned that anger makes one sick!

Since the day I launched out to serve Christ, I have heard continually that you can't do this, and you can't do that. I believe that when the word **can't** stands in the way of a person's service to God it's being placed there by the devil!

**Larry Barbour to Conduct
Mount Zion Revival**



Larry W. Barbour

Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Nashville (near Momeyer), will hold revival services beginning March 16 and continuing through March 21, at 7:30 each evening. Guest evangelist will be the Rev. Larry W. Barbour, now in his third year as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Rocky Mount. Mr. Barbour has been preaching ten years, is a graduate of the Carolina Bible Institute, and resides in Wilson.

Mount Zion's pastor, the Rev. Roy T. Clifton, extends an invitation to everyone to be in attendance for these services. There will be special music each evening.

**Wintergreen Church to Have
Revival Services**

Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, will hold revival services March 17-21. The time of the services is 7:30 each evening, with the Rev. Jack Phillips, pastor of Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton, serving as guest evangelist.

Special music will be rendered each evening by local and visiting musicians.

The pastor of Wintergreen, the Rev. Bobby Brown, and the church membership extend a cordial invitation to all.

**Hugo Announces
Revival Services**

The Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, located on Route 2, Grifton, will have revival services March 10 through March 14. The services will begin at 7:30 each evening with the Rev. Gary Bailey as the guest speaker. There will be special singing each evening. The Rev. Tom Miller, pastor of Hugo, and the church membership extend an invitation to the public to attend.

**Revival at
Friendship Church**



Fred Rivenbark

The Rev. Fred Rivenbark will be guest evangelist at a series of revival services to be held at the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church near Farmville, March 17-22. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. Special singing will be

featured each evening.

The Rev. Walter Reynolds pastor of the church, will assist Mr. Rivenbark in the services. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

**Revival Services at
Piney Grove Church**

Spring revival services at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Kenly, North Carolina, will be March 10 through March 14. The Rev. Dewey Boling is the evangelist. The Rev. Charles Renfrow is the pastor of the church. Special music will be presented each night. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Union Chapel to
Have Revelators**

Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Plymouth, North Carolina, will feature the Revelators in the evening service at 7:30 on March 9, 1980. The group will present a program of gospel music, and an offering will be taken for the Children's Home at Middlesex. All area churches are invited to attend the service.

The Rev. O. Swade Benson is pastor of the Union Chapel church.

**Revival at
Watery Branch Church**

Revival services will be held at the Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Stan- tonsburg, March 9 through March 15. The Rev. Robert Durham of Rocky Mount will be the evangelist. Services will begin each night at 7:30. Special music will be presented by the church and local groups. The Rev. A. G. Smith, pastor of the church, and the church membership cordially invite everyone to attend.

**Arapahoe Church
Has New Pastor**

The Rev. Doug Skinner and his family; wife, Virginia, and baby son, Jonathan, are now residing at Arapahoe. Mr. Skinner started his pastorate there on January 1.

The people of the church feel very happy and thankful to have such a wonderful young family working with them to serve the

rd. Also it is very good to have
m making their home in the
rsonage. The parsonage was
novated about three years ago
a cost of around \$6,000. The
rch has not had a pastor
ing there for over two years.

Woman's Auxiliary

Jesus Banquet

On Monday evening, February
at their regular scheduled
meeting, the Woman's Auxiliary
of the Arapahoe Free Will
Baptist Church held an "I Love
Jesus Banquet" in the fellowship
hall of the church. The banquet
was opened to the church body.
Everyone was asked to bring a
covered dish.

As each person arrived, a red
heart was pinned on them which
bore the words "I love Jesus."

The hall was decorated in the
Valentine motif. White hearts
bearing the inscription "I love
Jesus" were hung at corners
over the tables. A large red
heart with the inscription, "For
God so loved the world" hung
from the center with red
streamers going out to the white
chairs. The tables were
decorated with white tablecloths
and red streamers down the
centers.

After a delicious meal the
guests were welcomed by the
president, Mrs. Letha Paul. The
Rev. Douglas Skinner, pastor,
led in the opening prayer. The
program for February was then
presented by Mrs. Virginia
Skinner, Mrs. Gloria Lupton, and
Mrs. Elizabeth Hott. Miss Wendy
Humphrey and Miss Amelia
McAllister sang a duet "If That
Isn't Love." Mrs. Betty Lupton
closed with a prayer. All present
then joined hands and sang
"Alleluia."

This is the second year the
auxiliary has sponsored the
banquet and it will probably be-
come an annual event.

Revival Services at Piney Grove Church

Spring revival services at
Piney Grove Free Will Baptist
Church, Route 1, Kenly, North
Carolina, will be March 10
through March 14. The Rev.
Dewey Boling is the evangelist.
The Rev. Charles Lynwood
Renfrow is the pastor of the
church. Special music will be
each night. Everyone is invited
to attend.

(Continued on Page 15)

There was a tie between the
Ambassadors for Christ Class,
taught by Mr. Ronald Evans,
and the Beginner Number One
Class, taught by Mrs. Joyce
Spencer, Mrs. Lucille Spain, and
Mrs. Carolyn Gaskins. Each
class had 87 1/2 percent present.
The Wednesday night workers
were recognized by Mr. Robert
Hudson, director of Family
Circle. Mr. James Meeks,
chairman of the General Board,
recognized all of the various
officers and committee workers.
Mr. Marshall Spain gave the
closing prayer.

The fellowship hall was
beautifully decorated by the
Young Adults Class, and the
Adult Ladies Class was
responsible for spreading the
food. Mr. Randy Buck directed
the music, accompanied by Mrs.
Peggy Hardee, pianist.

Everyone enjoyed a great time
of fellowship together in God's
house with plenty of delicious
food! A very special thanks to
everyone who helped in any way
to make this year's banquet such
a great success!

The Rev. Cedric D. Pierce Jr.
is the pastor.

FOND MEMORIES

by Mrs. Ernestine Forrest

How fondly I remember,
When I was just a kid,
The joy and excitement
In all the things we did.

I had a happy family,
My pa, and ma, and me,
And when we went to worship
God
Together we were three.

How anxious we would always
get
When time for church to start,
Pa would go and get Old Red
And hitch her to the cart.

Ma would spread the pallet
To soften up the ride,
Then we would take the middle.
Pa sat at the side.

Then bumpty, bump to Black
Jack
To worship our dear Lord,

(Continued on Page 15)

SWEETHEART APPRECIATION AND AWARD BANQUET

On Wednesday night, February
3, 1980, approximately 222 peo-
ple gathered together in the
Cherry Fellowship Hall at Black
Jack Free Will Baptist Church,
Route 3, Greenville, for a
covered dish supper in honor of
all of the teachers and workers
who faithfully devote their time
and talents to serving their
church and God. After a
delicious meal, everyone enjoyed
some special music by the
children featuring the Tiny
Dots, the Sunbeams, and the
Whirlybirds. Mr. Billy Elks
served as the master of
ceremonies. The invocation was
given by Mr. Harry Jones Jr.,
and Mr. Ronald Evans welcomed
everyone present.

Following this article is a
poem that was written and
recited by Mrs. Ernestine
Forrest that delighted everyone,
especially the "older folks."
Other poems were written and
recited by some of the young
people: Chuck Buck, Amanda
Stokes, Kristy Hardee, and
Stevie Kite. Mr. Bill Kittrell
gave a very inspiring devotion,
followed by a recognition time of
all the teachers and work-
ers. Mr. Charlie Padgett, super-
intendent of the Sunday
school, recognized each teacher
and Sunday school class. An
award was given to the class
having its teacher and assistant
teacher and the highest per-
centage of its members present.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

FELLOWSHIP OFFICERS



FELLOWSHIP OFFICERS—Officers for the Free Will Baptist Fellowship organization at Mount Olive College this year include: front row, from left, Mrs. Dianne Riley, advisor; Kim Williams from Kenly as treasurer; Tony Souder from Trent Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County as president; and Cathy Moss from Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church in Beaufort County as secretary. Second row, from left is Janice Weston from Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Jones County as music director; Nancy Boykin from Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County as publicity chairman; and Jan Pittman from Calvary Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County as pianist.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS FOR THE NEW DECADE

The Board of Trustees began steps toward the fulfillment of a four-year program by adopting a \$7,500,000 budget to provide the addition of a junior year in the fall of 1984 and a senior year in the fall of 1985.

The Trustees foresee the four-year curriculum as a means of

magnifying the College's service to the individual by providing his or her entire undergraduate education. The expansion will provide a meaningful educational experience for more people while maintaining an individualized, personal atmosphere.

"Accomplishing the \$7,500,000 goal will not only insure Mount Olive College's survival, but will

turn the college into a thriving educational institution," stated Nancy Sampsell, Director of Development.

"Paramount in the campaign is the enthusiasm and dedication of our many friends," she said.

Under Mrs. Sampsell's direction, a network of volunteers is emerging in a county-wide effort to obtain pledges over a five-year period.

"The idea is for every volunteer to contact five friends in support of the campaign. If each friend of the College does his or her part, the goal can be reached within the targeted allotment of time," Mrs. Sampsell explained.

The first step is to raise the \$2,500,000 for the construction of College Hall. Ground breaking for the physical education convention center has been set for early 1981.

Gift goals have been designated for the members of the Free Will Baptist Church in the amount of \$1,000,000. Gift Goals of \$200,000 have been set for business and industry with \$100,000 coming from four donations and \$1,200,000 from other friends of the College.

Alumni, college personnel, and Board of Trustees will be lending their support to the total listed above. From these amounts \$150,000 is listed for alumni; \$20,000 for college personnel; and \$130,000 from Trustees.

"All of these groups will benefit from College Hall. We feel fortunate to have so many people willing and able to lend their services and support on behalf of the College," Mrs. Sampsell added.

NEW PAUL PALMER SESSION BEGINS MARCH 10

The next eight-week session of the Paul Palmer Institute begins Monday, March 10, on the Mount Olive College campus.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

In the Second Week of March

We Are Committed to Make Him Known

By C. F. Bowen

MEXICO—Our friend and neighbor to the south. Mexico is not as densely populated as, say, India or China. If all the people of the United States and Mexico filed by you one by one, every fourth person would be a Mexican.

Mexicans are mostly Catholic and, in every predominately Catholic country, highly superstitious. This superstition largely disappears once the gospel reaches the hearts of the people. Free Will Baptists first brought the gospel to them about twenty-seven years ago. The Rev. J. E. Timmons and family pioneered the work with the Rev. Vance Link family joining them in 1973.

The mission work in Mexico is stable and progressive. The churches are actually directed by national pastors under the capable leadership of director Antonio Escobar.

During this month of March we are forging more securely the links of a chain that binds us closer to our Mexican brethren. Some of these links are prayer, giving to missions, concern for our Mexican brethren and the unsaved there, and concern for our own missionaries there.

Please do not break this chain during March. How can you help?

1. Use the missionary inserts sent to you with your church bulletins. Here is a set for each of the first four Sundays in March.

2. Have a special missionary service on Sunday morning, March 16 (or 23).

3. Receive a foreign missions offering in this service and join the great TELETHON on the 16th and 23rd. Call (919) 734-5946 between 1:30 and 5:00 p. m. and tell Director Joe Ingram how much your offering was. What your church pledges to give during March.

Please pray with us that God will raise up new missionaries to Mexico, the Philippines, India, and other areas of the world. Please pray for our own missionaries who are serving in the fields now.

Listen to the world's call! Don't break the Mission Chain this month!

... that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel (Ephesians 6:19).

Suggested Verse for March 9:

1 Chronicles 16:8

Mexico Needs the Gospel



THE
GOSPEL
PUTS A SONG
IN THEIR
HEARTS

Foreign Missions

TELETHON

March 16, 23

1:30—5:00 p.m.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 16

ANNAS AND CAIAPHAS

Lesson Text: John 11:49-53;
18:12-14, 19-24

Memory Verse: John 11:50

I. INTRODUCTION

A humorous story is told about a storekeeper during the Civil War who found himself caught between the opposing lines. However, his position was not as precarious as it had seemed at first, because for weeks the two armies sat and faced one another without firing a shot. The merchant quickly took advantage of the situation and developed a lucrative business selling supplies to both sides.

But then one day the battle began, and he was caught in the middle. When the bullets began to whiz about his store, he knew he would have to run to escape. However, he was faced with a problem. If he wore a blue uniform, he knew the Confederates would shoot him, and if he wore a gray uniform, he knew the Federals would shoot him. And so he hit upon the scheme of wearing a gray coat and blue trousers. The results were tragic, though, for the Federals shot him in the coat, and the Confederates shot him in the pants.

We may laugh at this story, but most of us at one time or another have compromised our convictions or sold out to expediency, with results even more tragic than the Civil War merchant.

Three separate Scriptures make up the printed text for today. The first, taken from John 11, records an incident that occurred immediately following the raising of Lazarus. Some who

witnessed the resurrection went at once to the Pharisees and told what had happened. This greatly distressed the religious leaders who saw in Christ a threat to their power. They feared that if Jesus developed a sizable following, the Romans would suspect a revolt and would suppress it with violence. It was against this possibility that the chief priests and Pharisees debated about what action to take.

The other two selections from John 18 relate events that took place during Jesus' trial. Verses 12-14 tell how Jesus, after He was seized in the Garden of Gethsemane, was taken before Annas, the father-in-law of Caiaphas. After a brief interlude that tells of Peter's denial, Verses 19-24 continue the account of the trial before Annas.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Expediency may be expressed in several ways. In its simplest form it may be thought of as doing something out of necessity; a group of neighbors may find it expedient to form a car pool because of the shortage of gasoline. But when one uses expediency to achieve some selfish goal, at the sacrifice of innocent persons, or at the expense of a moral principle, then expediency becomes an immoral principle. Look back to the Watergate scandal of a few years ago. There is no question that some governmental officials in very high places were guilty of the cover-up of this scandal, and several went to prison. But it is equally possible that some innocent persons were brought

into the vortex of swelling corruption, causing the irreparable damage in the public eye. Some were probably sacrificed for the good of the party, it being thought by partisan leaders to be expedient—lest the political facade be besmirched. It never occurred to these unscrupulous men that the life of any one of these innocent persons was more valuable than the dubious reputation of the entire political structure.

B. In our lesson today we are faced with this same kind of expediency, expressed under different circumstances, of course, but nonetheless cruel and demoralizing. Two men, high priests at that, were the chief protagonists of this so-called expediency—Annas and Caiaphas. The victim? Jesus Christ of Nazareth, innocent in the sight of God but expendable in the sight of man.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Many questionable actions have been performed in the name of expediency. Principles and persons have often been sacrificed as expedient measures to save a "shaky" situation. Many such expedient sacrifices are fraught with serious danger.

B. In the past year the American government sacrificed Nationalist China on the island of Taiwan for reciprocal relationships with Communist China. The immediate results of this expediency are too obvious to recount.

C. In schools and colleges quality education is too frequently required to be sacrificed for the expediency of so-called racial "equality," an effort which often weakens the teaching and learning processes. The danger here is the frustration of worthy students.

D. In the church many a deserving pastor or a worthy church member is sacrificed for the expediency of "peace and harmony" among the brethren. Then we find it hard to look

(Continued on Page 14)

CHARLOTTE MISSION PROGRESS REPORT

Lola Mills
Clerk



We would like to update our news at the Heritage Mission, Charlotte, and thank everyone for their continuing support and prayers.

Since our last report we have two families that have joined us: Jason and Mickie Salyer and Calvin and Charlotte Griffin and their daughters, Lou and Helen. Their talents have really been an asset to us.

On February 3, our church was blessed with a brand new addition—a baby girl, Christina Lidre Salyer, daughter of Jason and Mickie Salyer!

After our regular mid-week service on Thursday, we all went for an ice cream treat at the local mall. We don't know whether it was because it was Valentine's Day, but we felt that special bond of love between us. The closeness we have shared through the past years has been worth all our struggle. So many lives have been touched through the mission that we just refuse to get discouraged.

We would like to show everyone our new sign which was donated by the "Sugar Hosted Saints," young people's group at the Black Jack church near Greenville, North Carolina. We thank God for all their support and pray they may

continue in their work for the Lord.

We have many programs that we have planned for now and in the spring. We are asking God to send us 50 in Sunday school by this time next year. We send our love to all.

EASTOVER MISSION PROGRESS REPORT

Victor J. Burris
Assistant Treasurer

Progress on our building has not been made as fast as we would like, because of cold weather. In spite of this, we have new ceilings and lights in the sanctuary and have almost completed our third Sunday school room.

Our attendance has suffered from the cold weather and illness, but we pray it will pick up now as it is getting warmer. We plan to begin our visitation program again soon. Average attendance for January was fourteen (14), and our financial situation is improving.

God has blessed us with a wonderful pastor, W. O. Lassiter, dedicated people, and a will to see His work move forward.

We now have plans for our spring revival to be held in March, with Brother Mike Scott serving as visiting evangelist.

Please continue to pray and support our work here. With God's help and blessings, we will continue to grow.

IN MEMORIAM

The Rev. Leslie Hawley

Our dearly beloved pastor is now gone from us. We know that our loss is certainly Heaven's gain, but we are going to miss him so much.

He was a great pastor, one who was so dedicated to God's work, his church, and its members. He was always there by our sides when we needed him, no matter what hour of the day or night. We could always count on him.

His smile and distinctive chuckle will be missed by all of us. His love and concern for everyone was special. He always thought of others first. Our church was an important priority.

He was a gifted teacher. He often stayed up late at night to study God's Word that he might be better prepared to bring God's message to his congregation.

We could never express the love we have for him and his dear wife. We only hope that when we come to the end of life's way our lives will have touched as many people and will have left as important a mark.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Batchelor
Saint Mary's Free Will
Baptist Church, Kenly

ATTENTION: VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet Thursday, March 20, at Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church near Bridgeton. Please encourage your auxiliary women to attend. Pray much for the work of the convention, that all that is said or done will please God and bring glory and honor to the name of His Son.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the convention. Don't miss this important meeting.

Rena Kirk, Vice President
Eastern District

AFC REPORT

The AFCs and the YFAs had an installation service Sunday night, January 27, 1980, to install the new officers this year, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro.

The AFCs (ages 9-13) also gave a picture scroll on the Book of Genesis, Wednesday night, January 30. Everybody was pleased over it.

Peggy Wells
Corresponding Secretary

USE OF HUMOR

(Continued from Page 5)

cutting the dullness of life and giving direction to the hope of God's creation. If your humor does not pierce your own heart, it will not penetrate the epidermis of your hearers. If it does not activate your imagination, it will never pierce your hearer's hearts. There is nothing so un-givable in the pulpit as dull, stiff or ponderous argument unilluminated by humor. Humor is like a sweet roll, delicious when fresh, but when it's a month old it's hard to cut and hard to eat, and the worst part of a month-old sweet roll is it's almost impossible to digest. So it is with humor. Keep it fresh, up to date, and to the point. You must view humor as a gold nugget. Before it is of any use to you, you must beat it into gold leaf. It is in the smoothing out process that you assist the precious mineral to form your contemporary need.

Remember the most essential element in preaching has always been the preacher. What you are will determine the charter of your preaching. For this reason Paul's advice to Timothy was, first, "take heed of yourself" and then "to your teaching." In taking heed of yourself, you must see the humor in your own life. Enjoy the humor of your situation to its fullest. If you cannot see the humor of your own life, you will never be able to enjoy your people or your preaching. You will find the best humor in your own life and in the life of your people. Find out what makes you laugh. Find out what makes your people laugh. Study your people through visitation. Find the whimsical in their homes and at their offices, and you will begin to know how to reach them in their pulpit. For the pulpit belongs to the congregation. You are a visitor always. Your promise to God is to proclaim as best you can the good news from that borrowed pulpit.

The pastor is a spiritual physician to the congregation. We have no right to leave a congregation sicker than we found it. Jesus gave as the pastoral model, "Peter, do you love me?" Yes, Lord." "Then feed my sheep." If we feed the sheep a diet without humor, we will have a malnourished congregation. Henry Ward Beecher said: "What a blessed, reconciling, all-enlightening power is humor! Once make a man laugh, and he will listen to you and let you do what you please with him." As a preacher of the good news of Christ, what you please is to enlighten your congregation to the truths of God's salvation.

Remember a sermon is not a mere argument to win a soul. To be useful a sermon must win a soul for some practical purpose. For me, the practical world is filled with humor. Never underestimate your congregation when it comes to your use of humor. Keep it at a high plane. At the same time never overestimate your congregation. Don't become so sophisticated in your humor that it is nothing short of a heady story.

Your people need a practical gospel based in the truth of God's love. They need from you a rule—not rules—for daily living. If that guide comes to them filled with humor, their lives will also be humor-filled. Remember a continuous diet of humorless sermons will produce a humorless congregation. If such be your congregation, the best advice is to resign the day you discover this fact, for your ministry will be downhill from that discovery on.

There are many elements that go into effective preaching. Among them are earnestness, intellectual honesty, and humor. Remember that earnestness in preaching is not synonymous with effectiveness. By all means, be earnest. Intellectual honesty in preaching is not synonymous with effectiveness. By all means, be honest to your own and your congregation's intellect. Humor

in preaching is not synonymous with effectiveness. By all means be full of humor. In a word these things will help make you a good preacher of the gospel, but the greatest of these is humor. Well, exactly, but then again maybe!—C. Ronald Wilson, Tri United Church of Christ, Wooster, Ohio.—(Used by permission: PULPIT DIGEST, Jackson Mississippi 392)

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page 12)

these sacrificed persons in their face.

E. These principles and persons are the scapegoats of our efforts to escape the discomfort of having to take a stand for what is fair and right, thus revealing our lack of moral courage and Christian fortitude. The Old Testament scapegoat was the second of two goats for which lots were cast on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16:8, 10, 26). This second goat had the people's sins transferred to it and was taken to the wilderness and released. Jesus Christ was the "scapegoat" for man's sins. Caiaphas and Anna show us how Christ became a scapegoat for Israel's security—in the name of expediency.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)
IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

During World War II General George Patton slapped a soldier in a hospital who was crying perhaps from battle fatigue. The General explained his action by saying it was expedient to do this in order to preserve the honor and morale of the army. It was a shortcut filled with latent humiliation for the General. He was ordered by Eisenhower to make a public apology, which did not come easy for General Patton, and instead of preserving the morale of the men, it was lessened, and the General was the end the loser. Or did he win—over self and misguided expediency?—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

At 7 p.m., "The Free Will Baptist Church II, Doctrine and Pity" will be taught by the Rev. Frank Harrison and the Rev. Sheldon Howard. At 8:30 p.m., "Basic Communication Skills II" will be taught by Sidney Johnson.

Any course may be taken without credit for \$10. Those persons desiring credit toward institute degree will be charged \$20 per course. Books may be obtained the first night of class.

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of song and testimony at Baker's Presbyterian Church near Mount Olive on Sunday, March 16, at the 11 a.m. worship hour.

They will also appear at 7 p.m. at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church near Ayden. The public is invited to both services.

SWEETHEART APPRECIATION

(Continued from Page 9)

Back then folks were poor,
That was all we could afford.
When we'd get to church,
The never was too soon,
For I got tired of Red,
Pushing with her broom,
I sought out the biggest tree
And tied the reins real tight,
For there Old Red would have to
stay
All we learned what was right.
I sat in the choir with Ma,
And oftentimes I would cry,
Ma, I want some water,
My mouth is very dry."
When she'd take me out,
Oh! How she could spank,
And when we came back in,
Laid down in my chair I sank.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Oh! the wonders I beheld,
Within this dear old place,
The big round stoves and carbide
lights,
Time cannot erase.

And what a lovely balcony!
That held the extra crowd,
And how I liked to hear the bell
Ring out so very loud.

Time has brought so many
changes
Within my grown-up years
That oftentimes my heart saddens,
And my eyes fill with tears.

Now, we only have to look
around,
To see what God has done,
And so tonight I crown my
church
"Sweetheart Number One."

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

Limestone Singers to Appear At Tee's Chapel

The Limestone Singers of Beulaville will present a program of music at Tee's

Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Smithfield, Sunday night, March 9, at 7 p. m. The Pastor, the Rev. T. C. Farmer, and the church membership invite all to attend.

Carolina Bible Institute To Sponsor Choir Clinic

According to an announcement by the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry, the Carolina Bible Institute will sponsor a choir clinic, March 10, 11, at 7:30-9:30 each night. Dr. Lindsay Terry of the Northside Baptist Church, Charlotte, will conduct the clinic.

The clinic is open to the public and will be held at the Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church.

*March is
Foreign Missions
month.*

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Contemporary individuals who insist that they have glimpsed Heaven or Hell or the face of God bear watching, I think. Spectacular events, of which the foregoing is a part, have logical appeal for the masses—especially when these events are laced with a certain mystique. It isn't a hard-and-fast rule, but one possible way to get attention (and some notoriety) is for a person to die and come back to life and be able to recount what happened to him during the time he was dead.

What seems particularly peculiar is the fact that everybody is not select enough to have such experiences. What about the hundreds, perhaps thousands, who are resuscitated every year but who don't remember any extraordinary events to have occurred during the period they were supposedly dead? Isn't death supposed to be the ultimate equalizer? Then why isn't everybody given "the experience"?

It is just possible that many who claim "extra-life" experiences are actually recounting dreams. The only way I can be certain is for it to happen to me. I'm in no hurry. And even if it were to happen, I wouldn't trust my memory—and certainly not the retelling.

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE

REUNION AND RALLY

March 15, 1980 at 7:00 P.M.

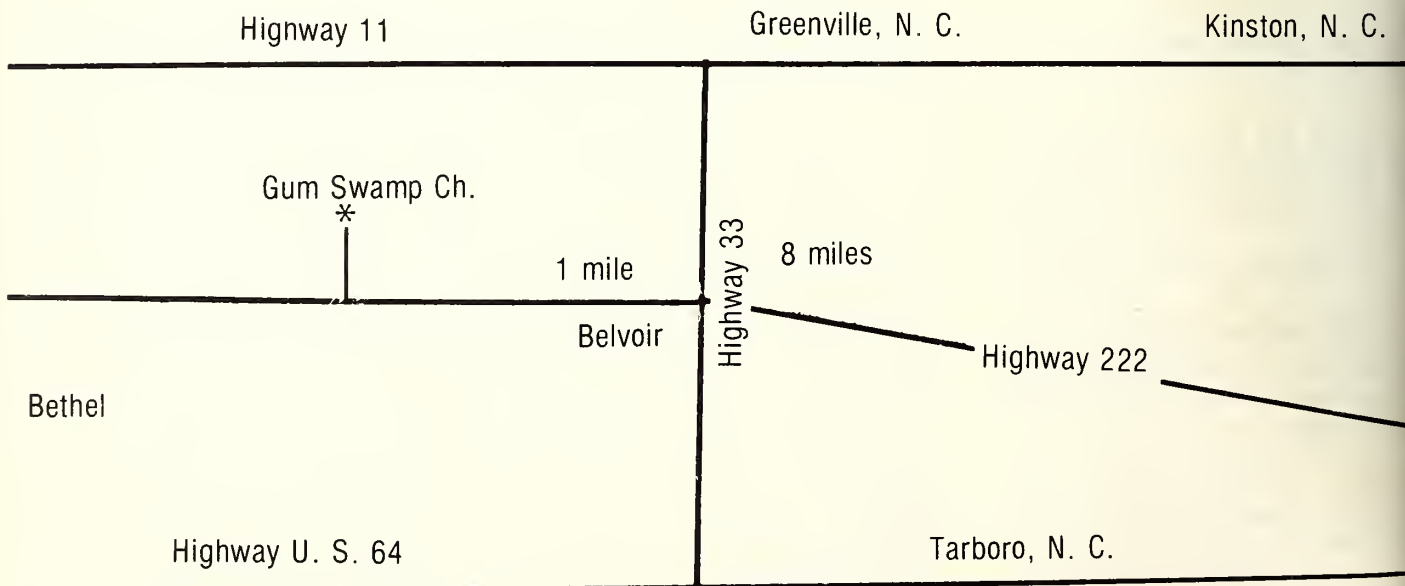
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Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church
Route 6, Box 147-A
Greenville, North Carolina 27834

MEET your camping FRIENDS,
SEE slides of camp 1979,
SINGING and special music,
Counselors would like to see YOU again.

Campers, parents and friends, we will see you for this special service. Enjoy a wonderful time of REUNION, RALLY and WORSHIP.

Gum Swamp church is located off Highway 33 near Belvoir



Div. 301
F857W

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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MAR 14 1980

DURHAM, N.C.

Don't underestimate the persuasive powers of Moon and his disciples. They are much too dangerous to ignore.



By the Light of Mr. Moon

Guest Editorial by Frank Harrison

(Since the disciples of Moon are more active than ever in some areas, it is especially important that we reinforce our defenses against their enforcements. They should not be taken lightly, but should be viewed as a real threat to Christendom. Mr. Harrison poses a careful examination of the evil.)

The "Reverend" Sun Myung Moon organized the Unification Church as a movement in South Korea in 1959. Mr. Moon was a Presbyterian minister who was ousted by the Korean Presbyterian Church.

In 1960, his followers numbered 20,000; today, they number in the millions and have surrendered to him their personal freedom for the security, purpose, and community of his church. His plans call for conversion of the United States, which will be a base of operations for the conversion of the world into accepting his doctrines, many of which are unchristian and even antichristian.

His disciples are mostly young people between the ages of 22 and 26 years old. In a survey of hundreds of followers conducted by J. Stillson Judah, professor emeritus of history of religions at Graduate Theological Union and Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, California, one third of Mr. Moon's followers became "Moonies" immediately after dropping out of school, and one in eight are university graduates. The rest of his followers were dropouts from high school to three years of college who had left school anywhere from a year to four years earlier. Fifty-two percent said parents were regular churchgoers; twenty-five percent considered themselves Christians before joining; nearly half classified themselves as Christians involved in no particular church.

The Moon followers make use of the rigorous initiation and continuous personal sacrifices expected from new "Moonies" as they become his disciples. The new convert is isolated from outside contacts and from any psychological support he may receive from them. At the same time they provide him with all his material needs and lavish him with understanding and "love," constantly enforcing the idea that they are the "good guys" and anyone who opposes them or threatens them as bad. (This technique was used extensively by the North Koreans on captured American soldiers and pilots during the Korean War and is a major principle of brainwashing, and was used by Jim Jones of The People's Temple cult.)

Mr. Moon exploits the talent and energy of his disciples by sending them out to sell flowers, candies, peanuts, etc., and uses the money to enhance his own wealthy nest, as well as financing the building of a university and seminary at his extensive estate in Barrytown, New York. He entices young men and women not only through his very loyal and dedicated disciple missionaries, but uses newspaper ads proclaiming to seek anyone interested in the betterment of mankind, often appealing through discussions on ecology, morality, and the spiritual salvation of the United States.

A careful study of his beliefs soon reveal that he is a wolf in sheep's clothing and that his doctrines are antichristian and antibiblical. His "revelations" are not rejections of the Bible as such, but of all previous interpretations and theological systems.

These new revelations, he claims, come directly from God at a divinely fitting moment in time:

"Since God has started His dispensation and the era of the Christian Church is over, He is removing his direct guidance from existing churches. This is why today we see churches the world over undergoing great spiritual decline. Jesus was chosen (by God) to be the Lord of lords, but because he could

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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MARCH 12, 1980

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Number 10

Tommy Manning, Editor

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and address to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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AS THE DAYS OF NOAH!

by the Rev. Beverly Ballard

WHERE does the world stand on God's time schedule?

Every day we hear the question: How in things in the world get worse?

Of economic and world crisis situations, we constantly face the question "where will it all end?"

Jesus Christ, while teaching the people on the Mount of Olives, referred to the catastrophe of the flood to illustrate His prophecy of the future. We believe He was speaking of that era in which we find ourselves today. We are in a dilemma no less frustrating than that which Noah faced in his day.

"As the days of Noah!"

Turning back to Genesis 6, we find a brief description of those days. The first four verses give us the setting for Noah's life. Noah had been introduced in the last verse of Chapter 5, and he was 50 years of age as years were recorded that day.

Let us note that in Verse 1, it is stated that men began to multiply on the face of the earth. In other words, there was a population explosion. May I draw attention to some facts? The number of people in the world today is almost four times the number 50 years ago. In 10 years we have multiplied by about 25 percent in the United States of America alone.

What causes population explosions? After reading some medical letters on this, we may well deduce that an increased interest between the sexes is the answer. This came about immediately after World War II when servicemen returned from their war posts on foreign soil or in foreign waters. When has ever there been more abnormality in sexual behaviors than today?

Those who study patterns of criminals find that undue interest between sexes is the key to abnormal sexuality. Surely, we need only to look about us and take only casual notice of current news items to realize that sex crimes run rampant in the world today. The reason? SIN! Sin is the basis for crime.

Sin was first introduced by Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Most of us know that. Many of us fail, however, to see how that first sin has multiplied through the ages and affects us today.

From Adam to Noah, there were only 10 generations. Cain's commission of the first murder in the second generation from Adam only compounded sin's dreadfulness. By the time Noah came along, and certainly by the time he was the age of 500, Cain's sin was no longer novel.

Genesis 6:2 tells us about the marrying and giving in marriage. Promiscuous sex was the root of one of many sins of that day. Do we not have the same thing going on openly in America today?

Wycliffe tells us that Cain's descendants became exceedingly godless and pagan. Christ referred to this in Matthew 24. But, it was more than just marrying that was wrong in that day, and it is more today.

Notice the wording of this verse in Genesis 6. "The sons of God saw the daughters of men . . . and they took them wives . . ."

So, it was not only marrying and giving in marriage to appease the lusts of men that made it SIN, but also, they were being unequally yoked—"sons of God" marrying "daughters of men." Paul warns of this in 2 Corinthians 6:14: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?"

Then we will agree man played around with sin. He was wicked even as Cain had been when he slew Abel! When we play around with sin, we play around with the patience of God.

Verse 3 speaks of this impatience ". . . the LORD said, My spirit will not always strive with man . . ." In other words, God let man know He knew of man's sin and would not "put up with it" for long.

Verse 5 reveals that God saw the wickedness of man, and in Verse 6, He revealed that He was really sorry He had placed man on the earth. Then, God went on in Verse 7, declaring His plan to "destroy man" because of the evil that man had carried on continually.

Ah, but all is not lost!

Because God loved His man, He chose a man who is described as "just" and "perfect in his generations" and who "walked with God." Noah "found grace in the eyes of the Lord."

God chose Noah to serve as a means of escape for all those whom He desired. God doesn't destroy needlessly. God doesn't destroy His own. Noah and his family were spared, along with enough animals to replenish the postdiluvian world.

But God did keep His Word. After Noah had exhaustively warned men of the flood to come, while at the same time Noah and his sons prepared for the flood by building the ark, God gave Noah the command to get on board the ark with the animals and then God shut the door from the outside.

Then it began to rain.

Realizing the greatness of the sin and corruption in today's world; and as man seems to laugh in the face of the Creator, God again can rain destruction upon the earth. He has about reached the end of His patience with man.

But once again, God will not destroy His own. Believers may be assured of an even greater "ark" of safety. We can claim the grace of God through His Son, Jesus Christ. The atonement on the Cross provides us our "ark" and eternal life with Him.

Have you claimed this truth in your life today? Don't wait until the rains begin to fall to realize the hopelessness of sin!

"But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be" (Matthew 24:37).

Letter of Instruction for March Foreign Missions Emphasis Month

- I. Theme for Month: "COMMITTED TO MAKE HIM KNOWN" Through Foreign Missions.

Key Scripture Verse: ". . . That I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel" (Ephesians 6:19).

Weekly Scripture Verse:

1. First Sunday—Psalm 145:12
2. Second Sunday—1 Chronicles 16:8
3. Third Sunday:—Psalm 98:2
4. Fourth Sunday—Psalm 98:3

Let me suggest that you consider preparing a message using the above Scripture verses for these Sundays.

II. Goals:

1. To inform our people of the opportunities of sharing the message of Christ with all the world.
2. To lead our church membership to a commitment to the task of "Making Christ Known to the World."
3. To raise a contribution toward "Making Christ Known" in the amount of \$25,000 during March.

III. Proposals for Reaching These Goals:

1. **Through taped messages.**
We have sent you two taped messages from the Rev. Joe Ingram and the Rev. Vance Link. Please share them with your congregation.
2. **Bulletin Inserts.**
The Free Will Baptist Press has printed bulletin inserts for those who are on the Bulletin Service.

These will go along with the tapes that are listed above. For those of you that are not on the Bulletin Service of the Free Will Baptist Press, you can get the inserts by requesting the number that you will need from the Foreign Mission Office here in Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530. The Post Office Box Number is 979. Order these today so we will have time to get them to you for the remaining Sundays.

3. Articles.

We will have several articles in the Free Will Baptist paper concerning this program. Read these and share the materials with your congregation.

4. Commitment Sunday . . . Telethon Sunday.

On either the third or fourth Sunday, depending on which would be better for you, lead your people to make a personal commitment to give their efforts to "Make Him Known."

A. Receive a special offering for Foreign Missions. Our goal for this offering is \$25,000.

B. Involve all ages of your church and Sunday School in some special project to raise funds for the special offering.

C. Call your Foreign Mission office between the hours of 1:30 p. m. and 5 p. m. and we will record your offering. Individuals can call also. This call can be made on either the third Sunday or fourth Sunday in March.

Any additional information needed about this program can

be received either by calling (919) 734-5946, or writing North Carolina Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board, P.O. Box 979, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

We are together "COMMITTED TO MAKE HIM KNOWN" through Foreign Missions.

GREETINGS FROM FOREIGN MISSIONS

Dear Brother Pastor:

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. I am writing to solicit your help in promotion of Foreign Missions in your church during the month of March. March is "Foreign Missions Month" and we would like this year, rather than having mission rallies as in the past, for pastors to emphasize Foreign Missions from the pulpits each week.

We plan to furnish you information that you can use to promote the Foreign Mission endeavor. We would appreciate it if you would schedule about 5 to 7 minutes each service for this purpose.

Please look at and listen to the materials and make plans that would best suit your church and you make your own plan of promotion for the month of March. We would like for you to give us a brief description of what you did and we will compile some of these ideas and share them with the other pastors for future use.

We trust that your promotion will climax either on the third or fourth Sunday and you will receive a special offering for the cause of Foreign Missions on one of these Sundays. Please call us at (919) 734-5946 between 1:30 and 5 on either of these days and we will record the amount of your offering. Our goal for this promotion is \$25,000. You can make it possible. We will send you the results about the first of April.

In His Service,
Joseph H. Ingram
Director-Treasurer

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Committed

to

Make

Him

Known



By C. F. Bowen

THE PHILIPPINES—the island country, having more than 7,000 of them, each forming a facet of this south Pacific jewel. You see only a small portion of these islands on the average map of the Orient. Our missionaries have worked on several of the major islands, their work now being concentrated on the arm-like island of Palawan in western Philippines.

On this island we have churches, mission stations, and the Palawan Bible Institute. And there is soul-winning, as the above picture shows. That is the Rev. Wayne King at the far right (before he grew his stately-looking beard you will see on next Sunday's bulletin insert).

Pictures are so interesting and thought-provoking at times. Often they stimulate imagination and cause one to wonder what those portrayed (if they are children like the ones shown above) will someday be.

There are nine young Filipinos in the picture. What will these young Christians become? They have not been Christian converts very long. Will some of them become missionaries or ministers to their own people when they grow older? Will some of them become good Christian business men and church

leaders someday? Will they have families of their own and lead their children to Christ early in life as they were?

We don't know. There is something, however, we do know.

We know that with the guidance of our missionaries, the Kings and the Bakers, and others whom God may send there soon, they will be strengthened in the faith and in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and learn to follow the will of God. Perhaps some of them will enroll in PBI, if they have not already done so, and will learn many things from God's Word which will help them in the Christian life. They will learn certain skills in some related Christian secular work which will help raise their standard of living, and make them amazingly progressive in Christian advancement. The Palawan Bible Institute (PBI) is designed to reach the life of the "whole man" and thus make him able to be all the things any of us could be.

As you look at those people in the picture, you must remember that it was your prayers, the prayers of your missionaries, and your gracious gifts that helped win them to Christ.

Now read about the TELETHON below and get in on it next Sunday.

... that utterance may be
ven unto me, that I may open
y mouth boldly, to make known
e mystery of the gospel"
phesians 6:19).

Pastors

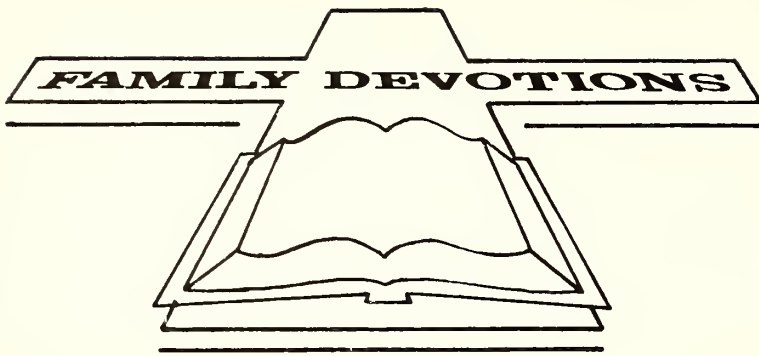
May we suggest that you use
salm 98:2 in your sermon or
evotional reading Sunday? Also
e hope you will play the
assette tape from our
issionaries which was sent to
ou from the Foreign Mission
oard. Let your people become
olved in the Great Com-
ission this month.

Next Sunday, March 16, We Begin the First Day of the

TELETHON

THE NUMBER IS
(919) 734-5946

Many pastors or church treasurers will call the number above, between 1:30 and 5 p.m., and will tell
ev. Joseph Ingram how much their foreign mission offering was that morning—or how much will be sent
uring the month of March. Please join us in this concerted effort to help bring the gospel to the nations.
ur goal is \$25,000.



SUNDAY, MARCH 16

Scripture Reading—Romans
12:1-8

LITTLE FAITH

O Thou of little faith,
God hath not failed thee yet!
When all looks dark and gloomy,
Thou dost so soon forget!

Forget that He has led thee,
And gently cleared thy way;
On clouds has poured His sun-
shine,
And turned thy night to day!

And if He's helped thee hitherto,
He will not fail thee now;
How it must wound His loving
heart
To see thy anxious brow!

Oh! doubt not any longer,
To Him commit thy way;
Whom in the past thou trusted,
And is the same today!

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Little faith accomplishes little;
big faith can move moun-
tains. Trust in God for all things;
He will never leave the faith-
ful nor disappoint those who live
by faith.*

MONDAY, MARCH 17

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 56:
3-8

TELL JESUS

When thou wakest in the morn-
ing,
Ere thou tread the untried way
Of the lot that lies before thee
Through the coming busy day;
Whether sunbeams promise
brightness,
Whether dim forebodings fall,
Be thy dawning glad or gloomy,
Go to Jesus—tell Him all.

In the calm of sweet communion
Let thy daily work be done;
In the peace of soul outpouring
Care be banished, patience won;
And if earth with its en-
chantments
Seek thy spirit to enthral,
Ere thou listen—ere thou an-
swer—
Turn to Jesus—tell Him all!

Then as hour and hour glide by
thee,
Thou wilt blessed guidance
know,
All thy burdens being lightened,
Thou canst help the weak ones
go,
And as thou count thy gain but
loss,
Thou canst raise them up that
fall;
But remember, whilst thou
servest,
Still tell Jesus—tell Him all!
And if weariness creep o'er thee
As the day draws to its close,
Or if sudden fierce temptation
Bring thee face to face with foes.
In thy weakness, in thy peril,
Raise to heaven a truthful call;
Strength and calm for every
crisis
Come—in telling Jesus all!!

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Trust the Lord for all things.
Confide in Him. Remember the
advice of the song: "Tell It to
Jesus." He cares!*

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

Scripture Reading—Galatians
2:1-10

FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM!

What has stripped the seeming
beauty
From these idols of the earth?

Not the sense of right or duty,
But the sight of nobler worth.

Not the crashing of those idols,
With its bitter pain and smart,
But the beaming of His beauty,
The unveiling of His heart.

'Tis the look that melted Peter,
'Tis the face that Stephen saw,
'Tis the heart that wept with
Mary,
Can alone from idols draw.

Draw and win and fill com-
pletely,
Till the cup o'erflow the brim;
What have we to do with idols
Who have companied with Him?

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The most meaningful fellow-
ship any soul can have is that
available with the Son of God.
Nowhere else is there such peace
and understanding.*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

Scripture Reading—John 3:16
18

THE DYING PICKPOCKET

Years ago, during the early
morning hours, a minister was
called to see a notorious pick-
pocket who was dying. The
minister told the man of the
Saviour, and of His willingness to
save him if he would only look to
Him for mercy. Then the
minister knelt and prayed. When
he arose from his knees, the man
was dead! His rapidly-stiffening
fingers were clutching the
minister's gold watch chain. The
sight of the glittering chain and
the urge to steal it from the
preoccupied minister were too
much for the dying pickpocket to
resist.

Covetousness, a disease of the
soul, tightens its grasp upon its
victims right up to death's door!

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Beware of covetousness, a sin
so hard to break free of! God
forgives and saves, certainly, but
the penitent soul must con-
sciously resist old sins and
temptations.*

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 1:1-10

FREE TO ALL MANKIND
I beheld the crimson sun
stretched o'er the western sky,
picture only God could paint,
painting none could buy,
tho't, tho' man be rich or poor,
or bare his walls of art,
God's hung a canvas in the sky
to satisfy each heart.

made within the woodland
fair
symphony of song;
we need not go to concert halls
when birds sing all day long;
no music with their song com-
pares
or they sing not for fame,
they only sing to glorify
their great Creator's name.

like gleaming jewels beneath
the sun
the shimm'ring waters flow,
no diamonds ever brighter shone
and not for wordly show;
upon these beauties we may
feast,
they shine for all to see
that some things money cannot
buy,
some things in life are free.

and as we down life's pathway
tread,
we learn that, after all,
the things that satisfy the most
upon our lives will fall;
if we just look to God alone
within our reach, we'll find,
that music, art, and rarest
jew'ls
are free to all mankind.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*God's marvelous wonders,
revealed in the splendors of
nature, are free for all. May we
never discount the importance of
His handiwork, nor forget to
thank Him for it.*

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 30:24

EXCEPT THEY BE SENT
A young medical doctor came
to his pastor one day and

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

joyously said, "Pastor, I have volunteered for mission service. How thrilled I am to obey the Saviour's command, 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.'" The pastor was delighted. He warmly congratulated the young doctor. Continuing, the doctor said, "I have dedicated my profession, my life, my all to God. I have entered into sacred covenant with God to earn money for Him and expend it in sending out missionaries into the regions beyond with the Gospel of the grace of God!"

Before the judgment seat of Christ, the young doctor will be *equally* rewarded with the missionaries whom his dollars sent to faraway places: "For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike" (1 Samuel 30:24).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Those who cannot go can donate their resources for the sending of others. As we contribute to missions, we give to God. As we give to God, we are truly blessed with abundance.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18:1-8

THAT "DANGEROUS" DOCTRINE

A young Christian had been taught that while a person gets saved through faith in Christ, he must obey the Law of Moses in order to keep saved. When she saw that God's Word teaches that Christians are not under law but under grace, she said, "It's almost too good to be true!" Then she added, "The Bible does seem to say that, but don't you think it is a dangerous doctrine to teach? If Christians knew that, they might go out and do just anything." I said, "You see that that is what the Bible teaches; are you going out now to do all the bad things you can

think of?" I wish you could have seen her look of horror as she said, "No, of course not." "Why not?" I asked. She answered quickly, "Because I love the Lord Jesus." That is the secret of the Christian life.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are under grace, yes, because of the sacrifice of our Lord. Let no man commit a willful sin. Christ died to save us from such, and because we love Him we will never knowingly violate one of His principles.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

PREACHER'S DIARY

Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

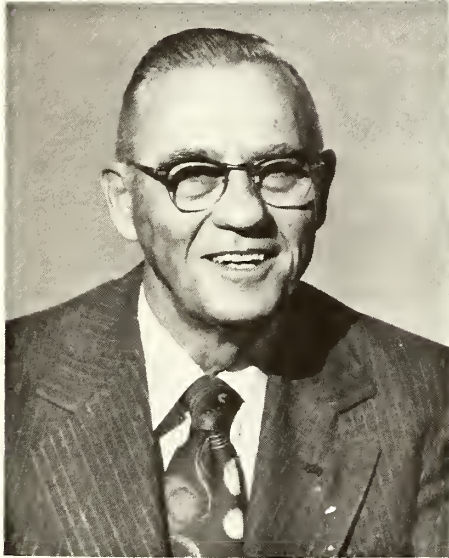
I believe the main requirement to be a good leader is to have a sense of responsibility toward others even when they don't appreciate it.

I have finally come to realize that God has called me to help save my little corner of the world and not to condemn it.

A certain fellow said to me, "Jesus would not have done what you did." I said, "I know but you see, I'm not Jesus."

March is
Foreign Missions
month.

Gum Swamp Church Announces Revival



The Rev. C. L. Patrick

Revival services will be held at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina, March 17 through March 21. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. C. L. Patrick will be the evangelist.

The pastor of the Gum Swamp church is the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Moseley's Creek Church To Have Revival Services

The Rev. Donald Fader of Kinston, North Carolina, will be the evangelist in revival services at the Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, between Dover and Fort Barnville, North Carolina, starting Monday, March 24, and continuing through Friday, March 28. The time of the services will be 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

The Rev. W. H. Willis is pastor of the Moseley's Creek church.

Cabin Church Announces Revival Services, March 17-21

Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Beulaville, will have its spring revival beginning March 17 through March 21, at 7:30 p.m. The prayer room will open at 7:15 p.m. Dean Kennedy, Promotional Assistant to the North Carolina State Home Mission and Church Extension Department, will be the guest speaker. Special music will be presented each night. The pastor is the Rev. William L. Littleton. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival Services at Elm Grove Church



The Rev. Royce Reynolds

Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina, announces that revival services will be held March 17-21. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Royce Reynolds will be the evangelist. The Rev. W. S. Burns is pastor of the Elm Grove church. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is welcome to attend.

David W. Hansley to Teach Eastern Conference Course

The Rev. David W. Hansley will teach the Eastern Conference Ministerial Course starting Monday, April 21, 1980 at 8 p.m. The meeting place will be the meeting room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, Queen Street, Kinston, North Carolina. All licensed ministers and other ministers of the Eastern Conference who have been instructed to do so, and have not taken this course, are required to be at this first session.

The Rev. W. H. Willis, secretary of the examining board of the Eastern Conference requests the help of all churches and ministers of the Eastern Conference to inform licensed ministers of this study course.

White Oak Grove Announces Revival for March 17-21

Revival services will begin at the White Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange beginning March 17 and continuing through March 21. The Rev. Marvin Waters of Pinetown will be the guest speaker.

The pastor, the Rev. Calvin Heath, and members extend everyone a special invitation to attend these services which will begin each evening at 7:30.

Senior Citizens Honored At Robert's Grove Church

On Saturday night, February 16, 1980, the Vanguard I Sunday School Class of Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina, honored the Senior Citizens of the church and community with an appreciation dinner in the fellowship hall of the church. The valentine theme was used to decorate the hall. Lighted kerosene lamps and red roses were used on the tables.

A warm and friendly welcome was given to everyone by J. T. Faircloth, and Wayne Jackson

...ve the invocation. A delicious
...nner was then served to a
...rge group.

Special music was rendered by
...the men of the Vanguard I Class.
...ey sang several selections and
...d a splendid job. Bobby
...hanson introduced the speaker
...r the evening, the Rev. Stewart
...mpfrey, Executive Director
...of the Children's Home and
...rmer pastor of Robert's Grove.
...e brought a very inspirational
...essage. Other remarks and
...omments were given by Gary
...arefoot. The group played
...ngo and everyone received a
...small gift. L. E. McLamb gave
...the benediction.

Invitation and Reminder to Ministers of Western

The Western Conference
Minister's' Fellowship will meet
on March 25 at the Little Rock
Free Will Baptist Church,
Lucama, North Carolina, at 6:30
a.m. A special program is
planned. Dr. William Pausell,
Professor of Religion at Atlantic
Christian College in Wilson, will
be the guest speaker. He will be
speaking on "The Ministers'
Spiritual Development." As the
name implies, the Ministers'
Fellowship is a time for meeting,
Fellowship, and exchanging of
ideas. It is urged that all non-
participating ministers in the
Western Conference also attend
this meeting and enjoy the
spiritual enrichment.

The Rev. DeWayne Eakes is
resident and the Rev. Charles
Penfrow is secretary of the
Ministers' Fellowship.

Friendship Church has Supper

The Growers in Christ Sunday
School Class of Friendship Free
Will Baptist Church, Route 1,
Middlesex, held a Valentine
supper on Saturday night,
February 16, 1980, in the
educational-fellowship building
of the church.

Honored guests were the two
adult classes of the church with
33 people attending.

The building was decorated in
a valentine theme with red
hearts, cupids, and valentines.

The honored guests were given
red hearts to wear and were also
given favors at the table.

A delicious meal was enjoyed
by all. Eugene Glover, class
president, welcomed everyone
after which the Rev. Paul
Grubbs gave the blessing. Judy
Strickland was in charge of the
entertainment and games.

A special feature was singing
by Marty and Bonnie Greene and
Cathy Greene. Everyone seemed
to enjoy this evening of
Christian fellowship.

Pleasant Grove Church Gives Perfect Attendance Awards



The following received pins:
Garland Woolard, Phyllis Bryant,
Windy Bryany, Jeffery Smith, Larue
Dunn, Ivan Price, Steve Layton,
Terry Dunn, Jimmy McCauley,
Rusty Godwin, Vicky Layton, Phil
Lucas, Michael Hayes, Ronnie
Hayes, Frances Hayes, Julie Smith,
Edna Layton, and Ross Layton.

Pleasant Grove Free Will
Baptist Church, Erwin, North
Carolina, gave recognition to
eighteen people on Sunday,
February 24, for perfect at-
tendance for the year 1979.

The following received pins:
Garland Woolard, 10 years;
Phyllis Bryant and Windy
Bryant, 7 years; Jeffery Smith, 4
years; Larue Dunn, 3 years;
Ivan Price, Steve Layton, Terry
Dunn, 2 years; Jimmy
McCauley, Rusty Godwin, Vicky
Layton, Phil Lucas, Michael
Hayes, Ronnie Hayes, Frances
Hayes, Julie Smith, Edna
Layton, and Ross Layton, 1 year.

Cape Fear Union Meeting At Steven's Chapel Church

The Cape Fear Union Meeting
will be held at Steven's Chapel
Free Will Baptist Church,
Benson, North Carolina, on
Saturday, March 28, 1980. The
scheduled program is as follows:

- 10:00—Hymn, Congregation
 - Devotion, the Rev. Davie
Brinson
 - Welcome, Host Church
 - Response, the Rev. Luby
Tyner
- 10:20—Enrollment of Officers
and Ministers
 - Recognition of Visitors
 - Reading of Minutes of
Last Union
 - Appointment of Com-
mittees
 - Roll Call of Churches
 - Report of Denominational
Enterprises
 - Miscellaneous Business
- 11:15—Hymn, Congregation
 - Special Music
 - Offertory and Offertory
Prayer
 - Message, the Rev. Nor-
man Ard
- 12:00—Report of Treasurer
 - Report of Committees
 - Unfinished Business
 - Benediction and Adjourn-
ment
 - Lunch and Christian
Fellowship

The following are officers of
the Cape Fear Union:
moderator, the Rev. Edward
Taylor; assistant moderator, the
Rev. Leonard Woodall;
secretary, Mrs. Dola Dudley;
assistant secretary, Mrs. Ruth
Warrick; treasurer, H. T. Hin-
son; and song director, Johnnie
Woodall.

Albemarle District Meetings at Corinth Church

Corinth Free Will Baptist
Church, Jamesville, North
Carolina, will host the Albemarle
District Meetings (Union
Meeting, Sunday School Con-
vention, and League Convention)
on March 29, 1980. The scheduled
program is as follows:

(Continued on Page 13)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

RELIGIOUS WEEK IS SCHEDULED

A spring Religious Focus Week is planned for March 17-19 sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Fellowship of Mount Olive College.

"Searching the Wells of Life" (John 4:13) will be the theme for several activities planned for the week.

Monday evening, March 17, at 5 p.m., a banquet is planned for members of the Baptist Student Union, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the Free Will Baptist Fellowship.

Tuesday, at the regular 11 a.m. worship service, Joe Schrader, a member of the Campus Crusade for Christ will begin a series of evangelical services. The second service will be held Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. and conclude Wednesday night at 8 p.m. All services will be held in Rodgers Chapel. The public is invited.

Following the Tuesday night service, a fellowship hour will be held in the college student center.

PLAN MADE FOR ANNUAL CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

"HERE WE ARE—PRAISING JESUS" is the theme for the 1980 Christian Music Festival to be held on Saturday, May 3, at Eagles Nest Conference Center. The 1980 festival is being sponsored by the New Creations of Mount Olive College and is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m.

Some of the groups scheduled to appear on the program are the Four in Christ from New Bern; the Watchmen from Goldsboro; and the Hopper Brothers and Connie from Madison.

"The theme for this year truly expresses the purpose of the

Christian Music Festival—that of praising Jesus Christ," explained Caroline Castelloe, College math professor and advisor for the New Creations.

"We hope everyone will plan to come and bring their friends," she added.

MISS BOYKIN NAMED STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Nancy Boykin was welcomed to Mount Olive College with a greeting familiar to her, "Boy, you look and act just like Phillip."

Nancy's brother, Phillip, graduated from Mount Olive last year and now attends Campbell University. Her brother, Freddie, also graduated from Mount Olive in 1974.

"I guess I am a lot like Phillip," stated the platinum blonde Nancy, "but in some ways I'm not."

Although Nancy is described by her friends, like sophomore Debbie Sharp, as "someone who never meets a stranger," the blue-eyed 18-year-old has a quiet side too.

"I have a deep and abiding faith in God. I really enjoy seeing people happy and I like to help them be happy in any way I can. My real ambition is to work in the church, but right now I'm majoring in business," Nancy shared.

Nancy's love for the church and its work is shown through her involvement in and out of college.

As a member of Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church she is past president of the Youth Fellowship Auxiliary, and is currently serving as treasurer of the Western District Youth Convention of the denomination.

At Mount Olive College, she sings with the New Creation

gospel group and serves publicity chairman for the Free Will Baptist Fellowship.

A 1979 graduate of James Hunt High School and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Boykin of Wilson, Nancy describes her favorite pastime as "attending gospel sings."

YOUTH MEETING NOTICE

The Western District Youth Convention will meet at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson on Saturday, March 24 with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served by the host church.

All essays and names of declamation contestants should be mailed to the Western District Youth Chairman no later than March 15.

The convention will elect new officers at this meeting. All churches who wish to nominate someone for an office should notify their candidate to be prepared for a two-minute campaign speech.

All youth leaders are asked to complete the registration form in the back of the AFC and YFC books. These should be mailed to the Western District Youth Chairman or turned in at the convention.

Alane Vest
Western District Youth Chairman
1210 South Tarboro Street
Wilson, North Carolina 27899

Coming Events . . .

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Mission Month

March 15—Eastern District Youth Spring Convention, St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern

March 15—Central District Youth Spring Convention, King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church

March 20—Western District Youth Fellowship Spring Convention

March 20—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention

March 22—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Spring Convention

Children's Home

DUKE ENDOWMENT MAKES GIFT TO HOME

"The Duke Endowment has made annual operating grants to 29 hospitals and children's homes in North Carolina and South Carolina.

Grants totaling \$2,436,730 have been distributed within the past week to 186 hospitals and 43 child caring institutions in the two states, according to Billy G. McCall, executive director of the hospital and child care sections of the Duke Endowment.

McCall pointed out that trustees of the Endowment, in making their annual appropriations for operating expenses, were following the wishes of the Endowment's founder, James B. Duke, who established this pattern of annual support for hospitals and children's homes during his lifetime.¹

"In the residential child care area, 43 institutions received \$61,781 for assistance in the care of orphaned and half-orphaned children. The appropriation this year benefited approximately 2,700 children who are in residence at 42 Carolina institutions, with 24 North Carolina institutions receiving \$585,612, and 19 in South Carolina, \$276,169. During 1979, an additional \$515,000 was appropriated to children's homes for capital and special projects.

The Duke Endowment was established in 1924 by James Buchanan Duke. Its philanthropy extends to four major areas—higher education, health care, child care, and religion. Educational beneficiaries are Duke, Furman, and Johnson C. Smith Universities and Davidson College. In health care, the Endowment assists nonprofit hospitals in the Carolinas with

operating expenses, expanding services, improving patient care, and in providing capital funds for building physical plants, plant additions, and equipment. Child caring institutions in North Carolina and South Carolina are given assistance for the care of orphans and half-orphans, for selected capital projects, and for programs designed to improve services to children. Funds are also provided for building and maintaining rural United Methodist churches in North Carolina and for the support of retired Methodist ministers and dependent families of deceased ministers.²

Our Children's Home received \$13,849.09 for this fiscal year from the Duke Endowment. The Duke gift represents approximately 2.8 percent of our total budget.

Foundations and endowments are a major factor in the ongoing stability of every institution. Our Home needs to continue to build its own endowment program in order to insure systematic growth and development.

Our Lighthouse Endowment Ministry is a beacon of hope for unfortunate children in our state. It shines across the years insuring the boys and girls in the next generation that they will have an opportunity for a Christian Home. We urge our people to help strengthen their beacon of hope by setting or adding to an established endowment.

For more information write or call the Executive Director today.

¹ Public Information Office of the Duke Endowment.

² Public Information Office of the Duke Endowment.

CHANGES IN HOME

"The Orphanage is one of the outstanding achievements of the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. It is the practical expression of the heart and soul of Christianity as it reaches out over the state and gathers the precious human fragments from among the broken ruins of North Carolina Homes. One may point to the Orphanage and say, There is Christianity at work. It is an investment in North Carolina boys and girls, it is an abiding opportunity for voluntary, individual and personal expression of a feeling and desire to help others. It will remain as long as needy children of our State are benefit of their homes.

W. A. Jackson, Chairman
James A. Evans,
Secretary-Superintendent 1

Since opening its doors to children and families in 1920, the Home has undergone many changes; these changes were brought on by the changing needs of children and families in our state. When orphans grew scarce we opened our doors to half-orphans and dependent, neglected children. As the numbers of children needing care increased we built new buildings. Recreation facilities were added. We moved from an institutional concept of care to the self-contained cottage concept. Today the child and his family are viewed as a whole and our ministry seeks to reach out with arms of love and compassion to both child and parent.

The decade of the 80s is calling for new directions in child care. The orphan is almost non-existent. The dependent, neglected child receives care in his own home or in foster care. However, this generation of families is facing a new set of problems. North Carolina homes and families lie in ruins due to divorce, separation, abuse, neglect, abandonment, and the lack of disciplined lives. As surely as we needed to reach out and gather in those precious human fragments in years gone

(Continued on Page 15)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 23

Pilate

Lesson Text: John 19:1-11

Memory Selection: Romans 13:1

I. INTRODUCTION

Many have wondered what happened to Pilate after his encounter with Jesus. Neither the Scriptures nor secular history provide us much light at this point. One tradition tells of his quelling a riot in Samaria with considerable cruelty. This led to his being recalled to Rome to justify his actions. By the time he arrived in Rome, his friend, Emperor Tiberius, had died and Caligula had succeeded him. As a result, he died in exile, perhaps by his own hand.

Some years ago Anatole France wrote a short story, "The Procurator of Judea," that purported to take place during Pilate's exile. He was being questioned about his career, especially about the period he served in Palestine. He was asked about his part in the execution of Jesus. "Jesus?" he asked. "No, Jesus of Nazareth; I don't seem to recall anyone by that name."

Thus the skeptic Anatole France paid his respects to Christianity in a way that irritated and even infuriated many Christians. Yet this kind of rejection of Christ—a rejection that does not even attempt to understand Him—may symbolically be closer to the temper of our age than we would like to admit. Many who reject Christ do so, not because they have examined the evidence and found it lacking, but because they do not take time to examine the

evidence, because they are distracted by other interests, or because they fear accepting Him would cost too much.

This study of Pontius Pilate, based on the Gospel of John, does not give us a complete picture of this infamous procurator of Judea. We need to turn to the synoptic Gospels and to secular history to understand him more fully.

Pilate was appointed to the office in A.D. 26 by Emperor Tiberius, and remained in office for ten years. During his tenure of office, Pilate managed to offend the Jews on several occasions. Once he did so by allowing the Roman soldiers to enter Jerusalem carrying their standards, on which were silver eagles and small images of the emperor. Since the soldiers worshiped these, the Jews were angered because they looked upon this as a form of idolatry. On another occasion he put up on his residence golden shields bearing the name of the emperor. Again the Jews took violent offence at this because it involved emperor worship. On still another occasion he constructed an aqueduct to bring water into Jerusalem. While the project was a needed improvement, the Jews were most unhappy because he took the money that had been dedicated to holy purposes. Before the matter was finally resolved, a riot broke out, leading to considerable bloodshed. Several similar situations arose while Pilate was in office. As a result, he was in a rather precarious position politically and susceptible to pressure from the Jews when they wished to

condemn Jesus.—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. All four of the Gospel writers give us detailed accounts of the betrayal, the so-called "trials" and crucifixion of Jesus and yet, as is characteristic of John, much of the material which he relates even concerning these events, is found nowhere else. He alone tells of the preliminary trial before Annas and about Pilate's conversation with Jesus concerning His kingship and some other things.

B. Pontius Pilate was a proconsul of the Roman government, serving as a governor would over a province of the empire. Many opinions have been expressed concerning him, some good, but most bad. Whatever may be said of him, one thing will always remain: he really had the power to set Jesus free if he had chosen to. Why he did not remains a matter of speculation. He may have been afraid of the Jews, or the Romans; or he may have lacked moral courage, that element of character that makes a man do right regardless of what others do. One thing more may be said of his reason for not setting Jesus free: Pilate may not have cared as much as some think. To wash his hands of the whole affair was easier—so he thought—than coping with it. After all, what was Jesus to him? It must be pointed out here that his final action in this matter was necessary to bring about Jesus' crucifixion, without which there could have been no salvation for sinful mankind.

C. The burden of this lesson is to recognize the power Pilate possessed, what he could have done with it, and to decide whether he used it properly or abused it improperly. An application of the lesson would call attention to our use of the power given us by the Holy Spirit.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Power can be used for the greatest good in human life.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

ver can also be misused for
 greatest evil in human life.
 e difference lies in whose
 ver it is and by whose
 hority it is used. Benevolent
 ers can exercise power for the
 evelopment and good for all
 ir subjects. Dictatorial,
 potic military rulers can use
 ir power for themselves and
 good of the few gathered
 se to them. For a brief time
 olph Hitler had more power
 n any other man in our
 tury, but that power was his
 undoing—and the undoing of
 00,000 Jews in the worst
 ocaust in the history of the
 rld.
 . Our lesson today is on
 ver—its use, abuse, and
 use. The entire discussion
 ters on two individuals: Jesus
 rist and Pontius Pilate. Both
 great power. Christ had
 ver to save Himself from
 th on the Cross but denied
 nself that power that we
 ght be saved. Pilate had
 ver to set Christ free but fear
 ied it to him, and that
 ver—or the misuse of it—was
 undoing.

—The Advanced Quarterly
 (F.W.B.)

ILLUSTRATING THE LES-

N
 Randy was with a group of
 ys who were not Christians as
 was. One of them told an ugly
 ke and used the name of Jesus
 it in a very vulgar manner. All
 e guys laughed, including
 ndy. On the way home he
 ught about it. Had he done
 ong by laughing? He had not
 d anything vulgar, but he had
 ghed at the way the guy used
 sus' name in vain. Had you
 ught that a laugh can be as
 d as word? What we laugh at
 ls others what we are to a
 ry great extent. If we love
 sus we will stand in His
 fense whatever the pressure
 ay be, and we will not com-
 promise our testimony with a
 gh at the wrong time and
 ce.—The Bible Teacher
 .W.B.)

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

UNION MEETING OPENING SESSION

- 10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Steve Hargrove
- 10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Charlie Rice
 —Response, the Rev. Francis Garner
- 10:15—Moderator's Address—the Rev. Charles Overton
- 10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
 —Recognition of Visiting Ministers
 —Roll Call of Churches
- 10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
 —Announcements
 —Prayer Time

BUSINESS SESSION

- 10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
 —Report of Mount Olive College, Via Literature
 —Report of Missions, Via Literature
 —Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
- 10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
 —Report of Treasurer
 —Other Business
 —Announcements of Next Union
- 11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP

- 11:10—Hymn
- 11:20—Special Music, Host Church
- 11:25—Message, the Rev. Robert May
 —Adjournment and Lunch

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

OPENING SESSION

- 1:00—Devotions, the Rev. Charlie Rice
- 1:10—Welcome, Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Dan Davis
 —Response, the Rev. Marvin Waters

1:15—President's Message, Mr. Erwin Foreman

- 1:25—Enrollment of Ministers
 —Recognition of Visiting Ministers
 —Roll Call of Churches and Delegates
 —Bring Reports and Receiving Blanks
 —Announcements
 —Offering for Children's Home
 —Suggestions and Information for the Betterment of Sunday Schools

BUSINESS SESSION

- 2:00—Minutes of Last Convention Read for Information
 —Treasurer's Report
 —New Business
 —Minutes Read and Approved

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

- 2:15—Special Music, Host Church
- 2:25—Benediction and Adjournment

LEAGUE CONVENTION

- 7:30—Devotion, Miss Jayne Jones
- 7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
 —Appointment of Digest Committee
 —Offering
 —Roll Call of Leagues
 —Sword Drill
 —Hymn
 —Recognition of Ministers
 —Announcements
 —Special Music
 —League Program
 —Minutes of Last Convention
 —Business of Digest Committee
 —Report of Digest Committee
 —Awarding of Banners and Picture
 —Treasurer's Report
 —Minutes Read and Approved
 —Adjournment
 Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

**Join Hands
with us
TO MAKE
HIM KNOWN**



IN ALL THE WORLD

“... that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel”
(Ephesians 6:19).

Join Us in a Great

TELETHON

MARCH 16 AND 23 FROM 1:30-5:00

**Call This Number and Tell the Foreign
Mission Board What Your Offering Is**

(919) 734—5946

Our Goal for March is \$25,000



THIS IS A

**call
to
prayer**

Pray that God will lead you in deciding how you should respond in the TELETHON next Sunday (or on the 23rd).

Pray for the success of the TELETHON.

Pray for our missionary families on the foreign fields.

Pray for the national pastors and their families on the mission fields.

Pray that God may speak to the hearts of others He wants on the fields, and that they may hear and obey.

Join thousands of others in these prayers next Sunday.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

not complete his work he was unable to attain that position. The accomplishment of his ministry, however, the Lord of the Second Advent (Mr. Moon) will eventually be recognized by the people of the world. The Lord of the Second Advent is to restore the sovereignty of the cosmos God by prosecuting Satan before Him It is he who, through his prosecution and subjugation of Satan, established the crossing point between good and evil"—from **Divine Principle** by Mr. Moon.

Mr. Moon sees himself as the second messiah, the incarnation of God, and he, through his followers, will convert the world. He argues that God has now thrown away Christianity and has established a new religion, which is the Unification Church. Many of his disciples pray to him and honor him as their "true parents."

Marriage has special religious significance for the "Moonies," and Moon has a role, often in selecting and approving the partners, who must serve the church three years before becoming eligible for the marriage rite. As a form of discipline, they are required to wait forty days after the ceremony before consummating their marriages. Once consummated, many of his core disciples are expected to work as missionaries for the first three years of their marriage, separated from their mates. (Certainly not the biblical teaching of marriage and family!)

Jesus spoke of those who come proclaiming a new message by saying, "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matthew 7:15). Mr. Moon proclaims a new faith, a new doctrine, and a new salvation, that are not biblical, thus deceiving hundreds of thousands of young people who perish for lack of truth. That truth is Jesus Christ, the living and resurrected Lord of creation. Mr. Moon's "salvation" is a man-made salvation which is based on his own set of doctrines, heresies, contradictions, and denials of Christianity and Scripture!

Beware of those who come in the name of the Unification Church, with enticing words of peace and brotherhood, who, in reality, are false prophets. Let the truth of the Scriptures be proclaimed that salvation is of the Lord Jesus Christ. "For by grace ye are 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). And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know Him that is true, and we are in Him that is true, even in his Son, Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life" (1 John 5:20).

SALE

10 Percent off on a Selected Group of
Easter Books and Merchandise
including

Easter Books and Booklets, Cards, Envelopes, Napkins
All pertaining to Easter

FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS

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ATTENTION NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The 1980 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 8, at the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church near Farmville. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of \$10.

Many auxiliaries mail their fees in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegates the trouble of handling the money.

IMPORTANT: Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, so that I will have time to get the list prepared and delivered to the convention registration committee for use on the morning of May 8. If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fees anyway, as the convention needs your support. Mail fees to the following address: Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, State Woman's Auxiliary Treasurer, 517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

Children's Home

(Continued from Page 11)

by, we need to continue to do so today. We have new challenges facing us and our people need to be made aware of these opportunities to serve children in the next decade. Therefore, our Board of Directors will be attempting, through the Free Will Baptist paper, area conferences, and meetings with individuals and groups to acquaint our people with the current trends in child care during the spring and summer. We look forward to seeing each of you during the spring to share with you how Free Will Baptists can go on caring for needy children in our state.

I W. A. Jackson, James A. Evans,
"The Free Will Baptist Orphanage,
Middlesex, N. C.," *The Free Will Baptist*,
Volume LVIII, Number 35, (September 8,
1943), p.8.

PRE-EASTER SALE

50 Percent Off on One Group of Children's Books



SHOP NOW!

A Friend Is One Who Helps	\$3.95
My Baby Brother Needs Me	\$4.95
Baby in a Basket	\$4.95
The Great Big Boat	\$4.95
Glad or Sad—How Do You Feel?	\$4.95
My Book of Special Days	\$3.50
I'm Glad to Be Me	\$4.95
Gus and Family	\$2.50
Gus and Play	\$2.50
Thank You Lord for Me	\$4.95
When I Am Afraid	\$4.95
But I Am Thankful—I Really Am	\$4.95
Thank You, God for Fall	\$4.50
Thank You, God for Winter	\$4.50
Thank You, God for Spring	\$4.50
Thank You, God for Summer	\$4.50
The Happiest Day	\$4.95
Paula's Feeling Angry	\$3.95
Little Boy Samuel	\$4.95
Growing Up	\$3.95
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The Free Will Baptist



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

**A LOOK AT "CLOTH" MINISTRIES:
ARE THEY LEGITIMATE?
DO THEY CAPITALIZE
ON BLIND TRUST?
DO THEY POSSIBLY PROMISE
GUARANTEES GOD
NEVER INTENDED?**

Blessed Handkerchiefs and Such

ARE "CLOTH" MINISTRIES LEGITIMATE?

About twenty years ago a popular minister advertised his prayer cloths over radio. He proposed these cloths as cure-alls and insisted that every believer should have one. He had personally prayed over each one (so he claimed), calling down the blessings of God. These blessings were subsequently "stored" in the fabric of the cloth.

The power of God would be unleashed, he declared, when the believer held or placed the cloth on his body in faith. The miraculous cures could be obtained only if the listener procured one of the cloths. The cloth could be obtained by writing to the radio evangelist and donating a requested amount for "the continuance of the gospel." Every effort was made to secure a substantial offering, as the listener was advised that his blessings would probably come in proportion to his generosity.

The instructions given by the minister encouraged the possessor to carry the prayer cloth in his pocket, handbag, or elsewhere on his person "so God's healing and blessing power can flow uninterrupted." The faithful were forewarned about scoffers who would question the powers of the cloth, and they were counselled to dismiss doubters as unchristian. Those professing Christians who questioned the effectiveness of the cloth were to be marked "unenlightened." And when the minister aired personal testimonies of a dozen or more miracle cases which represented (he said) thousands who had claimed God's blessings through the cloths, his ministry achieved a certain credibility.

In times past, those ministers who used such tactics to reach an audience to make "partners" of listeners or viewers were not highly thought of by the conventional church. The whole idea of selling blessed cloths seemed a little questionable, almost dishonorable. Selling blessings, or avenues of blessings, or tangible articles of blessings was a type of gimmickry, and certainly not in keeping with the usual ethics of traditional Christianity.

Today (though still not embraced by most fundamental churches), more than a few ministers peddle their wares via radio and television, television being the stronger medium and most likely channel of appeal. Camera scans of studio audiences and taped interviews lead viewers to believe that the ministry reaches and appeals to more than the poor and uneducated. Many such ministries have taken on greater dignity and quieter reverence, thus gaining respect from some who formerly might not have given a second look.

The ministers look real enough and act sincere enough. And certainly some of the so-called "cloth" or "handkerchief" preachers must be sincere. Surely some must love the Lord and must be called to His work, but enough of them raise such serious questions as to make me wary of them all.

What is perhaps most disturbing is the cost of God's blessings—anywhere from five to twenty-five dollars per cloth (and more!), with the latter being a guarantee for greater success. Health, financial, and job security are the most popular guarantees, with success in marriage promised by a few of the braver ministers. If God's blessings are awarded only to those who have access to blessed articles (prayer cloths, blessed handkerchiefs, tokens, or whatever), what happens to the unfortunates who haven't the price of a cloth? Though some ministers try, they cannot get blessed cloths into every home.

I was rebuked recently by a conscientious person who took issue with my opinion of "cloth blessing." He advised me that

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MARCH 19, 1980

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Number

Tommy Manning,
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect the spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and address to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor of *The Free Will Baptist*. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.
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The Challenge of the 80s

For Free Will Baptists

Stewart Humphrey, Executive Director

CHILDREN, the church of tomorrow, some of us. We say they are also the church of today. As we grow older and retire it will be our children who administer our church programs and our government and take care of us. In order for our children to be prepared for their future we must make available opportunities that will enable them to become responsible leaders. Our college has set out to become a four-year institution to help fulfill the challenge of the 80s. Quality Christian education is a must for the next generation. Cragmont has reached out into the 80s and beyond in its planning for youth. Cragmont is the hot spot of decision for hundreds of Free Will Baptist young people. Cragmont leaders had to embark on a mission of great faith in order to achieve their goals for the 80s.

Free Will Baptists, in addition to supporting other programs beneficial to youth, accepted the challenge of the homeless child in 1920 and for 60 years the Free Will Baptist Church has opened its arms of love to the orphaned, dependent, neglected, and abused child. More than 700 children have spent some part of their lives, several months,

others several years, on our campus.

Each decade presented new challenges to us in child care. With each new challenge came an adequate response from Free Will Baptist people.

Our people prayed and gave, and new programs and services, buildings and equipment resulted, and accrediting standards were met. Today we have one of the best-equipped campuses in the child care community. Our programs for orphaned, dependent, neglected, and abused children are comparable to any in this state. Since the mid-70s we have been licensed by the Department of Human Resources of the State of North Carolina. We are recognized by our peers as a "good" child-care institution. Each year for the past decade we served an average of 80 children, who will go forth into the world with the opportunity to be better persons, better parents, and better citizens. Their physical, educational, and emotional needs were met; and their spiritual awareness quickened by having lived on our campus.

Modern medicine, the absence of war in the world, a lower birthrate and the emphasis on

reuniting families have resulted in a lower daily population on our campus. This trend is common to all children's homes. The completely orphaned child is almost non-existent. Social Security and Welfare programs have limited the number of dependent children coming into care. Emphasis on reuniting families has reduced the period of care from several years to several months. Intake and discharge are a daily routine involving a great deal more social work skill and practice. Families are being reunited. With the adoption of new permanency planning programs by the state, children previously caught in foster care drift or doomed to institutional care will be able to have a permanent home. Many parents who are unwilling to provide for their children or to release them for permanent placement will have custody of their children removed by court order and placed with legal custodians and adoptive parents who are willing to provide the children with a good home. This includes children who for years have been placed in children's homes.

Consequently, the role of the children's homes of the future

Turn the Page

will also need to change to meet the needs of the children in the 80s.

There will be a continuing need for group care for orphaned, dependent, neglected, and abused children for some time to come, but this need will continue to decrease.

Along with a decreasing need for this type of care, however, there is an increasing need for other kinds of child care. Emergency care is one such need. Emergency care facilities provide resources for county departments as well as private families to place their children on a moment's notice for a period of not more than 30 to 90 days. With the variety of programs and services available today a great deal more attention is given to what the basic needs of a child and his family really are. Quite often it is found that there are programs and services available to a family in its own community enabling the family to stay together. If the situation is intense, such as in the case of extreme neglect or abuse, the child can be placed in emergency care for a short time and returned home as soon as the home situation is stabilized. Hundreds of families need this kind of care each year. All indications are that this need will grow.

During the last several sessions of our State Legislature, the Juvenile Code of our state has been reviewed and restructured. Status offenders, teenagers usually, youths who are having trouble at home, or have run away from home, who are having difficulties in school and may have been suspended, who have committed no crimes, are no longer being sentenced to our state's training schools. They are often products of broken families and have lacked proper supervision. Some of them will have been deserted by parents caught up in their own personal problems. Emotional stress and strain on the family today have resulted in the breakdown of parent-child relationships, often to the point that the

child needs a period of adjustment outside his home. The list of difficulties goes on. Dozens of youngsters in our state are somewhere between a troubled home and/or school situation and being forced into a life of crime. Many of them can be helped. Several new programs have been developed for these children. The programs are more structured, goal-oriented, and more rigidly supervised than the usual group care programs. Remedial educational programs, occupational training, as well as group and personal counseling, are distinctive features of these programs. The child progresses through levels of care helping him deal with his own personal problems as well as with his relationships with others. The average period of care is usually 6 months to a year, depending on the child's progress.

One of our greatest needs in group care today is a program of this kind. Good families have their difficult times when their children are teenagers. Children's Homes have an even more difficult time. The teenagers we serve come to us from broken families. Having failed with those closest to them they are reluctant to trust anyone. Quite often, unless the youngster has a strong will to succeed, he will get further behind in school, become a discipline problem and may try to solve his problems by running away. All Children's Homes, including our own, are finding that the child care programs to which we are accustomed are inadequate to deal with these boys and girls. Discharges due to aggressive and abusive behavior toward other children are numerous. They are returned to the same families who couldn't care for them in the first place, or worse, emancipated. Emancipation puts them on the street where they have no home, no job, and nowhere to turn, except to crime. The structured programs for adolescents are needed, not only by the counties, but they are needed by our own Children's Home as well.

The two most requested services and the two services most needed presently by our own Family Service workers are Emergency Care and Alternative Care for Troubled Adolescent. County Social Service Departments are in desperate need for both of these services now and expect the need to grow. Hundreds of children and families could be served by our Children's Home were we to enter into these types of program.

We already have the physical facilities for either one or both of these programs. Neither would entail significant increase in staff or expense to the Children's Home and to our denomination.

The crucial determining factor in the future of Free Will Baptist child care is the availability of children to the agency. Our applications are not increasing; if anything, they are decreasing and will continue to do so.

The discharge rate is up due to shorter periods of care, better child care techniques and emphasis on working with families. As a result, we have fewer children in our daily population. Two years ago the Albemarle Cottage was closed to child care. In January of this year, Rodgers Cottage was closed. If the current trends in applications and discharges continue we could face the possibility of the closing of an additional cottage within a year.

These closings can be interpreted as a lack of need for child care programs or they can be looked upon as opportunities for new services to children. Emergency Care, programs for Troubled Adolescents, or some other program for children.

Before any new programs can be developed, or even for the survival of our existing programs, we must deal with our basic problem—the factors that are limiting the Free Will Baptist Children's Home from receiving applications for children. In examining this issue our Board of Directors

discovered several things. One, we were limiting our intake by or maximum age for admission. Consequently, age for admission was extended from 12 to 18 years of age and the maximum length of stay on campus was extended to 21 years of age for children who had not finished school due to educational difficulties. Second, our Board extended our scope of services from the orphaned, half-orphaned, dependent, neglected, and abused child to include the status offender and disciplined child as described by the courts. Another major factor that inhibits the Children's Home's availability to the children and families in need in our state is our inability to receive children through our county departments as well as from out-of-state Free Will Baptist Churches and communities. The county departments are placing two-thirds of the children in group care in the state at this time.

A survey of county departments has indicated that there is a need by the departments for our present program, as well as for Emergency Care and programs for Troubled Adolescents. The county directors indicate they would begin to place children with us immediately upon our becoming an eligible resource for placement. This action would solve our problem of declining population in our present program and enable us to begin programs in Emergency Care for troubled adolescents and other programs that may be expedient in the future.

Some public funding would automatically become available, as well as thousands of dollars worth of services that we cannot duplicate. Immediately the question arises, "Will the government take over the Home?" In a survey of all the other Homes in the state not a single Home had felt any outside pressure from governmental agencies.

Our current level of giving as a church should be maintained so that we would not become so dependent on public funds that we could not refuse these services and funds if the Home wished to do so. In actuality, the government has no legal authority over or guidelines for child care agencies at present because the agencies have licensed themselves and maintained a high standard of care. Government intervention need only be feared by substandard agencies which **exploit children and mishandle the funds** entrusted them by their church contributors, public agencies, and private individuals. The high standards Free Will Baptists have set for their Children's Home would ensure that there would be no intervention, public or private, into the affairs of the Home.

Another major concern for some people is the acceptance of minorities into the program. Again, the homes were surveyed and not a single home reported any significant problems. A great deal of preparation for our staff, and our current child care population would have to be made, of course. The counties have assured us that we would not be expected to take a minority child until we were prepared to meet that child's need as well as we are prepared to meet the needs of children currently in care. When the time comes for the first admission of minority children careful planning and preparation for the cottage receiving the child or children would have been made. Again, we repeat, none of the homes in the state have had any major problems.

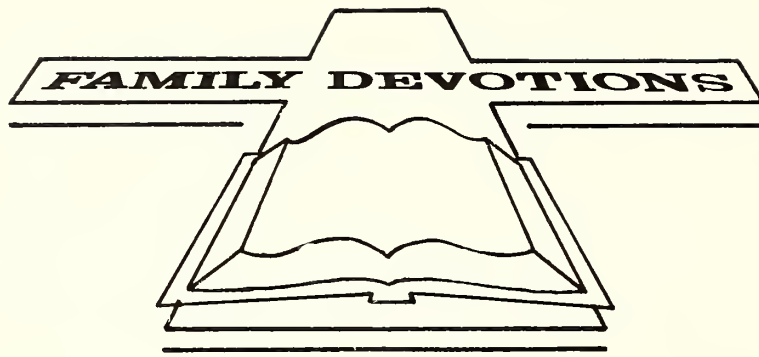
As pointed out before, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home has the physical resources and most

of the manpower needed to expand our programs for children. Little, if anything, needs to be done to existing buildings already available. We have one empty cottage. There are empty beds in the others. We have other space available to accommodate program expansions of various kinds. We could enter Emergency Care almost immediately with current staff. Time for program development and retraining current staff members would be needed for the structured programs for troubled adolescents.

All of these expanded hopes for children are well within our ability as a church. Jesus called the sick and troubled unto Him, and speaking of children He said, ". . . do not forbid, or restrain, or hinder them . . ." Let us accept our Lord's challenge and cast off the ties that bind us. The children of the 80s need us more than the children of our first 60 years of service.

In order for the Children's Home to meet its challenge for the children of the 80s we will be holding meetings in our conferences very soon to inform our people of these pressing needs. An informed people is a progressive people. Help the Children's Home meet the challenges it faces in the 80s by supporting us in these area meetings with your presence and prayers. In these meetings the opportunities that lie before us as Free Will Baptists will be detailed. Also, we will be looking to our people for their ideas and their wishes regarding the expanding of our programs and services to children and the steps that need to be taken to meet the challenges before us. We look forward to seeing each of you soon in your area meeting.

"In order for our children to be prepared for their future we must make available opportunities that will enable them to become responsible leaders . . . The children of the 80s need us more than the children of our first 60 years of service."



SUNDAY, MARCH 23

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 2:9-12

ONE DAY AT A TIME

One day at a time, with its failures and fears,
 With its hurts and mistakes, with its weakness and tears,
 With its portion of pain and its burden of care;
 One day at a time we must meet and must bear.

One day at a time—but the day is so long—
 And the heart is not brave and the soul is not strong.
 O Thou merciful Christ, be Thou near all the way;
 Give courage and patience and strength for the day.

Swift cometh His answer, so clear and so sweet:
 "Yea, I will be with thee, thy troubles to meet;
 I will not forget thee, nor fail thee, nor grieve;
 I will not forsake thee; I never will leave."

One day at a time, and the day is His day;
 He hath numbered its hours, though they haste or delay.
 His grace is sufficient, we walk not alone;
 As the day, so the strength that He giveth His own.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should live one day at the time—each to its fullest, never forgetting that "only what's done for God will last."

MONDAY, MARCH 24

Scripture Reading—Psalm 141:5-10

He Keeps the Key

Is there some problem in your life to solve.
 Some passage seeming full of mystery,
 God knows, who brings the hidden things to light.

He keeps the key

Is there some door closed by the Father's hand
 Which widely opened you had hoped to see?
 Trust God and wait—for when He shuts the door,

He keeps the key.

Is there some earnest prayer unanswered yet,
 Or answered not as you had thought 'twould be?
 God will make clear His purpose by-and-by.

He keeps the key.

Have patience with your God, your patient God,
 All-wise, all-knowing, no long tarrier He,
 And of the door of all thy future life

He keeps the key.

Unfailing comfort, sweet and blessed rest,
 To know of every door He keeps the key
 That He at last, when just He sees 'tis best,
 Will give it thee.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The key to all blessings, hopes, answered prayers—the key to everything spiritually edifying

rests with God. Trust Him for things good.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25

Scripture Reading—Acts 7:26

DRAWING THE LINE

Where should we draw the line and how?

This is the question we parent face now,
 In a day when nothing seems very wrong—
 When "Christians" are much the same as the throng.

These, our children, have truth not known
 Of things true Christians would never condone
 Back in the days before the time—
 Could we have failed to draw the line?

"Father above," today we cry,
 "Is it too late yet to rectify
 The mistake we have made drifting along
 With no move against what you once thought wrong?
 We parents must bow our heads in shame,
 While Thy mercy and help we humbly claim
 To still be able to draw the line
 In a way that will help in plenty of time!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Does anyone wonder concerning your Christianity? If so, there might be cause for you to reexamine some of your habits and attitudes.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

Scripture Reading—Revelation 3:5

MY BOOK OF LIFE

I closed another chapter
 In my book of life today,
 And paused for meditation
 As I laid the book away.

I thought of smudgy pages
 Where the record was not clear,

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

And dreary lines of trouble
Clouded o'er by doubt and
fear.

Is now too late to alter
Any script that's dried and set:
The story's far from perfect,
But it's vain to stew and fret.

Asked the Lord to pardon
The mistakes that mar the
book,
And give me grace and courage
By a hopeful, Christ-ward look.

Now, there lies before me
A new chapter clean and white.
And I hope to write its pages
So the plot will turn out right.

Trust the final chapters
Will the Master's plan reveal,
And weave the many fragments
To depict a life that's real.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*How does your book of life
and up under examination?
Consider carefully the record
you are making.*

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

Scripture Reading—Mark 11:11

EVENTIDE

At cool of day, with God I walk
My garden's grateful shade;
I hear His voice among the trees,
And I am not afraid.

He speaks to me in every wind,
He smiles from every star;
He is not deaf to me, nor blind,
Nor absent, nor afar.

In His hand that shuts the flowers
To sleep,
Each in its dewy fold,
I trust my feeble life to keep,
And competent to hold.

He powers below and powers
above,
Are subject to His care—
I cannot wander from His love
Who loves me everywhere.

Thus dowered, and guarded thus,
With Him
I walk this peaceful shade;

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

I hear His voice among the trees,
And I am not afraid.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*When God is near, no one
should have cause to fear. He
keep and protects. He is the
Supreme Ruler of all that's good.
Think of Him at eventide—and
always!*

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23:3

WAIT MY SOUL

Wait, my soul, upon the Lord
To His gracious promise flee,
Laying hold upon His Word,
"As thy days thy strength shall
be."

If the sorrows of thy case
Seem peculiar still to thee,
God has promised needful grace,
"As thy days thy strength shall
be."

Days of trial, days of grief,
In succession thou mayst see;
This is still thy sweet relief,
"As thy days thy strength shall
be."

Rock of Ages, I'm secure,
With Thy promise full and
free;
Faithful, positive, and sure—
"As thy days thy strength shall
be."

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Those who wait upon the Lord
will have His blessing. Do not
despair; He will lead you
through every dark way. He
will provide needed strength.*

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

Scripture Reading—Matthew
28:19, 20

YOUNG MISSIONARY

A young missionary, after
spending some years in China,
came home an invalid. His
health had failed him, but he still
had the yearning, burning heart
of a true missionary. His heart
was with the perishing millions
of China. In speaking of them he
said: "I can't sleep for thinking
about them!"

There are ninety and nine that
safely lie,
In the shelter of the fold,
But millions are left outside to
die,
For the ninety and nine are
cold!
Away in sin's delusive snare,
Hastening to death and dark
despair,
Hastening to death and none to
care,
For the ninety and nine are
cold!

PRAYER THOUGHT

*All of us have considered those
still lost in sin, but how seriously
do we live that life which has as
its primary purpose to bring
others into the fold? Can we be
classified as "Cold Christians"
who don't practice soul-winning?*

PREACHER'S DIARY

Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

I am persuaded that life
really begins when our
personal relationship with
God has grown to the point
that we are not afraid to die.

There is still a lot of beauty
and happiness left in the
world for those who seek
after it.

The thing that generally
makes the person is not
altogether where he's coming
from; but rather where he is
headed.

*March is
Foreign Missions
month.*

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

HIGH SCHOOL VISITORS



High school students visit campus.

High School students often visit the Mount Olive College campus whether they are visiting current students or are brought by College alumni. Associate Director of Admissions, Dianne Riley, center, leads such a group on a campus tour.

HIGH SCHOOL DAY AND FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP ON SATURDAY

A Saturday full of events has been planned for Spring High School Day, March 22, on the Mount Olive College campus.

Registration is scheduled for 9:30 a. m., and campus tours will be conducted for those persons unfamiliar with the campus.

Several Mount Olive College Alumni will share their views on successful college preparation and career planning at an Alumni Forum at 10:30 a.m.

All major college administrators will be available for

questions and answers at 11 a.m.

The luncheon will feature entertainment by the Mount Olive Singers in the auditorium on the downtown campus.

The Financial Aid Workshop that was previously snowed out on March 1 will begin at 1:30 p.m. All parents and students desiring information about attending any college are welcome to attend.

Specific financial aid procedures and programs will be explained, as well as how to determine need, how to apply, and other information. For more information, contact the Admissions Office or Vice-Pres-

dent and Dean at Mount Olive College at 658-2502.

TOUR GIVEN



Free Will Baptist students of Mount Olive, Lois Venable and Randy Caroon, enjoy showing a group of prospective students what Mount Olive College has to offer. Spring High School Day Saturday, March 22 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

DON'T FORGET!

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of song and testimony at Yelverton Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield, Sunday, March 23, at the 11 a.m. worship service.

Sunday evening, the group will perform at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church near Clayton.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT IS PIERSON LECTURER

Former CBS Foreign Correspondent, Bob Evans, is the featured speaker for the annual Pierson Lecture at Mount Olive College Monday, March 24, at 7 p.m. in the auditorium on the downtown campus. Admission free, and a reception will follow.

His timely topic, "Iran: Afghanistan—How High the United States Stakes," will take the listener on an adventure through the Middle East countries where Evans has covered the news for CBS over the past several years.

In addition to his research on the Ayatollah Khomeini
(Continued on Page 15)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Retirement Homes

by Stewart Humphrey

JANUARY WAS RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH

January, 1980, was the best month yet for our Retirement Homes, so far as income goes. During this month, our offerings amounted to more than \$2,000. This is more than double our normal monthly income.

On behalf of our retirees we would like to thank every church and individual who had a part in making January such a good month.

All five of our apartments are rented. All indications are that we need to plan for additional apartments as soon as possible. Housing for retirees is becoming more of a problem every day. Much of the public housing offered is unsuitable for Christians who wish to live in a quiet, safe neighborhood. Our Retirement Homes program is the answer. It may be your answer. Put our Retirement Homes and our retirees on your prayer list. Help make our Retirement Homes program grow. Send a generous contribution. You may be preparing for your own retirement or that of a favored pastor or friend.

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

October, November, December 1979
TOTAL: \$2878.97

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

District Convention \$ 50.00
TOTAL \$ 50.00

BLUE RIDGE CONFERENCE

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel \$ 75.00
Casey's Chapel 196.00

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Goldsboro, First	20.00
Hopewell	20.00
Johnston Union	20.00
Oak Grove	10.00
Smithfield, First	50.00
Victory Mission	20.00
Wooten's Chapel	23.85
TOTAL	\$434.85

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Ayden	\$100.00
Bethany	13.42
Daniels Chapel	120.00
Dawsons Grove	20.00
Edgewood	10.00
Elm Grove	20.00
Friendship	20.00
Harrell's Chapel	10.00
Hugo	20.00
Hull Road	100.00
King's Cross Roads	10.00
LaGrange	20.00
Little Creek	20.00
Reedy Branch	34.50
Rocky Mount, First	50.00
Rose of Sharon	200.00
Tarboro, First	150.00
Union Number 2	10.75
Williamston, First	34.92
TOTAL	\$963.59

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Arapahoe	\$100.00
Beaufort Mission	5.00
Croatan	25.00
Dublin Grove	15.00
Holly Springs	20.00
Lanier's Chapel	6.00
Oriental	18.00
Sound View	10.00
TOTAL	\$199.00

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION

Union Number 1	\$ 10.00
TOTAL	\$ 10.00

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Community	\$ 50.00
TOTAL	\$ 50.00

ROCKFISH CONFERENCE

TOE RIVER ASSOCIATION

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Barnes Hill	\$150.00
Flood's Chapel	12.00
Friendship	100.00
District Auxiliary Convention	100.00
People's Chapel	50.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Pleasant Grove	20.00
Rains Cross Roads	20.00
Spring Hill	400.00
St. Mary's	100.00
Western District Fund	27.09
TOTAL	\$977.00

STATEWIDE

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

January 1980

TOTAL: \$1738.63

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Mount Tabor	\$ 20.00
TOTAL	\$ 20.00

BLUE RIDGE CONFERENCE

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	\$ 95.00
Johnston Union	145.60
Oak Grove	25.00
Smithfield, First	50.00
Victory Mission	42.32
Wooten's Chapel	40.30
TOTAL	\$398.22

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	\$ 10.00
Bethany	13.45
Friendship	572.00
Spring Branch	15.00
Union Number 2	15.41
TOTAL	\$625.86

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Beaufort Mission	\$ 5.00
Croatan	25.00
Gray Branch	100.00
Indian Springs	75.00
Kinston, First	80.00
Pearsall's Chapel	100.00
Welcome Home	25.00
TOTAL	\$410.00

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION

Union Number 1	\$ 15.00
TOTAL	\$ 15.00

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Heritage Mission	\$ 79.55
TOTAL	\$ 79.55

ROCKFISH CONFERENCE

TOE RIVER ASSOCIATION

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Friendship	\$ 50.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Watson's Grove	40.00
TOTAL	\$190.00

STATEWIDE

MEMORIALS

HONORARIUMS

BY **IN HONOR OF**
Bethel Free Will Baptist Church
(Cape Fear) Mrs. Gertrude Ballard

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.

Receipts and Expenses
For Month of February, 1980

Checking Account
Balance Brought Forward \$293.03

Receipts

North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention		
Juniper Chapel	\$ 20.00	
Sound View	5.00	
Sandy Plain	20.00	
Holly Springs (Newport)	25.00	
Winterville	25.00	
Pee Dee District	60.00	
Sound View	5.00	
Westside	50.00	
Bethlehem	100.00	
Sarecta	10.00	
Juniper Chapel	20.00	
Richlands	45.00	
Albemarle District Convention	173.00	
Moseley's Creek	20.00	
Fremont	7.50	
Kenly	25.00	
Micro	20.00	
Pleasant Grove (Pikeville)	20.00	
Unity	9.00	
Free Union (Nash)	2.70	
St. Mary's (Wilson)	7.50	
Union Grove	3.00	
Black Jack	25.00	
Hull Road	46.00	
Lee's Chapel	50.00	
St. Mary's Grove	20.00	
Wooten's Chapel	20.00	
Arapahoe	9.00	
Bridgeton	5.00	
Core Creek	3.60	
Cabin	25.00	
Holly Springs (Newport)	20.00	
Warden's Grove	25.00	
Fremont	3.75	
Black Jack	50.00	
Friendship (Greene)	25.00	
Free Union (Greene)	4.35	
Gum Swamp	4.50	
Howell Swamp	3.00	
Hull Road	6.00	
Pee Dee District Convention	25.00	
Hopewell	20.00	
Friendship (Jones)	25.00	
Smyrna	20.00	
White Oak Grove	117.20	
Sound View	5.00	
Gray Branch	20.00	
Beulaville	50.00	
St. Mary's (New Bern)	20.00	
Warden's Grove	25.00	
Northeast	3.75	
Davis	4.20	
Pearsall Chapel	20.00	
Christian Service Fund	<u>129.74</u>	1,502.79
Albemarle Conference		
Free Union	54.00	
Albemarle Union Meeting	67.32	

Hickory Chapel	<u>200.00</u>	321.32
Central Conference		
Rocky Mount, First	40.00	
Friendship	25.00	
Edgewood	15.00	
Ayden	20.00	
Hull Road	<u>300.00</u>	400.00

Cape Fear Conference		
Hopewell Sunday School	48.29	
Goldsboro, First	<u>200.00</u>	248.29

Eastern Conference		
Lanier's Chapel	50.00	
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention		
Convention	10.00	
Jackson Heights	<u>30.82</u>	90.82

Western Conference		
Mt. Zion (Spring Hope)	100.00	
Milbournie	23.00	
First Western District Sunday School Convention		
Unity	50.00	
St. Mary's	275.00	
Marsh Swamp		
Adrian Fulcher	10.00	
Sherron Acres	125.00	
Harry Grubbs	100.00	
Little Rock	<u>200.00</u>	1,008.00

Others, not identified by conference		
John and Arlinda Williams	80.00	
Martha Karachum	20.00	
Retreat Deposits	425.00	
Transfer from		
General Savings	1,031.39	<u>1,556.39</u>

Total Receipts \$5,127.61 \$5,127.61

Expenses		
Salaries		1,010.00
Insurance		112.00
Board Meeting		
Expense and Mileage		54.35
Utilities and Phone Service		602.94
Transfer to Savings	739.55	
General Fund	<u>1,498.05</u>	
Building Fund		2,237.60
Taxes		7.81
Bank Service Charge		28.21
Office Machines		582.39
Employee Benefits		89.58
Food		150.76
Stationery		189.55
Miscellaneous		<u>152.84</u>

Total Expense 5,218.03
Checking Balance 2 / 29 / 80 202.61

General Savings		
Balance 2 / 1 / 80		1,458.36
Transferred from Checking	739.55	
Transferred to Checking	(1,031.39)	(291.84)
Balance 2 / 29 / 80		<u>1,166.52</u>

Building Fund		
Balance 2 / 1 / 80		432.88
Transferred from Checking		1,498.05
Balance 2 / 29 / 80		<u>1,930.93</u>

Total of All Funds on Hand 2 / 29 / 80 \$3,300.06

Respectfully submitted,
John R. Watson, Treasurer

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For March 30

Thomas

Lesson Text: John 11:16; 14:1-7;
20:24-29

Memory Verse: John 20:29

INTRODUCTION

Today's lesson is based on three different passages from the Gospel of John. The first, a single verse (John 11:16), tells us something of Thomas' courage. At the time this incident happened, Jesus was carrying on a ministry in Perea, the area to the east of the Jordan River. In the midst of that ministry word came that Lazarus had died. Jesus delayed His departure for Bethany, and when He finally announced His intention to return to Judea, the disciples were apprehensive, knowing that the Jews sought to kill Him. In the midst of that apprehension, Thomas uttered the words in this part of our text.

The second passage (John 14:1-7) reports a part of Jesus' conversation with the disciples in the upper room either during or following the initiation of the Lord's Supper. After Jesus had begun to tell them of His coming suffering and death, He could tell by their countenances and questions that they were distressed and perplexed. His words came to comfort and strengthen them.

The third passage tells of Jesus' visit to the upper room on the Sunday following His resurrection. Thomas had not been with the disciples when Jesus had visited them the previous week. As a result, he would not believe in the Resurrection until he had seen conclusive proof of it.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Faith and doubt are twins, belonging to the same family. The closeness of their relationship is often not seen, and even when it is seen it may be misunderstood. Doubt, when honestly experienced, can be a wholesome basis for faith—driving us to find truth which would be evasive if there had been no doubt. However, there is no virtue in doubting merely for doubting's sake. For example, many doubt that Jesus rose from the dead, as did Thomas, and become proud of their doubting, never making an attempt to discover the truth. But if that same person puts his doubts in the right perspective and makes a diligent effort to discover whether he is wrong, that doubting can lead to blessed realization of truth. This was what Thomas did, and he was happy in the end.

B. There is nothing to boast of in doubting; rather, it may lead to disappointment and defeat. But when it is used or experienced as a means to a better end, we can be happy in the revelations it finally brings. No one will doubt that Thomas found that happiness when it was revealed to him—by Jesus himself—that his doubting brought fruit.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. This unit, "Finding Victory Through the Risen Christ," consists of this lesson and the one for next Sunday. These two lessons bring the studies in the Gospel of John to a fitting

climax. The first, on Thomas, is designed to show how one grows in faith. The second, the Easter story, depicts Mary Magdalene's persistent love for Jesus, which brought her through disappointment, despair, and sorrow to a glorious declaration: "I have seen the Lord."

B. Thomas had some honest questions, growing out of his doubts, which eventually helped him to discover significant truths. Questions about spiritual matters are acceptable to God. He had rather that we ask questions, even express doubt, as long as they are honest. God had rather that we ask these questions than to pretend to have a matured faith when none exists. A pretense at faith is hypocritical.

C. We can never have a completely matured faith while living in the flesh. Satan is always on hand to weaken that faith when we are not alert to his presence. On the other hand, God expects us to grow in faith, to mature each day into the kind of Christian who will bring honor to His name. But God does not expect that which the flesh will not permit, therefore He supplies the faith through His Word. The more we read it, the deeper becomes our faith in Him. ". . . faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17). That is His promise to us who believe.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Faith is like the coupling which attaches the railroad car to the engine. All the power and speed and momentum that belong to the locomotive now become transmitted to the car. The coupling is simply the medium of communicating that power. So faith joins the believer to Christ, and makes him partaker of all that Christ has, and is, and does.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

**Union Chapel Church
To Have Revival Services**

Revival services will begin on Monday night, March 31, and will continue through Friday night, April 4, at Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Plymouth, North Carolina. The evangelist will be the Rev. Earl Glenn of Goldsboro. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. Special music will be rendered each evening by the young adult choir, the adult choir, the little folks, and the quartet.

The pastor, the Rev. O. Swade Benson, and the church membership extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend these services.

**Eastover Mission
Announces Revival**

Eastover Free Will Baptist Mission, Eastover, North Carolina, announces revival services for March 24 through March 30, at 7:30 p. m.

The guest evangelist is Mike Scott, pastor of Johnston Union church in Clayton, North Carolina. The Rev. W. O. Lassiter of Four Oaks, North Carolina, is the pastor of the mission. There will be special singing each night. The public is invited to attend.

**First Church, Rocky Mount
To Have Revival**

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, North Carolina, will observe revival services the week of April 7 through April 11. The visiting evangelist will be the Rev. Francis Garner. He is pastor of the Free Union church near Pinetown. The pastor, the Rev. Larry Barbour, and the church membership extend to everyone in the Rocky Mount area an

invitation to attend these services which begin at 7:30.

**Ormondville Church Announces
Revival Services**



The Rev. Tommy Evans

Ormondville Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Ayden, North Carolina, announces its spring revival March 24 through March 28, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Tommy Evans is the evangelist. The Rev. Jack Mayo is the pastor of the Ormondville church. There will be special music each evening. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

**Revival to Be Held
At Pleasant Hill Church**

The Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church located on Highway 43 near Greenville will begin its spring revival on March 24 at 7:45 p. m. and will continue through March 29. The guest evangelist for these services will be the Rev. Walter Sutton, pastor of Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul, North Carolina. There will be gospel preaching

and good gospel singing each night of the week.

Also on Sunday night, March 30, "The Singing Ormonds" will be at the church for a gospel sing at 7 p. m.

The pastor, the Rev. Robert Rollins, and the congregation extend a warm welcome to everyone to attend and be a part of this special meeting and a gospel sing.

**Revival Services
Gray Branch Church**

Revival services will be held at the Gray Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Deep Run, North Carolina, March 24 through March 29, at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Norman Ard is the evangelist. The public is invited.

**Free Union Church to Have
Revival Services**

Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, North Carolina, will have revival services March 30 through April 3, at 7:30 p. m. The time of the services is 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Jack Mayo is the evangelist. The Rev. Bob Fussell is pastor of the Free Union church. The pastor of the church and its membership extend a cordial invitation to everyone.

**Bethany Church to Have
Revival Services**

Revival services will be held at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina, March 24 through March 28, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Frankie Flowers of Pikeville, North Carolina, will be the evangelist. In addition to gospel preaching, there will be special music each evening. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend these special services.

**Revival Time at
Yelverton Grove Church**

Revival services will begin at Yelverton Grove Free Will

Epist Church, Route 3, Smithfield, North Carolina, March 24 and will continue through March 2. The time of the services is 7:00 p. m. The Rev. Arnold Rice, pastor of Pleasant Grove Church of Erwin, North Carolina, will serve as guest evangelist. Social music will be rendered each evening. The pastor, the Rev. C. M. Coats, and the church membership invite everyone to attend these services.

Central Conference WA Convention at Hickory Grove Church

The Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at the Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Bethel, North Carolina, on March 22, 1980. Mrs. Ernest Erraway is the president. The theme will be "Seek Those Things Which Are Above." The scripture will be taken from Colossians 3:1.

The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 7:30—Registration
- 8:00—Hymn, "Higher Ground"
 - Devotion, Mrs. Lyman Harris
 - Welcome, Mrs. S. N. Highsmith
 - Response, Mrs. Melvin Norville
- 8:20—Recognition Time
 - Business Period
 - Missions, Miss Leah McGlohon
 - Roll Call of Auxiliaries
 - (Mission Money and Pennies for Cragmont)
 - Children's Home, Mrs. Jane Tripp
 - Retirement Homes
 - Love Offering
 - Hymn, "All the Way My Saviour Leads Me"
 - Free Will Baptist Press, Mrs. Lib Hill
 - Announcements, Local Church
 - Special Music, Bethany Free Will Baptist Church
 - 8:30—Introduction of Speaker, Mrs. Frank Walston

—Morning Message, Mrs. Norville Dawson, Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church

12:00—Benediction-Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Chorus
 - Prayer
 - Recognition of Members Receiving Life Membership Awards, Mrs. William McLawhorn
 - Our Youth, Mrs. Jack Dail
 - Mount Olive College
 - Study Course, Mrs. Albert Proctor
 - Cragmont, Mrs. Minnie Mae Chandler
 - Anna Phillips Student Aid Fund, Mrs. Jesse Harris
 - Business Period
 - Time of Renewal
- 2:30—Hymn, "Higher Ground," (Last Verse)
 - Pianist, Mrs. Doris Joyner
 - Song Leader, Miss Leah McGlohon

Gospel Concert at Gum Swamp Church



Hopper Brothers and Connie

Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina, will have the Hopper Brothers and Connie of Madison, North Carolina, in concert March 23 at 7 p. m. a freewill offering will be received during the service. The pastor, the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor, and members invite everyone to share in this service.

Hopper Brothers and Connie In Concert at Wilson Church

The Hopper Brothers and Connie will be in concert at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson on Saturday night, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. The church is located on the corner of Granger and Barnhill Streets in Wilson, and everyone is invited to attend. The Rev. Clyde W. Cox is the pastor of the Wilson church.

Central Conference Ministers To Meet

The Central Conference Minister's Fellowship will meet at 11 a.m. on Monday, March 24, at the Three Steers Restaurant in Greenville, North Carolina. All conference ministers are invited.

Revival Services In Progress

Revival services are now in progress at Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, North Carolina. The Rev. Larry Melton is the guest evangelist for these services, which will continue through Friday night, March 21.

Mr Melton is a native of Asheville, North Carolina. He was graduated from UNC-Asheville in 1972 and continued his studies at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He received the Master of Divinity with Religious Education degree from there in 1979. Mr. Melton and his wife, Carol, served as houseparents at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home prior to his accepting the pastorate at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Pikeville, two years ago.

The Little Rock Chancel Choir will sing each evening except Wednesday. The Sunrise Singers of Little Rock will sing Wednesday night, and Mr. George Harrison, a member of Hull Road church, will render special music Friday night. Nursery services will be provided each evening. The public is invited to come and worship.

The Rev. DeWayne Eakes is pastor of Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church.

Turn the Page

Maggie Little Circle of Sweet Gum Grove Church Meets



Mrs. Wendy Coats

The members of the Maggie Little Circle of Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Stokes, North Carolina, held their monthly meeting on Monday, February 18, 1980, in the home of Mrs. Darcy Brown. The guest speaker was Mrs. Wendy Poole Coats of Pinetown community. She presented a program of devotions and slides. She entitled her program "Christian Missions." Mrs. Coats emphasized that missions are the Christian church body trying to win others to the Christian faith. It is the responsibility of each person that has accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour to serve as a missionary.

During the program the two fields of organized missions were discussed: Home Missions—within the national boundaries of the United States, and Foreign Missions—work outside of the United States. These two works require different orientations. Foreign Missions require the learning of another language, new customs, life styles, and the lack of many luxuries taken for granted in the United States of America; whereas Home Missions usually consist only of a move to another city or state with a minimum of sacrifice of comforts.

God's mercy allowed the group to hear His message of salvation,

giving them the opportunity to accept Christ and therefore to be responsible to the Great Commission given to everyone in Matthew 28:19, 20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." If some do not hear of God's love, mercy and salvation it is the saved of earth who must bear the blame, not God.

Following the devotions, Mrs. Coats presented slides taken during her visits to Mexico and during her work as a summer missionary to Mexico working under the direction of the Vance Link family in Quemado, Texas.

Second Union, Western At Flood's Chapel Church

The Second Union of the Western Conference will meet with Flood's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Nash County, Saturday, March 29, at 7 p. m. The Rev. Charles Morgan, pastor of the church, along with the Union officials, invites all members and friends to be in attendance.

Youth Revival At Arapahoe Church

The Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, is holding a youth revival, Thursday through Saturday,

March 27-29. The services will begin nightly at 7. The guest speaker on Thursday and Friday nights will be the Rev. Cra Simmons of Wilson. On Saturday night the service will be conducted by the New Creations Mount Olive College.

Although the revival is aimed toward the youth, the pastor, the Rev. Doug Skinner, extends hearty welcome to young and old alike.

Calvary Church, Wilson To Have Revival Services

The Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will hold a spring revival March 24-28, with the Rev. Hubert Burress serving as guest evangelist.

Prayer service will begin 7:10 each evening, followed by the revival service at 7:30. Mr. Burress will be assisted in the services by the pastor of the church, the Rev. Dewey Boling, who, along with the church membership, issues a cordial invitation to the public.

Heaven Bound in Concert At Free Union, Pinetown

Heaven Bound, a singing group from Kinston, will be in concert at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown Sunday night, March 30, at 8 p. m.

At 6 p. m. a covered dinner supper will be served by the women of the church. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the period of fellowship and to enjoy the program of religious music and testimony.

SALE

10 Percent off on a Selected Group of Easter Books and Merchandise including

Easter Books and Booklets, Cards, Envelopes, Napkins

All pertaining to Easter

FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS

P. O. Box 158

Ayden, North Carolina 28513

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

ministers who use these techniques are in actuality doing a service for those souls who lean toward this type of worship. He told me that such ministers reach many who otherwise might not be reached, and surely, he reminded me, we want everybody reached for the Lord. Yes, we do want everybody saved through Christ, but we cannot believe that God honors deceit in any form. Some of those "who otherwise might not be reached" are conceivably led astray, away from the gospel which teaches in Matthew 6:33: "seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, then all these things will be added unto you."

(Continued from Page 8)

Islamic Revolution in Iran, Mansour was given White House credentials to cover the summit between President Carter and the Shah before his empire crumbled almost two years ago. He later became the Television correspondent and CBS Bureau Chief in Moscow covering all the Soviet Union.

His insight into both the Middle East countries and Soviet diplomacy sparks an interesting interpretation to the impact of Iranian and Soviet involvement in Afghanistan on the United States.

The Pierson Lecture is an annual event sponsored by Mary Bynum Borgognoni of Mount Olive in memory of the late Dr. William Whately Pierson.

NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to thank you for all expressions of compassionate love which were shown through cards, notes, letters, calls and gifts; and those who waited in faith and prayer. This thanks is for all who served as doctors, nurses, co-workers or friends.

Fraternally yours,
N. B. Barrow

(At the time of publication Mr. Barrow is recuperating at the home of Mrs. Barrow's sister, Mrs. Francis Wolfangle, 7620 Clouth Pike, Cincinnati, Ohio 45244; phone, (513) 831-5834. He expects to return to his home in Snow Hill soon.)

A TRIBUTE TO A FAITHFUL SERVANT GERALD BRILEY



(Mr. Briley died January 9. He was a member of Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, where he served as deacon, Sunday school teacher, assistant clerk, member of the choir, and member of the Board of Trustees.)

He was but a humble farmer,
Working close to his God.
Talking with his Maker,
As he tilled and toiled the sod.
In his eyes there was a sparkle,
On his face there was a glow.
The reflection of his love for God,
Caused the warmth of his heart to show.
He had time to give to others,
He would help when help was due.
Kind words for those about him—
He was a friend to all he knew.
Like Job he'd faced some trials,

Temptations, like all the rest.
But the patience of the faithful servant,
Outlasted all the tests.
Then came the call from Heaven,
"Servant, your work is through,
"Come quickly through the golden gates,
"To that place prepared for you."
And in Heaven there's rejoicing,
Upon that blissful shore.
Mr. Briley's with his Saviour,
And there he'll rest forevermore.
Lord, comfort us in our sorrow,
Shield us from despair,
Reassure us of your promise,
We know that you care.
Lord, may we just live closer,
To you from day to day,
And may we fill that emptiness,
Without him Lord we pray.
The faith of that humble farmer,
And his love for God will be,
An inspiration to those who knew him,
Until God's face we see.

—Leon Harris

NEWS NOTES

Revival Services At Powhatan Church

Revival services will be held at Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, March 24-28, with the Rev. T. C. Farmer, pastor of Tee's Chapel church, Smithfield, serving as guest evangelist. The Rev. Billy R. Nowell, pastor of Powhatan will assist Mr. Farmer.

The public is extended a cordial invitation to attend these services which begin nightly at 7:30.



MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SPRING HIGH SCHOOL DAY



What are your dreams and aspirations? Have you made plans after graduation?

Visit us at Mount Olive College on Saturday and see what we have to offer you!

—SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1980—

◀ PROGRAM ▶

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>9:30 a.m. Arrival and Registration
Hendersan Building</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Campus Tours
Refreshments</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Devotions—Rodgers Chapel
Special Music: <i>NEW CREATIONS</i>
Alumni Presentations—Hendersan Building</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Group Meeting
Academics
Career Planning
Spiritual Life
Student Services</p> | <p>12:15 p.m. Lunch
Downtown Campus (Auditorium)
Special Music: <i>MOUNT OLIVE SINGERS</i></p> <p>1:00 p.m. Auditions: <i>MOUNT OLIVE SINGERS</i>
Music Service Scholarships</p> <p>1:15 p.m. Conferences: (Upon request)
Faculty
Admissions Personnel
Financial Aid Workshop</p> |
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FREE WILL BAPTIST

Wednesday, March 26, 1980, Ayden, North Carolina

INSTITUTION OF THE MONTH



CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

Black Mountain, North Carolina
John Williams, Manager

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CHURCH IN TODAY'S WORLD

Let no man doubt: The church is the only stabilizing force in the world. It is the only institution which effectively crosses color, cultural, political, and racial barriers and blends hearts and souls in one accord and binds them for one cause. The church is the most positive good obtainable, and constantly has been since Christ first established it.

The church is the only hope for a people, for a creation. It is the only cure for hate, greed, poverty, crime, prejudice, and all other social ills. It is the only thrust that prevents war, locally and worldwide, as its adherents follow the Prince of Peace. The church espouses the only philosophy which makes it possible to love and pray for the Ayatollah and the Shah, for the Iranian militants and the hostages, with equal sincerity. Members of the church who cause pain, or who influence or cause dispute, or who in any way contribute toward dissension or unrest, are not being guided by its principles.

The church represents a mighty force which cannot be ignored, even by the atheist, who, interestingly enough, seems to fear both the structure and the philosophy. But the real church, everybody knows, is not architectural; it is spiritual. That is the reason it lasts. That is the reason it provides the answer to every problem.

The structure varies from the splendidly ornate to the almost crudely simple. But always it conveys dignity and spiritual perfectness and tranquility. Always there is a haven from the storms of life, where the seeker can find solutions he earnestly wants, where the person who yearns for quiet meditation with God can be made full. Whether a grand cathedral or a country chapel, the church speaks its singular message of God's love and grace.

While many people disdain a church so lavishly furnished that it draws attention to itself rather than to God, many others believe that His house should be as beautiful as humanly possible—because of the subject of worship. Those who see God as the simple Servant, Christ, who brought all men unto Himself, and therefore unto His Father, may prefer the simple structure of worship which places God in what seems a very reachable setting.

Architecture notwithstanding, God dwells in the hearts of believers, individually and collectively; and when the spiritual forces of all—from the sophisticated to the plain—unite, there is no denying the power.

Somewhere between the rousing praise of the Holiness groups and the quiet, sedate attitudes of the Presbyterians come the Baptists, Methodists, Disciples of Christ, and Free Will Baptists—all adoring and worshiping the Heavenly Father as they

(Continued on Page 5)

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- Resolution of Respect
- Childish Wisdom
- Governor Hunt Meets with Editors
- Church Editors Meet with Governor

MARCH 26, 1980
Volume 95 Number 12

Tommy Manning,
Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times a year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-440).

All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$6.24; two years, \$11.44; four years, \$22.88 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$6, \$11, and \$22 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and address to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

‘‘The Free Will Baptist Mountain’’

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

CRAGMONT Assembly, Inc., is nestled on the slopes of Mount Allen near Black Mountain, North Carolina. Mount Allen is ‘‘The Free Will Baptist Mountain!’’ You know it as the location of our denomination’s ‘‘Spiritual Retreat Center’’ for young people of all ages! Going to Cragmont is going to camp’’ for scores of North Carolina Original Free Will Baptists each year.

‘‘Christian camping within the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptist Church did not begin with Cragmont Assembly. In the late thirties young people through the Sunday school and league conventions rented Camp Beach, an Episcopal camp, on the Pamlico River below Washington, North Carolina. Later when this camp was no longer available, due to the Episcopalians who owned it having a full schedule all summer (1944) we were forced to look elsewhere.’’¹

The Revs. J. B. Spencer and James Evans were charged with finding a camp to lease, rent or buy. Several sites were considered and found unsuitable. At this point I believe the hand of providence is discernible! These men were advised to look in the mountains of Western North Carolina. In 1945 a portion of the YMCA camp, Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina, was rented for 125 campers.

While there the Rev. W. L. Moretz of Wannanoa told our ministers about ‘Craigmont’, an abandoned private Sanitorium, and our group of leaders went to look at it late one

night. Among those I remember who were at Blue Ridge were: the Revs. Henry Melvin, R. P. Harris, C. F. Bowen, the Rev. and Mrs. L. E. Ballard, the Rev. and Mrs. E. G. Holland, and the Rev. Willey, missionary to Cuba. They took the stand that we ought to buy it. . . .’’²

After meeting with the Central Committee (Assembly Grounds Committee) an option to buy within three months was taken by the Assembly Grounds Committee for \$500 ‘‘The price of the option was paid from the ‘Dime Bank Fund.’ Dime Banks were furnished to the Sunday schools of the state and one dime per Sunday was to be deposited for the camp. The credit for the Dime Bank idea is due the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser.’’³

A major fund raising campaign was begun immediately. Ten captains were appointed to raise the \$10,000 required to purchase the property. Each captain was responsible for raising \$1,000. The captains were: Mr. Fountain Taylor Sr., the Rev. R. B. Spencer, Mrs. L. E. Ballard, the Rev. Rashie Kennedy, Mrs. J. C. Moye, Mrs. J. C. Griffin, Mrs. N. E. Harris, the Rev. R. P. Harris, the Rev. Henry Melvin, and Mr. Robert Godley. Mr. Fountain Taylor Sr. raised the highest amount of \$1,502.17. The campaign was a complete success and in 1945 the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptists became owners of 115 acres (six cleared) on the slopes of Mount Allen (at the time of purchase

Turn the Page

the buildings alone on the property were appraised in excess of \$15,000).

The stated purpose for Cragmont Assembly Grounds according to the fund raising campaign folder was fourfold. "The Cragmont Assembly Grounds will be used: First, for the Sunday schools and leagues to hold summer camps each year for recreation, Bible study, institute work and revival services; Second, it will be used as a gathering place for Women's Auxiliary Camps, conventions, Bible study, and recreation; Third, the ministers will use it for Bible conferences, Bible institutes, district assemblies and conferences from time to time; Fourth, it will be used also for the entertainment of those who wish to spend a week or so, when it is not otherwise occupied, for a vacation in the mountains for rest and recreation." In stating the purpose of Cragmont Assembly, the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser coined the motto, "Instruction, Inspiration, and Recreation," which has subsequently been adopted as the motto for Cragmont Assembly, Inc.

The government of Cragmont Assembly is unique in our denomination. Our four statewide conventions share equally in its governance. The State Sunday School Convention, State League Convention, State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, and the State Convention of Churches elect three "stockholders" each to the Cragmont Board of Stockholders. In the annual January Board of Stockholders meeting the manager is hired, petitions for weeks of encampment are approved and the Board of Stockholders elects seven persons to form a Board of Directors for the Assembly for the ensuing year. A treasurer is elected who may or may not be a member of the Board of Stockholders.

Cragmont was officially purchased in 1945; the first encampments were held the following year in 1946. Which organization do you think held the first official encampment? The Women's Auxiliary Conference which was held June 30—July 6, 1946. The League, Sunday School Convention and Ministers held their first conferences at Cragmont in 1946. The net profit after the first year of operation was \$9.22 (this was after spending \$9,000 for repairs and salaries)! The total assets of the Assembly according to the 1946 audit prepared by Raymond T. Sasser were \$24,366.67. According to an appraisal reported to the February 23,

1980, Board of Directors meeting the value of our buildings alone now amounts to \$694,520! A major portion of that is, of course, the new main building.

In the mid 1950s, the nine-unit motel complex was constructed. In 1964, the cottage behind the motel was purchased from the Rev. Johnny Floyd. In the late 1960s, a five-stage development program was adopted while the Board was under the leadership of the Rev. Cedric Pierce. In 1971 the first stage of that program was initiated under the leadership of the Rev. Adrian Grubbs which consisted of the construction of two dormitory units sleeping up to 80 persons each. In 1974-75 the much needed kitchen-dining hall was constructed. In 1977 the old main building was torn down and 1978-79 saw the completion of the new main building with a large chapel assembly under the leadership of the Rev. Willis Wilson as chairman, which completed stages three and four of the planned development program. The fifth and final stage of the planned development program is improving and broadening our recreational facilities.

Cragmont's physical growth is very significant! A very good record for only thirty-five years! This institution's greatest contribution is to be found in the effects of this ministry on the lives of the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. One major contribution of Cragmont to our denomination is the opening of Mount Allen Junior College (now Mount Olive College, Mount Olive North Carolina) September 22, 1952. Ministers have responded affirmatively to the "Call to the Gospel Ministry" either at Cragmont or due to the influence of an encampment there. Some have been led to pursue ministry as missionaries. Many hundreds, even thousands of men, women, boys and girls have come to Cragmont and gone home more inspired, more determined and more committed to the service of God through the local church and the Original Free Will Baptist denomination of North Carolina.

An overview of Cragmont's history would be incomplete without mentioning the Rev. and Mrs. L. E. Ballard ("Ma" and "Pa") and Mr. and Mrs. Fountain Taylor Sr. Both of these couples worked long and hard for the assembly from its inception to date. "Ma" and "Pa" Ballard hold the record for years served as managers with a total of nine years. Either Mr.

Mrs. Taylor served as treasurer for Cragmont for twenty-five of its thirty-five years. Mr. Taylor was made "Honorary Member" of the Board of Stockholders for life about five years ago at which time he said he didn't know if he was an "honorary" or "ornery" member. He was not "ornery," I assure you. These couples along with countless others have worked tirelessly and selflessly for the advancement of our ministry at Cragmont Assembly.

From very meagre and unsteady beginnings, Cragmont has been richly blessed with ever-increasing support and interest which has enabled it to reach its present status. We trust and pray that our people all over the state will continue to support and use Cragmont Assembly that its unique "Mountaintop Ministry" may continue to reach thousands of people annually!

Cragmont's present ministry for 1980 includes: six youth weeks, two Woman's Auxiliary weeks, two Ministers' weeks (our General

Baptist brethren are planning to use Cragmont for their annual Ministers' meeting this year), scores of weekend church retreat groups from early spring through the first of December and in 1979 one church had a senior citizens week and another church had a family week for their church members!

Truly Cragmont's greatest historical and future value is to be found in the lives that are changed, inspired and enriched by this Mountaintop Ministry. It is my firm conviction that Cragmont's greatest history and service remains in the unwritten pages of the future!

¹ The Rev. James A. Evans, Letter of February 25, 1972.

² Ralph Barnes, Letter of October 25, 1979.

³ Mr. Fountain Taylor Sr., Letter of February 25, 1972. Campaign Folder

(All of the footnoted materials and two papers on Cragmont Assembly are on deposit with a collection of Cragmont Materials in the "Free Will Baptist Historical Collection," Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, N. C.)

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

feel led. Each group has a part of that power and each group exercises and practices faith in traditional and novel ways, always cognizant that without Him there would be no cause.

As Easter comes, perhaps we are more mindful of Christ and His church, of how the risen Lord guarantees everlasting life for believing Christians. Perhaps at this season, more than any other, we consider Christ as the Answer to every need, not the least of which is peace.

A body of believers sincerely dedicated in mind and heart to the worship of God and for the betterment of the whole world: this is what the church is all about. The church is the only stabilizing force in the world—but not just during Easter. Let us resolve to make the church important in day-to-day living. Then the special holidays will take care of themselves.

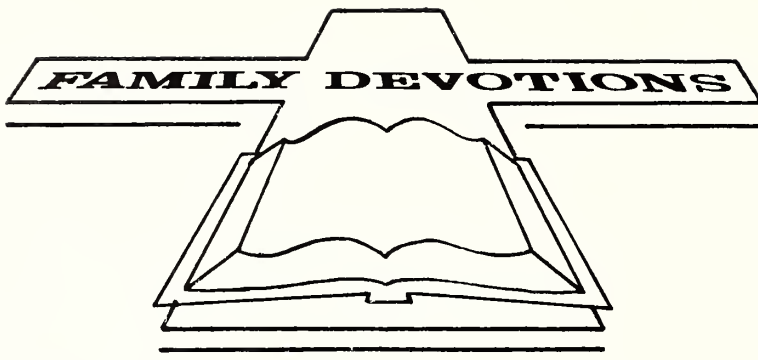
CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM.

As soon as you know your new address, please let us know so we can bring our records up to date. Our subscribers and patrons are important to us and we want to keep current addresses on them. Please cooperate with us and send your old label so we can serve you better.

Your Name _____
 Old Address _____
 New Address _____
 Phone Number _____

Coming Events . . .

- March 29—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Cathedral Free Will Baptist Church, Durham
- April—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month
- April 2—Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Sims
- April 5—Pee Dee District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Bladenboro
- April 5—Albemarle Youth Convention, Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church near Pinetown
- April 6—Easter Sunday
- April 7—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and all Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston
- April 9—Cape Fear District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Clayton
- April 12—State Sunday School Convention, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina
- April 17—Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church near Columbia



SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 4:1-10

WILL THE LORD JUST LET ME REST?

An aged mother, who had known little else than toil and care in this life, was about to slip into eternity. Her pastor spoke comforting and assuring words to her. He spoke glowingly of Heaven with its many mansions, its harps, crowns, and choirs. A twinge of disappointment clouded her face as she asked, "Pastor, do you think the Lord will let me just rest for a while?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

All comforts and securities are found in Heaven—every refuge from every care of life. Don't neglect the opportunity of making Heaven your home.

MONDAY, MARCH 31

Scripture Reading—John 3:16; 1 John 1:9

MY COMMON SENSE TELLS ME

"Do you believe John 3:16 and 1 John 1:9?" asked a Christian worker of an apparently sincere seeker for God. "I believe those verses," said the man. "Then you are saved," answered the Christian worker. "No, I am not," the man replied. Turning to the following verse, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon," the

Christian worker asked the seeker to read it. Having read the verse, the man said, "I am the wicked man. I am the unrighteous man. I have to forsake sin and my wicked thoughts. I must come back from my own way to God's way. In my heart is a sin. I am hugging it and am not willing to give it up. My own common sense tells me I cannot be saved until I am so penitent that I will utterly forsake it!" "That's right," exclaimed the Christian worker, "and you have preached to me the greatest sermon I have ever heard on repentance!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

It is not enough to say that one has received Christ as his Saviour. The truly penitent soul will forsake his old life of sin—then he can truly find new life in Christ. "Realize, repent, and receive" is the formula for salvation.

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:8

IT IS BETTER

It is better to walk in the dark with God
Than to run in the light alone;
Yes, better the thorniest path ever trod,
Where the briars are thick, and our feet unshod,
If only we follow his voice and rod,
Than without Him to march to a throne.

It is better with Him when the billows dash high,
On the breast of the mad

Galilee;
Though the Master may sleep
He will wake at our cry,
Or He'll come on the wave
saying: "Peace, it is I."
Better this than a calm when He is not nigh,
Or without Him to sail a smooth sea.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The so-called "bad times" can become blessed ones with Christ by one's side. No circumstance is so bad that He does not prevail. Make Him your constant companion.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 3:15-17; 12:4

THE PREACHER'S WIFE

You may think it quite an easy task,

And just a pleasant life;
But really it takes a lot of grace
To be a preacher's wife.

She's supposed to be a paragon
Without a fault in view,
A saint when in the parsonage
As well as in the pew.

Her home must be a small hotel
For folks that chance to roam,
And yet have peace and harmony—

The perfect preacher's home!
Whenever groups are called to meet,
Her presence must be there,
And yet the members all agree
She should live a life of prayer!

Though hearing people's burdens,

Their grief both night and day,
She's supposed to spread but sunshine

To those along the way.
She must lend a sympathetic ear
To every tale of woe,
And then forget about it,
Lest it to others go.

Her children must be models rare

Of quietness and poise,
But still stay on the level
With other girls and boys.

You may think it quite an easy task,
And just a pleasant life,

It really it takes a lot of grace
To be a preacher's wife!

PRAYER THOUGHT

How difficult the task: to be everything to all people, as must be the plight of the minister's wife. Consider the demands made of her. Would you like to change places with her? Could you bear watching twenty-four hours of a day?

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

Scripture Reading—Psalm 42:1, 2; Revelation 3:17

BLESSED ARE THE HUNGRY

What a joy it is to a teacher or pastor to feed spiritually hungry folk who can say with the psalmist: "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God" (Psalm 42:1, 2). How difficult it is to feed people who say: "I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing" (Revelation 3:17).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Each of us should hunger and thirst after righteousness. None of us should ever satiate our appetites for the Word of God, the Bread of Life. We should feed daily, and abundantly.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

Scripture Reading—Job 19:25; Isaiah 49:26

MY REDEEMER LIVES

"I know that my Redeemer lives,"
Oh, precious thought to me;
Though death abounds on every hand,
He lives eternally.
Death cannot lay its blighting hand
Upon that Blessed One,
As Prince of Life, He conquered it,
Its sting and power are gone.

"I know that my Redeemer lives,"
I know too that He died;

I also know He rose in power,
And has been glorified.
And now He sits on yonder throne,
God's object of delight,
Angels and saints adore Him there
While ages take their flight.

I know that my Redeemer bore
My sins on Calvary's tree,
He paid the debt I could not pay,
And thus He set me free.
I know He intercedes above,
In courts of light for me;
His life up there maintains me here,
Whose death has made me free.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Perhaps the most distinguishing characteristic of Christianity is that its adherents worship and serve a risen Saviour, one who always was, is, and ever shall be.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

Scripture Reading—2 Samuel 7:27; Acts 6:4

WHISPER A PRAYER

Whisper a prayer in the morning,
Whisper a prayer at noon,
Whisper a prayer in the evening,
To keep your heart in tune.

God answers prayer in the morning,
God answers prayer at noon,
God answers prayer in the evening,
To keep your tune.

Jesus may come in the morning,
Jesus may come at noon,
Jesus may come in the evening,
So keep your heart in tune.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The child's song teaches profound truths. Simply, yet effectively, we are taught to pray, to expect the answer, and to look for Christ's return.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

On December 18, 1979, God in His infinite wisdom saw fit to call to His reward our sister in Christ, Ethel Avery Garris, age 70. She was an active member of and a very generous contributor to Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pitt County, as long as her health permitted.

She leaves to mourn their loss four daughters, Mrs. Edward Allen of Raleigh; Mrs. Garland Buck, Mrs. O. C. Haddock, and Mrs. William Buck of Greenville; and one son, Franklin Garris of Greenville; thirteen grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Wilkerson's Funeral Chapel by her pastor, the Rev. Tommy Evans.

Therefore be it resolved:

First: That we extend to the bereaved family our deepest sympathy.

Second: That we bow in humble submission and due recognition to His Holy will in calling the spirit of our sister home to be forever with Him.

Third: A copy of these resolutions be sent to the family. A copy to the Free Will Baptist Press for publication. A copy to be retained for the minutes of the church.

Ruby Joyner
Nesa Ann Worthington

CHILDISH WISDOM

Sharlene Creech

It was a cold rainy Sunday night. Six-year-old April had just participated in our observance of the Washing of the Saints' Feet for her first time. After the service, she told me, "The water was so warm, I can still be warm inside when I go out in the cold."

It can warm all of us, as we show our love for each other just as Jesus did when He washed the disciples' feet. And this warmth can go with us as we share God's love with a cold, lonely world.

**Rose of Sharon Church
Gets Communion Set**



Communion Set

On Sunday, February 10, 1980, the Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church, Robersonville, North Carolina, was presented with a communion set, which was thought to be the first set the church ever had. The set was presented by Mr. Bun Cowan and family.

The communion set consists of two bread plates, two wine goblets, and a tankard which were used by the church between the early 1900s and the 1930s.

The Rose of Sharon church was established in 1896 and is located approximately two miles south of Bear Grass. The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood is the pastor.

**Fourth Central Union District
To Meet at Harrell's Chapel**

The Fourth Central Union District will meet at Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Snow Hill, North Carolina, on March 30, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 10:00—Sunday School
- 11:00—Hymn, "Deeper, Deeper"
—Welcome, Louise Sutton
—Response, Spring Branch
- 11:15—President's Remarks
—Mission Report
—Mount Olive College

Report

- Greetings from the Children's Home
- 11:30—Special Music, Peace
—Sermon, the Rev. Gordon Massey
- 12:15—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15—Hymn, "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart"
—Devotion, Watery Branch
—Business Period
—Program, Local Church
- 2:15—Adjournment

**Revival Services at
Whaley's Chapel Church**

Revival services will begin March 31 and will continue through April 4, at Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Hargett's Cross Roads, Jones County. The guest evangelist for the week will be the Rev. O. B. Taylor, pastor of Sneads Ferry church. He will be assisted by the pastor of Whaley's Chapel, the Rev. Don Venable. The time of the services is 7:30 each evening. There will be good singing and Christian fellowship enjoyed by everyone who attends. Everyone is welcome.

**Rose Hill Church
Announces Revival Services**

Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina, announces its spring revival for March 31 through April 4, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Frankie Flowers of Pikeville will be the guest evangelist. There will be special music each evening. The pastor of the Rose Hill church is the Rev. N. Dan Beaman. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend these special services.

**Laymen's League Fellowship
Has Meeting**

The Laymen's League Fellowship of the Central Conference held its regular quar-

terly meeting on March 10 at Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina. A fellowship program was presented by the host church. Refreshments were served after the meeting. There were in attendance 79 members and guests, which represented churches and included 7 pastors. An offering of \$82.16 was sent to home missions.

Peace Free Will Baptist Church at Pinetops hosts its next meeting on June 2, 1980, at 7 p. m.

**Revival in Progress
Warsaw, First Church**

Revival services are in progress at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Warsaw, North Carolina, and will continue through March 28. The services are beginning at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. W. L. Bronson of Wilmington is the guest evangelist. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Mickey Whitfield of Mount Olive. The public is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

**West Clinton Church to
Have Revival Services**

Revival services will begin March 31 and will continue through April 4 at West Clinton Free Will Baptist Church, Clinton, North Carolina. The Rev. Roy Clifton, pastor of Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Nash County, will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

The pastor, the Rev. Hubert Stanley, and the members invite everyone to attend these services.

**Revival Services at
Pearsall Chapel Church**

Spring revival services will be held at Pearsall Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Kenansville, North Carolina, March 31 through April 4. The Rev. Craig Simmons of Wilson will be the guest speaker. Services will begin each night at 7:30. Special music will be featured each night. The Rev. Bobby Harrell, pastor of the church, and the

Church membership extend a cordial welcome to everyone to attend.

First Union of Western Conference Meets March 29

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet Saturday, March 29, 1980, with the First Free Will Baptist Church, Durham County. The host pastor, Rev. Fred Johnson, and the Union extend a cordial invitation to everyone. The Rev. Dale Albertson will preach the Union message. Ken Forehand is clerk of the First Union of the Western Conference.

Jackson Heights Church Announces Revival Services

Jackson Heights Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina, announces revival services for the week of March through April 4. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Don Day from Gray Branch church, Deep Run, North Carolina. Services will begin nightly at 8:00. There will be special singing each night. A nursery will be provided.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. David R. Thick. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

Marsh Swamp Church Hosts Western District WA

The Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene at Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson County, Route 1, Sims, approximately 11 miles west of Wilson off Highway 1 on county road 1142, April 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. The convention theme will be "Behold, I am the Lord." The Scripture will be taken from Jeremiah 32:27. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:15—Registration
- 9:45—Hymn, "All Hail the Power"
- Devotion, Mrs. Virginia Bunn
- Welcome, Mrs. Shelia Vick
- Message from the President, Mrs. James

Joynor

10:15—Hymn, "There's Power in the Blood"

—The Power of God in Missions, Mrs. Florence Taylor

—Home

—Foreign

—Special Music

—God Reaching Out Through Benevolence, Mrs. Nadine Crocker

—Our Youth, "Fear Not, Little Ones," Alane Vester

11:15—Hymn, "Have Faith in God"

—Offering and Prayer

—Special Music, Cathy Howard

—Convention Message, Mrs. Nadine Crocker

12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Hymn, "In the Service of the King"

—Devotion and Memorial Service, Mrs. Lois Kennedy

—Special Music, Susan Boykin

—Business Session

2:30—Benediction

Revival Services to Be at Snow Hill Church

Revival services will be held at the Snow Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Mount Olive, April 14 through April 18. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Arnold Price will be the evangelist for the week. He will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. John A. Owens. There will be special singing each night under the direction of Mrs. Mary Gold Bell.

Mr. Price is pastor of the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Erwin, and is known by his dynamic preaching and singing.

The pastor and membership of Snow Hill church invite everyone to attend these services.

Albemarle District WA Convention, Sound Side Church

Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held

at the Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, on Thursday, April 17, 1980. The theme will be "Christ the Door, and the Good Shepherd." The Scripture will be taken from John 10:14. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:45—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
- 10:05—Devotions, Mrs. Florence Furlough
- 10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Bernice Maitland
- Response, Mrs. Ann Harrup
- President's Greetings, Mrs. Lorraine Garner
- Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
- Appointment of Committees
- 10:30—Reading of Minutes
- Roll Call of Auxiliaries
- 10:45—Mission News, Mrs. Katie Roper
- Offering for Missions
- Hymn, "Praise Him! Praise Him!"
- 11:05—Children's Home Report
- Offering for Children's Home
- 11:20—Special Music, Host Auxiliary
- 11:30—Convention Message, the Rev. Francis Garner
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Hymn, "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"
- 1:05—Devotions, Mrs. Margaret Woolard
- Prayer
- 1:15—Mount Olive College Report
- 1:30—Cragmont News
- 1:45—Free Will Baptist Press Report
- 2:00—Committee Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- Announcement of Next Convention
- Miscellaneous Business
- Benediction and Adjournment

(Continued on Page 14)

GOVERNOR HUNT MEETS WITH EDITORS

March 12, Raleigh



"I am in politics because of what I believe that God wants us to do and to be. And I believe that very strongly. I believe that God expects us to obey Him and to follow Him and to be a part of our church and be very active in its work."

Governor James B. Hunt stresses a point to church editors present at home of *Biblical Recorder* editor, Marse Grant.



Above: Mrs. Grant enjoys an informal exchange with the Governor.



Left: Left to right: editors Tom Manning (*The Free Will Baptist*), Chris Walters-Bugbee (*The Communicant*), Joe Vetter (*The North Carolina Catholic*) with Mr. Hunt.

Photos compliments of THE BIBLICAL RECORDER

CHURCH EDITORS MEET WITH GOVERNOR

MEETING with editors and representatives of denominational papers, North Carolina Governor James B. Hunt Jr. affirmed his belief in the importance of the church. The meeting was held in Raleigh, Wednesday, March 12, at the home of Marse Grant, and included Christopher Walters-gee, editor of THE COMMUNICANT (Episcopalian); the Rev. C. Alison Simonton Jr., editor of THE NORTH CAROLINA CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE (Methodist); Robert F. Wicks, communications assistant of THE PRESBYTERIAN NEWS (Presbyterian); the Rev. Joseph Vetter, editor of THE NORTH CAROLINA CATHOLIC (Catholic); Tommy Manning, editor of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST (Free Will Baptist); and Marse Grant, editor of THE BIBLICAL RECORDER (Baptist), who, with Mrs. Grant, hosted the meeting.

In his statements, Governor Hunt agreed that God wants active Christians. "I am in politics," he said, "because of what I believe that God wants us to do and to be. And I believe that very strongly. I believe that God expects us to obey Him and follow Him and to be a part of our church and be very active in His work." He stressed the necessity of being involved with the cares and concerns of others and encouraged the church editors to call for members to follow the example of Christ in providing opportunities in life, in giving love, in helping, and in building human relationships of love and caring. The Governor underscored this feeling with the suggestion that leaders must look at ways that "we as a people can work together." Of the exemplary life he said, "This is what we are supposed to be about."

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

He cited that "children will not become the kind of full human beings capable of love and a good life that . . . God wants them to have unless we see that they have good health care and good nutrition and good education and nourishing opportunities early in life and throughout . . ." He affirmed that these opportunities will not come about without good education, and added, "We certainly cannot consider ourselves to be doing what we ought to do unless people have a chance for dignity in life, such as a job and being able to provide for one's own family."

Recognizing the quality of the individual, Governor Hunt addressed problems of older people and the handicapped. He called for more concerted efforts in the area of citizen affairs, encouraging people, civic groups, private groups, and churches to "get more involved in helping their neighbors."

Admitting to being an optimist about the future and acknowledging his belief in the proper separation of church and State, Governor Hunt said that he felt that there are enough Christian people to help (on a one-to-one basis) every young person who is in trouble. He urged denominational representatives to do their part and to spur members in the same direction.

The New Generation Act came under question by one editor present. The Governor explained that the act promoted the full development of young people, with emphasis on the critical early years of life. The act, as proposed, would involve local agencies—health, school, and social—for the assessment of needs. (At present, it seems that) "We're going off in different directions and each doing one, little carefully-defined thing, and we're not having the kinds of results that we would have if people were coordinated and meeting and talking and working together," the Governor asserted.

He pointed out that only three states in this country have more children die in the first year of life than North Carolina. "I think we have a moral responsibility as a society and as caring Christians to do something about that . . . I'm interested in the babies that are going to be born. I'm interested in their not dying in that first year, and I think we all have to be interested in that." When you coordinate helping agencies (as the New Generation Act espouses), you "save a lot of death and injury and heartache, and that saves the taxpayers money as well as save human beings pain and suffering," the Governor said.

On the subject of government, Governor Hunt defined it as "the people of the jurisdictional unit," the people of a given area, "like the church is us," and insisted that everyone should participate. Further, he believes that the overall responsibility of government lies on all the people's shoulders.

The group decided (with the Governor) that denominational leaders and editors/publishers of church papers/magazines play a vital role in the spiritual health of the people of the State. It was suggested that the papers reach more than half a million homes; consequently, their impact and influence, whether for good or bad, must not be underestimated.

All present agreed that the meeting with Governor Hunt was particularly significant. The relaxed atmosphere of the Grants' home and the delicious luncheon which they served were especially conducive to friendship and mutual response.

Other such meetings with the Governor are a possibility, as he made himself available and reaffirmed his belief that "God expects us to be involved doing His work in the world," and added, "That doesn't just mean those who are like us; and it doesn't just mean within the walls of our church or even our own community."

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Gifts to Moyer Library, Mount Olive College, totaled \$691.50 during the month of February, 1980, and are as follows:

In Memory of

Mr. Jim Albertson by Miss Pamela R. Wood and Mr. Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Atherleen Albritton by Mildred Dare Blizzard, Deep Run.

Mrs. Nellie R. Allen by Mr. Eugene L. Gaskill, Fayetteville.

Herbert W. Andrews Sr. by Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Mrs. Olivia M. Banks by Mr. and Mrs. Manley Jenkins, Trenton; Mr. and Mrs. Odis Pope, New Bern; and Dr. and Mrs. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mr. William Barfield by Mrs. Katherine F. Barfield, Mount Olive.

Mr. Harold Best by Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

Florence P. Blake by Celia Hart Garris Woman's Auxiliary, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Gerald Briley by the Rev. and Mrs. Gary M. Bailey, Goldsboro.

Mrs. Ethel F. Bunn by Mr. and Mrs. Roney F. Bunn Jr., Kenly; and Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr., Lucama.

Lola Parham Clark by Mr. and Mrs. Lon Dawson and Ann Dawson, LaGrange.

Willie Freddie Daughtry by the Roy McLamb family, Newton Grove.

Wilbert Wellons Edgerton by Mrs. Lola P. Little, Kenly; and Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Fanny G. Edgerton by Birthday Friends, Pikeville.

Mr. Milton Ray Garris Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hill, Ayden.

George Hair by Mr. and Mrs. Bobby A. Johnson, Fayetteville.

R. Earl Harris by Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Westbrook, Ayden.

Mrs. Layla Simpson Harrison by Mr. and Mrs. Roney Bunn Jr., Kenly.

Mr. Walter L. Harrison by Mr. and Mrs. Randall Albertson, Mount Olive; Mrs. Mary Aldridge, Snow Hill; Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Miss Eleanor G. Dickinson, Mount Olive; Mount Olive College Faculty, Mount Olive; Mrs. Lillian Grubbs, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Haywood C. Hill, Snow Hill; Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; Mrs. Kathleen Warren, Goldsboro; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove; and Miss Pamela R. Wood, Mount Olive.

The Rev. Leslie Hawley by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama; Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive; Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; and the Rev. and Mrs. R. T. Sasser, Wilson.

Mrs. Lois Hight by Mr. and Mrs. Bobby W. Ackiss, Goldsboro; Mrs. Helen F. Askew, Snow Hill; Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Barrow, Snow Hill; Mrs. Helen T. Beaman, Snow Hill; Mr. and Mrs. Haywood C. Hill, Snow Hill; Mrs. Lucy B. Mooring, LaGrange; Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; and Miss Rose Rouse, Warsaw.

Neta Mason Hudnell by Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Stephenson, Oriental.

Mrs. Lily Jones by Miss Lena Sutton, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Minnie Gurganus Moore by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Joseph Amos Pharo by Mr. and Mrs. Milton Casey and Mrs. LaGrange.

Richard Avery Sasser Sr. Mrs. Lola P. Little, Kenly.

Joseph Spivey by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hill, Ayden; and Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Westbrook, Ayden.

Mrs. Mary McCarter Stith by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Sammy L. Sumner by Mr. and Mrs. Rev. and Mrs. R. T. Sasser, Wilson.

Arthur Taylor by Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie G. Howell, Pikeville.

Mrs. Terry Lee Taylor by Mr. and Mrs. James Holmes, Mount Olive; Mrs. Eula Malpa, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Walker and Ray Jr., Mount Olive.

Mr. Mordecai Vann by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mr. Cecil Wells by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Mapel Davis Wilder by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Maggie Belle Williams by Mr. and Mrs. Bobby A. Johnson, Fayetteville.

Mr. Leon Wilson by Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mr. O. E. Wilson by Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Sutton, Mount Olive.

In Honor of

Mr. Clyde J. Banks by Mr. and Mrs. Larry J. Crumpler Jr., Mount Olive.

Heidi Drew Hatcher by Mount Olive College Alumni Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Hill Jr. by the Rev. and Mrs. Larry Crumpler Jr., Mount Olive.

Glenda Hood by Woman's Auxiliary, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Jennifer Camille Johnson by Mount Olive College Alumni Association.

Meredith Leigh Krull by Mount Olive College Alumni Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Paul by
Mr. and Mrs. James N. Webster,
Netown.

Joshua Whitfield, Mount Olive
College Alumni Association.

Gift

Elaine Jones, Mount Olive.

NEW CREATIONS IN PAMLICO COUNTY

The New Creations of Mount
Olive College will present a
program of gospel music and
testimony at Oriental Free Will
Baptist Church, on Sunday,
March 30, at the 11 a. m. worship
service.

The group will also perform at
Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist
Church in Grantsboro on Sunday
evening, at 6 p. m.

PAUL PALMER COURSES AT KENLY CHURCH

The Paul Palmer Institute of
Christian Studies will offer two
eight-week courses at Kenly
Free Will Baptist Church,
beginning Tuesday, April 1.

The courses include
"Evangelism" from 7-8:15 p. m.,
taught by the Rev. Ray Wells,
and "Introduction to Apocalyptic
Writings (The Book of Daniel)"
from 8:30-9:45 p. m., taught by
the Rev. DeWayne Eakes. Books
will be available the first night of
class.

The cost of each course is \$20
for credit or \$10 for non-credit.
For more information, contact:
Frank Harrison, Director; Mount
Olive College, Mount Olive,
North Carolina 28365; phone: 658-
9302 (office) and 658-9363
(home).

CAROLINA ARTISTS ON SHOW AT COLLEGE

A sampling of the best work by
contemporary North Carolina
artists will be on display in the
Anderson Building at Mount
Olive College, from April 7
through April 22. The public is
invited to browse.

A selection of works by
nineteen artists who are or have

been residents of North Carolina
makes up the traveling show on
loan from the North Carolina
Museum of Art in Raleigh and
sponsored by the College Art
Department under the direction
of Mrs. Elizabeth Bennett.

The art works were chosen to
represent a wide range of media
and style and include acrylics,
pen and ink, fiberglass and
metal sculpture, and
photography.

News from the

Children's Home

THE FAMILY IN CRISIS

"The church of the 1980s will
be called upon to carry a heavier
burden than ever before as it
seeks to minister to its families
in the midst of constant change,"
said Wade Rowatt of the
Southern Baptist Convention.
Among the pressures facing the
modern family today is in-
creasing economic stress
resulting in more dual career
marriages. The result is a more
competitive relationship between
husband and wife rather than the
old "the husband is the bread
winner" concept. The children
are left at home, often for long
periods. Too little time is given
to schoolwork and for special
time for family togetherness.
Good children with time on their
hands are finding too many
wrong things to do. Parents,
busy making ends meet, are too
tired at the end of the day or too
preoccupied to get involved in
their children's problems.

Separation and divorce are
creating more one-parent
families, an idea which seems
to be catching on in our country.
Too often the burden of raising
children which was shared by
two parents is too much of a
strain for the one-parent family,
especially during the teen years.
Dozens of teenagers are being
placed each year because of
their parent's inability to provide
the structure and limit setting so
sorely needed during the teen
years.

The list of problems for
families goes on and on. The
question facing the church is
"What can we do to strengthen
families?" Of course, the first
and foremost thing churches can
and should do is to provide a
secure church family for every
family in its congregation.
Ministers should prepare
themselves to deal with families
as a group and focus a major
part of their pastoral effort in
strengthening families through
their preaching, visiting, and
counseling.

Some families will fall apart in
spite of all we can do. Does the
church's responsibility end
there? As Christ reached out to
heal the brokenhearted, so
should His church. By
surrounding broken families with
our love in the local church and
by making available "Christian
child care programs" as a
denomination, the church can
provide the family with the
support it needs during a trying
time. With the love of Christ
flowing through a caring, un-
derstanding church and through
the ministry of a good child care
program, many families will be
reunited. Others will not and the
single parent needs more support
than ever before.

During the next decade an
increasing number of children
from broken families will need
care outside their own homes,
especially those whose parents
who have no church family to
support them. Children's Homes
will be focusing on the needs of
these children whose basic needs
include:

—a need for structure and
limit setting

—a need for predictability
and continuity

—a need for multiple adult
models and relationships

—a need for a neutral setting
to work on family relationships

—a need for siblings to stay
together

—a need for peers rather than
family as a primary group

—a need for less intimate
group relationships as compared
with foster families

(Continued on Page 14)

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

Married Couples Night at First Church, Plymouth

It was a very happy and joyful occasion for the married couples at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, on Sunday evening, March 16, at 7. The Rev. Floyd Burkey designated that night as married couples' night. After the sermon, which was especially directed to the married couples, Mr. Burkey had all the married couples stand together, hold hands, and repeat the marriage vows to each other as a renewal of their vows to each other. This was followed by a fellowship in the social hall in the church, where each couple had their picture taken, while they cut the wedding cake.

The young people of the church served delicious refreshments from a table centered with yellow daffodils and yellow burning candles. There were fifty-one people present at this special service.

On Sunday afternoon, February 12, the youth of the church held at the parsonage from 3 until 5 p. m. The youth presented the Rev. Burkey with a tie tack, and they presented his wife, Bernice, and daughter, Lisa, with a lovely corsage. They received many other useful and lovely gifts from the many guests who came during the afternoon. Delicious refreshments were served from a table decorated with a beautiful floral arrangement.

Folkstone Church Welcomes New Pastor and Family

The members of Folkstone Free Will Baptist Church, Holly Ridge, welcome their new pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Parker, and his family to their church and community. He is the former pastor of the Hillsberry church in Clinton. He and his wife, the former Linda Rochelle, are native residents of the Holly Ridge community.



The Rev. Ronnie Parker and Family

They have two sons, Jody, age 11; and Kevin, age 8; and one daughter, Shelly, age 4. Mr. Parker graduated from Dixon High School and attended Mount Olive College for two years. On Sunday, March 16, the Folkstone church welcomed this family with a picnic lunch in the fellowship hall following the morning service. His new address is Route 1, Box 341, Sneads Ferry, North Carolina 28460, and his phone number is 327-2741.

Youth of Albemarle District At Shiloh Church

The Albemarle District Youth Convention will meet at Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown, North Carolina, for the Spring Convention (YFA, AFC, and CA), on Saturday, April 5. Registration will begin at 9:30 a. m. The meeting starts at 10 a. m. and ends at noon with lunch served by the host church.

All youth leaders are asked to fill out forms in the back of the declamation should be mailed to Mrs. Betty R. Sawyer, Route 2, Box 265-B, Columbia, North Carolina 27925 before this meeting.

All essays and names of contestants and a copy of each AFC and YFA books. These should also be mailed to Mrs. Sawyer or turned in at the convention.

The Revelators At Sidney Church

The Revelators will conduct the services at Sidney Free Will Baptist Church near Belhaven on Sunday, March 30, at eleven:

o'clock. They put on a puppet program called "Noah's Ark." The YFA, sponsors of program, invite all members and local churches to attend.

ATTENTION

Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Greenville, North Carolina, has a "Something to Sing About,"—a youth night, March 30, 1980. Everyone is invited to come and join the Sugar Frosted Saints and the "Our Place Gang." They are the youth of the church. There will be a fellowship hour and refreshments following the service.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. Cedric Pierce Jr.

NOTICE

This year the General Baptists will have their Ministers' Conference at Cragmont. The dates for their Conference are May 16. As you know the school term will not have been completed and our staff will not have arrived. Anyone who would be interested in helping with this week-end camp, please contact me at (919) 669-7677. We need your help.

John Williams
Manager

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 13)

—child's need for special medical, educational and/or psychological resources only available to the family through the institutional setting

Our own Children's Home and our many exceptional church families across the state can be a haven of blessing and an answer to prayer for families within the church and for those outside the church.

As our Lord met the needs of families and individuals during His life on the earth, making families a major priority in the ministry of your church. Families of the 1980s need the love of God as expressed in the life and ministry of the Free Will Baptist Church.

HOME MISSIONS

RONNIE MOHN ORDAINED

submitted by Taylor Hill



ictured left to right: back row, J. Godwin, Ray Wells, Dale Albertson, Roland C. Cherry, and Kennedy; front row, Taylor Hill, DeWayne Eakes, Ronnie Mohn, wife, Sherry.

March 9 was a blessed day for many of us. Ronnie Mohn was ordained by the Western Conference. The charge was given by Ronnie's father-in-law, the Rev. O. B. Taylor.

We are very proud of Ronnie and Sherry for the good work that they are doing at the Cape Colony Mission near Edenton, North Carolina.

Ronnie and Sherry were diligent workers at the Free Spirit Mission at Wilson before entering into the ministry. He and Dale Albertson were and will be faithful companions in our Lord's service.

It was pointed out by a member of the ordination council that Ronnie made an excellent score on his ordination examination.

The work at the Cape Colony Mission is progressing very well under their leadership as they are launching out into the community and getting the people involved.

Ronnie states that the one main ingredient for any of their success stems from "showing the people that we really do love them." Ronnie states, "Our spirits are high, and we pray for

the other works in the state, and we request their prayers, also that we may do God's will, and that the glory will be His.

"We are anxious to meet again with our other missionaries and learn of their experiences and gain insight for the betterment of our own efforts."

Ronnie attended the Carolina Bible Institute. We are lucky to have Ronnie and Sherry and their children on our Church Extension team.

BEAUFORT MISSION PROGRESS REPORT

by James H. Gurganus



Vinyl skirting installed on the mobile church.

The men of the Beaufort Mission had a work day at the mission on Saturday, February 23, installing vinyl skirting on the mobile church. As you can see in the above picture it looks much better and protects our heating system and duct work.

I don't have any pictures of the ladies at work, but they have been busy too. Approximately seven ladies comprise the auxiliary, but they are very active. They have sold dinners and baked goods on three occasions recently. These cleared \$795 for our building fund.

We have been having some good services and attendance has picked up. We had 49 for our morning service on February 24.

We haven't had anyone saved recently, but there are some that are under conviction. Pray for us that God will help us to reach them somehow.

ROCKY MOUNT, FIRST JOINS EVERY-FAMILY PLAN

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Rocky Mount is the seventeenth church to join the Every-Family Plan. As a result, THE FREE WILL BAPTIST is now being sent to forty-six families who are members of this church. The Rev. Larry Barbour is the pastor.

Why not make your church a member of the distinctive group of churches who participate in this program? Discuss the plan at one of your church meetings and let us know when you wish to implement this plan. With this plan the church is billed quarterly with a 25 percent discount for the number of subscribers on the roll. For further instructions concerning this program, write to the Editorial Department of The Free Will Baptist Press.

NINETY-EIGHT-YEAR-OLD MAN ENJOYED PAPER

Had he lived until February 25, Simon P. Easley of Portales, New Mexico, would have been ninety-nine years old. He was a member of Easley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Comanche, Texas, a church founded by his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. R. B. Easley, in 1886.

Mr. Easley died February 18 following a lengthy illness. His daughter states that he never missed reading an issue of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST.

April is Home Missions and Church Extension month.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

1980 Camp Schedule

Kids, it's time to begin thinking about summer camp at Cragmont. Last year was the first year in the new building and this year promises to be exciting also with all the sports events, new styles of shirts, and souvenirs to be found in the canteen. And of course, no one can adequately describe the spiritual experience one can receive through the teaching and preaching of the dedicated leaders. Below you will find a list of the conferences you can attend. So pick one and contact the director of that conference to get your name in early.

GENERAL YOUTH

June 16-21
Rick Watson, Co-Director
Route 2, Box 607
Wilson, North Carolina 27893

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

July 21-24
The Rev. Francis Garner, Director
Route 1
Pinetown, North Carolina 27865

CHRISTIAN CADET

June 23-28
The Rev. Bobby Taylor, Director
Route 6, Box 147-A
Greenville, North Carolina 27834

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE

July 28—August 2
The Rev. J. B. Starnes, Director
3010 Bridges Street
Morehead City, North Carolina
28557

YOUTH FRONTIER YFA

June 30—July 5
Mrs. David W. Hansley, Director
Route 4, Box 163
LaGrange, North Carolina 28551

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

August 4-9
Mrs. Dola Dudley, Director
529-A South Fifth Street
Smithfield, North Carolina 27577

YOUTH FRONTIER AFC

July 7-12
Mrs. David W. Hansley, Director
Route 4, Box 163
LaGrange, North Carolina 28551

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

August 11-16
Mrs. Dola Dudley, Director
529-A South Fifth Street
Smithfield, North Carolina 27577

Is it not possible that of all the days of the year, Easter becomes one for
owing off, where self is sought and served, where the appearance of the
mporal becomes more important than the spiritual?



The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

WELL-DRESSED—FOR GOD?

Just a casual glance at your church congregation Sunday, April 6, will probably reveal the best attendance of the year. It is the traditional Easter celebration of new clothes and corsages which all but makes the fact of His Resurrection secondary, almost unimportant.

How do Christian people expect to reach the world with the message of the risen Christ and His salvation if they do not hold Him up as the proper object of worship? How can Christian people convince the world of the need of a Saviour if they allow anything to diminish His glory, if they allow anything to take preeminence in their lives?

But is it not possible that something other than the Lord becomes paramount during Easter? Is it not possible that Easter becomes a day for selves, rather than a day for the Lord? Is it not possible that of all the days of the year this becomes one for showing off, where self is sought and served, where the appearance of the temporal becomes more important than the spiritual?

As valid as the argument may be that Easter is life and new clothes are a symbol of the Resurrection, there is cause to examine the pride which must be a definite part of the season.

The unadorned become conspicuous by their nonconformity and somehow appear apologetic for being different. The few who cannot dress in new clothes (for reasons of economics) or do not dress in new clothes (for reasons of desire) in many cases compel greater notice than those lavishly dressed. (There must be a paradox here—especially when one considers that they hadn't wanted to draw attention to themselves.)

For those who want the distinction of being well turned-out, there is the obvious attempt to outdo their friends. What usually results is the Easter Parade of fashions and a witness to purported good taste rather than a witness to God.

Despite the tug of conscience, most of us will probably follow tradition this year and adorn ourselves with our finest—with something newly bought, charged, or sacrificed for. We have gotten caught up in the trend; we have become a part of the crowd, even the world.

Dare we suggest to others (and ourselves) that in order to love and serve God effectively we must disdain the things of the world? Self-indulgence (of which dressing up for Easter seems a part) is certainly of the world—and therefore not of God.

Wouldn't it be interesting to go to church this Easter Sunday and find everyone well-dressed for God rather than for each other?

But how could we know?

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April 2, 1980

Volume 95

Number

Tommy Manning
Editor

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All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

All subscriptions are payable in advance one year, \$6.24; two years, \$11.44; four years, \$22.88 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$6, \$11, and \$22 respectively (plus sales tax where applicable).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist**, P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

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Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston: 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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The Good Samaritan Revisited

John Hudson Tiner

The story of the Good Samaritan is a classic; it has been retold in all kinds of ways from children's stories to adult books. Recently at Eastern University, Dr. John Marley and Dr. C. Daniel Tiner, both psychologists, set up a modern day Samaritan experiment as an experiment.

In the experiment, they used students who were studying to become ministers. The students did not know they were part of the experiment. Each student was instructed to prepare a short talk on a specific subject. Some were to talk about why they had been called to serve God. Others were to prepare comments on the parable of the "Good Samaritan."

The students were also told they were to have their talks recorded at a recording studio on campus. Before leaving for the studio, the students were divided into three groups. The first group was told they would probably be late so they should hurry. The second group was told they were not late right away. Members of the third group were told time was not a consideration; they were to walk to the recording studio at their leisure whenever they finished preparing their talk.

Meanwhile, as students walked across the campus toward the studio, they saw a groaning, injured "victim" slumped in a ditch by the way. This was what the experiment was all about. Would the students stop?

Sixty percent of the students kept right on walking! This included those about to speak on the parable of the Good Samaritan. Most of the passersby belonged to the two groups in a hurry. In fact, only one student in the first group stopped. The group in the least hurry contained the largest percent of Good Samaritans.

Actually, the word "Good" before Samaritan is not used in the parable as Jesus tells it, and the actual force of the parable is weakened by using "Good." Today a Good Samaritan is a person who gratuitously gives help to someone in distress. But this wasn't so in the time of Christ. For, in fact, to the Jews, Samaritans were not good. They were hated and despised. They were contemptible heretics with whom no good Jew would have anything to do.

The enmity came about after the Jews returned from Babylonian captivity. At first the Samaritans were a break-away group of Jews of the Northern Kingdom. They offered to help rebuild the temple and the wall of Jerusalem, but were refused. (Read Ezra 4:1-6.) Angered by this rebuff, the enmity continued to develop, for in the New Testament times Jews would not journey from Galilee to Jerusalem by way of Peraea instead of going through Samaria, simply in order to avoid any contact with the hated Samaritans.

When this is understood, Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25 and following becomes even more meaningful. The parable was an answer to a question which a student of the Law of Moses put to Jesus: "Teacher, what does a man need to do to live forever in Heaven?"

As He did upon many other occasions, Jesus answered the question with a question: "What does Moses' law say about it?"

The lawyer's answer ended with a paraphrase of Leviticus 19:18 which includes the statement: ". . . but you shall love your neighbor as yourself . . ." The lawyer then asks who is his neighbor. Jesus replied with the well-known parable. At the end, the Jewish lawyer is forced to admit that the Samaritan was the neighbor, because the Samaritan had showed kindness.

All men are equal in the sight of God. And this is the main point behind the parable of the Good Samaritan. The story of the Good Samaritan teaches the lesson that every person is a neighbor, even a member of a hated race.

Finally, the story is an example of the power of Jesus' teaching. With a single parable He erased centuries of evil connotation from the word "Samaritan." Until then the word was a term of abuse; after the parable it became forever linked with the word "God."

THOUGHTS

ON

“THE ELECTRONIC CHURCH”

DeWayne Eakes

RECENTLY several things have turned my attention to the tremendous influence and power of the electronic church. By the “electronic church” I refer to things such as the “PTL Club,” “Club 700,” “Rex Humbard” program, “Jimmy Swaggart Show” and others. The weekend of our “big snow of 1980” we were forced to cancel our services and we watched four programs of a religious nature on television. One of those, the worship service of First Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, North Carolina, Dr. Albert Edwards, pastor, I would classify as a real worship service. The others were television performances of a “religious” nature. Also, a recent article in the *Christian Century Magazine* (February, 1980) dealing with the electronic church, made some disturbing predictions about the future of the electronic church versus the mainline churches. And I have recently become aware of serious problems in two of our good churches in our conference which grew directly out of the involvement of some of the members of these Free Will Baptist Churches with some of these organizations placed before us by the electronic church.

One of the first things that grabs you is that these programs are not worship programs even if they use a modified and up-beat format claiming to be such. They

are theatrical performances ranging from very rough to the most sophisticated in use of technology of broadcasting. How many churches do you know that have full orchestras to accompany their choir, and cameras zooming in and out capturing all angles of the featured singing group, soloist, or preacher? Viewers are encouraged to “send your monthly letter for prayer and give what you can.” You are encouraged to “help spread the gospel to the world and reach people in your community” by sending your money to Akron, Ohio. You are assured that if you “send what you can God will return to you . . .” Or send “X” amount of money to purchase a golden pendant or tie tack to identify yourself as a Christian. What about money? Oh yes, the electronic church receives about one-half billion dollars per year. The “PTL Club” grosses more than \$25 million per year, and Robert Schuller’s “Hour of Power” raises an annual income of about \$11 million. Much of this money comes from honest, earnest Christians who believe they are promoting the kingdom of God just as much as if giving to their various denominational institutions, programs, and enterprises—figures from February 27, 1980, *Christian Century*. One person speaking from the mainline church world made an accurate assessment of

the money matter: “Our problem is that a large portion of the benevolences we receive go into the caring kind of ministries to heal, feed, and comfort the afflicted of the world. The ‘electronic church’ at its worst uses its revenues simply to perpetuate its radio or television programming.” I trust and pray that our Free Will Baptists will recognize the wide range of ministries available in our denomination and refrain from sending their gifts to these “parachurch” religious movements.

Dr. Robert M. Liebert, psychiatrist of the State University of New York, has predicted that the “electronic churches will become electronic denominations set up in local community centers, with absolute philosophic and economic ties to the denomination’s charismatic leader.” Pat Robertson of “700 Club” alluded to such a possibility when he drew a parallel between his ministry and that of John Wesley in the 18th Century. “Wesley,” he said, “went to the people because the Anglican Church of that day has lost touch with the common folk.” He is implying that the mainline churches are today losing touch with their people, and it is up to popular crusaders of the tube to meet the needs of the common folk, so goes their

(Continued on Page 15)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

A COLLEGE WITH YOU IN MIND

How many colleges have offered to tailor-make educational programs for you and your needs? We, as Free Will Baptists, are very fortunate to have a college that offers a sound liberal arts education capable of preparing any student willing to work towards a successful career.

This year approximately 500 Free Will Baptist students will be graduating from high schools in North Carolina. Has anyone compared with them the educational opportunities of attending Mount Olive College, a college sponsored by our own denomination?

At Mount Olive College, the academic programs leading toward a degree include a wide range of vocations and professions, all fully accredited. Because we are sponsored by a church, our commitment includes the spiritual as well as the intellectual development of each student. We, at Mount Olive, care about each student as an individual.

With college costs soaring, Mount Olive's tuition is the lowest of any private college in North Carolina. In addition, scholarships and grants are available on the basis of merit and need. For resident students the cost of attending Mount Olive College may be less than attending a public university. Let us show you the figures!

As a further service, night classes have been added to the three sessions of summer school in 1980. To visit or receive more information on summer school or the fall semester beginning in August, call or write the

Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phone: 658-2502.

HOWARD RETURNS TO PASTORING

The Rev. C. Sheldon Howard, a member of the Department of Religion at Mount Olive College since 1967, has announced his resignation effective at the end of the current academic year in May. He has accepted a pastorate of Northeast Free Will Baptist Church near Mount Olive.

A graduate of Mount Olive College, Howard holds the A. B. degree from Atlantic Christian College and the Master of Divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is married to the former Hilda Boykin of Wilson, also a graduate of Mount Olive College, who is a public school teacher in Wayne County. The Howards have one son, C. Sheldon Howard, Jr.

DIRECTOR POSITION OPEN

Mount Olive College is looking for a Christian man or married couple to serve as director of Eagles Nest Conference Center. The Center consists of 100 acres of woodland, a five-acre lake, and various buildings for camp purposes.

Duties will include hosting groups which use the Center along with the general management and maintenance duties.

This work would be ideal for a semi-retired person in good health who wishes to engage in Christian work with both young people and adults. A two-

bedroom house is available as living quarters.

Interested persons may contact James A. Coats at 658-4933 for more details.

PLAN A CHURCH RETREAT

Is your church or youth group planning a retreat this summer? Mount Olive College is making its facilities available to churches for week-long or weekend use from May 23 through August 17.

A three-unit air-conditioned dormitory complex will be available for housing and Rodgers Chapel can be used for worship services. The recreation area including tennis courts and Eagles Nest can be used on a scheduled basis and meals can be provided by the College food services. College personnel will be available to assist when possible and requested in advance.

Reservations and information on rates may be secured from James A. Coats, phone 658-4933.

EASTER SERMON BY COLLEGE PRESIDENT

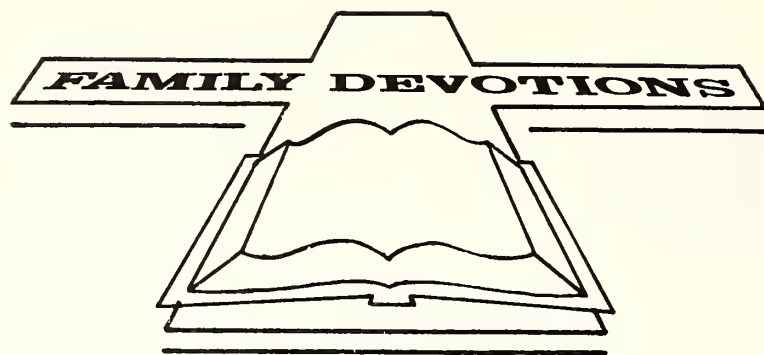
Dr. W. Burkette Raper will preach the Easter Sunday sermon, April 6, at Walnut Creek Free Will Baptist Church near Goldsboro on Highway 70 east. The public is invited.

NOTICE

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference will meet April 21, 1980, at 10 a. m. in the meeting room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore in Kinston. The Kinston Bible and Bookstore is on Queen Street; parking lot is located back of the store.

At this meeting the examining board will give the examination for ordination to all that are qualified to take the exam at this time. Also, all that need to come before the board for any reason may do so at this time.

W. H. Willis
Secretary



SUNDAY, APRIL 6

Scripture Reading—Mark 16:1-20

EASTER DAY

Tomb, thou shalt not hold Him longer,
 Death is strong, but life is stronger;
 Stronger than the dark, the light;
 Stronger than the wrong, the right;
 Faith and hope triumphant say:
 "Christ will rise on Easter day!"

While the patient earth lies waiting
 Till the morning shall be breaking,
 Shuddering 'neath the burden dread
 Of her Master, cold and dead,
 Hark! she hears the angels say:
 "Christ will rise on Easter day!"

And when sunrise smites the mountains,
 Pouring light from heavenly fountains,
 Then the earth blooms out to greet
 Once again the blessed feet;
 And her countless voices say:
 "Christ has risen on Easter day!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The whole world speaks of the glories of our Lord—all of nature amplifies the message: He is risen. Let us truly serve the living Saviour!

MONDAY, APRIL 7

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 31:16; Revelation 18:1-8

REWARDED FOR TRYING

Opening a window of his fifth-story room, a minister in London heard some beautiful singing below. A blind man stood on the street corner, singing and holding out a badly worn hat to passers-by. Leaving his room, the minister went to the singer, spoke cheerfully to him, and put a shilling in his hat. The blind man profusely thanked the donor and said, "I'll sing a hymn—just for you!" At close range there was no melodious beauty in the blind man's voice. The minister thought, "His voice is cracked. How different were the tones which came up to me in my room higher up!"

As the minister walked away, he mused: "If his singing was sweet to me higher up, his singing must be infinitely sweeter to God, the 'high and lofty one that inhabiteth eternity!' Surely our songs and sincere efforts are glorified as they ascend to the heavenly Father. He rewards us for what we aspire to do for Him, even though we may fail in the effort or do it imperfectly."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Even a joyful "noise" offered in praise to God is sweet to His ears. Let us not despair if our talents are not notable, for however meager the ability, when offered to God, it is glorious.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

Scripture Reading—Psalm 52:7; Proverbs 8:18

HE WENT TO HIS RICHES

Shortly after the death of his aged Christian father, a young lady visited his associate business. He was not a Christian. He had lived only to amass riches. He said to the girl, "Your father was a good man. He lived for God and others. His chief joy was to bring happiness to others. I have never known a man more generous with his money. Right up to the end of his beautiful life, his thoughts were of others. At his death, he went to his riches. I will leave the riches which I could have used for God and others!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The best riches are those that are banked with God, those laid up in Heaven by the sincere Christian. Those deposited with Him will never lose their value nor be subject to theft.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28

HE MAKETH NO MISTAKES
 My Father's way may twist and turn,
 My heart may throb and ache
 But in my soul I'm glad I know,
 He maketh no mistake.

My cherished plans may go astray,
 My hopes may fade away,
 But still I'll trust my Lord to lead
 For He doth know the way.

Tho' night be dark and it may seem
 That day will never break,
 I'll pin my faith, my all in Him,
 He maketh no mistake.

There's so much now I cannot see,
 My eyesight's far too dim;
 But come what may, I'll simply

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

trust
and leave it all to Him.

er by and by the mist will lift
and plain it all He'll make.
rough all the way, tho' dark to
me,
He made not one mistake.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Our ways are not perfect
ours, but God's are. Even with
carefully executed planning we
sometimes go astray and act
wisely. Let's depend on God's
guidance.*

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Scripture Reading—1 Thes-
salonians 2:19; James 5:7

I AM WAITING

I am waiting for the dawning
Of the bright and blessed day,
When the darksome night of
yesterday
shall have vanished far away;
When forever with the Saviour,
Far beyond this vale of tears,
I shall swell the song of worship
Through the everlasting years.

I am looking at the brightness—
See, it shineth from afar—
The clear and joyous beaming,
Of the "Bright and Morning
Star";

Through the dark, gray mists of
yesterday morning
Do I see its glorious light;
When away with every shadow
Of this sad and weary night.

I am waiting for the coming
Of the Lord who died for me;
His words have thrilled my
spirit,
'I will come again for thee.'
I can almost hear His footfall
On the threshold of the door,
And my heart, my heart is
beating,
To be His forevermore.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The real Christian can look
forward to an eternity with God
where all shall be well, even
beyond the fondest dreams of*

*individual hearts. Let the
children of God not despair.*

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

Scripture Reading—Romans
12:1; Ephesians 6:7

SERVING ONLY FOR GOD'S GLORY

There was a humble
shoemaker who was a devout
Christian. One day a young
minister called to see him, to
enjoy his fellowship and talk
with him about the things of
God. Ineptly, the young minister
said, "How good it is to meet a
Christlike Christian in such a
lowly occupation." The shoe-
maker answered, "Brother,
don't call this occupation lowly."
Before the shoemaker could say
more, the minister, thinking that
he may have unintentionally
offended him, said, "Excuse me,
my brother, I didn't mean to
reflect on what you do to earn a
living." To which the shoemaker
replied, "You didn't hurt me,
brother. I believe that my
making shoes with an eye single
to God's glory is just as great
and holy as your preaching a
sermon. I believe that when I
stand before the Lord, He will
ask me, 'What kind of shoes did
you make?' He will ask you,
'What kind of messages did you
deliver, and for whose glory did
you deliver them?'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Whatever we do, however
humble the task be in the eyes of
man, when it is done for God,
there is cause for pride. Our
Father is not one who is im-
pressed by "position" as men
are impressed.*

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

Scripture Reading—Romans
1:18; 6:1-10

WHAT IS SIN?

Man calls it an *accident*; God
calls it an *abomination*.

Man calls it a *blunder*; God
calls it a *blindness*.

Man calls it a *defect*; God calls
it a *disease*.

Man calls it a *chance*; God
calls it a *choice*.

Man calls it an *error*; God
calls it an *enmity*.

Man calls it a *fascination*; God
calls it a *fatality*.

Man calls it an *infirmity*; God
calls it an *iniquity*.

Man calls it a *luxury*; God
calls it a *leprosy*.

Man calls it a *liberty*; God
calls it *lawlessness*.

Man calls it a *trifle*; God calls
it a *tragedy*.

Man calls it a *mistake*; God
calls it a *madness*.

Man calls it a *weakness*; God
calls it *willfulness*.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*"Sin is sin, because God is
God." How often have we heard
and agreed with the saying! How
often have we tried to explain sin
away, only to be reminded in the
Scripture that God cannot
tolerate it.*

Selected from *Knight's
Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter
B. Knight.

Coming Events . . .

April 5—Pee Dee District Woman's
Auxiliary Convention, Oak Grove Free
Will Baptist Church, Route 2,
Bladenboro

April 5—Albemarle Youth Convention,
Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church near
Pinetown

April 6—Easter Sunday

April 7—Free Will Baptist Press Founda-
tion, Inc., and all Bible Bookstores
Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smith-
field, Wilson, and Kinston

April 9—Cape Fear District Woman's
Auxiliary Convention, Johnston Union
Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1,
Clayton

April 12—State Sunday School Con-
vention, Mount Olive College, Mount
Olive, North Carolina

April 17—Albemarle District Woman's
Auxiliary Convention, Sound Side
Free Will Baptist Church near
Columbia

**Winterville Church
Announces Revival Services**



The Rev. Curtis W. Jones

Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina, announces its spring revival, April 14 through April 18, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Curtis W. Jones from the First Free Will Baptist Church in Williamston, North Carolina, will be the evangelist. The Rev. Bobby Futrell, pastor, will assist in the services. The congregation extends a warm welcome to everyone to attend.

**Revival in Progress
Bethel Church**

Revival services are in progress at the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Whortonville (Pamlico County), during the week of March 24-29, at 7 p. m. The Rev. Francis Garner of Free Union church of Pinetown is the visiting evangelist. Special music is provided each evening.

The Rev. Larry Higgins is the pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

**Revival in Progress
Community Church**

Community Free Will Baptist Church, Weldon, is having revival services through April 4

of this week. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Clyde W. Cox, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, North Carolina, is the evangelist. Prayer rooms for men and women are opening at 7:15 p. m. Special music is being rendered each night. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

**Folkstone Church Announces
Revival Services**

The Folkstone Free Will Baptist Church, Holly Ridge, will have its spring revival beginning Monday, April 14, and will continue through Friday, April 18, at 7:30 p. m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Larry J. Crumpler Jr., pastor of the Piney Grove church in Albertson, North Carolina. Special music will be presented each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Parker, and the church membership invite everyone to attend.

**Oriental Church to Have
Revival Services**

The Oriental Free Will Baptist Church, Oriental, announces revival services for the week of April 7-12, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Bobby Brown of Cove City will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. Ralph Sumner, pastor of the Oriental church, will be assisting in the services each evening. Special music will be provided during each service. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

**Revival Services at
Owens Chapel Church**

Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City, North Carolina, will have revival services through April 5 of this week. The time of the services is 7:45 each evening. The Rev. Royce Reynolds is the

evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Melvin Moore, and members extend to everyone a special invitation.

**Cape Fear Woman's
Auxiliary Convention at
Johnston Union Church**

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on April 9, 1980, at the Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

Theme: "God's Grace Is Sufficient"

Scripture: "But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory" (Philippians 4:19).

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Opening Hymn
 - Invocation
 - Devotion, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smith
- 10:20—Welcome, Mrs. Sae Peedin
 - Response, Mrs. Lilli Stanley
- 10:25—President's Remarks
 - Business Session
 - Reading of Minutes
 - Roll Call of Auxiliaries
 - Appointment of Committees
- 11:00—Hymn
 - Report of Youth Chairman
 - Offering
 - Convention Message, Rev. Davie Brinson

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Hymn
 - Memorial Service, Mrs. Joyce Nowell
 - Special Music
- 1:20—Report of Chairmen
 - Children's Home
 - Mount Olive College
 - Home Missions
 - Foreign Missions
 - Free Will Baptist Press
 - Cragmont
 - Superannuation
- 2:00—Business Session
 - Hymn
 - Adjournment
 - Benediction

Pianist, Mrs. Sue Warrick
 Organist, Mrs. Jewel Gower
 Song leader, Mrs. Joyce Wood

**Westside Church Announces
 Revival Services**



The Rev. Jack Mayo

The Rev. Jack Mayo, pastor of
 Ironsboro Free Will Baptist
 Church of Ayden, North
 Carolina, will be the guest
 evangelist in revival services to
 be held at the Westside Free Will
 Baptist Church, 1203 Lynn Drive,
 Winston, North Carolina, Mon-
 day, April 7 through Friday,
 April 11. Services will begin at
 7:30 p. m. Special music will be
 featured at each service and a
 nursery will be available for
 children.

**Homecoming Observed at
 Friendship Church**

The Friendship Free Will
 Baptist Church, Route 1,
 Farmville, North Carolina, will
 observe its annual homecoming
 on Sunday, April 20. Services will
 include: Sunday school, 10 a. m.;
 morning worship, 11 a. m.;
 lunch, noon; and singspiration,
 3:30 p. m. The public is invited to
 attend.

*Christ the Lord
 is risen! Happy
 Easter.*

**Pleasant Plain Church
 Announces Revival Services**

Revival services will begin
 April 7 through April 11, at 7:30
 p. m., at the Pleasant Plain Free
 Will Baptist Church, Route 2,
 Selma, North Carolina. The
 evangelist will be the pastor, the
 Rev. Ernie W. Price. Everyone
 is invited to attend.

**Crab Point Church
 Announces Revival Services**

Revival services will be held at
 the Crab Point Free Will Baptist
 Church, Morehead City, April 28
 through May 2. The time of the
 services is 7 p. m. The Rev.
 Vance Link will be the
 evangelist. There will be special
 music each evening. The pastor
 of the church is the Rev.
 McDonald Bennett. Everyone is
 invited to attend.

**Revival at
 People's Chapel Church**

The Rev. Swade Benson,
 pastor of Union Chapel church,
 Route 1, Plymouth, will be the
 guest evangelist at a series of
 revival services to be held at the
 People's Chapel Free Will
 Baptist Church near Elm City,
 April 7-11. Services will begin
 each evening at 7:45 p. m.
 Prayer rooms will open at 7:30
 p. m. Special music will be ren-
 dered each evening.

The pastor, the Rev. Barry
 Gardner, and the church
 membership cordially invite
 everyone to attend.

**Smyrna Church to Have
 Revival Services**

Revival services will begin
 Easter Sunday night, April 6,
 and will continue through Friday
 night, April 11, at the Smyrna
 Free Will Baptist Church, Route
 2, Benson, North Carolina. The
 evangelist will be the Rev. Mike
 Scott, pastor of Johnston Union
 church near Clinton. The time of
 the services is 7:30 p. m. Special
 music will be rendered each
 evening. The pastor, the Rev. W.
 A. Martin, and the church
 members extend a cordial in-

itation to everyone to attend
 these services.

**Easter Sunrise Services
 At Smyrna Church**

Sunrise services will begin at 7
 a. m., Easter Sunday at the
 Smyrna Free Will Baptist
 Church, Route 2, Benson, North
 Carolina. This service will be
 followed by a fellowship break-
 fast. Sunday school is scheduled
 for 9 a. m. and at 10 a. m. an
 Easter program entitled "As It
 Began to Dawn" will be
 presented. Everyone is invited
 to attend.

**Revival at
 Sweet Gum Grove Church**

The Sweet Gum Grove Free
 Will Baptist Church, Route 1,
 Stokes, North Carolina, will hold
 its spring revival, April 7-12. The
 Rev. W. S. Burns of Elm Grove
 church will be the evangelist.
 Services will begin each night at
 7:30. Special music will be
 presented. A nursery will be
 provided and there will also be a
 children's church for ages 4
 through 8. The pastor, the
 Rev. David Hill, and members
 invite everyone to attend and
 worship the Lord in these ser-
 vices.

**EXPERIENCE
 REVIVAL
 DURING
 EASTERTIME.**

**Spring Hope Church
 Announces Revival Services**

Spring Hope Free Will Baptist
 Church, Route 5, New Bern,
 North Carolina, will have its
 spring revival beginning on April
 7 and continuing through April 11
 with the Rev. Noah Brown of the
 Saints Delight church as the

Turn the Page

guest evangelist. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. Prayer rooms will open at 7:15 p. m. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Grady Tucker. Miss Darnell Clark will serve as pianist. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival at Edgewood Church

Revival services will be held at the Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church near Crisp, April 7 through April 11. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Willis Wilson of Winterville, North Carolina. The Rev. Robert Strickland, the pastor of the church, and the members cordially invite everyone to attend. There will be special music featured each night.

British Chapel Church Has Spring Revival

British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, will be holding its spring revival services, April 14-18 at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Roger Williams will be the guest evangelist. There will be special singing each night.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. Bruce Jones. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Spring Branch Announces Revival Services

Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, North Carolina, announces revival services for the week of April 7-11. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. Frankie Flowers will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. Royce Reynolds is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Special Services at Tee's Chapel Church

The Missionary Quartet, led by Billy Lancaster, will be at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, on Sunday, April 6, at

7 p. m. The Rev. T. C. Farmer is pastor of the church.

Revival services will begin on Monday, April 7, and will continue through April 11, at the Tee's Chapel church. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Jeff Scarborough, pastor of Shady Grove church, will be the guest evangelist. Special music will be presented each evening. Everyone is welcomed to attend these services.

Youth of Rains Cross Roads Honor Senior Citizens



Senior Citizens of Rains Cross Roads Church

The Youth of Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Kenly, North Carolina, honored approximately forty senior citizens on March 9, 1980. During the morning services each one was presented a red carnation as a token of love and appreciation for what they had done to make the church a better place to worship. The church was presented a plaque with ten names. Additional names will be added each year.

After the worship services, lunch was served. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez. The youth directors are Bill and Jean Thompson.

Special Easter Service at Rose of Sharon Church

The Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church Choir will present "The Saviour Lives." It will be a service of worship through prayer, the reading of God's Word, the singing of hymns that tell about the life, death, burial, and Resurrection of Jesus. The time of the service is 6 p. m., on April 6, 1980.

The pastor of the Rose Sharon church is Rev. Ronnie Hobgood. Everyone is welcome

"His Last Days" to be Presented

The Kenly Ministerial Association is sponsoring the presentation of the music drama, "His Last Days," at the North Johnston High School Auditorium, on Wednesday, April 16, at 7:30 p. m. The Youth Department of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilcox will be presenting this drama. It portrays the love and suffering of Jesus Christ that He went through in the agony of the crucifixion. This could be a life changing experience for anyone attending. It is hoped that area churches will suspend their weekly prayer services and attend.

Weekend Revival Announced by Sound Side Church



The Rev. Bobby Taylor

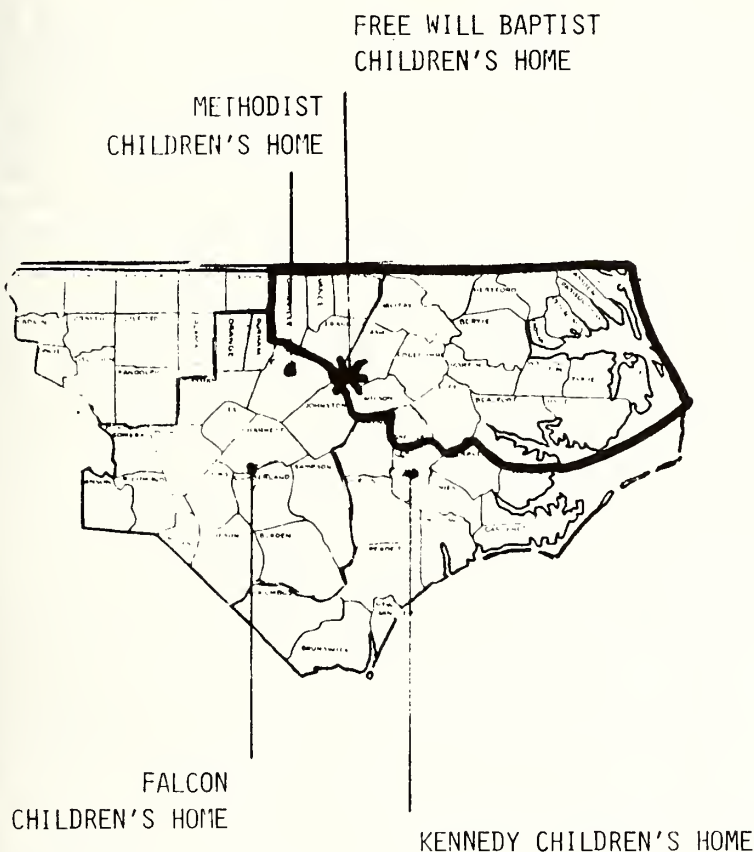
Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, North Carolina, announces a weekend revival to be held on the weekend of April 4 and 5, 1980. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor, pastor of Gum Swamp church of Greenville, North Carolina. The

(Continued on Page 15)

Children's Home

"PLACED TO SERVE HIM"

submitted by Stewart Humphrey



programs are prepared to accommodate at this time.

Free Will Baptists have a corner on the market, so to speak. With the development of programs and services needed by the counties around us we could be about the seeking and saving of many a lost child. Taking the necessary steps to accommodate children from public agencies is an important step in the development of our program. We could be a prime resource for many counties. They need us now.

As surely as Paul heard a call to "come over to Macedonia to help us," children and families in our state are calling Free Will Baptists to open their doors that we might help them. Our empty beds can be filled. Our Home can grow once again, but we must be attuned to the needs of our present and future generations of families.

AREA MEETINGS FOR CHALLENGE OF THE 80'S

In order for the Children's Home to meet its challenge for the children of the 80s there will be meetings in the Free Will Baptist Conferences to inform people of these pressing needs. Help the Children's Home meet the challenges it faces by supporting them in these meetings with your presence and prayers. There will be a discussion of ideas and opportunities regarding the expanding of the programs and services to the children. The schedule of meetings is as follows:

Albemarle: May 7, 7:30 p. m., Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie; May 12, 7:30 p. m., Shiloh, Pinetown.

Cape Fear: April 7, 7:30 p. m., Hopewell, Smithfield; May 1, 7:30 p. m., Tee's Chapel, Brodgen; May 6, 7:30 p. m., Lee's Chapel, Dunn.

Central: April 11, 7:30 p. m., King's Cross Roads, Falkland; April 14, 7:30 p. m., Friendship, Farmville; April 17, 7:30 p. m.,

Continued on Page 16

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home was founded to serve needy children. Our Lord did that as we served our fellowman we served Him or in His own words, "As oft as you did it to the least of these my brethren you did it unto me."

Because of the mode of transportation in His day Jesus traveled little more than 200 miles from His home at any one time. The gasoline crunch and many other factors have led service agencies of all kinds to examine their area of service.

In their efforts to involve families in the ongoing care of their children, children's homes attempt to serve the counties nearest them. The parent or relative is usually only a few minutes' drive away and can see their children often.

The majority of placements in our Children's Home for the past several years have come from the counties surrounding Nash County: Wake, Johnston, Wilson, Edgecombe, Pitt, and the counties eastward toward the coast.

In keeping with the community concept it can be noted from the map that our Children's Home falls on the border of the northeastern section of our state. There are no child care facilities east of us in the entire region. Kennedy Home, southeast of us, Falcon to the south, and Methodist Home in Raleigh combined with our total number of beds cannot meet the needs of this large number of counties. Kennedy, Falcon, and Methodist have all the children their

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For April 6

MARY MAGDALENE

Lesson Text: John 20:1, 2, 11-18

Memory Verse: John 20:18

I. INTRODUCTION

A missionary working in Africa was attempting to explain the Resurrection to a native chief. It was absolutely essential that he understand and accept the Resurrection, or the missionary would not be able to reach any other members of the tribe. But the old man was adamant. "When one is buried in the ground," he insisted, "he cannot live again. Nothing that is buried can live again."

"How do you grow corn?" asked the missionary.

"We dig a hole in the ground and put the grain in it and cover it up," replied the chief.

"What happens then?"

"Well, the grain sprouts, and soon the corn plant comes out of the ground."

"In other words, you bury the grain."

"Yes, I guess so."

"Well, then, if a dead, lifeless seed can come forth with new life when it is buried, why do you think it is impossible for God to give new life to His Son when He was buried?"

"I see! I see!" exclaimed the chief. "Now I can believe in the Resurrection!"

Belief in the Resurrection has been a stumbling block for many. Yet in nature and the Scriptures we can readily find all the evidence we need to lead us to belief in the Resurrection if we but look and listen.

Mary Magdalene, the subject of today's lesson, enters the

Gospel narrative earlier in Jesus' ministry where she is mentioned along with several other women who ministered to Jesus of their substance (Luke 8:2). This ministry was certainly one of love and gratitude, for Jesus had cast seven demons out of Mary (Mark 16:9). Her name is probably derived from the town of Magdala, located on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee.

Mary Magdalene has popularly been identified as the sinful woman who anointed Jesus' feet in the house of Simon the Pharisee (Luke 7:36-50). Even though the first mention of Mary comes immediately after this in the Gospel of Luke (8:2), this is insufficient reason to regard the women as one and the same.

Early on Sunday morning following the crucifixion several of the women who had been associated with Jesus made their way to the tomb to prepare His body for its final burial. While John mentions only Mary Magdalene, the other three Gospels named Mary, the mother of James, Salome, and Joanna (Mark 16:1; Luke 24:10). As they walked toward the tomb, they were concerned about who would roll the stone away in order that they could enter the tomb. But when they arrived, they found the stone already rolled away and the tomb empty.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. I am standing upon the shore. A beautiful ship before me spreads her white sails in the morning breeze and starts for the open sea. She is an object of beauty and strength, and I stand

and watch until she is just speck, where sea and sky meet.

B. Then someone at my side says, "There, she's gone. "Where?" Gone from my sight that is all. She is really just a real and strong where she is. Her diminished size is in me, not the ship. And when I agree "She is gone," there are other eyes on that distant shore watching for her coming and ready to shout, "Here she comes!"

C. The awful events of three days before—the day of the terrible crucifixion—were over. It was Easter Sunday morning, very early, even before light and some women were approaching the grave where the stranger of Galilee, the Son of God, had recently been laid. John, however, speaks of only one of these women—Mary Magdalene. So this lesson is not only concerned with the Resurrection of Jesus Christ (and mainly so) but also with this lone woman. Mary will teach us that there is a special way for all Christians to die: like a ship gone out to sea but that will make the destination in time to hear all the hosts of Heaven cry in a mighty chorus, "Here she comes!"

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. This is the sixteenth and final lesson in the studies from the Gospel of John. This being Easter Sunday, this lesson is a fitting climax to the series. We have seen Jesus as He dealt with people of all walks of life, some good, some bad, some with great potentials. With them all Jesus showed patience, kindness, mercy, and compassion; but with all of them He was honest if sometimes stern. All should have been richer for their experience with Jesus—many were

B. This is a lovely Easter story and one which should inspire each of us to do as Mary did: go forth and tell all we meet that "we have seen the Lord," and in telling them be faithful witnesses to His saving grace.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)

LIVING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Lesson Text: 1 Peter 2:9-16; 4:1-

Memory Selection: 1 Peter 2:16

INTRODUCTION

The seven lessons that remain in this quarter are designed to encourage fundamental Christian living. In the first four lessons are the Books of 1 and 2 Peter and 1 John. We shall conclude the study with three lessons based on the magnificent revelation to John.

Numerous figures appear in the Word of God to set forth the relationship between Jesus Christ and His redeemed. The verses previous to those of today's lesson show that the very "living stone" from God was rejected by men (1 Peter 2:1; see also Psalm 118:22). Peter is but restating the well-known fact that Jesus "came unto his own, and his own received him not" (John 1:11).

Appointed and approved of God, this "living stone" is now the chief cornerstone of God's great building, His kingdom among men. An offense and a stumbling block to some, He is the precious stone upon which all that is solid is built. From the sure of a building, Peter moves to the concept of Christians as the people of God in various beautiful relationships. Our lesson text begins at this point.

Standard Lesson Comment-

HINTS THAT HELP

A. The New Testament contains only two epistles written by the Apostle Peter. His letters do not deal with the great doctrinal themes found in Paul's epistles such as Romans, Galatians, and Ephesians, but have to do with messages of encouragement for early Christians who were facing hardships and trials in the faith. First Peter "presents all the foundational truths of the Christian faith, with special

emphasis on the atonement. The distinctive note of First Peter is preparation for victory over suffering. The last-named word occurs about fifteen times, and is the key-word of the Epistle."

The Scofield Bible

B. The Bible text for this lesson is taken from 1 Peter 2 and 4, and is designed to show us how to live as God's people among the unsaved around us, as well as how to live together as Christians. As we approach this lesson, let us remember that the world is far more impressed by how we live—morally and spiritually—than by what we say.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. As we concentrate on the text for today's lesson we are brought again to face the need for living as God's people should. We are a special people because God has made us so. Our specialty should be the controlling of fleshly desires and the adapting of our lives to the glory of God. We identify ourselves as God's people by our willingness to suffer if need be for His sake. In still another way we make this identification by a courageous witness to our faith—courageous because such a witness may involve personal suffering at the hands of people who resent our "intrusion" upon their inalienable right to go to hell if they desire.

—Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)

B. If the matter of corrupt government comes up in your discussion, the following illustration will be useful.

When we were small children, we used to form a circle, and holding the palms of our hands together, we waited for a child who was "it" to slide his hands between ours, pretending in succession to leave the button he had in his hands between ours. The purpose of the game was to avoid being caught holding the button.

C. Now we see the sorry spectacle of people in high

political office playing this childish but devastating game. Our Supreme Court hands down a decision. A school administrator tries to comply. His governor threatens to have him arrested if he complies. A lower court orders the school official to comply or be arrested.

D. Then there is the sad spectacle of corrupt judges using idiotic excuses to avoid complying with the law, the most recent being dismissal of a drug case because the drugs were found in a baby's diaper and the baby had not given his consent to be searched.

E. Even the most rudimentary common sense is lost when a nation forsakes the Laws of God

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Dr. Howard A. Kelly, famed surgeon of Baltimore, renowned for the Christian principles he maintained in his profession, was seldom seen without a beautiful rosebud on the lapel of his coat. This rosebud remained fresh for a most unusual length of time and there was a reason. When people asked him the secret, he turned the lapel and showed behind it a little glass vial containing water. The stem of the rose went through the buttonhole into the water and thus kept it fresh for a longer time. Dr. Kelly would then tell inquirers that the secret of beautiful Christian living lies in drawing refreshment from the Water of Life, Jesus Christ.—The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)

What is wrong here? Tom's father scolded him for cheating on his history test. A few days later Tom overheard his father say, "I am going to pad my income tax deductions so I won't have to pay so much tax. The government has enough money anyway. After all, they waste our tax money by spending it on useless projects." We know Tom was wrong, but what about his father? What was the difference in their wrongdoing, if any?

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

HOME MISSIONS

PROGRESS REPORT

By Taylor Hill



Pictured are seventeen people who were baptized at a joint baptismal service by the Catalpa, Victory, and Haymount Mission Churches.

March 16 was another special day for us. Three of the mission churches in the Fayetteville area came together and baptized seventeen precious souls. It was pointed out that we are born into the Kingdom by faith, and looking to the church, the Holy Spirit, and the Bible for spiritual understanding and growth. Participating pastors were Taylor Hill, Alton Howard, and Charles Parrish.

VICTORY MISSION NEWS

by Charles N. Parrish

The most rewarding experience that a Christian can have, other than accepting Christ as Saviour, is to share Him with others. The church here at Victory Mission is no exception. We feel good about sharing with you some of the great things that have happened to us along our walk with Christ Jesus.

First, we would like to share some of our spiritual blessings. Our material blessings would not mean much to the Kingdom if

people were not being brought in, that they may receive salvation from God and that He may be glorified by their love for Him. With all the sacrifices and gifts made by our people, the greatest gift received has been the knowledge of the fruits of our labor. At present, we have four young men, ages 18-20, who are candidates for baptism into the Kingdom. This, of course, is one of our continuing blessings, and does not account for the good number we have baptized and received by professions of faith in the past few months.

Now for some of the material blessings that God has given us. We have slightly over two acres of land, and situated on this land is a building 40' by 60'. Inside this building we have room to seat one hundred and twenty people for worship. In addition, we have accommodations for seven Sunday school classes. During recent months, we have completed several projects that have enhanced the appearance of our building and made it as attractive as any other building in the community. They are, to name a few, the addition of a front porch, a walkway, a steeple, a fence, shrubs, and thirty-eight trees planted in our barren yard. We have also been blessed with the donation of a beautiful organ by two of our most faithful new members.

Often we become saddened when some of our most faithful members move on to another town or city. We have lost many people in the past couple of years because their jobs require them to move to other locations. This is what has been said to be growing pains. Along with these are those who leave when they become disenchanted for some reason or other.

We believe that God has done a great work here at Victory Mission. The Home Missions Department has not been required to support the mission since last August. We pay our bills and support every enterprise in the denomination including the Carolina Bible Institute.

We are grateful to every church which has supported us by giving to Home Missions. We intend to prove how grateful we are by responding in kind to the needs (as God provides) of all our denominational interests. May we suggest that your church schedule a time for the Home Missions Department to come in and give your church an up-to-date presentation on all missions in the State.

CABIN CHURCH SEES OLD METHODS WORK

Dean Kennedy was called to conduct a revival at the Cabin Church in Beulaville, North Carolina, on the week of March 7. Mr. Kennedy had learned through his experience in church extension work that most new converts were saved in homes and other places than the church building. Mr. Kennedy and the pastor, William L. Littleton, went to work in the field approximately one month in advance and the results were ten professions of faith, nine in the field, and one in the church.

HOME MISSION AND CHURCH EXTENSION— WORKING BECAUSE . . .

by Taylor Hill



Taylor Hill

We are carrying out our Lord's great commission which has promise. We have made many mistakes during our lifetime and will no doubt make many more, which troubles us, but thank God there is something that we can do that will always assure success and a good feeling. That is, working toward getting people saved. In all of my experience, I have seen greater blessings and success in the churches where evangelism holds top priority. Oh yes, the material needs are met in a greater way also. All it takes is placing our priorities where they ought to be. Jesus never promised to be with those who are not about His business of getting people saved. It is no wonder that your state Home

Missions and Church Extension Department is a success because our Lord Jesus said it would. We thank you for your prayers and support. April is State Home Missions and Church Extension month.

THANKS FOR THE HYMNALS

Sixty-one hymnals were presented to the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Mission on Dunn Road in Kinston, North Carolina by W. H. Willis. Mr. Willis responded to the need by collecting the hymnals from several churches in the area. It is very commendable that community friends in Christ will rally to the needs of their brethren. Jimmy Sowers is the mission pastor.

Thoughts on "The Electronic Church"

(Continued from Page 4)

reasoning. The upsetting thing is that many of those these groups are reaching are members of the so-called mainline churches. Why are so many so vulnerable to these soft-sell, wall street type dispensers of a comatose version of the gospel?

Maybe we need to reexamine some of our approaches in the mainline churches, especially the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. How much does the average layman in our church know about the history, doctrine, and polity of our denomination? When they hear these television personalities teaching charismatic or calvinistic doctrines do they recognize them as such? When the independents begin to try and make inroads into our churches via the tube or directly, are our people aware of the basic issues of church polity that are at stake? I have attempted to teach the doctrine, history, and polity of our church where I serve for many years and good pastors before me did, and still many do not know "who we are as Free Will Baptists." When new members come into the church, we must educate them so that

they will know and avoid future pitfalls for them and the local church.

With the upsurge of the electronic church, the charismatic movement, the influence of the independent movement and ever-increasing numbers of cultic movements comes an URGENT demand that our pastors and lay leaders inform themselves and their congregations as to who we are and what we believe as the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, being of the English General Baptist Heritage.

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 10)

revival will center around the youth; however, it is encouraged that everyone is invited to attend. Special singing will be featured each night.

There will be a follow-up of the revival on Sunday with the pastor of the church, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs, bringing the morning message.

Sunrise Service for Hugo Church

A special sunrise service will be held at the Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton, on April 6, 1980. This special service will begin at 5:45 a. m. The church membership extends a cordial invitation to everyone. The Rev. Tom Miller is the pastor at the Hugo church.

Earl Glenn Conducts Kenly Revival

Spring revival services will be held at the Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, April 7-11, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Earl H. Glenn, pastor of LaGrange church, will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. James V. Joyner is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend.

April is Home Missions and
Church Extension month.

Reaching Out Through

FOREIGN MISSIONS

TRY READING MISSIONARY BOOKS

By Mattie Link

One of the best ways I know of to get Christians excited over missions, other than personal acquaintances with missionaries, is to read books about missionaries.

How long has it been since you have read a good missionary book? There are loads of inspiring books about missionaries that are biographies or autobiographies. Besides these, there are some very good fiction books on missionaries.

If every woman in the Woman's Auxiliary would buy a different missionary book, and give some book reviews and swap books, a lot of excitement could be generated. When we read of some of the personal sacrifices and achievements of people completely "sold out" to the Lord, we cannot remain unmoved! Missionary books can challenge our own lives and create in us a desire to do more to spread the gospel to every corner of the world.

Young people could give reports on the lives of various missionaries at some of their meetings. It would be different and interesting. One church I heard of encourages members to pray for and write to various missionaries. Whenever any correspondence is received from the field, they report it to their church at prayer meeting. This keeps prayer needs fresh before the people. Also, there is a personal involvement for the people.

Many spiritual giants have given their lives to help a few poor people of a foreign culture to find freedom from the darkness of sin and fear. Much has been done in the past that we need to learn about and thank God for. Much is being done at the present; but there is so much yet to be done! Let us each do our part to send the good news out.

The following is a list of books recommended for reading by the Free Will Baptist Press.

The Man with the Noisy Heart, Hugh Steven, \$6.95.

Adventures for God, Clarence W. Hall, \$1.95.

One Shall Chase a Thousand, Mabel Francis, \$2.00

Tramp for the Lord, Corrie Ten Boom \$1.50.

Hidden Rainbow, Christmas Carol Kauffman, \$2.50.

Run for the West, Bernard Palmer \$3.95.

The Pure Land, Lonnie C. Mings, \$4.95.

To China with Love, Hudson Taylor, \$1.95

Ivan and the Daring Escape, Myrna Grant, \$1.95.

Never Too Old for God, Margaret Cole, \$1.50.

The Escape, Viola S. Winn, \$1.95.

Isle of Enchantment, C. Manly Morton, \$2.50.

East Wind, Ruth Hunt, \$2.25

God's Smuggler, Brother Andrew, \$1.95.

Through Golden Meadows, Sallie Lee Bell, \$.95.

Through Gates of Splendor, Elisabeth Elliot, \$1.95.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Harry Grubbs announces that he now has a new address. It is 110 Bryan Circle, Greenville, North Carolina 27833. His old address was 817 Lyr Road, Durham, North Carolina 27703.

ATTENTION

The Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet at the Press on April 8, 1980, at 10 a. m. Anyone having business with the council is asked to be present on that day if possible.

Royce Reynolds, Secretary

PRESS CLOSED EASTER MONDAY

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation bookstores in Ayden, Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson and Kinston, North Carolina, along with the printing department in Ayden, will be closed Monday, April 7, in observance of the Easter holiday.

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 11)

Black Jack, Greenville; April 25, 7:30 p. m., Winterville; Winterville; May 2, 7:30 p. m. Free Union, Walstonburg.

Eastern: April 18, 7:30 p. m. New Bethlehem, New Bern; April 22, 7:30 p. m., Deep Run; April 24, 7:30 p. m. Beulaville, Beulaville; May 5, 7:30 p. m., Holly Springs; Newport.

Piedmont: April 3, 7 p.m. East Rockingham, Rockingham.

Western: April 8, 7:30 p. m. Barnes Hill, Nashville; April 15, 7:30 p. m., Branch Chapel, Selma; April 21, 7:30 p. m. Stoney Creek, Goldsboro; April 28, 7:30 p. m., Little Rock, Lucama; April 29, 7:30 p. m. Wilson, First, Wilson; May 13, 7:30 p. m., Sherron Acres, Durham.

The Free Will Baptist

211 526
180 14

Jesus Christ . . .
the Way,
the Truth,
and
the Life.



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with
God, and the Word was God (John 1:1).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

THE WAY INTERNATIONAL SAYS HE IS NOT

Several ministers and church leaders of the area have received letters, flyers, and information sheets from a representative of a religious organization called the Way International. One of the flyers catches attention with bold letters which proclaim: "Reformation 1980. JESUS CHRIST IS NOT GOD, never was and never will be." Included are impressive Scripture references which (they say) prove that Christ is not God.

But most conservative Protestants cannot accept the assertion that Christ is not God, and the ones I've talked to express a little uneasiness that any Christian group would teach such heresy. At the very least, the teaching is aberrant.

John 1:1 declares that "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Most Bible scholars take the Word to mean Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God in the flesh. It is unbelievable in the light of John 1:1 that the Way International could deny that Jesus Christ is God.

Adam Clarke, a noted scholar and authority on the Bible, says in reference to John 1:1 cited above: ". . . Jesus, who was before all things and who made all things, must necessarily be the eternal Word."

Clarke further expounds that "Word" in the original is "Logos." "And the Word of God" actually means "God was the Logos: therefore no subordinate being, no second to the Most High, but the supreme eternal Jehovah." But the Way International insists that Jesus Christ is God's only begotten Son (but) not God the Son, and therefore not God, and not identical to God.

There are some interesting words in Philippians 2:6, "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God." This verse is usually interpreted to mean that Christ was from eternity in the form of God, "possessed of the same glory." But the Way International contends that He (Christ) cannot be identical to God.

Most Christian groups believe that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit comprise the divine Trinity, as the Three Persons of the Godhead, and coequal. But the Way International does not accept a triune God.

Note 1 John 5:20: "We are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life." Then, John 1:14: "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." If "Word" in this verse is the same as in John 1:1, we should understand that "the Word was God" and dwelt among us as Christ (Jesus, the Son), having taken upon Himself human likeness. The only logical conclusion, therefore, is that Christ is God indeed.

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Tommy Manning
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of The Free Will Baptist. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Friday; 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Saturday.

Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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COLLEGE HALL: A PROJECT THAT CANNOT WAIT

by W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College



Mrs. David W. Hansley, State Youth Chairman of the North Carolina State Youth Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, is shown presenting a check in the amount of \$4,124 to James B. Hunt Sr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Mount Olive College, at a recent trustee meeting. President W. Burkette Raper is watching the presentation as it is being made. The State Youth Convention presented this gift to the College to be applied on the College Hall project.

IN the history of a college there comes a fine moment in time when all the threads of the past come together and in this moment the past, present, and future are irretrievably woven together. Decisions have to be made and a course of action chosen that will determine its destiny. On these decisions rest all the investments, labors, and sacrifices of the past and on these decisions also depend our hopes and vision for the future.

It is to this moment in time that Mount Olive College has come. All that we have done in the past, and all that we hope for in the future are at stake.

Mount Olive College cannot remain where it is—a small, relatively unendowed private two-year college with half a campus.

To survive we must go forward.

Our only option is to build a larger and stronger college, one that can withstand the storms

that are beating upon colleges today. During the 1970's more than 130 private colleges in the United States went out of business by either closing, going public, or merging with other institutions; and some educators warn that 200 to 300 additional small private colleges will experience this fate during the 1980's.

Let it be known that Mount Olive College is not in trouble today. Our enrollment is at an all-time high; our gift support is the best ever; we are operating a balanced budget; the financial condition of the College is the strongest ever; we have able, cooperative, and dedicated administrative leadership; and we have a good faculty.

"If the circumstances of Mount Olive College are so positive, what is the problem?" someone may ask.

Projected Enrollment Decline

Due to a decrease in the birth rate a generation ago, the number of high school graduates peaked in 1979. Through the 1980's and into the 1990's there will be fewer graduates going to college. In North Carolina the number of high school graduates is projected to decrease from 71,898 last year to 56,500 in 1995, down 21 percent. The National Center for Education Statistics projects that during this period college enrollments nationwide will decrease by nearly one-half million students.

The result of this decrease will be that the competition for students will become intense among the more than 3,000 colleges in America. "There is no historic precedent for the fast

Turn the Page

deceleration of growth projected through 1990," warned one educator. Unendowed private colleges are expected to be the hardest hit. All the progress we have made at Mount Olive College could be lost if we do not take creative and bold steps to plan our future, but such steps have already been taken. Mount Olive College is building a bridge to the future.

Senior College Status

In response to the request of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the Board of Trustees has voted to develop Mount Olive into a four-year degree granting institution. As a senior college we will be in a position to build our enrollment through the transfer of students from private junior colleges and public community colleges, and at the same time, senior college status will make Mount Olive attractive to more students in their initial selection of a college.

The road to senior college status is steep, and it is a goal that can be reached only if we are willing to make the necessary sacrifices. In many ways, becoming a senior college in the 1980's will be as difficult as was beginning a junior college in the 1950's. Based upon a careful analysis of the accreditation requirements for four-year colleges, we must raise a minimum of \$7.5 million by 1984, the year we plan to add the junior year. This support will be needed as follows:

\$3,700,000	For educational purposes, including faculty development, library resources, laboratory equipment, student aid and the general development of academic and student life programs.
2,500,000	Building Fund (College Hall)
1,300,000	Endowment
\$7,500,000	Gift Support Goal to make Mount Olive a Senior College

Building Fund: College Hall

For several years we have talked about the need for a physical education, athletic, and convention center at the College. This need has now become a necessity:

1. The building is essential to meet the educational needs of our students. Physical education is a vital part of a college curriculum and a gymnasium is as important to physical education as a laboratory is to scientific studies.
2. College Hall is essential for us to retain our accreditation, for without this building we cannot meet the required standards for our physical plant. In the past we have used local public school gymnasiums, but due to the increased demand for these buildings for local school and community use, we have been informed that 1980-81 will be the last year we can expect the use of these facilities.
3. A physical education building is an absolute requirement for our proposed move to senior college status.
4. Without a recreation and athletic facility, we cannot maintain our enrollment at a feasible level. As the competition for students becomes more keen, Mount Olive College would be at a serious disadvantage in attracting students who will be comparing our campus with other colleges.
5. College Hall is needed for our athletic program which includes basketball for both men and women. Youth today are sports minded and they will go to those colleges which have good athletic programs.
6. The Free Will Baptist Church needs College Hall as a Convention Center. It can also be a place for recreation and summer sports activities under Christian auspices.
7. Every year of delay in constructing this building will cost us \$350,000 in inflation, and we do not have this kind

of money to waste.

Because of the urgency for this building, our Board of Trustees has voted to give it priority in our "Bridge to the Future" program. A campaign to raise \$2.5 million in gifts and pledges is now being planned for the months of April, May, and June and we must be successful to assure the continued development of Mount Olive College. During the next few weeks, plans for this campaign will be presented to our churches in a series of meetings similar to the plan used for our College dinners. Individuals and churches will be asked to make commitments payable over a five-year period.

While the campaign is underway in our churches, a capital funds program will also be conducted among friends of the College in the five-county area (Wayne, Duplin, Johnston, Lenoir, and Sampson) nearest the College. At the same time, our alumni everywhere will be participating.

To show their leadership and commitment to College Hall, our Board of Trustees has accepted a goal of \$250,000 for their personal gifts over a five-year period. This kind of giving is without parallel in the history of Mount Olive College and the Free Will Baptist Church, but it emphasizes the critical importance of this building to the future of our College.

Now is the time to build. The architectural plans are ready, contractors want work, building materials are available, the need is urgent, the cause is worthy. God has entrusted to His people the necessary funds and we are at that moment in time when destiny calls.

"And now, Lord, what wait I for?" (Psalm 39:7).

Coming Events . . .

April 26—State Youth Convention
Farmville Central High School
Farmville, North Carolina

A Tribute to a Worthy Pastor

Submitted by Corine Guinn



The Rev. Walter Carter

The Rev. Walter Carter (who refers to be called Preacher Carter) began his forty-fourth year as pastor of the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church on the second Sunday in October, 1979. The church honored him with a lovely dinner and gifts in the new fellowship hall, which was completed and dedicated March 11, 1979.

Preacher Carter has had a very unusual ministry. He has received every member into the church, and baptized most of his members. He has married many of the couples in the church, and many of their children. He has dedicated more babies than he can remember and conducted funeral services for many of our family members, also many who were not members.

He has gone through two building programs for the church. The old church was modeled in 1939. On Easter Sunday, 1962, we moved into a

new brick church located on Airport Road, Rockingham. In 1944 the first parsonage was built. Then in 1964, a new parsonage was built, all under the supervision of our pastor. The parsonage is located at 108 Homeward Drive, Rockingham, North Carolina.

We have a good Sunday school, a Woman's Auxiliary with five circles, also the Free Will Baptist League, YFA, and AFC.

Preacher Carter has been pastor of the same church longer than any other minister in the county. We praise God for our pastor and the church. He is a man with a tower of love and strength throughout the church and community. Even in the loss of his wife and one of his sons in the seventies, he has held on to the horns of the altar of God.

Some may think that he would be slowing down, but not true with Preacher Carter. He visits the hospital every day, even going several miles out of town to visit the sick. He is on the job at least sixteen hours a day. He attends all the meetings of the church and conference meetings.

His first and foremost love is promoting the Kingdom of God. He has counseled with many people, and has helped to bring many families back together. He is one that believes Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good, to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

We, at East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, know that he was called of God. We love him as our pastor and friend, and hope he will be with us for a

long time to come. I'm sure everyone in our church feels the same. Now you know why it is an honor to have a pastor like Preacher Carter.

News from

CHILDREN'S HOME

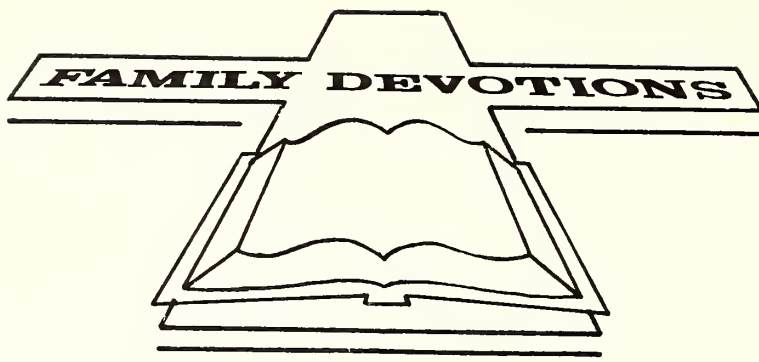
by Stewart Humphrey

WHY CHRISTIAN CHILD CARE IN THE 80'S?

Every children's home in North Carolina is operated either by the church or a civic-minded organization that reverences our Heavenly Father. People in our state believe that a child not only needs his physical needs met, but his spiritual needs, as well. We believe that every child, especially those deprived of loving parents and a secure Christian home, should be made aware of the seeking love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ and should be given the opportunity to respond in faith to this love in ways that will help them grow as children of God and live in accordance with the will of God. This is the mission of Free Will Baptist Child Care.

The love of Christ is expressed in terms of a warm, comfortable house to live in and houseparents who understand and endeavor to embrace a child with the loving arms of our Lord and Saviour. The love of God is also expressed in terms of adequate clothing, food and educational opportunities. Looking at the total picture, what we really see is the one lost from the ninety and nine. Regardless of the reason, the parents' failure to be a good parent, the parents' death, or the child's wayward ways, he is lost. He's out in the world, exposed to dangers of all kinds and will soon be swept away, in a tide of evil, poverty, and hopelessness. More than 700 children have been rescued during the last 60

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 4:2

INSENSITIVENESS TO SIN

A little girl in London held up her broken wrist and said, "Look, Mommy, my hand is bent the wrong way!" There were no tears in her eyes. She felt no pain whatever. That was when she was four years old.

When she was six, her parents noticed that she was walking with a limp. A doctor discovered that the girl had a fractured thigh. Still she felt no pain.

The girl is now fourteen years old. She is careful now, but occasionally looks at blisters and burns on her hands and wonders, "How did this happen?" She is insensitive to pain! Medical specialists are baffled by the case. It is called ganglineuropathy.

There is another insensitiveness which is deadlier and more dangerous—insensitiveness to sin! Paul said of this malady: "Having their consciences seared as with a hot iron" (1 Timothy 4:2).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Those whose conscience doesn't prick them when they sin have cause to doubt that the Spirit is striving with them. Those who feel chastized should be thankful that "the Lord chastens those whom He loves."

MONDAY, APRIL 14

Scripture Reading—James 2:18-22

WHAT'S FULL-TIME CHRISTIAN SERVICE?

The Moody Monthly editorialized thus: "Everyone isn't called to be a preacher or a missionary. Yet every person in Christian work whether stenographer, accountant, engineer, scientist, copywriter, teacher, janitor or in any one of many other classifications is truly in full-time service. Each makes a valuable contribution to the cause of Christ. At Moody we have more than four hundred full-time employees, and everyone is doing business for God. They make it possible for others to prepare for the ministry, mission field, Christian education or a ministry of music."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Whatever one's profession, he can serve the Lord full-time. A real Christian will be His witness whether behind the typewriter or on the mission field.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 1:1-10

PERHAPS TODAY

Perhaps today our Lord will come
To bear us to our much loved Home:
Before the evening shadows fall
May sound the longed-for clarion call;
Then out of sorrow, tears and strife,
We'll rise to realms of joy and life.

Perhaps today will be the last,
And time shall be forever past.

Our light affliction will be o'er,
Then Glory! Glory! evermore!
These days of toil and pain will
cease
And faithful workers rest in
peace.

Perhaps today mine eyes shall
see
The Lamb of God who died for
me:
Oh, nothing else will matter
then,
If unto Him I've faithful been.
Live for that day, O soul of mine
And joy eternal shall be thine.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The signs of the times indicate that the Lord might come very soon. It is important that we prepare ourselves that we might await His coming with joyful watching.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28

FROM HIS HAND

I will not take that bitter thrust
Which rent my heart today
As coming from an earthly
soul—
Though it was meant that way.
But I will look beyond the tool,
Because my life is planned:
I take the cup My Father gives—
I take it from His hand.

He knows, and even thus allows
These little things that irk.
I trust His wisdom and His love,
Let patience have her work.
Though human means have
brought the sting,

I firmly take this stand:
My loving Father holds the cup,
I take it from His hand.

Now those who watch may
wonder why
These things do not disturb.
I look right past the instrument
And see my Lord superb.
The trials which would lay me
low
Must pass through His com-
mand:
He holds the outstretched cup to

me
I take it from His hand.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The answer to every problem—and need—is found in Christ. Those who don't know Him should seek Him now.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Those who truly trust in God need not become too anxious about anything. God sustains and provides every spiritual need of the Christian. Even those things which at first seem afflictions can be changed to blessings by His grace.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Scripture Reading—Mark 16:15;
2 Timothy 4:2; 1 Peter 5:2

WHAT I OWE MY PASTOR

I owe him respect as the ambassador of God, sent to teach me a better way of living than the selfish, sordid existence I might be guilty of but for his guidance.

I owe him trust, that he may be free to serve the church, unhampered by fault-finding and criticism. I owe my pastor prayer, that God may make his services a blessing to everyone with whom he comes in contact.

I owe my pastor the protection of kindly silence by refraining from repeating in his presence

the slander or unkind gossip that would worry him and prevent him from doing his best.

I owe him enough of my time to help him in his work whenever he may need me.

I owe him encouragement when vexations and annoyances make his work difficult.

I owe my pastor my attention when I go to church, that he may not be annoyed by seeing, by my careless inattentive actions, that I am not interested in what he is saying.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 57:5; Hosea 6:1-3

REVIVAL IN THE CHURCH
Since a revival can never lay hold upon the world until it has first laid hold on the church, the need is for the fountains of sin to be broken up in the church. Backslidden Christians must be brought to repentance. They must have their faith renewed. Before the world can be moved, we must renew the image of Jesus Christ in ourselves. It is vain even to call upon the church to love others when the church has ceased loving Christ first.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The only real representation of Christ is the dedicated Christian. Dedicated Christians can unite to form the true Church. That church which is composed of devout Christians can effectively do His work.

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 3:16

FINDING ALL IN THEE
My Saviour, Thou hast offered rest:

Oh, give it then, to me;
The rest of ceasing from myself,
To find my all in Thee.

O Lord, I seek a holy rest,
A vict'ry over sin:
I seek that Thou alone shouldst reign,
O'er all without, within.

RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

On December 29, 1979, our brother in Christ, E. T. Clark, age 52, passed away at his home in the Red Oak Community in Greenville, North Carolina. He was a member of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Pitt County and at one time was choir director.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Joy Tyson Clark; a daughter, Mrs. John Strickland of Raleigh; a son, Hugh of the home; a sister, Mrs. Mildred Prebish of Greenville; and a brother, Joseph B. of Greenville.

Funeral services were held at Wilkerson Funeral Chapel by his pastor, the Rev. Tommy Evans. Therefore be it resolved:

First: We were deeply saddened by his passing.

Second: That we extend to the bereaved family our deepest sympathy and may they find comfort and peace in Him who said, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I

will give you rest."

Third: A copy of these resolutions be sent to the family. A copy to the Free Will Baptist Press for publication and a copy be retained for the minutes of the church.

Rudy Joyner
Nesa Ann Worthington

PREACHER'S DIARY

The Rev. Taylor Hill

One of Satan's misconceptions concerning Christians is that he mistakes long-suffering for blindness.

I have better things to do with my time than to have instructors teach me how to do those things that I am already doing and that they are not.

**Free Union Church
Announces Revival Services**



The Rev. Fred Rivenbark

The Rev. Fred Rivenbark will be the guest evangelist at revival services to be held at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church near Pinetown, North Carolina, April 14-18, 1980. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m., and special singing will be featured each night. The Rev. Francis Garner, pastor, invites everyone to attend these services.

**Revival Services at
Hickory Grove Church**

Revival services will begin April 21 and will continue through April 25 at Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Bethel, North Carolina. The guest evangelist for the week will be the Rev. Bobby Taylor, pastor of Gum Swamp church. The services will begin each evening at 7:45.

The pastor, the Rev. Hubert Burress, and members invite everyone to attend these services.

**Revival Services at
First Church, Kinston**

Revival services will be held at the First Free Will Baptist

Church, Kinston, North Carolina, April 14-18, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. W. S. Burns will be the guest speaker. The Rev. Bruce Dudley is the pastor. Everyone is invited to attend.

**First Church, Tarboro
Announces Revival**

First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, announces its spring revival the week of April 21-25, at 7:30 p. m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Earl Glenn of Goldsboro. The Rev. O. B. Jones is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Revival Services at
King's Cross Roads Church**

Revival services will be held at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, April 13-18, at 7:30 p. m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Frank Flowers of Pikeville. There will be special singing each evening.

The church is located 3 miles off Highway 222 between Falkland and Fountain. The Rev. Franklin Brinson, pastor of the church, invites everyone to attend.

**Piney Grove Church
Announces Revival Services**

The Rev. N. Bruce Barrow and the entire congregation of the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Albertson, North Carolina, join in welcoming everyone to a revival to be held during the week of April 14. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. William Littleton of Cabin church at Beulaville, North Carolina. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. Special music will be rendered each evening.

**Musical Drama to be Presented
At Cabin Church**

A musical drama, "His Last Days," will be presented by the youth department of the First

Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, at Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Beulaville, on April 12, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. William L. Littleton is pastor of the Cabin church. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Union Grove Church
Announces Revival Services**

Revival services will begin at Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Fremont, on April 14-18, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Clyde Cox, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. Bobby Jones is the pastor of the church. Everyone is invited.

**Revival Services in Progress
Friendship Church**

Revival services are being held through April 11 at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex. The time of the services is 8 p. m. The Rev. Henry Armstrong, pastor of Lee's Chapel church of Dunn, is the guest speaker. The Rev. Paul Grubbs, pastor of the church, and the members invite everyone to attend the remainder of these services.

**Youth Day Held at
Plymouth, First Church**

Sunday, March 30, was Youth Day at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth. All the Sunday school offices were filled by the youth of the church. During the morning worship service, the youth choir sang. Under the direction of the pastor, the Rev. Floyd Burkey, the youth gave the mission reports and presented their mission offerings that they had earned through pledges from the adults, who sponsored the youth in their Bible and Mission Quiz-a-Thon.

This was followed by everyone attending gathering at the altar for a "prayer of dedication" for the mission offering. It was a very impressive service and the youth are to be commended for their Christian service.

Revival Services at Catter's Creek Church

Revival services will begin at Catter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Macclesfield, on April 14, and will continue through April 18. Services will begin each night at 7:30 with the Rev. Dewey Boling as the guest speaker. He will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Ralph Wycock. The pastor and the entire church invite everyone to come and enjoy some good gospel preaching. Special music will be provided nightly.

Trinity Church Laymen Sponsor Rally

On April 25, 1980, at 8 p. m. the Layman's League of Trinity Free Will Baptist Church will sponsor a rally entitled, "Challenge of the 80's." The need for active church laymen is great in this day and will be even greater in the decade to come. The purpose of this rally is to revive the menfolk, unite in fellowship, and share ways of improving the ministry as laymen.

The Damascus Way will be featured in song along with the Layman's Choir of Trinity. The Rev. Lloyd Hargis will deliver the challenge from the gospel. Refreshments will be served following the service.

Trinity church is located near Clayton, North Carolina. Registration will start at 7:30 p. m.

Long Program at Mount Zion Church

The Watchman Quartet of Wakeville, North Carolina, will present a program of gospel music at Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, on Sunday, April 13, at 7 p. m.

The Rev. J. B. Godwin is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival at First Church, Durham

Revival services will be held at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina, April 14-18. The time of

the services is 7:30 p. m. There will be a different speaker each night, including the following: Monday, the Rev. Harry Brown; Tuesday, the Rev. Ray Allman; Wednesday, the Rev. Fred Johnson; Thursday, the Rev. Bobby Bazen; and Friday, the Rev. Ken Forehand.

The pastor, the Rev. Fred Johnson, and the church congregation invite the public to attend.

St. Paul Church Awards Sunday School Bar

Recently at the St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, Miss Bonita Ambrose was awarded her eighteenth Sunday school bar. Mr. Thomas Nooney, Sunday school superintendent, presented the bar.

She is eighteen years old and has not missed a Sunday in all her life. She is the daughter of Eunice Ambrose and works as the secretary of the Sunday school, YFA president, and sings in the choir.

BEAUFORT CHAPLAINS' ASSOC. TO CONDUCT SEMINAR

The Beaufort County Hospital Chaplains' Association will conduct a day-long seminar in the educational building at Beaufort County Hospital, Washington, Friday, April 11. The seminar begins at 10 a. m. and lasts until 4 p. m.

This workshop is open to all pastors and should prove of special interest to Free Will Baptist ministers.

The speaker will be the Rev. Harold "Mac" Wallace, Free Will Baptist minister and staff member of the Department of Pastoral Care at Baptist Hospital at Winston-Salem.

Topics for discussion will include items of pastoral concerns, with emphasis on hospital visitation.

Marvin Waters, director of the Beaufort County Chaplains' Association, urges all Free Will Baptist ministers to attend.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

Heritage Free Will Baptist Mission in Charlotte, North Carolina, is seeking a full-time minister to live in Charlotte and pastor the church. If interested, contact Clayton Everett, 101 Conover Place, Matthews, North Carolina 28105; phone, (704) 366-8632.

The Rev. Charles W. Sugg is now available for full-time pastoral work. Any church interested may contact him by calling 735-8924 (daytime) or 735-4489 (after 6 p. m.), or write the Rev. Charles W. Sugg, 1815 Salem Road, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

The Rev. Bass M. Mitchell announces that he is available for part-time or interim pastoral supply work. He may be contacted by writing Bass M. Mitchell, 2206 Guess Road, Durham, North Carolina 27705; or call 286-4744.

The Rev. Gordon Massey announces that he is available for full-time or part-time pastoral work. He may be contacted at Route 3, Box 39, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580; phone 747-2694.

Donald Walston announces that he is available for pastoral work. Anyone interested may contact him by writing Donald Walston, P. O. Box 7231, Wilson, North Carolina 27893, or call (919) 235-4986. He is a licensed minister by the Piedmont Conference.

Gethesemane Free Will Baptist Church, Water Works Road, Wilson, North Carolina, is in need of a pastor. If anyone would be interested, please write Mr. Carl Pennington, Route 3, Elm City, North Carolina 27822, call (919) 291-2483 (at night).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

IMPORTANT MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR CHURCHES

A series of county and area meetings will be held throughout eastern North Carolina during April and May to present to Free Will Baptists, plans for making Mount Olive College a four-year college. Included in the presentation will be plans for gifts and pledges for College Hall.

President W. Burkette Raper announced that Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss will be the director for the "Bridge to the Future" program in the Free Will Baptist Church.

Each church is encouraged to send as many representatives as possible to the meeting in their area.

"The development of Mount Olive into a senior college is a great adventure of faith, and its success will require the prayers, support and cooperation of all of us," Mrs. Ackiss declared.

The schedule of meetings include:

Greene County, Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p. m., at Hull Road church.

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, Friday, April 11, 7:30 p. m., at Oak Grove church.

Carteret County, Saturday, April 12, 7 p. m., at Holly Springs church.

Johnston-Wake Counties, Sunday, April 13, 2:30 p. m., at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield.

Wilson County, Monday, April 14, 7:30 p. m., at Daniels Chapel church.

Beaufort County, Sunday, April 20, 3 p. m., at Memorial church.

Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, Pasquotank, and Chowan Counties, Tuesday, April 22, 7:30 p. m., at Mount Tabor church.

Pitt County, Monday, April 28, 8 p. m., at Reedy Branch church.

NEW CREATIONS PRESENT PROGRAMS

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of song and testimony at Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Sunday, April 13, at the 11 a. m. worship service. The Rev. James Joyner is pastor.

Sunday evening at 7:30, the Creations will perform at Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church in Beaufort County. The Rev. Charles Richardson is pastor.

The public is invited to both services.

MOC ALUMNI LUNCHEON PLANNED FOR APRIL 19

The annual alumni luncheon and meeting will be held in the Mount Olive College auditorium, Saturday, April 19, at 11:30 a. m.

The classes of 1960 and 1970 will celebrate their 20th and 10th reunions. Science professor, Mrs. Lorelle Martin, will be the featured speaker.

The meeting will be held during the first annual Festival of Flowers in Mount Olive. All alumni are encouraged to make reservations for the luncheon by sending \$3.50 per person.

For more information, contact Mrs. Nancy Sampsell, Development Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phone: 658-2502.

PAUL PALMER COURSE AT TEE'S CHAPEL

A Paul Palmer Course "Statement of Faith and Discipline," will be taught at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County, beginning Monday, April 14, 7:30 p. m.

Sponsored by the Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary, the course will be taught by Dr. Michael Pelt and is open to the public.

PAUL PALMER COURSES AT KENLY CHURCH

The Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies will offer two eight-week courses at Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, beginning Tuesday, April 15.

The courses include "Evangelism" from 7-8:15 p. m. taught by the Rev. Ray Wells and "Introduction to Apocalyptic Writings (The Book of Daniel)" from 8:30-9:45 p. m., taught by the Rev. DeWayne Eakes. Books will be available the first night of class.

The cost of each course is \$2 for credit or \$10 for non-credit. For more information, contact Frank Harrison, Director; Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phone: 658-2502 (office) and 658-9366 (home).

Coming Events. . .

April 9—Cape Fear District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Clayton

April 12—State Sunday School Convention, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina

April 14—Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School Showing, Ayden, 7 p. m.

April 15—Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School Showing, Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, 7:30 p. m.

April 17—Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church near Columbia

April 19—Annual Alumni Meeting and Banquet, 5:30 p. m., Downtown Campus, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

TENTH ANNIVERSARY

April 14, 1980

Come by, help us celebrate, and give thanks to our Lord for another year of work for Him.

NEW BERN BIBLE AND BOOKSTORE

315 Middle Street
New Bern, North Carolina 28560
Phone 638-6193

“We Worship the Lord”

Daily Vacation Bible School Series
Area Showings

April 14—10:00 A. M.

Kinston Bible and Book Store
Kinston, North Carolina

April 14—7:00 P. M.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
Ayden, North Carolina

April 15—7:30 P. M.

Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
Wilson, North Carolina

April 21—9:30 A. M.

New Bern Bible and Book Store
New Bern, North Carolina



It won't be long before Vacation Bible School, so come see the Free Will Baptist materials for 1980. Attend the area showing nearest you. All VBS leaders, teachers, workers, and interested groups are invited.

CUNNINGHAM NAMED ABS DIRECTOR OF SCRIPTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The Rev. J. Edward Cunningham has been named the American Bible Society's Director of Scripture Development Programs.

Mr. Cunningham, who is based in Atlanta, Georgia, joined ABS in 1967 as the Society's community relations secretary for the Eastern Region of the United States.

In 1973, he became regional executive secretary of the Southern Region of the Society's National Distribution Department.

While in the Eastern Region, Mr. Cunningham pioneered the American Bible Society's series of State Scripture Selections with one for Kentucky in 1968. He followed this with similar colorfully illustrated Scripture folders for other states throughout the country.

Before joining ABS, Mr. Cunningham, an ordained Southern Baptist clergyman, served 11 years as director of Mountain Missions, under the joint supervision of the Rural-Urban Missions Department of the Southern Baptist Home Missions Board and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He also held pastorates in Kentucky.

Mr. Cunningham was born in Detroit, Michigan, and received an A. B. degree from the University of Kentucky in 1950 and an M. Div. degree in 1953 from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He also studied at Emory University in Atlanta and Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, Indiana.

April is Home Missions and
Church Extension month.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR APRIL 20

LOOKING FOR THE PROMISE

LESSON TEXT: 2 Peter 3:3-13
MEMORY SELECTION: 2 Peter 3:13

I. INTRODUCTION

Some promises are solid gold, some are absolutely worthless. The major difference lies in the character of the people who make them. Foolish folk will promise anything for personal gain. God's man promises nothing unless he is certain he can fulfill his word; and he would never consider breaking his word, no matter to what lengths or inconveniences he must go to keep a promise once it has been made.

Much of the Scripture turns on God's promises. He promised death to Adam and Eve in the day they ate of the forbidden fruit of Eden (Genesis 3:3); He gave His Word that the world would be purged of its wicked inhabitants in the day of Noah (Genesis 6:5-7); He promised Abram a faraway country he had never seen if Abram would leave his homeland (Genesis 12:1-3; 13:14-16). Many more instances could be gathered from the same source, and they would all demonstrate the same fundamental truth: God always means what He says, however unusual or impossible it may seem to us, and He will never renege on a promise.

Central to our study today is the promise repeated again and again in the New Testament: Jesus Christ is coming again. This promise comes to us on exactly the same basis as did those promises of the older covenant: God's Words.

Few topics relating to the teachings of Jesus Christ have received as much analysis and attention as His return and the events attendant to it. Few are subjected to such a diversity of opinions and, in fact, so many contradictory theories. Men in virtually every generation since Jesus' earthly sojourn have not hesitated to announce their knowledge of precisely how, when, and in what order these events will occur. They do not hesitate to claim knowledge the Word of God has clearly denied to all men: that no man knows the day nor the hour of this climactic happening (see Matthew 25:13).

However wrong the speculations of men have been in this area, we can be certain of a few indisputable facts. First, Jesus is coming again. The constant and harmonious witness of Scripture makes this clear. We have as firm a foundation undergirding this promise as for anything else our Lord ever taught. Second, His coming will catch the greater portion of the world's populace by total surprise. Third, the destruction of this physical universe is described in terms that can only be referred to as graphic and catastrophic.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. People not familiar with the history of the church, particularly the church of the first century, are inclined to think that false teachers have arisen only in recent years, in the wake of what they call "liberalism" or "modernism." Of course this is

not true; Peter, as well as the other New Testament writers, had to deal with such teachers, their inroads into the apostolic doctrines being a great source of concern.

B. The abuse by these false teachers of the end-time teachings of the apostles was a case in point. Jesus had given specific information on what was to take place in the last days and had assured His followers of the promise of victory over sin, death, the grave, and Satan. It was Paul who had Paul. So would John do later. In this letter, Peter tried to set the record straight, showing in his own writings that the apostolic teachings were true.

C. For our purposes, we are going to apply Peter's words to our own lives, as though he were speaking to us, rather than to the scattered Christians of his day. After all, the entire Scripture, while having many primary applications, were intended for our enlightenment and edification.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Jesus promised us He would come back someday: ". . . I go to prepare a place for you. And I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" (John 14:2, 3). We who believe God's Word are living in the light of the promise Jesus made.

B. Our lesson today concerns the return of Christ—the Second Coming. Many Christians seem to be divided on the matter of Jesus' coming; that is, divided over the importance of the doctrine of the Second Coming. One group is so fascinated by it that the other groups (there are three of them) accuse them of neglecting everything else and giving much too much emphasis to the doctrine.

C. Peter discussed Jesus' coming because so many false teachers had discredited it and had abused its true meaning.

—The Advanced Quarter
(F. W. B.)

MEMORIALS

Retirement Homes, Inc.

by Stewart Humphrey

In Memory of
The Rev. Leslie Hawley

By
Breakfast Optimist Club
Western Conference
Mrs. Marion Winstead
Mrs. Lillian Lamm

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

February, 1980

Total \$958.40

MEMORIAL CONFERENCE	
St. Mark's Chapel	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$100.00

PE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Windsboro, First	\$125.00
Robert's Grove	20.00
Lady Grove	20.00
Smithfield, First	10.00
TOTAL	\$175.00

ENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Windsboro	\$25.00
Windsboro Union	2.90
Windsboro Swamp	3.00
Windsboro Well Swamp	2.00
Windsboro Hill Road	4.00
Windsboro Peedy Branch	2.00
TOTAL	\$38.90

STERN CONFERENCE	
Windsboro	\$ 60.00
Windsboro Wapahoe	6.00
Windsboro Wadgeton	20.00
Windsboro Wre Creek	22.40
Windsboro Wavis	2.80
Windsboro Wally Springs	150.00
Windsboro Wnortheast	2.50
Windsboro Wnyrna	15.00
Windsboro Wmary's	20.00
Windsboro Warden's Grove	20.00
Windsboro Wwhite Oak Grove	2.00
TOTAL	\$320.70

DEE ASSOCIATION	
Auxiliary Convention	\$ 60.00
TOTAL	\$ 60.00

STERN CONFERENCE	
Windsboro Wree Union	\$ 1.80
Windsboro Wremont	7.50
Windsboro Wpleasant Plain	15.00
Windsboro WMary's	105.00
Windsboro Wunion Grove	2.00
Windsboro Wnity	6.00
Windsboro WWestern Conference	40.00
TOTAL	\$177.30

ATEWIDE	
North Carolina Woman's	
Auxiliary Convention	\$ 86.50
TOTAL	\$ 86.50

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

"PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED"



Natalie Oliver

When their infant daughter Natalie was two and a half months old, Mr. and Mrs. Billie Oliver of Roper, North Carolina, were informed by a doctor at Duke Hospital that she had hydrocephalus.

The following Saturday after they were told about their baby daughter's disease, I received a letter from Mrs. Oliver about their daughter's disease. The letter truly touched my heart and my compassion was moved toward them. One thing in the letter I will share with you is this, "Preacher, you need not try to come, but pray."

I was to preach at Rose of Sharon church the following Sunday, but the Lord led me to make an early start in order to have time to go to the Oliver's home and have prayer with them.

At the close of the worship service at Rose of Sharon that Sunday, I extended an altar call. Everyone in the church came forward for the special prayer. God's presence was really there in great power, and His touch was upon that child.

The following Sunday the same thing was done at Mount Zion church, Roper, North Carolina, where I was also pastoring.

Today we have Natalie Oliver as a faithful Christian at the age 16. Natalie is more than a faithful church member and Christian; she is active in the Lord's work. At the present time, she sings in the adult and junior choirs.

The Bible says to let your light shine, and this fine young lady does that. She has a very special place in my heart as her pastor. I feel that I have been blessed by her life and the contribution she makes to society. I know God has His hands upon this girl who He so miraculously healed and will continue to use her in His service.

The Olivers are fine people. They have one other daughter and two fine sons. The family is dedicated to the Lord's work. God still answers prayer.

The Rev. Charlie Overton

SERVING
CHRIST
AFFORDS
REAL
HAPPINESS.

Home Missions Working Because . . .

submitted by Taylor Hill

Home Missions Month



Home Missions Month

The Rev. Taylor Hill

“Our Lord has opened the eyes of people to see the need.” While there is a lot of selfishness in the world today, there are still a lot of God’s people who are ready and anxious to do everything possible to “save the lost at any cost.” In carrying out the Great Commission, it takes people with a burden for lost souls. It takes love and cooperation from Christians who have a spiritual vision and then having the faith to follow through with that vision. Thank God for giving us a vision in this field of service for “where there is no vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18).

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

In affirming their stand that Jesus Christ is not God, never was and never will be, the Way International states that “Those who propound an opposite view are in error if the Bible is the Word of God and the only rule for right believing.” It would seem, in their impressive citing of Scriptures, that they have omitted a few. Take, for example, the Words of our Lord in John 10:30: “I and my Father are one.” Then, John 14:7: “If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.” And, John 14:9: “. . . Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, . . . he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?”

Jesus Christ is certainly the Way, the Truth, and the Life. And if He is not God indeed, why is He important at all?

A TRIBUTE TO SOMEONE SPECIAL

Emily H. Hyney

What a woman! She has much patience. Each time I see her, I am reminded of Job and the great patience he had. She seems nothing upsets, bewilders or depresses her. The children run around her all day—yelling, pulling and tugging at her, slamming doors, crying, and constantly wanting her attention. They all love her so very much. Truly, she is their “second mommy.” She cuddles and loves each of them. She listens to their little tales each day. She comforts and nurses them when they get bumps and bruises. She feeds them when they are hungry and tucks them in for naps when they are sleepy. She tries to fulfill their every desire.

And still, she moves calmly about her kitchen preparing meals for her family and snacks for the children. She keeps her house so neat and clean. She cares for her own special daughter, is a faithful church member, visits the sick, and works a second job.

Each day I see her, I wonder “How can she, in the midst of this bustle, be so calm, unhurried?” But one look at her face answers my question. The light in her eyes tells me Jesus is her guide. It seems as if there is a barrier around her that no problem can penetrate—that she and Jesus together can’t handle. He holds her up when she is weary, comforts her when she is sick, guides her and holds her hand if problems face her, lifts her up when she’s downhearted, and most of all He tells her she is loved every day.

All the mothers love her because when we leave our children with her, we need not worry about their every need being met.

This wonderful, patient, loving Christian woman of whom we speak and so dearly love is not a babysitter, Mrs. Maurice Godwin of Route 5, Dunn, North Carolina.

olina. She is a member of
's Chapel Free Will Baptist
rch. I pray that someday she
know how truly grateful I am
er for the tender loving care
gives my child every day
le I'm working. I know that
en I leave him in her care
t together, she and Jesus will
e care of him and give him
love he needs while I'm
y.

Thank you, Miss Maurice, for
ng my son.

ATTENTION LADIES OF THE ALBEMARLE CONVENTION

Jesus speaks to us in the
 Gospel of John 4:35: "Say not ye,
re are yet four months, and
n cometh harvest? behold, I
unto you, Lift up your eyes,
d look on the fields; for they
white already to harvest."

More and more ministers of
gospel are preaching on the
ly coming of Christ to claim
bride—the Church. Our
rld is filled with evil, fear, and
nplacency. Surely "the devil
going about like a roaring lion
eking whom he may devour"
Peter 5:8).

Our heavenly Father is calling
to all His children: "Feed
lambs; Feed my sheep!"
ere are three ways through
hich we can answer this call:
ok—"Where there is no vision
people perish . . ." (Pro-
verbs 29:18). May God open
r blinded eyes that we may see
man beings hungry for food,
elter and clothing; but even
re so, for love, compassion,
d the satisfying grace of Jesus
lift their souls from darkness
o eternal life through Jesus
rist. Pray—"The effectual
vent prayer of a righteous
n availeth much" (James
1:6). Making prayer a vital part
one's life is a MUST if we are
expect great things from God.
e are to labor at prayer, as a
an labors at his daily work,
til we are weary. "Whereunto
labor also striving according to
s Holy Spirit working in me
ghtly" (Colossians 1:29). Our

missionaries need our daily
prayers. Give—"I have shewed
you all things, how that so
laboring ye ought to support the
weak and to remember the
words of the Lord Jesus, how He
said, It is more blessed to give
than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

Our District Auxiliary Con-
vention will convene on April 27,
1980, with Sound Side Free Will
Baptist Church, Columbia, North
Carolina.

May God touch our hearts as
we look upon the fields white
unto harvest, that we may be led
by His blessed Holy Spirit to
pray fervently, and give freely,
as we take or send our love of-
fering for missions to our
District Woman's Auxiliary
Convention.

Mrs. Edwin Roper

Children's Home

(Continued from Page 5)

years by Free Will Baptists and
during the decade to come there
will be that many more children
who will need to be introduced to
the love of God through Free
Will Baptist child care and saved
from a life of helplessness and
hopelessness.

The Shepherd of love loved all
His sheep. He carefully guarded
and provided for all of them.
When one of them strayed and
became lost, he asked not which
one it was, or if he deserved
saving, or who his parents were
or what he looked like. He left
the ninety and nine and searched
diligently until the lost sheep
was found.

The seeking, loving, nurturing,
sustaining, saving Christ of God
reaches out to children and youth
who are helplessly and
hopelessly lost, **through His
people, through us**, in today's
world. Let us, as a church,
commit our hands, our hearts
and our Children's Home afresh
and anew to our Lord for the
sake of children.

DARE WE NOT LOVE THEM ALL

by Mrs. Hersel Bowen

"Jesus loves the little children,
all the children of the world; red

and yellow, black and white,
they are precious in His sight."
Jesus loves all the children of
"His world." We have heard the
above little song ever since we
ourselves were children. Read it
slowly and very carefully. As
Christians, can we neglect any
little one that God has brought
into His wonderful world? He
made each of us. We had no
choice of our color. I believe God
made us different in color for His
purpose—not ours. We must
be very careful how we treat
the children God has made.
I believe our future depends on
how we—the adults—show our
love for all children. Most
children don't seem to mind the
difference in their little friends.
The cultures of children may be
different, but we all will live in
the same world—God's world.

I believe we all should stand
back and ask ourselves, who am
I?—to think I own the whole
world, and that it should be run
by me and my kind! God knew to
place all children in this world,
but who are we to say where? or
is it our right to separate what
God put into the world? God help
us all as Christians never to
forget it is our responsibility to
love and care for all the little
children of this world. Love can
make this world of children what
they should be. Never let it be
said of a Christian, "They love
only their own." We need all
children as much as they need us
now.

A Christian can offer no
greater love than to give a life of
service for children. Security for
a child is achieved when they are
safe in the willing arms of a
Christian friend. Bring laughter
into some child's life and the
world will be a better place, and
we will be better people for it.
May we always have good in-
tentions for all children. Dear
God, not just mine but also thine.
Help each of us to see this need.

An anonymous writer said, "A
child's definition of house and
home (is this): When you are
outside it looks like a house, but
when you are inside, it feels like
a home."

*“Partners
With
A
Purpose”*



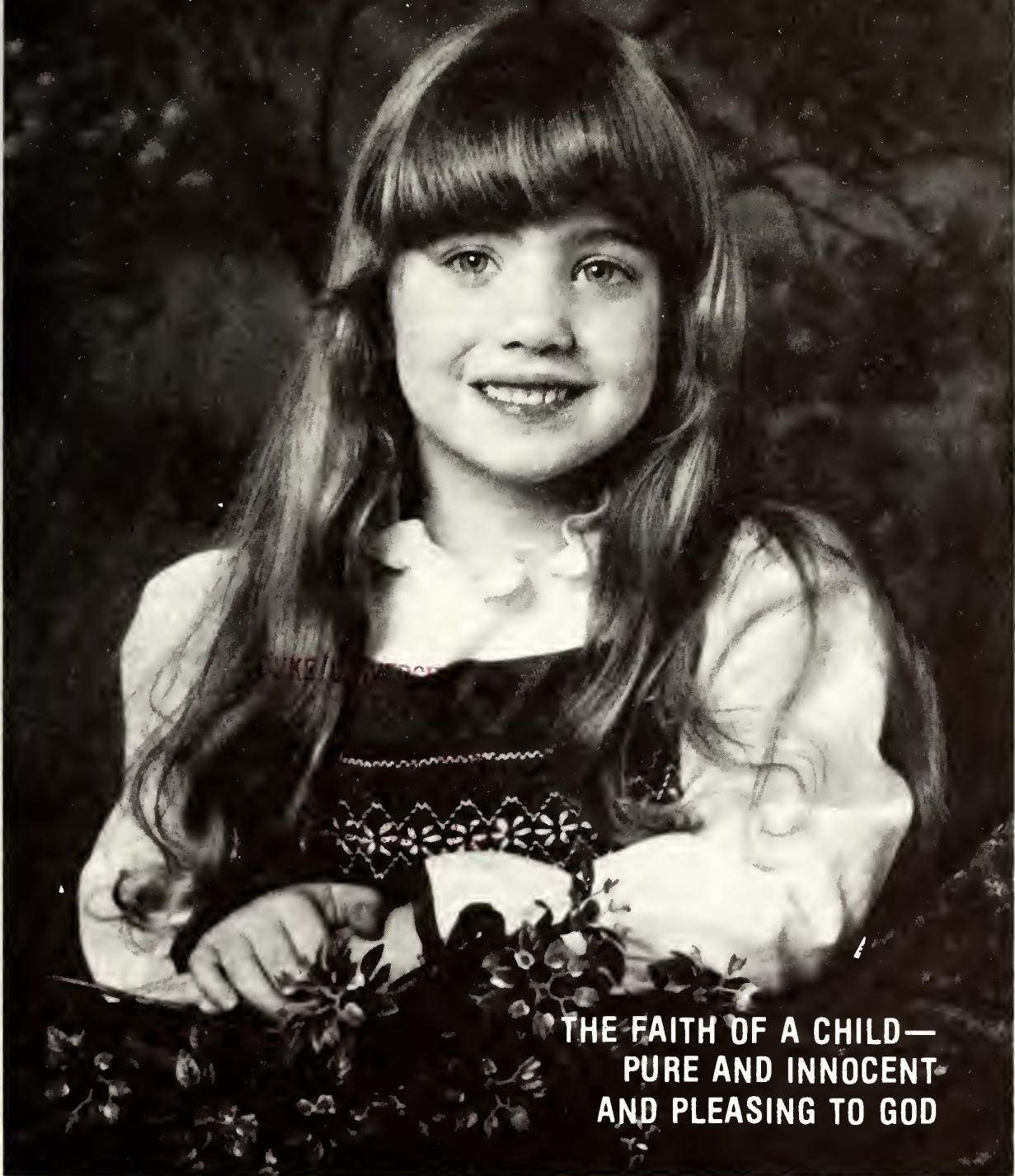
*“For we are labourers together with God . . .”
(1 Corinthians 3:9).*

We are looking for 200 people to attend the Fortieth Annual Session of the State Sunday School Convention on April 12, 1980. The Convention is scheduled to begin at 9 a. m. at Mount Olive College. Seminar leaders will be Janie Jones Sowers and the Revs. David Charles Hansley, Ray Wells, and DeWayne Eakes.

See you there!

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



THE FAITH OF A CHILD—
PURE AND INNOCENT
AND PLEASING TO GOD

Editorial

A Look into Faith

“O Ye of Little . . .”

That substance of things hoped for—faith—has come under careful scrutiny in recent years. Those who exercise it may appear foolish to many who insist that blind trust accomplishes nothing.

But faith should not be called blind trust. Blind trust would indicate believing in **anything**, not something specific. And certainly, no one can get more specific than to trust in God.

That's where the secret lies (if there is a secret)—**trusting in God**. For centuries mankind has mistakenly trusted himself or other mortals, or things, or philosophies, only to find that all ultimately fail. But God never has failed, never can, and never will. Nor can man fail, if he places his life in God's will.

Faith must be logical; it must be expressed properly in order to be effective. No serious person should test God by activating foolish faith. Faith is serious business. It is possible to remove mountains—physical and spiritual ones—if the removal is for **God's glory**. But **personal glory** becomes ambition, and is worldly rather than godly. This is not good.

Faith involves having a set of beliefs that serve as a basis for living. Faith is, in reality, an intangible agency which allows us to know inwardly that certain things are true. Hence, one relies upon, accepts as fact, and believes in something higher, stronger, mightier.

Faith is an important ingredient for any effectual living. From the most learned scientist to the humblest Christian, it is found being exercised. It is part of, if not the motivating force behind, all fundamental knowledge.

It is a sad state of affairs that one finds himself in—any circumstance devoid of faith—any situation that does not include faith as a viable alternative to resolution, at least.

Faith can be misused, misappropriated, misplaced, of course. Examples include Jim Jones and his cult, Charles Manson and his philosophy, and too many more to mention.

Faith, then, can be dangerous—especially if misguided and misdirected. But the right kind of faith—that which stems from and is placed in God—will benefit everyone.

Faith in oneself can be categorized as confidence or courage. Real faith casts our fear.

Just as faith without works is dead, works without faith profit little. Diligent labor without trust for accomplishment avails nobody anything. Faith gives heart to life and living.

Let it not be said of you: “You just don't have enough faith.” But be sure you place your faith where it can accomplish good.

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Notice

April 16, 1980

Volume 95

Number

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the “Baptist” to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more “Baptists” are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Friday; 9 a.m.—5 p.m. Saturday.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

The Lord Is My Shepherd

by Pam Tew



Pam Tew

Is Jesus really your Shepherd today?

One of the most helpful books counseling with Christians in these dark and difficult days is the Book of Psalms. The Twenty-third Psalm is the most popular chapter in the Bible. It is the first to be memorized by little children and the last to be quoted by gray-haired saints.

Why is the Twenty-third Psalm so popular? It presents the most perfect picture of happiness and contentment that has ever been known. Everyone today is looking for peace, contentment, and lasting satisfaction. God alone can provide these things.

The Twenty-third Psalm is also so popular because it is so personal and so practical. God is ready to do for the believer right now. It's not a historical account of what the Lord did years ago, but it tells what he will do at this very moment.

A Christian serviceman was captured and placed in a cruel

prison camp. There they tried to brainwash him, but he would not give in. A Christian whose mind is filled with the Word of God cannot be brainwashed. The Twenty-third Psalm was an anchor for his mind. In the midst of discouragement and depression he would repeat this psalm and find spiritual refreshment.

There are two kinds of Christians today. Some know Jesus Christ as Saviour but have a do-it-yourself attitude and carry their own burdens. Others know Jesus Christ as Saviour and also as the Shepherd of their lives. This kind of Christian is presented in Psalm 23.

Four words in the first verse assure us of wonderful peace and contentment. The first word is "Lord," meaning "Jesus the Saviour is my Shepherd, and therefore I shall not want."

These great promises of Psalm 23 are not offered to anyone or to everyone but only to those who have accepted God's wonderful plan of salvation. How wonderful to know this all-loving all-powerful Saviour, who formed the world and holds it in His hand! He stands ready to be the Shepherd of every believer's life, and He'll protect each one if He is allowed to do so.

Jesus said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:18).

When I look back and consider the many times that I've been anxious and fearful as I faced a difficult problem, I'm actually ashamed of myself, for the Shepherd stood right there, waiting for me to turn that burden over to Him. By His

grace we should learn to let Jesus be the Shepherd of our lives every day.

The next word in Psalm 23:1 is "is." The Bible doesn't say that the Lord was the Shepherd, nor does it say that the Lord will be a Shepherd. He is there right now waiting for believers to look to Him and to lean on Him.

The third word is the essential word "my." We know about Jesus' death on the Cross but sometimes we wait a long time before we accept him as Saviour.

This reminds me of Jack, a young boy who had invested his life savings in a new ten-speed bicycle. His friend stood admiring it and said, "Look, it has ten speeds." And Jack said, "Yes, and it's mine." Another boy said, "It has lights and a horn." And Jack replied, "Yes, and it's mine." Jack's two friends were admiring the bicycle, but he was enjoying it because it was his.

In the same way, many Christians admire the shepherding care of the Lord, but they still live with fear and frustration because they have not claimed Jesus as their Shepherd. Of the thousands of people who know Christ as Saviour, only a few know what it is to live without worry because Jesus is also their Shepherd.

A great actor once returned to the church he attended when he was a child. He was asked to give a recitation during the morning church service. The only thing he knew that would be appropriate was the Twenty-third Psalm. He stepped to the

Turn the Page

platform and recited this psalm with great power. When he had finished, the people applauded.

After the great actor was seated, an aged minister of the gospel slowly stood to his feet and walked to the platform. With a trembling voice he quoted the Twenty-third Psalm. Before he was finished, the audience was in tears.

The actor stood up with tears running down his cheeks and said, "It's apparent that I knew the words of this psalm, but this man knows the Shepherd." It's important to memorize this psalm but it's more important to translate it into our daily lives.

The fourth word is "Shepherd." Jesus' definition of the word "shepherd" is given in John 10:4. "And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: and they know his voice."

Jesus walks ahead of us. Jesus knows exactly how we feel when we experience pain and heart-ache.

Notice that Psalm 23:1 closes by saying "I shall not want." This could be changed to "I shall lack nothing." Believers will not lack peace, because Jesus is their peace. They will not lack comfort, for the Shepherd is there to meet every need. Whatever is needed, the Shepherd will provide.

The Lord is especially near to those who are brokenhearted, for Psalm 34:18, 19 says, "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all. Jesus alone can heal the brokenhearted and provide peace amid the storm of life."

The second verse of Psalm 23 reads: "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures." This refers to the quiet spiritual refreshment that is experienced by those who read God's Word and pray. The world is spinning faster and faster. If God did not intervene it would fly apart.

Nerves are stretched to the breaking point. In the midst of this mad rush, the Shepherd makes His flock lie down in green pastures.

It's difficult to lie down with this turmoil going on all around us. The Shepherd will cause us to trust Him in quiet confidence.

A lady once said, "When my three children come rushing home from school all out of breath and tell me that part of their world has fallen in, I actually feel faint."

At times David felt like fainting, for he said, "I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord: be of good courage and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say on the Lord" (Psalm 27:13, 14).

Parents must first lead their children to the Saviour and then show them how they can trust Christ to be the Shepherd of their lives, even in their school needs.

The Lord uses different ways to cause His children to lie down and just trust Him. The Shepherd makes them lie down either through suffering or satisfaction. Often we learn lessons through suffering and sickness. We are forced to lie down and just look up to the Lord.

A Christian who had once been a leader in his church drifted away because of business demands. He stopped having family devotions and found it easy to miss church services because of business plans. One day his daughter became sick and was rushed to the hospital. The father went to the hospital, and the little girl looked up in his face and said, "Daddy, if you loved Jesus now like you used to, would I still be sick?" Imagine how he felt! He immediately came back to the Lord. He learned that when a Christian's business is to do the will of God, God will take care of the business. We as Christians are to make our prayer requests known with thanksgiving. In Philippians

4:6 we read, "Be careful of nothing; but in everything prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

As believers stop and consider what the Lord has done for them in the past, they are encouraged to trust Him for greater things in the future.

We're living in an uptight world. Tension has pushed some to the very limits, and they may feel that life has lost its meaning. They may say "Stop the world, I want to get off!" It is refreshing to read the words of Psalm 23:2. "He leadeth me beside the still waters."

Turbulent waters describe the turmoil and the unrest that come from sin; "still waters" refers to separation from the world and a picture of delightful, quiet fellowship with the Lord.

People as well as sheep become preoccupied and go astray. "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" (Isaiah 53:6).

People sometimes say, "I'm so weary and so exhausted that I feel I can't take another step. What I need is a month's vacation." Our bodies do need proper rest, but sometimes weariness comes from the soul and spirit.

What was the cause of the weariness? David said it was his roaring all the day. "Roaring" is a description of the turmoil in a man's soul, maybe because of anger or resentment. Aspirin will help relieve some of the pain temporarily, but it will not correct the condition. What is needed? Psalm 23:3 tells us "He restoreth my soul."

As a person turns to the Saviour in genuine repentance, God forgives and blots out even the record of his sins. According to 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Nearly everyone

As found himself in a situation where he became irritated with practically everybody.

Each person's human nature waits for the world to revolve around him. When the Shepherd restores him and rearranges his goals in life, he makes the adjustments; his life then revolves around the Lord. The Lord restores to him the spirit of love, and he learns to live with a small amount of tension.

Some of God's children struggle with bitterness and resentment, which affect the soul as well as the body. Each one needs the tender Shepherd's care!

A housewife once said, "I feel like a piece of furniture—just something to be used by my family. I'm simply bored with life. What's wrong?" Every woman wants to be a person in her own right.

Those who are struggling with boredom perhaps have their sights set on things they can see and handle. Instead, they should look to the Shepherd. There are numerous opportunities to do something for God's glory. Shut-ins would be thrilled with a brief telephone call. A get-well card would certainly brighten the day of someone in the hospital. God will give rewards even for a cup of cold water given in Jesus' name.

The shepherd David said, "He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul." (Psalm 23:2, 3).

The sheep are a marked possession of the shepherd. Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." It's easy to recognize God's sheep, for they hear His voice. As God's sheep, believers are the personal possession of their Saviour and Shepherd.

Sheep do not follow the shepherd just on Sunday and Wednesday night, but they follow him every day.

An elderly man wrote: "What makes place when a Christian dies? I'm so brokenhearted

because my dear wife died last week, and I'm just wondering where she is and what she has gone through." Again we turn to Psalm 23:4. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me."

Christ died on the Cross for the sins of everyone. Yes, Jesus took on Himself the penalty for our sins and died so that anyone may have eternal life by receiving Him. Jesus met death in its awful reality so that believers will not walk into death itself but will pass through the valley of the shadow of death.

Another significant word is "shadow." Jesus went into the very jaws of death at Calvary so that believers might experience only the shadow of death. Shadows may affect our emotions, but they cannot hurt us.

When an unsaved person dies, he walks into death itself, only to meet God in judgment. The believer goes through the valley of the shadow of death, all because of Christ's death on the Cross. A child of God does not fear death. The very moment that life leaves his physical body, his soul and spirit go to be with the Lord.

Heaven is not a beautiful "Isle of Somewhere," filled with mystery, but it is a real place where the Saviour is right now.

There is comfort in knowing whom our saved loved ones are with. The Scriptures say they are "present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8), the one they love and who loves them.

On earth there is joy, but it is mixed with sorrow; in Heaven there is fulness of joy.

A lot of times Christians say: "I have accepted Jesus Christ the Saviour, and I know I am going to Heaven when I die, but I'm still afraid of dying. What's wrong with me?" Notice in Psalm 23:4, "I will fear no evil: for thou art with me."

The Lord is with us always. He never leaves us.

In Psalm 23:4 we read, "Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." The rod is a reminder of the Word of God.

Sometimes the tempter will try to make Christians doubt their salvation and will leave them wondering if they are in God's fold. What can we do then? We can turn to the Word of God. John 5:24 says, "Verily, verily I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation but is passed from death unto life." Believers can say, "Yes, I know that I'm one of God's sheep, because the rod, God's Word, tells me so."

The rod is also used for protection against the enemy. When Satan would like to scatter the flock of God, the rod which is the word of God is the protector. Often in the hour of deep sorrow one comes to know the Shepherd in a new and more intimate way. The Word of God provides comfort.

In Psalm 23:5 we read, "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies."

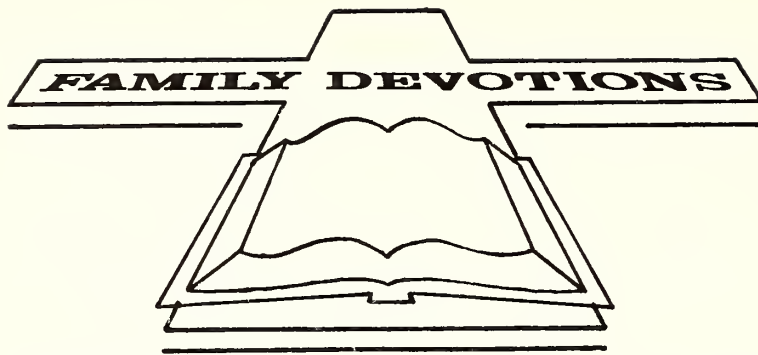
Salvation is the greatest blessing anyone will ever experience.

The enemies of God were surrounding the Saviour when he provided salvation on the Cross.

In this day when the devil is working overtime, some of God's children have become nervous wrecks, for they have not learned to trust our Shepherd, who alone can defeat the force of darkness. Jesus Christ is the mighty conqueror over the powers of darkness. The Lord Jesus is not only the believer's Saviour, He also wants to be his Shepherd, so he can live confidently even when the enemy is present.

God often spreads out a table of spiritual blessing for Christians when they are facing a physical crisis in life, perhaps in a hospital room. A lady said: "Now I can see why the Lord

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 14:11

I LONGED FOR REST

I've traveled north, I've traveled south,
I've traveled east and west;
I've had my flings in worldly things,
But, oh, I longed for rest!

I've earthly gems, I've jewels rare,
Of these I claimed the best;
I have my gold, I've wealth untold,
But, oh, I longed for rest!

One day I turned me from my sins,
And then my soul was blest;
I gave my all, at Jesus' call,
And, oh, He gave me rest!

PRAYER THOUGHT

All searching must ultimately end with God. All journeys must have their end. Only with Him can there be real rest.

MONDAY, APRIL 21

Scripture Reading—2 Peter 1:11

BARELY SAVED!

One time, Dr. R. E. Neighbour preached a sermon on the possibility of God's children being saved "so as by fire" and receiving no rewards when they stand before Christ. After the service, the minister walked home with a wealthy businessman who said, "I didn't like that sermon about the

possibility of some Christians barely entering Heaven and not receiving any rewards for faithful service. Why, I will be satisfied if I just get inside of Heaven and can lean against its walls!" At that moment the two reached the palatial home of the wealthy businessman. It was filled with all the luxuries that money could buy. How different was the wealthy man's thinking about his earthly home and his thinking about his heavenly home.

Let us aspire to enter glory abundantly and triumphantly. Peter said, "For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 1:11).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Those who get "barely saved" are dangerously close to not being saved at all. Don't be satisfied with "just getting inside the door."

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 55:6; 57:19

VERY NEAR

In the solace after pain,
In the sunshine after rain,
When you fail—but try again:
God is very near.

In the fruit upon the trees,
In a cool midsummer breeze;
In a baby at its birth,
Any place upon the earth;

In the smile that follows tears,
In the harvest of the years,
In the conquering of fears:
God is very near.

When you help someone in need
With a single kindly deed;
When of selfishness you're freed
God is very near.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God is everywhere, all the time. He is patiently waiting to bless, to comfort, to save. Let no man neglect the Way, the Truth and the Life.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 2:7

WHERE HIS SERMONS HAD GONE

Coming to the close of many years of faithful ministry, an aged pastor tied his sermon notes in a bundle and wrote on it: "Where has the influence of all the sermons I have preached gone?" One who had been under his ministry for years and who had grown in Christlikeness and in the knowledge of God's Word gave the following heartfelt appraisal of his sermons: "Where are last year's sunrises? They have gone into fruits and grains and vegetables to feed mankind. Where are last year's raindrops? Forgotten, of course, but they did their gracious and refreshing work. Your sermons, preached over the years, have gone into my life and into the lives of others, to make me and them better, nobler, and more Christlike. They have deepened our love for God's Word, given us a vision of and love for unsaved ones, and have challenged us to go on in the Christian life!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's Word spoken by His faithful servants will never return unto Him void. No one can accurately estimate the potential value of one sermon, and certainly not a lifetime of sermons.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

Scripture Reading—Revelation 6:15

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

EARTH'S LAST PRAYER MEETING

The prayer meeting is, in any churches, defunct or dead. It is only a lingering memory in the minds of some of the older saints. Yet I would remind you that earth's best attended prayer meeting is yet future. How different it will be from any other prayer meeting! See who they are who are praying—"And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman and every free man" (Revelation 6:15). Observe to whom this unique assemblage will address its prayer—"the mountains and rocks." Hear that they unitedly and fervently pray for—"Hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne." We need but three words with which to describe their prayer—dead in earnest! Their prayer, even if they would address it to God, would be too late. The day of grace will have been superseded by the day of God's wrath!

PRAYER THOUGHT

When the last days come all living, great and small, will bow before the Father. Let the faithful do so now, while God is still the God of grace. No man would wait for His terrible wrath.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 5:24

GOD'S WORKS DECLARE HIS GREATNESS

The spacious firmament on high,
With all the blue ethereal sky
and spangled heavens, a shining
frame,
their great Original proclaim.
The unwearied sun, from day to
day,
does his Creator's power
display,
and publishes to every land
the work of an Almighty hand.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Soon as the evening shades
prevail,
The moon takes up the wondrous
tale,
And, nightly, to the listening
earth
Repeats the story of her birth;
Whilst all the stars that round
her burn,
And all the planets in their turn,
Confirm the tidings as they roll,
And spread the truth from pole
to pole.

What though in solemn silence
all
Move round the dark terrestrial
ball:
What though no real voice nor
sound
Amid their radiant orbs be
found?
In Reason's ear they all rejoice,
And utter forth a glorious voice,
Forever singing, as they shine,
"The Hand that made us is
divine."

PRAYER THOUGHT

*All of God's works proclaim
Him and His majesty. It is a
foolish man indeed who doubts
His existence.*

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

Scripture Reading—Romans
12:1; Revelation 2:19

POTS, PANS AND THINGS

Lord of all pots and pans and
things,
Since I've no time to be
A saint by doing lovely things,
Or watching late with Thee,
Or dreaming in the dawnlight, or
storming Heaven's gates,
Make me a saint by getting
meals,
And washing up the plates,

Although I have Martha's hands,
I have a Mary's mind;
And when I black the boots and
shoes,
Thy sandals, Lord, I find.
I think of how they trod the
earth,
Each time I scrub the floor.
Accept this meditation, Lord
I haven't time for more.

Warm all the kitchen with Thy
love,
And light it with Thy peace;
Forgive me all my worrying,
And make all grumbling cease.
Thou who didst love to give men
food,
In a room or by the sea,
Accept this service that I do—
I do it unto Thee.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The so-called "domestic en-
gineer" wields great influence
toward godly living. Let no one
discount the importance of being
a wife and mother or home-
maker. Often it is given to
her the task of making the
household aware of the Saviour.*

Selected from *Knight's Treas-
ury of Illustrations*, Walter
B. Knight.

Mount Olive College

CHURCH MEETINGS PLANNED

The remaining county and
area meetings being held to
present Free Will Baptists with
the plans for making Mount
Olive College a four-year college
are as follows:

Beaufort County, Sunday, April
20, 3 p. m., at Memorial church
near Washington.

Craven County, Monday, April
21, 8 p. m., at St. Mary's in New
Bern.

**Washington, Martin, Tyrrell,
Pasquotank and Chowan
Counties**, Tuesday, April 22, 7:30
p. m. at Mount Tabor church.

Pitt County, Monday, April 28,
8 p. m. at Reedy Branch church
near Winterville.

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations of Mount
Olive College will present a
program of song and testimony
at Shiloh Free Will Baptist
Church, on Sunday, April 20, 11
a. m.

The Rev. Marvir Waters is
pastor.

Cragmont Assembly, Inc.

REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

March, 1980

Checking Account Balance 3/1/80

\$ 202.61

RECEIPTS

Albemarle Conference		
Shiloh	\$ 9.60	
Sidney	<u>25.14</u>	\$ 34.74
Cape Fear Conference		
Lee's Chapel	30.86	
Catalpa	<u>25.00</u>	55.86
Central Conference		
Rocky Mount, First	40.00	
Marlboro	75.00	
Friendship	25.00	
Owens Chapel	162.00	
Daniels Chapel		
J. W. E. Auxiliary	25.00	
Grimsley	50.00	
Elm Grove Choir	60.00	
Rose Hill	<u>50.00</u>	487.00
Eastern Conference		
New Haven Youth Club	10.00	
Croatan	50.00	
Wardens Grove	51.06	
Northeast	10.00	
Snow Hill	100.00	
Bridgeton	<u>17.00</u>	238.06
Western Conference		
Calvary	200.00	
Union Chapel	24.04	
Selma	25.00	
Hugh and Ruby Yeatts	50.00	
Sherron Acres	<u>125.00</u>	424.04
Others		
Martha Sue Tew	25.00	
State of North Carolina	889.53	
John R. Williams	32.10	
Sidney Clark	4.26	
Wanda Sweat	8.12	
General Youth Conference		
Credit Toward Camp Cost	400.00	
Fidelis Memorial Sunday School Class	20.00	
Retreat Deposits	<u>150.00</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>1,529.01</u> \$2,768.71

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	600.00
Mileage	153.00
Utilities and Phone Service	705.33
Bank Service Charge	.85
Manager Benefits	89.58
Food	241.67
Postage	30.00
Professional Services	35.00

Supplies
Miscellaneous
Transfer to Savings
Open Camp Account
Total Expenses
Checking Balance 3/31/80

General Savings
Balance 3/1/80
Interest Earned
Balance 3/31/80

Building Fund
Balance 3/1/80
Transferred from Checking
Balance 3/31/80

Camp Checking Account
Balance 3/1/80
Transferred from Corporate Account
Balance 3/31/80

Total of All Funds

- Given by the choir of Elm Grove church in memory of Gerald Briley.

Please Note: Reports this year have in some contributors. Apologies are extended to the following:
The Rev. Foy Futrelle—pastor of Daly's Church
The Rev. Lester and Nancy Duncan—pastor of Beaufort Mission—Eastern Conference
2nd Union Meeting—Central Conference
4th Union Meeting—Central Conference
3rd Union Meeting—Eastern Conference
5th Union Meeting—Eastern Conference
Your support of Cragmont is deeply appreciated. Many thanks go to Mrs. A. B. Chandler for her contribution in the "Other" section of this report, please church and/or conference.
Also, please send all contributions and correspondence to Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711.
Thank you.

"UNCHURCHED SET TO RESPOND"

by Paul Benjamin
Executive Coordinator
American Festival of Evangelism

The American Festival of Evangelism is a call for concerned Christians to consider the United States as a mission field. Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, July 27-30, 1981, the four-day gathering will focus on the unreached peoples in America. Twenty thousand participants from more than 150 major church bodies in America are expected to attend.

Each day will begin with a plenary Bible study. Each day

<u>2,569.39</u>	199.32
	\$ 401.93
1,166.52	
<u>3.39</u>	
1,169.91	
1,930.93	
<u>185.00</u>	
2,115.93	
<u>400.00</u>	
<u>400.00</u>	
	\$3,685.84
	\$4,087.77

all requested information regarding con-
 ps.
 ear Conference
 ch, Western Conference

ued support is greatly needed.
 mation. If your contribution is not listed
 with your next contributions listing your

mont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road,

John R. Watson, Treasurer

will close with a plenary worship
 service. Sandwiched in between
 will be nearly one hundred
 workshops and seminars meeting
 daily. Every session will be
 focused on the importance and
 the methods of carrying out The
 Great Commission in this nation.

According to the latest
 estimates, 80,000,000 Americans
 are not members of any church
 or religious group. Of the
 132,000,000 who are members,
 only about fifty percent have any
 active relationship with a church
 in their community. Using the
 term in a broad sense, we can
 therefore refer to 146,000,000
 Americans as being "un-
 churched." Here is the
 "mission field" in the United

States which embraces nearly
 three out of four homes in every
 community.

The regard for almost
 150,000,000 unchurched Ameri-
 cans coupled with the com-
 mission of Jesus to "make
 disciples of all nations" is the
 mandate for the American
 Festival of Evangelism. The
 focus of the Kansas City
 gathering will be upon the local
 churches in this nation, with the
 Festival program designed to
 help congregations carry out The
 Great Commission more ef-
 fectively in their own com-
 munity.

While some of the unchurched
 may deeply resent any in-
 tensified efforts toward Christian
 evangelism, the polls clearly
 indicate that millions of
 Americans are now open to a
 more active faith. Thirty-two
 million, in fact, indicate that
 they are willing to become
 Christians sometime in the near
 future.

The American Festival of
 Evangelism is an attempt by
 American churches to assess its
 responsibility to those who are
 willing. Furthermore, it seeks to
 encourage every local church to
 reach out in love to the people of
 its own community, and to help
 provide the evangelistic tools
 and resources.

In many instances, Christians
 themselves must be encouraged
 and taught before they are
 willing to share the "good news"
 with their neighbors and friends.
 For the most part, they are not
 unbelieving or unconcerned, but
 they are afraid of being rebuffed
 by those who are disinterested.
 The majority of American
 church members are not brash
 and overconfident evangelists.
 Instead, they are timid souls who
 must muster up all their courage
 before they will speak a word
 about Jesus to anyone.

The American Festival of
 Evangelism is not one more
 effort on the part of Christians to
 drag unwilling Americans into
 the church fold. It is a planned
 endeavor to encourage American
 churches to be more sensitive to

those outside the faith, and the
 attempt to build bridges to the
 vast numbers in this country who
 are now indicating deep concern
 for the Christian way of life.

A TRIBUTE TO A WORTHY PASTOR

by a Happy Church Member

We would like to share with
 God's people what the Lord has
 done for our church in just 34
 months.

We called the Rev. Bobby
 Brown to pastor Wintergreen
 church in the summer of 1977.
 From that time on, we have had
 a spiritual revival, the Lord has
 added to our church 36 souls by
 baptism or letter and
 rededications too numerous to
 mention. Praise the Lord!

Brother Brown's wife took up
 our league program which was
 only running 10 to 12 pupils a
 week and now we average over
 60 each Sunday night. Sister
 Betsy is Brother Bobby's right
 arm.

Brother Bobby started a
 layman's league for our men,
 and from 8 members it has now
 19 active.

Brother Bobby began a Bible
 study for all ages that meets
 twice a month with as many as
 31 attending and no less than 25.
 He has had people to attend who
 have never been active before.

Brother Bobby also has served
 this past year as moderator of
 the Fifth Church Union. All these
 activities have never stopped
 him from being there night or
 day in times of need. God bless
 the day our church under the
 leadership of the Spirit called
 this man of God who does not
 compromise the Word of God
 and upholds our Free Will
 Baptist doctrine in His teaching
 and preaching. He and his wife
 are active, loving, hard-working,
 dedicated soul winners. We pray
 we will be allowed to have them
 here many, many years if it be
 God's will.

YFA'S of Robert's Grove Church Present Program

The YFA's of Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church presented "Rejoice, He Is Alive" on Monday night, March 31, 1980, for the Ladies Auxiliary Pre-Easter Night of Prayer. The program was most inspiring and touching to the hearts of those attending. The story and play was about the Crucifixion of Jesus and how He arose so that we might have life more abundantly today. Communion service was also held during the play.

Heartfelt thanks go out to the YFA's and also to their directors, Debra Tew and Brenda Tyndall. The play was written by Debra Tew.

Piney Grove Church Announces Revival Services

Revival services will be held at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Greenville, North Carolina, April 20-23. The time of the services will be Sunday morning at 11, Sunday evening at 7, and all other nights at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Tommy Evans is pastor of the church. The Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez will be the guest evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Youth Sunday Observed at Friendship Church

The Friendship Young Woman's Auxiliary, Farmville, observed Youth Sunday on March 30, 1980. Special music included singing by the young children led by Mrs. Gladys Oakley and by the youth choir led by Kenneth Cobb.

The flowers in the church were given in honor of the ushers by the Young Woman's Auxiliary. Mrs. Glenda Heath presented the flowers to the ushers with a great big thank-you for all of

their duties which they have performed well. The ushers for this service were Edward Tyson, Danny Holloman, Jeff Moore, and Greg Sutton.

The morning message entitled "The Challenge of the Cross" was presented by members of the YWA. Those participating in the message were Susan Beaman, Kathy Baucom, Donna Morgan, Carol Ellis, Kathy Sutton, Nita Tugwell, and Jackie Ellis.

Rock-A-Thon Held at Casey's Chapel Church



Group Rocks

During the weekend of March 29, 30, the YFA and AFC of Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, participated in their very first rock-a-thon. The 24-hour event, held in the fellowship hall of the church, was a tremendous success.

Ladies of the woman's auxiliary prepared meals for the group during the marathon event, and a great time was had by all. There were 23 rockers, with ages ranging from 7 to 25. Everyone who started for the 24-hour goal finished, and the total amount raised was in excess of \$1,200.

The pastor of Casey's Chapel is the Rev. Bryant Hines Jr. He and his wife, Tammy, serve as directors of the youth group.

Sneads Ferry Church To Have Revival

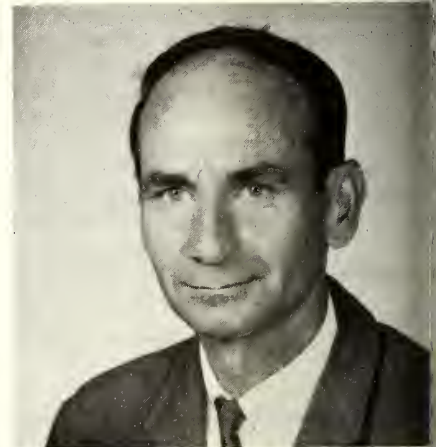
Sneads Ferry Free Will Baptist Church, Sneads Ferry, an-

nounces revival services April 21-25, at 7:30 p. m. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Ronnie Parker, pastor Folkstone church. The church and the pastor, the Rev. O. Taylor, invite everyone to attend.

Grimsley Church Announces Revival

Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church, Greene County, announces revival services April 21 through April 25. The evangelist will be the Rev. Bobby Brown. The Rev. D. Fader is pastor of the church. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is invited to attend.

Mt. Tabor Church Announces Revival Services



The Rev. George Green

Mt. Tabor Free Will Baptist Church, Creswell, North Carolina, will hold revival services beginning April 24-27, at 7:30 p. m. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. George Green, pastor of Gethsemane church, Wilson, North Carolina. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. David Rich, pastor, and the church membership invite everyone to attend.

Activities to Be At Black Jack Grove Church

The Taylor Family from Illinois will present a program of song at the Black Jack Grove

ee Will Baptist Church in
idsboro, North Carolina, on
ril 16, at 7:30 p. m.

There will also be a fellowship
ner on May 4 following the 11
n. worship service. The public
nvited to attend.

Youth Sunday at bert's Grove Church

A spirit of youthfulness and
itement was present at
bert's Grove Free Will Baptist
urch, Route 1, Dunn, North
rolina, on Sunday, March 23.
e youth were in charge of all
activities for the day.

Sunday school officers were as
lows: Adult Superintendent,
thony McLamb; Devotional
oughts, Kim Register; Junior
perintendent, Richard Stancil
ng Leader, Cynthia Jackson;
yd Peters Class and Ladies
ass, David Smith and Tammy
st; Vanguard Class II, Larry
aircloth, Karen Pope; Van-
ard Class I, Benjie Bryan,
m Register; Warren Jackson
ass, Greyson Tew, Lynette
pe; Intermediate Class, Jenny
refoot, Helen Stancil; Junior
ass, Chad Honeycutt, Belinda
est. These young people were
ll prepared and did a splendid
D.

The worship service began as
arry Faircloth and Debra Tew
esented a prelude of music.
ngela Honeycutt opened the
ervice with prayer. Angela
McLamb welcomed the many
ests and friends that were
esent. Mrs. Carolyn Tew,
uth sponsor, gave a tribute to
e youth. The Tiny Tots and
erubs cheered everyone with
eir sweet smiles and singing.
evotion was given by Suzette
lls. Chris Johnson played
Abide with Me" on his trumpet.
egina Bass read a poem en-
led "Youthfulness." Stephanie
McLamb announced the morning
fering and reminded the
ngregation that the offering
ould be given to the Free Will
aptist mission program. Ushers
r the morning were Marshall
ckson, Andy Jackson, Jimmy

McCleny, Richard Stancil. David
Smith gave the offertory prayer.
Jeff Tew played "When the
Saints Go Marching In" on his
trombone. Benjie Bryan led the
congregation in a chorus time.
This time was enjoyed by all.
Pam Tew presented the morning
sermon. Her topic was "The
Lord Is My Shepherd."

Youth directors, Brenda
Tyndal, Debra Tew, Susan
Faircloth, Carolyn Tew, and
Frankie Wrench praised the
youth for their efforts. The Rev.
A. B. Bryan is pastor of the
church.

Bethlehem Church to Have Revival Services

The spring youth revival
sponsored by the Youth
Fellowship will be held at
Bethlehem Free Will Baptist
Church, Chinquapin, North
Carolina, April 17, 18, and 19.
There will be special singing
each night. The Rev. Calvin
Heath will be the guest
evangelist for Thursday and
Friday nights, and the Spiritual
Singers from Mount Olive will
have the entire program on
Saturday night. There will also
be a regular business meeting on
Saturday night. Services will
begin each night at 7:30.
Everyone is invited to attend
these services.

Friendship Church Announces Revival

Revival services will be
conducted April 21-25 at the
Friendship Free Will Baptist
Church, Route 1, Trenton, with
the Rev. William E. Futch Jr. as
the visiting evangelist. Services
will begin each evening at 7:30.
Special music will be featured
from individuals and choirs from
the community. The church
cordially invites everyone to
attend.

The pastor of the Friendship
church is the Rev. Larry J.
Crumpler Jr.

(Continued on Page 15)

Home Missions Month

News from

CHILDREN'S HOME

by Stewart Humphrey

SHOULD CHILD CARE BE LEFT TO THE STATE ALONE?

Much has been said and
written in recent years regarding
the value of sociology, psychol-
ogy, psychiatry, and the numer-
ous schools of thought
regarding and relating to human
behavior. The sciences, left to
themselves, have in the opinion
of much of the Christian com-
munity, done as much in some
cases to confuse people as to who
they are and what they are in the
world for, as they have to help
people. Any responsible person
will readily concede that many
people have been helped. The
Christian community believes,
however, that more people can
be helped if these tools God has
given us are used and seen only
as tools rather than ends in
themselves. Psychology, soci-
ology, and all the behavioral
sciences cannot save one single
man, woman, boy, or girl. Even
though these tools may be used
to help a person adjust to this
world to some degree of success,
it's not until that person comes
to grips with himself in
relationship to the Heavenly
Father that he is truly helped.

Child care cannot be left to the
clinicians, the state programs, or
any other agency that does not
recognize a child's unique
relationship to God. Children are
not mice or guinea pigs to be
experimented with or trained to
be socially acceptable; they are
creations of God to be nurtured
and loved, to be taught and
disciplined in a spirit of
godliness and holiness that can
be found only within **Christian
families and Christian child
caring institutions.** The tools of
the clinician, psychologist, psy-
chiatrist, sociologist, and
other behavioral sciences may
(Continued on Page 15)

FOREIGN MISSIONS TELETHON RESPONSE AND GIFTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

ALBEMARLE

Free Union Church	\$ 48.00
Free Union Junior Class	10.00
Gum Neck Church	100.00
Hickory Chapel Church	190.00
Plymouth, First Church	140.60
Plymouth Auxiliary	20.00
Shiloh YFA	145.25
Shiloh AFC	30.00
Shiloh Ladies Class	54.39
Sidney Church	243.84
Sound Side League	40.75
Union Chapel Church	159.60
Total	\$1,182.43

CAPE FEAR

Bethel Sunday School	\$ 120.00
Catalpa Church	25.00
Casey's Chapel Church	40.00
Casey's Chapel Auxiliary	250.00
Faith Church	65.00
Haymount Church	68.50
Hopewell Sunday School	114.93
Johnston Union Church	382.22
Lee's Chapel Sunday School	129.88
Lee's Chapel Church	1,012.21
Lee's Chapel, Alyne	
Elmore Circle	20.00
Mount Olive Church	25.00
Oak Grove Church	50.00
Powhatan Church	50.00
St. Mary's Church	88.00
Robert's Grove Church	150.00
Shady Grove Church	463.16
Smithfield, First Church	125.00
Smithfield Auxiliary	10.00
Smyrna Church	100.00
Yelverton Grove Church	205.00
Yelverton Grove YFA	10.00
Wooten's Chapel Church	173.00
Cape Fear Conference	41.53
Total	\$3,718.53

CENTRAL

Ayden Church	\$ 377.85
Bethany Church	291.10
Black Jack Church	1,151.54
Central Conference	
Youth Fellowship	10.00
Community Church	46.17
Daniels Chapel Church	375.32
Dawson's Grove Church	300.00
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	100.75
Edgewood Church	43.48
Elm Grove	686.00
Fourth Union Convention	39.86
Friendship League	13.55
Friendship Church	300.00
Free Union Church	504.40
Grimsley Church	87.50
Gum Swamp Church	756.25
Greenville, First Church	150.00
Hugo	287.00
King's Cross Roads Church	395.97

King's Cross Roads	
Sunday School	13.34
LaGrange Sunday School	17.54
Little Creek Church	200.00
Marlboro Church	45.00
Ormondsville Sunday School	13.00
Owens Chapel Church	100.00
Peace Church	173.00
Reedy Branch Church	751.78
Rocky Mount, First Church	240.00
Rocky Mount Church Youth	10.00
Rose Hill Sunday School	60.00
Rose of Sharon Church	105.54
Saratoga Church	117.50
Spring Branch Church	150.00
Sweet Gum Grove,	
CTS Beginners Class	35.00
Williamston, First Church	127.73
Winterville Church	306.41
Winterville Woman's Auxiliary	15.00
Winterville Sunday School	84.66
Total	\$8,482.24

EASTERN

Bethel Church	\$ 200.00
Bethlehem Church	10.00
British Chapel Church	250.00
Cabin Church	170.00
Core Creek Sunday School	10.00
Crab Point Church	15.00
Croatian Church	120.00
Davis Church	100.00
Edwards Chapel Church	15.00
Ephesus Church	39.61
Gethsemane Church	100.00
Gray Branch Church	200.00
Hillsberry Church	64.00
Holly Springs, College	
and Career Class	20.00
Holly Springs, Crusaders Class	40.00
Holly Springs, Low	
Intermediate Class	20.00
Juniper Chapel Church	20.00
Juniper Chapel Sunday School	50.39
Kinston, First Church	180.00
Kinston, Auxiliary	26.00
May's Chapel Auxiliary	20.00
Mosley's Creek Church	900.00
Mosley's Creek League	100.00
Mount Zion Church,	
Pamlico County	125.00
New Haven Church	50.00
New Haven Sunday School	15.00
Oak Grove Church	73.12
Oriental Church	18.00
Pilgrim's Rest Church	50.00
Piney Grove Church	50.00
Rooty Branch Church	148.30
Sandy Plain Auxiliary	76.85
Snow Hill Church	628.50
Snow Hill AFC	11.50
Spring Hope Church	123.00

St. Mary's Church	666
Verona Church	100
Warsaw, First Church	.50
Total	\$4,855

PEE DEE

Beaverdam League	\$ 25.
Emerson	
Cypress Creek Sunday School	87
Emerson Church	276
Oak Grove Church	324
Total	\$713

PIEDMONT

Calvary	\$198
Gospel Light Church	11.
Hopewell Church	210.
Rockingham Woman's Class	70.
Total	\$489.

WESTERN

Barnes Hill	\$ 40
Branch Chapel Church	250
Branch Chapel Bible Class	11
Calvary Church	164
Durham, First Church	200
Everett Chapel Church	22
Flood's Chapel Church	36
Holly Springs Church	275
Lighthouse Church	50
Little Rock Church	80
Living Waters Church	350
Marsh Swamp Church	200
Micro Church	154
Milbournie Church	45
Mount Zion Church, Nash County	103
New Sandy Hill Church	100
People's Chapel Church	100
People's Chapel Auxiliary	3
Piney Grove Church	75
Pine Level Church	100
Pleasant Grove Church	671
Pleasant Grove Sunday School	193
Pleasant Hill Church	429
Pleasant Plain Church	104
Rains Cross Roads Church	200
Rock Springs Church	35
Selma Church	180
Sherron Acres	200
Spring Hill Church	950
Stoney Creek Auxiliary	40
Union Chapel Church	10
Union Grove Church	75
Unity Church, Durham	204
Watson's Grove Church	50
Total	\$5,702

OUT OF STATE

Paul Palmer Association	\$ 240
Virginia Beach Church	2,205
Total	\$2,445

INDIVIDUALS

Verna P. Johnson	\$100
Virginia Joyner	40
Wade Nealy	15
Mary Lou Howell	10
Mr. and Mrs. LaDon McDowell	50

(Continued on Page 14)

Home Missions

Submitted by Taylor Hill

HOME MISSIONS WORKING BECAUSE . . .



The Rev. Taylor Hill

Our Lord has answered our prayers and has given us workers who are willing to sacrifice; until this day, we have people who are doing all they can to help our cause without being on the payroll.

Every one of our paid missionaries and staff members receives less than a full salary.

I want to personally thank all of you who have been patient with us and have trusted us to do the job. We have not been without our frustrations, hand-aps and mistakes, but most of you continue to stand with us in this great work of our Lord, and we do indeed thank you.

SPONSORED BY THE HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

FACTORY MISSION, Hope Mills,
North Carolina

Self-supporting

Owns place of worship

Pastor—Charles N. Parrish

Route 1, Box 65-B, Parkton,

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

North Carolina 28371

Phone: 424-3713

HAYMOUNT MISSION,
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Self-supporting

1209 Arsenal Avenue

Owns property

Pastor—Taylor Hill

Phone: 485-3980 or 485-4471

HERITAGE MISSION,
Charlotte, North Carolina

Owns property

Margaret Wallace and Sam
Newell Streets, Charlotte,
North Carolina

Pastor—Roger Hartsel

Route 2, Box 544, Norwood,
North Carolina 28128

Phone: 474-5322

FREE SPIRIT MISSION, Wil-
son, North Carolina

Owns property

Highway 301 South

Pastor—Dale Albertson

Box 185, Black Creek, North
Carolina 27813

Phone: 291-5331

CATALPA MISSION, Fayette-
ville, North Carolina

5215 Catalpa Road

Owns place of worship

Pastor—Alton Howard

Phone: 424-3844

CAPE COLONY MISSION, Eden-
ton, North Carolina

Owns property

Pastor—Ronnie Mohn

P. O. Box 155, Black Creek,
North Carolina 27813

(New Edenton address un-
derway)

AGAPE MISSION, Raleigh,
North Carolina

1701 Glen Eden Drive
Northwest Side

Pastor—Ronnie Hall
422 Barbour Street, Clayton,
North Carolina
Phone: 553-6070

EASTOVER MISSION, Fayette-
ville, North Carolina

Owns property

5 miles north of Fayetteville on
Highway 301

Pastor—W. O. Lassiter

Route 3, Four Oaks, North
Carolina 27524

Phone: 934-4816

Co-sponsored with Cape Fear
Conference

FAITH MISSION, Leland, North
Carolina

Owns place of worship

Pastor—Luther Swinson

Route 1, Box 155-A, Maple Hill,
North Carolina 28454

Phone: 346-8132

Co-sponsored with Eastern
Conference

BEAUFORT MISSION, Beaufort,
North Carolina

Queen Street across from
Beaufort School

Owns property

Pastor—James H. Gurganus

Route 3, Box 64, Newport, North
Carolina 28570

Phone: 223-5251

Co-sponsored with Eastern
Conference

Dean Kennedy, Promotional
Assistant

Route 2, Box 297-A, Pink Hill,
North Carolina 28572

Phone: 568-3732

NOTE: Regular State Home
Missions funds are designated
toward the pastor's expenses.
The missions purchase their
property with their own funds
except for special earmarked
funds that are received for
this purpose.

THANKFULNESS

by Brunice C. Cole, Jr.

Happy moments seldom depart
if you keep a thankful heart.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For April 27

WALKING IN THE LIGHT

Lesson Text: 1 John 1:5-10; 4:1-6
 Memory Selection: 1 John 1:7

I. Introduction

The Epistles of John represent the solid Christian counsel of an aged soldier of the cross to those whom he loved dearly as his brothers in Christ. Written approximately sixty years after the tragedy of Calvary and the triumph over the tomb, the letters are invaluable in helping the followers of Jesus Christ find spiritual stability. They are put in language none can misunderstand. John's primary concern is that Christians should preserve their living relationship to the Saviour by overcoming the world; but when they fall, they have recourse to the blood of Jesus Christ and to His marvelous pardon.

In the early verses of his first letter John uses several terms that are symbolic and meaningful. While the concepts are not original in John, it may be helpful to give a glossary of the words. These meanings should be kept in mind:

Light—illumination. Insight. Used with spiritual significance by John: life, truth, righteousness.

Fellowship—communion. Sharing. A partnership, often suggesting sharing through a contribution of one to another.

Message—news. In John, the gospel, or good news of our salvation in Christ Jesus.

Darkness—moral or spiritual error; evil works. Ignorance. A condition of depravity.

Truth—reality. Perfect teachings as contrasted to per-

versions or errors. Derived from God's very person and faithfulness.

Sin—missing the mark. Moral deficiency. Failing to do what is required or expected.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Our lesson subject, "Walking in the Light," implies that there is something else we may also walk in. That is true; it is called darkness. If Christ is the light, and the source of light, what, then, is darkness and who is its source?

B. Darkness is the opposite of light; therefore, if Christ is light and the source of it, Satan is darkness and the source of it. To put it another way, walking in the light is walking in the way of Christ, and walking in darkness is walking in the way of Satan. Victorious Christians cannot walk in both light and darkness; they must choose one or the other. Choosing to walk in the light (Christ's way) does not eliminate the possibility of a spiritual relapse which will cause the Christian to step back into darkness, but it does give us power, through the Spirit within us, to overcome darkness.

C. Now let us put all this within the framework of the Bible text we have for our study today, allowing John's words to give the right emphasis on these truths.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Some Christians, like those in John's day, claim to be sinless, that they have risen above sin. This is a state of

spirituality which we cannot, of course, reach as long as we live in the flesh. Some of our carnal nature remains within so we are still subject to committing sin—when we choose to. In the first letter John tries to show that we can still sin but that there is a God who can also forgive that sin if we come to Him on His terms.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F. W.)

B. We have some Christians today who still contend they do not sin since their baptism in the Holy Spirit and their sanctification. This is confusion of the first magnitude. All born-again Christians were baptized into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit when they were saved, and they were sanctified by being separated from the world for the glory of God, but they may still backslide into sin.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W.)

Foreign Missions

(Continued from Page 12)

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Worrell	64
Helen Beaman	54
Mrs. R. G. Turnage	13
Gordon Turner	10
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Allen	21
Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Sutton	20
T. A. Bowen	15
David Hill	20
Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Howell	21
Mr. and Mrs. Fabian Guzman	10
Alvin and Joy Wise	50
Mrs. Mark Taylor	20
Mr. and Mrs. John Cuddington	20
The Rev. and Mrs. Dewey Boling	20
Mr. and Mrs. Billy Dilday	20
The Rev. and Mrs. Bill Dale	20
Fred Baker	15
The Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Coates	25
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Weston	60
Susan Craft	15
Doris Peedin	20
Verna P. Johnson	20
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Franks	10
Pherbia Fulghum	25
Ray Harrison Jr.	40
J. L. Faucette	10
Mrs. Charles Beaman	10
Mrs. Elma Daughtry	10
Total	\$355
TOTAL	\$28,443

In behalf of the Foreign Missionary and Board members, we express our thanks to the pastors and persons that made the drive for Foreign Missions March a success.

Very truly yours
 Joe Ingraham

Children's Home

(Continued from Page 11)

used in the process, but unless d by the hands of a dedicated ristian they may do as much nage as good to a child in e. No doubt every effort will e made to provide quality ical care for the child in the ular agencies. Church-related ld care agencies, however, er not only a good clinical roach to the care of children, y offer a Christian approach he care of a child.

ree Will Baptist child care is re than a clinical child care ncy; it goes beyond the mere eting of basic needs to vide quality Christian child e. Can we leave the next eration of homeless children the state and secular com- nity for care? Can we, as ristians, justify not offering children of the next eration the opportunity to be red in a home where the love od in Jesus Christ can be erieced?

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 5)

n't instantly heal my body as rayed."

n Psalm 23:6 we read: irely goodness and mercy ll follow me all the days of life; and I will dwell in the se of the Lord forever."

am reminded of a sixth-grade y who was always getting into ouble. The teacher would often y, "You're impossible." Soon e began to believe it. "Why be ficult when, with a little extra ort, you can become im- sible?" The teacher tried ery way of disciplining the y. Nothing seemed to work.

After school was dismissed, e teacher called the boy to her sk. She opened the drawer and ough out a sack of peanuts. hat a surprise! The boy was eechless. While they were

enjoying the peanuts, the teacher talked to the boy about his conduct. The goodness of the teacher brought results. The boy repented. From then on he responded to instructions and was a different boy.

Notice the closing words of this great Twenty-third Psalm: "I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." When David thought about the life beyond the grave, he did not pray, "Lord save us at last;" nor did he say, "I hope I will get to Heaven some day." Instead, he spoke with certainty, saying, "I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

The Apostle John wrote, "These things have I written unto you that believe in the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye may have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (John 5:13). It is God's desire that all who have accepted Christ as Saviour will have this great assurance of salvation and of a future home in Heaven.

These verses from Psalm 23 are among the last words that many believers claim as the Lord takes them home to glory. The Twenty-third Psalm is the most perfect picture of happiness and contentment that has ever been drawn.

Can you say with the psalmist, I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever? Do you know Jesus Christ as your Saviour and as your Shepherd?

This youth sermon was presented by Pam Tew at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina.

NOTICE

There will be no issue of **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST** printed April 30, because of our recent decision not to print more than 48 issues per year.

Those having announcements and news notes intended for the April 30 issue should submit these for the April 23 issue.

NEWS NOTES

Continued from Page 11

Revival Services to Be At Peace Church

Revival services will be held at the Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, April 21-25, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Royce Reynolds will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. L. B. Manning is pastor of the church. There will be special singing each night. The public is invited to attend.

Entertainment Hour Planned

The First Free Will Baptist Junior Church of Tarboro is sponsoring an Entertainment Hour to be held in the church fellowship building on Saturday, April 19, 1980 from 7:30 p. m.—9:30 p. m.

The evening will begin with the crazy and wacky Entertainment Hour Ensemble singing a few hilarious tunes. Following this will be a most unusual Beauty and Fashion Act in which there are no female contestants! Other acts include singing, comedy skits, and instrumentals by several members of the church.

Tickets are \$1 per person, and they can be reserved by calling the church office at 823-4611, from 9 a. m.—2 p. m., Monday—Friday.

Junior Churchers encourage members of the church, friends, and anyone else desiring an entertaining evening to attend the Entertainment Hour.

First Church, Goldsboro Announces Revival

Revival services will be held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, beginning Monday, April 21, and continuing through April 25. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Harold Jones of Pikeville will be the guest speaker. There will be special music each night. A nursery will be provided.

The pastor, the Rev. Norman Ard, will assist in the services. Everyone is invited.

THE STATE YOUTH CONVENTION



See friends you have not seen since last
summer . . .
Learn about Youth Frontier
Conference . . .
Help elect new officers . . .

Saturday, April 26, 1980
9:30 Program Begins
Farmville Central High School
Farmville, North Carolina

CHURCH OF THE MONTH



FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Wilson, North Carolina

Clyde Cox, Pastor

Wednesday, April 23, 1980, Ayden, North Carolina

The Free Will Baptist

THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR?

We have not because we ask not. This is the usual explanation for not having what one needs. Some contemporary religionists, especially flamboyant evangelists and ministerial personalities, carry the thought much too far. They make it sound disgraceful that one doesn't have all he needs of everything, including money, which seems to take priority over closeness to God.

No doubt the soul who dedicates himself to godly living will be able to secure most of what he needs. But God will not rain down money from Heaven. Dedication to Him will change attitudes, will make one want to put himself into active work and worship. Here is where the reward comes.

There have been reports of persons having prayed for financial help and having had dollar bills appear mysteriously, as from God, on the bed in the morning, or in some other unexpected place. We have our doubts about the frequency of such actions, but we hasten here to acknowledge that we do not doubt God's power, in any event. But if the love of money is the root of all evil, it seems incongruous that God would supply it in such an unorthodox manner. Realistically speaking, the whole idea smacks of magic, if not witchcraft.

It is true that financial security provides a certain confidence and pride. The financially able can have their way in almost anything, for the dollar has buying power, influencing power, and securing power. The person who has money at his command or disposal can very easily persuade the have-nots to see things his way, to support his cause, or to like him personally. Financial reward is something everybody likes and feels that he needs and deserves.

There is probably no glutton as bad as the money glutton. Where money begins, conscience often ends. Money, or the desire for it, has ruined many a person. Too many present-day ministers of the vaudeville variety are contributing to such ruin by making it seem almost a sin to be poor. The structure of society (good or not) demands that some be rich and some be poor, despite the claim by television pastors that "No one has to be poor."

It is terribly wrong to present God as providing money—filthy lucre, if you will—for the establishment of "self." This is what happens in too many cases: the newly rich lavish upon themselves every material thing procurable, and sometimes every desire of the flesh. God is surely not pleased with such exploitation.

Money cannot buy passage to Heaven. We have the unforgettable story of the rich man in the Bible to prove that. But it has gotten to the place that many attempt to make a heaven on earth; and they try to realize this goal through the accumulation of money—and too often at someone else's expense. The minister who does this will have a lot to answer for. And those who are led by him to step on others for selfish aims will not achieve lasting happiness.

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 - Mount Olive College
 - Children's Home
 - The Sunday School Lesson
 - Quarterly Conference Held
 - Home Missions Working Because
 - Coming Events
 - Change of Address

April 23, 1980

Volume 95

Number

Tommy Manning
Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times a year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-44).

All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect the spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist**, P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

All subscriptions are payable in advance one year, \$6.24; two years, \$11.44; four years, \$22.88 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$6, \$11, and \$22 respectively (plus sales tax where applicable).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by church. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Friday; 9 a.m.—5 p.m. Saturday.

Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston: 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

D. W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivbark, Vice President; Hubert Burrell, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Fel Godwin, Robert May, and Dewey C. Boling.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.
Walter Reynolds, Manager; Tommy Manning, Editor of Literature.

History of First Free Will Baptist Church

Wilson, North Carolina

Submitted by Mrs. Nancy Matthews

On October 13, 1921, at the Western Conference at Pine Level, North Carolina, the committee reported favorably on establishing a church in Wilson, North Carolina. Founder of the church was Rev. George W. Davis. Organized in 1921, First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson held its first meetings in a dwelling house on Moss Street near what is now Charles L. Coon Jr. High School. Later that year the meeting place was changed to the City

Construction of a new church at its present location, the corner of Granger and Barnhill Streets, was begun in 1922 by the Rev. George W. Davis and R. Oliver as builders, and by 1924 the membership totaled 24. The church was a one-room structure facing Barnhill Street. By 1939, Sunday school classes were partitioned by thick green curtains on wire. The curtains were pulled back for church services, usually to a house filled with people. In winter heat was provided by a potbellied stove and wood usually donated by members of the congregation. Air conditioning was furnished by open windows and paper fans with thin wooden handles. Mounted on the front was a religious picture, and on the back, advertising for a local tobacco warehouse. A few years later old War Barracks structures were installed near the church for use as Sunday school rooms.

Our first parsonage, located at 1108 Southboro Street, was erected about 1946 during the pastorate of the Rev. F. A. Rivenbark.

In May, 1954, a Sunday school annex was constructed, housing classrooms and a fellowship

In October, 1954, the congregation voted to begin a building project, and plans were drawn for a new sanctuary which now faces Granger Street. C. Benton and Sons, architects, were employed to

draw the plans, and Watson and Edmundson, general contractors, were secured to construct the building. After long months of planning every detail of the new building, the search began for someone to help finance such a project. There were still months of waiting, but finally on Sunday, May 6, 1956, special ground-breaking services were observed. Principal speakers were Mayor John D. Wilson; and Roy Davis, finance committee chairman. H. P. Vick, L. L. Amerson, and Charles Simpson broke the ground. Construction was begun the next day, May 7, 1956. The first day of worship in the new sanctuary was the Sunday before Christmas, 1957.

A service for the laying of the cornerstone was observed Sunday, June 10, 1956. The beautiful, white marble cornerstone, a gift from the George W. Davis family, was placed by George W. Davis Jr. and Howard Davis in memory of the late Mr. Davis, founder of the church. Mrs. Davis was present for the service.

On February 26, 1969, the congregation in its second quarterly conference adopted a formal resolution recommended by the Board of Deacons, to erect an educational plant, complete with offices, conference room, choir room, nursery, and classrooms. Leslie Hawley, chairman of our survey and planning committee reported in December, 1969, that we had been granted a permit to build, with the understanding that we would purchase parking land when it came available to us. God did open doors as we were soon able to buy land for parking and work was well underway. Committee members were Lewis Daniel, J. D. Skinner, Alton Dickerson, Miss Shirley Rose Davis, Mrs. Ashton Wiggs. The Rev. C. F. Bowen, pastor, assisted the committee.

We became engaged in a church bond program on August 19, 1969, under the direction of Executive

Turn the Page

Church Bonds, Inc. of Nashville, Tennessee. The Rev. Francis Boyle of Nashville, Tennessee, director of Executive Church Bonds, Inc., met with the church members February 29, 1970, and directed the "kick-off" service. The funds received from the sale of bonds were used in constructing the new building on the site of the old educational building. This building was soon remodeled for larger fellowship space. With God's guidance and much dedication we were able to occupy the building on May 16, 1971. Remodeling the old educational building got underway in July, 1971.

On December 16, 1970, the church voted to purchase a beautiful Allen organ. It was installed, ready to be used in our annual Christmas service December 20, 1970. First Free Will Baptist Church has always been fortunate in having a strong Woman's Auxiliary. Organized about 1925 under the leadership of the Rev. George W. Davis and the Rev. S. H. Styron, pastor, it began with seven charter members: Mrs. J. E. Hales, first president, Mrs. J. E. Amerson, Mrs. Gaston Watson, Mrs. Willie Moore, Mrs. D. R. Oliver, Miss Mills, and Miss Adams.

Projects in progress now are renovation of fellowship hall, including a new children's church sanctuary, and a fund for pew cushions.

In 1946, two circles and two youth groups were formed. A young adult's organization was formed in March, 1971, with Mrs. Muriel Tomlinson and Mrs. Rose Bowen as sponsors. The name "Vanguards" was given this group and Doug Skinner (now Rev.) was elected president; Frances Watson (Dilda), secretary; Phyllis Bunn (Winstead), treasurer; Alane Vester, program chairman. Today this group is known as the Young Women's Prayer Fellowship.

At present there are 60 members of the Woman's Auxiliary which includes four circles. There are four youth auxiliaries with a total of 85 members. Total church membership is 734 and Sunday school enrollment is 325.

On Sunday, October 24, 1971, our new church library was officially opened with Mrs. Kathleen Pipkin as librarian and Mrs. Jenny Beddingfield as assistant. Many good books have been purchased and donated during the years. Today worthwhile reading and helpful aids are available.

Our church was privileged to provide worship services to the Woodlawn Rest Home across the highway from the church in 1971. Speakers were

installed in various parts of the home and wired to our microphones by Charles Howell. Both morning and evening services were piped into the home, as well as Wednesday night services. This institution has long been gone, but we have a Sunday school extension program at Willow Brook Rest Home today. Average attendance each Sunday is 40. Occasionally those able to be transported enjoy morning worship services at the church.

First Church has many dedicated members who have worked long and hard in the service of the gospel: Melvin Beaman, Sunday school superintendent, 12 years; Alane Vester, choral director, eight years; and Sandra Pearson, musician, 22 years. Many deacons, Sunday school teachers, and church officers have served long and well over the years. Besides the Rev. Clyde W. Cox, our pastor since 1976, full-time employees include the associate pastor, the Rev. Craig Simmons; Mrs. Muriel Tomlinson, secretary, thirteen years; Ide Bostic, sexton, nine years.

Though First Free Will Baptist Church has been blessed physically, her greatest accomplishment is our own answering God's call to the ministry: the Revs. J. B. Narron, Doug Skinner, Willard Poythres, Leslie Hawley, Dwight Hawley, Ronald Hawley, John Melancon, and Raymond Sasser. In full-time Christian service is Mrs. Linda Bass Holaday.

First Free Will Baptist has grown through the leadership of staunch ministers. We can't say enough about these ministers who have given so much of themselves while they allowed themselves to be used as vessels of Christ: the Revs. N. D. Wigg, S. H. Styron, C. M. Johnson, C. H. Matthews, D. A. Windham, M. E. Godwin, W. A. Hales, J. H. Worley, W. L. Moretz, L. E. Ballard, L. H. Wetherington, R. C. Woodard, Fred A. Rivenbark, James A. Evans, Earl H. Glenn, Clarence F. Bowen, Johnnie Bullman, and Clyde W. Cox.

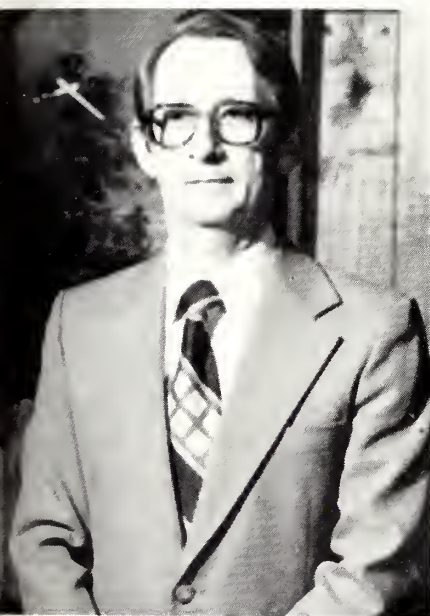
We recognize our responsibility toward our church of tomorrow and much emphasis is placed on educating and training our young people. Strong youth groups and a children's church service on Sunday mornings are vehicles by which, through God's help, we are given hope for the future. The children and young people coming up now, whose attitudes and beliefs are being founded deeply in the gospel, have the potential to open new horizons for First Free Will Baptist Church, the Free Will Baptist denomination, and for Christendom. We are anticipating God working mightily within and through our church.

The Rev. C. H. Overman

AYDEN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Ayden, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. C. H. Overman. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A MINISTER FOR ALL

*submitted by Mrs. Beulah Stocks
Past President of Celia Hart Garris Auxiliary*



The Rev. C. H. Overman

A veteran preacher of twenty-seven years, the Rev. C. H. Overman Jr., was born October 1, 1930, to Clarence H. and Fannie B. of Kenly, North Carolina. At the age of fourteen, C. H. joined the Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, the church home of his parents and grandparents. His pastor at that time was the Rev. M. L. Johnson, who also baptized him. He answered God's call into the gospel ministry in January of 1950, and entered the Free Will Baptist Bible College that same month. He attended the Bible College for two and one-half years. It was in May of 1957, while pastor of Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church,

Walstonburg, that he graduated from Atlantic Christian College, Wilson.

In August of 1952, C. H. married his high school sweetheart, Janice Howell, a graduate of Pikeville High School and a 1952 graduate of Wilson School of Nursing. To this union were born two children—David Howell in March of 1954, and Jeanne Clare in June of 1961.

Mr. Overman began his ministry in Tyrrell County, North Carolina. For two years he served as the pastor of Sound Side, Malachi's Chapel, and Gum Neck churches. He left there and became the pastor of Spring Branch church, Walstonburg; and Grimsley church, Maury. During his stay at Spring Branch, the church was remodeled and enlarged, and for about three months he served as its first full-time pastor.

In 1957, C. H. went to the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, as the assistant editor, and then became the editor in September of 1960. In 1962 he left the Press to accept the pastorate of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, serving the church for thirteen months. He then returned to the Press as editor in 1963 and served in this position until January 1, 1969. During his stay at the Press, he served as supply pastor of several churches for various lengths of time.

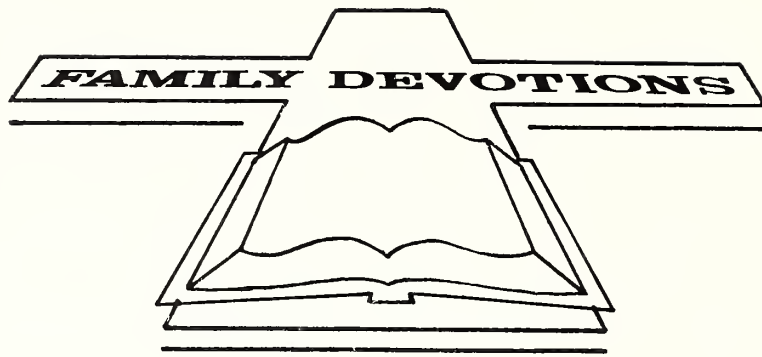
These included the following: Belhaven, Trinity, Kenly, First Church of Goldsboro, Aspen Grove (seven and one-half years), and Little Creek church. In addition, he served as the pastor of Memorial church at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home for eight years, on a part-time basis. This was during the time that the Revs. J. W. Everton and M. L. Johnson were superintendents.

Mr. Overman has also been actively involved in the work of his denomination. He has served as recording secretary of the North Carolina State Convention for seven years and vice-president for four years; secretary of the Central Conference for six years; and a member of the Central Conference Ordaining Council for four years. At the present he is the vice-president of the State Ministerial Association of Free Will Baptists.

C. H. became the pastor of the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church in April of 1971. He was no stranger to us, having joined our church in the late 1950's. His work at the Free Will Baptist Press had also allowed us to become closely acquainted with him. Because of his life and example, we were drawn closer to Him.

At the time he came to our church, we had been without a regular pastor for five months; therefore, his coming was good, and brought the church into a closer fellowship. As our pastor, he works well with all our people and is a busy person. He gives talks to the various auxiliaries when invited to do so; he has group talk sessions with the youth, encourages our members to attend the various conferences, teaches the young adult Sunday school class, conducts several revivals each year, directs and helps with the choir, and always seeks to give comfort and encouragement to the sick, aged, and bereaved members.

(Continued on Page 15)



SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Scripture Reading—Psalm 109:
1-10

A PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Grant me, O Lord, the strength
today
For every task which comes my
way.
Cover my eyes and make me
blind
To petty faults I should not find.
Open my eyes and let me see
The friend my neighbor tries to
be.
Teach me when duty seems
severe
To see thy purpose shining clear.
Let me at noontime rest content,
The half day bravely lived and
spent.
And when the night slips down,
let me
Unstained and undishonored be;
Grant me to live this one day
through
Up to the best that I can do.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Each of us should make the
best of every day we are given.
Let us pray that God will help us
live each one to its fullest.*

MONDAY, APRIL 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 27

ALL THINGS BEAUTIFUL
All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,

He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by.
The morning and the sunset
That lighteth up the sky.

The tall trees in the greenwood,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them, every one.

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who doeth all things well.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The magnificence of Almighty
God is seen in all His handiwork.
Who among us can doubt Him
when we look at what He has
made?*

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

Scripture Reading—2 Corin-
thians 13:9-14

SWEET COMMUNION

When you awoke from sleep this
morning,
Though the hour was rather late,
Did you stop to speak with Jesus,
And His benediction wait?
Did you thank Him for His
mercy,
For His care through all the night,
That no evil had befallen,
That no tears now dim your
sight?

Did you ask Him for the blessing
Of His presence through the day,
For His leading safely onward,
For His guiding, lest you stray?
Did you tell Him that you'd

gladly
Go wherever He would lead;
That you'd try to do His bidding
Helping every soul in need?

If you go without these blessings
As you start another day,
Be assured your strength will
fail you,
And you'll faint along the way.
Oh, live closer to the Master;
For unless you're very near,
Words of love He whispers to you
Will not reach your listening ear.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*A few minutes spent with the
Lord each morning can make the
day successful. Let no one think
He can live successfully without
Him.*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

Scripture Reading—1 Corin-
thians 16:19-24

WE CLEANED OUR CHURCH!
We cleaned our little church
today,
Wiped all the dust and dirt away
We straightened papers, washed
the floors,
Wiped off the lights and painted
doors.

We brushed the dirt stains from
the books,
And whisked the cobwebs from
the nooks,
We polished windows so we
see,
The newly greening shrub and
tree.

The menfolks, too, raked up the
yard,
They laughed and said it wasn't
hard,
And, oh, it felt so very good,
To have the place look as it
should.

We said, "How wonderfu-
'twould be,
If we cleaned out what we can't
see,"
Such things as grudges, hates
and lies,
And musty thought much worse
than flies.

all would let God's Spirit in,
o cleanse each heart from
soiling sin,
h, then, our church would
really shine,
ur fellowship would be divine!

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Every temple of God should be
cleansed regularly, and that
cludes our body, the temple of
e Holy Spirit. Let's be so
iligent about the inner "us" as
e are about outward ap-
pearances.*

THURSDAY, MAY 1

Scripture Reading—Acts 26:18

A CHRISTIAN

ould I be called a Christian
everybody knew
y secret thoughts and feelings
nd everything I do?
h, could they see the like-
ness
f Christ in me each day,
h, could they hear Him speak-
ing
n every word I say?

ould I be called a Christian
f everyone could know
hat I am found in places
where Jesus would not go?
h, could they hear His echo
n every song I sing
n eating drinking, dressing
ould they see Christ in me?

ould I be called a Christian
I judged by what I read,
y all my recreation,
nd every thought and deed?
ould I be counted Christlike
s I now work and pray,
nselfish, kind, forgiving
o others everyday?

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Being a Christian is serious
business and involves living the
fe every minute of the day. Let
o one be found lacking.*

FRIDAY, MAY 2

Scripture Reading—Proverbs
22

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WHAT GOD DOES

Everything I ever see
Tells me God is good to me;
All the flowers seem to say
He takes care of them each day.

Rivers flowing calm and still
Show us that they do His will;
Birdies in the tops of trees
Praise Him with the greatest
ease.

Skies above so bright and blue
Show us what our God can do;
Oh, a million wonders He
Does which none of us can see!

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Much of God's might is
revealed in nature; more is
reserved for the last day "when
every knee shall bow." Let each
of us be ready for His coming.*

SATURDAY, MAY 3

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23

THAT'S ENOUGH!

A pastor in Norfolk, Virginia,
phoned the editor of religious

news for a paper and gave him
the topic for his Sunday morn-
ing's sermon, "The Lord Is My
Shepherd." The editor asked, "Is
that all?" The pastor replied,
"That's enough." The editor,
thinking that the words were a
part of his subject, announced
the pastor's topic as follows:
"The Lord Is My Shepherd.
That's Enough." To know the
Lord as our protector and
provider is enough to allay all
fears and assuage all our
sorrows.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*With the Lord as our Shepherd
we have everything we could
possibly need. Just as the caring
shepherd looks after his sheep,
so does the Lord look after His
children—and with greater dili-
gence.*

Selected from *Knight's
Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter
B. Knight.

You may use another source
for your Bible reading next week
because there will not be a *Free
Will Baptist*.

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

The economic crunch being what it is prompts all of us to be more conservative, more careful in the handling of personal monies. It is not wrong for us to provide a **reasonable measure** of financial security for ourselves and our families. Where we stop may be an individual matter, but the great truth of the Word exhorts us to lay up our treasures where moth and rust (and sin) don't corrupt.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

Donald Walston announces that he is available for pastoral work. Anyone interested may contact him by writing Donald Walston, P. O. Box 7231, Wilson, North Carolina 27893, or call (919) 235-4986. He is a licensed minister by the Piedmont Conference.

The Rev. Charles W. Sugg is now available for full-time pastoral work. Any church interested may contact him by calling 735-8924 (daytime) or 735-4489 (after 6 p. m.), or write the

Rev. Charles W. Sugg, 1815
Salem Road, Goldsboro, North
Carolina 27530.

The Rev. Robert Rollins an-
nounces that he is available for
pastoral work. Anyone interested
may contact him at Route 7, Box
469, Kinston, North Carolina
28501; phone, 527-2730.

Gethesemane Free Will Baptist
Church, Water Works Road,
Wilson, North Carolina, is in
need of a pastor. If anyone would
be interested, please write Mr.
Carl Pennington, Route 3, Elm
City, North Carolina 27822, call
(919) 291-2483 (at night).



**Revival in Progress
Free Spirit Mission, Wilson**

Revival services are in progress at the Free Spirit Mission, Wilson, North Carolina, April 21-25. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The three speakers for the latter part of the week are as follows: Wednesday, Dean Kennedy; Thursday, Keith Cobb; and Friday, Rudy Owens.

The pastor, the Rev. Dale Albertson, and the church congregation invite the public to attend.

**State Auxiliary Convention
Friendship Church, Farmville**

North Carolina State Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention Fifty-Third Annual Session will convene with the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina, May 8. It is being sponsored by the Central District Auxiliary Convention. The theme will be "For This Cause I Bow My Knees." The Scripture will be taken from Ephesians 3:14. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Advanced Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "O Worship the King"
- Invocation
- "Unto the Father," Mrs. James Joyner, President, Western District
- 10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Frances Carraway, President, Central District
- Response, Mrs. C. I. Godwin, President, Cape Fear District
- 10:20—Greeting, Mrs. Rachel Duncan, State President
- Recognition of Personalities
- Business Session
- 10:40—"Asking Spiritual Blessings Upon Our Youth

- Mrs. David W. Hansley, State Youth Chairman
- 10:50—Life Membership Award, Mrs. Martha Pittman
- 11:15—Morning Worship

- Hymn, "My Saviour's Love"
- Offering
- Special Music, Bethany Trio
- Convention Message, "For This Cause I Bow My Knees," Miss Becky Jo Sumner
- Hymn, "More Love to Thee"

12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Hymn, "Praise Him! Praise Him!"
- "In Thanksgiving for Great Leaders," Mrs. Rod Jones, President, Eastern District
- Special Music, Bethany Trio
- 1:20—Miscellaneous Business
- Report of Committees
- Installation of Officers, Mrs. Carol B. Hansley
- 2:30—Adjournment
- Pianist—Mrs. Rex Wainright
- Organist—Mrs. Tyree Buck
- Song Director—Mrs. William Dale

**Revival Services in Progress
Union Chapel Church**

Revival services are in progress at the Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, through April 25. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Ray Wells is the evangelist. The Rev. Walter D. Parrish is pastor of the church. There will be special singing each night.

April 27 will be homecoming day at the church. Dinner will be served on the grounds. There will be singing in the afternoon. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Upcoming Events at
First Church, Plymouth**

Spring revival services will begin April 28 and will continue through May 2 at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Robert Langley, a former pastor of the church, will be the guest evangelist, with the pastor, the Rev. Floy Burkey, assisting in the services. There will be special music each evening.

May 4 will be homecoming day at the church. The morning message will be preached by the Rev. Robert Langley, with the pastor, the Rev. Floyd Burkey, assisting him. Lunch will be served immediately following the morning worship service.

There will be a song service and a memorial service in the afternoon. Special singers are invited to come and participate.

The pastor and the members of the church invite everyone to come and share in these services.

**Revival in Progress
Marlboro Church**

Revival services are in progress, April 21-25, at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. C. F. Bowen is the evangelist. The Rev. Scott Sowers is the pastor of the church. Special music is being rendered each night. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Wintergreen Church
Has Baptism**

Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, North Carolina, baptized the following souls Easter Sunday night, April 6. They included the following: Dale D. Rouse, Robert C. Brown (pastor's son), Tammy L. Wetherington, Bethany H. Brown (pastor's daughter), Elevia A. McCoy, Eva M. Tart, Linda R. Wetherington, Christi F. Rouse, Melda G. McCoy, Lora Anne

(Continued on Page 15)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

VISITS COLLEGE



The Rev. Marvin Waters and Cathy Moss

The Rev. Marvin Waters, visited the Free Will Baptist Fellowship at Mount Olive College recently to share some of his Christian experiences with the students. Freshman, Cathy Moss, pictured on the right, is a member of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, where Waters pastors. Marvin is a 1973 graduate of Mount Olive.

COLLEGE HALL: A GOAL THAT CAN BE REACHED

Spring Hill Church Shows the Way
W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College

College Hall is the first span in our "Bridge to the Future" to make Mount Olive a four-year college. The estimated cost of this building is \$2.5 million, and the campaign is currently underway to obtain this amount in gifts and pledges payable over a four-year period (1980-84). Our goals by publics are as follows:

\$1,000,000	Free Will Baptists
100,000	Charitable Foundations
500,000	Business and Industry
900,000	Friends of the College
<hr/>	
\$2,500,000	Total

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, Secretary to the Office of the President since 1965, is directing the campaign for College Hall among Free Will Baptists. She began with her church, Spring Hill in Wayne County, which has a total membership of 130 (90 active members).

As of April 14, pledges from Spring Hill church to College Hall are as follows:

\$ 2,500	Church Budget (Payable \$500 annually)
18,775	Individual Members and Families
<hr/>	
\$21,275	Total to Date

These gifts will be over and above the regular support to the College which totaled \$2,532 last year.

The procedure used at Spring Hill was an invitation by the pastor, the Rev. W. (Bill) L. Dale for interested persons to attend a meeting regarding four-year status for Mount Olive College, including a campaign for College Hall. Twelve people attended. Those present were asked to seek God's guidance regarding their commitment to this project, and an agreed upon period of time was set for their response. Others who could not attend were also invited to participate.

Thirteen individual and family pledges were made, and others may be added. These persons have established a definite plan of giving based on the faith that God will enable them to fulfill what He has led them to pledge.

The example of Spring Hill church is not because it is large or wealthy but because of the commitment of its people. It is a church that recognized the importance of Christian higher education in equipping people to serve God. We hasten to express our appreciation to Pastor Dale; Borden F. Howell, Church Chairman for College Hall; and Mrs. Ackiss of the College staff.

If you would like a representative from the College to meet with your church to present information on the four-year goal of Mount Olive College, including College Hall, please write or call Office of the President, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365, telephone (919) 658-2502.

College Hall is possible. Spring Hill church has shown the way!

(Continued on Page 15)

CHILDREN'S HOME

by Stewart Humphrey

QUARTERLY RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT January, February, March 1980

**Total Contributions,
\$40,682.86**

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Free Union	\$ 55.00
Hickory Chapel	260.00
Mount Tabor	259.29
Sunday School Convention	40.47
Union Meeting	68.32
Piney Grove	145.00
Shiloh	38.45
Sidney	97.14
Sound Side	70.00
Union Chapel	182.07
Total	\$1,215.74

BLUE RIDGE CONFERENCE

Cedar Hill	\$40.66
Total	\$40.66

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	\$ 484.75
Catalpa Mission	25.00
Goldsboro, First	35.00
Haymount	102.75
Hopewell	92.16
Johnston Union	383.44
Lee's Chapel	598.94
Palmer Memorial	277.79
Pleasant Grove	400.00
Powhatan	128.63
Robert's Grove	270.00
Saint Mary's Grove	314.55
Saint Paul	300.00
Shady Grove	563.34
Smithfield, First	50.00
Tee's Chapel	50.00
Victory Mission	60.04
Wooten's Chapel	40.30
Yelverton Grove	177.88
Total	\$4,354.57

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	\$ 364.00
Ayden	480.00
Bethany	137.02
Black Jack	165.00
Cedar Grove	100.00
Community	220.25
Daniels Chapel	300.00
Dilda's Grove	313.69
Edgewood	296.15
Elm Grove	660.78
Free Union	414.99
Friendship	922.05
Grimsley	360.00
Gum Swamp	21.51
Greenville, First	330.00
Harrell's Chapel	345.00
Hickory Grove	494.81
Howell Swamp	3.00

Hugo	129.00
King's Cross Roads	553.07
LaGrange	81.75
Marlboro	398.25
Union Number 2	15.41
Union Number 4	66.43
Ormondsville	598.00
Otter's Creek	397.80
Peace	64.00
Reedy Branch	610.36
Roanoke Rapids	5.00
Rocky Mount, First	40.00
Rose Hill	100.00
Rose of Sharon	78.00
Spring Branch	100.00
Sweet Gum Grove	74.58
Tarboro, First	360.00
Williamston, First	191.60
Winterville	695.78
Hull Road	506.00
Total	\$10,993.28

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	\$ 330.00
Arapahoe	293.00
Bethlehem	35.00
Beulaville	40.00
Beaufort Mission	5.00
Bridgeton	104.00
Core Creek	271.88
Crab Point	143.46
Croatan	100.00
Daly's Chapel	60.00
Davis	14.20
Deep Run	432.00
Dublin Grove	235.98
Edwards Chapel	90.00
Folkstone	500.00
Friendship	118.43
Free Union	50.00
Holly Springs	2,701.25
Hillsberry	110.00
Jackson Heights	92.46
Juniper Chapel	480.30
Kinston, First	180.56
Lanier's Chapel	20.00
Macedonia	104.25
Memorial	22.00
Moseley's Creek	120.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	326.00
Union Number 3	50.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday	
School Convention	47.00
Fifth Eastern Conference	68.05
Carteret County Youth	
Fellowship	142.43
Faith Baptist Church	75.00
New Bethlehem	131.25
New Haven	325.14
Northeast	296.52
Oak Grove	25.00
Oriental	36.00
Pearsall Chapel	175.00
Rock of Zion	333.29
Rooty Branch	10.00

Russell's Creek	20
Saints Delight	80
Sarecta	72
Sandy Plain	35
Sneads Ferry	100
Smyrna	135
Sound View	440
Spring Hope	327
St. Mary's	208
Trent	10
Vanceboro, First	10
Wardens Grove	147
Welcome Home	250
Westside	68
Whaley's Chapel	150
White Oak Grove	103
Wintergreen	30
Total	\$10,882

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION

Beaverdam	\$ 525
Cypress Creek	118
Emerson	318
Union Number 1	78
North Carolina Free Will	
Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	115
Oak Grove	225
Total	\$1,380

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Baptist Cathedral	\$ 60
Bethany	45
East Rockingham	100
Hopewell	120
Total	\$325

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE

Roaring Creek	\$122
Total	\$122

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Barnes Hill	\$ 80
Black Jack Grove	438
Branch Chapel	675
Calvary	425
Durham, First	100
Elwood Lane	19
Everett Chapel	171
Flood's Chapel	40
Fremont	11
Free Union	45
Kenly	51
Friendship	100
Little Rock	340
Marsh Swamp	424
Memorial Chapel	300
Micro	210
Milbournie	1,282
Mount Zion (Nash)	711
Western District Youth	
Fellowship	75
Union Number 1	75
Union Number 2	50
First Western Sunday	
School Convention	25
New Sandy Hill	436
Oak Grove	380
People's Chapel	135
Pine Level	281
Piney Grove	125
Pleasant Grove	112
Pleasant Hill	300
Pleasant Plain	137

ins Cross Roads	200.00
ck Springs	60.00
sebud	15.00
ma	50.00
Mary's	844.65
erron Acres	525.00
ring Hill	245.00
ncil's Chapel	338.67
ney Creek	160.00
ny Hill	50.89
inity	25.00
ion Chapel	129.10
ion Grove	243.50
ity	59.00
total	<u>\$10,502.98</u>

HER RELIGIOUS

urch of God	
xiliary	\$100.00
oms Chapel	109.32
lfast Grange	10.00
ite Oak Hill	
ble Class	15.00
total	<u>\$234.32</u>

HER STATES

urel City Sunday School	\$ 80.76
ee Will Baptist	
me Missions	100.00
one County Youth League	50.00
rginia Beach Free	
ll Baptist	250.00
m Ladies Aid	20.00
total	<u>\$500.76</u>

ATEWIDE

ristian Service Fund	<u>\$129.74</u>
total	<u>\$129.74</u>

AREA MEETINGS GOING WELL!

The Children's Home began area meetings the last of March acquaint our people with the challenges in child care in the '80's. At this point, we have had great success with our meetings. Attendance has been good. A brief slide presentation followed by a question and answer period has proved a successful way to enlighten our people concerning the needs of children in the 80's. We encourage all of those who have not attended one of the meetings to try to attend the next one nearest you. The churches listed below will host the remaining area meetings.

After this series of meetings individual churches are invited to have a meeting scheduled in their own church. Personnel at the Home and members of the Board of Directors will be

available to host these meetings. Every effort is being made to reach as many people as possible with the challenges that lay before us as Free Will Baptists in the future. We encourage our people not to miss out on this exciting time of planning and development for our Children's Home. "God's doing a new thing among His people." He's placing even greater challenges before His people in all areas of His kingdom work. He's coming soon and through the ministries of the church, education, retirement, youth, foreign and home missions and in the field of child care, He seeks to make Himself known to the untold millions. If there has ever been a time Free Will Baptists have needed to reach out to the largest number of children possible, it is now!

The remaining area meetings are as follows:

April 24-7:30, Beulaville (Eastern), Beulaville.

April 25-7:30, Winterville (Central), Winterville.

April 28-7:30, Little Rock (Western), Lucama.

April 29-7:30, Wilson, First (Western), Wilson.

May 1-7:30, Tee's Chapel (Cape Fear), Brodgen.

May 2-7:30, Free Union (Central), Walstonburg.

May 5-7:30, Holly Springs (Eastern), Newport.

May 6-7:30, Lee's Chapel (Cape Fear), Dunn.

May 7-7:30, Hickory Chapel (Albemarle), Ahoskie.

May 12-7:30, Shiloh (Albemarle), Pinetown.

May 13-7:30, Sherron Acres (Western), Durham.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Total Memorials, \$1,057

Gifts to the Children's Home totaled \$1,057 during the months of January, February, and March, 1980, and are as follows:

In Memory of

Preston Sasser by Mrs. R. W. Rowe and Children; Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Hare; Men's Bible Class (Pleasant

Grove); Mrs. Kathleen Pipkins; Pleasant Grove; Belfast Grange (Lillian Lewis); and Mr. and Mrs. Gordan Lewis.

Howard Best by Men's Bible Class (Pleasant Grove).

Leonard Parnell by Men's Bible Class (Pleasant Grove).

Gerald Briley by Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Jones and Family; Elm Grove Sunday School Class Number 1; Elm Grove (Shirley Worthington); Stella Worthington; Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Worthington; Mr. and Mrs. Roger Neely; DuPont Beaming Inspection "D" Shift; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gray Briley; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Booth; Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Norris; Mr. and Mrs. Garland Beddard; Mrs. Cynthia Cox; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Vrbetic; Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Burney; Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hill Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. George Roberson Jr.; Elm Grove Auxiliary; Mrs. Pauline Garris; Mrs. Durwood Lawrence; Mr. and Mrs. George Roberson Sr.; Mrs. Elizabeth S. McRoy; Mr. and Mrs. Vance Briley Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sutton; Mr. and Mrs. Horace Becton; Mr. and Mrs. Cleatus Hart; Mr. and Mrs. Guy Mozingo; Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Beddard Jr.; Mrs. J. B. Wingate; Mr. and Mrs. Levi Worthington; Mr. and Mrs. James Garris; Mr. Mrs. W. H. Oakley Jr.; Mrs. Annie Lee Williams; Di Softball Team—DuPont.

Annie Everett Davis by Hickory Chapel.

Paul Edwards by Sound Side.

Zennie Taylor by Sound Side.

Mrs. Lillian O. Banks by Mr. and Mrs. Obed Pate.

Ralph Muse by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Williams Jr.

Blanche Snell by Mrs. Willie S. Johnson.

Mary Moyer Mewborn by LaGrange (Vina Wilson Circle).

J. Rudolph O'Neal by Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Lupton.

Mr. Alfred Lewis by Millie Tyson.

Carlton R. Woolard by William A. Crandell.

Florine Heath by Parthenia Goulding.

Jesse Woodard by Kenly, First Free Will Baptist Church.

Jo Ann Patterson Neslon by Mr. and Mrs. Obed Pate.

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Mrs. Kennie F. McGlohon by Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Copeland.

Mr. Glenn Copeland by Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Copeland.

Clarence and Martha Briley by Selma Ray Briley.

Walter and Catherine Briley by Margaret Briley.

H. Hoke McGlohon by Mrs. Arlene Knox.

S. P. Easley by Gustava Easley.

W. I. Herring by Mrs. Jim Phillips.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For May 4

LIVING IN LOVE

Lesson Text: 1 John 4:7-21

Memory Selection: 1 John 4:7

I. INTRODUCTION

Like many other words that virtually everybody comprehends, love is difficult to define. We use it with respect to our feeling for dill pickles, a cool drink on a hot day, a work of art, and crawling between fresh, clean sheets after an invigorating shower. We speak of it with respect to using all of our senses and satisfying all our appetites. We direct it toward those things we should, and those we should not.

As we speak of "love" in our lesson, we are referring to a deep-seated emotion composed of several ingredients, such as affection, respect, devotion, consideration, and adoration. We must always remember that both the kind and the degree of love will be determined in part by its object. Quite often we are disposed to equate love with a purely emotional sentiment. In truth it is equally composed of those actions that necessarily accompany one's profession of love for another. In other words, if we are in love, we will act like it.

While every individual must be able to show a proper self-respect, John's letter directs our affections toward each other. Essentially he says that the genuine love we show for our fellowmen is evidence that we possess genuine faith.

Apparently the Christians of the first century shared a problem that is still common

today, and they needed the same counsel we require. So John reminded them and us that the love we have received so abundantly from God through His Son is designed for sharing, and sharing His love binds His children together in a sweet and beautiful family. A very distinctive character trait among Christians is their unfeigned, practical love as they care and share.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. (Read the Memory Selection.) In this verse John is making a plea for mutual love—one for another. We will comment on this verse presently. But in order that our lesson may have the greatest impact on our hearts, let us keep John's words in our minds through the entire session.

B. In quoting a friend, Henry Drummond once said, "The greatest thing a man can do for his Heavenly Father is to be kind to some of His other children." This is because God loves all His children and wants them to love each other. Isn't this the way it is with our earthly parents? It grieves them to see us hating one another, but how pleased they are when they discover that we love the ones they love so much.

C. Nothing is harder than to try to be an effective Christian when we have a half-hearted affection toward our brother or sister in Christ. But the one in whom the love of Christ is fully formed finds it easy to love all God's children, whether they be

of his church or of another. This is the fullest meaning of living love for Christ's sake.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. I)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. "God commands us to love Him because He loves us. We are to love our neighbor and even a stranger as we love ourselves.

B. "A home missionary in California had in his assignment area a logging camp. Characterized by alcohol abuse, wife swapping, hard drinking, and fights were the rule. With fear, but backed by much prayer, the missionary drove into the camp area. He was a stranger and a suspect to their eyes.

C. "But one lone Christian mother had prayed for years for just such a stranger. In her cabin they prayed and planned. Within a year the camp was evangelized and completely turned around. The stranger was welcomed by one, and many were saved."

—Bible Expositor and Illuminator

D. If love cannot change circumstances and cause people to accept each other, it is almost useless to try anything else. But love will work if we determine to live in love one with another. But that love must be born of God, planted into our hearts by His grace, and nourished in our spirits by His constant presence. Our love for others is best manifested by our love for Him. As God showed His love for us through His Son, so we can show our love for Him through our fellowman.

E. First John 4 should be called the love chapter; the word love or loved occurs twenty-six times in Verses 7-21. The spirit of mutual love flows from one verse to another until the reader is fully saturated with it, and is then richer for it. It is in that spirit that we should learn to live as God's children.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B)

CHRIST'S CHALLENGE TO THE CHURCHES

Lesson Text: Revelation 1:4-6;
3:14-22

Memory Selection: Revelation
3:20

INTRODUCTION

With this lesson, we open our study of Unit 4, "What God's People May Expect," focusing our attention on the Book of Revelation. Since John declared that this revelation was of things which must shortly come to pass (Revelation 1:1), some insist that these first three chapters, which are set before us for our study in this lesson, must have prophetic significance. To others they appear to be a plain, matter-of-fact survey of conditions in these churches of Asia, together with rebukes, admonitions, and encouragement, such as will be found in any of the epistles of the New Testament. While it is not wise to become too dogmatic about one's own personal opinions as to the interpretation of Revelation, it seems best to take these three chapters just as they are given as letters to these seven churches of Asia, written to rebuke, to instruct, and to comfort. They carry sublime exhortations to the readers of every generation. The Revelation was given for many reasons. It speaks directly to selected congregations of the day, analyzing their strong and weak points, and urging their perseverance in Christ throughout the trials they were facing. It speaks of the certainty of the consummation of God's great plan, and the indescribable beauties God has prepared for His people. It contains stern rebuffs to the complacent, kindly counsel to the troubled, encouragement to the oppressed and suffering, and bright hope for the faithful.

Our three lessons zero in on three magnificent selections. In this lesson we consider the

opening salutation, a masterpiece in itself, and the words of stiff chastisement to the Laodiceans. The second lesson takes us to the very throne room of God for the coronation of His Son. Our final view jumps to the new creation, with a vision of the new heavens and the new earth.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Apostle John was an exile on the Island of Patmos in the Aegean Sea when he wrote Revelation under the power of the Holy Spirit. The terminology of the book is different from any other book in the New Testament, but akin to that of Daniel in the Old Testament. Much of Revelation was written in symbols for a purpose, to confuse enemies of the church, yet because God wants us to know its content, it is understandable as we study it under the Spirit's guidance.

B. The lesson today concerns the seven churches of Asia Minor—real churches started in the first century, but representative of the church through the centuries since its beginning at Pentecost. For the benefit of the serious student we will list the churches as found in 1:11 and state the conditions under which they existed and the church age each is interpreted as representing up to the present time.

C. **Ephesus.** Church of the first love. The Apostolic Church of the first century.

D. **Smyrna.** The persecuted church. From the second century to A. D. 316.

E. **Pergamos.** The church under imperial favor of Rome (persecutions over). From A. D. 316 to about A. D. 500.

F. **Thyatira.** The church during the Dark Ages. From A. D. 500 to about A. D. 1500.

G. **Sardis.** The church of the Reformation (Protestantism). From A. D. 1500 to about A. D. 1700.

H. **Philadelphia.** The true church existing within the professing church. Began with the Puritans about A. D. 1700 and continues today (mainly the evangelical church).

I. **Laodicea.** The rejected church today. Its beginning is uncertain but will continue on into the Great Tribulation as the church of the Final Apostasy.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The remaining three lessons in this quarter form a unit entitled, "What God's People May Expect," and are taken from the Book of Revelation. As suggested by this theme, the lessons have the prophetic note in them, looking ahead to things yet to come. The Lord sounded the keynote of this book when He said to John, "Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter" (Revelation 1:19).

B. The Book of Revelation was written by the Apostle John (writer of the Gospel of John and First, Second, Third John) about A. D. 95 or 96, while an exile on the Island of Patmos. This island lies about twenty-eight miles off the coast of Asia Minor and is located in the Aegean Sea. Here was where the Romans banished their exiles, and tradition tells us that the Emperor Domitian banished John to Patmos from Ephesus in A. D. 95 (Revelation 1:9). It was here, according to tradition, that John died of old age, the only one of the apostles to die a natural death.

C. It is believed that John spent eighteen months on Patmos and during this time received the visions which he recorded in the Book of Revelation. This is the only book of prophecy in the New Testament and is known as apocalyptic literature—the unveiling of God's mysteries of things yet to come.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F. W. B.)

Quarterly Conference Held

by Taylor Hill

by Vance Link



Brother Escobar's ordination service.

The Quarterly Conference for the Mexican churches in the State of Coahuila, Mexico, was scheduled for December 29, 1979. This was a regular meeting of the churches there as they meet every quarter during the year. But yet this meeting was to be a little different. During this time Tabernacle Free Will Baptist Mission was to be organized into a church and its pastor, Brother Toribio Lugo, was to be ordained. On the surface this does not seem to be unusual, but as you look at the story it is not every son who takes part in the ordination of his father. Brother Toribio Lugo is the father of the Reverend Isaias Lugo, pastor of the Gethsemani Free Will Baptist Church in Acuna, Mexico. He came up under the ministry of his son, Isaias. In 1976 he felt the leadership of God in entering the ministry. The church in Acuna, Gethsemani, under the leadership of Brother Isaias, purchased property in another area of the city and a mission was begun in one of the homes in the area under the joint direction of Brother Isaias Lugo and his father, Toribio Lugo. In December, 1976, a building was

erected and the mission was formally organized with Brother Toribio in charge of the services. God blessed during the following years and during the last few months construction has been underway to enlarge the building to about twice its original size.

The conference opened with the usual singing and Scripture readings. Brother Jose Luis, a young ministerial student from Piedras Negras, from the church of Brother Escobar brought a challenging message. After the introductory message, the remainder of the morning was devoted to the organization of the mission and the ordination of Brother Toribio. Brother Timmons who came up to be in the service, along with Brother Escobar and Vance Link, took part in the services. The people crowded in, filling the aisle and standing in the back to observe the touching ceremony as Brother Toribio was ordained. Note in the picture as he kneels for the laying on of hands and prayer of dedication, as Brother Escobar and his son, Brother Isaias Lugo look on.



Left to right: Escobar, Toribio Lugo and Isaias Lugo.

The conference concluded that night with evangelistic services in which several came forward to accept Christ as Saviour.



The Rev. Taylor Hill

There are Christians out there who will pray and give. We Christians have learned that "faith without works is dead." I am both happy and thankful for you who are responding to the needs of this great work, because I know that our Lord keeps His Word. He will be with you and will bless you according to His promise.

I am sorry to hear some people say that they will not support this work, because when they do so, they are simply saying no to Jesus; and it gives me a sad feeling for them. This work is for the cause of our Lord and offers great rewards for those who will take part and help. Thanks again for your prayers and support and congratulations as you reap your rewards from Heaven.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Effective immediately through July 15, the Rev. Harry A. Jones can be reached at telephone number 527-8459 (Kinston).

This has become necessary because of home renovation.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Pastor of the Week

(Continued from Page 5)

He has also taught in the public schools for over ten years.

During the year 1974, the church was painted throughout and new carpet was installed in the sanctuary, the hall, and first floor Sunday school rooms. In 1975 the church yards were landscaped.

In 1977 our church completed a large fellowship hall which includes a kitchen, two rest rooms, utility room, and a large Sunday school room. In August of that year, we honored our pastor and his wife on their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary with a reception in the fellowship hall. A new bulletin board was built in 1978. The most important phase of our church's ministry, however, has been that more than thirty-five new members have been added to our church, either by public confession or by letter of transfer.

The indebtedness on the new fellowship hall was paid off on Homecoming Day, September 23, 1979, just two and a half years after it was completed. The building was dedicated to the glory of God in November.

In the same year that Mr. Overman came to our church (1971) we were all shocked when it was learned that Janice had cancer. She battled this for seven years. She was very stalwart and continued her work as a nurse until her death on February 5, 1978. The last three years of her illness were very trying times for our pastor and his family.

Being in the palm of God's hand, however, Mr. Overman was able to continue to do his work with the church, taking care of Janice's needs, and teaching school. The church members and others helped as best they could during those trying times.

God, knowing and caring for his children, blessed C. H. by bringing into his life a very nice lady, Mrs. Ruby Nicholes Allen

from Farmville, a member of Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church. They were married on December 27, 1978, and came to our church, along with her son, Jeffrey (twelve years old) and her daughter, Tina (nine years old), in January of 1979. Ruby had been a Sunday school teacher in her church, and also an active member of her auxiliary. Jeffrey calls Mr. Overman "Pops," and Tina calls him "Daddy." They refer to Jeanne as "big sister." We have enjoyed working with Ruby, and it is our hope that they will be with us many more years.

My summation of our pastor is simply: He is not a "preacher" preacher, but a gentle, unassuming, well-learned pastor who has definite beliefs, ideas, and feelings which he lives in his everyday life. And to this he adds a "sprinkling" of "dry" wit.

Mount Olive College

(Continued from Page 9)

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of song and testimony at Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church outside Goldsboro, Sunday, April 27, at 7 p. m. The Rev. Bill Dale is pastor.

They will also sing at Wesley Chapel Methodist Church near Spivey's Corner on Sunday morning at 11.

TO PRESENT RECITAL

William B. (Burke) Raper Jr. will present an organ recital, Sunday, April 27, 1980, at 4 p. m., at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 200 North James Street, Goldsboro. The public is cordially invited to the recital.

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 8)

Elliot, Carol A. Jenkins, Hank K. Bland, Karen A. Quinn, Richard

W. Andrews, and Sandra K. Andrews.

Five of these the Lord saved on March 30, when two others also rededicated themselves. Ten of these souls the Lord saved Easter Sunday morning; three others were also rededicated. There is also another soul to be baptized in the near future. The Rev. Bobby Brown is pastor of the church.

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*Div Sch.
E857W*

The Free Will Baptist

It is not too important who needs our understanding ear, but it is important that we be available to listen, to care, to convey our concern for the person and his trouble.



“If You Give Me Your Name and Address”

Recently, in a nearby town, a troubled young man dialed the number of a minister, hoping to have someone to talk to about a pressing problem. The late-night call no doubt startled the minister, who, as duty would have it, insisted that the caller give his name and address.

Reluctant to give out what seemed unnecessary information and what might be used against him later, the caller promptly hung up, leaving the minister somewhat confused as to the real nature of the call and not knowing who had called, or from where.

The minister, in reporting the incident, mentioned that he had asked the name and address of the caller for the very purpose of reporting the call in case of real emergency. This was probably what the caller feared. He didn't want anyone to know who he was—why, can never be known. According to the minister, he seemed desperate. His voice was unsteady and pleading.

One can't help but wonder what would have happened had the minister not insisted on the name and address. Would the caller have felt comfortable to talk out his trouble? To have placed the call in the first place to an apparently unfamiliar minister must have taken courage, and there must have been real need involved to have called so late at night.

Is it not possible that while being so efficient we sometimes negate our helping spirit? Was it absolutely necessary that the minister know the man's name or where he lived or where he was calling from? Couldn't the information have been secured from the young man after he had been able to voice his initial plea? Was it mandatory that the minister get the “facts” before the trouble was aired?

We recognize the reason behind the minister's demand for a name and address. We understand his desire to be thorough. We know he must have felt he could be of more service if he knew to whom he was talking. Perhaps he wanted to break the tension by speaking the person's first name, a technique which is supposed to calm the nerves and ease stress. But in this particular case the minister may never know who the young man was; now he may never have the opportunity to help, for it is doubtful that the same person will feel comfortable to call the same minister again. The threat of “exposure” is probably too great.

In the broader frame of things it is not too important who needs our understanding ear, anyway. The important thing is that we be available to listen, to care, to relate our empathy for the situation, to convey our concern for the person and his trouble.

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Cover Photo by Harold M. Lamb

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May 7, 1980

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Tommy Manning
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



Beauty Eternal

The passing of her beauty—time would not keep;
And, oh, the hurt of it was withal so deep.

Even though Mother physically is gone,
Her love—like God's love—stronger, lingers on.

The special beauty for which she was loved shall be remembered
By all upon whom her love, by nature, was rendered.

This special beauty, though gone from us this day,
Is continually being manifest in many another way:

- In the dazzling sunshine so fair,
- In the refreshing cleanliness of rain-washed air,
- In the blue sky, a perfect backdrop seen,
- For the plants bursting out in tender green,
- In the pink and yellow of happy flowers,
- In the words and deeds of friends of ours.

But the greatest manifestation of His love did fall
Upon His images, her very children all;

Reflected in their lives through smiles, joys, and tears—
A beauty that certain to live in them through coming years.

The beauty uniquely, sublimely maternal,
When blessed of Him—'tis always eternal.

La Vere H. Williamson
Rains Cross Roads FWB Church
Johnston County



By Raye Hawes Troutman

Mrs. Troutman, in writing about a visit with her mother, Mrs. Elba Hawes of Shallotte, North Carolina, speaks sentiments we all must have shared but perhaps have left unsaid.

Let her letter inspire us to voice the feelings of our hearts while our mothers are alive and able to witness our caring.

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

Though I have nothing but bits of scratch paper to use, I want to share my reflections of the moment.

This bus seems slow compared to the fast pace of my mind as I recall the hours of my just-completed eight days' visit with our precious mother. I feel sadness over leaving her, but I also feel gladness for my opportunity of days and nights with her.

During my stay I basked in the deep richness of her love, wisdom, and compassion, so boundless in its scope. I witnessed again the endless resourcefulness, courage, determination, and faith with which she faces life and the severe handicaps of increasing blindness, deafness, arthritis, and other limitations of age. On New Year's Eve I observed with amazement (and tried to keep pace) as she carefully planned and spent a whole day preparing black-eyed peas and other food for a Watch Night service and participated in the church service until pain and fatigue overcame her at 10:30 p. m. What a joy to share that experience of bidding an old year "good-bye" and a new one "welcome" with her.

Among many soul-touching moments with her were those when she talked about her close relationship with God. She recalled vividly how in her early married days she had sought diligently for that complete and "blessed assurance." She shared details of the time she left her baby asleep at Aunt Linnie's, joined Mrs. Ruth Russ for afternoon Sunday school and later stopped at the home of Uncle Bert and Aunt Etta. There in prayer with them she felt the Spirit of God flood her being and she saw a sign of the "blood" which gave her the peace and the assurance she was searching for.

Yet, along with her undaunted courage, her faith in God's power and love, I saw a mother who at 85 is weakened by age—a mother whose world is painfully limited. She can no longer hear running water, singing birds, or low voices of those without patience to help her hear their news, the news of the world. And in her blindness she can no longer see the delicate beauty of our world, the expressions of our eyes, nor the print of her Bible or of other materials available to provide information and satisfaction to her life. How wonderful though that in her heart she has hidden so much of God's Word and that she can identify through the sensitive touch of her hands what she can no longer identify by sight.

I saw a mother who in her aloneness often feels insecure or unsafe. She expressed concern that someone might try to break in at night or that she might fall in the house or yard and not be found for hours.

And I watched our mother feed four cats and seven chickens daily. With her usual joy over productivity and with childlike excitement she would gather her bounty of

two or three eggs and carry them cautiously to the house in her pockets, freeing her hands for her cane and the water bottle. But she does not primarily feed the chickens for their small yield nor the cats to kill rats on the farm. She cares for them because they move with life. They need her and respond positively to her efforts. In her words, "I can talk to them." I witnessed her calling and talking to the cats, making a special effort to see that each one came for his share of food. Alternating between tears and smiles of amusement, I listened to her and the rooster in a round of crowing.

With humility I heard her speak proudly, sweetly, lovingly, and compassionately of her family and of what each does for her. I perceived her keen sensitivity to our needs along with great patience and willingness to do a little within her power and vast foresight to help each one. In the early morn and the quiet bedtime I felt so blessed to hear her soft whisperings, knowing that she was talking to her Heavenly Father with praises while she lifted each of us and all the needy of the world up to Him.

More than ever before I realized how desperately our mother needs what she has freely given and truly earned—shared time, patience, understanding, and a gentle human touch. It is my conviction that each of us should search our hearts and minds with the questions: Am I expressing my love through fulfilling her needs as she perceives them, not as I selfishly or conveniently see them? Could I call or visit more often to break the painful silence of loneliness, deafness, blindness, and insecurity? Do I include her in my twenty-four hour schedule, giving her a special slot of time as I do others, and giving happily, not grudgingly? Do I take time to listen to her wise counsel and the interesting stories of her life which she would enjoy sharing? Do I with kindness try to control my voice to help her hear without causing her to feel emotional pain along with the physical pain of her diseased ears? Don't I have a challenge to lift her spirit as she lifts mine by giving with such a depth of love and unselfishness?

With all my imperfections I am resolved to pray hard for that spirit which would enable me to give my best to one who has sacrificed and continued to give only her best for me. We can never out give her. I hope God will chastise me into redirecting my thoughts and deeds if I do not live up to my resolve and responsibilities. Will you join me in similar resolutions? "The kindness planned for tomorrow doesn't count today."

Mrs. Cozy says our mother is a jewel. We know that. Do we always show it?

God bless each of you and your families in your daily living.

My deepest love
Raye

A LETTER ABOUT MOTHER
TO HER CHILDREN

The Rev. Cleron M. Coats

YELVERTON GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Smithfield, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Cleron M. Coats. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

submitted by the Yelverton Grove Ladies' Auxiliary



The Rev. Cleron M. Coats

The Rev. Cleron M. Coats is a warm, kind, and friendly man dedicated to his calling from God. His life is a Christian example of the sermons that he preaches.

He was born November 26, 1912, to the late James W. and Addie L. Coats. He was reared on a farm in Elevation township and attended schools at Rehoboth in his community, Cleveland, Four Oaks, and Smithfield. At the age of 21, he accepted Jesus Christ as hisaviour. In 1934 Mr. Coats married the former Nora Mae Lancaster. He farmed until 1945 when he left it to go into the grocery business for 5 years.

In 1949 he was called of God to carry the gospel of Jesus Christ. "Preacher" Coats, as he prefers to be called, was licensed by

Lanwood Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. He was received into the Cape Fear Conference in November, 1949. Preacher Coats was ordained on April 29, 1950, at Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church.

During Preacher Coats' ministry he has served twelve churches in four conferences. Those served in the Cape Fear Conference include: Lanwood Chapel, Robert's Grove, Riverside, Powhatan, West Clinton, Johnston Union, Tee's Chapel, and Yelverton Grove. He has served churches in the Western Conference; they include: New Sandy Hill, and Pleasant Hill.

Among other churches he has served is Smith's New Home church in the Eastern Conference, and Watery Branch in the Central Conference.

Preacher Coats has been active in the work of the Cape Fear Conference. He has served 10 years each on the Ordaining Council and the Mission Board. He was moderator of the Cape Fear Union Meeting for 2 years and has served 5 years on the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College.

He is currently serving on the Ordaining Council, the Board of Education and is moderator of the Cape Fear Minister's Association.

Preacher Coats has served his churches well. He has married 150 couples, conducted 468 funerals, and held 125 revivals during his years as a minister.

For the past six and one half years Preacher Coats has

pastored Yelverton Grove church on Route 2, Smithfield, North Carolina. During those years we have learned to love him and his wife dearly. We have seen miracles happen through prayer, and the spiritual life of our church has been strengthened. Our church has prospered much. A fellowship hall has been built and the church sanctuary has been renovated. The church budget for denominational enterprises has increased substantially. Preacher Coats averages 30 visits per week in homes and hospitals. He conducts weekly prayer meetings, is a member of the church choir, and attends monthly auxiliary and youth meetings.

We, the people of Yelverton Grove church, are so very thankful to have this man of God to lead us during these difficult times. Our prayer is that God will continue His many blessings upon him in all that he endeavors to do.

ATTENTION LEAGUERS!

Your study guides for the 1981 Junior and Intermediate Sword Drills of North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues have been mailed to your league director. For state participation the junior ages will be 9-11 and intermediate ages 12-15. I encourage each church to train their youth in the use of the Bible. God bless you!

Margaret Ard

Route 1

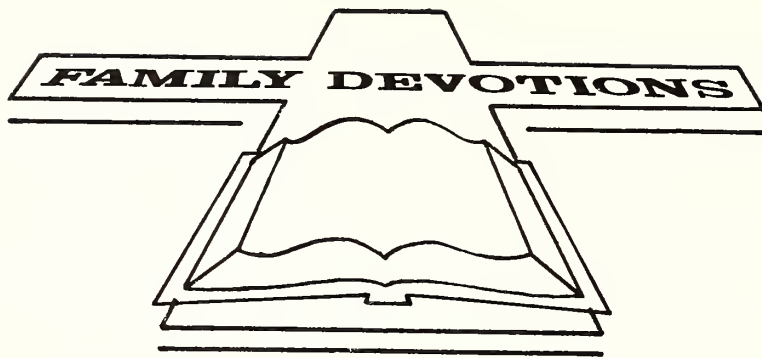
Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572

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NOTICE

The toll-free line at the Free Will Baptist Press was discontinued April 30. Customers are asked to use our regular number, 746-6128.

Have you renewed your Free Will Baptist subscription?



SUNDAY, MAY 11

Scripture Reading—Psalm 133:

1

THE MYSTIC UNION

A dear old saint whom I knew in former years bore the name of Peter. Everyone called him Pete. One day, talking with me, he said: "If God should take me to the very mouth of Hell and say to me, 'In you go, Pete; here's where you belong,' I should say to Him, 'That is true, Lord. I do belong here. But if You make me go to Hell, Your dear Son Jesus Christ must go with me. He and I are one, and You cannot separate us anymore.'" This is called in theology by the not very clear title, "the mystic union." It is of first importance, both to the Atonement and to the new moral life of the Christian.

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we truly belong to Christ we need never fear Hell and eternity apart from Him.

MONDAY, MAY 12

Scripture Reading—Romans 9:

6

GOD'S UNCHANGING WORD

For feelings come and feelings go,

And feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God,
Naught else is worth believing.

Though all my heart should feel
condemned
For want of some sweet token,

6

There is One greater than my
heart

Whose Word cannot be broken.

I'll trust in God's unchanging
Word

Till soul and body sever;

For, though all things shall pass
away,

His Word shall stand forever.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's Word is sure and unchanging. It will stand forever and will always be man's guide to God and Heaven.

TUESDAY, MAY 13

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 6:
5; 11:3

PROVING THAT LUKE WAS RIGHT

Some years ago a little group of free-thinkers in Scotland decided on a plan whereby they might show up the inaccuracies of Scripture and so cause the people to realize, as they put it, that the Bible was not really the Word of God. One member was given the task of going to Asia Minor and southern Europe and the islands of the Mediterranean, and visiting all the places mentioned by Luke in connection with Paul's journeys. It was hoped that he would be able to unearth so much information as would make evident the falsity of Luke's record, that many who had pinned their faith to the Book of Acts as a part of God's inspired Word would have to give it up. The young man chosen was Sir William Ramsay. He investigated very carefully, and

after the most minute examinations concluded that Luke was absolutely accurate in every particular; and he himself, once a freethinker, became a Christian, and has written some splendid books in defense of the Word of God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

A thorough examination of the Word proves it to be accurate. No serious person can study it without being affected. Scoffers have examined it critically and have had their lives changed by it.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Scripture Reading—Revelation
19:3

WHEN GOD LET IT ALONE

Someone remarked to a farmer who was very proud of his growing oats, "That is a fine field of oats!" "Yes," said the farmer, "if God Almighty lets it alone, it ought to be a bumper crop." The crop immediately stopped growing. God withdrew the rain and elements that would have made it a luxuriant crop, and it withered and died. Something like this can happen to us unless we have a greater sense of dependence upon God. Too many feel they can get along better without God than with Him, and so God, the Bible, the church, and religion are discarded. But if God lets us alone, like the oats, we will perish.

PRAYER THOUGHT

If God really let us alone, left us to fend for ourselves, we would be in a sad state of affairs. Let us thank Him for His daily love and care.

THURSDAY, MAY 15

Scripture Reading—Matthew 7:
24

MEASURE OF A MAN
Not, how did he die?

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

But, how did he live?
Not, what did he gain?
But, what did he give?

These are the merits
To measure the worth
Of a man as a man,
Regardless of birth.

Not, what was his station?
But, had he a heart?
And how did he play
His God-given part?

Was he ever ready
With word of good cheer
To bring a smile,
To banish a tear?

Not, what was his church?
Nor, what was his creed?
But had he befriended
Those really in need?

Not, what did the sketch
In the newspaper say?
But, how many were sorry
When he passed away?

PRAYER THOUGHT

The way one lives is the real measure of what he is worth when he dies. Let no one place the wrong value on a person—value measured in money or prestige.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

Scripture Reading—Colossians 1:18

THE PERFECT CHURCH

I think that I shall never see
A Church that's all it ought to be:
A Church whose members never stray
Beyond the Strait and Narrow Way;
A Church that has no empty pews,
Whose Pastor never has the blues,
A Church whose Deacons always deak,
And none is proud, and all are meek;
Where gossips never peddle lies,
Or make complaints or criticize;

Where all are always sweet and kind,
And all to others' faults are blind.
Such perfect Churches there may be,
But none of them are known to me.
But still, we'll work, and pray and plan
To make our own the best we can.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Make your own church a better church by seeking a closer, more favorable relationship for yourself with God. Churches are only as good, or as perfect, as their members.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Scripture Reading—John 9:38

FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM!

What has stripped the seeming beauty
From these idols of the earth?
Not the sense of right or duty,
But the sight of nobler worth.

Not the crashing of those idols,
With its bitter pain and smart,
But the beaming of His beauty,
The unveiling of His heart.

'Tis the look that melted Peter,
'Tis the face that Stephen saw,
'Tis the heart that wept with Mary,
Can alone from idols draw.

Draw and win and fill completely
Till the cup o'erflow the brim;
What have we to do with idols
Who have companied with Him?

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christ stands above all. Compared to Him all idols, all objects of man's worship are nothing. Let us say with assured faith, "The Lord we serve and worship is the living God!"

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. W. H. Willis announces that he now has a change of address. His new address is 1121 Dunn Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501. His old address was P. O. Box 314, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Gordon Massey announces that he is available for full-time or part-time pastoral work. He may be contacted at Route 3, Box 39, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580; phone 747-2694.

The Rev. Bass M. Mitchell announces that he is available for part-time or interim pastoral supply work. He may be contacted by writing Bass M. Mitchell, 2206 Guess Road, Durham, North Carolina 27705; or call 286-4744.

Home Missions Banquet

Saturday, May 24, at 12, is the time set for our annual State Home Missions and Church Extension Banquet. We would like very much for all interested people to come and be a part and especially our conference mission board members and self-supporting missions and young churches throughout the state. It would help in our planning if participants would contact Taylor Hill, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305; phone 485-3980, but not a requirement.

Food will be served family style at \$5.50 per person. The location is the Barbeque Lodge on Highway 95 near the Cape Fear River Bridge in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

If you have a special interest in Home Missions and Church Extension, this will be a perfect opportunity for you to get acquainted with those who are serving in this field of service. Please come.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

RECORDS PRESENTED



Lillie Mae Sasser and Gary Barefoot

Records of the Anna Phillips Loan Fund were placed in the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection at Mount Olive College. Lillie Mae Sasser, left, from Stoney Creek church, who has been chairman/treasurer for several years, reviews the materials with Gary Barefoot, Mount Olive College Librarian. The Loan Fund has been established as an endowment fund in which any Free Will Baptist student may borrow funds to attend the college of his or her choice.

25TH COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULED

The public is cordially invited to attend the 25th Annual Commencement Exercises at Mount Olive College, Friday, May 9, at 5:30 p. m., on the Moyer Library Lawn. A reception will follow.

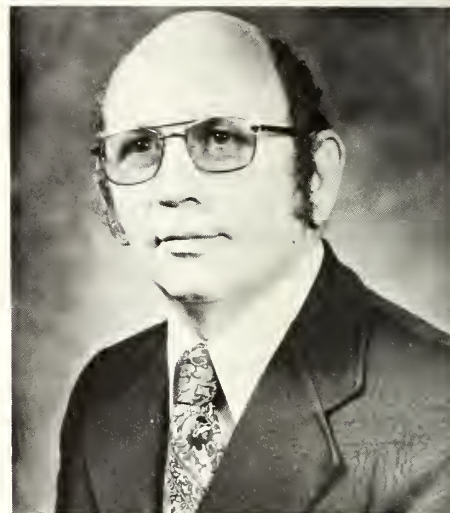
Henderson Belk, President of Henderson Belk Enterprises in Charlotte, will address the approximately 100 graduates receiving associate degrees.

Belk, whose father founded the Belk organization consisting of about four hundred retail department stores, is vice-

president and director, and president of Belk-Lindsay Stores in Florida.

A Duke University graduate, Belk holds an honorary Doctor of Law degree from Steed College. He is also active in several civic and Christian-oriented organizations.

HANSLEY TO PREACH COMMENCEMENT SERMON



The Rev. David Charles Hansley, President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

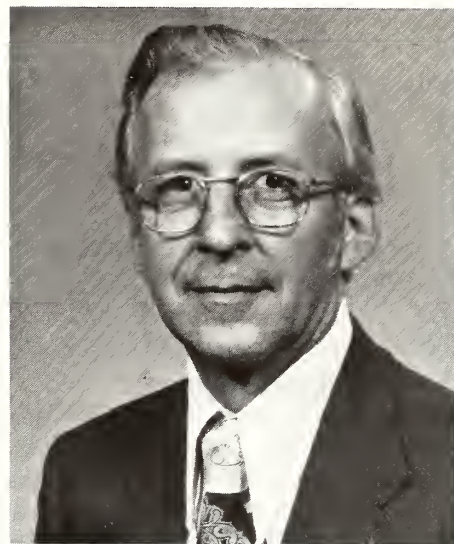
The Rev. David Charles Hansley, President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, will preach the 1980 Mount Olive College Commencement worship sermon on Sunday evening, May 4, at 8 p. m., in Rodgers Chapel. The public is cordially invited to attend.

An alumnus of Mount Olive, Hansley also served as Special Assistant to the President before accepting the pastorate of Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson. He is married to the former Sylvia Clements, also a Mount Olive College alumna. They have two children.

SUMMER CLASSES AT MOUNT OLIVE

Summer school at Mount Olive College will be in three three-week terms which allow a

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



Erwin H. Plumer

On Saturday, May 17, 1980, we will celebrate our annual Founder's Day at the Children's Home. We will begin the day at 10:30 a. m. with services in Memorial Chapel. Our children will be singing and members of our staff will offer special music. The speaker for the day will be Erwin H. Plumer of the Group Child Care Consultant Services. Mr. Plumer has served as consultant to children's homes throughout the United States. He has been a former Children's Home administrator, Social Work supervisor in a five-county area, caseworker, and pastor in the United Methodist Church. He holds the M. S. S. S. degree from Boston University. Mr. Plumer has also written numerous manuals, monographs, and papers for child care workers, including a book entitled, **THE RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE WORKER**. Mr. Plumer will address the topic, **Why Churches Need to Continue to Offer Child Care in Today's World**.

Following the services we will have lunch on the grounds. Bring a picnic lunch. The Home will provide barbecue, slaw, bread and drinks. Plan to bring a large group from your church and tour the campus in the afternoon. Weather permitting, we will have some singing outside in the afternoon.

Unwanted pregnancies, failure in school, trouble with the law and numerous other problems are common among today's youth. So common, in fact, that the children needing care outside their own home in the next decade will most likely be teenagers. Child care workers are finding that the majority of today's youth want and would appreciate a homelife that offers structure and limit setting. Teenagers want their freedom, but they want adult models who give them that freedom in measured amounts.

Our Children's Home offers teenagers who are separated from their families that kind of environment. Many youths will need this kind of care during the next decade.

We challenged our people to help meet the needs of these youth by giving \$9.75 per member. If only 28,175 of our people would reach our challenge we would be able to continue to provide quality, Christian child care for every child who comes to us for care. So far this year our churches have contributed \$118,217 to the Home. This means that about 43 percent of our people have given their \$9.75 in support to the Home so far this year. Plan to make your gift during May. Encourage your church to reach and exceed its goal of \$9.75 per member. As new programs and services are needed to meet the needs of today's child, it will be imperative that we keep on giving at budgeted levels.

Last year we cared for more than 65 children. We will likely care for that many again this year. They are depending on you!

Set up a Children's Home Day in your church. Mother's Day is a good day to highlight the Children's Home. Receive an offering and bring it to Founder's Day Services or mail it to the Home. Help us make this the best May ever!

student concentrated effort in one subject. Dormitory rooms are available.

Term A begins Monday, May 19; Term B begins June 13; and Term C begins July 7.

Night courses will also be offered with classes meeting two nights per week from May 19 to July 17. On Monday and Wednesday evenings College Algebra, English Literature, and Typewriting will be offered from 7-10 p. m.

On Tuesday and Thursday evenings Introduction to Psychology, Public Speaking, English Composition, and Economics will be offered from 7-10 p. m.

Attention—Rising Seniors

A joint enrollment program is open to rising high school seniors with a B+ average or higher. In this program, students enroll in the College's summer school taking courses that will not conflict with their high school program. In the fall, they can remain jointly enrolled at the College while attending their high school classes or, after graduation, return to college to continue credits toward an early completion of their degree.

For more information, contact the Admissions Office at 658-2502.

Continued on Page 11

News from

Children's Home

Submitted by Stewart Humphrey

MAY IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH

Teenagers need a home, too! Parents these days seem to be in a big hurry for their children to grow up. Consequently, many young teenagers are faced with freedoms they are not yet prepared to deal with.

“HERE AM I, SEND ME”

by Vance Link

(The following is the story of the salvation, ministerial calling, and the ministry of Escobar as pastor of the Emanuel El Salvador Free Will Baptist Church in Piedras Negras, Mexico, as told to missionary Vance Link. Brother Escobar also serves as the Field Director in Coahuila, Mexico.)

The Conversion

Brother Antonio Escobar was born on July 2, 1942, in Nava, Mexico. Nava is a small village approximately fifteen miles from Piedras Negras. During his teens, Antonio had no thoughts about God. He started using drugs and alcohol during his mid-teens. During 1958, Brother Escobar suffered an accident while at work. His leg was broken in several places. As the pain pierced his body, little did he realize that this was just the beginning of a long and painful ten years—but a ten-year period that would ultimately bring him to Christ. During the next ten years, Antonio was in and out of the hospital. He spent some 90 percent of this time in the hospitals in Piedras Negras, Saltillo, and Monclova. Toward the end of this time it began to look as if he would lose his leg and never walk again.

It was during 1968 that Brother Escobar really began to realize his need of Christ and of salvation. As a teenager, he had lived his life without regard for God. As he looked back over his life and saw how it had been wasted, he questioned in his mind that God would want anything to do with him. But the Holy Spirit helped him to see that God did love him, that Christ died for him, and if he would but open up his life to Christ, He would forgive all the past, and really start all over again. Antonio bowed his head and asked Christ to come into his life, to forgive him of his sins, and to be his Saviour. God not only saved him, He also healed

him. The leg did not have to be amputated. God worked a miracle in his life and today he walks with only a slight limp. Praise God that He is the answer to every problem.

The Ministerial Call

Brother Escobar followed the Lord in baptism in 1969 in Nava, the little village in which he was born. It was also during this year that he felt the calling of God into the ministry. He began to study with the Free Will Baptist Bible study program in Quemado, Texas. In June, 1969, he began to preach in a home in Nava in the afternoons while conducting Sunday school classes in Piedras Negras for some six months. In 1970, he began with the mission in Piedras Negras with just a handful of people. Two former missions, Emanuel and El Salvador, that had dwindled almost to nothing, were combined, forming the new mission, Emanuel El Salvador. God began to bless the efforts there and they purchased land and in 1972 began to build. They have been in a continuous building program ever since that time. They built the present church during the next three years in three stages, adding a part each year. They would extend the walls and roof and move the wooden petition down.

Finally in 1975 they finished the building. In 1976 they built a parsonage beside the church. In 1977, they put tile on the floor, the ceiling in, and windows in the church. In 1978, they added two classrooms on the back of the building. Then in 1979, they finished the outside (stucco) and painted the church, completing it.

God has been good to them during these years as a number of people have come to trust Christ as their Saviour under the ministry of this church. During this past year, there have been some forty to trust Christ as Saviour.



Emanuel El Salvador Free Will Baptist Church, Piedras Negras, Mexico

The Ministry Extended

In January of 1979, they decided to extend the church ministry into another area of the city, El Mundo Nuevo. During this past year, God has given them some twenty-five to accept Christ in this mission. During the month of December, while they were having a service on Saturday night, a man some four blocks away, who had stumbled home in a drunken condition, lay across his bed trying to sleep. He

“Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me” (Isaiah 6:8).

Mount Olive College

DR. RAPER AT SAINT PAUL CHURCH

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will preach for Christian Education Day on Sunday, May 11, at Saint Paul Free Will Baptist Church near Newton Grove. He will also teach the combined Sunday school classes at 10 a. m.

The Rev. Felton Godwin is pastor.

March when the weather turns warm.

God has blessed the ministry of this church in calling out men to work in His service. Brother Israel Gonzalez, pastor in Allende, is a product of this church. Jose Luis and Juan Martinez are presently studying and working with the church and mission.



The Rev. Antonio Escobar, Pastor

The Outreach

Brother Escobar works with us as our Field Director in Coahuila, Mexico, visiting with me monthly in the churches and missions. In between these monthly visits he goes to encourage the men and help them in any way that he can. Their future plans in Piedras call for the erection of a two-story building to house their Sunday school department. Join us in prayer as we pray for this man of God as he labors here in this area of service.

*The Board of Trustees, Faculty
and Graduating Class of
Mount Olive College
request the honor of your presence
at the
Twenty-fifth Commencement
Exercises
Friday, May 9
Nineteen hundred and eighty
at half past five o'clock
Moye Library Lawn*

Coming Events. . .

May—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month

May 8—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 1 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

May 8—State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Central District, Host

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

The minister admitted that on this occasion he shouldn't have insisted on personal information. He missed the opportunity of really helping someone in a crisis situation. No one can know what happened to the caller. For fear of the same questions he may not have called another minister. He may have gone out into the night more troubled and more alone, never to find the help he sought for the moment.

Let us be careful not to place restrictions on our aid. "I'll talk to you if . . ." could prove too intimidating to a troubled soul.

was unable to do so because of that "noise" coming from down the street. After a few minutes, he decided to go and investigate and see what he could do about the noise. He stumbled down the street and traced the sound to a house. As he leaned against the house for a moment to get his balance, the Word of God stopped him in his tracks. He listened as the preacher told how the devil was out to destroy people, that the devil's only desire was to rob you of everything decent and eventually to drag you into Hell. The preacher went on to say that God loved you, and Christ had died to save you from the penalty of sin, and free you from the habits and sin that enslaved you. He began to listen intently and when the service ended, he asked more about this Christ. He was gloriously saved and then shortly brought his entire family across town to Brother Escobar's church, and they too turned to Christ.

We were in the quarterly conference meeting in December, in Acuna, Mexico when Brother Escobar whispered to me, "See the young man playing the guitar." "Yes" I answered. He continued, "About three weeks ago, he was walking down the street and heard the service in El Mundo Nuevo. He doesn't look now like he did then! His hair was long and he had a full beard. He listened to the Word of God and came forward to accept Christ. He cleaned up his life and then volunteered his talents to the Lord."

Inwardly my heart sang praises to our Lord. God is still busy transforming the lives of men, women, boys and girls as they place their trust in Him. During this past month in the mother church, they averaged some sixty to seventy adults plus the children in their services. In the mission in El Mundo Nuevo, they are averaging twenty to thirty adults in addition to the children attending the services. They have ten to baptize in

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For May 18

WORTHY TO BE WORSHIPED

Lesson Text: Revelation 5:11-14;
7:9-14

Memory Selection: Revelation
4:11

I. INTRODUCTION

Last Lord's Day, our study concluded with the message of Jesus Christ to the church at Laodicea in Chapter 3. In the following chapter John describes his vision of the throne of God. The apostle is invited inside a great door as he is told he will be shown many things yet to come to pass.

Then the full view opens before him. God is seated upon a brilliant throne, surrounded by a rainbow, and attended by twenty-four elders who, with four living beings, join together to glorify God in a stirring hymn of praise. He is praised because He is the Creator of all things.

Opening the fifth chapter, John tells of seeing a book in the hand of Him who sits on the throne, a book sealed seven times. A resounding question is asked throughout Heaven: "Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?" When none is found, great grief comes upon John until he is informed of the presence of the worthy Lamb of God. His introduction evokes a moving response from the elders and living beings that surround the throne. They blend their voices in song as the Lamb comes and takes the book out of the right hand of Him who sits upon the throne. At this point, our Scripture text begins.
—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The word "worship" is from the Anglo-Saxon words **weorth** (worth) and **scipe** (ship, condition), together forming the word "worth-ship," meaning worthiness, repute, respect. That brings the question, who is worthy? And another, what qualifies one to be worshiped? Here are five things that qualify such a person:

1. Sinless perfection.
2. Absolute divinity (or deity).
3. Unqualified compassion for others.
4. Universal and divine love for all the world.
5. The vicarious sacrifice of self for man's sins.

B. Do you know of any person on earth who meets these five basic qualifications? (There are others which may be added, but these will suffice.) Do you know of anyone in Heaven who meets them? Yes, there is One—the Lord Jesus Christ. (God and the Holy Spirit are also worthy of worship, but only Jesus met all five of these qualifications.)

C. He is sinless and perfect; no sin has ever been in His life, either in word, thought, or deed. He is absolutely divine, for He was God himself, and all the Godhead was found in Him (Colossians 2:9). (See also John 1:14.) He has unqualified compassion for all. His love for man is universal and completely divine in nature. He alone gave His life—we could not save ourselves—for our sins, bearing them in His body on the tree. "Who his own self bare our sins in his body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live

unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed" (1 Peter 2:24). (See also Isaiah 53:4, 5, 6, 12.) This is the One we look at this morning who is worthy to be worshiped.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Our lesson today takes us to the scene in Heaven when John received his first visions, having been caught up into Heaven by the Holy Spirit (Revelation 4:1, 2). These visions included God upon His throne, the twenty-four elders, the sea of glass, the four living creatures, the seven-sealed book which only Jesus could open, and the twenty-four elders as they sang "a new song" of redemption (5:9).

B. There would be many, many visions to follow these introductory ones, some so terrible as to defy adequate description. These would come as John received the panoramic view of the events to occur during the Great Tribulation. But here in the opening chapters of his book, the Revelation of Jesus Christ, our Saviour stands out in all His glory. He is at the center of things He is no longer an arrested, harassed prisoner before some dissipated Roman governor, no longer branded as a common criminal to be crucified between two malefactors, no longer the One whom the bands of time held firm in their grasp—He is now the glorified, exalted, perfect, Son of God in His rightful place upon the throne of Heaven.

C. He is the center of the worshiping hosts of Heaven, only to Him may their praise rise, only to Him may they bow. He alone is worthy of worship. He is Christ, the Son of the living God; yea, He is God himself, and beside Him there is none other. Perhaps today we shall see Him as John saw Him that day so long ago.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F. W. B.)

Woman's Auxiliary

TRIBUTE IS PAID

by Ed Taylor

The Cape Fear Union Meeting began a program last year to recognize the laity of the Union who had made contributions over the years in service to God and the Free Will Baptist denomination. Mrs. Dola Hinson Dudley received this recognition at the March Union Meeting at Steven's Chapel church near Benson. The following tribute was paid by Mrs. Ruth L. Warrick.



Mrs. Dola Hinson Dudley receives plaque.

In the year 1920 in the community of Spivey's Corner there lived a couple, Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Hinson, who were members of Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church. On May 30 of that year a daughter was born to them. At an early age this young lady was converted and dedicated her life to the Lord. She became an active member of the church and held her first position as President of the Free Will Baptist League in the Junior Department. Since that time she has become an example of Matthew 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Born into a Free Will Baptist home, she has proven her love to our denomination, its

doctrine, and the cause for which it stands.

She has taught Sunday school in Free Will Baptist churches for more than 35 consecutive years. Her church membership is with Palmer Memorial church. She is church clerk and teaches the Bible class in the Sunday school and serves as program chairman in the woman's auxiliary.

Her work with Home Missions includes West Clinton in the early 1940's, Community Chapel at Bues Creek, and Palmer Memorial church. She has served as Mission Chairman for the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention for the past twelve years. She was instrumental in providing "The Cragmont Courier," a boat for the Kings to use in the Philippines, and a van for the Fred Bakers when they joined the Kings there. Under her leadership as President of the State Auxiliary Convention a car was purchased for the Joe Barrows to use in Rhodesia.

She was one of the first two women to be elected to the Board of Trustees at Mount Olive College and served for two terms. She has served on the steering committee for the College Benefit Dinners practically every year since they began.

Mrs. Dudley served as President of the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention for eight years, being elected at two intervals. She served as Field Secretary for the convention for four years and is currently serving as Mission Chairman. She is Chairman of Literature for the convention and has written many articles for the program book "Devotion." In 1971 "Devotion" was dedicated to her and in 1972 she was Editor of the book. She serves as Director of Cragmont Woman's Conference which is sponsored by the State Auxiliary Convention, a program she has been active in since 1950. She has organized at least a dozen Woman's and Youth Auxiliaries over the State of North Carolina, a number of them in our own

conference district including her local church.

In the Cape Fear District Auxiliary she has served as president for six years, this was at two intervals, Study Course Chairman for a number of years and is currently serving as Field Secretary. She has served as clerk of the Cape Fear Conference and on the Executive Board. For twenty-five consecutive years she served on the Board of Education of the Conference, many of these years as secretary of the board. She has held the office of assistant secretary of the Cape Fear Union Meeting and now serves as the Union's secretary.

For many years she worked as counselor for youth conferences at Cragmont Assembly. In all her work her foremost thought has been to win others to Christ. She is often seen going to the altar with her Bible to counsel with someone who has a need in his or her life.

Mrs. Dudley has been active in the General Conference since its beginning and has served as Treasurer of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Conference since it was organized.

In the interest of our mission program she has visited our churches in Mexico and through slides has shared her experiences there and in the Holy Land.

She has driven many miles, served in many positions, and given much of her time to our denomination. We are happy to honor Dola Dudley today and to recognize her as a true, faithful and dedicated Christian, and as a Free Will Baptist. It has been a privilege to have known and worked with her through the years.

The union moderator and a former pastor, the Rev. Ed Taylor, declared March 29, 1980 "Dola Dudley Day" and presented her a plaque on behalf of the Cape Fear Union Meeting. Mrs. Dudley received a standing ovation from the congregation.

(Photo by David Matthews)



IN MEMORIAM PAUL STEPPS

Revival in Progress Core Point Chapel Church

Core Point Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Core Point, is having its spring revival through Saturday night, May 10, with the Rev. Bobby Cayton as the evangelist. Services begin at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. James Langston invites friends and members to come and fellowship together. Special singing is held each night. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Barnes Hill Church Announces Revival

Spring weekend revival services will be held at Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Nashville, North Carolina, May 8, 9, and 10. The services will begin at 7:30 p. m. with the Rev. Robert Langley of Stony Hill Free Will Baptist Church as guest speaker. The pastor, the Rev. Edgar A. Benton, and the church congregation invite the public to attend.

Laymen's League Fellowship Spring Singspiration

The Layman's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will be having its spring singspiration on May 9 and 10. Everyone is invited to attend these enjoyable and inspiring music services. There is no admission but a freewill offering will be received for Home Missions, so please be prepared. The program is as follows:

On Friday, May 9, the singspiration will be held at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church at 7:30 p. m. The following singers will be featured: The King's Cross Roads Singers, Greenville Singers, Charles Watson and Cathy Herring, The Tarboro Men's Quartet, Free Union Singers, the

Rev. O. B. Jones, Bethany Singers, Spring Branch Singers, the Ormondsville Singers, and the Chargers.

On Saturday, May 10, the singspiration will be held at the Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Pitt County, at 7:30 p. m. The following singers will be featured: The Rose Hill Singers, the Gospalaires, the Elm Grove Choir, the Heavenly Visions, The Piney Grove Singers, the Williamston Singers, Betsy Holly, the Messengers, Debra Gladson, Soul Seekers, the Friendship Singers, and the Psalm's Quartet.

Ayden Seminary - Eureka College Meeting to Be Held

The Annual Meeting of Ayden Seminary and Eureka College Alumni will be held at Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, on Wednesday, May 14, at 10 a. m. Dr. Leonard Earl Harris is president of the association. All interested persons are urged to be in attendance and descendants of the alumni especially are invited. There will be a Dutch-style luncheon at Bum's Restaurant.

Revival Services in Progress Johnston Union Church

Revival services are being held through May 9 at Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Clayton. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez, pastor of Rains Cross Roads church, is the evangelist. The Rev. Mike Scott, pastor, invites everyone to attend the remainder of the services.

MAY IS
CHILDREN'S HOME
MONTH

On April 3, 1980, God saw fit to receive His faithful servant, Paul Stepps, into eternity. He died at Pitt Memorial Hospital after a week of fighting pneumonia and other complications.

Seventy-nine-year-old Mr. Stepps was a retired farmer and life-long resident of Greene County. He married his beloved wife, Captolia Cobb Stepps, in 1925. They had three daughters, and later eleven grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

Mr. Stepps was a dedicated member of Friendship Free Will Baptist Church for over fifty years. He attended most church meetings and activities until the last few years of failing health.

Funeral services for Mr. Stepps were held on Saturday, April 5, at 3:30 p. m. The Rev. Walter Reynolds held the service at the Church Street Chapel of the Farmville Funeral Home. The Friendship church men's chorus sang, "In the Garden," and "What a Friend," accompanied by Susan Parker Thompson, organist.

Interment followed at Crestlawn Memorial Gardens near Farmville. Surely "Pa" is talking to the angels in Heaven, in his loving, humble manner - about the Lord.

NOTICE

The Western Conference Board of Ordination will meet on Friday, May 16, at 10 a. m., at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, North Carolina. Those wishing to be examined for license, to be cleared to pastor in the Western Conference or to set up a time for the examination for ordination are asked to come to this meeting.

De Wayne Eakes
Secretary

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WOMAN'S CONFERENCE Camp Vandemere

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“Happiness Is” . . . is the theme for the 1980 Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere. The theme verse is Psalm 16:11, “Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore.” The theme song is “In the Service of the King.”

The week of June 16-20 is going to be a wonderful time of Christian fellowship, Bible study, crafts, and recreation at Camp Vandemere as women (some bring their husbands along) for the annual conference. Happy Taylor will be camp director, assisted by Nina Grace Register, Annie Belle Hines, and the Rev. and Mrs. Willis Stilley.

Come for the entire week. Register now with a \$5 registration fee with a balance of \$30 to be paid on arrival at camp. Check in at 10 a. m. Monday, June 16, and check out at 10 a. m., Friday, June 20.

If you cannot stay the entire week, come for part of the week, or a day. But let us know when you are coming, so we and the kitchen staff can prepare for you.

Don't forget! Select your Woman of the Year and send her to Camp Vandemere. Mail a brief summary of her qualifications before June 1. Monday at Camp (June 16) will be “Woman of the Year Day.” Be sure yours is there!

We invite you to visit us during our conference and see what the camp is really like. Support the conference with your prayers and attendance. Continue to pray for the success of God's work at Camp Vandemere.

Mrs. John Taylor
Director-Registrar
Route 1, Box 187

Deep Run, North Carolina 28525
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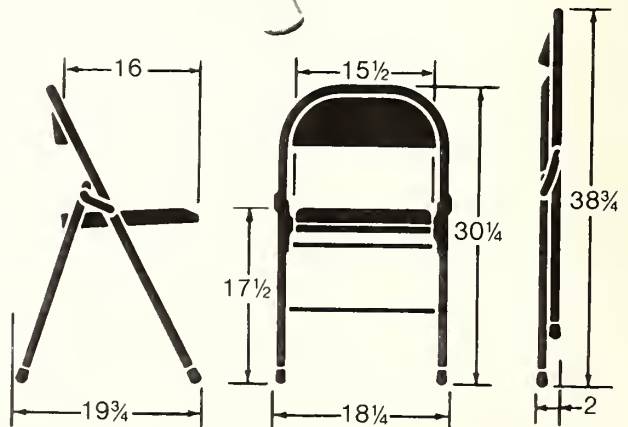
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The Free Will Baptist



**AS SERIOUS AS LYING IS,
THE CHRISTIAN IS SOMETIMES TEMPTED
TO MISREPRESENT FACTS
TO MAKE THINGS FAVORABLE
FOR HIMSELF.
BUT LYING CANNOT BE
A PART OF CHRISTIAN
BEHAVIOR.**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial

A LIE IS A LIE—NO MATTER HOW SMALL!

It is unlikely that any Christian would intentionally tell an untruth. It is out of Christian principle and character to lie, to misrepresent facts, or to cast doubt upon something held as truth. But the Christian is certainly not immune from temptations to make things favorable for himself, and in doing so may resort to falsehoods.

Some people will attempt to lie themselves out of any situation, and if skillful, they can. There are those who actually take pride in such "expertise." Lying for some is a well-practiced art which becomes second nature if not a matter of course.

Psychologists speak of psychopathic or compulsive liars who, at the moment of the telling, are not able to control what they are doing. The person who is not able to discern fact from fiction or truth from untruth can be dangerous, not only to himself but also to others.

A white lie (so-called) has traditionally been accepted as not too terrible. Many respectable, even Christian, people have been known to tell a little one to save face, or to alter the appearance of a particular situation, or to ease the stress of the moment, or to avoid possible embarrassment. Still, any lie, however seemingly harmless, is a misrepresentation of truth, an alteration of fact. And no sensibly moral person should practice or accept the practice of lying—for any reason.

The Lord has His opinion of liars and has expressed His displeasure numerous times in the Bible. Not a single liar in scriptural reference ever got away with the falsehood. There were prices to be paid, and they were paid. The relating of false facts was then, and is now, a serious offense which does not go unnoticed, nor unpunished.

I remember my father's personal intolerance of lying. He often cited an old saying (which was perhaps a paraphrasing of Scripture found in Matthew 5:22) which went like this: "He who calls his brother or sister a fool or a lie is in danger of hell fire." His admonishment seemed so authoritative that those of us under his guidance took it as "gospel." The truth of it was relevant in any case.

Dealing in lies, or with liars, is serious and perilous business. If anyone is so inclined he should take note of the exhortation of our Lord in Revelation 21:8, ". . . all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

Even the smallest lie, or liar, can claim no favor with God.

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May 14, 1980

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Tommy Manning

Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MEET LOIS VENABLE

by Pepper Worthington



Lois Venable and Jan Brewer

SITTING on her bed in Grantham Dorm at Mount Olive College, sandy-haired, blue-eyed Lois Venable smiled as she talked about her father, Donald Venable, the Free Will Baptist minister at Whaley's Chapel in Richlands. "My dad was saved when he was twenty-two. He entered the ministry part-time at first doing several jobs in addition to his preaching. Why he's worked in a dairy, with the railroads, and with a printer. In 1975 he graduated from Southeastern Seminary, the same year I graduated from high school. He graduated with a certificate, so he could be better prepared to be a full-time minister."

Pausing, Lois brushed back her long hair. "Dad has served as minister at several churches. In 1971 to 1975 he was the pastor at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Rocky Mount. In 1975

to 1977 he served at the Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church in Cove City. Let's see, in 1977 to 1979 he preached at the Sandy Plains Free Will Baptist Church in Beulaville. Now he's at Whaley's Chapel in Richlands. We all love the church."

Lois is a sophomore at Mount Olive College and has been the loving roommate of Janet Ruth Brewer, the cystic fibrosis alumnae who graduates with Lois on May 9th. "I miss Jan this semester," said Lois as she reminisced about the time she and Jan spent together at Mount Olive College. "Jan and I had fun. We'd go to supper together, and I'd try to get her to stuff so she'd gain weight. She picks at her food. I guess things don't often taste good to her. It's not home cooking."

Lois jumped up from her bed, pulled out some sparkling tin foil pieces of candy. "Jan and I liked

to watch Tom and Jerry cartoons. We'd eat chocolate kisses. Want one?" She unwrapped a piece of rich chocolate, popped it into her mouth, and seemed transported to Disney World.

"I also liked to fix Jan's hair, put on her makeup, her eye shadow, her blush-on, and we'd have a good time." Lost in her thoughts, Lois hesitated, then added, "Jan has meant a lot to me. She's got courage and it shows. She's a determined spirit and she has influenced me. If she accomplishes her goals, then I ask myself, 'why can't I.' She controls her handicap more than she lets her handicap control her." Quietly Lois said, "I love her."

Lois is a young woman who loves a lot of people, who, in short, loves life. "I love my work here at Mount Olive," she beamed as she began talking about her major—art. "My art teacher, Mrs. Bennett, is terrific. I've taken every art course she teaches. She doesn't discourage what you do. She encourages you to put your own personality into your work."

In order to explain how her individual feelings can be utilized in her own artwork, Lois elaborated, "Take my paintings, for example. I can add my own feelings to a picture. I can make the sky tan or blue, bright or dark. I can create an eerie sky. There's one painting I've done that is eerie. The sky is a mixture of tans and blues. A tower sits in a bunch of trees. I like this eerie picture. I've used what Mrs. Bennett calls artistic license. I created more than a photograph can create."

Laughing, Lois said, "I've also done a picture of me drawing me. Can you imagine that? In the picture I am seated at a desk in the art room. On the desk is a picture of me drawing me. That's more than a photograph too."

Noting the influence of her Mount Olive College art
(Continued on Page 15)



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 32:17;
Hebrews 10:22-27

I WILL GO TO GOD'S VILLAGE

A missionary visited a Pygmy village in Africa. The missionary recognized a man to whom he had previously given the gospel. "Have you received God's Word into your heart?" asked the missionary. "Yes I have, and my people, too, have received it. Every night we meet for prayer. We sing our songs, 'Jesus Loves Me,' and 'What Can Wash Away My Sins?'" Then we ask God to protect us through the night!"

"That's fine," the missionary said, then asked, "If you should suddenly die, would you go to Heaven?" The Pygmy stood at attention. He saluted smartly and replied, "When I die, I will go to God's village. I will salute Him and say, 'Greetings, God, I am come to my house in Your village!'" When God asks me what right I have to enter, I will tell Him that His Son, Jesus Christ, died for me and washed my heart clean in His blood. Then He will say to me, 'Enter, your house is waiting for you!'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The blood of Christ is sufficient. Those who trust Him can be assured of a home with Him in Heaven.

MONDAY, MAY 19

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 23:28; Matthew 24:35; John 5:24

THE BIBLE LIVES

Wherever the Bible has gone, civilization has taken root, and dehumanizing, degrading customs have disappeared. Two sailors swam from their wrecked ship to a cannibal island in the South Pacific. "We will probably

end in the pot!" said one. Going inland in search for food, the two men cautiously entered a hut whose occupant was out. Seeing a Bible on a table, one exclaimed: "We're all right! We are safe!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible, if read and believed, certainly changes lives. Wherever it is found man feels safer and more secure, for he recognizes its power to transform lives from bad to good.

TUESDAY, MAY 20

Scripture Reading—Acts 26:28;
1 Peter 4:16-19

WHY ARE YOU DIFFERENT?

The man was not a preacher. He could not sing or speak in public. He worked in a factory with men who swore and cursed. There he lived a quiet, Christian life, and spoke for Jesus when there was an opportunity. One day as he ate his lunch, one of the men asked him, "May I sit by you, Bob? There is a question I have wanted to ask you for some time, but I was ashamed to do it. I want to know what makes you different from the rest of us. You never get angry, no matter what we rough fellows do or say to you. What do you have that we don't have?" Bob replied, "I am no better than others, but Christ is in my heart. He enables me to live differently from others. To Him be the glory!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The best witness is the one who by his daily living exemplifies Christ. Words are never so long remembered as deeds.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 11:18; Ephesians 3:21

HE NEEDED ONLY TO BE ASKED

A businessman, on his way to prayer meeting, saw a stranger looking in the window of the church. He invited him to go in with him. "All right," said the stranger. That was the beginning of a Christian life for him and his family. He afterward told the friend: "I lived in this city for seven years before I met you. No one had ever asked me to go to church. I wasn't here three days before the grocer, the dairy man, the insurance man and the ward politician called on me. You are the first one to invite me to church!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

It is possible that some persons are just waiting for an invitation to become a member of the Lord's Church. Let us not be negligent in issuing the invitation to all.

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Scripture Reading—Romans 11:24; Nehemiah 9:25

THE LESSON

A man sat in the heat of the day under a walnut tree looking at a pumpkin vine. He began to muse, "How foolish God is! Here He puts a great heavy pumpkin on a tiny vine without strength to do anything but lie on the ground. He puts tiny walnuts on a tree whose branches could hold the weight of a man. If I were God, I could do better than that!" Suddenly a breeze knocked a walnut from the tree. It fell on the man's head. He rubbed the bump, a sadder and wiser man. He remarked: "Suppose there had been a pumpkin up there instead of a walnut! Never again will I try to plan the world for God. I shall

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

thank Him that He has done it so well!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God knew what He was doing when he planned nature as He did. Let none of us suggest that we could have improved on His plan.

FRIDAY, MAY 23

Scripture Reading—Mark 14:38; Luke 11:1; Acts 8:22

PRAY ON

To talk with God, no breath is lost;
Talk on! talk on!
To walk with God, no strength is lost;
Walk on! walk on!
To wait on God, no time is lost;
Wait on! wait on!
To grind the ax, no work is lost;
Grind on! grind on!
The work is quicker, better done;
Not needing half the strength laid on;
Grind on! grind on!

PRAYER THOUGHT

In God's will one need not worry about the order of things. Our times are in His hands. He is sufficient.

SATURDAY, MAY 24

Scripture Reading—Psalm 65

DOES GOD KNOW CHINESE?

Before the days when China was under Communist rule, a little Chinese boy lived at a school where missionaries were teaching. They were all praying one night when the little boy said to the missionary, "Do you think God understands Chinese?"

"Oh, yes," replied the missionary. "Why do you ask?"

"Because," said the little boy, "sometimes when I feel bad I like to pray to God in Chinese, and I wondered if He understands, just the same as English."

"Of course," said the missionary. "God knows every

language. He can hear what we think. He doesn't really hear the words we say. He listens to the feeling down deep in our hearts that makes us want to speak to Him. He says in the Bible: 'Before they pray, I will answer, and while they are yet speaking, I will hear,' So speak in any language, and God will hear.'

PRAYER THOUGHT

God understands the groanings of the spirit. Even though we may have difficulty expressing our petitions He is aware of our needs. Let no one doubt that He cares.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

What Have I Got to Lose?

by Nancy Matthews

Today, more than ever before, teens and preteens are struggling under the weight of pressure to conform. One of the greatest problems facing society, especially teens, is relaxed attitudes toward alcohol.

Alcohol has become a problem when one half of a downtown business district has evolved into night joints catering to those looking for alcoholic refreshment.

Alcohol has become a problem when the only refreshment at a high school homecoming party is served from kegs.

Alcohol has become a problem when a young person proclaims the most important advantage of his 18th birthday is that he can now purchase his own beer without running afoul of the law. The question seems to be: What have I got to lose?

Alcohol has become a problem when it kills innocent people, when parents lose their only two children at once in a smash-up with another car operated by a drunken driver.

Alcohol is a problem.

Society has schooled our children on the dangers of tobacco and drugs, playing low key on one of the most deadly of drugs. A teen who would not dare put his lips to a cigarette thinks beer is necessary for a good time. Exorbitant advertising campaigns have programmed young people to think of beer as synonymous with basic life necessities like food and a warm place to stay.

THE ACCIDENT deals with peer pressure and alcohol. It deals with a young man who goes along with the crowd and learns the hard way what is at stake.

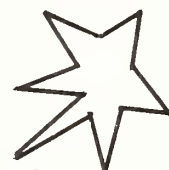
THE ACCIDENT is reality. It drops fantasy and fairy tales for a too familiar up-to-date experience dealt with in a true life manner.

Critics may call it reality at its worst, but doesn't life sometimes deal out reality at its worst?

Insist that your teens and preteens experience THE ACCIDENT, at First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson, May 18, at 7:30 p. m.

THE ACCIDENT

Produced by Church Drama
Department



First Free Will Baptist Church
Wilson, North Carolina
May 18, 1980

7:30 P. M.

If you have lost someone close in a highway accident it may be advisable not to attend.

CRAGMONT

CRAGMONT: THEN, NOW, TOMORROW

by DeWayne Eakes

In our recent Board of Directors Meeting at Cragmont Assembly, John R. Watson, our corporate treasurer, had compiled records showing the date of construction/purchase of each of the buildings at Cragmont Assembly. A comparison of subsequent physical development of Cragmont will prove most interesting to you, the Original Free Will Baptists who have made it possible through the sharing of God's material blessings.

THEN: When Cragmont Assembly was purchased in 1945 for a total price of \$10,000 the "Old Main Building" was valued in excess of the purchase price of the entire property*(116 acres). Below is a listing of the buildings and their cost at the time of construction or, in the instance of the main building and building Number 4, the time of purchase.¹

Building	Construction/ Purchase Date	Cost
Old Main (Building # 1)	8/16/45	\$ 15,000.00*
Gym (Building # 5)	1953	5,633.12
Gym Renovation	1977	6,691.46
Motel (Building # 3)	1960	17,909.66
Floyd House (Building # 4)	1963	3,850.00
New Dorms (Buildings # 6 and 7)	1971	34,858.05
Dining Hall (Building # 13)	1973	36,571.51
Storage Building	1977	10,597.98
New Guest Lodge (Building # 1)	1978	383,750.00
Assembly Room/Chapel		

NOW: The evaluation of the buildings at present:

Building	Current Evaluation *
Guest Lodge (Building # 1)	\$450,000
Assembly Room/Chapel	
Storage Building	17,800
Massey House (Building # 2)	20,000
New Dorms (Buildings # 6 and 7)	60,000
Dining Hall (Building # 13)	49,400
Motel (Building # 3)	51,750
Gym (Building # 5)	36,000
Floyd House (Building # 4)	9,570

* This appraisal was done by an area realtor as of January, 1980. As you can see our monetary investments at Cragmont Assembly are sound.

TOMORROW: Of course the matter of top priority of the immediate future is the retirement of the \$269,000 plus interest indebtedness owed to the Church Finance Association. However, we do have some definite plans for the future of Cragmont Assembly beyond the debt retirement.

The fifth and final stage of Cragmont's planned development program is the construction and improvement of recreational facilities. As quickly as sufficient funds are available we have planned the construction of a ballfield, tennis courts, and a swimming pool. These additions will greatly enhance our recreational program. We also have planned some much needed improvements for the motel and dormitory buildings. These include suitable floor coverings and means of heating for late fall and early winter use.

Your support has been tremendous during the past three years! Now that our Guest Lodge/Assembly Room—Chapel have been completed we need to receive the same level of support in order to retire the debt and continue with necessary maintenance and future improvements. Budget / Finance Committees, please remember Cragmont with a significant inclusion in your budget for the upcoming church year! Also, during June, designated as "Cragmont Month" by our State Convention of Churches, receive a special offering for Cragmont Assembly if you will.

Use your mountain retreat center! Plan weekend retreats if you have not already done so! Send your youth to one of the great five weeks of youth camp. Encourage your women to fill up both weeks of Woman's Conference. Encourage your minister to attend the Minister's

Conference this summer and help him with the expenses of the week! If you and your family are in the area vacationing, make reservations to spend a night or two at Cragmont. Call 1-(704)-669-7677 or write, The Manager, Cragmont Assembly, Inc., 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711 for reservations provided rooms are available.

Continue to pray that our mountaintop ministry for instruction, inspiration, and recreation will become all that God would have it be.

The earliest song on record about Cragmont Assembly was written by the Rev. R. P. Harris, entitled "The Craggy Hills" and is sung to the tune of "Faith Is the Victory":

Encamped along the hills of
Crag

You children rise and shine,
And raise the colors of His flag,
For this in Him resign.

Chorus:
Cragmont the place upon a hill
Where Christ is all in all,
It is for Him our place to fill
The Youth for Christ to call.

Chorus:
This is the place to sing!
This is the place to pray!
Come, worship the Lord
today

And praise His Holy Name!²
Many have many fond memories of days and weeks spent at Cragmont. Because of what Cragmont means to so many, I believe its future is secure in the hands of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina who invest in God's kingdom. Let us assure the future of the Cragmont ministry for posterity and prosperity of our beloved denomination as we are a part of the Body of Christ!

¹ Records compiled by John R. Watson, Corporate Treasurer of Cragmont Assembly, Inc., 1980.

² From a paper on Cragmont Assembly, Inc. by the Rev. Tommy Evans, in The Free Will Baptist Historical Collection, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina.

(Continued on Page 14)

Home Missions Department

CAMP EAGLES NEST FOR HEARING IMPAIRED STUDENTS

by Dale Albertson



Dale and Jasmine
Albertson

Sponsored by: The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Department of Home Missions and Church Extension.

CAMP DIRECTORS: Pastor and Mrs. Dale Albertson

The Third Annual Camp Eagles Nest for the Hearing Impaired will be in session from June 30, 1980, through July 4, 1980.

The campground is located at Eagles Nest Conference Center, approximately 15 miles from Goldsboro, North Carolina off Highway 111 South. The 50-acre camp is owned and operated by Mount Olive College.

LETTER TO THE PARENTS:

Summer will soon be here and we are once again making plans for our annual Camp Eagles Nest for the Hearing Impaired. Last year our camp experiences were great. The memories of love, laughter, and the joy of Christian sharing warmed the

hearts of campers and workers alike during the school year. We are truly anticipating another exciting week this summer.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE CAMP

The express purpose of this camp is to provide Christian instruction and fellowship through Bible based classes, wholesome recreation, and captioned Christian films. It also serves to provide the students with a way to keep in touch during the summer vacation months.

Activities will include supervised swimming, hiking, sports, and crafts. The evenings include children's church services and a relaxing time to view captioned films.

CAMP PERSONNEL

The camp will be directed by Pastor and Mrs. Dale Albertson. Mr. Albertson pastors Free Spirit Free Will Baptist Mission near Wilson, North Carolina. Mrs. Albertson is employed as a teacher in Vestal Hall at ENCSD. Staff members for the camp will include teachers of the deaf, as well as concerned parents and friends. Qualified personnel will be provided for all teaching, lifeguard services, first-aid, and supervision of all activities. All staff members volunteer their services as this camp is a non-profit organization. They deserve praise.

COST

Due to the generous financial support of our Home Missions Board, and other interested people, the cost will be only \$15 per camper. This will cover all expenses including insurance. (Campers will not need extra spending money.) The \$15 will be used toward the purchase of

insurance and food; thus it will not be refundable after June 27, 1980.

If any of our Free Will Baptist people have, or know of, any hearing impaired children whose parents might be interested, please contact Dale and Jasmine Albertson, Box 185, Black Creek, North Carolina 27813; phone 291-5331, or Taylor Hill, 485-3980, Fayetteville.

THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT

JANUARY 1, 1980—MARCH 31, 1980

by Taylor Hill

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	\$ 3.50
Albemarle Union Meeting	6.00
Free Union (Beaufort County)	24.00
Hickory Chapel	180.26
Shiloh	73.16
Sidney	104.71
Union Chapel	370.14
Total	\$761.77

CAPE FEAR

Cape Fear Conference	\$ 41.53
Catalpa Mission	50.00
Daly's Chapel	33.00
Goldsboro, First	460.00
Haymount Mission	269.75
Hopewell	365.50
Johnston Union	100.00
Lee's Chapel	149.74
Oak Grove	50.00
Palmer Memorial	42.50
Pleasant Grove	200.00
Riverside	200.00
Saint Mary's Grove	20.00
Shady Grove	23.87
Smyrna	20.00
Tee's Chapel	50.00
Victory Mission	59.34
Yelverton Grove	100.00
Total	\$2,235.23

CENTRAL

Ayden	\$ 10.00
Bethany	177.20
Black Jack	191.54
Central Conference Youth Fellowship	10.00
Central Conference Layman's League	82.16
Edgewood	70.36
Elm Grove	304.66
Free Union (Greene County)	2.90
Friendship	387.69
Greenville, First	225.00
Grimsley	125.00
Gum Swamp	3.00
Harrell's Chapel	225.00
Hickory Grove	7.13
Howell Swamp	2.00
Hugo	125.00

(Continued on Page 15)



"His Last Days" Presented at Sandy Plains Church

The drama, "His Last Days," presented by the Youth of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, will be presented at the Sandy Plains Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pink Hill, North Carolina, on Saturday, May 17, at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. Ransom McAbee, extends a cordial welcome to everyone to attend.

Youth Groups Are Busy at First Church, Rocky Mount

The AFC and the YFA of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, have been very busy in their church work. The two youth groups have been reorganized during 1980.

On February 29, 1980, both youth groups sponsored a spaghetti supper held at the church. Everyone in the church was invited. It was a great success.

On March 30, 1980, the groups sponsored a foreign food supper at the church. Before the supper the Rev. Joe Ingram, foreign missions director, spoke to the people of the church about the work that is going on in the Free Will Baptist foreign mission fields. He also showed some slides of some of the mission work.

Both the AFC and the YFA attended the Central District Youth Rally in March, and the YFA won the banner. They also attended the State Youth Rally and the Christian Music Festival at Eagles Nest.

For Easter, the groups made and filled sunshine boxes for the shut-ins of the church. They are now selling "degreaser" to help send the youth of the church to Cragmont.

The leaders for the groups are Mrs. Geraldine Brown (YFA) and Mrs. Lottie Barbour (AFC).

Revival Services at Wooten's Chapel Church

Revival services will be held at Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Raleigh, May 19 through May 23, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Larry Barbour of Wilson will be the evangelist. The Rev. J. B. Caton Sr. is pastor of the church.

The pastor, along with the church membership, extend a cordial invitation to everyone to join them in these worship services.

Camp Vandemere Retreat Rescheduled

The Couples Prayer Retreat at Camp Vandemere, scheduled for May 16, 17, has been rescheduled for August 15, 16. Please note this change.

Certificates Awarded at Lenoir County Sunday School Fellowship Supper

On April 8, 1980, at the Lenoir County Sunday School Fellowship Supper, Mr. Stanley Jenkins, President of the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention, presented teaching certificates to three ladies from the host Sunday school, Piney Grove of Duplin County. They were Virginia and Gail Price and Hazel Tyndall. They earned these certificates by meeting the requirements set by the State Sunday School Convention for certifying Sunday school teachers. More teachers are encouraged to participate in this program.

First Church, Wilson Presents Drama

First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, is presenting "The Accident," an original drama with local setting, on May 18, at 7:30 p. m. in the church sanctuary. The play deals with peer

pressure and its hazards, portraying a young man who goes along with the "times" then learns very, very painfully what he stands to lose.

Mr. Carl Edward Whitfield of the Governor's Highway Safety Program will present vital information concerning alcohol and highway safety. A veteran of the Safety Program for eleven years, Mr. Whitfield was a highway patrolman for twenty-six years.

"The Accident" stars Greg Pittman as Bart Anderson. His mother and father are played by Charles and Eleanor Sullivan; his friends by Randy Jones, Randy Baker, Chris Rochelle, Mark Whitley, and Ramey Jo Dickerson. Aunt Bertha is Mrs. Janet Pittman, and Raymond Gaster is his grandfather. Captain R. J. Pittman of the Wilson Police Department is the policeman, and the minister is the Rev. Clyde W. Cox. Members of the Wilson County Rescue Squad playing themselves are Mike Caffey, Johnny Hendricks, and Lloyd Lathan.

Written by Nancy Matthews, the play is being coordinated by Alane Vester, the Rev. Craig Simmons, and Melvin Beaman.

The public is invited. Teens are urged to come.

Coming Events . . .

- May—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month
- June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month
- June 1—Cragmont Sunday in Local Churches
- June 2—Central Conference Laymen's League Fellowship, Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, 8 p. m.
- June 15—Father's Day
- June 15—Superannuation Day in Local Churches
- June 29—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention
- June 29—Mount Olive College Day in Local Churches

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

May Is _____

CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH



May 17 . . . Founder's Day at the Children's Home
Services begin at 10:30 a.m. / Picnic lunch at noon
Open House in the afternoon

Christian Cadet Conference

CAMPING NEWS

Bobby R. Taylor
Director



Ph. 758-4356

Greetings to you:

The staff members are excited about the events for this oncoming camping summer. Many new activities are being planned for this year. We know you will want to invite your friends and the members of your youth groups to share the camping experience of the Christian Cadet Conference.

The theme for the week will be "Power In God's Love." The week will be June 23-28. We will be looking for your applications before June 6. June 6 will be the last day we will accept applications. Registration fee is \$10.00 and should be sent with application. Letters of information will be sent from the Director on June 16, informing you on what you will need to carry to camp and where you will meet the bus. The cost of camp will be \$65.00 and \$5.00 Activity fee.

Psalm 121:1 "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills . . ."

APPLICATION

AGES—8 up

Name of Camper _____

Address _____

City or Town _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Age _____ Height _____ Sex _____

Birthday _____ Grade Completed _____

Church _____

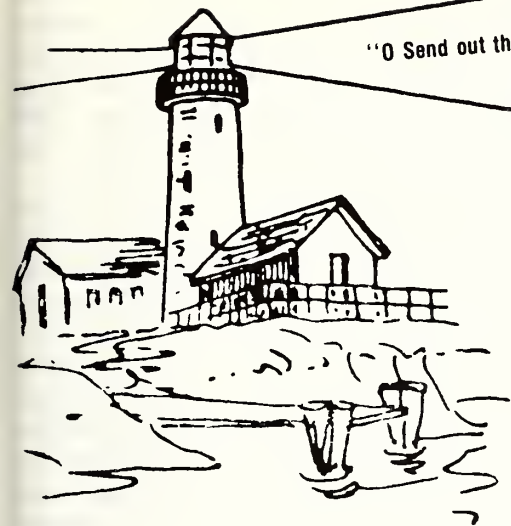
Pastor's Name _____

Pastor's Address _____

Send Application to: Bobby R. Taylor, Director
Rt. 6, Box 147 A
Greenville, N.C. 27834

Date Received _____

Christian Cadet Conference
June 23—28
Registration Fee \$10.00
Balance due upon boarding
bus \$60.00



"O Send out thy light and thy truth."
Ps. 43:3

Proclaiming His light and His truth

AT CAMP VANDEMERE

Come and enjoy a week of Bible study, music, crafts, sports, swimming, and lots of fun and inspiration. Camp opens May 1, 1980 for groups and retreats. The regular camping program begins June 16, 1980.

FEES—\$35 per person for regular encampments
\$20 per person for weekend retreats
\$3 per night for camping vehicles or tents, with bathhouse privileges

For reservations contact:

Ralph Sumner, Director
P. O. Box 298
Oriental, North Carolina 28571
Phone 249-1329

Or write camp address:

Camp Vandemere
P. O. Box 188
Vandemere, North Carolina 28587
Phone 745-3171

To attend regular camp weeks, contact the Director for the week you prefer. Send applications early as space is limited. Available for Church or family retreat.

**CAMP VANDEMERE
1980 Summer Schedule**

AUGUST 15, 16: PRAYER RETREAT

Rev. Ray Williamson, Director
Route 1—Box 3
Grantsboro, N. C. 28529
Phone 745-3993

MAY 30-31: MINISTER'S RETREAT

Rev. C. B. Hansley, Director
Route 1—Box 611-B
Newport, N. C. 28570
Phone 726-2195

JUNE 23-27: CAMP SESSION NO. 1

Rev. and Mrs. Owen Arthur, Directors
704 B Street
Bridgeton, N. C. 28519
Phone 638-5396

JULY 7-11: CAMP SESSION NO. 3

Mrs. Lexa Upton, Director
Route 1—Box 790
Chocowinity, N. C. 27817
Phone 946-6480

MAY 23-25: HIGH SCHOOL JR-SR RETREAT

Mrs. Diane Riley, Director
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, N. C. 28365

JUNE 16-20: WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Mrs. Happy Taylor, Director
Route 1—Box 187
Deep Run, N. C. 28525
Phone 523-9644 or 527-2843

JUNE 30—JULY 4: CAMP SESSION NO. 2

Rev. Adrian Grubbs, Director
Deep Run, N. C. 28525
Phone 568-4459

AUGUST 18-22: CAMP SESSION NO. 4

Rev. Ray Williamson, Director
Route 1—Box 3
Grantsboro, N. C. 28529
Phone 745-3993

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For May 25

The Glory of the New Creation

Lesson Text: Revelation 21:1-7;
22:1-5

Memory Selection: Revelation
21:3

I. INTRODUCTION

Miniaturized computers astound me. Aside from the complexity of the mathematical theories that guide their construction, I am still amazed that the capability of performing such intricate computations can be reduced to microscopic circuitry, and that performance is virtually instantaneous on command. But I must remember that the maker is greater than the thing made. The brain that invents is far beyond the invention it produces.

I must remember this principle, also, when I look at the world all about. If I find breathtaking beauty, all kinds of mysterious and ingenious devices, animals, and plants in nature, how great is the mind from which they have sprung! Little wonder that Paul reminded the Corinthians that our greatest wisdom is but foolishness compared with the wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:25).

What is true of the material universe is even more emphatically true about the spiritual worlds, since God is Spirit, not flesh (John 4:24). Possessed with myopic eyes, errant brains, wandering feet, and mischievous hands, how can we comprehend the total beauty, truth, and holiness of the glory of God? The answer is, we cannot. Our greatest learnings about Him are elementary, like the two-plus-two routine as compared to advanced calculus.

Yet we are given enough understanding and enough truth to know all we need to know about God and His Heaven while we are still in the flesh. If we allow the thought that our universe operates with some degree of regularity and predictability, we acknowledge the undeniable plan of the Creator by whose hands it was produced. If we allow such place to physical things, it is but a baby step to grant God's purposes and plans for the spiritual world. This places both present and future within His mighty hands, and we can rest with confidence that everything will work ultimately to His glorious praise.

In this lesson, we come to the end and the climax of the Book of Revelation. We have swept from the final moments of the first Christian century to the close of the Christian age, the destruction of the material earth, and the indescribable glories of the new heavens and earth. Now our attention is directed to the events that consummate all our hopes and promises. John is caught up in rapture to witness the union of Jesus Christ with His victorious bride, the church. Both the causes and the consequences of all evil-doing are of a past, now forgotten world. The bliss of eternity has dawned.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. If you were to take a few weeks, in your spare time, to read through the Book of Revelation you would be amazed at the things you come across. After the last verse of Chapter 3 you would enter into the period

known as the tribulation, which climaxes in The Great Tribulation. The entire period lasts for about seven years, the tribulation covering the first three and a half years, The Great Tribulation covering the last three and a half years.

B. While we do not have time or space to deal with the story with any degree of completeness, let us say that the plagues and torments of the tribulation periods will increase in their fury—these are God's judgments upon the earth and the wicked who reject Christ—until God has to shorten the days to end it all because of those who are saved during this time and need His deliverance. Then Jesus will return to the earth, set up His thousand-year-reign, and cast Satan into the lake of fire forever. (There are other mighty events which cannot be treated in this lesson, which will take place at His coming.)

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. However distressing the times may be in which we live, there is always a living hope for a new and better day for the child of God. That day is yet to be, but we know it is coming, for God's Word has declared it.

B. The great hymnist, Isaac Watts, expressed that hope long ago in one of his hymn-poems:

When I can read my title clear
To mansions in the skies,
I'll bid farewell to every fear,
And wipe my weeping eyes
There shall I bathe my weary
soul
In seas of heavenly rest,
And not a wave of trouble roll,
Across my peaceful breast.

C. We come to the end of the quarter, and the end of our look into Revelation, with a study of the blessed hope every Christian has—a hope called Heaven. We thank God that through the Apostle John we have these most beautiful of all words in the Bible.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

LONGTIME FRIEND OF COLLEGE

by Dr. W. Burkette Raper

There has been little time in the 29-year history of Mount Olive College that Leonard B. Woodall has not been actively participating in college life one way or another.

Not long after graduating from Mount Olive in 1959, Woodall began serving as the alumni representative to the Board of Trustees and was consequently elected to a Trustee position for the following 12 years.

After retiring from the Board in November, 1979, Woodall was recognized for his loyalty during a special luncheon honoring the College Trustees hosted by Governor and Mrs. James B. Hunt Jr. in Raleigh.

"Grantham Hall dormitory, Moyer Library and Rodgers Chapel have all been built since I began on the Board 14 years ago," Woodall stated; "we've bought more land and even 'schooled' a good number of students who are now personnel at Mount Olive."

A native of Johnston County, Woodall and his wife, the former Bessie Austin, serve the pastorate of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield. Woodall is justifiably proud that his daughter, Barbara Woodall Hinton of Princeton, also attended Mount Olive College, serving as the first president of the Student Government Association.

More recently, Barbara's daughter Vivian graduated in 1978, providing the College's first three-generation involvement in the alumni family.

Before graduating, Vivian also brought the family recognition by serving as one of four Resident Assistants and winning the Miss Mount Olive College title.

In addition, Woodall has a daughter, Faye Woodall Jones, and a son, Hal.

An avid believer in education, Woodall has also provided 28 years of dedicated service as a minister to Free Will Baptists and the people in and around Johnston County.

He is actively involved as chairman of the Johnston County Memorial Hospital Chaplain Corps and alternates preaching at Colonial Resthome with other Johnston County ministers. Woodall also conducts four devotional worship services each year at the County Mental Health Center. Woodall belongs to the Smithfield Ministers Fellowship and serves on the Johnston County Board of the American Cancer Society.

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Gifts to Moyer Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of March, 1980, totaled \$625 and are as follows:

In Memory of

Mr. Leon A. Best by Miss Betty Lou McLamb, Newton Grove.

Mr. Baxter Black by Mr. and Mrs. Randall Albertson, Mount Olive.

Mr. Blaney B. Blizzard by Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Chambers, Kenansville.

Mr. Furney W. Brittain by Mr. and Mrs. James Allen Brown, LaGrange.

Mrs. Donnie Buck by Hines

Memorial Sunday School Class, Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville.

Askew Edwards by Intermediate Sunday School Class, Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Spring Hope; and Mrs. Becky Vincent, Spring Hope.

Mr. Wilbert Edgerton by Ethridge Investments, Incorporated, Wilson.

Mrs. Lottie S. Fowler by Woman's Auxiliary, Beaverdam Free Will Baptist Church, Chadbourn; Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Leonard, Clarendon; and Mr. and Mrs. Howard McPherson, Clarendon.

Mr. Howard J. Furbee by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mr. Lloyd Gillikin by Mr. Eugene L. Gaskill, Fayetteville.

Mrs. Bessie A. Godwin by Mr. and Mrs. Nolan Clark, Clayton.

Mr. J. H. Gregg by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; Mrs. Mary Jane Wilson, Mrs. Barbara Whitfield, and Mrs. Nelda Smith, Mount Olive; Mount Olive College Faculty, Mount Olive.

Mr. R. C. Gregory by Miss Pamela Wood, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wood, Four Oaks.

Mrs. Louise Hodges by Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mrs. Annie B. Howard by Woman's Auxiliary, Pearsall's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Kenansville.

Mr. Martin McKimmon by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Christian Maness by Miss Ruth Gardner, Ayden; and Mrs. Sophia Potts, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Cora Lee Mumford by Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Hare, Pikeville.

Jesse Rudolph O'Neal by Mrs. Versie H. Baldree, New Bern.

Florence W. Powers by Woman's Auxiliary, Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern.

(Continued on Page 14)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 13)

Mrs. Jane Poythress by Mrs. Dola H. Dudley, Smithfield.

Mr. Winston Ives Sadler by Mrs. Rhoda B. Prescott, New Bern.

Mr. Alvin Smith by Mrs. Thelma Dilday, Albertson.

Mrs. Pinkie Smith by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mr. J. C. Stephenson Sr. by Dr. and Mrs. M. M. Lownes Jr., Mount Olive.

Mrs. Eldorado Whitley Storey by Woman's Auxiliary, Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Micro.

Mrs. Joe Taylor by Mr. and Mrs. Lynwood Kennedy, Mount Olive.

Mr. Roland Thomas by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Fleeta T. Timberlake by Mr. and Mrs. Abner H. Miller, Wilson.

Mrs. Callie W. Waller by Betty Lou McLamb, Newton Grove.

Mr. Luther E. Webb by Mrs. Daisy Owens and Mrs. Effie Webb, Elm City.

Mr. Boyce B. Williams by Mr. and Mrs. Nolan Clark, Clayton.

Mr. Vernon Willoughby by Mr. A. B. Willoughby and Miss Ella Willoughby, Ahoskie.

Mr. Elliott Wilson by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Mattie D. Young by Mr. and Mrs. Willard Barefoot, Dunn.

In Honor of

Miss Nellie Alford by Woman's Auxiliary, Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly.

Mr. and Mrs. Walton Edgerton by Dr. James E. Etheridge, Wilson.

The Rev. Melvin K. Everington by Woman's Auxiliary, Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City.

Phyllis Kirby by Woman's Auxiliary, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Mrs. Lorelle Martin by Mrs. Gertrude M. Edwards, Clinton.

Ruth Ann Montgomery by Alumni Association, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive.

David Madison Pace by

Alumni Association, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive.

Donna Kay Price by Woman's Auxiliary, King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville.

Ruth Moye Taylor by Woman's Auxiliary, Selma Free Will Baptist Church, Selma.

Gift

Elaine Jones, Mount Olive.

Cragmont News

(Continued from Page 6)

Cragmont Board Met

by John Williams

The Board of Directors of Cragmont met at Cragmont, Friday, April 18, 1980. The purpose of meeting at Cragmont was to give the Board a chance to look over the camp and get a firsthand look at the condition of the buildings and entire campus. A tour of the campus gave the Board a chance to make suggestions to the manager for improvements.

But this was not only a sight-seeing expedition. The male members of the Board got out the paint buckets and brushes and spruced up one of our dormitories.

Altogether, this Board meeting turned out to be a very enjoyable and profitable one.

Now I would like to talk with our Free Will Baptist people about giving. Everyone knows the importance of giving to the church as the Scriptures teach. Tithing is not just a good spiritual exercise but it is necessary for the church to carry out its ministry to the community of which it is a part. The church must depend upon its members for financial support. I would like to take the idea of tithing one step further by suggesting that our obligation in the area of tithing is not complete until our churches give to the work of our denomination as a whole. The enterprises of the Free Will Baptist denomination need the support of all our churches, and without this

Christian Education Day at Oak Grove

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church for "Christian Education Day" on Sunday, May 18, at the 11 a. m. worship service. The church is located in Newton Grove and the Rev. Felton Godwin is pastor.

support the enterprises could not exist. Just as the individual Christian should tithe to the church, the church should give to the work of our denomination.

I would like now to talk specifically about the needs of Cragmont. In January at our annual Board of Stockholders meeting, the auditors' report showed that 1979 was financially the best year Cragmont has had in its history. For one thing, we were able to construct a new main building and use it for the first time. Many times after a new building is completed, we tend to forget that it must be paid for. Well, the excitement may have passed some now that we have used it for one year, but the task of paying for this new building is still very real indeed. Cragmont is dependent on you, the individual churches, to help us meet this debt.

This year we are going to need about \$40,000 to meet our payment. We should take in from our summer camps and weekend retreats about \$28,000. Realize that this \$40,000 does not include what it takes to operate our camp. I am talking only about the money needed to make the payment on the new building. We still have to pay for food for our retreats and summer camps, for the light and water bills which are tremendous, for the upkeep on all our buildings and grounds, and for the salaries of those who help operate our camp. The list could go on. But I hope you see that the debt of our new building is still very much with us, and that we also are still in need of funds to operate this camp.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

HOME MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 7)

Hull Road	288.50
King's Cross Roads	13.34
LaGrange	6.00
Little Creek	7.00
Marlboro	69.31
Owens Chapel	150.00
Peace	17.00
Piney Grove	134.00
Reedy Branch	104.37
Roanoke Rapids	2.50
Rocky Mount, First	80.00
Rose Hill	110.00
Second Union	28.17
Winterville	410.80
Williamston, First	127.73
Total	\$3,497.36

EASTERN

Antioch	\$ 100.00
Arapahoe	218.00
Beulaville	100.00
Beaufort Mission	95.35
Bethel	100.00
Bridgeton	43.00
Cabin	50.00
Core Creek	32.40
Crab Point	62.00
Croatan	20.00
Davis	2.80
Deep Run	100.00
Dublin Grove	60.00
Faith	100.00
Folkstone	500.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday	
School Convention	10.00
Fifth Union Meeting	39.00
Friendship (Jones County)	10.35
Gethsemane	200.00
Holly Springs (Newport)	668.15
Jackson Heights	46.23
Kinston, First	220.00
Lanier's Chapel	50.00
Moseley's Creek	20.00
Mount Zion (Onslow County)	25.00
New Haven	100.00
Northeast	2.50
Oak Grove	10.50
Oriental	18.00
Pearsall Chapel	75.00
Pilgrims Rest	45.00
Rooty Branch	25.00
Russell's Creek	5.00
St. Mary's	335.00
Sandy Plain	15.00
Snow Hill	200.00
Sound View	16.78
Wardens Grove	25.53
Westside	10.00
White Oak Grove	2.00
Total	\$3,757.59

INDIVIDUALS

Baker, Fred	\$ 30.00
Coats, C. M.	25.00
Edwards, Milton	50.00
Harrison, Ray, Jr.	20.00
Howell, Johnny	16.00
Nowell, Billy R.	10.00
Sprouse, Lewis and Lois	60.00
Total	\$ 211.00

PEE DEE

Beaverdam	\$ 25.00
Cypress Creek	136.88
Emerson	100.00
Oak Grove	526.18
Pee Dee District	
Auxiliary Convention	310.00
White Oak	13.30
Total	\$1,111.36

PIEDMONT

Baptist Cathedral	\$ 20.00
Heritage Mission	79.55
Hopewell	60.00
Total	\$ 159.55

WESTERN

Branch Chapel	\$ 500.00
Calvary	100.00
Everett Chapel	164.90
Flood's Chapel	12.00
Fremont	207.50
Free Union (Nash County)	3.60
Free Spirit Mission	25.00
First Western District Sunday	
School Convention	25.00
First Union	100.00
Kenly	16.29
Little Rock	25.00
Marsh Swamp	200.00
Micro	27.91
Mount Zion (Nash County)	137.25
New Sandy Hill	100.00
Oak Grove (Wilson County)	190.25
People's Chapel	107.00
Piney Grove	75.00
Pleasant Grove	20.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Rains Cross Roads	20.00
Rock Springs	45.00
St. Mary's	250.00
Second Union	
Western Conference	50.00
Selma	25.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	400.00
Stoney Creek	510.00
Union Grove	2.00
Unity (Durham)	50.00
Unity (Wilson)	6.00
Western District	
Youth Fellowship	25.00
Total	\$3,669.70

OTHERS

Johnny Mercer Memorial Fund	
by Cabin church	\$ 120.00
North Carolina Woman's	
Auxiliary Christian	
Service Fund	86.50
Total	\$ 206.50
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$15,610.06

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 3)

instructor, Lois emphasized, "Mrs. Bennett thinks I'll make a good little art teacher in an elementary school system. She encourages me. She thinks I can work with children. Her support,

her interest, and her enthusiasm keep me going."

As the daughter of a Free Will Baptist minister, Lois has a special fondness for Mount Olive. "My father talked about Mount Olive College as a place for me to find myself. You see," she said quietly, "I was married at 18 and unfortunately my marriage ended in divorce. I was young. I had a little dream world picture of a family, of what married life would be for me. I did not think of financial burdens, of silly arguments. I thought I'd have a storybook existence. So when my marriage ended in divorce, my dad was wonderful. He didn't reject me. He encouraged me to come to Mount Olive, to broaden myself, to develop, to grow up, to find out what I could do so my life would not lack direction, move in a dead-end job."

She paused, swept back her hair, and admitted, "That choice, to come to Mount Olive, was a good choice. I've learned more about people here. I've made a lot of friends. I've met different personalities and I have to accept people for what they are. I've learned there are people you don't care for, but if you've got to live with them, then you've got to look at their good points. I've also learned that you can't expect to please everybody. I've learned that everybody's not going to like you."

With a sigh of relief, Lois concluded, "You know, my dad's down to earth. He goes hunting; he puts on his overalls; he talks to people about the things they want to talk about—pond fishing, rabbit hunting, coon hunting, dogs, whatever. My dad's a real person so people can be real back to him. And, you see, Mount Olive is the same way—a real place where people count, so, you feel like a real person here."

Dr. Pepper Worthington teaches English at Mount Olive College.

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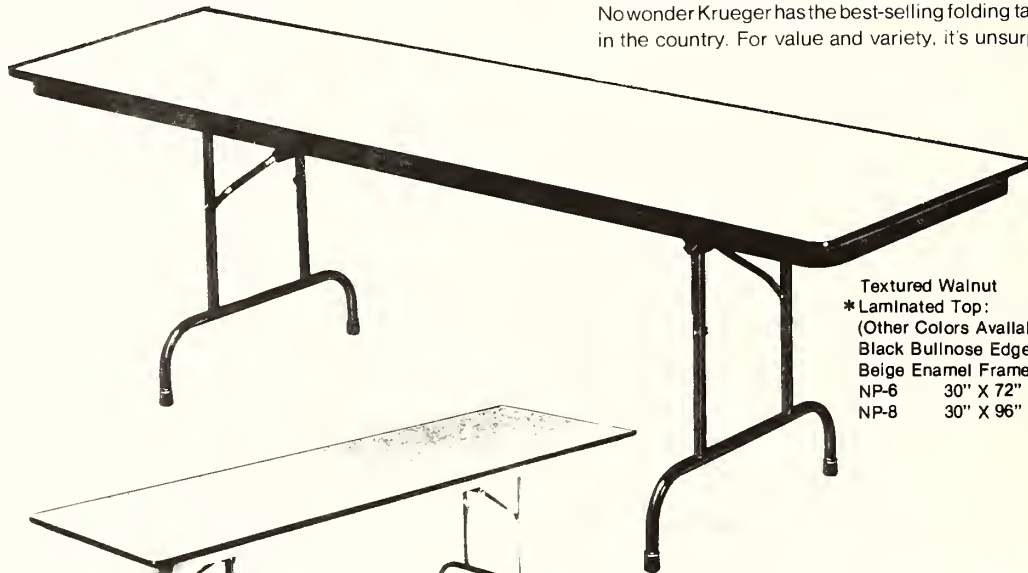
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BINGO OR SIN-GO?



The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Recreation for Christians or Not?

BINGO OR SIN-GO?

While traveling down almost any highway leading to or from a town or city, one can see billboards or lighted signs advertising Bingo nights. These sessions are open to the general public, and if you happen by the establishments while a game is underway you will probably see the whole parking lot crowded with cars.

There is mass appeal, for thousands of dollars in prizes are awarded the "lucky" person. All one has to do is cover the numbers as they are called by the announcer—well, almost. Actually there is a lot of chance involved, and there is a charge for the rent of the cards and chips. One may expect to spend as much as 15 to 20 dollars per night for the fun and chance of winning.

Bingo, or a variation of the game, has been played for as long as many of us can remember. Civic clubs and fairs have long promoted the game for fun and prizes. Even some churches, under the watchful eye of their leaders, have indulged, though most conservative members have insisted that such a game has no place in the Lord's house, albeit in the basement or the recreational building or the parlor.

Perhaps on the surface it doesn't seem too bad to cover the gridded card with little chips as the corresponding numbers are called by the announcer. Perhaps it is innocent fun to suddenly find your numbers covered as prescribed by the rules: diagonally, vertically, horizontally, all four corners, etc. It may indeed thrill one to be able to shout "Bingo!" when his card has been covered in accord with the rules. Something about winning is naturally reinforcing to one's ego.

The difficulty involved (if not the real sin) has to do with the "chance" one takes to win. When one deposits money in order to win a prize or make money, it is certainly gambling. The interesting thing is that professing Christians who would never consider going to Las Vegas to turn a hand of cards or throw dice or take a chance on the wheel think nothing of playing Bingo for money. What is the difference?

Few, if any of us, can claim never to have played the game. While it was formerly played for low stakes, and most often for prizes of dishes, towels, trinkets, vases, and various novelties, it has now stepped into the big time where stakes sometime reach five thousand dollars. Big money is sometimes too much a temptation for even devout persons. But no matter how one looks at it, Bingo as Bingo is today is no recreation for Christian people.

The next time you are tempted by the flashing lights and the possibility of pocketing a large sum of money, ask yourself what the Lord would say about such an indulgence.

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MAY 21, 1980

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Tommy Manning
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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EARMARKED

by

Sally Reese Hawthorne

"The minute I learned you were a lab technician I had you earmarked for Bolivia."

MARCIA didn't realize, until they had reached the pie, how much she had counted on the interview with Dr. Andy Farrel that afternoon. To be rid at last of all the nagging doubts, the questioning; to know God's will for her life. Without knowing exactly why, Marcia was sure the interview would have put an end to her uncertainty.

They were waiting for her answer. Mom, smiling gently, prodded her. "But of course Marcia will run you over to Madera, won't you, dear?"

As she hesitated, Gramps' and Grandma's faces swung back into focus and Marcia blinked away the sudden sting of tears. Hating herself for causing the shadow of disappointment that clouded their eyes, she answered quickly, "I'd love to. And it's a beautiful day for a ride." She patted Gramps' wrinkled hand that lay next to hers on the table. "You two hurry and get a little nap. We'd better leave in a half hour."

In spite of her mother's friendly chatter,

Marcia knew she was watching her, as they cleared the table and started the dishes. It must be wonderful, Marcia mused, to be like Mom—old enough to have the many important issues of life all settled. No worrying about the next step, for Mom and Dad; or for Gramps and Grandma, for that matter. No sitting around, marking time, for them!

She felt like the proverbial square peg in a round hole, surrounded by those who had already spent years of happy, devoted service for God. Her dissatisfaction had been heightened as she listened to the message during the past week's missionary conference; it seemed to Marcia's restless spirit that she was the only one who was out of step.

Mom's voice behind her made her jump. Mom laughed too. "I had the feeling you were somewhere out of this world, honey. What's the trouble? If you really don't want to drive the folks over, I guess it wouldn't be such a calamity. They

Turn the Page

will no doubt get to see Mr. Bennett some other time. Or maybe I could ask someone to take my place here."

She shook her head. "Dad needs you here. Oh, Mother, I wouldn't be so selfish. Naturally they are dying to hear him speak again, a missionary right from their old field! It's just . . ." Carefully she placed the plates in the drainer and reached for the silver. "Beth was making an appointment for the two of us with Andy Farrel after the meeting here this afternoon and we hoped he'd tell us all the facts about his hospital. When I heard him the other evening I felt that this might be just the opening I've been waiting for. He's the first person I've met that's directly connected with the hospital and I . . ."

"Honey, I'm sorry! Of course this means a lot to you."

"It means everything!" Marcia's face glowed. "Mother, you'll probably think I'm silly, but I just felt like talking to him, getting all the firsthand information and a frank picture of the need would help me to make up my mind."

Mom drew a long breath. She said softly, "Bolivia's a lot farther away than that small mission hospital in the Kentucky mountains. But if Bolivia's the place where God wants you, I'd be thrilled."

Mom hugged her and laughed shakily as she dried her eyes on the dish towel. "This week's been wonderful. It's just another example of God's mysterious ways, too. Out of the many inspiring messages from all over the world, only one really registered with you—maybe this is God's leading, honey. It's a relief. I have been praying He would show you His will."

"Well, I guess He intends for me to wait a while longer! Time's passing, and they're crying for lab technicians down in Kentucky, and I do get so impatient to be on my way."

Marcia studiously kept the speedometer at forty-five because Grandma was a trifle nervous after all the years of slow mule travel. Gramps was different; he kept motioning furtively to Marcia to speed it up a little.

It was a standing joke but today it didn't seem the least bit amusing. She just didn't feel up to making light conversation. Her thoughts kept reverting to the proposed meeting with the doctor. For a young missionary home on his first furlough, he seemed to be in demand. Even Bennett, who was a veteran, couldn't boast of more invitations to speak.

Marcia frowned. If the missionaries appearing on the week-long program in Fresno hadn't been kept so busy filling speaking engagements at smaller conferences running simultaneously in adjacent towns, she might have been able to contact him sooner. It was too bad! No telling when their paths would cross again.

But Beth would keep the appointment. Marcia's

ears burned as she remembered her friend's parting remarks this morning. "I've always wanted to see the world, and Bolivia's at the end of it, as far as I'm concerned. I don't know how good a missionary I'd make but who'd mind working around Dr. Farrel 365 days out of the year? Marcia, isn't he positively the best-looking man you've ever seen?"

Marcia's foot bore down on the gas pedal. If only she could drown out the memory of Beth's light tone: "Boy, I'm glad you're not interested in men, Marcia. You're just his type, serious, the dedicated kind, I wouldn't have a chance!" Beth was really a Christian, Marcia was sure, but she looked at things so strangely. Surely Andy wouldn't be taken in by her!

Grandma's hand shook her arm gently, "Aren't we going a little too fast, dear?"

Marcia smiled weakly. "You're entirely right!" And so were my thoughts, she admitted inwardly. He's so very nice! It wouldn't be too hard to become interested in him.

"Are we going to be late?" Grandma asked. "If you want to go just a bit faster, it's all right." She looked up at Marcia anxiously. This was a great concession on her part.

Marcia laughed. "No, this speed will get us there in plenty of time."

"Remember Bennett's going to talk," Gramps said proudly. "The place will be packed."

Following the usher down the aisle, Marcia saw that it was so. Miraculously, as though reserved just for them, there were three seats in the fourth row, where her grandparents could nod to acquaintances and exchange old-comrade smiles with the missionary speaker who would shortly be mounting the platform.

Marcia busied herself helping Grandma off with her coat, handing a hymnal to Gramps. Their enthusiasm was contagious and Marcia was suddenly glad she had come with them. God could certainly make known His plan for her life here in this small church as well as in the study of her father's large one back in Fresno, even without the consultation with Andy that had seemed so important.

She felt herself relaxing, mind and heart ready for whatever He had in store for her during this hour. Bowing her head, Marcia whispered silently, "Forgive me, dear Lord. I was too self-centered. I was rebellious, I didn't really want to come this afternoon. Forgive me for not trusting."

The song leader announced the first number. She raised her head and looked up, straight into a pair of gray eyes that were regarding her quizzically. Sitting immobile, the book unopened in her hand, Marcia thought numbly, **he's not supposed to be here!**

But Andy Farrel, completely at ease beside Mr. Bennett, was acknowledging with interest the comments of the older man as he gestured in her

grandparents' direction. Marcia's cheeks were first cold, then hot. She seemed incapable of any action at all yet she couldn't sit there forever, while people all around her began to sing.

Forcing herself to look somewhere besides up, Marcia was struck by the humbly proud, happy expressions on Gramps' and Grandma's lined faces, and instantly her mind cleared. **I must be crazy!** she thought distractedly. **What if he noticed how he startled me? Why, he doesn't even know me.**

Andy's presence was explained just before the speaker took over. Mr. Bennett's car had developed engine trouble at the last minute and Andy had given up, voluntarily, the opportunity to counsel a possible applicant for his own particular field, in order to chauffeur Mr. Bennett to his meeting in Madera!

But now that Andy was here, Bennett wanted him to tell them about the need that was on his heart. A murmur of pleasure swept through the audience. Apparently there were many here who had heard young Andrew Farrel speak.

A moment later Marcia reminded herself scornfully not to be so silly. Of course she had not been included in the warm smile he sent her way. It had been merely the salute of one starting out, to those two who sat beside her, veterans who had recently retired from the field of action.

Marcia's heart felt so heavy in the poignant silence that followed Andy's final words, that she felt she could not bear it. His burden for the people had made it possible for him to make them real for Marcia. Down there they were waiting for Christ to cleanse them, to turn their hopeless world upside down!

Her heart went out to them in their hunger, and suddenly Marcia had the answer. Without knowing quite how it happened she knew God had spoken—she sat there amazed at how simple it all seemed now. There was the need; she could meet it. All she had been waiting for was God's sure indication, and He had not failed.

In a daze Marcia listened to the message, joined in the final hymn, then greeted those who crowded around her grandparents, hoping she didn't appear a complete idiot. Her smile seemed to have stretched all out of proportion; she couldn't contain the vast happiness that was glowing within her.

"I've been hoping you wouldn't run off," a voice said, and she turned to face Dr. Farrel. "Ever since someone pointed you out to me last week, I've been trying to figure out a way to meet you."

He hesitated, and Marcia saw that he was really quite shy. The embarrassment that had engulfed her with his first word evaporated and she answered in a friendly voice, "You have?"

"The minute I learned you were a lab technician I had you earmarked for Bolivia," Andy

explained. "The Lord and I. At least I hoped that you didn't have any roots too deep that you wouldn't consider it. You've no idea how hard up we are for workers for our little hospital, specialists in their field."

"Well, to tell the truth, I've been considering it."

He smiled, "The reason I almost didn't come over with Mr. Bennett today was that I had made a tentative appointment with two young ladies who wanted some data on our work in Bolivia. Just before I left, one of them called to say she didn't really think she was interested in missionary work, but that she was pretty sure her friend was. So I came, feeling low over losing an important contact." His eyes twinkled. "Do you consider it mere coincidence that I should meet her here in Madera?"

Nothing would ever seem strange to Marcia again. "No," she said. "No more than that you should be asked to tell about the work in Bolivia."

"Do you have a few minutes now? If we sat down right here I could answer any questions you might have."

Grandma and Gramps were ready to leave. Young Dr. Farrel stood looking down at her. He said, "You'll be praying about it, won't you? And if I can help in any way, I'll be so happy to do so." He took several folders out of his Bible. "These contain information about the work, how and where to apply. I'm leaving for Oregon tonight. If I write to you, would you answer? I really wish you would."

Marcia smiled up at him. "I will if you will."

The speedometer held to its accustomed forty-five, but the way Marcia felt, they were flying. Grandma smiled slyly. "I think our granddaughter is feeling more cheerful than on the way over," she told Gramps.

Marcia laughed gaily. "You're so right, Grandma! I'm going to Bolivia, did I tell you? She was earmarked; Andy had said so!

The car seemed filled with their happiness, so that there was no need for words. The two old missionaries looked at each other and smiled tenderly. Their hearts were remembering and looking back, in the thrill of this moment, to the precious, shared years on the field.

Marcia couldn't believe she was sitting here in the car, driving automatically down the familiar highway. Already her mind had jumped ahead to the future lying just beyond reach . . . a wonderful, shining future. Was Andy in it? She erased the thought hastily. He'd be there somewhere, since he was director of the hospital, that was sure; and that was enough to go on for now.

Marcia smiled to herself. This wasn't an automobile! It was a cloud, borne along on dreams.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 25

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:18; Exodus 20:11

THE WRONG MEDICINE

A nurse on night duty in a great hospital in Chicago mistakenly gave a lethal dose of wrong medicine to a little boy. Her error was not detected until it was too late to save his life.

Was she not *sincere* in what she did? Certainly! Was she not conscientiously performing her duties? Certainly! She was sincerely—wrong! She was conscientiously—wrong!

Many sincerely say, "All religions are good. They all lead to Heaven." Many say, "Let your conscience be your guide. If your conscience tells you a thing is all right, it is OK." But they all are wrong!

All religions are *not* good. All religions do not lead to Heaven. There is only *one way* to Heaven. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

PRAYER THOUGHT

No one, however sincerely moral, can ever expect to reach Heaven and eternal happiness without Christ. Choose Him today, if you have not already.

MONDAY, MAY 26

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 6

HOME SWEET HOME

Happy the home when God is there,
And love fills every breast:
When one their wish, one their prayer,
And one their heavenly rest.

Happy the home where Jesus' name
Is sweet to every ear;
Where children early lisp His fame
And parents hold Him dear.

Happy the home where prayer is heard,
And praise is wont to rise;
Where parents love the sacred Word,
And live but for the skies.

Lord, let us in our homes agree,
This blessed home to gain;
Unite our hearts in love to thee,
And love to all will reign.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Without a doubt the only truly happy home is the one which has Christ as the center. With Him, everything has purpose.

TUESDAY, MAY 27

Scripture Reading—Luke 11:44

SINGING A LIE!

Two young ladies sang beautifully in a well-attended meeting. The theme of their song was the preciousness of Jesus to them and their utter dedication to Him. A minister from England listened with admiration to their beautiful singing. But as he listened, somehow he felt that the young ladies were singing only with their lips and not from their hearts. So convinced was he that his impressions were from God that at the close of the service he engaged the young ladies in loving and earnest conversation. He spoke searchingly to the hearts of those young ladies until finally they broke down and confessed that they were singing for self-glory and the praise of man. Then and there they were delivered from

the deadly sin of taking empty, or vainly, things sacred upon their lips! May we be prevented from singing, "Take my life and let it be, consecrated, Lord, to Thee," when we don't mean it!

PRAYER THOUGHT

All the beautiful songs in the world will not effectively praise the Father unless sung from sincere hearts. Anyone who sings for man's applause has only served himself, not God.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 19:22

HE ACTED OUT THE MEANING

A little girl in Boston became critically ill. She was visited by Dr. Phillips Brooks whose Sunday school she had attended. As he stood at her bedside he noticed how uncomfortable she looked as she lay propped up in her bed. The pillow was sagging and the sheets were wrinkled. "Little girl, let me lift you clear off your bed while Mother smooths it and makes it comfortable for you," he said tenderly. After the bed was tidied up, he gently laid her down. Soon she fell asleep.

When the little girl awakened she said to her mother, "Oh, Mother, how good it felt to have someone lift me who is strong enough to feel no strain!"

That night the nurse read this verse from the Bible to her little patient: "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." Said the little girl, "I now know what that verse means. Dr. Brooks acted out its meaning when he visited me!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How comforting to know that Someone, the God of Heaven, will "lift us up" and smooth out the wrinkles of life.

THURSDAY, MAY 29

Scripture Reading—John 3:16;
1 Timothy 1:15

SAVED

"Why do you want to join the church?" asked the pastor of a little boy. "Because I want to show publicly that Jesus has saved me," said the boy. "Do you feel that you are saved? Who saved you?" The boy replied, "It is the work of Jesus Christ and myself!" "Of yourself? What was your part in your being saved?" asked the pastor. Said the boy, "I repented, and Jesus did the rest!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Lord will save whosoever comes to Him in faith, believing. He paid the price for all sin, for all time.

FRIDAY, MAY 30

Scripture Reading—Matthew
25:13

IF CHRIST SHOULD COME SUNDAY

If Christ should come next Sunday,
And it may be that He will,
Would the thing that I'll be doing
Set the Master's heart athrill?

If the Christ should come next
Sunday

Would He find me loyal, true,
In my place with my influence
Doing what He'd have me do?

If the Christ should come next
Sunday,

Let's suppose He came at ten,
Would He hear me answer
"present"

In the class I should attend?

If the Christ should come next
Sunday,

If He came just at eleven,
Would He find me in His service,
Singing praises unto Heaven?

PRAYER THOUGHT

A portion of each Sunday should be spent in the Lord's house, the church. Where else can one worship Him so well with fellow believers? If He should come next Sunday, wouldn't you want to be found "in place"?

SATURDAY, MAY 31

Scripture Reading—Psalm 107:
29; Isaiah 25:4

STORM

God washed the world last night
With sweet, refreshing rain;
And thirsty earth reached up to
drink
Of that life-giving gain.

God washed my heart last night
With tears, both bitter, sweet;
He probed in hidden corners,
dark
And washed it clear, complete.

"My child," His voice spoke
sweet and low,
"This storm came as a
grace;
Lean hard upon my breast, dear
one,
And look into my face."

Completely spent, I looked and
prayed,
"Dear Father, be it Thine,
To mold and make me as Thou
wilt,
Thy will forever mine."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God controls the elements. Every work of nature is done at His bidding. Let no one suggest that natural occurrences happen by chance.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

**A grateful mind is
both great and a
happy mind.**

MINISTER APPRECIATES ARTICLES/EDITORIALS

Dear Editor Manning,

I have followed your historical sketches of the various Free Will Baptist Churches in North Carolina with a great deal of interest in recent months. I am somewhat of a "self-styled historian" and I have found these reports most interesting and helpful.

This letter should have been written several weeks ago. Often, editors only hear when a complaint is offered by a reader. However, I write to applaud you for some recent excellent editorials and articles. I refer specifically to "Don't Be Taken in by the Glitter," which was carried in the February 27 issue of the "Baptist." Also, "Blessed Handkerchiefs and Such" in the March 19 issue was badly needed. I also enjoyed the article by Mr. Harrison on "By the Light of Mr. Moon." Finally, the interesting "Thoughts on the Electronic Church" by DeWayne Eakes was overdue.

You are doing us a service with these thought-provoking editorials and articles. You are saying some things that need to be said and you are saying them well. What I am trying to say, is, you are right on target. Keep telling it in plain, understandable language. We need it. Few are telling it. Carry on!

Yours truly,

George C. Lee, Pastor
Victory Free Will Baptist Church
Goldsboro, North Carolina

WALTER B. CARTER

The Rev. Walter B. Carter, 67, of Rockingham, died Sunday, April 13. Funeral services were held at 5 p. m., Tuesday, April 16, at the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, where he pastored for more than forty-four years. Burial followed in Richmond County Memorial Park.

Surviving are a son, Austin Carter of Faison, and five grandchildren.

North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary

TREASURER'S REPORT

End of Fourth Quarter, April 30, 1980

*Christian Service Fund:

Missions
Mount Olive College
Children's Home
Cragmont Assembly
Superannuation
Retirement Homes
Totals

⊗ 10 percent retained for promotion
(see receipts \$108.72)

Balance in Bank, January 31, 1980 \$4,104.02

Receipts

General Fund			
Life Membership Fees	30.00		
Contributions	59.40		
Per Capita Dues	758.37		
Promotional (CSF)	108.72		
Registration Fees	<u>80.00</u>	1,036.49	
Denominational Enterprises		<u>11,740.22</u>	
Total Receipts			<u>12,776.71</u>
Total for Which to Account			<u>16,880.73</u>

Disbursements

Convention Expenses and Allocations	397.80		
Denominational Enterprises	<u>11,740.22</u>		
Total Disbursed			<u>12,138.02</u>
Balance in Bank, April 30, 1980			<u><u>\$4,742.71</u></u>

Banks

Branch Banking and Trust Company	\$1,742.71
Church Finance Association	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total	<u><u>\$4,742.71</u></u>

Denominational Enterprise Report

	Itemized	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions)		\$1,485.57	\$1,485.57
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	262.40		
Mexico	225.00		
Baker	19.20		
State Project (Missionary Wives)	<u>1,571.28</u>	2,077.88	2,077.88
Central Conference Missions		170.00	170.00
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	57.27		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	47.50		
Books	10.00		
State Project (College Hall)	1,270.33		
Anna Phillips Student Aid Fund	<u>187.55</u>	1,572.65	1,572.65
Children's Home:			
General Fund	306.25		
Clothing	200.00		
Child Support	290.00		
Allowance	15.00		
Music	45.00		
State Project (Microwave Ovens)	1,495.59		
Child's Trip to Cragmont	<u>50.00</u>	2,401.84	2,401.84
Superannuation		285.46	285.46
Cragmont Assembly:			
Building Fund		1,851.93	1,851.93
Retirement Homes		841.41	841.41
Life Membership Fees (Mount Olive College)		75.00	75.00

A WOMAN HONORED AT FIRST CHURCH, TARBORO

by Mrs. Emily Long



Marie Joyner and Clara Mills

On February 3, 1980, the Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tarboro, North Carolina, recognized and honored two of its women.

The purpose of the Woman's Auxiliary is "Women working together in Christian Service." Each year, the auxiliary honors a member who has been very concerned, very active, and devoted to the auxiliary. Any woman in the auxiliary can receive this honor. It is given through a point system made by the auxiliary, and the woman scoring the most points receives this award. The winner this year for her work during 1979 is Mrs. Clara Mills. The second highest is Mrs. Emily Long and the third highest is Mrs. Inez Wooten.

The Woman of the Year Life Membership Award goes to Mrs. Clara Mills. She won this award in 1977 and again in 1979. When

217.44
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 108.72

<u>978.48</u>	<u>978.48</u>
<u>\$11,740.22</u>	<u>\$11,740.22</u>

Respectfully submitted,
 Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, Treasurer

living testimony and souls have been saved by her witness.

It is not only an honor, but a great privilege to present this award to one of the best examples of a Christian at work. God bless you, "Sis," and may God continue to use you in His service.

SPECIAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

by Mrs. Clara Mills



Marie Joyner and Alberta Best

The second award given on February 3, 1980, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, was a Special Woman of the Year Award given by the auxiliary of the church. For the past several years, the auxiliary has been honoring a second woman. The purpose of this award is to honor a deserving lady that was unable to win by the point system because of health or age but has been very active in past years. This year the award goes to Mrs. Alberta Best.

Mrs. Best came to us from Hugo Free Will Baptist Church in Lenoir County. When she came to Tarboro with her first husband, Mr. Leo Dail, they started to look for a church but realized that there wasn't a Free Will Baptist Church here. So they both became instrumental in helping to organize our church here in Tarboro of which she is a charter member. Years later, her husband, Leo, died. This was a grief and loss to our church.

She, however, did not stop serving the Lord. Because of her love, she helped to make this church lovely. She fixed flowers to help beautify our church for several years until her health began to fail. She was willing to help keep the church clean or perform any other task that she could do. She has given her time, her talents and her money to this church and auxiliary. She has also given many hymnals to this church. She has been an inspiration and good influence to many people in this community because of her courage, faithfulness, her love and devotion to first of all God, then second her friends or anyone that she could help.

She has been active in our auxiliary for many years. She was a member of the first circle, the Dorcas Circle. When that circle began to grow, she joined the Willing Workers Circle, in which she is active today. Because of failing health in the later years, she has had to slow down some. This lovely lady has been a Christian and a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church for 65 years.

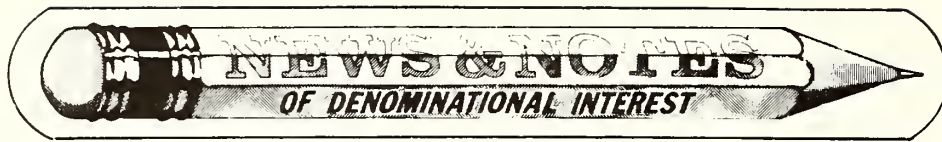
About five years ago, she met Mr. Al Best. Later, they were united in marriage. This very deserving lady is Mrs. Alberta Best and will soon be eighty years young and still is willing to do service for her Lord. Congratulations and may God bless you is our prayer.

WOMAN'S CONFERENCE AT CAMP VANDEMERE

The Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere is June 16-20. That's the week after Father's Day and we're looking forward to a memorable week.

Don't forget to select your Woman of the Year and send her resume to me before June 1. We hope she will be at the Conference for the week.

Monday will be Woman of the Year Day, with something special.
 (Continued on Page 15)



Reedy Branch "Believers" Present Program

On Sunday night, May 11, 1980, "The Believers" of Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina, presented Dottie Rambo's "Down By the Creekbank."

The program centered around a group of children having a picnic on a creekbank. Each child performed a solo giving thanks to God for His many blessings.

The play was held in the fellowship building. It was well attended. Everyone had a night to remember.

The background scene was painted by Joan Hooks and the Rev. Willis Wilson built the stage. Charles Little and Allen Moye were in charge of audio and lighting for the play.

"The Believers" are one of the youth groups of the church. They are directed by Paula Mills, Becky Moye, and Ardeth Little.

St. Mary's Church Pastor Resigns

The Rev. Raymond (Rod) Jones, pastor of St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, 314 Fleet Street, New Bern, North Carolina, resigned the pastorate of the church May 18, 1980, to become effective August 16. Mr. Jones began his services at St. Mary's church July 7, 1974, after serving the Unity Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina, for five years. His present plans are indefinite.

Eastern Conference Minister's Retreat To Be Held

The Eastern Conference Minister's Retreat will be May 30, 31, 1980, at Camp Vandemere. Activities will begin Friday

evening with supper and will close with lunch Saturday.

The study and discussion this year will be centered around the topic "Christian Worship." The highlight of the program will be the worship on Friday evening with the Rev. Adrian Grubbs, pastor of Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church as the speaker.

Any minister (regardless of Conference) is welcome to attend, but all must make reservations with Ralph Sumner, P. O. Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina 28571; telephone 249-1329.

The Rev. Bruce Dudley is the clerk of the Eastern Conference.

Mother's Day at Reedy Branch Church

Mother's Day at Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina, was filled with joy and thanksgiving.

The service started with special music by "The Lord's Army."

Then there was recognition of special mothers. The youngest mother was Mrs. Sandra Bowen; the oldest mother, Mrs. Sue Vincent; mother with the youngest baby, Mrs. Terri Lackey; and the mother with the most family present, Mrs. Lena Hooks McLawhorn. Each was presented a long-stemmed red rose.

The Rev. Willis Wilson dedicated the babies born since last Mother's Day. They were: Brook Barrington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Barrington; Kennie Tucker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leland Tucker; Eric Brann, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Brann Jr.; Kelley Smart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Smart; Chris Lackey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lackey; Caroline McDonald, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob McDonald.

Each baby was presented a certificate of dedication and a New Testament.

Mother-Daughter Banquet Held At St. Mary's Church, New Bern

The annual Mother-Daughter Banquet was held Friday, May 2, by the Woman's Auxilliary of St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern. This year's theme, "Sounds of Spring," was a take-off on the presentation of high fashions to the world. Much laughter, good food, and fellowship inspired some of the men of the church to inquire as to why there is no Father-Son Banquet.

St. Mary's is also presently involved in a Sunday school membership campaign called "Reaching Out." The project will run for two months with a projected goal of 25 new members. The opposing team will treat the winning team with an outing this summer.

Junior-Senior Weekend at Camp Vandemere

High School Juniors and Seniors are invited for a weekend of fun and adventure, May 23-25, 1980, at Camp Vandemere. The cost will be \$19.95. The following will be in charge of the program: producer, Dianne Riley; director, Craig Simmons; technical director, Jackie Simmons; audio-visual, Doug Skinner; screenplay, Vernon McCoy; and light technician, Linda McCoy.

FORMER EDITOR PASSES

The Rev. I. J. Blackwelder of Lake Butler, Florida, a former editor/writer for the Free Will Baptist Press, passed away May 10. Funeral services were conducted at Lake Butler by the Revs. Homer Willis and L. C. Johnson. Mr. Blackwelder was 83.

We extend our sincerest sympathies to Mrs. Blackwelder and the family.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

1980 GRADUATES



Class of 1980 Mount Olive College

FREE WILL BAPTISTS MAKE UP ONE-THIRD OF CLASS

Thirty-one Free Will Baptist students graduated with the ninety-six members of the Class of 1980 during Commencement Exercises at Mount Olive College held Friday, May 9.

The students include: Associate in Arts degrees to Melanie Annette Creech (First Church, Goldsboro), Sonya Faye McCoy with high honors (Hugo church, Hookerton), Paula Renee Neighbors with honors (Hodges Chapel, Dunn), and Jeanette Thomas (Bridgeton church, Bridgeton).

Associate in Science degrees were earned by: Bernice Kay Barbour with high honors (Hopewell church, Smithfield), Julia Kimberly Braxton (First Church, Wilson), Janet Ruth Brewer (Dublin Grove, Aurora),

Joseph Neil Brogden (Northeast church, Mount Olive), Cathy Ann Cook (First Church, Wilson), Marilyn Ann Dail (Grimsley church, Snow Hill), Virginia Ann Dawson (White Oak Grove, LaGrange), Melanie Jayne Herring (Casey's Chapel, Goldsboro), Alice Lynn Hines (Winterville church, Winterville), and Jimmy Dwayne Hines (Winterville church, Winterville).

Also, Tamara Williamson Hines, originally from Milbournie church outside Wilson, but attending Casey's Chapel outside Goldsboro where her husband, Bryant, pastors; Katie Ruth Isler (Walnut Creek, Wayne County), the Rev. Emmitt Earl Jones (pastor of Grants Chapel, Mount Olive), Jacqueline Jones with high honors (Northeast church, Mount

Olive), Debra Jeanette Jordan (Colquitt church in Colquitt, Georgia), Teresa Dawn Kelly with high honors (Holly Springs, Newport), Jeanne Yvette Kittrell with high honors (Crab Point, Morehead City), Debra Lynn Parrish with honors (Sidney church, Belhaven), Charlene Lee Richardson (Smyrna church, New Bern) and Michael Dean Rouse (Daly's Chapel, Seven Springs).

And, Kathryn Jo Shackelford (Free Union, Walstonburg), Debbie Sharp (Marsh Swamp church, Kenly), Sheri McKay Slaughter with high honors (Holly Springs church, Newport), Karen Gray Taylor (Deep Run church, Deep Run), Mary Lynette Turner with high honors (Spring Hill church, Goldsboro), Roy Ben Twisdale (Community church, Weldon), and James Andrews Whitfield with honors (Faith church, Newport).

TOP AWARDS



Students receiving major awards during the Mount Olive College Awards Day are, seated, left to right, Tina Bell Wiggins, Henderson Science Club Award; Trudy Corbett from Howell Swamp church, (Greene County), Faculty Award; Lynette Turner from Spring Hill church (Goldsboro), Johnson Business Award, and Lois Venable from Sandy Plain church (Duplin County), Art Scholarship Achievement Award. Standing, left to right, Darney Barefoot, President's Citizenship Award; Steele Sasser, Cora Lee Spivey, Music Award; Jerry Allen, a licensed Free Will Baptist minister, Ministerial Scholarship Award; Al Elrod, Most Outstanding Intramural

(Continued on Page 15)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR JUNE 1

THE REIGN OF HEZEKIAH

Lesson Text: 2 Chronicles 29:3-6,
10; 30:23-27

Memory Verse: 2 Kings 18:5

I. INTRODUCTION

The Prophet Isaiah lived in Judah in a time when sin and corruption filled the land. The people in their wickedness were like Sodom and Gomorrah (Isaiah 1:10), and the land was suffering the awful consequences of its sins. There was a shallow pretense of religion—throngs of people literally “trampled” the temple courts to bring their animal sacrifices—but in vain. The Lord said, “When ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you; yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear; your hands are full of blood” (Isaiah 1:15).

Yet this terrible denunciation was followed by a great promise. If the sinful people would put away their sins, there was yet hope. “Cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow” (Isaiah 1:16, 17). Then was given God’s wonderful invitation and its accompanying promise: “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool” (1:18).

However corrupt, however depraved a people may be, there is healing available from the Lord. And so it was with Judah. Healing for the land was possible, but only if they would

turn away from their sins and seek the ways of God. **Religious reform was a must.—Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Last summer we traced the steps that led to the downfall of Samaria, capital of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, which brought about the captivity of that kingdom by Assyria in 722 B. C. Now, in the fourteen sessions of this quarter—we have an extra Sunday this time—we will follow the events that brought about the fall of the Southern Kingdom, Judah, which lasted some 136 years after Israel’s sad ending. Israel’s kingdom, composed of ten tribes, began with Jeroboam and ended with Hoshea, for a period of 260 years. Judah’s kingdom, composed of two tribes, Judah and Benjamin, began with Rehoboam and ended with Zedekiah, for a period of 395 years.

B. These lessons form a study of Judah’s later history, beginning with the reign of Hezekiah, and are designed to show how the Southern Kingdom, despite her superior advantages over Israel, was destined to fall for many of the same reasons her sister kingdom to the north fell.

C. Today’s lesson will show the recurring need for reform in Judah because of the weakness of some of her kings before Hezekiah, principally Hezekiah’s father, Ahaz, of whom it was written, “. . . but he did not that which was right in the sight of the LORD . . .” (2 Chronicles 28:1).

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Hezekiah began to reign when he was twenty-five years old, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem as ruler of the southern kingdom of Judah. He was one of Judah’s best kings. This lesson is concerned with the reign of Hezekiah and the religious reforms that he introduced during his reign.

B. One of the first things that Hezekiah did after he became king was to open the temple which had been closed. First, he took out the altars that had been erected to idols and false gods. Then he erected altars to the true God. One must always get rid of that which is evil and wrong before he can fill his heart and life with things which are right and noble. Good and evil will not mix.

C. One of the great accomplishments of Hezekiah was to re-establish the Passover which had long ceased in Jerusalem and the temple because of the sinfulness of the people and the wickedness of the kings who led them. You will remember that the Passover was the feast celebrating their passage from Egypt to the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land. This feast helped the people to recognize who they were and to be grateful to God for His blessings upon them.

D. Hezekiah could tell that the people needed a reform because of the condition of the house of God and the state of public worship. Isn’t this a good criterion today to show the need for revival? When about fifty percent of the members of our churches no longer attend public worship with any regularity, one can know that the church needs real revival!

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

MAY IS
CHILDREN’S HOME
MONTH

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

OBSERVE

“SUPERANNUATION DAY”

JUNE 15, 1980

IN

YOUR CHURCH

The third Sunday in June, Father's Day, was designated by the State Convention as "Superannuation Day" in our Free Will Baptist Churches.

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- 4. Remembering to Support the Program with Your Prayers and Gifts Throughout the Year.**

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Children's Home

Stewart Humphrey
Executive Director

OUR HOUSEPARENTS SPEAK

by Jim and Sonya Holder

Many people have asked us as houseparents how we would feel about minority children living in our cottage. We have been asked if we would treat them differently, or if our cottage routine would be upset.

Over the last few months we have asked ourselves the above questions and a few others. Every time a question arose the same answer always came to us: God doesn't like our prejudices! We were raised in the South; consequently, our prejudices were once deep and strong. However, once we turned to the Bible for answers we quickly found them in the teachings of our Lord and the writings of Paul.

Jesus perhaps gave us the clearest answer through His dealings with people. Jesus was a Jew, and as such it was unthinkable for Him to pass through the land of Samaria. It was even more unthinkable for Him to have any contact of any kind with the Samaritan woman who came to draw water from the well. Yet out of His love and compassion for all people, He reached out and gave her the greatest gift He had.

In Jesus' day it was against all the rules and practices for Him to even talk to a woman like Mary Magdalene. It was unthinkable for a "good" man to eat with a tax-collector. It was even worse to deal with the Roman centurions and to willingly help them in any way, whatever the circumstances. Yet in each of these cases Jesus went against the prejudices of His day and willingly offered each of these people the gift of life. He forgave Mary Magdalene's sins and accepted her as a person of

worth. He called Matthew, a tax collector, to be one of the 12, and He healed the Roman centurion's child of a fatal disease.

Jesus put it best in His story of the Good Samaritan. In Jesus' day Samaritans were hated and despised by the Jews, and the Samaritans felt the same way about the Jews. The Jews considered the Samaritans inferior, both religiously and physically. Yet Jesus tells us of a despised Samaritan who helped a Jew left almost dead by thieves on a lonely road. The Samaritan had every reason to simply pass on his way just as the priest and the Levite had done earlier. Yet he bandaged his wounds and placed him in an inn, paid for it with his own money, and even promised more if it was needed. Jesus said it clearly in this parable: Prejudice is wrong.

How many times do we as Christians talk about the love of God? Yet we don't love our brothers of other races, creeds, or colors. As Christians and houseparents, we would gladly welcome any child into our cottage. Jesus plainly said in Luke 18:16, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God." Every child deserves the chance to have a good home. Every child, no matter his race, creed, or color, has the God-given right to be raised in a Christian environment.

(Jim and Sonya Holder are houseparents in Central Cottage. Both are dedicated Christians. Jim's father is a pastor in South Carolina. Sonya is attending weekly classes building her skills as a child care worker. Jim is a student at Southeastern Seminary at Wake Forest. They have been with the Home about a year.)

"NOTHING TO FEAR"

by Stewart Humphrey

The late President Franklin D. Roosevelt told our nation in World War II that we had "nothing to fear, but fear itself." The same is true of our Children's Home in regard to our receiving children from public agencies. The fear that government would take over or even dictate policies for our Children's Home is unfounded. Twenty-six of the twenty-eight children's homes in this state receive children through the counties. We talked to each one of the directors of these homes and not one single one had had any interference from government in any way since complying several years ago. There are no additional requirements or guidelines that must be met other than those already being met.

Fear and idle conjecture on the part of too many people cast a bad reflection on the good as well as the bad that go on in our country. Laws are enacted to protect the innocent, the weak, the poor and the deprived, as well as those of us who have been successful. The failure to provide equality and justice has resulted in many often unwanted guidelines on us all. These guidelines become burdens only when we are not concerned about the best interests of citizens.

Every child has a right under the law for a good home. Many children are brought into the world by thoughtless parents. For years the church and public agencies have sought to assume the responsibility of these unwanted children. The child care agencies in this state were largely founded and operated by the church. Christians have always led the way in establishing justice and equality for all mankind, including children. The guidelines and standards we Christians have set for ourselves far exceed any set up by the government; con-

Turn the Page

sequently, we have nothing to fear from government.

Government funds will probably never amount to more than one-third of our total budget. If our people continue to give faithfully, we should and never would, hopefully, become dependent on public funding. The same is true for the intake of children. Not one single home reported that they had been forced to take a child they were not prepared to serve. Of course, we could not deny a child solely on the basis of his color or national origin, nor would we want to, anyway. God loves all the children of the world, the red, the yellow, the black, and the white, and who are we to reject one of His little ones. No responsible child-placing agency would place a child in unfavorable circumstances. That's child abuse and that's what we are attempting to protect children from, anyway. Every child placed is so placed because of his or her needs. If an agency is not prepared to meet the child's needs, then another placement is arranged.

There are no quotas for racial mixtures in children's homes. The basic reason is that children's homes have not attempted to deny the constitutional and God given rights of children. About 22 percent of our nation's population is made up of blacks. The average population of black children in North Carolina children's homes is about 10 percent. For our campus this means about four to six children. These four to six may very well be placed in foster homes or group homes provided by black families.

The fear that government or blacks would take over the Children's Home is totally unfounded. If these are our only reasons for denying the Home the opportunity to receive children from public agencies, then we have no reasons. Will we deny 75 white children a Christian home each year in order to keep from serving a

small number of minority children? We certainly hope not! "We have nothing to fear, but fear itself."

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Continued from Page 11

Male Participant; and Pat Jones from Mount Zion church in Washington County, Most Outstanding Intramural Female Participant.

DR. RAPER TO PREACH

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will preach at Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Wilson, on Sunday, May 25, at the 11 a. m. worship hour.

The Rev. David Charles Hansley is pastor.

"STUDENT OF WEEK" IS CATHY MOSS



Cathy Moss

At age 18, Cathy Moss is a young woman reaching out.

"I just like people and enjoy listening to them," she said rather shyly.

A 1979 graduate of Bath High School, Cathy is a freshman at Mount Olive College this year.

"I've found some good Christian fellowship on campus and feel good about my life here," Cathy stated.

As a member of the Free Will Baptist Fellowship, Cathy was elected secretary. She recently brought her pastor, the Rev. Marvin Waters, to campus to give a program about his experiences at the college when he was enrolled. He pastors Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church.

"Because I like to listen to others, I feel maybe counseling would be a good major. I just haven't made up my mind what's best. Just having someone listen and care is an important part in helping and being a friend to others."

In keeping with her own evaluation, Cathy's nominator for "student of the week" described her as "a terrific friend who has a real concern for others and the way they feel."

Although Cathy wonders about her direction in the years ahead, her quiet, peaceful countenance makes one feel she will definitely find her place in life.

Cathy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Moss of Pinetown.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

(Continued from Page 9)

cial in her honor. If she can't stay the whole week, at least have her there for the day and through the evening service. We want to meet her and enjoy her!

In 1979 we had five. How many will we have in 1980?

Nina Grace Register

ATTENTION LADIES!

Registration for the August 4-9 Cragmont Woman's Conference is filled. Please make registration for the week of August 11-16. If this is impossible, we will try to make adjustments.

Dola Dudley

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...the Jews did not believe that he had been blind, until they called him that had received his sight.

36 He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him?

37 And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee.

38 And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.

39 And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see, and that they which see might be made blind.

40 And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also?

41 Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin; but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.

CHAPTER 10
VERILY, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

3 To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

4 And when he putteth forth his own

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Wednesday, May 28, 1980, Ayden, North Carolina

THE INABILITY TO BE PERFECT

For centuries persons have been advised not to be too harsh with themselves and have felt some consolation at the hearing of the assurance, "Nobody's perfect." Too many have accepted these words as a personal excuse for doing inferior work; others have used them as a pretext for doing wrong. In either case there is cause for concern.

Not many people need to be convinced that the only man ever to have lived a perfect life was Christ. And no one in his right mind would suggest that anyone could successfully emulate His life, but that should not prevent the attempt.

On one occasion Christ actually told His followers to be perfect, which was probably an exhortation to better themselves. If anyone ever becomes satisfied with his level of character development and improvement, there is strong indication that he has stopped growing spiritually.

Spiritual improvement and growth should be daily considerations; in fact, they are mandated by the Bible. The one who falls short repeatedly might use his not being perfect as an apology for everything he does or does not do, but it is doubtful that God will look favorably toward the chronic offender.

Sloppy work and living are two of the many fruits of the "Nobody's perfect" syndrome. It seems much too convenient a phrase for those who don't really care how poorly they do. It offers hollow consolation for the ones who may be victims of neglect or abuse.

Sometimes the flagrant sinner uses the phrase to worm his way out of a compromising situation. It may work with man but certainly not with God.

Many will agree that some persons impose illogical restrictions and impossible expectations upon themselves. They may therefore feel strained while trying to accomplish some end. They perhaps overperform because of the desire for excellence. They may indeed die trying.

But others who have limited aims to begin with and who feel obliged to explain away failure with a convenient alibi should not be tolerated at all. God is not mocked; and neither should man be mocked.

Society in general might be better if "Nobody's perfect" were not a point of reference. The expression has certainly been abused and will continue to be misused as long as we sigh and accept it as a reasonable excuse.

Nobody's perfect but God. But that's no excuse for not trying.

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches sent the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9:00 a. m.—5:00 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

D. W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivenbark, Vice President; Hubert Burress, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Felton Godwin, Robert May, and Dewey C. Boling.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, Manager; Tommy Manning, Editor of Literature.

History of First Free Will Baptist Church

Greenville, North Carolina

Compiled by
Mrs. Lurlene Averette
and
the Rev. Davie Brinson

IN the year 1902, the Rev. W. H. Laughinghouse and wife, Pamela Ann, organized the Greenville Free Will Baptist Church. It began in a two-room school building located on the corner of Eleventh and Forbes Streets. The church was admitted to the Central Conference on November 5, 1903. In 1905 conference minutes showed the membership to be 38.

With the help of D. J. Whichard of Memorial Baptist Church the Sunday school was organized. The first classes met on Sunday afternoons with Mr. Whichard serving as the first superintendent.

In 1915 under the pastoral care of the Rev. C. B. Jones, the original auditorium was built on the same plot where the first meeting was held, and for the next 60 years this plot, at the corner of Eleventh and Forbes Streets, remained the church site.

The original church building underwent three major renovations. In 1927 the Sunday school rooms adjoining the church were added. In the second building program, under the leadership of the Rev. J. C. Moye, the Sunday school rooms at the rear of the sanctuary were started, and in 1948 they were completed at a cost of approximately \$10,000. Also included in this program were the enlargement and beautification of the sanctuary, the installation of carpet, a heating system, and the donation of a new electric Hammond organ with chimes by Mrs. Sophia B. Hardee. This organ is still in use today in the present structure.

Mrs. Hardee also made as a gift to the church its first church parsonage, located at 303 Meade Street. This gift was accepted by the church on November 30, 1947.

The Rev. R. B. Crawford served as pastor from 1948 until 1964. Under his leadership the church grew and prospered. By 1956 the mem-

bership had grown from 396 to 758 with a Sunday school enrollment of 612.

This growth brought about the need for the third major building program. A \$60,000 Sunday school annex was constructed adjacent to the existing structure. The official groundbreaking ceremony was held on December 12, 1956. This three-level addition added 14 Sunday school classrooms and enlarged the sanctuary.

In the early 1950's the Rev. Rashie Kennedy was instrumental in forming the first mission arm. Grace Free Will Baptist Church was organized and became a member of the Central Conference in 1954 with the Rev. Kennedy serving as the first pastor of this sister church.

The Greenville Free Will Baptist Church enjoyed continued growth throughout the remaining years of the 1950's and into the 1960's. By 1962 the membership had reached 858, the largest in the Central Conference.

At this time the North Carolina State Association withdrew from the National Association and some churches remained with the National Association. The Greenville Free Will Baptist Church chose to remain with the State Association. The minister, Mr. Crawford, resigned to form a new church in Greenville with the National Association, causing the membership of the church to drop from 858 to 454 in 1964.

In 1964 the name was changed from the Greenville Free Will Baptist Church to the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville.

Because of the lack of parking facilities and because the original church was in need of many major repairs, the members voted in 1969 to

Turn the Page

purchase a five-acre tract of land on Highway 43 as the site for a new church building. Ground-breaking for the new church was held in early 1973 and on Sunday, May 19, 1974, dedication services for the new and present church facility were held. The new building consists of a sanctuary which will seat up to 400 and a 15 classroom educational wing. A pastor's study, kitchen and nursery are also included.

In September, 1977, a new parsonage was purchased by the church. The parsonage is located at 110 Bryan Circle, Greenville, North Carolina.

In 1976 the church extended the pastoral call to the Rev. Davie Brinson. Mr. Brinson served the church from June, 1976, to December, 1979.

In March of 1980 the Rev. Harry Grubbs began serving as pastor.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MATTIE B. WOODLIEF

On January 30, 1980, Mrs. Mattie B. Woodlief was called from this earthly life to her heavenly home or the Father's house of many mansions where we can have a home that will not be broken by sorrow or death. She was admitted as a patient in the Jackson Hospital at Marianna, Florida, on January 19 after having a stroke before having the heart attack on January 30 causing her physical death. She was born in Blakely, Georgia, on January 22, 1916, and she was 64 years old at the time of her death. Those that she left behind to mourn her passing include four sons, the Rev. Arnold Woodlief of Marianna, Florida, Bennie Woodlief of Washington, D. C., James Woodlief of Benbrook, Texas, and Douglas Woodlief of Las Vegas, Nevada; one daughter, Mrs. Dianne Smith of Marianna, Florida; 13 grandchildren; and a host of friends.

Funeral services were conducted at the Marvin Chapel Free Will Baptist Church at Marianna, Florida, on February 2, where she was a member. The Rev. James (Jim) Pelt and the Rev. Chester Pelt officiated. The James and Lipford Funeral Home of Marianna, Florida, was

in charge of the arrangements, and interment was in the cemetery of the church.

Those that knew her know that she was joyous, energetic, and influential to the very end. Just before she died in her 64th year, she sat up, looked at her loved ones weeping at the bedside, and said, "Best of all, God is with us!" Indeed, she was like a well-watered tree decked with green and unfading leaves. The godly are like trees planted by the rivers of water when they pass into eternity.

She will be remembered for having rendered distinguished service unto God and others in phases of work in Georgia, Florida, and North Carolina. It was during the Zion Free Will Baptist Bible School in the Sowhatchee Community near Blakely, Georgia, in the early 1930's that she met her husband, the deceased Rev. Maynard B. Woodlief, a native of Wake County, North Carolina, who had come there to be among a few men that were preparing the work in the gospel ministry of Christ. The Free Will Baptists in Florida will remember her having assisted in the kitchen department for youth camps and the camp meeting. She had been a worker in a cafeteria of an elementary school in past years, and she was working as a cotage parent at the Sunland

There are opportunities available for learning God's Word through Sunday school, training through YFA and AFC, participating in Christian service through the Laymen's League, and the Ladies' Auxiliary, and engaging in the missions programs.

Over the past 75 years many individuals have played outstanding roles in the growth and history of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville. We thank God for all who have loved and labored here in the past. Their unwavering faith and magnificent courage have created and sustained a spiritual heritage to be treasured forever. Supported by the prayers of her people, sustained by their sacrificial giving, nurtured by the inspiration of worship and led by the Spirit of God, the First Church will continue to win souls to Christ and bring glory to His name.

Training Center of Marianna, Florida, with retarded persons. She was also active with young people at her church while she was rearing her children, and she held various offices in her church. Her chief concern was the rearing of her children for righteousness; she made the home a little corner of Heaven on earth. Her gentle life spoke of sacrificial labor for her family; her loving voice sang softly of Jesus and His love, and she upheld her family in prayer. With grateful hearts, some of us relive fond memories of such a person. For many, she waits on the shores of glory. For others, her face still smiles in life. And through the shadows of our desperate hours, may her holy influence lead her loved ones, close friends, and many more on toward that Heavenly home.

—Evangelist Arnold Woodlief

CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Highway 58, Snow Hill, North Carolina, is in need of a pastor. If anyone would be interested, please call Elmer E. Harrell, 747-2893 (at night) or Carl Sutton, 747-2123 (at night).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

AN ENDOWMENT



Janet Ruth Brewer

An Endowment established by the class of 1980 in honor of Janet Ruth Brewer was announced by Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, during the 1980 Mount Olive College Commencement Exercises. A member of Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Jan earned an associate in science degree despite many setbacks in dealing with cystic fibrosis, a lung-damaging disease she has had since birth. "Today we strike a light that will leave an eternal flame at Mount Olive College," Dr. Raper said in announcing the scholarship, which has exceeded \$1,400.

Jan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Lee Brewer of Aurora, took four years to complete college because of frequent trips to Duke Medical Center in Durham for treatment. Jan also received the prestigious Jordan Award, given annually to the graduate demonstrating the most outstanding qualifications of

citizenship as selected by the student body. She received a standing ovation when the award was announced and again when the scholarship was announced.

GRADUATION CELEBRATION

The Rev. Emmitt Jones, pastor of Grant's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church outside Seven Springs, and his daughter, Jackie, were congratulated by College President, W. Burkette Raper. Both received associate degrees with the class of 1980. Emmitt, who has attended Mount Olive College on-and-off since 1955, completed his degree at night, taking only two day courses. He calls his learning "a way in which I keep my mind occupied and growing." Jackie, who graduated with high honors, plans to continue her nursing major at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson. Emmitt, who was recently promoted as Line and Service Manager at Carolina Power and Light, plans to continue taking courses at Mount Olive College despite his degree.

HONORED AT GRADUATION

Three Free Will Baptist students were given academic recognition at the 1980 Graduation Ceremony.

Bernice Kay Barbour of Smithfield and Hopewell church, graduated with high honors and was recognized as the female graduate holding the highest academic average. Cathy Seymour of Goldsboro and Living Waters church, and Trudy Corbett of Walstonburg and Howell Swamp church were two

of eight freshmen named as the 1980-81 marshals.

COLLEGE PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday, June 1, at 7 p. m.

The service topic will be Christian Education. The Rev. Gary Bailey is pastor.

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Gifts to Moyer Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of April, 1980 totaled \$549.50 and were as follows:

In Memory of

Mrs. Dorothy H. Albritton by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; and Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive.

Lillian Olivia Banks by Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen Mallard and family, Winston-Salem.

Amanda Raye Batts by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Jean Boynton by Mr. and Mrs. J. Harold Herring, Mount Olive.

Harold Lee Brewer by Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Warwick, and Mrs. Junnie Warren, Newton Grove.

Catherine W. Brittain by Mrs. Sallie Dawson, LaGrange.

David Canady by Miss Rose Rouse, Warsaw; Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; and Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

The Rev. Walter Carter by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; and Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Dempsey Coleman by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Allen M. Cox by Mr. and Mrs. Zach D. Cox, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Connor, Mount Olive.

Chesley G. Curtis by Sunday School, Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Middlesex.

(Continued on Page 15)



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:25

HIS PLAN FOR ME

When I stand at the judgment seat of Christ,
And He shows me His plan for me,
The plan of my life as it might have been
Had He had His way, and I see.

How I blocked Him here, and I checked Him there
And I would not yield my will—
Will there be grief in my Saviour's eyes,
Grief, though He loves me still?

He would have me rich, and I stand there poor,
Stripped of all but His grace,
While memory runs like a hunted thing
Down the paths I cannot retrace.

Then my desolate heart will well-nigh break
With the tears that I cannot shed;
I shall cover my face with my empty hands,
I shall bow my uncrowned head.

Lord of the years that are left to me,
I give them to Thy hand;
Take me and break me, mold me to
The pattern Thou hast planned.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The person is unwise who makes plans or sets goals without considering what God wants for him. Allowing God to lead can make the difference between success and failure—if not in this life, certainly in the next.

MONDAY, JUNE 2

Scripture Reading—John 4:20-26

A PRESCRIPTION FOR WORSHIP

Enter the place of worship a little before the service begins. Enter expectantly. God has promised to meet you there. Whisper a prayer. When the first hymn is announced, open your hymnal to that place. If you cannot sing, follow the words. Bow your head and close your eyes during the prayer. As you give, pray that God will accept the gift. During the special music, be attentive and prayerful. When the minister preaches, pray for him and listen attentively. Be silent except to sing or to say "Amen!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The attitude of worship is as important as the actual worship. The person whose heart is set on God truly honors Him, whether or not he is an active participant in the singing or the usual congregational activities. "Be still and know He is God" is always good advice.

TUESDAY, JUNE 3

Scripture Reading—Acts 24:14

WORSHIP GOD

A grateful father and mother knelt at the feet of a medical missionary, to worship her as a god, for she had restored their child to health. Hastily the missionary cried out to them, "We are not gods. Worship the true God."

"You must be a god," they said; "no one but a god could have saved our child."

"Suppose," said the missionary, "that I wished to bestow a valuable gift upon you and sent it by the hand of one of my coolies; whom would you thank, the coolie or myself?"

"We would thank you, of course; the coolie is your servant."

"And so I am God's coolie, by whose hand God has been pleased to send you this gift of healing, and it is to Him you must now give thanks."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let no one neglect to thank God for His goodness, His unbounded blessings. Let each of us acknowledge His mercy and grace and give Him unreserved praise.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

Scripture Reading—Psalm 25:7; Proverbs 2:17; Jeremiah 32:30

GIVE TO CHRIST YOUR YOUTHFUL YEARS

A Sunday school teacher became deeply concerned for the conversion of a teenage girl in her class. Lovingly and earnestly she spoke to the girl on the all-important subject—her soul's salvation. The girl listened respectfully. She decided against Christ, saying that in later years she would give consideration to her relationship to Christ. The teacher went away with a sad heart. On her way home, she thought of a novel plan to impress on the girl the unfairness of giving her youthful years to sin and then turning to Christ for forgiveness. Stopping at a florist's shop she bought a dozen beautiful roses. She kept the roses in the florist's box for several days. Then she sent them

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

to the girl. The girl was elated to receive the gift until she opened the box and saw the faded and wilted flowers. "Some practical joke has been played on me," she said disgustedly.

Shortly thereafter the teacher called on the girl again. The girl told her about the faded roses she had received. "I sent them," said the teacher. "When you chose not to give Christ your youthful years, you decided to present to Him later a life faded and withered like those roses!" The girl answered, "Teacher, I see it. It will not be that way. I will give myself to Christ right now and live for His glory."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wasted years cannot be recalled into profitable use. Those who are young should seek to serve the Lord in their youth while they are fresh and productive. To live for His glory affords the most rewarding experiences.

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

Scripture Reading—Micah 6:8;
John 3:33

GOOD-BYE, DEAR GOD! GOOD-BYE!

A farmer finished moving the last load of furniture to a home some distance from where he and his family had lived for years. When he returned for his wife and children, his little girl asked, "Is there a church where we are moving to, Daddy?" "No, there isn't," said the father sadly. "Is there a Sunday school there?" "I don't believe there is," said the father. "Well, Daddy, is God there?" asked the little girl sadly. The father didn't reply. The little girl went to her room. She knelt and prayed, "Dear God, we are going to a new home. There is no church there. There is no Sunday school there, and I am afraid there is no God there! Good-bye, dear God! Good-bye!"

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

PRAYER THOUGHT

Of course God is not confined to churches and Sunday schools, but they are important in His kingdom's work. Let us help to make our church and Sunday school conducive to His worship. More importantly, let us worship Him in spirit and truth wherever we happen to be.

FRIDAY, JUNE 6

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 12:25

HE CARETH FOR YOU

What can it mean? Is it aught to Him
That the nights are long, and the days are dim?
Can He be touched by the griefs I bear
That sadden the heart and whiten the hair?
About His throne are eternal calms,
And strong, glad music, and happy psalms,
And bliss unruffled by any strife—
How can He care for my little life?

And yet, I want Him to care for me,
While I live in this life where sorrows be!
When the lights die down from the path I take,
When my strength is feeble, and friends forsake;
When love and music, that once did bless,
Have left me to silence and loneliness,
And my life-song changes to silent prayers,
Then my heart cries out to the God who cares.

O wonderful story of deathless love!
Each child is dear to the Heart above!
He fights for me when I cannot fight,
He comforts me in the gloom of night,
He lifts my burden, for He is strong,

He stills the sigh and awakes the song,
The sorrow that brought me down, He bears,
And loves and pardons, because He cares!

So, all who are sad, take heart again—
We are not alone in our hours of pain;
Our Father stoops from His throne above,
To soothe and quiet us with His love;
He leaves us not, when the storm is high,
And we have safety, for He is high.
All of our troubles He truly doth share;
Oh, rest in peace, for the Lord doth care!

PRAYER THOUGHT

He cares for each of us, no matter how small or insignificant we might consider ourselves. No concern escapes His notice; no sincere prayer is unheard. May we be patient that His will might be done.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

Scripture Reading—Matthew 13:43; Ephesians 4:26

OCEAN SUNSET

The sinking sun drops slowly down
To meet the sea's wide way;
And all of earth is hushed to watch
The ending of the day!

A lone bird calls a single note,
His throat a golden lyre;
Then silence as the sea becomes
A bank of molten fire!

The colors fade, the breakers turn
To heavy midnight black;
As ceaselessly they race along
The white sand's silver track!

Once more the flaming sunset sky
Is blotted out by night;

(Continued on Page 15)

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES FOR APRIL, 1980

Checking Account Balance, 4/1/80 \$ 401.93

	Receipts	
Albemarle Conference		
Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	8.00	
Beaufort Mission	5.00	
Union Chapel	<u>33.37</u>	46.37
Central Conference		
Fourth Union Convention	13.28	
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	44.78	
Williamston, First	31.93	
Elm Grove	400.00	
Black Jack	300.00	
Tarboro, First	200.00	
Otter's Creek	130.00	
Second Union Meeting	12.76	
Hugo	75.00	
Friendship	25.00	
Reedy Branch Sunday School	14.00	
Bethany	95.28	
Hickory Grove	<u>60.00</u>	1,402.03
Cape Fear Conference		
Haymount Mission	68.50	
Hopewell	54.02	
Johnston Union	20.00	
Wooten's Chapel	65.97	
Palmer Memorial	40.88	
Lee's Chapel, Fellowship Class	86.32	
Catalpa Mission	25.00	
Nellie Jones	<u>20.00</u>	380.69
Eastern Conference		
Mount Zion	25.00	
Rock of Zion	200.00	
St. Mary's	182.50	
Fifth Union Sunday School Convention	10.00	
Oriental	18.00	
Third Union District Sunday School Convention	25.00	
Fifth Union Conference	30.00	
Third Union District	<u>40.00</u>	530.50
Piedmont Conference		
Highland Pines	<u>50.00</u>	50.00
Western Conference		
Piney Grove	30.00	
Flood's Chapel	5.00	

Pleasant Plain	1
Pleasant Grove	1,3
Sherron Acres	1
First Union Conference	1
Free Union	2
Kenly	1
Milbournie	
Trinity, Estella Phillips	

Others, not Identified by Conference	
Transfer from General Savings	1,5
Retreat Deposits	
General Youth Conference	4
John R. Williams	
Employee Reimbursement for Use of Camp Phone	
D. G. Jones Jr. Dorcas Circle	
Total Receipts	

Expenses	
Salaries	
Insurance	
Utilities and Phone Service	
Cash Transfers to:	
General Savings	1,4
Building Fund	1
Camp Account	1,4
Bank Service Charge	
Employee Benefits	
Food	
Office Supplies	
Board Meeting Expense	
Postage	
Love Gift	
Professional Services	
Miscellaneous	
Checking Account Balance, 4 / 30 / 80	

General Savings	
Balance, 4 / 1 / 80	
Transfer from Checking	1,4
Transfer to Checking	1,5
Interest Earned	
Balance, 4/1/80	

Building Fund	
Balance, 4/1/80	
Transfer from Checking	1
Balance, 4/30/80	

Balance, 4/1/80	
Revenues	1,7
Expenses	1,2
Balance, 4/30/80	

Total of All Funds on Hand, 4 / 30 / 80

May is Child

THE BOOK CORNER

by Frank R. Harrison

NEW LIFE IN THE CHURCH by Robert A. Raines (Harper and Row) is a book written to help ministers and laymen recover the true life and mission of the church; while at the same time, it will confront and warn those who want an easy religion or who seek to take the challenge out of the call of Jesus to obedient discipleship. It is a book written to the church and for the church with some very practical suggestions on how the central mission may be recovered.

The book opens with the chapter "The Loss of Mission," which provides a good analysis of how the power and inner life of the church has too often withered away with unsuspecting ease as culture and church become "friends" to the point that the church is no longer changing culture, but is being changed by culture. Thus, ". . . the church is not enabling her people to live with a purpose in a world without purpose The people believe in God and support the institution of the church and enter into its activities, but they do not believe they are chosen to be salt, light, and leaven in the world. They do not believe they are chosen to be Christ's witnesses in the world." (P. 15)

Raines seeks to understand the church in light of the New Testament demands, saying: "Her mission is to lose her life in the world, that her life and the world's life may be saved We have declined the cross which beckons us into a world of suffering, evil, and injustice. We have turned away from reconciling the world, thinking it enough to be reconciled ourselves The church becomes the mouthpiece of the people instead of the voice of God. The world believes it has tamed and domesticated the church and can keep her busily occupied in cultivating her own garden. The world has pulled the teeth of the church and no longer listens to her enfeebled message." (P. 17)

If the church is to recover its life and mission, there must be a "new creation," a conversion in the church. This conversion comes out of an experience of confrontation with Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church. Lives can be changed. The power and presence of Christ can become a reality by His Holy Spirit who touches us, jars us, and enables us to fulfill our mission as the people of God in the world.

NEW LIFE IN THE CHURCH is a book that calls Christians to examine themselves and seek to be God's people in Jesus Christ and by His power fulfill His mission.

2,253.75

2,082.85

\$6,746.19

\$1,753.34
152.99

278.92

2,993.21
8.00
89.58
572.12
45.26
374.60
2.25
200.00
186.84
35.32

6,692.43
\$ 455.69

1,169.91

(.44)

1,169.47

2,115.93

2,235.93

473.02

473.02

4,334.11

Respectfully submitted
John R. Watson, Treasurer

Home Month

North Carolina Woman's Auxilliary

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxilliary Convention held its Fifty-Third Annual Session, Thursday, May 8, 1980, at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina. The meeting was hosted by the Central District Woman's Auxilliary Convention.

The theme for the day was "For This Cause I Bow My Knees."

The Scripture used as a basis for the theme was "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 3:14).

The opening hymn, "O Worship the King," was led by Mrs. Alma Dale, who directed the music, accompanied by Mrs. Alma Buck at the organ and Mrs. Rex Wainright at the piano.

Mrs. James Joyner, President of the Western District, gave the morning devotions, "Unto the Father." The Rev. L. B. Woodall gave the invocation.

Mrs. Frances Carraway, President of the Central District, extended a very warm welcome to the convention. Mrs. C. I. Godwin, President of the Cape Fear District, graciously responded.

Mrs. Rachel Duncan, President of the Convention, recognized ministers, officers, and delegates in attendance after which she challenged the auxiliary women to continue the work for the Lord in her President's message.

Mrs. W. B. Raper read the minutes which were adopted.

Mrs. Dale led the congregation in singing "Happiness Is the Lord."

The Rev. Stewart Humphrey, Executive Director of the Children's Home, brought greet-

ings from the Home and expressed appreciation for the Convention having exceeded their goal of \$3,000. The amount which was given was some over \$10,000. He requested that the project for 1980-81 be a media center, needed for children who were behind in their studies. On motion, the project was adopted.

The Rev. Joe Ingram, Director of Foreign Missions, also thanked the Auxilliary for exceeding their goal. The \$3,500 goal for 1980-81 will still be applied to support for the women serving on the Mission Field.

Mrs. David Hansley, Youth Chairman, gave a report on the State Youth Convention and announced the YFA Declamation winners as Lynne O'Neal; runner-up was Lisa Carraway. YFA essay winners were Vickie Ellis; runner-up, Anita J. Cahoon. AFC winners were Jeff Pittman; runner-up, Sheila Little.

Mrs. Hansley introduced Don Ribeiro, New President of the Youth Convention, who extended greetings to the group.

New topics announced for the Youth next year will be: Declamation—"Absolute Aliveness," and Essays—"Redeeming the Time."

Mrs. Martha Pittman of Saratoga church read a beautiful tribute to Mrs. Rosa Proctor, Vice President, who was presented the Life Membership Award by the Convention.

Mrs. Dianne Riley spoke briefly for Christian Education and encouraged support in building College Hall.

Mrs. Dola Dudley announced the two Woman's Conferences at Cragmont for August 4-9 and August 11-16.

The worship service was begun by the singing of "My Saviour's Love." The worship offering was

taken. The Rev. John Owens gave the offertory.

The Bethany Trio presented special music, "I Want Jesus More Than Anything." A member of the trio, Mrs. Judy Dail Bowen, sang, "My House Is Full But My Fields Are Empty."

Mrs. Duncan presented Becky Jo Sumner of Hickory Chapel church in Ahoskie, who brought the message. She encouraged the convention as God's children to stay on our knees, so Christ can abide in our hearts.

The morning session closed with hymn, "More Love to Thee." The Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor of Friendship church, invited us to lunch in the fellowship hall and prayed the benediction and grace.

The afternoon session was begun with the hymn, "Praise Him, Praise Him." Mrs. Grace Jones, Eastern District President, assisted by Mrs. Dianne Riley, presented an impressive memorial service.

Mrs. Lorraine Sutton gave the Anna Phillips Student Aid Fund report.

Mrs. Lucille Coates gave the Resolutions Committee report.

Mrs. Rosa Proctor, Chairman of the Registration Committee, reported 25 ministers registered, all seven districts represented, and a total of 216 in attendance.

Mrs. Raymond Sasser gave a glowing Treasurer's Report and in her own words, "The best ever." A total of \$53,901.37 was reported as receipts last year. Mrs. Sasser announced that Life Awards fees the ensuing year would go to the Children's Home.

Mrs. Alice Barrow presented a partial report of the Nominating Committee, stating that since she had arrived at the Convention, she had learned the office of Program-Prayer Chairman would have to be considered later. Officers nominated for the next two years were elected by acclamation. They are President, Mrs. John Taylor; Vice President, Miss Sara Willoughby; Recording Secretary, Mrs. W. B. Raper;

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Ruth L. Warrick; Treasurer, Mrs. Raymond Sasser; Youth Chairman, Mrs. David Hansley; Youth Co-Chairman, Miss Becky Jo Sumner; Missions Chairman, Miss Caroline Castelleo; Study Course Chairman, Mrs. Nina Grace Register; Benevolence Chairman, Mrs. C. L. Patrick; and Field Secretary, Mrs. Rachel M. Duncan. Also elected were Mrs. Alma Buck to the Christian Education Committee and Miss Velma Morris to the Cragmont Stockholders.

The Rev. DeWayne Eakes represented Cragmont and urged our continued support in order to pay for the new building.

Mrs. Nina Grace Register invited the group to Vandemere. She stated that even though it is an Eastern Conference project, everyone is invited.

Dr. W. B. Raper spoke briefly on the theme "Bridge to the Future" for Mount Olive College. The College project for 1980-81 for the Convention is paving the Chapel parking lot.

Mrs. Norman Ard, President of the General Conference, announced the meeting at Juniper Chapel church, June 24.

Mrs. Carol Hansley presented each incoming officer with a white silk rose tied with blue ribbon while conducting the installation service. The Rev. Carol Hansley prayed the prayer of dedication.

Mrs. Norman Ard prayed the benediction.

The day was truly one of blessing in worship and fellowship. Many prayers were offered for the Program-Prayer Chairman, Mrs. Minnie Chandler, who was unable to be present because of illness.

Ruth L. Warrick
Corresponding Secretary

A HAPPY TIME

I have got a secret. Do you want to know? It's spring! God has once more shown His wonderful love for us by bringing us this very pleasant season. The cold, bleak, depressing winter

has its blessings too. It makes us more appreciative of spring. Towards the close of winter we begin to search for the little signs of spring. A little flower sticking its tender head through the snow. The robin snatching a scared worm from the good earth.

One of the surest signs of spring is little Scouts dragging camping gear out with bold expectation. Scouting is like spring breaking out all over. Surely the fun-time is beginning.

Wilderness treks, show and do, camp-outs, camporees, summer camp, and jamborees. All of this to build good character, strong bodies, and lots and lots of fun.

Perhaps your church has a Scouting program. If so you know what a wonderful aid to your church program it is. Scouting never takes away from your youth program. It only adds to it. Scouting is not an evangelistic program, but with good Christian leaders it opens the door and the Holy Spirit gently nudges them in. Many times their families come with them.

It is so simple to start a Scouting program. A successful Scouting program uses the efforts of many volunteers—men and women. Each makes an investment in time and effort. "A deposit" in effect, in the life of a boy or girl. Some help by becoming Scoutmasters, unit leaders, cub masters, den leaders, explorer advisors, and committee members. Many help by signing up for sustaining membership. Financially helping to furnish supplied, professional guidance, training, and camping facilities.

When you are asked to help or to support the Scouting program of your church, please do so. Remember the words found near the drink machine: No deposit, no return. If we fail to make a deposit in the life of our youth we will never see a return.

I beg of you let us make this investment so that our precious

young people can be led to the saving grace of the Lord Jesus and have fun in the process. A Boy or Girl Scout today will be a better adult tomorrow.

Your Commission on Scouting would like to see the Scouting program in every one of our churches. We have the answers or can get the answer to any questions you have on Scouting. Your commission on Scouting needs work. Feel free to let us know your questions. We pledge you our help.

Yours in the Master's service.

—Frank Crary, Leon Grubbs, and
Buddy Sasser

Coming Events . . .

- May—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month
- June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month
- June 1—Cragmont Sunday in Local Churches
- June 2—Central Conference Laymen's League Fellowship, Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, 8 p. m.
- June 15—Father's Day
- June 15—Superannuation Day in Local Churches
- June 16-20—Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere
- June 23—General Conference Youth Convention, Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, 7:30 p. m.
- June 24—Woman's Auxiliary of General Conference, Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, 10 a. m.
- June 29—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention
- June 29—Mount Olive College Day in Local Churches

**MAY IS
CHILDREN'S HOME
MONTH**

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For June 8

MANASSEH AND JOSIAH

Lesson Text: 2 Kings 21:1, 2;
22:1, 2, 9-13
Memory Verse: Psalm 119:10

I. INTRODUCTION

The lesson today revolves around the reigns of two of the kings of Judah. The first, Manasseh, led his people to do evil. The second, his grandson Josiah, was good and led in a great religious and moral reform. In between was Amon, son of Manasseh and father of Josiah, but he ruled for a period of only two years.

As noted in last week's lesson about Hezekiah, the Assyrians had destroyed Samaria and had taken Israel captive. They then marched into Judah and put Jerusalem under siege. Putting his trust entirely in God, Hezekiah prayed for deliverance, and God answered his prayer (2 Kings 19:15-36).

When Manasseh, Hezekiah's son, came to the throne, Assyria still dominated the whole region. By 663 B. C. Ashurbanipal had subjugated all of Egypt from the delta of the Nile up the river as far as Thebes, which city he sacked. In exercising control over Egypt the Assyrians would march their armies up and down the Mediterranean coast of Palestine through the borders of Judah. Manasseh was not so devoted to God as his father had been, and so did not respond to the Assyrian threat as Hezekiah had done. His fear of Ashurbanipal was greater than his trust in God.

From a consideration of the above it may be understood that our lesson provides us with a study in contrasts. We begin with

the evil reign of Manasseh. As the world counts success, he would receive great acclaim. He reigned for a period of fifty-five years and he bought off the Assyrian power by paying heavy tribute. He also courted the favor of the Assyrian monarch by adopting some of that country's pagan religious practices. The result was a life-style and a policy that destroyed the spiritual and moral integrity of the populace. Manasseh had a long reign, but he left the kingdom of Judah ripe for anarchy or disintegration. (His own son Amon, after two years as king, was murdered in the palace by his own servants.)

Josiah, on the other hand, was one of Judah's noblest and best kings. He was everything that Manasseh was not—devout, morally upright, devoted to God and to the ways of God. It was especially this devotion to the Lord that distinguished Josiah so greatly from his grandfather. Manasseh was guided in his decisions and policy by his own will and evil heart. Such a policy was repudiated by Josiah when he came to the throne. Instead, his desire was to walk in the will and in the ways of God—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The lesson for today covers the reign of three kings: Manasseh, Amon, and Josiah. Even though his father, Hezekiah, was a good king, Manasseh was one of the most wicked kings Judah ever had. Without question, he was the greatest idolater of any of the other kings of Judah. After his death, his son Amon became

king and ruled for a period of two years. But he continued in the way of his wicked father and did nothing to stop the gross sinfulness of the nation. Then came Josiah who was one of the very best kings Judah ever had.

B. This vacillation between good leaders and bad leaders made the nation of Judah unstable, and finally led to its downfall. In this lesson today, we focus on two men who came to the throne at an early age; one of them was an evil king and the other was a godly king. Can you discuss some of the things that caused one of these young men to be an idolater and the other to be godly?

C. In the late years of his life while he was in prison, Manasseh repented and turned to the Lord. But at this late date he was not able to have much influence upon the people. One should realize that there is a time in a person's life when his influence is in his hands. He can make it count for good or evil; but there comes a time when it is no longer in his control. It continues to go on doing the things that were started in the first place. Manasseh is an example of this.

D. In the lesson today, we have an instance of the Word of God being lost in the house of God. Is this possible today? Before you answer, be sure to remember that people can become so involved in ritual and ceremony that they forget the most important thing in their religion. Isn't there a need in the church today for a new discovery of the Word of God?

E. God promised Josiah that he would die before destruction would come to Judah. Death can be a merciful thing. Josiah had tried hard to save the nation of Judah, and it appears that for God not to allow him to see the destruction and downfall of the country was an act of mercy. There are many things worse than death that can happen to people. Don't you agree?

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

WOMEN: WE SALUTE YOU

Our church women have been in the forefront of all major efforts in our church through the years. Ladies aid groups during the first part of this century played a large part in fielding and supporting our foreign missionaries. Their prayers and support for missions continue today. At the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention the Rev. Joseph Ingram praised our women of the church for their unparalleled giving during last year for the spread of the gospel.

Our women did not limit themselves to foreign missions alone. Their prayerful efforts played a major role in the founding and sustaining of our Children's Home, college and other denominational programs. For example, our women set a goal of \$3,000 last year for our Children's Home. At the close of the year they have given more than \$10,440 to the Home, not to mention the thousands of dollars worth of blankets, sheets, curtains, bedspreads, kitchen ware, and so on. No one can overlook the role of our women when you see the face of a child light up when they open that birthday card and find a dollar or receive a gift from one of our auxiliaries. Some individuals within auxiliaries still provide visiting home relationships for our children, also.

All of these gifts of love from our women are helpful and important, but the greatest gifts they give to the children and to our staff are their untiring, consistent and fervent prayers. It is through and by the power of answered prayer that we are enabled by God's spirit to con-

tinue on through long, tiring hours. It is knowing that somewhere some faithful woman is praying for her that a houseparent is able to stay awake all night caring for a sick child. It is by strength received from knowing that somewhere some mother prays, that she, the houseparent, can love the unlovely, the resentful and the disappointing child. Were our women to stop praying for our houseparents, there's not enough money or anything else in this world that could or would give the strength to carry on.

Our women became foster mothers to more than 65 children last year. With the prayers and support of our church women, our housemothers provide the only Christian mother image that some of our children ever have or, possibly, ever will have. There are many children today enjoying a full, abundant, Christian life because our church women have been faithful unto the Lord.

On behalf of all of us at the Children's Home, thank you and God bless every one of you.

A CHALLENGE TO OUR CHURCH WOMEN

(Thinking I might have the opportunity to offer a challenge to our women at the State Women's Auxiliary Convention, I penned the following words one night. I wasn't able to have that much time at the convention, but I hope you will take the time to read our heartfelt challenge to each of you for the coming year.)

Sisters in Christ, the greatness of the Free Will Baptist people

lies in the fact that when God called through the years for His people to do a special work, they accepted the challenge and moved forward in the face of great obstacles. Even before the turn of the century Free Will Baptists had begun to print the Word of God through literature and denominational papers. Early in the century God called and Free Will Baptists launched out in higher Christian education with the founding of the Ayden-Eureka Seminary. Women led the way in founding mission societies for foreign and home missions, praying and giving that the Word might go forth unto all the world.

Disease and war, poverty and neglect left many children orphaned and abandoned. Again, God called, and in 1920 Free Will Baptists opened the doors of one of the finest childcaring programs in this state and nation. Our motto was and still is "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls." More than 700 children have experienced the love and concern of the Free Will Baptist people through the last 60 years.

The 1980s will bring more calls from God, extended facilities and four-year status for our college, a greater commitment to our youth through our youth ministry at Cragmont, and new fields of mission services at home and abroad.

There are few orphans today, but child abuse, family separation, divorce, and negligent parenting have created a new phenomenon in this country. Thousands of youngsters, especially adolescents, need short periods of care outside their own homes. As the biblical metaphor suggests, the fields are white unto the harvest. Some say the task is too great, that we are not prepared, but I say that with God all things are possible. Some say that we must make too many concessions, lose our freedom and independence, the right to be

(Continued on Page 15)

Report from

Retirement Homes, Inc.

by Stewart Humphrey

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS March, 1980

Total \$1,343.97

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Catalpa	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 25.00

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Ayden	\$100.00
Reedy Branch	30.00
Williamston, First	31.94
Total	\$161.94

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Cabin	\$ 50.00
Dublin Grove	15.00
Oriental	9.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Snow Hill	100.00
Whaley's Chapel	100.00
Total	\$324.00

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Oak Grove	\$ 28.03
Total	\$ 28.03

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Calvary	\$ 50.00
New Sandy Hill	100.00
People's Chapel	50.00
Piney Grove	25.00
Pleasant Grove	360.00
Spring Hill	200.00
Union Grove	20.00
Total	\$805.00

MEMORIALS

By	In Memory of
Calvary Free	The Rev. Leslie
Will Baptist Church	Howley

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS April, 1980

Total \$1,750.64

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Catalpa	\$ 25.00
Johnston Union	411.30
Wooten's Chapel	31.99
Total	\$469.29

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Bethany	\$ 13.45
Elm Grove	115.00
Friendship	500.00
Union Number 2	12.76
Rocky Mount, First	50.00
Tarboro, First	75.00
Total	\$766.21

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	\$ 20.00
Bethel	100.00
Beaufort Mission	5.00
Saint Mary's	20.00
Sound View	50.00
Total	\$195.00

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Union Number 1	\$ 40.00
Total	\$ 40.00

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Community	\$ 49.14
Total	\$ 49.14

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Flood's Chapel	\$ 6.00
Free Union	25.00
Union Number 2	50.00
Wilson, First	150.00
Total	\$231.00

NEWS NOTES

Milbournie Church Gets New Pastor

Milbournie Free Will Baptist Church of Route 2, Wilson, North Carolina, is proud to announce the arrival of its new pastor, the Rev. Charles Crisp. He will be arriving May 28. He will be bringing with him, his wife, Louise; son, David; and daughter, Vickie. The Crisps are looking forward to their new work.

Homecoming at Warsaw Church

Warsaw Free Will Baptist Church, Warsaw, will observe its annual homecoming on June 8, 1980. There will be special singing. Lunch will be served on the grounds. All former pastors and members of the church are invited to attend.

NOTICE

Evangelist Arnold Woodlief is desiring to schedule revivals among the Free Will Baptist churches. He is interested in holding week-end to two-week revivals. A phrase that he always keeps in the forefront while preaching is that a church needs to be a revival church, and

he will thank you for your response toward furthering his evangelistic endeavors. You may contact him by writing 410 West Milton Avenue, Marianna, Florida 32446 or by calling 1-905-482-4659.

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBER

Effective immediately through July 15, the Rev. Harry A. Jones can be reached at telephone number 527-8459 (Kinston).

This has become necessary because of home renovation.

PROTECT THE HERITAGE OF JESUS

by the Rev. Gurney R. Chase
Sound View Free Will Baptist Church

It's time for us to come to the aid of Jesus.

We should defend His heritage. He came to our side and we are not to run and hide.

We should lift His banner well in order that He might keep this lost and dying world from Hell.

So then to the Christian this must say.

Get down on your knees and pray.

Praying is not all left to do, it's going to take a lot of working too.

Work through the day and through the night, that some lost soul may come to the light.

Though we've been sitting on that stool, it's time we get off and be that tool.

So, soul winner, soul winner, it's time we get up and stop that play.

It's late in the game and time won't last.

It's time we work before rapture has passed.

Now may the love that He did show, be seen through us with a glow.

So I ask all Christians to read this and see; it's time for us to be the worker He bought by His blood hanging on that tree.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 5)

Laura Pippin Danka by Miss Louise Edgerton, Pikeville.

Wayne Dawson by Mr. and Mrs. James A. Brown, LaGrange.

Mrs. Lottie S. Fowler by Mrs. Etha M. Ford, Chadbourn.

Howard Jackson Furbee by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stotesbury, Pantego, and Dr. William E. Kidd, Washington.

J. M. Hawkins by Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow McCoy, Cove City.

Tilla G. Jeffress by Mr. and Mrs. James A. Brown, LaGrange.

Henry L. Johnson Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Frank Minshew by Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Connor, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Cora Lee Mumford by Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville; and Woman's Auxiliary, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Jane Carter Poythress by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mrs. Emma Wiggs Riley by Mrs. O. E. Willoughby and Miss Sara Willoughby, Ahoskie; Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Pamela Wood, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Baldree, New Bern.

Alton F. Rowe by Victory Post No. 289, American Legion, Ayden.

Leslie Smith by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Alex Barwick, Deep Run; and Mr. and Mrs. Burrell Stroud, Deep Run.

Mrs. Penny Southerland by Alum Springs Baptist Church, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Randall Albertson, Mount Olive.

William Edgar Strickland by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Roland Thomas by Gene B. Mercer, Mount Olive.

W. Al White by Mr. and Mrs. S. W. McCoy Jr., Cove City.

Floyd L. Wilson by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Whitford and Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Harrison, Vanceboro.

In Honor of

The Rev. Elbert E. Edwards by Fifth Union Meeting, Eastern Conference, New Bern.

James Franklin Harrell Jr. by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Mickey Charles Hill by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Patrick Mark Jenkins by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Ramona Kirby by Woman's Auxiliary, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Michael Allen O'Neal Jr. by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 13)

unique; and I say God is on His throne, and the powers that be only lift their hands as God and we permit. Some would say that God has not called us to minister to all the little children of the world, yet we teach our children that God loves them all, the red, the yellow, the black, and the white. God's call for Free Will Baptists to reach out to men, women, boys and girls with the message of salvation is greater than ever before. I challenge our women to go, to give, pray, and to vote at the State Convention this fall, enabling YOUR childcare staff at the Home to continue to offer childcare in the highest tradition. "Every child deserves a Christian Home" and I believe that God calls us in 1980 to cast aside every hindrance and every tie that binds us and free ourselves to care for the largest number of children possible in the years ahead.

Samuel Ward wrote, "Eternal God, whose power upholds, both flower and flaming star, to whom there is no here nor there, no time, no near nor far, no alien

race, no foreign shore, no child unsought, unknown, O send us forth, thy prophets true, to make all lands thine own!"

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

(Continued from Page 7)

But thankful hearts still hold and thrill

To the magic of its light!

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's splendor is so clearly seen at the ocean. All the wonders of nature speak His name, His might. Let no man deny the all-powerful, loving Father of Heaven!

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

NOTICE

The toll-free line at the Free Will Baptist Press was discontinued April 30. Customers are asked to use our regular number, 746-6128.

PREACHER'S DIARY

Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

One of my most important and impressive ministerial courses taught that we should never pass judgement on matters that we know little or nothing about, and not to judge a person until we have walked in his shoes.

We fuss and quarrel about false prophets and goats among the sheep as if it were an abnormal situation. Jesus said it would be this way, so the sooner we accept it as a fact of life, the happier we will be. Like it or not, hypocrites will always be with us.

Special Books for Children

check your bookshelves
& library . . . wherever there
are children, these books
should be available

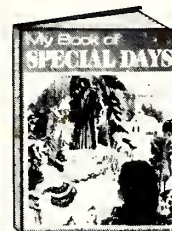
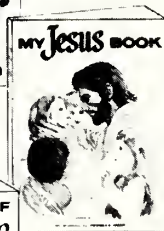
2868, Frances Hook Picture Book (\$6.95). Brief, simple Bible and everyday stories for preschool children. Full-color, full-page illustrations. 96 pages, hard cover. Excellent all-occasion gift.

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2049, Tell Me About God and His World (\$4.95). 48 illustrated application stories explain in simple terms such concepts as God the Creator and heavenly love. Captivating introduction to Christian faith for preschoolers. 96 pages, 8½" x 11", hard cover. A must for every church and home library.

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F85766

THE RAPTURE: TODAY, TOMORROW?



The important thing is to be found ready, notwithstanding volcanic eruptions and earthquakes . JUN 6 1980

DURHAM, N.C.

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Rapture May Be Close

SIGNS OF THE END?

Recent volcanic eruptions in the state of Washington have reminded people anew of the mighty forces of nature. For about a hundred years Mount Saint Helens had been inactive, and her snow cap and reflecting lake complemented by her green forests made a natural picture for postcards and church bulletins.

Though there was the ever-present possibility that she might erupt (as is the case with many volcanoes), there was nothing imminently frightening about the mountain. Then suddenly, May 18, after smoking for several weeks, Mount Saint Helens broke loose in fury, causing great damage and inconvenience. A second eruption May 25 was sort of an aftershock, for the real devastation occurred during the first.

Almost too close in time with the eruption came two California earthquakes (May 25), which, say geologists, are serious enough to pay attention to. It was reported that virtually the whole state felt the shocks and at a measurement of 6 and slightly below on the Richter scale. These very recent quakes are not to be disregarded.

In respect to scientific predictions that say a major quake will occur along the San Andreas fault within the next year or so, people in that area must really be ready to sit up and notice. Some seers have gotten into the act more intently during the last 10-15 years. New talk is reminiscent of old predictions which forecast that California will fall into the ocean. While scientists don't go that far in their forecasts, they nonetheless agree that great pressure is building up in that region and that a major catastrophe is near.

The recent volcanic eruptions and earthquakes have caused many to reflect more seriously on the end time. While natural phenomena might not, by themselves, be enough to stir eschatological fervor, when coupled with other much-discussed events there is cause to believe that everything is nearly right for the Rapture. Some go as far as to say **everything is right**.

Some argue that the end time has been predicted by every generation and is therefore nothing to become upset about. Despite recent events, they say, the Lord's return is no nearer than yesterday. Scoffers invariably cite occasions when some seemingly devout and sincere people erroneously set the time and place for His return and were disappointed.

Many scholars and writers on prophecy agree, however, that at no time in the history of the world have all happenings pointed so decidedly to the end (though they wisely do not pinpoint the date or hour). Most scholars do say that all prophecy has been fulfilled except for the "triggering" occurrence. Events in the Middle East are certainly shaping up in accord with biblical prophecies.

(Continued on Page 14)

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June 4, 1980

Volume 95

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Tommy Manning
 Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches sent the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9:00 a. m.—5:00 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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Formal or Informal?

by Tommy Evans
Pastor of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church
Greenville, North Carolina

FORMAL or informal?" The question is routinely asked a couple planning their wedding. It is also a question that relates to the conduct of worship in general. It is a question that Free Will Baptists should consider with open-mindedness.

Creeds, written prayers, pulpit robes—these are just a few of the elements of what might be considered "formal worship." Free Will Baptists generally are suspicious of and resistant to any movement or change which approaches "formal worship." One reason is that of tradition. Our people are not accustomed to seeing their minister deliver the message on Sunday morning in a robe. In my home church, there are those who would not tolerate such a move by the pastor. At the same time, there are those who would probably welcome it, evidence to me that in some areas things will eventually change. So much of our church is rural oriented and the people want their church to remain "country" or "informal," identifying friendliness with informality. The two do not necessarily go together. Neither does a strict adherence to informality always have anything to do with following the admonition to do things decently and in order.

At the heart of the resistance among Free Will Baptists to formal worship is a lack of understanding about formal

worship. For many people, formal worship is not the lifeless routine it is made out to be. There are those who have a genuine and worthwhile experience as they recite a creed, which brings to their mind exactly what they are supposed to believe. There are so many Free Will Baptists who could not say what the church doctrine is, simply because the church never puts forward a creed or the covenant often enough in the worship hour. To recite a creed, or to read one, is of great educational help. It helps us to memorize, but more than that, reading a creed is a conscious commitment to God. It is specific and intelligent worship. A creed directs us to affirm that which has meaning and validity to the Christian experience. It elucidates those things which are most common to the experience and conviction of Christians everywhere. As such then, a creed not only is a commitment to God, but a reminder that we are members of one body. It makes real the unity of the followers of Jesus Christ. It exposes the absolute essentials. To read a creed in a worship service ought to be a joyous experience, for then the church becomes larger than four walls and a tiny denomination.

Creeds are acts of worship. Someone might wonder whether or not God actually enjoys the reciting of creeds. There is no

reason to believe that God would enjoy the reading of creeds any less than the singing of hymns. There is really little difference between the two, although there seem to be more hymns than creeds which I disagree with. But to sing a hymn is to affirm a belief. To sing a hymn is merely to put a creed to music.

There are those who will argue that creeds are for the more sophisticated (and therefore suspiciously regarded) denominations, but every act of worship must necessarily include a creed. The fact that we might begin to regularly include a creed which is spoken rather than sung shouldn't bother anyone. If anything, it should encourage those who don't have the voice to sing. To read a creed puts every one on the same artistic level.

A creed of itself is not any more lifeless than a hymn. What is crucial to both hymns and creeds is that people put expression into what they are doing. Without a doubt, everyone has heard a lot of lifeless hymns, hymns which were not lifeless in themselves, but lifeless through the way they were being done. "Praise Him! Praise Him!" is not a funeral hymn! And "Why Not Now?" is not a disco number! Hymns, like creeds, have to be interpreted and experienced, then expressed. To incorporate spoken creeds might

Turn the Page

help congregations sing their hymns more expressively, for in creeds, the emphasis is solely on the words. A proper focus on words will enable all of us to be more expressive.

A creed does have educational and participational value. I am certain that a church cannot be strong with merely an educated or vocal pulpit. The pew must be educated as to what it believes, an education which in part can effectively come through the reciting of creeds, and the pew must be vocal, an exercise possible and practical in the reading of creeds. An alert, active congregation which understands that worship is not a one-man show is a much greater joy to God. Perhaps we are a bit lazy. The problem is that we don't want to do a lot of getting up and down on Sunday morning. And yet five minutes of sitting in the pew is enough to vanquish our consciousness! Don't tell me that people necessarily worship God better sitting down! It may be that we have too much sitting and too little participation. Certainly the incorporation of creeds is one possible solution to this problem. One of the major differences, and benefits, of formal worship, is that formal worship seems to involve more congregational activity. And yet we have often called that "lifeless." What is lifeless is the spectator sport going on Sunday after Sunday in many Free Will Baptist churches.

What I as a pastor ask for and expect is an openness on the part of Free Will Baptists, whether their church is in the city or the country. What every pastor has a right to expect is the freedom to innovate. Often a minister is handicapped by the judgment of people who want things as they have always been. His people make a decision before ever trying his innovation. Such a decision, made in haste, made in stubbornness, made through a lack of understanding, is not fair to the minister and certainly not

necessarily the right thing to do as far as God is concerned. A minister in harmony with God doesn't want to change things for the sake of change. It is his desire to help his people better communicate with God and enjoy the service more. At the heart of a change toward more formal worship is the desire of a sensitive soul to make things better. A minister cannot always be certain that carrying things on the way they have always been done is the right thing to do. The Free Will Baptist Church must awaken to this fact if she expects to receive any leadership from the pulpit. If there is no room for innovation in our worship service, the pulpit might as well be removed from the sanctuary.

A brief word must be said to those ministers who are just as close-minded as the congregations. The pulpit is a position of leadership. The nature of the ministry is that one man in touch with God can make a difference. Every minister should seek to be so yielded that he can make that difference, even if it involves a radical departure from the normal "order of worship." The minister must himself lead the way. He should be in touch with God, not merely in the study, but in the sanctuary as well. If God communicates to a minister as well as through the minister in the worship hour, there is no mistaking what He is pointing out to so many of us. His message is to get His people more involved in worshiping. The pastor has more than an ego problem at stake if his people drowse away the time. There is serious trouble where people are not expressively worshiping. The minister's supreme problem is with God, whom he is supposed to be representing. It may be that God isn't any more pleased with our ministers than He is with our congregations. It is time for our ministers to entertain the possibilities of

worship innovation.

Free Will Baptists have also been negative in regard to written prayers. Again there is little understanding as to why a minister would want to write out a prayer to be prayed by himself or the congregation. Some make the judgment that written prayers are not prayers at all. But written prayers offer their own advantages and benefits. There are many written prayers that I am glad were recorded, for though written and said elsewhere, they have been a great blessing to me.

One of the great advantages of written prayers is they help us to be specific. Vague prayers generate vague results. Another problem effectively dealt with is that of repetition. Every person who prays encounters this problem. It might not be so personally noticeable in private, in part because we're not aware of what we're doing to begin with. Are we to think that God gets any less irritated and bored with meaningless repetitions than we do? Written congregational prayers also offer the advantage of unifying the people on a specific matter. Congregations need to pray as a body over specific matters. Again, this part of worship service has its participational value. There are those who seemingly cannot pray in public. It is difficult for some of us to comprehend that, since prayer is understood as conversation with God. Nevertheless it is true. Everyone needs to pray vocally in the worship hour. This opportunity should be especially provided for the sake of those who are never called on to pray alone. It is another way of involving everyone in the service.

There is no truth to the argument that written prayers are less sincere than spontaneous utterances. The sincerity, and the reality for that matter, are not bound to spontaneity. Poets, hymn writers, manuscript preachers, are

sincere when they write down their thoughts. There is great sincerity in deliberation. Writing our prayers out, or praying a written prayer, involves a deliberation which pleases God.

Free Will Baptists must also rethink their feelings about pulpit robes. We have concluded that pulpit robes are out of place, that they aren't proper, or that they have no meaning. But the wearing of the pulpit robe may serve several purposes. For one thing, it sets the minister apart from the congregation. There are those who contend that the minister should be just one of the folks. But he is not just one of the folks. God has set him apart by His calling this man into the ministry. He gives to the minister a special and serious responsibility. The pulpit robe is not so much a denial of the minister's humanity as it is an affirmation of his calling and the special nature of his calling. It is a visible witness to the community of faith which communicates the message of servanthood, leadership, and separation. The minister is a man living for God. His robe expresses that sometimes more effectively than his words.

Special preparations ought to be made for worship. Worship should be approached as if it were something unique and momentous. Wearing the robe is one reminder to the minister that the service is important. Every minister needs that reminder. The pulpit robe is exclusively committed to worship. Suits are not, and therefore do not serve that purpose as well.

In addition, the pulpit robe does away with the expense and distraction of the minister's wardrobe. It is a joke and yet it is not a joke, but with a robe ministers wouldn't need to buy as many suits. The congregation doesn't need to be concerned with how the minister is dressed. And a flashy wardrobe should not be used as a means of at-

tracting attention. People should be compelled by the truth a minister preaches. The minister must allow every opportunity for the Word of God to work free of distractions. The wearing of the robe is a conscious effort to diminish the parishioner's awareness of the minister. It is an effort to allow the presence of God to have its proper prominence.

It is time for the Free Will Baptist Church to at least give her ministers the alternative of wearing the pulpit robe. If a minister chooses to wear a robe, he ought to be able to wear it while preaching in any Free Will Baptist Church. The church has no sound argument for her resistance. The pulpit robe is not a heathenish device threatening our souls. The robe won't diminish anyone's quota on blessings.

Perhaps we are unduly concerned with our identity, and this causes our resistance to mere formal worship. It does seem that some people are afraid of becoming Methodist or Presbyterian or Episcopalian (as if we could separate ourselves from the heritage we share with such denominations!) It's peculiar to me that the same people don't worry about becoming Independent Baptists. Yet they claim to be Free Will Baptists and profess to be so concerned about the image or the identity of the Free Will Baptists. The point is that Free Will Baptists have been influenced from many directions, and will continue to be so influenced, unless a decision is made to bury our heads in the sand. And what kind of influence will that allow us to have? No minister who makes a move toward more formal worship is trying to make another denomination out of the Free Will Baptist Church. It is not merely an exercise of imitation. It is an effort for greater effectiveness and meaning. A move toward more formal

worship is not made to jeopardize the identity of the Free Will Baptists. It is made to strengthen that identity. When people are totally bound to tradition, sometimes a position of arrogance as well as ignorance, they are in trouble. Of course, there are doctrines which must remain untouched. But some things must change, for like it or not, none of us are Paul Palmer or Benjamin Randall clones. We are different people as a natural outcome of life and history, ministering to a different world. Somehow it must be possible to work for worship changes without losing our identity or compromising any doctrine. Neither creeds, nor written prayers, nor pulpit robes, will hurt us. More formal worship will not hurt us. What is hurting us are some of the prejudices we have about these things. Hopefully as we become aware and more responsive to alternatives available in worship, the Free Will Baptist Church will progress to be a finer church than what it has always been.

Coming Events . . .

- June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month
- June 15—Father's Day
- June 15—Superannuation Day in Local Churches
- June 16-20—Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere
- June 23—General Conference Youth Convention, Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, 7:30 p. m.
- June 24—Woman's Auxiliary of General Conference, Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, 10 a. m.
- June 29—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention
- June 29—Mount Olive College Day in Local Churches



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Scripture Reading—John 14:12; 15:10

THROUGH FAITH

Through faith we understand
The things we cannot know—
The hidden pattern God has
planned,
And why each threat is so;
We trace life's vast design
And lose His golden strand,
But when our wills with His
entwine
Through Faith we understand.

Through Faith we understand
What to our sight is dim,
And still Love's sweet, all-
knowing hand
Leads those who trust in Him.
Ours not to know the way,
But bow to His command;
And when our childlike hearts
obey,
Through faith we understand.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We often wonder what is going to happen. We see our income lose its buying power. Headlines relate turmoil and controversy. But we must remember God has a plan for this world. We must trust Him in all things.

MONDAY, JUNE 9

Scripture Reading—Exodus 20:7-17

\$1 FOR CHURCH— \$12 FOR CRIME!

For every one dollar spent for churches and their work, twelve dollars are spent on crime. America's annual crime bill is twenty billion dollars.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How about it? Are we as Christians using our money

wisely? Should not more of our money be used to spread the gospel? Perhaps if it were, America's annual crime bill wouldn't be so high!

TUESDAY, JUNE 10

Scripture Reading—John 1:1-10

I WILL BE WAITING FOR HER UP YONDER!

A soldier had been mortally wounded when Pearl Harbor was attacked. He lingered for a few days in a hospital. There a chaplain gave him a New Testament. Before the soldier died, the chaplain visited him again. Said he to the chaplain:

"Just as I was leaving home my mother put her arms on my shoulders and said, 'Son, if anything should happen that you do not return, I have comfort in knowing that I'll see you up yonder in glory.' I bowed my head and said, 'Mother, I am not a Christian, and I cannot tell you that I will see you again, if anything should happen.' I left my mother weeping with a heavy heart. Mother is a very devout Christian. I have called you to do me a favor. After I am gone write Mother telling her I found the Lord by reading this little Testament, and that I will be waiting for her up yonder."

PRAYER THOUGHT

What a blessed assurance! When we trust Jesus as our Saviour, we begin experiencing the many joys He has for us. We also begin to look forward to the day when we can see Him—and those who have gone on before us.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23

THIS WILL BE ENOUGH!

Isadore Sofer is the son of a Hebrew Christian. Little Isadore was given a part to recite on a children's program—the twenty-third Psalm. As he faced a large congregation, he got frightened. He was a courageous boy, however, and he began to recite: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." Here he stopped. He tried to recall the next verse, but he couldn't. After an embarrassing moment, he said, "This will be enough!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"What a precious spiritual lesson! When the Lord is our Shepherd, what else could we want?"

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

Scripture Reading—John 3:15, 16

THE LIVING STONE

On Christ salvation rests secure:
The Rock of Ages must endure;
Nor can that faith be overthrown
Which rests upon the Living Stone.

No other hope shall intervene;
To Him we look, on Him we lean;
Other foundation we disown
And build on Christ, the Living Stone.

In Him it is ordained to raise
A temple to Jehovah's praise;
Composed of all the saints who own
No Saviour but the Living Stone.

View the vast building, see it rise;

The work how great! the plan
how wise!
Oh, wondrous fabric! power
unknown!
That rears it on the Living Stone.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Our faith should be built "on nothing less than Jesus Christ and His righteousness." How strong is your faith? Can you say "No!" when tempted? Do you claim Jesus' promises?

FRIDAY, JUNE 13

Scripture Reading—Romans
8:28

GOD'S HANDWRITING

He writes in characters too
grand
For our short sight to un-
derstand;
We catch but broken strokes, and
try
To fathom all the mystery
Of withered hopes, of death, of
life,
The endless war, the useless
strife,—
But there, with larger, clearer
sight,
We shall see this—His way was
right.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The human mind cannot understand all that is to be known about God, His greatness, and His love. But it can—we can—understand enough to be saved. All we need is childlike faith.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

Scripture Reading—Joshua 24:
15

EXCEPT HENRY

In the home of a devout Christian father hung this motto: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15). The motto was most meaningful to the father. He prayed daily that each one of his children would be saved. In time, each child was genuinely con-

verted except the oldest son. He persistently refused to come to Christ. As the father and son sat alone one day in the room where the motto was displayed, the father said, "I cannot and will not be a liar any longer. You are a member of my household. You reject Christ, and will not serve Him. I must add the following words to the motto: 'Except Henry!' It hurts me to do this, my boy, for I dearly love you and yearn for your conversion!" The tender concern of the father so touched the son that he knelt and prayed the salvation-bringing prayer: "God be merciful to me a sinner!" Then the home was unanimously Christian!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you talked to a lost soul and won him to Jesus? It is a wonderful feeling. How about carrying out the Lord's command today!

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. McDonal T. Bennett recently was called as pastor of the Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church. His address is now Route 3, Box 81W, Hamlet, North Carolina 28345.

LOST

Mrs. Alice Fleming lost an envelope containing between 300-400 dollars while attending her granddaughter, Alice Hines', graduation at Mount Olive College, May 9. Anyone finding such an envelope is asked to contact Mrs. Fleming at 1801 Circle Drive, Greenville, North Carolina 27834; or phone, 756-0369.

A monetary reward is offered. She will appreciate any information or the return of the money.

THE WEAVER

My life is but a weaving
Between my Lord and me.
I cannot choose the colors,
As He weaveth steadily.
Ofttimes He weaveth sorrow,
And I, in foolish pride,
Forget He sees the upper
And I, the underside.

Not until the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly,
Will God unroll the canvas
And show me the reason why.
The dark threads are as needful
In the weaver's skillful hands,
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned.

—Author unknown

NOTICE

The toll-free line at the Free Will Baptist Press was discontinued April 30. Customers are asked to use our regular number, 746-6128.

PREACHER'S DIARY

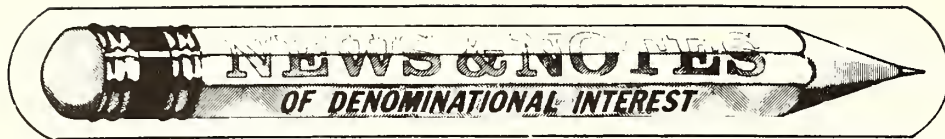
Taylor Hill

Home Missions Director

A certain fellow was dying of cancer but was not aware of it and was going about taking God's name in vain and mistreating his neighbors.

I suggested to his pastor that he ought to know his condition just in case he might want to make things right with God. His pastor replied, "Oh no, that's not necessary because he is a member of my church and I know that he will go to Heaven."

I proceeded to tell the fellow anyway and he thanked me and apparently made good use of the time that he had left, which included repentance.



General Conference to Meet at Juniper Chapel Church

The General Conference of Free Will Baptists will meet with Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, on Monday, June 23 through Wednesday, June 25. The scheduled program is as follows:

Monday Evening, June 23

- 7:00—Youth Program
- Bible Bowl Quiz and Fellowship

Tuesday Morning, June 24
Ladies Auxiliary Convention

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Convention Convenes

Tuesday Evening, June 24

- 6:00—Registration of Ministers, Delegates, and Visitors
- 6:30—General Board Meeting
- 7:00—Special Singing, the Dixie Melody Boys
- 7:30—Official Opening, Conference Secretary, the Rev. Jerry Rowe
- Welcome, Host Pastor, the Rev. Stanley Buck
- Response, the Rev. Carl Lyons
- 7:45—Appointment of Committees, President, the Rev. J. B. Starnes
- Reading of Minutes
- Old and New Business
- Partial Report of Credentials Committee
- 8:15—Introduction of Speaker, President
- Message, the Rev. C. F. Bowen
- 8:40—Announcements
- Adjournment, Conference President, the Rev. J. B. Starnes

Wednesday Morning, June 25

- 9:00—Registration of Ministers, Delegates, and Visitors
- 9:45—Special Music, Host Church
- 10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Ransom H. McAbee

- 10:15—President's Message, the Rev. J. B. Starnes
- 10:30—Final Report of Credentials Committee
- 10:35—Treasurer's Report
- 10:40—Final Business Session
- 10:50—Special Music, Host Church
- 11:00—Conference Message, the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry
- 12:00—Announcements
- Benediction

Tuesday's lunch will be provided by the local church. All other meals will be the responsibility of each individual. The local church will provide a list of recommended restaurants or eating establishments.

Gethsemane Church Has New Pastor

Gethsemane Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, announces that it now has a new pastor, the Rev. Dan Jordan from Wilson, North Carolina. The church also has a new address, P. O. Box 785, Elm City, North Carolina 27822.

Shiloh Church Hosts Albemarle District Youth Convention

On April 5, 1980, the Albemarle District Youth Convention was held at Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, North Carolina. The congregation opened the service by singing, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus." Kim Peele of the host church gave the devotions from 2 Corinthians 4:1-11. Deborah Boyd gave the welcome to the host church, with the response given by a representative from Sound Side church.

A roll call of churches revealed that six churches were present with a total of eighty-nine people registered. Ministers recognized

in attendance were Steve Hargrove, Sydney church; Floyd Burkey, Plymouth; and Marvin Waters of Shiloh. The Plymouth YFA and Sydney AFC won banners for the best attendance at the convention. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary. Miss Paula Webster was selected to be the new chorus leader. Youth groups gave reports of their local projects and work. These reports were given by the Free Union YFA and AFC; Plymouth YFA and AFC; Sydney AFC; and Sound Side YFA.

The fall convention is to be held at Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie, on October 4.

Lynn O'Neal was chosen to represent the Albemarle Youth Convention at the State Youth Convention as the nominee for the office of State Outreach Secretary. The churches were asked to support Miss O'Neal by making posters for her campaign. Mrs. Betty Sawyer, District Youth Director, reminded everyone present about the week at Cragmont, stating that there is a need to go ahead and get registered.

A motion was passed that the host church in the future be ineligible to win the attendance banners at the convention. Lynn O'Neal of Sound Side church presented her declamation entitled, "Lord, You Light Up My Life." Her declamation was the winning declamation at the State Youth Convention. At this time three AFC members of the Hickory Chapel church who were to participate in the State Bible Bowl Quiz demonstrated their skills that they had learned in preparation for the Bowl.

Chorus time was led by Mrs. Francis Garner of Free Union church. The offertory prayer was given by the Rev. Marvin Waters. The offering was taken up by youth of Shiloh AFC. A total of \$31.20 was taken up to go to Cragmont and to meet expenses.

The convention program was then given by the Shiloh AFC and YFA groups. The speaker, Graham Boyd of the Shiloh YFA, spoke on the subject, "One on One with the Devil." The youth groups presented choral music and skits. The benediction and blessing upon the lunch were then given by Steve Hargrove. Lunch was served by the ladies of the host church.

Linda Brickhouse is president of the convention and Kim Peele is secretary.

Selma Church Goes to Cragmont



Selma church's Cragmont group

The first weekend of May, the Selma Free Will Baptist Church had a wonderful experience. The pastor, the Rev. Gene B. Britt, his family, church members, and some friends loaded a bus for Cragmont. On the bus going up that Friday night, there was lots of singing, talking and eating of ham and biscuits, candy and other goodies. Having arrived at Cragmont, the group were met by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. John Williams.

Saturday was spent relaxing and enjoying the scenery. Everyone seemed to enjoy the campfire Saturday night. They all gathered around the fire and lifted their voices in song. A sweet spirit could be felt by everyone attending. Afterwards the children of all ages enjoyed roasting the marshmallows and baking biscuits over the open flames and then filling them with chocolate pudding.

A spiritual blessing was enjoyed by everyone on Sunday

morning as they worshiped in the new chapel. After lunch it was difficult to say good-bye and board the bus for home.

Mother's Day Is Observed At Robert's Grove Church

On May 11, Mother's Day was observed at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina. The youth of the church took charge of the program with Mrs. Susan Faircloth in charge. Red carnations were presented to all mothers present with the youngest mother and the oldest being recognized.

The Cherubs, AFCs, and YFAs took part in this inspiring service.

Recognition Day at Sound Side Church



Mr. and Mrs. Albert Brickhouse

Sunday, May 18, was a special day at Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, North Carolina, when Mr. and Mrs. Albert Brickhouse, two of its oldest active members, were recognized.

After the pastor, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs, had delivered his morning message, he turned the service over to the YFA. The program, which was a complete surprise to Mr. Albert and Miss Mittie, consisted of a short biographical sketch by Kathy Cahoon, poetic tributes by Anita Cahoon, Lynn O'Neal, and Diana Roughton. There was special singing by the Brickhouse Sisters and James, and by the youth choir. Anita Hassell presented

the honorees with flowers and James Cahoon, with very appropriate remarks, gave them a certificate of appreciation. The service ended with each member of the church speaking a few words of love and appreciation to Mr. Albert and Miss Mittie.

In spite of their age, Miss Mittie and Mr. Albert attend church faithfully and are actively involved in its activities. It is because of their dedication that the church wanted to show them their appreciation. They are indeed an example of service, especially to the young people of Sound Side.

After service, the congregation enjoyed lunch and fellowship in their new fellowship hall.

The following poem in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Brickhouse was written by Marie Cutrell and was read in the service:

If I were just a stranger
Walking by your church today;
I'd have to stop and look around
And this is what I'd say:

I've been by here so many times
And seen these two dear friends.
This is where they love to be
And here their hearts dwell in.

Their faith has brought them
through the years.

Tho trials may have come,
They've held steadfast to God
above

And looked to Him alone.

They've been willing to go on
trips

To represent the church.

They have taken time with other
folks

To help them with their work.

They're always friendly, kind,
sincere—

And believe in brotherhood.

They love young children all
around,

And I believe that is good.

I know that this, their special
day,

Will stay with them a while;

For they are grateful, loving
folks

Evidenced by their smiles.

(Continued on Page 15)

Woman's Auxiliary

**SPIRITUAL SINGERS
TO BE FEATURED
AT GENERAL
YOUTH CONFERENCE**



Spiritual Singers

Featured at the Youth Convention of the General Conference will be the Spiritual Singers, a group of Christian Free Will Baptist young people who love the Lord. The group includes Phil Mazingo, Todd Ard, Mike Howard, Fran Hinson, Faye Reardon, Carry Joe Bell, Kim Stags, and Joe Ard. The convention will convene at Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, on Monday, June 23, at 7:30 p. m.

ATTENTION AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Dear Auxiliary Members,

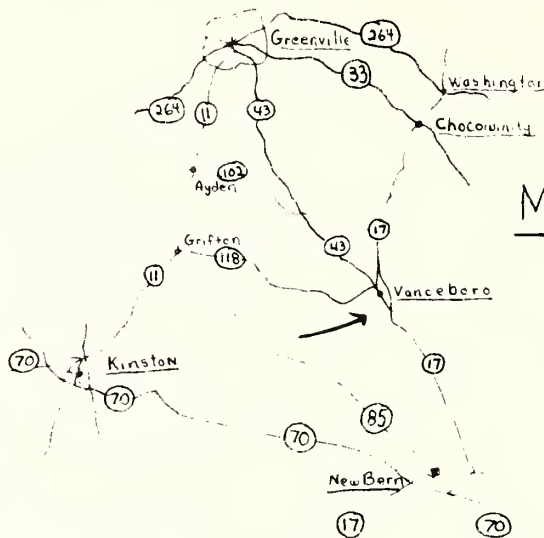
The 1980 Sixteenth Reorganized Session of Woman's Auxiliary of the General Conference will convene with the Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina.

The convention theme will be, "The Saving Memory," Matthew 26:75: "And Peter remembering the word of Jesus . . ."

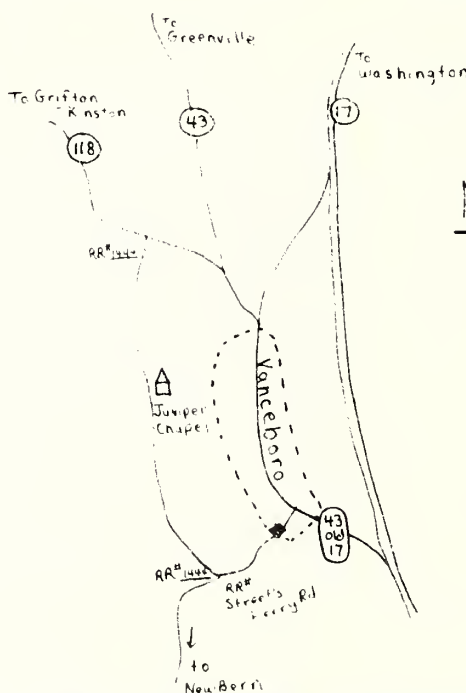
Youth Night—Monday, June 23, 7:30 p. m. Registration at 7:00 p. m. The program will feature Bible Bowl Quiz; Spiritual Singers, Mount Olive; Joe Ard, Pink Hill, song leader; Sharlene Creech, Goldsboro, pianist.

Woman's Conference—Tuesday,

(Continued on Page 12)



Map to Vanceboro



Map to Church

The following are a list of motels in the Washington, North Carolina, area which may be used during the General Conference of Free Will Baptists held at Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina.

Washington Area: Washington Motel, Highway 17 North; phone (919) 946-5161; rate, 2 beds, 2 people, \$22.88; 1 bed, 2 people, \$17.68; Holiday Inn, Highway 17 North; phone (919) 946-6141; 1 bed, 1 person, \$27.00; 1 bed, 2 persons, \$31.00; 2 beds, 2 persons, \$33.00.

Chocowinity, Highway 17 South: Best Western-Lemon Tree Inn; phone (919) 946-8001; 1 bed, 1 person, \$17.00; 2 beds, 2 persons, \$20.00.

New Bern Area: Zigler's Motel, 1 block off U. S. 17 South; phone (919) 637-4498; 1 bed, 2 persons, \$18.72; 2 beds, 2 persons, \$20.80; cottages with kitchen, 2 bedrooms plus living room, 4 people, \$40.00; Holiday Inn, Highway 17-70 intersection at Neuse River; phone (919) 638-6008; 2 beds, 2 persons, \$31.00; Quality Inn, Highway 17-70 South (in town); phone (919) 638-1151; 1 bed, 2 persons, \$29.00; 2 beds, 2 persons, \$31.50; Red Carpet Inn, Highway 17 South of New Bern, 1 mile; phone (919) 638-8166, 2 persons, \$22.88.

OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE CHILDREN'S HOME

The following statement is that of Erchie Waters, Route 1, Pinetown, North Carolina, who is solely responsible for its contents.

A STEADFAST SUPPORTER SPEAKS

by Erchie W. Waters

The other side of the coin. We all know there are two sides to each coin.

In the two articles in the Baptist paper of May 21, 1980, only one side was presented.

Those persons must have been looking through rose-colored glasses, or someone is running scared their jobs might run out along with the children.

Are we as Free Will Baptist church members and long-time supporters willing to sacrifice the standard of the Home to keep their jobs; plus more jobs? It will mean hiring more help in all departments.

How many people are so fortunate as to be raised by parents with a Doctor's degree? Why so much education to be houseparents?

A Christian couple with good common sense and love in their hearts for children can administer tender, loving care, and guidance. Most of us were raised under these conditions and we aren't so bad. We have managed to get the Home this far. It is worth 3.5 million dollars.

Most young couples today have a high school education. My parents did not, but they were Christians—wonderful people, with plenty of good common sense and love for God and family. They like others did a good job of rearing their family.

I have been a member of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church for 50 years. As long as I can remember, we have supported

the Children's Home with money and supplies, because we love the Home. Why let Uncle Sam get his fingers in the pie now by signing the Civil Compliance Act only to lose power in the end? Once you sign the dotted line he takes over.

In the hospital where I work part-time, they not only tell us what we can or cannot do, but how we have to do it, when, where, and how many people to do it, what to put on the patient's charts, which patients to put where or we lose our help. Instead of 10 percent integration, it is equal.

Look at the schools. They did not get by with 10 percent either. They bus the small children many miles and too early in the morning and they are late getting home in the afternoon. All in order to get their quota. Not only that, but many of the children that are coming are from low standards of living. Children that we are already supporting as taxpayers, while one or both parents loaf. We are working our fingers to the bone trying to be honest, upright citizens.

If you fill the Home with these children, you are only taking the burdens and freeing them of their responsibilities. Free them to sit back under air conditioning, watch soap operas, and old movies, and drink beer. They may even shack up and produce more children for us to feed and clothe. As long as someone else will pay, they will take you for a ride.

Before you laugh, let me set you straight. It's true, I've seen

it for real. There are many cases in Beaufort and adjoining counties. There have been too many handouts. It makes lazy people. That's the devil's workshop.

What makes you think the government will give us any special consideration? Why incur so much extra expense at a time when inflation is so high? If it takes four sets of houseparents for 35 children, think what it will cost to hire houseparents for 100 children, if they have to have Doctors' degrees.

There will also have to be more workers hired to do the hard labor, making quite a large payroll.

Are we to take from our children to help support and pamper 100 children and make jobs for more adults? A short-term-stay was discussed at Shiloh, but that's for the birds. Once they are back home, it's back in the same old slot. Mom's happy. She's getting the checks again. She can buy a lot of cold cereal, juice or milk, and peanut butter sandwiches to pass out for lunch and supper, while she sleeps or watches television. Our money and efforts are gone down the drain. There is no Sunday school or church. The only way your mission work will survive is to keep children on long-term basis until they are 18 years old and can go to a life of their own and are not under the influence of the old home life.

If the Home has outgrown its usefulness as a Home for Free Will Baptist orphans, because of no available ones (and we should be thankful that our children are so lucky), then let's be interested in the Retirement Homes for our retired ministers, their widows or the lay persons. We as a denomination owe it to them. They have done so much for us so long for so little pay. They did not get fat salaries like our ministers do now. Is there no time for expansion now?

(Continued on Page 12)

Woman's Auxiliary

(Continued from Page 10)

June 24, 10 a.m. Registration at 9:30 a.m. The morning speaker will be Ruth Warrick, Clayton, North Carolina. Morning devotions will be brought by Happy Taylor, Deep Run, North Carolina. Special singing is planned for the day and "testimony time" for the afternoon.

Motels—New Bern, North Carolina.

Lunch—Host church.

Mission Fund and Registration Fee—Registration fee \$10. Send more if you can. We must reward our youth and pay our expenses. If our denomination is to grow in other states and nations, then we must keep the General Conference alive. This we are trying to do.

Have a special prayer:

For our convention and its officers.

That God will send missionaries into other states.

For our young people that God will call them into full-time Christian service.

We need you and God needs you. May God help us is my prayer.

In His service,
Margaret Ard

If you have not received your report blanks, please call 568-4685, or write me, Route 1, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572.

WINTERGREEN HONORS MRS. OLA PAPPAS

We have chosen for our annual woman of the year award, Mrs. Ola Quinn Pappas, who is a life-time resident of this community—except for a period of six years that she lived in Kinston. She was born on November 13, 1905, here in Wintergreen. Her father was Sarget Edward Quinn and her mother was Amanda Bryant.

At the age of 14, she became a member of Wintergreen church and from that time has been a loyal member.

When she was 22 years old on June 16, 1927, she married Louie Pappas. She is now the mother of five children, Hilda, Bill, George, Ann, and Virginia. About 40 or 41 years ago, she joined our auxiliary and has been an active member since that time. Through the years, she has served as vacation Bible school teacher and Sunday school secretary among other things.

We are very proud of our choice of woman of the year. We feel that her life well qualifies her for this honor. We congratulate her and wish for her every happiness in the future.

Faye Rouse
Auxiliary President

WINTERGREEN HONORS A SPECIAL LADY

We have chosen for our Lifetime Charter Member, Mrs. Nannie Catherine McCoy Wetherington. She was born April 15, 1913. She attended Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church at Cove City.

She married Clem William Wetherington September 5, 1929. They have four children, Joyce, Pearl, Frankie, and Grover. She has ten grandchildren and four great-granddaughters.

Mrs. Nannie has been a member of our auxiliary for around 48 years. She has served as President and held other offices in our auxiliary. She taught the Little Card Class for several years and also the Adult Sunday School Class. She was vacation Bible school director for 20 years and has been a loyal and faithful church member.

Truly it is a great honor and privilege to know such a special lady.

Faye Rouse
Auxiliary President

DEEP RUN SALUTES WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Members of the Deep Run Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary wish to present and give an honorable salute to our Woman of the Year, Mrs. Doris

Smith. She displays an excellent example of the Christian ideal.

We praise God for having Mrs. Smith as a leader of our auxiliary and church. May God bless her richly and may she continue to let her light shine for her fellowman.

Linda Jenkins President

A STEADFAST SUPPORTER SPEAKS

(Continued from Page 11)

We are to take care of our own first according to God's Word. He did not say support the lazy or wicked. It would be less expensive to support, despite the amount the social service would pay for child care. I realize a group of the ministers and their followers are going to get to do the voting for us all, Mr. and Mrs. Average Church Members. I hope they all have big pocketbooks, for not everybody approves of taking in the welfare children who are already getting enough money to care for them if well spent.

I heard one pastor say he would vote for it, regardless of how his church felt. It was good missionary work. If his salary was cut in half, you'd soon see how effective his missionary work was. He would be gone. I'd like to see his face if a group of black or Mexican people walked in his church. He would put them in the Home, but he wouldn't want them in his church.

Have you stopped to think that most of your supporters are farmers, who are not even breaking even now, and factory workers, who are being laid off by the thousands, and the elderly, who are living on fixed incomes who cannot pay their way without working part-time? I ask you how can we pay more now?

The ones doing the voting will be the small number who are still making money, but is it enough to expand and keep it going? We have a lot of "you do" voters and double-talk. It's a good way to lose what we have. Better think twice! It pays!

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For June 15

JEREMIAH'S TEMPLE SERMON

Lesson Text: Jeremiah 26:1-6,
10-15

Memory Verse: Jeremiah 8:11

I. INTRODUCTION

The religious revival and reform under Josiah, which was noted last week, began in the year 621 B. C. Jeremiah's call to the prophetic office had come some five or six years before. Although Josiah's reform is not specifically mentioned by Jeremiah, we may well believe that the prophet supported the young king. It will be remembered that Josiah called upon his people to renew their covenant with the Lord, as set forth in the book of the law discovered in the temple.

The setting for today's lesson is some twelve or more years later. Josiah's reform failed to produce any lasting change in the lives of the people of Jerusalem and of Judah. Josiah himself was dead, having been slain in battle at Megiddo by Pharaoh-Necho of Egypt in 610 B. C. Jehoahaz (or Shallum —Jeremiah 22:11, 12) was king for three months, but then was deposed and taken by Pharaoh to Egypt. The Egyptians then placed Jehoiakim, another son of Josiah, on the throne of Judah as a vassal king. Assyria was no more, but a new threat was seen in the ascendancy of the Babylonians. It was a time when the people of Judah should have been showing true strength of character and integrity. Instead, spiritual, moral, and social decay became epidemic. To make matters worse, there was a false feeling

of security in the land.
—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. As long as Josiah lived and perhaps for a short time afterward, the Prophet Jeremiah cherished the hope that the people of Jerusalem and Judah might repent and thus escape the certain punishment of God. In the first part of the book, Jeremiah tells many stories that illustrate his hope for Judah. One such story is that of the potter's wheel (Chapter 18). He tells how he was sent to the potter's house and there watched the potter take a lump of clay and fashion it upon his wheel. As the prophet looked on, the vessel was marred in the hands of the potter. The potter took the clay and kneaded it again and made a new vessel. It was Jeremiah's hope that Judah would repent and God would make of her a new nation and avoid the great punishment that the prophet felt was sure to come if they followed their present course. But this was not to be.

B. Judah became worse, not better. The people became apostates from God, defiling the holy city by burning incense to heathen gods, shedding innocent blood. God sent Jeremiah to get a potter's earthen bottle. The bottle was finished, complete; there was to be no remaking of it. Then, with the elders and priests he was sent to the Valley Hinnom. There, before witnesses, he was to break the bottle and say ". . . Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter's vessel,

that cannot be made whole again . . . Thus will I do unto this place, saith the LORD, and to the inhabitants thereof . . ." (Jeremiah 19:11, 12).

C. Because of his activity and his prophecy of doom, Jeremiah was beaten and thrown into prison. This made him decide that he would not speak any more in the name of God, but he said God's Word "was in my heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing" (Jeremiah 20:9). So he was constrained to continue his prophetic work.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. We need to be reminded that the lessons this quarter are a study of the later years of Judah, the Southern Kingdom; Israel, the Northern Kingdom, having already been taken into captivity by Assyria. This study will, of course, deal not only with the later kings of Judah but also some of the prophets whose ministry paralleled these kings. Beginning with the reign of Manasseh, which we studied last Sunday, and continuing to the end of the kingdom, there were four prophets: Jeremiah, Nahum, Zephaniah, and Habakkuk.

B. Manasseh was king when Jeremiah was born, the date being about 650 B. C. As a young man he became aware of the wickedness of Manasseh, and especially that of Manasseh's son, King Amon, so that by the time the good King Josiah came to the throne, Jeremiah was quite troubled about the conditions in Judah. He began his ministry in the thirteenth year of Josiah's reign, which left only a few months over forty years before the fall of Jerusalem, the capital of Judah.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

Have you renewed your Free Will Baptist subscription?

CHILDREN'S HOME

by Stewart Humphrey

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING

THE CHALLENGE OF THE 80'S

We have completed our scheduled area meetings. During the next few weeks we will present some of the most frequently asked questions and the answers to those questions.

If we sign the Compliance Act, won't that bring Federal control of the Children's Home? Absolutely not! We will be receiving no direct Federal aid and, consequently, no Federal regulations other than health and safety, wage and hour laws will apply to the Home.

The only Federal money that will affect the Children's Home in any way will come through county funding for dependent children. We already meet the standards for these funds. Since we already meet state licensing standards we do not foresee any regulations of any kind other than those we have already chosen to meet, at any level.

The other church-supported children's homes in the state have been in compliance for 15 years or more. Not one single home reported to our Board that it has had any unfavorable interference from State or Federal governments. Should any unwanted interference come in the future, we could simply withdraw from compliance.

How many minority children will we be serving if we sign the Compliance Act? Based on figures from the other homes we can expect no more than 5 or 6 minority children at any given time on our campus.

Won't we have a quota such as schools have? No. We are a private agency with a service available. Were we publicly founded we might have a quota.

Won't the blacks finally out-

number the whites on campus? Not likely. Statistics show that about 90 percent of the children placed in children's homes are white. Counties have more placement alternatives for the black children in their care.

Will we be able to expect the county-placed children to attend religious services if they don't want to? When we receive a child from the county, the fact that we expect church attendance as one of our requirements for living on our campus will be included in the contract. If the child refuses to meet any part of that contract, including attending religious services, he can be suspended from the program.

How reliable is the information being given on this issue? In 1970 the Board of Directors of the Children's Home told the Convention what to expect in the future. Nearly all the predictions made in 1970 have come to pass. Our Board has had to wrestle with the issue in question repeatedly since 1970, particularly so in the last five years. During the past two years our Board turned to our consultants, the directors of the other 27 homes in the state, and

other professionals who could help them with the problems facing the Home. All our advisors point us in the same directions. The time has come for us to make bold new decisions in the light of the testimony we have heard and the problems confronting us.

Children by the hundreds need care. We have one of the best programs available in the state. It's time to make it available to children in need.

If you have a question you wish answered in this column, we'll be happy to do so.

CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Morehead City, is in need of a full-time pastor. If anyone is interested please contact Perry Buck, Route 3, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557, phone 726-3258; or Robert C. Davis, Route 3, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557, phone 726-4390.

Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Highway 58, Snow Hill, North Carolina, is in need of a pastor. If anyone would be interested, please call Elmer E. Harrell, 747-2893 (at night) or Carl Sutton, 747-2123 (at night).

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

We dare not prophesy the Second Coming. We dare not speculate that it will be tomorrow or next year, but persons more knowledgeable than we do think they have reason to believe it is very close. Each of us, when viewing occurrences in our lifetime, can certainly attest to seeing prophecy fulfilled.

As God had withheld the time of the Second Coming even from the angels in Heaven, He has withheld this information from mankind. We are cautioned that it will come at such a time as we think not, which, of course, could be tomorrow—even today.

The important thing is to be found ready, notwithstanding volcanic eruptions and earthquakes!

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

NINETEEN NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Nineteen Free Will Baptist students have been named to the Dean's List at Mount Olive College for the spring semester, 1980.

The students are: Jerry Arthur Allen (Everett Chapel, Clayton); Bernice Kay Barbour (Hopewell church, Johnston County); Clarence Mitchell Bass (Daniels Chapel, Wilson County); Trudy Lynne Corbett (Howell Swamp church, Walstonburg); Jo Ann Grubbs (Deep Run church, Deep Run); and Alice Lynn Hines (Winterville church, Winterville).

Also, Tamara Ann Williamson Hines (Casey's Chapel, Goldsboro); Katie Ruth Isler (Walnut Creek, LaGrange); Jacqueline Jones (Grants Chapel, Wayne County); Teresa Dawn Kelly (Holly Springs, Newport); Jeanne Yvette Kittrell (Faith church, Morehead City); and Donna Jean Lambert (Riverside church, Johnston County).

And, Sonya Faye McCoy (Hugo church, Lenoir County); Ruth Marie Narron (First Church of Wilson); James Robert Roberts (Antioch church, Wayne County); Donna Catherine Seymour (Living Waters, Wayne County); Sheri McKay Slaughter (Holly Springs church, Newport); Robert Anthony Souder (Trent church, Pamlico County); and Mary Lynette Turner (Spring Hill church, Wayne County).

ATTENTION MINISTERS!

The Ministers' Institute held annually at Mount Olive College is scheduled for Monday and

Tuesday, August 11, 12. "Directions for the '80's" will be the program theme and will include topics on planning for the decade and dealing with effective time management.

Ministers are encouraged to mark your calendars and plan to attend. More details will follow.

SUMMER SCHOOL STARTS JUNE 13

The second term of summer school at Mount Olive College begins June 13.

The three-week session includes courses in:

- Art Appreciation
- English Literature
- General Chemistry
- Western Civilization
- North Carolina History
- Music Appreciation
- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Tennis
- English Composition
- Principles of Biology
- Economics
- American History
- Intermediate Algebra
- College Algebra
- Introduction to Sociology
- Marriage and the Family
- Beginning Swimming

Dormitory space is available. For more information, contact the Admissions Office at 658-2502.

COLLEGE PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Smithfield, on Sunday, June 8, at 11 a. m.

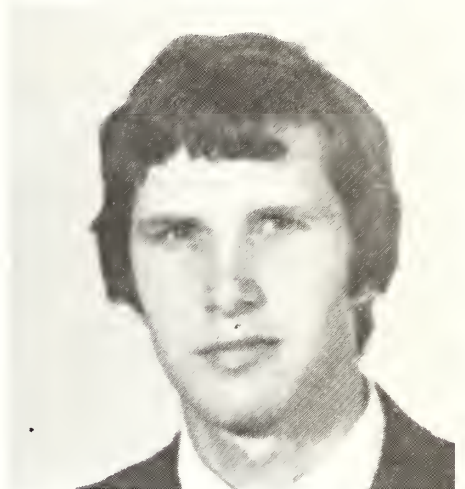
The program will be special "Christian Education Service." The pastor is the Rev. T. C. Farmer.

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

My thoughts continue; I must go. I'm glad they're recognized. This is dear to these two folks. You can see it in their eyes . . .

Two FWB Ministers Graduate From Southeastern Seminary



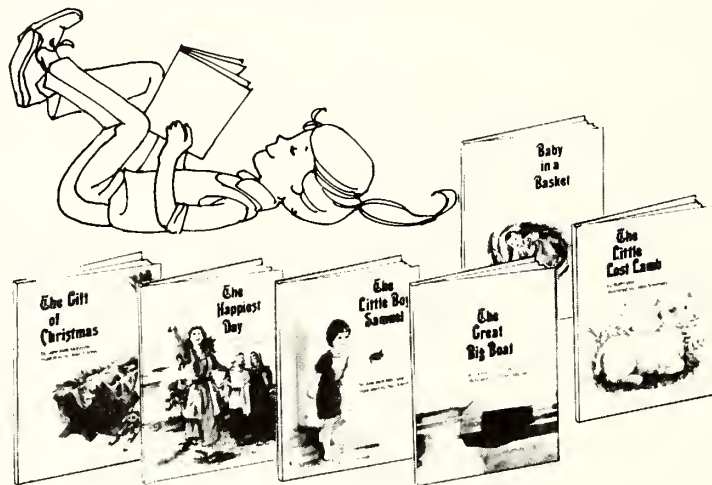
Calvin R. Mercer Jr.



Emerson Ray Wells

Two Free Will Baptist students were among the 312 graduates receiving degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina. Emerson Ray Wells of Wilson, North Carolina, received the Master of Divinity degree, and Calvin R. Mercer Jr. of Beulaville, North Carolina, received the Master of Theology degree.

Special Books for Children



Child's World Bible Stories (\$4.95 each). A more perfect understanding of favorite Bible stories is assured with this Scripturally faithful series of books. Hard covers and durable sewn bindings.

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- 4916, **The Little Boy** (Samuel)
- 4917, **The Great Big Boat** (Noah's ark)
- 4918, **Baby in a Basket**
- 4919, **The Little Lost Lamb**

Books of Understanding (\$4.95 each). Frances Hook is the illustrator of these books designed to help children understand their feelings. Sewn library bindings.

- 4900, **When I'm Afraid**

- 4901, **My Baby Brother Needs Me**
- 4902, **But I'm Thankful, Really I Am**
- 4903, **I'm Glad to Be Me**
- 4904, **Glad or Sad—How Do You Feel?**



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The Free Will Baptist

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DURHAM, N.C.



Divorce is an ugly word, a word which encourages the worst possible innuendoes and reflects unkindly even toward the most innocent of victims. It is a serious social malady and a sad commentary on the times, but Christian people must not turn away from the reality of it. Almost every family is touched by it.

DETERIORATION OF FAMILY LIFE: MORAL BREAKDOWN?

Recently, in my Sunday school class, a young divorced woman cited the deterioration of family life as the basis for moral laxity. She insisted that the family was (or should be) the most sacred institution in existence, and that she, and others like her who had resorted to its dissolution, served to loosen morals and stability. "We are saying to the children, and to the general public," she stated, " 'If you don't like it, you don't have to stay in it. It's nothing too permanent anyhow!' "

Without getting too personal, she admitted that her divorce was caused by something more serious than the popular "incompatibility" and, she suggested, there are cases where (as bad as it is) divorce seems the **only** sensible solution.

Divorce is indeed a serious social malady and a sad commentary on the times, but Christian people must not turn away from the reality of it, nor indeed from the seeming necessity of it in some cases.

Divorce is an ugly word, a word which encourages the worst possible innuendoes and reflects unkindly even toward the most innocent of victims. And divorce touches ministers as well as public figures and movie stars. Almost every family has been affected by it, and social scientists predict that a worsening trend is developing, despite the sinful trial periods some persons engage in before marriage.

When Christian persons experience divorce, it carries for them an especially ugly stigma. By virtue of their profession of faith they are supposed to be immune to it (some think) or at least be able to rise above it. But an intelligent approach would require that even Christians face the possibility—and should it come their way—the imminence of divorce.

It seems particularly unkind to render a Christian's witness ineffectual because that person is the co-signer in a divorce decree. Though public opinion varies, for the most part it will accept divorce readily for the average person, but not for the Christian (who is supposed to be above average). Immediately, when apprised of Christians' severing of marriage ties, the public questions, or even maligns, their credibility. In public opinion, the "till death do us part" has absolute application for the Christian home. Nothing in the world should be able to dissolve the marriage. And while complimentary, at the same time this opinion is grossly unfair—for Christians are human too (though they should indeed separate themselves from all worldliness).

We hasten to urge that divorce is never good. All concerned parties suffer—husband, wife, and children—children being the most innocent and suffering of victims. Divorce, in fact, should be the **very last resort**—when all else has failed. And **all else** means the exhaustion of every possible alternative. But both parties must be willing to salvage a marriage. It cannot be saved by all the love and forgiveness in the world, unless both parties are agreed, and unless **both seek God's help**.

Few, if any, marriages are made in Heaven, but this realization should not make any marriage less binding. Still, preparation for

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Tommy Manning
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches sent the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

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Guilt and Anger in the Small Church

by C. Eugene Bryant
Submitted by DeWayne Eakes

WHETHER we like it or not guilt and anger are all too common occurrences in many churches. While guilt and anger occur in larger churches, they are particularly the bane of small membership churches. Guilt and anger are often operating during those periods when pastor and people are aware that "something isn't right" in their relationship. Pastors may be fired, boards bawled out, parsonage wives criticized as guilt and anger rule the day.

Where do guilt and anger come from? They result from the interaction of several factors peculiar to small churches.

The Closely-Knit Family

One factor is the nature of small churches themselves. The small church tends to be a closely knit family. Many of the members are related by blood. There are few secrets. The closeness of the family church makes it difficult for outsiders to work their way in. Thus evangelism, or growth, is a problem. Because such churches are small, and are not getting any bigger, there is often a feeling of living on the edge of destruction. There is never enough money. The natural feeling in such churches is one of being beset by outside forces that could lead to destruction of the family.

Conflicts

Another factor has to do with the way the members see the church. "Church" is defined in terms of the ability to do two things: support a full-time pastor and maintain a building. They have often made it their reason for being. Both things involve the ability to raise money. Both things are potential conflict areas because so much of the church's self-image is expressed in them. Church buildings are so expensive to maintain and pay for and absorb such huge amounts of energy, that little is left for program and mission.

Even if this is not objectively true, the church members feel that it is, and their reactions flow from their feelings. The perceived demands of the pastor for both program and mission often conflict with the perceived demands of the building.

Many small church pastors are serving in their first parish. Whether they like it or not, and whether it is true or not, small churches often think of themselves as training grounds for young and inexperienced pastors. Therefore, if he is "not really a full-fledged minister" we are "not really a full-fledged church" either.

The Pastoral Role

A third factor giving rise to guilt and anger in small churches is the pastor himself, and

sometimes his family. More and more of the available pastors for all churches are theologically literate, biblically astute, aware of events that shape the larger world, and convinced that the church's job is to confront the world with the gospel. Gone is the concern for conventional standards that would dictate conservative dress or openly pious life-style on the part of the pastor or his family.

Pastors of many small churches tend to see themselves less as fulfilling specific role expectations and more as the spiritual peers of their people, struggling with them to relate the gospel to life. Many churches, however, still tend to react to pastors and their families out of that more traditional stance. Because they feel somehow responsible for the pastor's training, and yet that yearning for the "old-time" pastor is so insistent, both guilt and anger are frequently evident.

Feeling the Tug

A fourth factor is hard to define. It might be described as an awareness tugging at the minds of small church members. Even as they busy themselves with three committee assignments at once, the members feel the tug. Even as they hold their third bazaar to raise money for the parsonage, the members feel

Turn the Page

the tug. Even as they sit in church, dead tired after bazaar week, they feel the tug. The tugs remind them that Jesus did not say: "Hold bazaars in my name," but "Go into all the world and make disciples." There is considerably more to the Christian faith than is expressed in the day-to-day activities of small churches; the members know it, and the pastor knows it.

There is no way that these four factors are ever going to mesh smoothly. When they don't, conflict results. The unique form conflict most often takes in small churches is the indirect, highly personal, elusive, and frustrating Siamese twin of guilt-anger.

Name the Enemy

Wherever it comes from, what can be done to break the power of that two-headed creature? The first move is to name the enemy. Large churches have been studied *ad infinitum*; we know all about personal vs. positional conflict, the causes of inactive members, and the like, all of which is not very relevant to a church in which everyone knows everyone else, in which the safety of the family is paramount, and in which a cross word is an attack on the integrity of the family. Denominations and church consultants need to spend just as much time and money studying the unique problems of small churches as they have on larger ones. Ordinary inertia militates against that, since several small churches seldom equal the mission giving of one large one. But while there may not seem to be much economic incentive for denominational leaders to get smart about small churches, there is plenty of spiritual incentive.

Small congregations make up the majority of churches in almost all American Protestant denominations, and their general disaffection with the policies and leadership of the denomination can make it tough going for the church's leaders at every level.

Small churches located in urban areas are often the key to the denomination's efforts to develop meaningful ministries among blacks and Hispanics. Small churches located in areas once entirely rural but now covered with fast-growing suburbs full of young families escaping urban crime and clutter can by their attitudes determine the success or failure of evangelism efforts in the area.

If small churches are not encouraged in the area of recruiting young people for the ministry, the church's leadership will be dominated by pastors who "think large" in denominations in which as many as two-thirds of the churches available to them are small, totally different from anything they have ever known before.

There is plenty of incentive for denominational leadership to pay more attention to small churches than it currently does. The main side effect of that attention will be the creation among such churches of the realization that they are important. Low self-esteem, itself a major cause of the guilt-anger cycle, can be dealt with creatively.

Positive Values

Such attention, in and of itself, will not be enough to break the cycle. Needed also is the discovery by small churches of the positive values they offer persons living in a mechanized, dehumanized society. The world is cold; the small church is warm. The world is manipulative and production-oriented; the small church values what a person is far more than what he can do. The world is disruptive and uncaring; the small church offers a family belongings and mutual support. Such values need to be given equal billing with the size of mission budget or congregational membership. The pastor of the small church would do well to emphasize those values every step of the way. The congregation would do well to emphasize those values in its

efforts to sell itself to new people. The sense that the small church has nothing of value to offer, a cause of the guilt-anger cycle, can be dealt with creatively.

When these things have begun, bi-vocational ministries can be offered to small churches as a positive way to relieve growing financial pressure. Then small churches will be the seat of a grand experiment—a pastor deriving most of his support from secular employment and working alongside the membership. Such a pastor comes to church work in exactly the same way the other members do offering his time and energy not for pay but as a gift to God and his fellow Christians. Research has shown that under bi-vocational ministries, the level of involvement of members actually increases. Freed from the necessity of providing one-half or more of its annual budget for pastoral support, the small church has money and energy left for program development. Such churches may then be able to make unique contributions to the shape of American Protestantism. Such small churches may actually taste success, some for the first time.

These are long-range suggestions, aimed at denominational policy toward small churches. Cumulatively, they can do much to relieve the guilt-anger cycle in small churches. But in the meantime, what do pastors and members of small churches do when the inevitable conflicts come, bearing their fruit of guilt and anger? The first thing is for pastor and people to deal with one another with compassion. "Mrs. Jones, I hear of your frustration at having to work so hard to make ends meet. That hurts." "Pastor, we don't begrudge you the salary we provide. Sometimes we just get tired and have to sound off." Through such honesty, compassion, much of the potential guilt and anger are drained off.

(Continued on Page 15)

MacArthur's Prayer

Glad is the father whose son delights in his Lord

BUILD me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak, and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory.

BUILD me a son whose wishes will not take the place of deeds; a son who will know Thee—and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge.

LEAD him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Here let him learn to stand up in the storm; here let him learn compassion for those who fail.

BUILD me a son whose heart will be clean, whose goal will be high, a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men, one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past.

AND after all these things are his, give him, I pray, enough of a sense of humor so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom, and the meekness of true strength.

THEN I, his father, will dare to whisper, "I have not lived in vain!"

For His Son



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

Scripture Reading—Exodus 20:
12

TO MY DAD

Somehow a fellow can't express
The feelings he has had
While through the years he's
walked and talked

And laughed and played with
Dad.
He cannot put in words the
love—

The pride that wells within,
The admiration in his heart,
Whene'er Dad looks at him.

Dad is the hero of his dreams,
The king upon the throne,
The pattern for that ideal life

Which he would make his own.
He knows that Dad well un-
derstands

The conflicts in his breast,
And shared the problems he
must face,
Though often unexpressed.

How could a fellow go astray,
Who with his Dad has stood
Within the secret place of prayer
Before a holy God!
And this my constant prayer
shall be,

That until life is done,
My conduct here shall honor
him,
Who proudly calls me "Son."

PRAYER THOUGHT

As important as it is that sons honor their fathers by godly living, fathers must set the proper example. Let no one say of his father, "I never saw God in him."

MONDAY, JUNE 16

Scripture Reading—Romans
10:17

LITTLE FAITH

O Thou of little faith,
God hath not failed thee yet!
When all looks dark and gloomy,
Thou dost so soon forget!

Forget that He has led thee,
And gently cleared thy way;
On clouds has poured His sun-
shine,
And turned thy night to day!

And if He's helped thee hitherto,
He will not fail thee now;
How it must wound His loving
heart
To see thy anxious brow!

Oh! doubt not any longer,
To Him commit thy way;
Whom in the past thou trusted,
And is the same today!

PRAYER THOUGHT

God is ever present to help those who call on Him in prayer. Isn't it wonderful that He is more faithful to us than we are to Him? If any of us is lacking, now is a good time to better our relationship with Him.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17

Scripture Reading—Ecclesiastes
11:6

IN THE MORNING, SOW THY SEED!

Years ago, in the city of Toronto, Canada, a young man passed a street meeting. He heard only one verse from the Bible: "Son, give me thine heart." At the time, the verse apparently went in one ear and

out the other. More than fifty years later, the verse, which had lain dormant in his heart, became accusingly and convictingly alive. Then he fell on his knees, crying to God for His mercy and forgiveness.

Let us be alert and aggressive in obeying the command, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good" (Ecclesiastes 11:6).

Even the weakest and unworthiest ones may sow the seed, remembering that the life lies not in the sower, but in the seed!

PRAYER THOUGHT

One can never know the favorable effect that one word for the Lord can have. Each of us, whenever the opportunity avails itself, should witness of His saving power. Only eternity will show the results of sincere witnessing.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

Scripture Reading—1 Corin-
thians 11:27

GUILTY AS CHARGED!

More and more children are being led toward crime as parents throw away responsibility. Selfishness is often the keynote of the day and materialism the inspiration for living. God, in many instances, is not accepted in the home, and concepts of morality have been relegated to the junk heap.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Responsible parents will direct their children even in

recreational activities. Those who are left to their own whims or unguided pursuits are more likely to get into trouble. Pray for God's direction as you direct them.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 56:7

A PRAYER FOR MY PASTOR

"Our Father, let me be a pillar of strength to help hold him up and not a thorn in his flesh to sap his strength, nor a burden on his back to pull him down. Let me support him without striving to possess him. Let me lift his hands without placing shackles around them. Let me give him my help that he may devote more time in working for the salvation of others and less time in gratifying my vanity. Let me work for him as the pastor of all the members and not compel him to spend precious time in pleasing me. Let me be unselfish in what I do for him and not selfish in demanding that he do more for me. Let me strive to serve him and the church much and be happy as he serves me less and the church and others more."

PRAYER THOUGHT

If each church member strove to support his pastor rather than oppose him, all manner of mutual benefits could be realized—for the congregation, for the pastor, and for God's kingdom among men.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20

Scripture Reading—Genesis 7:11

IS THIS THE RIGHT ROAD HOME?

Is this the right road home, O Lord?
The clouds are dark and still,
The stony path is sharp and hard,

Each step brings some fresh hill;
I thought the way would brighter grow
And that the sun with warmth would glow
And joyous songs from free hearts flow.
Is this the right road home?

Yes, child! this very path I trod,
The clouds were dark for Me.
The stony path was hard to tread,
Not sight but faith can see
That at the end the sun shines bright,
Forever where there is no night,
And glad hearts rest from earth's fierce flight,
It is the right road home!

PRAYER THOUGHT

The road to spiritual success is often marked with hardship. Only the tempered soul can long endure.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21

Scripture Reading—Romans 12:5

BROTHERS IN CHRIST

When in London I was walking home from a meeting. Part of the way I was accompanied by the Marquis of Aberdeen and the Lord Bishop of Norwich. Being an American, and unaccustomed to titles, I felt embarrassed as to how I should address men of their rank. I expressed my perplexity, and the Marquis replied, "My dear brother, just address us as your brethren in Christ. We have no higher honor than that."

PRAYER THOUGHT

In Christ, everyone is equal, whether king or servant. There is no higher honor possible than to have someone refer to you as a Christian brother. Live the life, that this may truly be said of you.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. DONNIE BUCK

On March 4, 1980, Mrs. Donnie Boyd Buck, was called from this earthly life to her heavenly home. She died at Pitt Memorial Hospital after about a week of fighting a stroke and other complications. She was 75 years old.

She was a life-long resident of Pitt County. She married her husband, David Buck, October 17, 1923. To this union were born two sons, J. D. Buck of Winterville, North Carolina, Edward Buck of Alusia, Alabama, and one daughter, LaRue Buck Hill of Raleigh. There are eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was a dedicated member of Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, member of the Hines Memorial Sunday School Class, and the Lela Nobles Auxiliary. She attended most church meetings and activities until the last years of failing health.

Funeral services for Mrs. Buck were held at Wilkerson Funeral Home by the Rev. Bobby Futrell, her pastor, and the Rev. Sonny Hill, her son-in-law. Her chief concern was rearing her children and of Jesus and His love. She has a host of relatives and friends who were saddened by her death. We all miss her very much but we know she is at rest.

Written by a friend,
Lottie B. Whitehurst

Coming Events . . .

- June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month
- June 15—Father's Day
- June 15—Superannuation Day in Local Churches
- June 16-20—Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere
- June 23—General Conference Youth Convention, Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, 7:30 p. m.

(Continued on Page 15)

**Davis Church
Announces Revival**

The Rev. Joseph Ingram will be the guest speaker at revival services at the Davis Free Will Baptist Church, Davis, North Carolina, June 16 through June 22. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. James A. Evans is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

**Hickory Chapel Observes
Senior Citizens Day**



Mr. Lloyd Dilday, oldest male member; and Mrs. Essie Chamblee, oldest female member at Hickory Chapel Church

Sunday, May 18, was Senior Citizens Day at Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Ahoskie, North Carolina. Senior citizens were given bouquets and sat as a group in pews reserved for them during the morning worship hour. Flowers were in abundance and the communion table held a special arrangement and a Bible, copyright date of 1846, owned by the fifth generation of a church family.

Special music was presented by the combined adult and young adult choirs and by the ladies trio. They sang "The Church in the Wildwood," "Kneel at the

Cross," "One Day at a Time," "How Great Thou Art," and "No Tears in Heaven." These songs had been given to the choir director as favorites by some of the senior citizens.

The pastor, the Rev. Robert May, brought a very fitting morning message taken from Psalm 92:14, 15. The oldest living male member is Mr. Lloyd Dilday, age, 85. The oldest living female member is Mrs. Essie Chamblee, age 84. Both were present at the morning service.

In the afternoon the group was entertained at the May Fellowship Hall. The senior citizens enjoyed games, refreshments, memories, and a lot of love and fellowship. Senior Citizens Day was sponsored by the Sudie May Auxiliary.

Local Minister Recognized



The Rev. Royce Reynolds

The Rev. Royce Lee Reynolds, pastor of Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church of Walstonburg, North Carolina, since July 1, 1975, has recently been recognized as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America. This award is presented to those young men who have exemplified superior

qualities of leadership and dedication in both their professional and community services.

He is one of nine children of Mrs. Margaret Reynolds of Columbia, North Carolina, and the late Jim W. Reynolds. He attended school in Columbia, North Carolina; Wilson County Technical Institute, Wilson, North Carolina; and Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina. He has served pastorates at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Pantego, North Carolina; Belhaven Free Will Baptist Church, Belhaven, North Carolina; and Walnut Creek Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange, North Carolina. He is currently serving as Secretary of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists Ordaining Council; Secretary of the North Carolina Ministerial Association; and Secretary of the Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship.

Mr. Reynolds is married to the former Fleddie Cahoon of Columbia, North Carolina. They are parents of three daughters.

**Candidate Baptized
First Church, Plymouth**

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, held a baptismal service for Lonnie Lewis on Sunday, May 25, at 3 p. m. The Rev. Floyd Burkey, pastor of the church, performed the baptism, as the group witnessed the happy occasion.

Mr. Burkey read Scripture chosen from several references, followed by a song and prayer by Edgar Pierce.

Roger Heath Assigned Overseas

The Rev. Roger Heath and family are currently assigned overseas in Germany. They are actively involved in a Bible study composed of people from the nations of Sri Lanka (Ceylon), South Korea, Ethiopia, India, Germany, and America. It is requested that all the Christian people in America pray for this work.

Children's Home

Submitted by Stewart Humphrey

MORE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

We continue our questions and answers regarding the opportunities before us in child care in the future.

Why can't we just go on the way we are, accepting private placements alone? The answer is simple. The legislature of our state has charged the county departments of Social Services with the responsibility of placing homeless children in our state. This is particularly true in the case of abandonment, abuse, and neglect. All citizens are required to report occurrences of these offenses directly to their county departments. When these offenses are discovered in the courtroom, the judge uses the county departments to orchestrate the placement of the child or children.

Last year more than two-thirds of the children placed in the state were placed by the counties. The children we can serve best go through the county departments first. With a conservative move afoot in this country, the churches will be looked upon more and more to provide the programs of care for children. The state, however, will continue to be charged with the responsibility of guaranteeing that the rights of all citizens are protected.

The real questions we face are whether or not we are willing to care for the next generation of children or whether we want to give them up to the state. The state will have to do what we cannot or will not do for ourselves, including the care of our children.

Signing the Compliance Act in no way hinders us as a church from offering quality Christian

child care to homeless children. In fact, it is the only way we will be able to continue to reach the child who needs our help the most!

How long are children in care today? Usually a child is in care no more than 6 to 18 months. Each child is admitted with a specific set of goals and objectives in mind.

Family clarification may be the great need for some children. The parents are separated. Perhaps one or both has deserted the child. A period of time is needed to try to locate the parent, or at least to determine if the parent will be able to return to the normal parenting function with counseling and other help, as determined by our Family Services workers. After 18 months to two years, if significant efforts haven't been made to reunite on the part of the family and the parents have not participated meaningfully in the care of the child, termination of parental rights will be sought. The child will then be adopted, placed in long-term foster care or remain in group care, depending on the child's need.

Behavior modification is another reason children come into care. Usually a program of 6 to 12 months is designated. If the child makes significant progress on his or her goals in this time period the child returns home. Group work with the parents is held simultaneously with the child's program on the campus.

More often than not, most children need primarily emergency care today. Victims of abandonment, abuse, neglect, runaways, and family crises of all kinds make short-term placements of 30-90 days one of the most sought-after types of

care. Like the Good Samaritan, emergency care binds up the wounded, provides temporary lodging and when all is well again, the fallen soul is sent on his or her way.

There will always be the child who needs long-term care, but these children will be the exception rather than the rule. Most likely they will have learning disabilities or handicaps of other kinds that make specialized group care the best choice of placement.

CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Morehead City, is in need of a full-time pastor. If anyone is interested please contact Perry Buck, Route 3, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557, phone 726-3258; or Robert C. Davis, Route 3, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557, phone 726-4390.

Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Highway 58, Snow Hill, North Carolina, is in need of a pastor. If anyone would be interested, please call Elmer E. Harrell, 747-2893 (at night) or Carl Sutton, 747-2123 (at night).

NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to thank my "Free Will Baptist Family" for each expression of kindness shown me during my illness and convalescence. Your love, your visits, your words of encouragement have meant so very much to me. Your flowers, your gifts, your cards, and your love offerings have helped a great deal. But more than anything, I appreciate your prayers because I have felt their power.

I am now back at work and feeling really well. Continue to remember me in your prayers.

With deepest love and gratitude
to each of you,
Minnie Chandler

The Rev. Carol Bryan Hansley

RUSSELL'S CREEK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Beaufort, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Carol Bryan Hansley. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

Submitted by Carol Cannon



The Rev. Carol Bryan Hansley

Russell's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Beaufort, North Carolina, is proud to have as its minister the Rev. Carol Bryan Hansley. Although small in numbers, the church is rich in spirit because of the ministry of Mr. Hansley.

He was born December 19, 1914, at Folkstone, Onslow County, to David Cicero and Sunie Heath Hansley. Having accepted Christ at an early age, the young man became an active member of the Folkstone Free Will Baptist Church. It was while a deacon at the Folkstone church that Mr. Hansley received God's call.

On September 1, 1937, he married Mildred Francis Coston, daughter of Hiram and Mary Tompson. Mr. and Mrs. Hansley have two daughters, Frieda Carolyn Lewis and Anita Faye

McGirt. Mrs. Hansley is active in church business and has helped to organize a youth choir at Russell's Creek. We, the members of the church, feel that the Hansley's two grandsons, Paul and Dennis Lewis, have helped to keep them "young at heart."

During the years prior to becoming pastor at Russell's Creek, Mr. Hansley held several positions in the Pee Dee Conference, as well as in the Eastern Conference. After his ordination on October 10, 1943, he served as a member of the Board of Ordination and moderator of the Pee Dee Conference. After transferring his membership to the Eastern Conference in October, 1955, he served on the Conference Mission Board and was elected moderator of the Eastern Conference in October, 1961. Having filled that office for six years, he was then elected Conference clerk in October, 1967, for a period of eight years.

In October, 1979, Mr. Hansley was again elected moderator of the Eastern Conference, a position he currently holds. He has served on the Board of Directors at Cragmont Assembly; Camp Vandemere, Inc.; and the Children's Home. Working actively with the Boy Scouts, Mr. Hansley authored the first "Guidebook for the God and Country Award" for Original Free Will Baptists in North Carolina.

Throughout the years he has also served in other offices—president of the North Carolina Ministerial Association of the Original Free Will Baptists and president of Carteret County Ministerial Association—while pastoring various churches in Onslow, Columbus, Bladen, Craven, Carteret, Pitt, Duplin, and Sampson Counties. The Hansley's daughter, Frieda, said that she hoped she had her parents convinced that Carteret County was the best place to be and that they'd "stay awhile." We, at Russell's Creek, hope so, too.

News from

Home Missions

by Taylor Hill

**APPROXIMATELY 200
ATTEND MISSION
HOMECOMING**



Haymount Mission homecoming

The Haymount Mission held its fourth annual homecoming on May 4th. Three other missions in the area took part and there were approximately two hundred people present. Pastor Taylor Hill states that it was a beautiful sight to behold to see so many area Christians united together in fellowship, many of the people whom we have seen saved since the program began.

If seeing is believing, then there should be no doubt the progress that is being made through the Home Missions program and its faithful supporters.

THE DREADFUL SUPERSTITION

By John Hudson Tiner

Check through your local newspaper. You will almost certainly find an astrology column that claims to predict what the day will hold for those people who read it. Astrology is a type of fortune-telling. According to astrologers, a person's entire life is controlled by the positions of the stars in the heavens at the moment of birth. Does anyone take it seriously?

The disturbing fact is this: Astrology is pursued by more people today than at any other time in human history. In the United States alone, twelve million people allow astrology to guide their daily decisions in one way or another. Some people would not dare to make important plans without checking their horoscope.

An astrologer casts a horoscope by figuring backwards to the appearance of the sky at the time of a person's birth. From this, and the positions of the sun, moon and planets, he predicts whether the person can expect good or bad luck.

It is true that the stars and planets are in the sky for a purpose. The Bible states, of the fourth day of creation, "And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day and night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons and for days and years" (Genesis 1:14.)

But their use is clear. Before the invention of clocks, the sun and other heavenly bodies were natural time keepers. Farmers watched for the constellations of spring. When they appeared, farmers could plant their crops without fear of an unexpected frost.

The Bible, however, warned God's people to avoid soothsayers and fortunetellers. Jeremiah said, "Do not fear the

signs of the heavens as do the heathen" (Jeremiah 10:2). And in Leviticus 19:21, "Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards."

The first astrologers foretold only events important to an entire country. They would point to a comet and say it heralded a disaster of some sort, such as war. The word **disaster** refers to "the unpropitious or baleful aspect of a planet or star."

They were crafty enough to state their predictions in general language, and for that reason they seemed to be right more often than wrong. One astrologer told his students, "Always predict disaster. That is certain to occur."

Later, astrologers began to forecast events for individuals.

Astrology should not be confused with astronomy, which is a true science. But at one time when very little was known about the true nature of stars, astronomers were expected to cast horoscopes. Galileo, the great Italian scientist, tried his hand at astrology. The Grand Duchess of Tuscany asked Galileo to cast the horoscope for her sick husband.

Galileo completed the horoscope and forecast that the duke would live for several more happy years. Instead, the duke died within three weeks. Astrologers shrugged. "Galileo must have made a mistake in his calculations," they said.

Another scientist of Galileo's time investigated astrology carefully. He concluded that it couldn't be trusted. "Astrology is only a dreadful superstition."

And that's exactly what astrology is. It is no more accurate for fortune-telling than using cards, reading tea leaves or chicken entrails, crystal ball gazing, or feeling bumps on the skull.

Astrology is a dreadful superstition because it contributes to the growth of irrational fears and frightening beliefs that confuse people about what God would have them do.

Think about it. Most newspapers have daily advice to readers based upon astrology—yet these same papers fail to carry a column devoted to what the Bible says about today's problems—and it is the Bible that has the answers people need. Our future is not in the stars but in the Bible.

Fortune-telling flourishes most in times of emotional insecurity. In uncertain times like these in which we live, people long for guidance in making decisions. They are frightened and want to be reassured. And what does the Bible say? Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you . . . Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27.)

PREACHER'S DIARY

Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

God is a jealous God and I am a jealous preacher. There are people who have more faith in doctors and medicine than they do in God and the prayers of His children.

Most people are hardly ever too sick to go to the doctor, but it is one of the most common excuses for not attending worship services.

Doctors' advice and medicine are good when they are administered properly but ought not to be shown more respect than to God.

Our Lord will always grant us sufficient for the moment: Never before, lest we waste it.

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For June 22

THE PROPHET HABAKKUK

Lesson Text: Habakkuk 1:1-4;
2:1-4; 3:17, 18

Memory Verse: Habakkuk 3:18

I. INTRODUCTION

One servant of God who struggled to understand the ways of the Lord was Habakkuk. A contemporary of Jeremiah, this prophet lived in Jerusalem during the time of Josiah's reform, which began in 621 B. C. This reform, which attempted to turn the hearts and lives of the people to God and to righteousness, must have gladdened the heart of Habakkuk. But in 610 B. C. Josiah was slain in battle, and after his fall the moral, ethical, and religious life of Judah deteriorated rapidly.

The king at this time was Jehoiakim, of whom it is recorded, "He did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord" (2 Kings 23:37). Covetous and cruel, the wicked king was followed in wickedness by his people, who "turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers" (Jeremiah 11:10). Evil prevailed, and it appeared that God was not doing anything about it. Persons of power joined with corrupt and greedy priests and prophets in violence, robbing the common people, and subjecting them to shameless oppression. The wicked were literally getting by with murder, and the innocent suffered. Why should this be? Why would God allow it to happen? Under the circumstances, we are not sur-

prised that righteous persons raised such questions.

The Book of Habakkuk consists of three short chapters that can easily be read in a few minutes. The first asks our question of why God governs the world in such a fashion as to permit the wicked and violent to oppress and crush the innocent and righteous. Chapter 2 gives God's answer to that question. In Chapter 3 Habakkuk declares that, come what may, he will put his trust in Him. Now let us notice, first of all, the nature of the prophet's complaint. —**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. It is no easy task to deal with the Book of Habakkuk. It is unique among the books of the Bible in that it contains an extended dialogue with Deity. (The Lord speaks directly to Job in Chapters 38-41 of the Book of Job, but Job's response consists of only six verses in Chapter 42.) Here we find a prophet carrying on an argument with God through about two-thirds of the book (Chapters 1 and 2). The third chapter is a prayer that is heavily laced with praise to God for having solved the prophet's problem.

B. Let's take a look at some of the hard questions that the prophet asked God and the answers that God gave him. It is our prayer that the answers to these hard questions will be as much of a blessing to us as they were to the prophet.

—**The Bible Teacher**
(F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. It has been said of the Book of Habakkuk, "If the little book we study had been written this morning about dawn, it could not be more up-to-date—yet it was written nearly 2,600 years ago!" This morning we woke up facing many of the same problems Judah faced in Habakkuk's day—why does God permit the wicked to destroy the less wicked? Why are the consequences of sin so tragic? Why does God's judgment affect the righteous along with the unrighteous? And there are others.

B. We know very little about the Prophet Habakkuk. We do know from his book that he was perhaps the best poet Judah ever had other than David himself. He prophesied some thirty years before the Babylonian Captivity—some think in the latter years of Josiah. Habakkuk is listed as one of the minor prophets. Most spoke to Israel and Judah on behalf of God. Habakkuk spoke to God on behalf of Judah. Most of the prophets considered their task as denouncing the sins of the people and showing the way back to God. Habakkuk thought of his task as discovering, if he could, what God meant by permitting wrong to exist in the first place. The answer God gave him is needed by us today.

—**The Advanced Quarterly**
(F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Why Doesn't God Hear Us?
When her beloved died, a woman who had been faithful in church work from girlhood asked, "Why did God permit this?" Then she went on to say, "I prayed for George to be spared, but God did not hear me." How often we hear such words as these. But we should always remember that God has ways of answering our prayers that we do not understand.

—**The Bible Teacher**
(F.W.B.)

**Cragmont
Youth Bible Conference**

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THE HINGE THAT WILL NEVER RUST

Mrs. Hersel Bowen
Winterville, North Carolina

A woman once said, "I know I have more trouble and problems than anyone."

It made me open the windows of my ears and lift the shades on my eyes. I saw the sick, some could not walk, some could not see, or move a part of their body. I saw the goodness of God in my life. If I'd say, "I have no problems or trouble," I'd not be telling the truth. But compared with the problems I see in this world, I am so blessed. Keeping the windows of our ears closed to others has caused us more sorrow than we know. When we are doing for others we have little time to think so much about ourselves. To pity ourselves is like someone without faith. God has stood by me in joy and sorrow. When I find I can't control a problem I put it in God's hand. I try not to run ahead of Him, but I do try to stay as close as I can. When I lifted the shades from my eyes my problems faded a little, because there stood someone in front of me, their head and back bent in agony over a child or a loved one. I thanked God for the problems He had carried me through. I could reach out and see the needs of a friend more clearly because I had suffered the same way. The wonderful part of sharing was to be able to tell a friend of a greater friend than I—the Lord Jesus Christ—God has granted most of us tears to wash away self and see others in need. Tears to me are the diamonds God has given to us to share with each other.

There are many heartaches and there may be many more for all of us. Think of the diamonds (tears) we share.

I pray that I may never draw the shades on my eyes so tight

that I can only see inward. Lord, lift the shades high and let me see the needs of others.

May I never shut the windows of my ears so I can't hear the needs of others. God is the hinge that will never rust. By God's help the shades and windows of our lives can and will open at all times by God if we keep "the Hinge" oiled with love, understanding, talking with others, asking for help and also giving help.

Help me, dear God, to try to accept things as they come my way.

I know "the Great Hinge of Life"—the Lord Jesus Christ—will never rust. Let Him open first your heart's door and He will come in. The shades on our eyes will stay up. The windows of our ears will be open to hear the call of others.

Markham has said,
"There is a destiny that make us brothers
None goes his way alone.
All that we send into the lives of others
Comes back into our own."

We must be very careful what we send into other's lives.

Someday the last door will be opened for us. We shall rest in peace forever, with our Saviour, no more heartaches, tears, disappointments. There shall be joy for ever. We can do the work of God together.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Bob Fussell announces that he now has a new address. It is Route 5, Box 355, Kinston, North Carolina 28501. His old address was Route 2, Box 297, Walstonburg, North Carolina 27888.

YOUR PART

Submitted by
Evangelist Arnold Woodlief

Your good is here. Accept it!
Your joy is near. Embrace it!
Your power is within. Harness it!

Your victory is now! Claim it!
Your freedom is real. Declare it!
Your abundance is overflowing.

Share it!

Your prosperity is good. Receive it!

Your problem is purposeful.
Bless it!

Your spirit is divine. Free it!

Your love is great. Give it!

Your faith is mighty. Use it!

Your song is beautiful. Sing it!

NOTICE

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet at the Press on July 8, 1980, at 10 a. m. Anyone having business with this council is asked to be present for this meeting.

Royce Reynolds, Secretary

Coming Events . . .

(Continued from Page 7)

June 24—Woman's Auxiliary of General Conference, Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, 10 a. m.

June 29—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville

June 29—Mount Olive College Day in Local Churches

NOTICE

The toll-free line at the Free Will Baptist Press was discontinued April 30. Customers are asked to use our regular number, 746-6128.

Have you renewed your Free Will Baptist subscription?

A grateful mind is
both great and a
happy mind.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

NEWS NOTES

Highland Pines Church Announces Revival Services

Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church, Hamlet, North Carolina, will be having revival services, beginning Sunday, June 15 continuing through June 20. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. M. E. Cox. The Rev. McDonal Bennett and congregation extend a prayerful invitation to everyone to attend. Services will begin at 7 p. m. with special singing being featured.

Also Sunday, June 1, was a special occasion. Baptism was observed during a time of worship and rejoicing. Four candidates were baptized, adding members to the church and the body of Christ.

Home Missions

submitted by
Taylor Hill

CHARLOTTE MISSION GETS NEW PASTOR

Mr. Salyer has been examined and ordained by the Piedmont Ordaining Council. Pastor Salyer and his wife have a daughter, Christina, who is 3 1/2 months old. We ought to be both proud and thankful for our faithful servants at Charlotte. We will probably live to see the Charlotte area become one of our strong points.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Bass Mitchell announces that he is available for part-time or interim pastoral services. He may be contacted by writing: Bass M. Mitchell, 2206 Guess Road, Durham, North Carolina 27705, or by phoning 286-4744.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

The second thing is for both pastor and people to raise the signal flags when the monster is climbing out of his cage. "We're starting to feel bad about each other. Let's talk and find out why." The third thing is for pastor and people to compromise a bit on their expectations of each other. The pastor may have to wear ties in the pulpit and the

people may have to allow cats in the parsonage. It is in this area that the Pastoral Relations Committee is of inestimable value. When confidentiality is assured, the opportunity to share feelings and report reactions both ways can do much to keep small problems from becoming huge ones.

All this will ultimately be fruitless, though, if there is not substantial shifting in denominational policy in the near future. Small churches may be condemned to short pastorates, a sure way to kill a church. Seminaries may continue to turn out men and women who do not know how to bring their creativity to bear on the problems of small churches. Whatever efforts are made, those efforts will succeed if small churches are willing to embrace the new possibilities created for them by shifts in consciousness then occurring. Some will undoubtedly choose to remain locked in the guilt-anger cycle. Those that do not may prove to be the churches of the future. □ (Used by permission of **The Christian Ministry**, Chicago, Illinois 60605)

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

marriage should be more than prayerful; it must involve a community of interest. Too often the basis for marriage is merely romantic, and consequently too weak to overcome difficulties that are bound to come.

The recent publicity about Anita Bryant's seeking a divorce from her husband of nearly 20 years has upset many, for most persons (whether in total agreement with Anita or not) have viewed her marriage as a secure one based on biblical principles. The divorce, says she, is a matter of conscience. It has been strongly suggested that this negative publicity will undo all the good her ministries have accomplished. Only time will tell.

Be that as it may, let no one pass final judgment on any divorced person, nor on one considering divorce. Biblical reasoning does allow at least one ground for divorce. After that, whether one remarries, I believe, is between that person and God.

Let us earnestly strive for the preservation of family life, but let us not destroy any one in our diligence. Divorce and any other trouble that plague mankind can be resolved by trusting absolutely and sincerely in God's leadership. Is it not possible, though, that in extreme cases He might lead someone out of a marriage?



Pastor and Mrs. Jason Salyer

The Heritage Mission members are rejoicing over their new pastor, the Rev. Jason Salyer. Mr. Salyer has been driving from Shelby for over a year to worship and work with the Charlotte members. The record shows that he and his wife have been very faithful and eager to see the work there go forward.

Special Books for Children



Books of the Seasons (\$4.50 each). These enchanting hardcover books for preschoolers and young readers are designed to help children understand God's changing seasons. Lovingly illustrated by Frances Hook, each depicts familiar activities associated with each item of the year.

4905, Thank You, God, for Winter

4906, Thank You, God, for Spring

4907, Thank You, God, for Summer

4908, Thank You, God, for Fall



Books of Values (\$3.95 each). These books acquaint little children with values for living, such as kindness, and consideration of others' feelings. Library bindings.

4909, A Friend Is Someone Who Helps

4910, Paula's Feeling Angry

4911, Growing Up

4912, Thank You, Lord, for Me

4913, The Pup Who Did as She Pleased

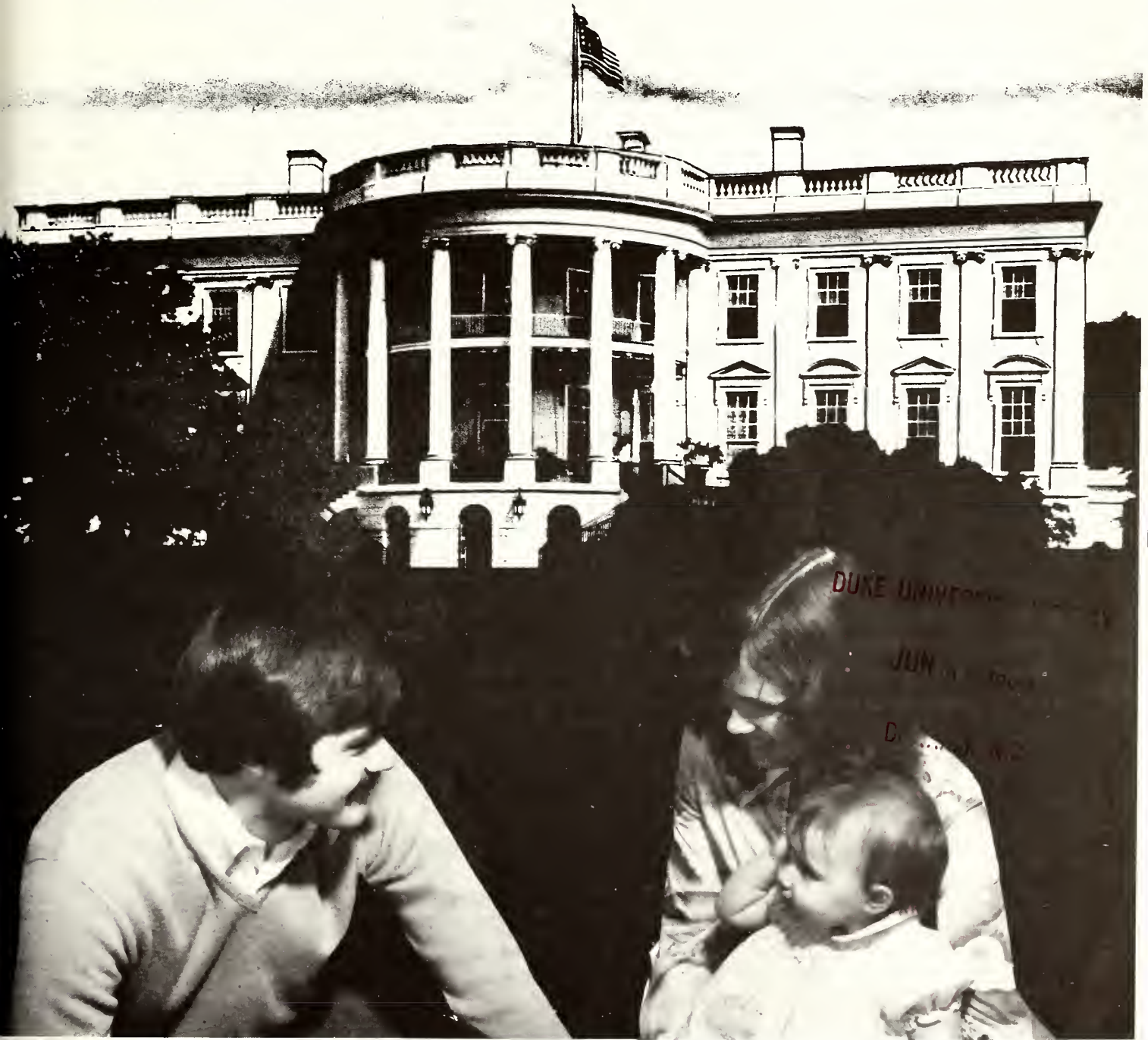
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President Carter called the White House Conference on Families to "examine the strengths of American families, the difficulties they face, and the ways in which family life is affected by public policies."

Some conservatives charge that the conference represented "pro-ERA, pro-abortion, pro-sexual preference, pro- a guaranteed annual income, and pro-national health insurance," and registered their disapproval by walking out.

See the story inside.



The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

When You Are Tempted

RESISTANCE INCREASES STRENGTH

No living person, however devout, should boast of never having been tempted. Even the so-called "best" Christian alive endures the stings and barbs of the tempter. The way one meets temptation is what is important.

An old minister once said, "Be glad you're tempted, children. If you are never enticed it's a good sign the devil has you right where he wants you." The technical aspect of this advice might be questioned, but it is certain that the devil does not waste time on those who are already confirmed sinners.

Some weak Christians (the newly converted or those who have not fed on the Word and been consistent in prayer and meditation) may find it especially hard to rise above the numerous and strong temptations that come their way. It has been shown that Satan attacks one where he is weakest. His logical strategy is almost always effective. We probably know this, but perhaps need reminding from time to time.

Every person who is sincerely interested in warding off such dangers must make serious preparation. Just as one would not consider waging war without adequate provision, neither should one attempt to meet Satan's ensnarements without proper backing. The advice here hinges on theological triteness, but the truth of it cannot be doubted.

Whatever method one employs—looking the other way, leaving the area of temptation, replacing evil thoughts with edifying ones, resisting with prayer and praise—there is urgent need not to allow the provocation to tantalize the mind and spirit. The soul that is yielded to God will find it easier to thwart evil. But one cannot expect to call up reserves which are not available. One has to store away adequate spiritual strength. The amount varies from Christian to Christian, but all of us need an abundance.

It is interesting to observe established Christians who seem not to be bothered by worldly enticements (which are, of course, examples of Satan's charms). These Christians who live separated lives are rightly admired by less established ones. The spiritually strong and morally straight Christian (of any age) deserves attention and commendation. But such a Christian does not attain his status without effort, without prescription.

God, through our Lord, makes a way of escape—however great the temptation. It is comforting to know that He even forgives our failures, if we do not continually make willful mistakes. But it is dangerous to give in to sin knowingly. While God's patience supercedes any that humans can ever understand, His wrath, too, when provoked, is beyond comprehension.

The next time you're tempted, meet the temptation with God. The very resistance you exercise will increase your strength.

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Tommy Manning
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of The Free Will Baptist. The responsibility for each article is given to the person whose name appears under the title to the person submitting said article.

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CONSERVATIVE GROUPS CLAIM THAT ABORTION, GAY LIFE-STYLE, EXORBITANT WELFARE SPENDING UNDERMINE THE TRADITIONAL FAMILY

THE White House Conference on Families, meeting in Baltimore, June 5-7, was called by President Jimmy Carter to 'examine the strengths of American families, the difficulties they face, and the ways in which family life is affected by public policies.'

In his address to the meeting of about 2,000 delegates, observers, and reporters, the President asserted that the "essence of family life is found in the need for mutual support." Identifying the family as "the first school, the first church," he insisted that he wanted this first Conference to be a catalyst. "What you recommend will be studied very carefully," he promised.

"Families are—or should be—where we first learn to live together in harmony and helpfulness." He acknowledged that "in family life, we find many of the roots of crime and failure and even some health problems—and also the roots of good habits, achievement, happiness, and concern for others."

Some delegates interpreted one of his remarks as a possible definition of family which included something other than heterosexual unions. Particular opposition was expressed to his statement, "Families are based on more than blood. They are a kinship of shared experiences, shared dreams, shared joys and sorrows. Most of all, they are based on love that can span vast distances and the barrier of generations." Gay activists saw this as support for their cause, while conservatives saw this as a much too loose assessment of "family." The controversy surrounding this remark was but a foreshadowing of the greater controversy to come.

The President challenged the Conference to productivity and made the following request: "I hope we will come out of this Conference with a reaffirmation of families as the fundamental

building blocks of our society. I hope we will unite around a commitment to strengthen, not weaken families—to help, not hinder families—to lift families up, not drag them down . . . I hope you will recommend things government can do—or stop doing—in order to strengthen families. . . (and) look for creative, compassionate solutions to the problems of families—and then consider who or what might best carry them out."

The President pledged to do all he could to "ensure that your work does not end as a report which gathers dust on shelves in Washington." He advised, "The White House Conference on Families can transform our nation."

Whether it will transform the nation is debatable, but the Conference recorded strong action and reaction from both conservative and liberal-moderate coalitions. Exchanges were emotional and sometimes heated.

Of particular interest was a pro-abortion and pro-ERA resolution pushed through by the liberal-moderate alignments in preliminary voting on Conference positions. The resolution was promptly tagged "49" near the close of the Conference by virtue of its placement on the presentation roster. The roster contained 60 proposed resolutions for consideration by the full Conference of 700 delegates. Only three failed.

Resolution 49 met strong opposition because of special liberal interpretations, among which was a veiled reference to homosexual unions and households, something conservative members of the delegation could not accept. The controversial resolution follows:

"We support policies which preserve and protect basic legal and human rights of all family members. To guarantee these rights we support:

Turn the Page

1. Ratification of the ERA.
2. Elimination of discrimination and encouragement of respect for differences based on sex, race, ethnic origin, creed, socio-economic status, age, disability, diversity of family type and size, sexual preference or biological ties.
3. Protection against violent and abusive action.
4. Right to open, accessible, accountable, and responsive government at all levels.
5. Right to decide whether or not to bear a child including access to the full range of family planning services, abortion, and maternal and infant care."

One conservative delegate suggested in rather emotional tones that this resolution protected everything and everybody except the unborn child.

During a luncheon gathering Friday, June 6, after emotion-filled subcommittee meetings and caucuses by special interest groups on Thursday afternoon and evening, a large contingent of indignant conservative delegates marched out of the Conference. National Pollster George Gallup was addressing the Conference and had just completed remarks in which he had admitted that at least one-third of "us are dissatisfied with things affecting families" and had said that the most prevalent concern included the high cost of living and energy. He was hardly finished when Connie Marshner of the National Pro-Family Coalition and Lawrence D. Pratt, a Republican member of the Virginia legislature, announced the walkout.

Led by Marshner and Pratt, the conservatives claimed that the Conference had been "rigged" by the White House and Conference Chairman Jim Guy Tucker to assure a liberal majority. Charging that the Conference represented "pro-ERA, pro-abortion, pro-sexual preference, pro- a guaranteed annual income, and pro-national health insurance," conservative delegates decried the credibility of the body.

A shouting match between opposing forces

was quelled when Chairman Tucker dismissed the luncheon session, though Pratt managed to wrestle the microphone from him long enough to announce that "this delegation is stacked and we should walk out." It should be noted that all conservative delegates did not leave. Some chose to remain and fight, though their strength was obviously affected by the large walkout.

It was interesting that Resolution 49 carried by only one vote when the full Conference cast deciding votes at the Saturday afternoon plenary session. The irony of the vote will not soon be forgotten by the 120-150 delegates who withdrew Friday. A closing remark by Jim Guy Tucker cited the conservative group's inadvised haste had facilitated their own defeat, an affirmation of which brought rousing applause from a large contingent when the full Conference reviewed final tabulation results.

None of the proceedings escaped the public eye, for duly registered observers wearing mandatory badges, numerous TV camera persons, reporters, and feature writers sat in on all sessions. TV cameras focused especially close up on the faces of speakers for and against Resolution 49, as microphones picked up audience response which more than once required the chairman's gavel. All 60 recommendations, which incorporated families and economic well-being, families and challenges and responsibilities, families and human needs, and families and major institutions, met with some opposition in subcommittee and full Conference consideration, but none reached such emotional appeal as did Resolution 49.

A possible reunification of Conference spirit was achieved when a black Baltimore minister, John Bryant of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, pronounced the benediction late Saturday afternoon. Directing all Conference members to stand and join hands, he led in prayer, and pleaded, "Lord, let us not forget that the most precious thing we have in the world is what we now hold in our hands." Approval was registered in tears and strong applause.

The Conference was termed successful and profitable, and prospects are good for later Conferences in Minneapolis and Los Angeles.

Tommy Manning, editor of literature at the Press, was one of Governor Hunt's appointed delegates to the Conference.

Northern Free Will Baptist Church Honors Youth

submitted by the Rev. Harry Brown

THE Northern Free Will Baptist Church of Bahama had its annual Youth Banquet on May 31. The theme for the banquet was "Heaven Through the Eyes of a Child." A delicious meal was served by the deacons and their wives along with other members of the church. The Rev. Wayne Watson, pastor of Elwood Lane Free Will Baptist Church in Kannapolis, was the guest speaker for the evening.

Awards were given to the following PRO-TOTS, our own program designed and directed by Mrs. Sandra Hopkins for grades 1-2-3: 1st place, Wendy Brown; 2nd place, Lisa Ellis; and 3rd place, Carla Hopkins. Other special awards were given to Lisa Heller, Jason Sorrell and Michael Wilkins.



Awards were given to the following PRO-TROOPERS, our own program designed and directed by Mrs. Jean Brown for grades 4-5-6: 1st place, Major Amy Falcon; 2nd place, Lieutenant Danita Sorrell; and 3rd place, Sergeant Greg Ellis.

Awards were given to the top PRO-TEENS, a program our



church is using very successfully from Positive Action for Christ, from Rocky Mount: 1st place, Phil Brown; 2nd place, Angie Holt; 3rd place, Leigh Hopkins; 4th place, Elizabeth "Putt" Falcon; and 5th place, Suzanne Collins. Special recognition was given to Vickie Ellis for perfect attendance. A very special "Lamp of Learning" plaque was awarded to Phil Brown and Angie Holt for memorizing 350 Scripture verses during this past Pro-Teen year. Phil and Angie are ranking in the TOP 10 of the nation's Pro-Teens for this year.



We thank God for our young people and for a program that is centered in God's Word. We congratulate them on their achievements to better equip themselves for service for the Lord. The pastor, the Rev. Harry G. Brown, is director of our Pro-Teen program at Northern Free Will Baptist Church. This program is designed for those young people from grades 7 through 12.

Special recognition is given to the following for their support and dedication in making our youth program such a success: Mrs. Sandra Peele, Mr. and Mrs. Buck Jacobs, Mrs. Teresa Wilkins, Mrs. Donna Ferguson, Mrs. Diane Ward, and Mrs. Judy Holt. These people worked directly with our youth every weekend and their faithfulness is deeply appreciated.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

Scripture Reading—John 16:13

MY GUIDE

There is no path in this desert waste,
For the winds have swept the shifting sands;
The trail is blind where the storms have raced,
And a stranger, I, in these fearsome lands.
But I journey on with a light-some tread,
I do not falter nor turn aside,
For I see His figure, just ahead—
He knows the way I take—my Guide!

There is no path in this trackless sea,
No map is limned on the restless waves;
The ocean snares are strange to me
Where the unseen wind in its fury raves;
But it matters naught; my sails are set,
And my swift prow tosses the seas aside;
For the changeless stars are steadfast yet,
And I sail by His star-blazed trail—my Guide!

There is no way in this starless night;
There is naught but cloud in the inky skies;
The black night smothers me, left and right;
I stare with a blind man's straining eyes;
But my steps are firm, for I cannot stray;
The path to my feet seems light and wide;

For I hear His voice—"I am the way!"

And I sing as I follow Him on—my Guide!

PRAYER THOUGHT

No matter where we go—how near or how far—we have a trusted guide who will lead us aright. Let us ever trust in God for direction.

MONDAY, JUNE 23

Scripture Reading—Matthew 19:13

WHAT IF LADS AND LASSIES BE NOT THERE?

"I had a most realistic dream last night," said a mother to me when I was visiting her home. I asked what her dream was and she said, "I dreamed that I went to Heaven and made the heart-breaking discovery that not one of my five boys was there! Then I awoke, weeping bitterly!" Seldom had I known a mother who displayed so little concern for the spiritual welfare of her sons, though she was a professing Christian. Having for years been deeply concerned for the souls' welfare of these boys, I felt that I should speak searching words to her. "Mother," I said, "God, in goodness, may have given you this dream to stir you with concern for the salvation of your unsaved sons. The dream could become an *actuality* if you fail to agonize in prayer for their salvation!"

Mothers and fathers, how do you expect to go up to your heavenly Father without urging your lads and lassies to go with you?

PRAYER THOUGHT

Fathers and mothers must surely take seriously their responsibility of urging their children to believe in and follow the Lord. Their spiritual futures are uncertain without such encouragement.

TUESDAY, JUNE 24

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 7:23

GERMS OF FUTURE CRIMES

Society contains in itself the germs of all future crimes . . . the criminal is only the instrument which carries them out. Every social order, therefore, preconditions a certain number and assortment of crimes which result as a necessary consequence from its organization.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Because man is naturally depraved he follows paths of destruction and sin. Society can be changed for the better only as its people align themselves with Christ and godly living. Let us make the first move toward that end.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

Scripture Reading—Colossians 2:12

GET ON WITH THE OPERATION!

A Scottish soldier was badly wounded. A Christian surgeon said to him, "I must operate right away. I think I ought to tell

you that you have one chance in a hundred to come through the operation. Have you anything to say?" The brave lad said, "No, doctor, get on with the operation! All is well with my soul. Whichever side I come out on, there will be a welcome for me. If I come through the operation, Mother will welcome me. If I don't, Jesus will welcome me!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

It is comforting to know, even in uncertain situations, that when one trusts in God all will be well. When one is living in His will, he need never dread the outcome.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

Scripture Reading—Job 2:12

LITTLE EYES UPON YOU

There are little eyes upon you,
and they're watching night and day;
There are little ears that quickly
take in everything you say;
There are little hands all eager
to do everything you do.
And a little boy who's dreaming
of the day he'll be like you.

You're the little fellow's idol,
you're the wisest of the wise;
In his little mind about you
no suspicions ever rise;
He believes in you devoutly,
holds that all you say and do
He will say and do in your way
when he's grown up just like
you.

There's a wide-eyed little fellow
who believes you're always
right,
And his ears are always open,
and he watches day and night.
You are setting an example
every day in all you do
For the little boy who's waiting
to grow up to be like you.

PRAYER THOUGHT

It cannot be emphasized enough that adults must set good

examples for young people. Let it never be said of us that we led them astray.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 5:11

I YEARNED FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP!

One of God's children was hospitalized a distance from home. It was the eve before surgery. Without, the shades of night were falling. "Within my heart there was a sense of loneliness, though I knew the ever-present Friend and Saviour was with me," she said. "I yearned for Christian fellowship. The unfailling One knew of the longing of my heart. Just then, I heard someone humming the hymn, 'Safe in the Arms of Jesus.' Going in the direction from whence the tune came, I met a Russian lady, one of God's dear children. I could speak no Russian, and she could speak no English. We prayed together. I didn't know what she prayed. However, the Holy Spirit, who indwells all of God's children, caused me to know that we had an audience with God, and in the joy of that knowledge, all loneliness vanished from my heart, and the peace of God flooded my soul!"

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love,
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above!

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's love and grace overshadow us in all circumstances. The soul who knows Him need not despair.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 25:7

THE OTHER SIDE

Are young people terribly bad nowadays? Some are. Not for

one moment would we minimize the seriousness of the juvenile-delinquency problem. The appalling increase of crimes committed by teen-agers is a call to earnest prayer for revival. But there is another side—a brighter one. A front-page news item in a daily newspaper brought the other side to our attention some time ago. Two snort paragraphs told the story of the senior class in an Illinois high school. The twenty-five members of the class voted that the \$800 they had saved for a six-day vacation trip to the Ozarks be given to their advisor whose house had been burned down. Given the challenge and opportunity, today's youth will show a spirit of chivalry, unselfishness and heroism equal to the finest presentations of any age. Let's thank God for our young people, and by example and appreciation for them and belief in them inspire them to great things for God and others!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Too often the world takes note of the unfavorable. Let the account above cause us to know that godly young people do exist and carry forth the gospel in faith and practice.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

A neighbor's child said to me, "Preacher, my mommie said that I couldn't go to church." I asked her to go and tell her mommie that if she could make it all right with Jesus, it would be all right with me.

She did and came running back shortly after and said that mommie had changed her mind and was going to let little sister go also.

**Cape Fear Union Meeting
At Tee's Chapel Church**

Cape Fear Union Meeting will be held at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Smithfield, North Carolina, on Saturday, June 28, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 10:00—Hymn, Congregation
 - Devotion, the Rev. C. M. Coats
 - Welcome, Host Church
 - Response, W. Milton Wiggs
- 10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
 - Recognition of Visitors
 - Reading of Minutes of Last Union
 - Appointment of Committees
 - Roll Call of Churches
 - Report of Denominational Enterprises
 - Miscellaneous Business
- 11:15—Hymn, Congregation
 - Special Music
 - Offering and Offertory Prayer
 - Message, the Rev. Billy Nowell
- 12:00—Report of Treasurer
 - Report of Committees
 - Unfinished Business
 - Benediction and Adjournment
 - Lunch and Christian Fellowship

The officers for the union include: moderator, the Rev. Edward C. Taylor; assistant moderator, the Rev. Leonard Woodall Jr.; secretary, Mrs. Dola Dudley; assistant secretary, Mrs. Ruth Warrick; treasurer, H. T. Hinson; and hymn director, Johnnie Woodall.

**Milbournie Youth
Honored New Pastor**

The Milbournie Youth honored their new pastor, the Rev. Charles Crisp, on Sunday night, June 1. The children gave a program of music. It was directed by Joanne Watson and Pam Boyette. After the service

the women of the church honored the youth and pastor at a social.

**Northern Church
Honors Pastor**



The Rev. Harry Brown

On June 1, the members and friends of the Northern Free Will Baptist Church of Bahama, North Carolina, honored its pastor, the Rev. Harry G. Brown in a very special Pastor Appreciation Day Service.

Mr. Brown is a native of Rockingham, North Carolina and is a graduate of Mount Olive College. He has also done further studies at Chowan College as well as Duke University. He is entering his fifteenth year of devoted service to his church and community. He came to Northern in 1966 and has become a well respected leader and friend to those who know him. He is married to the former Miss Jean Peele of Durham. They have two children, Phil 13, and Wendy 8.

Pastor Appreciation Day was established several years ago by members of the church as a way of showing their appreciation and love for their pastor and his family. The guest speaker for the occasion was the Rev. Wayne Watson of Elwood Lane Free

Will Baptist Church in Kannapolis. Dinner followed the morning message in the fellowship hall of the church. In the evening service films were shown of the progress that had been achieved over the past 14 years. A time of fellowship followed. This was truly a great day to count blessings.

**Homecoming Celebration at
Hickory Chapel Church**

The Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Ahoskie, North Carolina, will celebrate its homecoming on Sunday, June 29, 1980. The Sunday school lesson will be taught in the sanctuary beginning at 10 a. m. Following this, the pastor, the Rev. Robert May, will bring the morning message. A picnic lunch will be served at noon. The afternoon service will begin at 2 p. m. This service will include special music and a memorial service. All former pastors, former members and friends are invited to attend this very special occasion.

The church is located on Highway 561 east of Ahoskie.

**Fourth Central Union District
Meet at LaGrange Church**

The Fourth Central Union District will meet at LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange, North Carolina, on June 29, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 10:00—Sunday School
- 11:00—Hymn, "Where He Leads I'll Follow"
 - Welcome, Annie Ruth Herring
 - Response, Owens Chapel
- 11:15—President's Remarks
 - Mission Report
 - Mount Olive College Report
 - Greetings from the Children's Home
- 11:30—Special Music, Otter's Creek
 - Sermon, the Rev. Earl Glenn
- 12:15—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15—Hymn, "I Love to Tell the

Story"

—Devotion, Robie Kittelle

—Business Period

—Program, Local Church

2:15—Adjournment

Central Conference Laymen Quarterly Meeting

The Laymen's League Fellowship of the Central Conference held its regular quarterly meeting on June 2, 1980, at Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops. A fine program was presented with devotion by the Rev. L. B. Manning and good singing by the ladies of the church. A total attendance of 83 members and guests included 6 pastors with 15 churches represented. An offering of \$91.22 was received for Home Missions. Rex Wainright reported on the Spring Singspiration. The total attendance for both nights of the singspiration was 385 and total offerings of \$296.34 were received for Home Missions. This meeting concluded the year for the fellowship, and total offerings of \$874.34 were sent to Home Missions. New officers for the coming year are Delano Wilson of Rose Hill, President; Walter Beddard of Elm Grove, Vice President; and Paul Beamon of Free Union, Secretary-Treasurer. The next conference meeting will be on September 8 at First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville.

The Foundations to Be at Hugo Church

On Sunday, June 22, at 7 p. m. the Foundations will present a special service of music and song at the Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton, North Carolina. The pastor, the Rev. Tom Miller, and members extend a special invitation to everyone to attend.

Special Guests at Indian Springs Church

The Spiritual Singers of Snow Hill, North Carolina, will be special guests at Indian Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route

2, Seven Springs, North Carolina, on Sunday evening, June 22, at 7:30 p. m. Everyone is invited to attend this special song service.

Vacation Bible School at First Church, Plymouth

Vacation Bible School begins at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, June 23 and will continue nightly through June 27 at 7:30 p. m. The classes begin at nursery age and continue through teenage. There will be Bible study, music and crafts. Refreshments will be served each evening.

The school will be under the supervision of the pastor, the Rev. Floyd Burkey, and his assistants.

Jim Dillehay at Trinity Church and First Church, Wilson



Jim Dillehay

Jim Dillehay, featured soloist with the Great Commission Company in Atlanta, Georgia, will be in concert Wednesday evening, June 18, at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church near Clayton, where the Rev. Lloyd Hargis is pastor, and Sunday evening, June 22, at First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson, where the Rev. Clyde W. Cox is pastor. Both services are at 7:30 p. m.

Jim became a Christian in March, 1965, during a revival that was held in his hometown of Glendale, Arizona. Since that time, he has served as music and youth director for various churches on a part-time basis while attending college. In 1974, he graduated from Grand Canyon College with a degree in music education. For three years he taught high school and served as a minister of music while also being involved with a solo ministry. In January, 1978, he joined the music staff of Campus Crusade for Christ and for the past two years has served as soloist and director of voices for the Great Commission Company based in Atlanta. This group toured eastern North Carolina last January and Jim was featured on one of their most requested songs, "He's Alive."

Jim will be leaving next month for his new assignment with Campus Crusade which will be in San Bernadino, California.

Both churches and pastors extend a special invitation to everyone to join in these services.

Coming Events . . .

June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 16-20—Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere

June 23—General Conference Youth Convention, Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, 7:30 p. m.

June 24—Woman's Auxiliary of General Conference, Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina, 10 a. m.

June 29—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville

June 29—Mount Olive College Day in Local Churches

Have you renewed your **Free Will Baptist** subscription?

The Rev. Scott Sowers

MARLBORO FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Farmville, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Scott Sowers. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

Our Tribute

Submitted by the members of Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church and written by Mrs. Alice Parker and Mrs. Annie Pearl Allen.



The Rev. and Mrs. Scott Sowers

"Tribute where tribute is due." We, the members of Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, do indeed pay tribute to someone very special to us all. This person is our brother and pastor, Scott Sowers.

Scott was born October 29, 1952, in the Arba community of Greene County. He grew up in this community and attended Hull Road church. While in school Scott participated in many extracurricular activities but seemed to enjoy being a Boy Scout and a 4-H'er most of all. In 1971 he was the winner of the

World Peace Talks held at the United Nations. Scott graduated from Greene Central High School in 1971 and began Mount Olive College that fall. It was there that he later met Janie Jones of Washington, N. C., a religion major. He worked as the youth pastor of Northeast Free Will Baptist Church in Mount Olive until he graduated from MOC in 1973. Janie graduated in 1974 with high honors and they were soon married.

Scott's first church was Piney Grove church, Greenville, N. C. Shortly afterwards, Rock of Zion

Free Will Baptist Church, Grantsboro, called him to be their pastor. While there, both Janie and Scott attended Atlantic Christian College. They graduated from ACC in 1978.

Three and one half years ago, Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church was searching for a minister to fill the shoes of the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow who wanted to retire from full-time service. To fill his shoes was and always will be a major task. Young Scott was recommended to the Pulpit Committee and it did not take long to determine who was best qualified for the job. The Rev. Scott Sowers has made a place for himself that no one can fill. We think we have one of the best—if not the very best preacher in our denomination. And Scott, or "Brother Scott," as we affectionately call him, is a wonderful pastor. He and Janie began their ministry with us on February 1, 1977.

Scott and Janie live in the parsonage that has been built since he came to us. Under his supervision and able leadership, we have landscaped the parsonage yard and installed storm windows and doors.

Scott works hard counselling young people. He has served as the secretary of the Commission on Scouting, is an advisor to the State Youth Convention, and he and Janie spend two weeks every summer working as counselors at Cragmont during Youth Frontier Conference. Scott is also a resource person on Children's and Bus ministries.

As our leader, Scott has shown to all of us—young and old alike—that he is established in the will of God, that we can depend on him in sickness and in times of despair. We depend on him and Janie to always be there to minister to our needs—sometimes just to listen. So concerned are they for their flock that they went all the way to Birmingham, Alabama, to be with a church family when one of

(Continued on Page 15)

REPORT BLANK

**WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION
OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
June 24, 1980**

Date _____

Name of Auxiliary or Convention _____

Address _____

President _____ Address _____

Delegate or letter _____ Address _____

_____ Address _____

Pastor _____ Address _____

Representation: Auxiliaries—One (1) delegate for each ten (10) members or fraction thereof; Denominational organizations or Conventions—One (1) delegate for each fifty (50) members or fraction thereof.

Registration fees sent to this session \$ _____ Please note that each Auxiliary or Convention is requested to represent with a minimum of ten dollars (\$10.00).

Contribution to General Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention Mission Fund \$ _____

Please fill in the appropriate spaces below:

Organization

Number on roll

Auxiliary _____

Youth _____

Convention _____

Please UNDERLINE any of the following areas in which your Auxiliary would like information: PROJECTS, ORGANIZATION, PROGRAMS, YOUTH. Write any other subject for which you desire material at the bottom of this page.

If you cannot represent by delegation, please return this blank along with your contributions to Mrs. Arnold Price, Route 3, Box 387-E Dunn, North Carolina 28334.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For June 29

EZEKIEL: PROPHET IN EXILE

Lesson Text: Ezekiel 17:11-18;
18:30-32

Memory Verse: Ezekiel 18:31

I. INTRODUCTION

The Prophet Habakkuk, as we learned last week, was greatly distressed. Corruption, violence, and bloodshed continued unabated in Judah. The worship of God was attended with such gross paganism as to make it worse than no religion at all. Especially distressing to Habakkuk was the fact that God did not seem to care. He permitted wickedness to go on unpunished, and those people who did seek to live righteously before God suffered much at the hands of the lawless. We remember, however, that God assured His prophet that punishment would certainly come through invasion by the Chaldeans (or Babylonians), the rising world power. This would be the ultimate result of the continued rebellion of Judah against the Lord. When Habakkuk showed concern about the fate of the innocent in all this, he was told that the just shall live by faith.

In 597 B. C., Nebuchadnezzar's army did sweep over Judah, crushing all resistance, and came before Jerusalem. At the advice of Jeremiah, King Jehoiachin, in order that the city would not be destroyed, surrendered. Ten thousand of the best in the land, together with the king, were deported to Babylonia. Among them was Ezekiel, at that time about twenty-five years of age. He was a priest, though it is not certain

that he served in that capacity in the sanctuary. He was married and had a home of his own.

The captivity divided the Jews into two groups, one in Jerusalem and one in Babylonia. It is interesting to note that those remaining in Jerusalem considered themselves to be favorites of God—that the exiles were deported because they were sinners! The exact opposite was the truth. In a vision of baskets of figs, one good and the other bad, it was revealed to the Prophet Jeremiah that the bad figs were the people still in Jerusalem. The good ones were the exiles in Babylon (Jeremiah 24:1-10). The exiles God had deliberately "sent out of this place (Jerusalem) into the land of the Chaldeans for their own good" (Jeremiah 24:5). The bad figs, still remaining in Jerusalem, would yet feel the rod of God's discipline. This was necessary because there was no sign of repentance on the part of those who had been spared from deportation.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Ezekiel received his call as a prophet in the fifth year after he was taken captive. The date consequently is 592 B. C., six years before the destruction of Jerusalem (Ezekiel 1:2). This book was written by the prophet from Chaldea or Babylon while he was a captive there and was called by the Lord to speak to all of the captives.

B. The key verses of the book are Ezekiel 36:24-28: "For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you

into your own land. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments and do them. And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God." In these verses it is easy to see that the theme of the entire book is God's judgment and Israel's future glory.

C. The key phrases of the book are two; first, "The word of the Lord came to me," and "the glory of God." The first one occurs forty-nine times in the book, and the second one appears some twelve times in the first eleven chapters of the book. Ezekiel is a book of visions.

—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. For the past four Sundays we have studied the need for reform in Judah, but which did not come because of the people's rebellion against God. Today's lesson takes us into the very time of the Babylonian Captivity, showing us the utter despair of the exiled Jews and the emergence of the great Ezekiel, one of Judah's prophets.

B. But Ezekiel's principal task was to discipline the rebellious Jews, many of whom had become hostile toward their enemies and toward God. God could not carry out the divine plan of restoring them to their own land unless they learned the lessons the captivity was designed to teach them. As long as they remained undisciplined they could not learn from God's purposes.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)**

Children's Home

Submitted by Stewart Humphrey

MORE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

We are continuing our questions and answers on the challenge of the '80s. If you have a question you wish answered please send it to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., P. O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557.

What about services; can't we care for the children just as well without the services the counties provide? We can exist without the services of the counties, but we must duplicate many of them and some services will simply not be available to our children.

We have three children presently whose father would like to care for his children. When he and his wife separated, he moved to another state. Because of our inability to work closely with the counties across state lines, these children are spending needless time on our campus. They need their father. His home is approved. He can afford to care for his children. This family is being penalized by our inability to deal with the agencies responsible for the placement of children in our state and the state in which he resides.

It is not uncommon for a parent to remove their children on a moment's notice from the Home. Many times we know they are not prepared to care for the children. At present, we have a case similar to this in progress. We don't believe the father is ready. There is no mother in the home. We are unable to play the role as a partner in this situation because we are not treated as a bonafide member in the caring process by the county.

It's not that the counties want to be unkind or disrespectful to

us. They are bound by the statutes as we are bound by the State Convention and our own policies and procedures. For the most part, the counties have far exceeded their authority to help us in the care of children. They need our help as badly as we need theirs. They want the cooperation as much as we do.

More important than our wants or the counties' wants, is the need of responsible action on the part of both the counties and the Children's Home to meet the needs of children. They are willing to send us children, give us time to prepare for the children they send, and send only the children we can serve. We must be willing to care for any child that falls within our ability to serve, regardless of his race or national origin. As a result, the Children's Homes of this state and, hopefully, ours too, join with the counties providing a network of quality child care services that will meet the need of every homeless child in this state.

MAY OFFERINGS

May offerings were very good again this year and we appreciate every individual and every church and Sunday school that made May a good month. If you have not yet mailed your May offering plan to do so right away!

As we have told you before, inflation is taking its toll on us as it is on you. We are endeavoring to cut costs in every way possible. We are making every effort to live within our income, as you are.

June, July, and August contributions are the lowest of any months in the year. We hope each of you will make a special

attempt to keep your gifts to the Home coming regularly through the summer season.

The Children's Home depends on the church contributions for its day-to-day expenses. We have some educational endowments in Church Finance Association that help with college students and educational programs. The principal in these funds is not available to us for day-to-day expenses. We depend on you for the electric bill, food, clothing, and the other daily needs. The Children's Home Board and the administration would like to be able to continue to be dependent upon private funding for all our needs. Since we have no public funding available, should our church contributions drop significantly, we would have to turn children away due to lack of finances. Jesus rebuked His disciples saying, "Do not hinder them (the children) from coming unto me."

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Bass Mitchell announces that he is available for part-time or interim pastoral services. He may be contacted by writing: Bass M. Mitchell, 2206 Guess Road, Durham, North Carolina 27705, or by phoning 286-4744.

The Rev. George Greene announces that he is available for full-time pastoral services. He has been in full-time pastoral services for the past twelve years. Any church desiring his services may contact him at P. O. Box 475, Elm City, North Carolina 27822, phone 236-4079.

A pastor is needed for the second and fourth Sundays starting the second Sunday in July (July 13). Anyone interested contact Paul D. Davis, Clerk, Corinth Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Jamesville, North Carolina 27846, phone 793-2277.

Home Missions

by Taylor Hill

SOULS SAVED AT CAPE COLONY



Souls Saved

The Cape Colony Mission is continuing to see souls saved. The pastor and his family are living there now and the work is looking good. Pictured are Pastor Ronnie Mohn and four others who were just baptized.

HICKORY CHAPEL HOSTS HOME MISSIONS



Pictured are Taylor Hill and Robert May. Looking on are their wives, Lois Hill and Sudie May. Hill says that "faithful women are a great asset to the ministry of Christ."

The State Home Missions and Church Extension program was presented to Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in

Ahoskie on June 8. The pastor, Robert May, and his congregation were very receptive. The Hickory Chapel church has supported Home Missions for several years.

HOME MISSIONS AND OUR FUTURE

Unless we continue to invest in the future, we will not have a future. We can thank God for our forefathers and mothers who labored and left us a large part of what we have today in the kingdom. Now it is our solemn duty to help provide for those who will carry on after we are gone. Our Lord has taught us that there is no room for any selfishness in His Kingdom. Several of our missions are well underway now and are becoming self-supporting. Please remember this work as you plan your 1981 church budget. Let's continue to be about our Lord's business until He comes and takes us home.

News from

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Mimeograph Machine

The Lord's work in the Philippines has been broadened this past year through the use of a mimeograph machine. We were able to purchase this here in the Philippines. Thank you, to those who gave and prayed to make this possible.

Good gospel literature is hard to get here. We are beginning to produce our own. Through God's help we have been able to print two gospel tracts for use in personal witnessing. A manual with four basic Biblical truths every new believer needs to know has also been printed. Each new convert is carried through these four lessons before they are baptized. Lessons have been printed for our churches on the Church Ordinances and their

meaning. The Free Will Baptist Church Covenant with explanation has been printed showing the new church member his or her responsibility as a Christian and a member of a Free Will Baptist Church. At present lessons are underway on the doctrines of the Free Will Baptist Church for all our people.

Our goal this year is to instruct our people on what the Free Will Baptists believe and practice, and why. We want to ground our people in the Word of God as Free Will Baptists so they will not be blown around by every wind of doctrine. Thank you again for our mimeograph machine. Pray that we might accomplish the task set before us for the glory of God.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Baker

THE FISCAL YEAR AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE July 1—June 30

Last November Mount Olive College announced that beginning in 1980 it would close its fiscal year on May 31 rather than June 30, but after further study the Board of Trustees has voted to retain July 1—June 30 as the fiscal year for the College.

One of the advantages of ending the year on June 20 is that it keeps the College on the same fiscal year as the North Carolina State Convention and most Free Will Baptist churches.

Gifts to the College through June 30 will be credited to churches for the 1979-80 fiscal year. Churches which have not completed their "challenges" are encouraged to make their year-end gifts during the remaining days of June. Checks dated in July will be credited to the 1980-81 fiscal year.

"We are grateful to our churches for their support so far this year, and with good support during June, we hope to have a balanced budget for 1980-81," President W. Burkette Raper declared.

Report from

**Retirement
Homes, Inc.**

by Stewart Humphrey

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

May, 1980

\$1,604.88

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

District Auxiliary Convention \$ 30.00
Total \$ 30.00

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel Auxiliary \$ 20.00
Casey's Chapel 118.25
Goldsboro, First Auxiliary 4.40
Palmer Memorial Auxiliary 20.00
Saint Paul's Auxiliary 20.00
Smithfield, First Auxiliary 10.00
Tee's Chapel Auxiliary 20.00
Victory Mission 36.50
Total \$249.15

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Bethany \$ 20.00
Black Jack Auxiliary 20.00
Daniels Chapel 100.00
Daniels Chapel Auxiliary 15.00
Dawson's Grove Auxiliary 20.00
Edgewood Auxiliary 10.00
Free Union Auxiliary 7.00
Friendship Auxiliary 20.00
Grimsley Auxiliary 2.00
Gum Swamp Auxiliary 3.00
Harrell's Chapel Auxiliary 10.00
Hugo Auxiliary 10.00
King's Cross Roads Auxiliary 79.01
LaGrange Auxiliary 20.00
Little Creek Auxiliary 20.00
Marlboro Auxiliary 20.00
Ormondsville Auxiliary 20.00
Reedy Branch Auxiliary 10.00
Rose Hill Auxiliary 15.00
Tarboro, First Auxiliary 20.00
Winterville 100.00
Total \$541.01

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Arapahoe Auxiliary \$ 2.00
Beulaville Auxiliary 100.00
Christian Chapel Auxiliary 20.00
Kinston, First Auxiliary 25.00
Lanier's Chapel Auxiliary 6.00
Northeast Auxiliary 2.50
Pearsall Chapel Auxiliary 20.00
Smith's New Home Auxiliary 6.00
St. Mary's Auxiliary 15.00
Whaley's Chapel Auxiliary 20.00
Total \$216.50

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Pee Dee District Fund \$20.00
Total \$20.00

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Highland Pines \$100.00
Total \$100.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Fremont Auxiliary \$ 7.50
Friendship Auxiliary 100.00
Little Rock Auxiliary 5.00
Milbournie Auxiliary 6.00
Pine Level Auxiliary 20.00
Pleasant Hill 15.00
Stancil's Chapel Auxiliary 4.00
St. Mary's 100.00
St. Mary's Auxiliary 10.00
Union Grove 22.00
Wilson, First Auxiliary 50.00
Total \$339.50

STATEWIDE

Christian Service Fund \$108.72
Total \$108.72

NOTICE

The Sunday School Convention and Union Meeting of the Second District of the Central Conference will meet at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, North Carolina, on Sunday, June 29, at 3 p. m. All churches are invited to participate.

Randolph Harris, Moderator

Pastor of the Week

(Continued from Page 10)

its members was facing major heart surgery.

The young people at Marlboro look up to them for guidance and understanding. They will not always have all the answers nor will they always meet with understanding, but we can truly say they are an inspiration to us and our families. Scott is not just a preacher; he is a gentle, unassuming and well learned minister, a man of God with beliefs and feelings that he lives every day.

Scott and Janie are truly the shepherd and shepherdess of our church. They are loved by everyone—the senior citizens and tiny tots alike. We do pay tribute to this man and his wife and we hope they will be with us for a long time to come.

June is Cragmont Month

**YOUTH
FRONTIER
CONFERENCE**



RUSH your \$10 registration fee to "Ma" today!

YFA Week—June 30-July 5
AFC Week—July 7-12

APPLICATION

REGISTRATION FEE \$10

NAME OF CAMPER _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY OR TOWN _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ AGE _____ SEX _____

BIRTHDAY _____ GRADE COMPLETED _____

CHURCH _____

PASTOR'S NAME _____

PASTOR'S ADDRESS _____



Send Application to
Mrs. D. W. Hansley
Route 4, Box 163
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

'Tis the season for LOVE.

'Tis the season for weddings, anniversaries, and many other special occasions. And that means you'll be looking for special gifts to give to all those special people in your life.

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SAINT PAUL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Newton Grove, North Carolina
C. Felton Godwin, Pastor

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

JUN 30 1980

DURHAM, N.C.

**CHURCH
OF
THE
MONTH**

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

God Is More than Just a God of Love

**IF YOU'RE GOING TO PREACH,
PREACH THE WHOLE WORD!**

Is it possible that we have been lulled into passive indifference to the wrath of God? Isn't God still made angry by the intentional sins of mankind? Is it not His loving grace that allows us our negligence, our willful lack of service, our many sins of omission? Is it not His loving grace that prevents Him from pouring out righteous anger?

Many of our ministers, perhaps in trying not to ascribe to themselves the title of doomsday prophet, have gotten into a spiritual rut—especially when it comes to teaching His Word. We have been taught that God is a God of love—and rightly so—but we need to be reminded, I think, that He will not always strive with unrepentant man. He will not always restrain His righteous indignation. He cannot, because He is God!

No one wants to be frightened into conversion. Most people want to be loved into a transformation of soul, spirit, and life. But each sermon on salvation must include **both** ingredients: the incomparable love as well as the terrible **wrath** of God. He cannot be God without both. And despite the feeling that His love supersedes all else, His wrath can be measured in equal quantity.

Of course, if one had to sit under a constant bombardment of hell-fire and brimstone, he would probably shy away from the church. No one who has taken Christ as Saviour and who is living a productive Christian life needs such a sermon, except as an occasional reminder of what might have been his lot if he had not experienced salvation.

On the other hand, no one wants to sit under the constant outpouring of beautiful, calming, sleep-inducing platitudes. To lull a Christian into apathetic slumber thus is doing him injustice. But some ministers must feel that they are paid for doing just that, or they indicate such by the type of sermons and subjects they preach.

We are thankful for ministers who truly proclaim the Word, who give their parishioners a good portion of **all** the attributes of God, who are not afraid to deliver the message of God straight from the shoulder. We are thankful indeed for those who inspire church members to get to their feet and become actively engaged in the work of the Lord.

God teaches that His Word shall not return unto Him void. Let us all—ministers and laymen alike—be careful, then, when “breaking bread,” that it contains all the ingredients!

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June 25, 1980

Volume 95

Number 24

Tommy Manning
 Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given to the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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History of St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church

Route 2
Newton Grove, North Carolina

This information is provided by Mrs. Mildred L. Britt, obtained from interviews and church minutes.

THE beginning of St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church near Newton Grove dates back to at least as early as 1897. The first worship service was held under a brush arbor near Bluff School approximately a quarter of a mile from the present church. The worship service was conducted by the Rev. R. C. Jackson, founder of St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church. Evangelist Blackman Crumpler preached, during revival services at this time.

The number of worship services under the brush arbor is unknown. In 1897 R. C. Jackson met with the lay leaders, and they made plans to build a church. The first lay leaders were J. M. Britt, F. M. Dameron, D. P. Dameron, Blake Warren, and B. J. Daughtry.

According to a deed recorded in the Sampson County Courthouse, on October 30, 1897, Mr. H. C. Giddens and wife, H. A., donated one acre more or less of land near Bluff School for a site for the new church. The deed was signed by the board of trustees, F. M. Dameron, Blake Warren, J. M. Britt, and B. J.

Daughtry. Mr. and Mrs. Giddens made an agreement with the trustees, stating that the land would revert to the former owners if the church was moved.

Community people gathered together and cut trees and hauled them to J. M. Britt's sawmill, where he donated his time to saw the logs for the building. The one-room church was completed in the late fall of 1897. It was heated by a wood stove, and lighted by kerosene lamps.

The church began with forty-seven members. The first deacons were Blake Warren, J. M. Britt, F. M. Dameron, and B. J. Daughtry.

The first clerk was F. M. Dameron followed by J. H. Britt.

The first Sunday school superintendent was E. S. Dameron, followed by M. A. Warwick, who served approximately forty-five years until his death in 1947. He was a licensed minister and preached in various churches in the community, including Lee's Chapel, Robert's Grove, Shady Grove, and his home church, St. Paul. Eliza Creech succeeded

him as Sunday school superintendent.

In 1897 St. Paul was admitted into the Cape Fear Conference. The first delegates from St. Paul were Blake Warren, J. M. Britt, and Edgar Dameron.

A bricked baptistry was constructed near the church. Water was obtained from an artesian well for baptizing and drinking.

The Rev. R. C. Jackson, our first pastor, was reared in Mingo Township. He was licensed in 1891 and ordained in 1892. He was founder of a church in Garland as well as Robert's Grove church. Until his death in 1908, he preached in various churches in the community, and elsewhere. He also served on the ordaining council, and as moderator of the Cape Fear Conference. We are grateful for his great faith and untiring leadership, which inspired and illuminated the first leaders of St. Paul and the community to see the vision of a great church with potential for enormous growth.

By 1900, when W. R. Allen became pastor, we had a church
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membership of ninety-two.

The first couple to be married in the church were Mr. and Mrs. Albert Britt in 1912. The pastor was W. J. Joyner.

In August, 1925, the ladies of the church met with Mrs. Marshall Warren and organized a Home Missionary Society, which began with thirteen members. The first officers were Mrs. Marshall Warren, president, followed by Mrs. L. A. Britt, Mrs. G. V. Britt, vice president, and Mrs. W. E. Thornton, secretary and treasurer. Since it was organized it has contributed much to the progress of the church and community. In the early years of the church the ladies supplied curtains, shades, oil, wicks, mantles, and lamps for the church. They canned food and supplied clothing and many other needs of the orphanage. Today it is known as St. Paul Church Ladies' Auxiliary. We have thirty active members, six inactive, and four life-time members. The current officers are Mrs. Jerry Best, president, Mrs. Goldie Britt, vice president, Mrs. Jimmy Britt, secretary, and Mrs. Mildred L. Britt, treasurer.

In December, 1928, according to a deed recorded in the Sampson County Courthouse, the Sampson County Board of Education sold the one-acre plot of land upon which the church was located to the following church board of trustees, Marshall Warren, chairman, G. H. Bass, and G. V. Britt. The church remained on this site until it was moved to its present location in 1937.

A fire destroyed the home of the church clerk in 1931 and burned the church records, but much information may be gleaned from annual conference minutes, which are kept in the Moye Library of Mount Olive College. Older members of the church have been helpful in supplying needed information. The church deeds have also furnished information.

On April 1, 1937, according to a deed recorded in the Sampson County Courthouse, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Britt sold to the church board of trustees, one and one-tenth acres of land for a new site for the church. The board of trustees were Marshall Warren, chairman, R. C. Warren, G. H. Bass, and G. V. Britt. The clerk was Alma Warren, and the Sunday school superintendent was M. A. Warwick. The deacons were I. A. Barefoot and F. W. Warren. The pastor was A. A. Wells.

The church was moved to its current site in the spring of 1937. It is located about four miles south of Newton Grove, a quarter of a mile from Monk's crossroads on Highway 701, and a quarter of a mile from the original site. J. H. Britt and Albert Britt planted several white oak trees in the church yard, and two Sunday school rooms were added.

In 1939 another building program was begun under the pastorate of W. A. Hales. Two more Sunday school rooms were added onto the church upstairs, and more space was added onto the back of the church.

In 1939 the church was wired for electricity and lights were added.

In 1949 the church members voted to have a homecoming day annually on the fourth Sunday in September. This practice continues to the present. Stedman Davis was our pastor.

In 1952 under the pastorate of Warren Mallard, another building program was begun. Members of the building committee were Clayton Warwick, Emerson Warren, H. C. McLamb, and Edwin Britt.

In 1953 the pulpit was remodeled and the building was completed. Carpet and stained glass windows, the latter donated by church families, were added to the church.

In 1953 J. H. Britt donated to the church a memorial, color portrait of R. C. Jackson, founder of St. Paul church.

In 1954 Mrs. M. A. Warrick and her children donated to the church a beautiful set of pulpit furniture in honor of their husband and father, M. A. Warwick.

In 1955 Fred Hersey was called to pastor our church. H. C. McLamb was appointed to have gas heaters installed in the Sunday school rooms.

In 1956 our pastor was called to serve as a missionary in Japan. He was followed by D. W. Alexander.

In 1958 a clock was donated to the church by Mrs. Marshall Warren and Mrs. Lizzie Ingram.

In 1959 under the pastorate of R. P. Harris, a new piano was purchased and a new furnace was installed. The same year Mrs. Marshall Warren was honored with a gift from the church, for her dedicated service as church clerk for thirteen years, (1945-1958). She was succeeded by Woodrow Wilson.

In 1960 a steeple, donated by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, was installed.

In 1960 Edwin Britt and Emerson Warren were voted to serve as deacons of the church. Michael Pelt was our pastor.

In 1962 central heat was installed in the church. Another building program was planned. Bathrooms and a vestibule were added onto the church. The front porch and steps were bricked and wrought iron rails were placed at either end of the steps.

In 1962 Mrs. Fulton Warren was honored by the church with a gift for her dedicated service in serving as church treasurer for fifteen years. She was followed by Frank Warren who is still treasurer. Mrs. Warren was voted to serve as life honorary assistant treasurer.

Paved walks were constructed in front of the church.

In 1963, according to a deed recorded in the Sampson County Courthouse, Marshall Warren donated one-third of an acre of land to the church board of trustees to be used for parking space. The trustees were Ma

shall Warren, chairman, R. C. Warren, and George E. Britt. Michael Pelt was our pastor.

In 1966 another building program was begun. A baptistry and air conditioning were installed in the church. Ray Warwick was chairman of the building committee.

The ladies' auxiliary donated a hand-painted colored baptistry scene painting for the baptistry. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick donated drapery that was placed in front of the baptistry.

In 1966 a bricked church directory was erected in the front yard of the church.

In 1966 Mrs. Emerson Warren and Mrs. Mildred Britt's adult Sunday school class donated a Church Bible to the church. George E. Britt Jr. donated an altar scarf and Bible marker in memory of his father, George E. Britt Sr. Ed Miles was our pastor.

In 1968 shrubbery was planted beside the church by Jimmy Britt's young adult Sunday school class.

In 1969 F. W. Warren was honored for his dedicated service as deacon for thirty-two years (1937-69). He followed G. H. Bass as deacon and Ray Warwick followed F. W. Warren, who was voted to serve as life-honorary deacon.

In 1970 I. A. Barefoot was honored by the church by being voted life-honorary deacon for His dedicated service of thirty-five years as deacon, (1935-70). He was followed by his son, C. B. Barefoot. I. A. Barefoot died in June, 1971.

In 1970 following Albert Coats, C. Felton Godwin resigned Pilgrim's Home church to accept the call to pastor our church. Felton and Christine, as they are called respectfully and affectionately by church members and the community, own their home, which is located about halfway between St. Paul and his other pastorate, Oak Grove. They live on the farm where he was reared.

Under his pastorate our church

has realized many dreams to become a reality, especially the addition of a fellowship hall and complete renovation of our church. We appreciate them and will always have a heartfelt gratitude for their untiring leadership in our church and community. We pray that our church might be blessed to have them serve us for many more years.

Our pastor puts much emphasis upon music for the church. He and Christine have donated all of the music used by the choir since they were called to serve St. Paul. They have donated sheet music, twenty five hymnbooks, and also contribute their talent in music by Christine playing the piano and his special singing during the worship service.

They have donated also two candle lighters and snuffers to the church.

Under Felton's pastorate another building program was planned in 1970. The pulpit was remodeled to change the seating arrangement of the choir, so that choir members would be facing the congregation.

Two steps were added, for easier entrance to the pulpit and choir loft. New choir chairs were placed in the church. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick donated thirty choir robes and thirty hymnbooks to be used by the church choir.

In 1970 a new piano and organ were placed in the church.

In 1971 a second yard light was donated by Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Butler in memory of deceased members of the G. V. Britt family.

An annual plan of termite control was adopted for the church. New carpet was installed in the church.

In 1972 the church was painted. Mrs. Leon Bullard donated a set of communion silencers.

In 1974 an altar candle and cross set was donated by Mrs. Louise Hobbs Raynor in her will. It was presented to the church by her husband, Gurthie Raynor.

Two tables and twenty-four chairs were placed in the church. Also in 1974 Emerson Warren was voted to serve as chairman of the board of trustees, replacing Marshall Warren who died on June 19 of that year, after serving as chairman of the board of deacons for approximately fifty years. In 1974 Graham Creech was voted to serve as lay leader for the Church College Advancement Council, that was set up by Mount Olive College.

In 1975 plans to build a fellowship hall onto the church were made. The building committee members were George E. Warren, chairman, C. B. Barefoot, L. G. Creech, Frank Warren, Jimmy Britt, and R. W. Wilson. Cushions for the pews and choir chairs were donated by families for the church.

In 1977 the fellowship hall was completed. It is spacious, fully carpeted, has bathrooms, a fireplace, and a modern kitchen. The ladies auxiliary sponsored suppers and bazaars in the fall of 1976-77-78-79, and collected \$16,440.02 to apply to the fellowship hall building fund. Our goal was to burn the mortgage by Easter, 1980. The fellowship hall and church were painted. The paint for the church was donated by Mr. and Mrs. H. Dean Thornton. Two fire extinguishers were placed in the church. Stained-glass windows were donated by families for the fellowship hall. The ladies' auxiliary donated drapery. The lighting fixtures were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Shelton Wilson, in memory of Warren Boone. A bouquet of permanent flowers was donated by Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Butler. A piano was donated to the fellowship hall by Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Warren and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Tart, in memory of Mrs. Marie Warren Austin, and Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Britt. A tablecloth was made by Mrs. Woodrow Wilson. A kitchen shower sponsored by the ladies'

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auxiliary supplied many of the needs of the kitchen. In July, 1977, Frank Warren our building fund and church treasurer, was honored by the church members by having a "Frank Warren" day in appreciation for his faithful service. All of our members worked together in faithful and loving service during the planning and building our fellowship hall. It is a dream and goal that is now realized.

Throughout the years we have been wonderfully blessed at St. Paul church, and today we know that there is still work to be done, and souls to be saved. Our prayer is that we might continue to be grateful and prayerful as laborers in His vineyard, that the harvest will be great in His Kingdom, and we will always give Him the praise and the glory.

The following pastors have served St. Paul:

The Revs R. C. Jackson (1897), C. A. Jackson (1898), R. C. Jackson, (1899), W. R. Allen, (1900), J. F. Hill (1901), Frank Casey (1902), W. R. Coats (1903), C. M. Jackson (1904), E. J. McKay (1905), W. R. Coats (1906), D. R. Ennis (1907), J. W. Lucas (1908), W. E. Anderson (1909), B. P. Parks, (1910), G. C. Joyner (1911), W. J. Joyner (1912), L. R. Ennis (1913), A. A. Wells (1933-39), W. A. Hales (1939-40), M. E. Tyson (1940-41), R. N. Hinnant (1943-46), M. E. Godwin (1946-49), Stedman Davis (1949-50), Warren Mallard (1951-54), Fred Hersey (1955-56), D. W. Alexander (1956-57), R. P. Harris (1957-59), H. M. Minshew (1960), Michael Pelt (1960-61), Robert May (1961-62), Michael Pelt (1962-65), Ed Miles (1965-67), Linwood Boyette (1967-68), Bill Futch (1968-69), Albert Coats (1969), C. Felton Godwin (1970-).

The following have served as members of the church board of trustees: J. M. Britt, Blake Warren, F. M. Dameron, B. J. Daughtry, G. H. Bass, Marshall Warren, chairman, R. C. Warren, G. V. Britt, Blackman

Wilson, and George E. Britt. Current members are Emerson Warren, chairman, Ray Warrick, and R. W. Wilson.

The following have served as clerks: F. M. Dameron, J. H. Britt, Alma Warren, Mrs. P. C. Warren, Mrs. Marshall Warren, Woodrow Wilson, and R. W. Wilson; the current clerk is L. G. Creech, and assistant clerk is Mrs. H. Dean Thornton.

The following have served as deacons: Blake Warren, G. H. Bass, B. J. Daughtry, J. M. Britt, F. M. Dameron, F. W. Warren, I. A. Barefoot, Emerson Warren, H. C. McLamb, Ray Warwick, J. H. Britt Jr., W. G. Wilson. The current deacons are George E. Warren, chairman, R. W. Wilson, L. C. Warwick, C. R. Watkins, William E. Wilson, C. B. Barefoot, and F. W. Warren, life-honorary member. Others are Frank Warren, and Edwin Britt.

The following have served as Sunday school superintendents: E. S. Dameron, M. A. Warwick, Eliza Creech, Emerson Warren, I. A. Barefoot, H. C. McLamb, Jimmy Britt, R. W. Wilson, Ray Warwick, and C. R. Watkins. The current superintendent is H. C. McLamb, and the assistant is Robert S. Hudson.

The church treasurer is Frank Warren; the assistant treasurer is Mrs. F. W. Warren, life-honorary.

The church organist is Mrs. Gerry Hobbs; the assistant is Judy Wilson.

Church pianist is Mrs. Robert S. Hudson; the assistant is Miss Janine Britt.

Director of the adult choir is Mrs. H. Dean Thornton.

Sunday school music director is Jimmy Britt; the assistant is Mrs. Jerry Best.

Director of children's music is Mrs. Gerry Hobbs, assisted by Mrs. Robert S. Hudson.

The current Sunday school teachers are H. C. McLamb, L. G. Creech, Mrs. Emerson Warren, Mrs. Mildred L. Britt, Jimmy Britt, C. R. Watkins,

Mrs. Gerry Hobbs, Mrs. Robert S. Hudson, Mrs. G. E. Warren, and Betty Lou McLamb.

The current church enrollment is 183 members and the current Sunday school enrollment is 111.

NOTICE

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference will meet July 28, 1980, (not July 21) at 10 a. m. in the meeting room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, Kinston, North Carolina. Any and all persons having business with the board may meet with us on this date, July 28 instead of July 21, because of the Ministers' Conference at Cragmont the week of the 21.

W. H. Willis, Secretary

STUDY COURSE TIME

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kinston will have a study course on the Manual of Methods at its monthly meeting, Monday, July 7, at 8 p. m.

The guest speaker will be Mrs. John Taylor, who is Eastern District Field Secretary and also the newly-elected president of the State Woman's Auxiliary. Mrs. Taylor also manages the Kinston Bible and Bookstore.

Interested auxiliaries in the area are invited to join in this study course.

NOTICE

All area bookstores—Ayden, Smithfield, Wilson, New Bern, and Kinston—will be closed for inventory on July 1.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

I am seeing a multitude of lives being made miserable because of people holding things against one another.

According to Jesus Christ, it will also cause people to spend eternity in Hell.

The Rev. Davie Gray Brinson

Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church near Smithfield honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Davie Gray Brinson. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A Dedicated Man

submitted by the Hopewell Ladies' Auxiliary



The Rev. Davie Gray Brinson

A native of Onslow County, the Rev. Davie Gray Brinson was licensed to preach in August, 1969, and was ordained in October, 1970. He has served the following churches as minister: Arapahoe, St. Mary's (Wilson County), Hearon Circle (South Carolina), Stony Hill (Nash County), First Free Will Baptist Church (Greenville), and Hopewell.

Some of his outstanding achievements include: Director of Religious Education for the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Field Secretary for the Carteret County Sunday School

Convention, the first publicity director for Camp Vandemere, Greenville City Police Chaplain, Editor of the Masonic York Rite Newsletter of Greenville Masonic Bodies.

He is a graduate of New Bern High School and Carteret Technical Institute, has attended Mount Olive College, and is a graduate of Daniels Chapel Bible Institute, and Carolina Bible Institute.

He is married to the former Jean Buck of Morehead City and has three children: Lynne, 16 years old; Alan, 12 years old; and Mikey, 5 years old.

"TO HEAR THE HIGH CALLING"

"Therefore, seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; but have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the Word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God."

"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:1, 2, 5, 6).

The career of minister represents a high calling and is

one that is accepted not without some personal sacrifice. A person going into the ministry realizes that he will probably never be rich, that he will probably never be famous by worldly standards, that he may not be able to work in the town or community of his choice, and that he may always live in church parsonages rather than in a home of his own.

The minister's job is one filled with emotional highs and lows. Although he is called upon to perform marriages, to dedicate babies and to baptize new converts into the faith, he also must visit the seriously ill and despondent, conduct funerals and comfort the bereaved.

A good minister must be a shepherd, caring for the parishioners of his church and trying to keep our Lord's sheep from going astray. In doing this, he must live above serious reproach so that he is an example to those who would ascribe to the doctrine of salvation. Yet, he must be one with the common man so that he can understand worldly problems and temptations.

Why, then, would any man choose a career with so many seemingly negative aspects? Perhaps a man accepts the call to the ministry not so much because he sees it as his choice of God but as God's choice of him. "Take up my cross and follow me" is a command which the man of God, hearing, must obey.

Because we recognize the many varied roles of a good minister and believe that most ministers get too little praise for the job they do, we at Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church would like to honor and commend our own pastor, the Rev. Davie Brinson, for his dedicated service to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Our hearts are filled with thanksgiving for the continued spiritual growth of the members of our church and for the harvest of souls for Jesus Christ through His ministry.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 15:23

WORK, FOR THE DAY IS COMING

Work, for the day is coming!
Day in the Word foretold.
When, 'mid the scenes triumphant,
Longed for by saints of old,
He who on earth a stranger
Traversed its paths of pain,
Jesus, the Prince, the Saviour,
Comes evermore to reign.

Work, for the day is coming!
Darkness will soon be gone;
Then ere the night of weeping
Day without end shall dawn.
What now we sow in sadness,
Then we shall reap in joy;
Hope shall be changed to gladness,
Praise be our blest employ.

Work, for the Lord is coming!
Children of light are we;
From Jesus' bright appearing
Powers of darkness flee.
Soon will the strife be ending,
Soon all our toils below,
Not to the dark we're tending,
But to the day we go.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Each of us should prepare ourselves for that great day when the Lord shall come again. Let us impress upon the others the need to be ready.

MONDAY, JUNE 30

Scripture Reading—James 1:4

HE KEEPS THE KEY

Is there some problem in your life to solve.

Some passage seeming full of mystery,
God knows, who brings the hidden things to light.
He keeps the key.

Is there some door closed by the Father's hand
Which widely opened you had hoped to see?
Trust God and wait—for when He shuts the door,
He keeps the key.

Is there some earnest prayer unanswered yet,
Or answered not as you had thought 'twould be?
God will make clear His purpose by-and-by.
He keeps the key.

Have patience with your God, your patient God,
All-wise, all-knowing, no long tarryer He,
And of the door of all thy future life
He keeps the key.

Unfailing comfort, sweet and blessed rest,
To know of every door He keeps the key
That He at last, when just He sees 'tis best,
Will give it thee.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God has the answer for every doubt, every problem, every adverse circumstance that imposes itself upon us. Let us trust Him for deliverance.

TUESDAY, JULY 1

Scripture Reading—Job 5:17

THE SECRET OF A HAPPY LIFE

We occasionally meet a woman whose old age is as beautiful as

the bloom of youth. We wonder how it has come about—what her secret is. Here are a few of the reasons. She knew how to forget disagreeable things. She kept her nerves well in hand, and inflicted them on no one. She mastered the art of saying pleasant things. She did not expect too much from her friends. She made whatever work came to her congenial. She retained her illusions and did not believe all the world wicked and unkind. She relieved the miserable and sympathized with the sorrowful. She never forgot that kind words and a smile cost nothing, but are priceless treasures to the discouraged. She did unto others as she would be done by, and now that old age has come to her and there is a halo of white hair about her head, she is loved and considered. This is the secret of a long life and a happy one.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Living and exercising godly principles will not only make one happy in youth, but will also afford happiness during the "twilight" years.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 1:7

IS THERE FORGIVENESS FOR ME?

A greatly distressed mother came to a minister and asked, "Is there forgiveness for a sin such as mine? Years ago on a Sunday night I was out walking with my ten-year-old daughter. We passed a large tent where a gospel meeting was in progress. 'Let's go in, Mommie,' said my little girl. We did. As the minister closed the service, he

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

said, 'Anyone who will accept Christ as Saviour stay for a while.' My little girl said, 'Mommie, I'll stay, if you will.' but I said No, though I knew I needed Christ and His forgiveness. My daughter has grown up to be a profane person. She is a heavy smoker and drinker, with no thought of God whatever."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let no one discourage the decision of a child to follow the Lord! Those who would dissuade early decisions may reap the harvest of heartaches and tears.

THURSDAY, JULY 3

Scripture Reading—Luke 7:5

LORD OF THE NATIONS

Lord, while for all mankind we pray
Of every clime and coast,
O hear us for our native land,
The land we love the most.

O guard our shores from every foe;

With peace our borders bless;
With prosperous times our cities crown,
Our fields with plenteousness.

Unite us in the sacred love
Of knowledge, truth and Thee;
And let our hills and valley shout
The songs of liberty.

Lord of the nations, thus to Thee
Our country we commend;
Be Thou her refuge and her trust,
Her everlasting Friend. Amen.

PRAYER THOUGHT

In being so diligent in giving the Word to people of other nations, we sometimes forget our own. Let us be dedicated home missionaries as well as foreign.

FRIDAY, JULY 4

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 28:14

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

LEST WE FORGET

When God made the oyster, He guaranteed it economic and social security. He built the oyster a house—a shell—to protect it from its enemies. When hungry, the oyster simply opens its shell and food rushes in upon him.

But when God made the eagle, He said, "The blue sky is the limit. Go build your house," and the eagle built on the highest mountain crag, where storms threaten him every day. For food he flies through miles of rain and snow and wind.

The eagle, and not the oyster, is significantly the emblem of the United States!

PRAYER THOUGHT

The true Christian cannot enjoy a passive existence; he must be active, ever alert to the dangers that threaten, and ever mindful of the work He calls him to do.

SATURDAY, JULY 5

Scripture Reading—Revelation 1:9

WAIT MY SOUL

Wait, my soul, upon the Lord
To His gracious promise flee,
Laying hold upon His Word,
"As thy days thy strength shall be."

If the sorrows of thy case
Seem peculiar still to thee,
God has promised needful grace,
"As thy days thy strength shall be."

Days of trial, days of grief,
In succession thou mayst see;
This is still thy sweet relief,
"As thy days thy strength shall be."

Rock of Ages, I'm secure,
With Thy promise full and free;
Faithful, positive, and sure—
"As thy days thy strength shall be."

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Lord is the Provider of all things one needs. Let us learn to

"wait" on Him, knowing that He cares and desires the best for us. "He who waits upon the Lord shall mount up on wings, like eagles."

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Because *The Free Will Baptist* will not be printed next week our readers are asked to select devotional readings from another source.

Coming Events . . .

June 29—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina

June 29—Mount Olive College Day in Local Churches

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 4—Independence Day

July 4—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and all Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston

July 13—Homecoming and Annual Meeting, Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

July 21-24—Ministers' Conference, Grammont

READER BACKS ARTICLE

"The recent article, 'Formal or Informal?' by Tommy Evans was excellent. It is interesting, well-written, and said some things which need to be said. Perhaps I like it so much because I agree with it. For myself, the form in worship is a means of separating my mind from things which interfere with worship and therefore are aids—very helpful aids—to the worship service. I wouldn't want to return to the rituals and formalities listed in the Old Testament, but neither do I want an atmosphere of total relaxation or laxity."

Nina Grace Register

Have you renewed your **Free Will Baptist** subscription?

Calvary Church Has Special Day



Jeannie Pittman

On May 25, Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, had a special service in memory of all the deceased members of the church since it was organized. During the service, special attention was paid to the memory of those for whom furnishings had been purchased for the sanctuary. The service ended with the dedication of the steeple. This was placed on the church by friends and the Sunday school in memory of Harvey (Pop) Pittman. The highlight of the service was when the pastor called little Jeannie Pittman to the pulpit and presented her with a plaque to hang in the vestibule. This was a very touching scene because Jeannie is a very special little girl. Her mother died at Jeannie's birth and she was brought to Harvey's and Betty's house to be raised. As she grew older one could tell she was special to everybody especially Pop and Betty. On many Sunday mornings at the close of the service you will see this little girl go to the altar to pray for the lost. She believes that what Jesus gave her is good for everybody and she wants to see everyone saved.

Graduates Honored at Winterville Church

Sunday, June 8, was a special day for the High School graduates of the Winterville, North Carolina, Free Will Baptist

Church. Connie Wade and Greg Carawan led the procession to the music of "God of Our Fathers." The adult choir sang "Arise, O Youth of God." Emerson Hobgood sang "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow." Superintendent Ron Braxton and the Rev. Bobby Futrell presented Bibles to the seniors.

Those graduating from D. H. Conley High School, Winterville, included Michael Joyner, who plans to enter West Point in New York; Pamela Manning, who plans to attend East Carolina University, Greenville; Danny Hines, and Tempie Quinn, who plan to attend Pitt Community College, Greenville.

Gary Churchill, graduating from Rose High School, Greenville, plans to enter North Carolina State University, Raleigh.

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet Saturday, June 28, with the Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Johnston County. The host pastor, the Rev. Billy Yawn, and the Union extend a cordial invitation to everyone. The Rev. William Dale will preach the Union message.

Ken Forehand is clerk of the First Union.

Free Union Church Host Albermarle District Meetings

Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, North Carolina, will host the Albermarle Union Meeting, Albermarle Sunday School Convention, and the Albermarle League Convention, on June 28, 1980. The scheduled programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING

OPENING SESSION

- 10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Marvin Waters
- 10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Francis Garner
—Response, the Rev. L. E. Ambrose
- 10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charles Overton
- 10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
- 10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time and Memorial Service, the Rev. Francis Garner

BUSINESS SESSION

- 10:40—Report of Children's Home, via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, via Literature
—Report of Mission, via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, via Literature
- 10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union

- 11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP

- 11:10—Hymn
- 11:20—Special Music, Host Church
- 11:25—Message, the Rev. Joe Griffith
—Adjournment and Lunch

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

OPENING SESSION

- 1:00—Devotions, the Rev. Floyd Burkey
- 1:10—Welcome, Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Frank Keech
—Response, the Rev. Robert May
- 1:15—President's Message, Mr. Erwin Foreman
- 1:25—Enrollment of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers

- Roll Call of Churches and Delegates
- Bring Reports and Receiving Blanks
- Announcements
- Offering for Children's Home
- Suggestions and Information for the Betterment of Sunday Schools

BUSINESS SESSION

- 2:00—Minutes of Last Convention Read for Information
- Treasurer's Report
- New Business
- Minutes Read and Approved

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

- 2:15—Special Music, Host Church
- 2:25—Benediction and Adjournment

LEAGUE CONVENTION

- 7:30—Devotion, Mr. Dwayne Jones
- 7:40—President's Message, Mr. Loyd Jones Jr.
- Appointment of Digest Committee
- Offering
- Roll Call of Leagues
- Sword Drill
- Hymn
- Recognition of Ministers
- Announcements
- Special Music
- League Program
- Minutes of Last Convention
- Business of Digest Committee
- Report of Digest Committee
- Awarding of Banners and Picture
- Treasurer's Report
- Minutes Read and Approved
- Adjournment

Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

Third Union of Eastern Conference to Meet

The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at the Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, June 28, at 10 a. m.

Sandy Plain church is three

miles north of Beulaville on Highway 241.

**J. Stewart Humphrey
At Gum Swamp Church**



The Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey

On Sunday evening, June 29, at 7 p. m., the Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey, Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex, will be at the Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, sharing information about the Children's Home and its future. The congregation invites everyone to join them for this meeting. The pastor is the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor.

News from

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

**HOUSEPARENTS
NEEDED**

The Children's Home is looking for a mature, Christian couple, over 21, and married for more than one year, to serve as houseparents. A high school education is necessary since there are records that have to be kept in the cottage. Couples with two children or less are preferred due to the amount of

living space provided for the houseparents.

The houseparents' position at the Children's Home is more than a job, it is a ministry. The children coming to our campus have not had the benefit of a Christian home, nor Christian parents. Many of them have known only neglect and abuse. Restoring in children a regard for home and family with God as its head is a ministry second to none.

Training in the child care field, social work or psychology is desired, but the Children's Home will provide training for non-trained applicants who are interested in child care work.

Interested persons should contact the Executive Director at P. O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557 or call 235-2161 between 8:30 a. m. and 5:30 p. m. for an appointment.

DISTRICT JUDGE VISITS



District Judge George Britt meets with Children's Home staff.

District Court Judge George Britt visited our campus recently. He met with our staff for informal discussions and toured the campus.

New statutes governing abuse and neglect in our state were of particular interest since many of the children we serve have experienced abuse and neglect prior to coming to the Home. It was pointed out that all citizens are expected to report child abuse under the law.

Judge Britt said that he had known our agency for many years and had always been pleased with the reports he had heard about our Home. He

(Continued on Page 15)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For July 6

THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

Lesson Text: 2 Kings 24:18—25:1,
8-12

Memory Verse: 2 Chronicles
36:16

I. INTRODUCTION

In 586 B. C., after a siege of eighteen months, Jerusalem fell to the forces of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. However, the cause of the destruction of the city did not lie in the might of the armies pitted against her but in the condition of Judah and her leaders. Sin had taken its toll. Corruption prevailed. Turning away from God, a pro-Egyptian party believed that the salvation of Judah should be sought through a compact with the Pharaoh. The pro-Babylonian party thought otherwise, and would cooperate with Nebuchadnezzar. The corrupt religious leaders continued to insist that the city was secure.

Over against all of these was Jeremiah, prophet of God, who knew that his sinful nation could find deliverance and security in no other way than to return to God. When it became evident that his message would be unheeded, he announced that the city was doomed. "The Lord hath sent unto you all his servants the prophets," he said, "... but ye have not hearkened" (Jeremiah 25:4). "Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Because ye have not heard my words, behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the Lord, and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant and will bring them against this land" (Jeremiah 25:8, 9).

Thus Jerusalem—the pride of

the Jews, the city of God, Jerusalem the golden—became a ruins. The reason is to be noted in the title of our lesson: "The Results of Sin."—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Josiah was one of the best kings that Judah ever had, but after his death dark days came to the nation. The two great powers of Egypt and Babylon were vying for control of the area, and the little nation of Judah was caught in the middle. For the last quarter of a century of her existence, Judah's kings ruled at the will of one or the other of these two great powers.

B. Jehoahaz succeeded his father Josiah as king. He had reigned only three months when Pharaoh-necho, the king of Egypt "put him in bands at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not reign in Jerusalem, and put the land to a tribute of an hundred talents of silver, and a talent of gold" (2 Kings 23:33).

C. Then Pharaoh made Eliakim king, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. Of course, Jehoiakim was no more than a vassal of Pharaoh and ruled at his will, paying tribute to Egypt. This tribute came from the people of Judah through high taxes. This was at the time when the star of Babylon was rising and Jehoiakim had to transfer his loyalty from Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, to Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon (2 Kings 24:1, 2).

D. Upon the death of Jehoiakim, his son Jehoiachin became king. At this time Nebuchadnezzar the king of

Babylon came against Jerusalem, but the king of Judah was able to pay enough tribute to keep him from destroying the city. However, the Babylonians carried away all the wealth of Judah as well as the king, his family and most of the people, leaving none "save the poorest sort..." (24:14).

E. It is noteworthy that the Book of 2 Kings records the fact that all of the last four kings of Judah "did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord." This statement is made of Jehoahaz (23:32), Jehoiakim (23:37), Jehoiachin (24:9), and Zedekiah (24:19). It has been said that no nation can rise above its leadership. So it is no wonder that the nation soon met destruction at the hands of its enemies. It is this final siege of Jerusalem which is the topic of today's lesson.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. This lesson is a second look at a notable event so graphically dramatized in last Sunday's lesson by the Prophet Ezekiel—the fall of Jerusalem. Ezekiel's account, partly in parable, partly in prophetic form, stressed the need for personal and national discipline in the life of Judah, while today's account emphasizes the fall of Judah as a result of sin, both personal and national.

B. Judah need not have fallen; no evidence is found to the contrary. The nation and her capital city, Jerusalem, fell for the same reason any nation will fall—because of sin, unconfessed, unforsaken, and unrelenting sin. Judah's sin may be characterized in two broad ways: lack of discipline and failure to abandon idolatry. Where in American life may we find these same two evils? Where is the sagacious genius in our day who dares gainsay that our nation may also hear its own death knell for similar sins?

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F. W. B.)

THE EXILES' LAMENT

Lesson Text: Lamentations 2:17-21; 3:31-33

Memory Verse: Lamentations 3:25

I. INTRODUCTION

Just how dreadful that experience was is reflected in the Book of Lamentations, the source of our study for today. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, sent his armies against Jerusalem. For eighteen months the siege was maintained, until finally the walls of the city were breached. King Zedekiah fled by night to the plains of Jericho, but he was overtaken and captured, subsequently to be blinded and taken in chains to Babylon. A number of political and military leaders were executed, and there was a great slaughter of the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Other thousands were taken prisoner into exile, and Jerusalem was made a heap of ruins.

The distress and anguish that accompanied such a long siege and the final destruction are almost indescribable. As day after weary day passed, the conditions inside the city became unbearable. There were the dead to be buried, victims of the archers and other assault forces of the enemy. In the midst of the carnage, disease and pestilence would take their toll. Eventually, and perhaps worst of all, the time came when there was no food left in the city. The cries of hunger, especially those of babes and little ones, can be imagined. So severe did the famine become that some even resorted to the eating of human flesh. Such was the fate of this city that would not heed God's call to repentance, and such is the theme of the Book of Lamentations.

The Book of Lamentations is anonymous, yet early manuscript versions attribute the writing to Jeremiah. It is obviously the work of one who was an eyewitness to the terrible

tragedy it depicts. It recognizes the calamities suffered as due to the moral and religious defection of the people. And there are similarities of expression and style characteristic of those of Jeremiah. Add to these the fact that Jeremiah was a very sensitive person, deeply distressed over the fate of his people, and it becomes obvious that he could, indeed, have been the author.

The key to understanding the book is to be found in 1:18—"The Lord was in the right; it was I who rebelled against his commands" (**The New English Bible**). The prophets had warned of doom that would befall Judah; a righteous God would surely act in history to punish His people's sin. Therefore the destruction of Jerusalem was no isolated historical incident; it was the inevitable consequence of defying God's Law. However, the same prophets had spoken of hope beyond the tragedy, and to this hope Lamentations also directed attention. The nation, suffering a punishment rightly deserved, was urged to consider its way of life critically and to turn in repentance to God. God's mercy and God's blessings were still available to a people who would seek them.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Book of Lamentations, from which our Scripture for today is taken, was written by Jeremiah after the destruction of Jerusalem. It appears likely that Jeremiah wrote this book between the destruction of Jerusalem and the time that he fled with his friend Baruch into Egypt. It should be pointed out, however, that his name does not occur in this Book of Lamentations.

B. Lamentations consists of five elegies or mournful poems. For the most part, each of the five chapters gives one of the elegies. Chapter 1 is a wail of distress for Jerusalem. Chapter 2 grieves over the sins of the people. Chapter 3 is personal and

describes the suffering of the writer. Chapter 4 depicts the suffering of various classes of the people. Chapter 5 enumerates the insults heaped upon the Jews by their enemies.

C. There are three dominant ideas in the book. First, there is the destruction of the city of Jerusalem and the sorrow that this brought to the people. Second, there is the great suffering that came to the people as a result of this destruction. Third, there is the idea that even in this time of distress and darkness, there is still hope if the people will turn to God.

—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Jeremiah had repeatedly warned Judah that her sins would result in this, but the proud, haughty people refused to hear him, and even threatened his life for his concern. Now all the things the prophet had said would happen had happened. But being the compassionate prophet he was, the time of tears had come for him, perhaps more than for the people. His heart was broken as he cried, "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people" (Jeremiah 9:1).

B. Then as he looked upon the desolate city of Jerusalem after the last of the people had been taken away, we hear him lament: "How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people! how is she become as a widow! she that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary!" (Lamentations 1:1). A clearer translation of this first verse of Lamentations is more understandable: "How lonely sits the city that was full of people. How like a widow has she become, she that was great among the nations. She that was a princess among the cities has become a vassal."

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)**

FAVOR OFFERED FOR THE PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE CHILDREN'S HOME

The following statement is that of James W. Cahoon, who is solely responsible for its contents.

I BELIEVE GOD WANTS US TO CARE FOR HIS CHILDREN

The following statements I am about to make are my reactions to the article written in the Baptist paper of June 4, 1980, "Opposition to the Proposal Concerning the Children's Home."

I felt that many of the statements made in the article were extremely judgemental, prejudicial, and radically unfair to those persons working in the Home and the ministers who serve our denomination loyally. There were drastic generalizations regarding the lives of children and their families which I did not feel were fair to those children or their families. Each child that goes into our Home goes there under individual, different, and distinct circumstances.

There are two things I can assure anyone. The authors of the articles written in the Baptist paper on May 21, 1980, were neither looking through rose-colored glasses nor scared of losing their jobs. These people are working with children on a daily basis. They sacrifice many of the personal hours they could spend in leisure with their own families. They are unselfishly giving their time to children who need them. It is my opinion that the authors of those two articles would have more insight into the needs of the children we serve than the average layman, minister, or church member who does not keep up with progress in

child care institutions and the needs for professional services in the area of child care.

There are not many children fortunate enough to be raised by parents with a Doctor's degree. I'm sure that is a fact. The children that need our services at the Home certainly have not had that opportunity. As a matter of fact, you'll probably find that the majority of their parents are high school drop-outs. That is one of the problems many of the parents are facing today. They lack the education to understand their spouse, or themselves, much less their children. Ignorance of a child's needs and the lack of intelligent insight into the lives of these rejected children we serve at the Home is as detrimental as leaving the child home with abusive parents, in my opinion.

Many of us were raised by parents without high school educations and Doctor's degrees and we aren't so bad. However, our parents loved us, nurtured us, cared for us, and helped us develop physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. The children we are speaking of are not that fortunate. They come to our Home already deficient in these four areas of development. They need more than just love and common sense. They need trained professional care along with the love and common sense that most parents are able to give their children. I do not think anyone is advocating an overly educated child care staff with useless degrees. I believe there is a need for special training to

deal with children who are suffering special problems. When children have something wrong with them physically, we do not take them to someone we think will only be loving and kind to them. We take them to someone trained in the medical field who will be able to identify their problems and prescribe a cure for the illness. Why should we expect any less for a child suffering from emotional problems inflicted on him by his parents?

I think there must be some misunderstanding regarding the concept of short-term-placement for children. This does not necessarily mean placing that child back into the same deprived and unstable environment he came from. Ideally, it means offering that child some type of permanent placement as soon as possible, dependent on many factors. That placement may be in a foster home, an institution, with relatives, or possibly back with his parents. There are cases, given appropriate attention and professional help, when families are helped to overcome the problems which required placement for their children. These are the real victories in child care work. What could be more joyous to any Christian than to see a family reunited because someone cared enough to spend a little time, effort, and money to help that family work through some existing problem? All placements in and out of our Children's Home are made with priorities placed on the "best interest of the child."

Why should children suffer because their parents are too lazy to work, drink beer, shack up, and spend their time watching soap operas? If that child remains in that kind of environment it is likely that he will adapt to that style of living. Children are impressionable and therefore with proper placement and care that child will respond accordingly. I say, don't strike a

child out before he gets a chance to bat.

Our Home has not outgrown its usefulness as a Children's Home. We have a history of caring for children who need to be cared for. Children who may be "neglected," "abused," "dependent," or "orphans" need our love, our support and our care. A child with a family who does not love him certainly needs care as much as a child without a family. A child can accept the fact of his parents' death. How does a child accept his parents not loving him? Are we to tell him we don't love him either? I don't think these children should be considered lucky.

I do think it is time for expansion and progress. I think we should progress in our service to the children who need our care. We should offer them quality care and not give in to paranoid views of what the government may do if we sign the Civil Compliance Act. In my opinion we can only profit from such a move. Other private child care institutions have signed and it has not lessened their autonomy. If anything, it has provided for them a means to expand and progress toward becoming bigger and better child care institutions offering multiple services to the needing.

I would also like to say that I appreciate the staff we have at the Children's Home and the ministers in our denomination. I do not think any of them have chosen their fields of service based on financial gains. They certainly earn every penny they get. It seems that those who choose to go into the service of the Lord receive much criticism and very little recognition for the work they do.

I am praying that God will guide all of us, especially the leaders of our denomination, as we consider and decide what God would have us do in His work on earth.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 11)

commended our Family Services workers for bringing detailed reports about the children to court, which helped him to make better decisions on behalf of the children who come through his court.

He also felt that agencies like ours would be in greater demand as time goes on because of the high incidences of divorce and the increase in the number of children being abused, abandoned, and neglected in our state today. The fact that most children today were placed through the county departments of Social Services was discussed. It was pointed out that this was a workable situation and should enhance services for children in the state.

Judge Britt indicated that it was his hope that homes like ours would continue to play a major role in the care of children in his district.

MUSIC RECITAL



Year's end brings exams and music recital. From left to right: Todd Humphrey, Randy Griffith, Katie Griffith, and Connie Hyman on the back row.

NOTICE

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its area bookstores in Ayden, Smithfield, Wilson, New Bern, and Kinston, will be closed in observance of Independence Day on July 4.

ATTENTION!

There will be no **Free Will Baptist** for the week of July 2. The next issue will be dated July 9, in keeping with our practice of printing only 48 issues a year.

A SHORT COURSE TO BE TAUGHT

A short course on "The History of the Original Free Will Baptist Church" will be taught at Branch Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Selma by the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Chaplain at Mount Olive College.

The course will meet for four sessions from 7:30-9:30 p. m. on the following dates: July 8, July 15, July 29, and August 5. The Rev. Ashley Turner is pastor of Branch Chapel church and extends a cordial invitation to all Free Will Baptists in the Johnston County area to participate in this course.

The study will focus on the early beginnings of the Free Will Baptist Church and trace its development until the present.

Branch Chapel church will pay the cost of the course and there will be no charge to those attending.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. George Greene announces that he is available for full-time pastoral services. He has been in full-time pastoral services for the past twelve years. Any church desiring his services may contact him at P. O. Box 475, Elm City, North Carolina 27822, phone 236-4079.

A pastor is needed for the second and fourth Sundays starting the second Sunday in July (July 13). Anyone interested contact Paul D. Davis, Clerk, Corinth Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Jamesville, North Carolina 27846, phone 793-2277.



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Refusing to forgive can bring spiritual death
and eternal separation from God . . .



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

A MATTER OF FORGIVENESS

The primary ingredient in forgiving anybody anything is love, an emotion so often cited as the answer to all problems but so infrequently exercised to its greatest potential. It is impossible to forgive from the heart without loving, though it may be possible to offer verbal acceptance of an apology without having the heart enter into the transaction.

The Word, in teaching the times one must forgive, specifies a figurative number: 70 times 7. Some people have taken this literally to mean that one has indeed fulfilled his obligatory forgiving when he has forgiven someone 490 times. But most devout persons see this as an indication that one must forgive without limit.

It is unlikely that any of us will need to forgive the same person 490 times, anyhow. If such is the case—if one offends us that often, it would seem that the loving aspect of our forgiveness (if activated properly and effectively) will win the offender over.

Some of the things we think we must forgive people for are so trivial. A casual, and sometimes unintended, slight is not a major problem (though some people do feel that it is a crime worse than murder). To be wronged terribly (as in the example of having one's reputation marred by having someone lie about you) is the type of serious offense which deserves and requires real forgiveness. This type of happening makes it difficult for even the most dedicated person to forgive and forget.

But, forgetting, or the ability to remove an occurrence from one's memory, is an important and necessary aspect of real forgiveness. The old saying (and a convenient excuse) goes "I can forgive, but I can't forget." Because we are human, it is difficult to forget wrongs done to one. But if love rather than duty is the motivating force behind the forgiving, then forgetting will be a more logical part of the forgiveness.

It seems safe to insist that one cannot really forget unless he has forgiven, and he cannot really boast forgiveness unless he has forgotten. Much as God remembers our sin against us no more, we should not remember one's wronging of us. It certainly allows us to view the former offender more favorably.

We dare not suggest that forgiving is easy. It is perhaps the most difficult of Christian principles to put into meaningful practice, but it is a necessary principle. One cannot love God unless he can forgive his neighbor—of whatever wrong, and however terrible the wrong may be, according to human assessment.

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Cover Photo by
Ed Carlin

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given to the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9:00 a. m.—5:00 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a. m.—p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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THE DEATH OF WALTER CARTER

Tribute to a Friend

I have received no news, in recent times, that has distressed me more than has the news of Walter Carter's death in Rockingham on April 13, 1980. For thirty-five of my forty-eight years. I have had the good fortune to have him as my friend. All this time, I have profited from both his example and advice. On this earth, I have had no dearer friend.

When I was ordained by the Piedmont Association in 1949, Walter was a member of that ordaining board. He took an early interest in my ministry, and through the years, the counsel he gave has been invaluable to me. I regret, more than I can say, that his earthly pilgrimage has ended.

When a man of the world dies, he is often eulogized in terms of the success that has come to him in life. He is considered a success, if among other things, he leaves behind him a fortune he has amassed. We listen with interest as his peers praise him for his learning, his social standing, his political influence, or his philanthropy. It is possible to praise such a man for his achievements in the world of industry and commerce, business and trade. This is the way the world measures success.

In the case of a beloved minister, however, the usual standards for determining success just will not do. It is not possible, in this fashion, to determine the worth of a life lived in dedication to God and the service of man. It would require an eternity of time to reveal the great good that has

resulted from Walter Carter's life and ministry.

William Cowper, in *The Task*, described the minister in terms of his personal qualities. In my opinion, this is the way it should be done. Cowper described the minister in the following lines:

I would express him simple, grave,
sincere;
In doctrine uncorrupt; in language
plain,
And plain in manner; decent, solemn,
chaste,
And natural in gesture; much im-
press'd
Himself as conscious of his awful
charge,
And anxious that the flock he feeds
May feel it too, affectionate in look,
And tender in address, as well
becomes
A messenger of grace to guilty men.

by Weyland S. Burns

These lines could have been written with Walter in mind. He was such a messenger of grace to guilty men. And that is the way I would describe him: a "messenger of grace."

HIS PERSONAL LIFE

In his personal life, Walter lived above reproach. His life was a model of the ethical and moral standards which should guide the lives of all Christians. And most especially, they should be the guiding principles of a minister's life.

He believed that a minister's actions should reflect his high calling. He thought a minister should always, in every situation, be a gentleman. He said to me once, "Every man has the capacity to be a gentleman and this is the first requirement

of a minister."

He was always careful to show courtesy to people in public places. He was very considerate of those people who had the responsibility to serve him in any way. I never knew him to go into a restaurant, as some ministers do, and make it difficult for waitresses and others to serve him. He said, "These people have a difficult enough time, as it is; the last thing they need is for some minister to come in and add to their burdens."

Through the years, Walter served as the evangelist for many churches. In these situations, it became necessary for him to spend the nights in the members' homes. Many a housewife has gone, in the morning, to make up the bed where he had slept, and found, to her surprise, that he had already made his own bed. She might have been surprised, too, to

Turn the Page



The Rev. Walter Carter

discover that he could make up a bed so well.

HIS HOMELIFE

Walter and Esther Carter had an ideal homelife. No greater lady than Esther Carter ever graced a parsonage. She was the kind of woman "whose children rise up and call her blessed, and whose husband praises her in the gates." (See Proverbs 31:28.)

She understood the role as a preacher's wife. She also understood the necessity for discipline and order in the home. She created, of their home, a place of unity and love. It was a place where the family members were always glad to return when the occasion arose for them to be away. I noticed, too, that Walter, like John Ploughman, the preaching done—always hurried home to Esther and the boys. And I might add, they seemed always glad to have him home.

HIS MINISTRY

Walter was the pastor at Aleo Free Will Baptist Church (now East Rockingham) for forty-four years. By our standards that is an unusually long time for a man to remain in one pastorate. What sustained him, in this ministry, for such a long time? What qualities did he possess that so endeared him to the hearts of the people that they were unwilling to let him go even after so many years? What, in fact, made the people at East Rockingham love him as they did? The answer is, of course, the same thing that made the rest of us love him. They saw the same genuine qualities we saw and appreciated him for them.

Some men teach by their example. In everything they do, they teach. They teach us by their walk, in their talk, even their personal mannerisms. Such men communicate with us from something deep within themselves. They possess some deep, inward, spiritual quality—some intangible something that must be felt, not shown.

For want of a better term, we call this "charisma" or "a gift." Whatever it is, Walter seemed to have it. Of him, we could say:

For me 'twas not the truth you taught,
To you so clear, to me so dim,
But when you came to me you brought
A sense of Him,
And from your eyes He beckons me,
And from your heart His love is shed,
'Til I lose sight of you and see,
The Christ instead.

Swisher

The people of East Rockingham saw these qualities in Walter and were unwilling to let him go. They felt loved and comfortable in his presence and only death could separate the pastoral bond between them.

HIS STRONG FAITH

Walter was a man of great faith and granite-like convictions. He held on to the promises of God. His feet seemed always to be resting on the "Rock of Ages." Corine Guinn, a member of Walter's church, paid her pastor a great compliment recently. Writing in *The Free Will Baptist*, April 9, 1980, she said, "Even in the loss of his wife and one of his sons in the seventies, he has held on to the horns of the altar of God." And "holding on to the horns of the altar of God" describes Walter very well.

At the helm of the ship we want a navigator who knows the waters and is sure of his course. In the church we want a leader whose faith is firmly grounded in God. Men who doubt their own faith can scarcely be counted on to instill that faith in others. But men of faith inspire us to have faith ourselves. Men who doubt God and their calling only serve to frustrate us even more. Of the ministry, it has been said:

Both the church and the world are in desperate need for ministers of religion who have great confidence in themselves, in the church, and in their God, men in whom the light of faith burns steadily and clearly Enthusiasm and faith are just as contagious and just as empowering as despair and doubt.

Robert Keighton

Those Who Would Preach

The light of faith did burn "steadily" and "clearly" in Walter Carter's life, and it was an inspiration to those he served in the ministry. How comforting it must have been to his church members to be able to say: "Whatever happens, my pastor will be found holding on to the horns of the altar of God." Such optimism and faith are needed very much in our day.

HIS PREACHING

Walter believed, like Paul, that a minister had important work to do. Like Paul, he could say: "I magnify mine office." That is the way one should speak of his ministry, and Walter did. Walter magnified the preaching office. He did much visiting and counseling, but preaching was the primary thing with him.

God endowed Walter with a powerful voice with which to deliver his sermons. He possessed a highly intelligent mind, a good memory, and a pleasant manner. All this coupled with his faith in preaching and his down-to-earth speech made him a very effective man in the pulpit.

It was hard to forget some of the things he said from the pulpit. For instance, of the Ark in which the baby Moses was placed, Walter said: "That Ark was lined with a mother's love and sailed under the providence of an almighty God." Of the Egyptian princess who adopted Moses as her own, Walter said: "God has put something in a woman's heart that she cannot stand to hear a baby cry." Who could ever forget hearing that?

Of his own death and burial, he said, "When I die, put my old pulpit Bible on my breast—I want every worm, every germ, every particle of decay, every skin worm that crawls over my flesh to see that book and know that here is one preacher who expects to stand up on the morning of the resurrection." Those who heard him say that,

(Continued on Page 15)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

The Rev. Charles Lynwood Renfrow

Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Kenly honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Charles Lynwood Renfrow. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

OUR PASTOR

submitted by Mrs. Faye J. Bass



The Rev. Charles Lynwood Renfrow

The Rev. Charles Lynwood Renfrow is the son of Mrs. Sallie Renfrow Whitley of Selma, North Carolina, and the late Rev. Willie E. Renfrow of Route 2, Kenly, North Carolina. He is married to the former Gaye Batten, daughter of Mrs. O. B. Batten of Route 2, Kenly, North Carolina, and the late Mr. Batten. They have two daughters, Katherine, 11; and Lynda, 7.

He graduated from Glendale High School and Mount Olive College. He served two years in the Army, and is a veteran of Vietnam. He worked for 11 years with Carolina Telephone Company.

Mr. Renfrow accepted the call and was licensed August 12, 1973, by Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, North Carolina, under the Rev. Billy R. Yawn. While there, he served on the deacon board, taught Sunday school, and was youth leader. He sang with "The Soul Seekers" over Eastern North Carolina for two years.

His first pastorate began at Union Chapel, Route 1, Plymouth, North Carolina, in April, 1974, until July, 1975. He was ordained October 18, 1974, at Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church. While serving Union Chapel, they acquired a parsonage lot. He had two baptisms there.

Mr. Renfrow also served Fremont Free Will Baptist Church from July, 1975, until October, 1978. While serving there, 15 new members were added to the church—10 of them by baptism.

In October, 1978, Mr. Renfrow began serving Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church. Our church membership has grown and our church has prospered much since he and his family have been serving here. Mr. Renfrow is the Adult Choir director, sings with the church quartet and trio, and directs the little folk's choir. Mrs. Renfrow serves as church pianist.

A building program was conducted after he came to

Piney Grove to add Sunday school rooms and a kitchen. He worked faithfully in this program with his skills and time.

Mr. Renfrow has held 15 revivals and performed 21 marriages.

He has served as Assistant Moderator and Moderator of the First Union of Western Conference. He now serves on the Board of Ordination of the Western Conference.

Since he accepted the call into the ministry he has proven his love to our denomination, its doctrine, and the cause for which it stands.

We, the people of Piney Grove church, are very thankful to have Mr. Renfrow for our pastor and leader, and we pray that God will continue to bless him in a very special way as he continues to serve Him.

Note of Thanks

The Rev. J. B. Starnes, 3010 Bridges Street, Morehead City, is much improved from his recent illness and has resumed his work. He and Mrs. Starnes wish to thank friends who remembered him with cards, calls, and other gestures of concern during his time of confinement.

They are glad to report that their daughter also is much improved from a serious illness which hospitalized her early this year. She joins them in thanking friends and acquaintances for every remembrance.

NOTICE

A small church needs a pastor at the salary of \$75-\$100 weekly—negotiable. A parsonage is planned for the near future. There is a good potential growth for the church. If interested, please call (after 6 p. m.), Mrs. Ruth Mottolo at 726-2650, or Mr. and Mrs. Richard Whaley at 726-5835.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, JULY 6

Scripture Reading—John 3:16

LEAD ME

Lead me to some soul today,
Oh, teach me, Lord, just what to say.

Friends of mine are lost in sin,
And cannot find their way.
Few there are who seem to care,
And few there are who pray;
Melt my heart and fill my life,
Give me one soul today.

PRAYER THOUGHT

As Christians, one of our primary aims should be to lead others to a saving knowledge of Christ. Let us each work with diligence to "save the lost, at any cost."

MONDAY, JULY 7

Scripture Reading—John 15:10

LOVING HIM WHO FIRST LOVED ME

Saviour! teach me day by day,
Love's sweet lessons to obey;
Sweeter lessons cannot be,
Loving Him who first loved me.

With a childlike heart of love,
At thy bidding may I move;
Prompt to serve and follow thee,
Loving Him who first loved me.

Teach me all thy steps to trace,
Strong to follow in thy grace:
Learning how to love from thee,
Loving Him who first loved me.

Love in loving finds employ—
In obedience all her joy;
Ever new that joy will be,
Loving Him who first loved me.

Thus may I rejoice to show
That I feel the love I owe;
Singing, till thy face I see,
Of His love who first loved me.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The heart set on things above truly loves God, when one considers the sacrifice of His Son. Let us live so others may know that we do indeed "love Him who first loved us."

TUESDAY, JULY 8

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 16:21

STOP! YOU'RE WRONG!

A young man was riding along a highway with an aged minister. Sneeringly he said, "I do not believe in the Ten Commandments. I hate to have a 'thou shalt' and a 'thou shalt not' flung in my face continuously." The minister said nothing. When he came to an intersection, he deliberately took the wrong road. "Stop!" demanded the young man, "you've taken the wrong road. The other sign said, 'This way to Toronto.'" The minister replied, "But I want no arbitrary sign telling me which way to go!"

The young man got the point.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Ignoring the Ten Commandments is more serious than ignoring road signs. Road signs are temporal and merely direct us on our earthly journey; the Ten Commandments are eternal and help us travel a straight road to our eternal reward.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 3:17

CHRIST MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

Heaven above is softer blue,
Earth beneath is sweeter green,

Something lives in every hue,
Christless eyes have never seen!

Birds with sweeter songs o'er-flow,
Flowers with newer beauty shine,
Since I know as now I know
I am His and He is mine!

PRAYER THOUGHT

All things become clearer and take on greater meaning when one receives the Lord as his Saviour. All nature praises His name, and as His followers we more readily appreciate His handiwork.

THURSDAY, JULY 10

Scripture Reading—Philippians 4:13

WHAT CHRIST IS TO ME

What the hand is to the lute,
What the breath is to the flute,
What the fragrance is to the smell,
What the spring is to the well,
What the flower is to the bee—
That is Jesus Christ for me.

What's the mother to the child,
What's the guide to pathless wild,
What is oil to troubled wave,
What is ransom to the slave,
What is water to the sea—
That is Jesus Christ to me.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christ is the Christian's All in All. No one can adequately describe His importance nor measure His worth. He is matchless!

FRIDAY, JULY 11

Scripture Reading—Genesis 1:14

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

IF

IF
God can hang the stars on high,
Can paint the clouds that drift on
by;
Can send the sun across the sky,
What could He do through you?

IF
He can send a storm through
space,
And dot with trees the moun-
tain's face;
If He, the sparrow's way can
trace
What could He do through you?

IF
God can do such little things
As count our hairs, or birds that
sing,
Control the universe that swings,
What could He do through you?

PRAYER THOUGHT

*It need not be emphasized that
God owns and rules everything.
All the Christian need do is trust
in Him completely. He will never
fail us!*

SATURDAY, JULY 12

Scripture Reading—Galatians
3:26

PICTURES PREACH

Childhood impressions are
lasting impressions. As a boy, I
attended Sunday school in a little
Methodist church in which there
was a beautiful stained-glass
window, depicting Christ leading
a flock of sheep, and holding in
His arm a lamb. As the rays of
the sun shone through that
window, it became a thing of
dazzling beauty. How helpless
and trustful were the sheep and
the lamb! Most impressive of all
was the look of tenderness on the
face of the Good Shepherd
—Jesus. At the bottom of the
picture were these words: "He
shall feed his flock like a
shepherd: he shall gather the
lambs with his arm, and carry
them in his bosom, and shall
gently lead those that are with
young."

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

What a mighty though silent
sermon that picture preached to
my childish heart!

PRAYER THOUGHT

*Some of the strongest sermons
ever preached were delivered
from religious paintings. Let us
not discount the worth of "a
thousand words" to childish
hearts and minds.*

Selected from *Knight's
Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter
B. Knight.

A GOOD MAN GOES HOME

On May 11 at 1:15 a. m., our
Heavenly Father called our
beloved Ronda Davenport to
leave this world to an eternal
home. It was a great surprise to
all of us to learn of his sudden
death.

Brother Davenport was a
faithful member of Mount Zion
Free Will Baptist Church, Roper,
North Carolina. He loved his
church and was active to help
carry out God's commands. He
was more than a member and
friend, for he bore the name
Christian, which is Christlike.

Brother Davenport was a man
who loved his family and took
great pride in his home and
yard. He and his wife, Ruth,
furnished many beautiful flower
arrangements for worship ser-
vices.

I am thankful that I had the
opportunity to meet this good
man about twenty years ago. I
have been blessed by him in
many ways since I first met him.
He was a man who stood by his
pastor in every respect. He
shared so many good things with
me. It is people like Ronda
Davenport that help make a
pastor's work easier and most
pleasant.

Brother Davenport has gone to
the regions beyond, awaiting for
us to come; he is gone but truly
his memory and good deeds live
on.

Charlie Overton
Pastor

TRIBUTE TO NEW PASTOR

At this time we would like to
recognize Preacher Eddie
Edwards. How precious God is;
He never leaves us alone. No
matter how low we may go down
in the valley, God is always
reaching down further than we
can reach up. We are blessed to
have Preacher Edwards to carry
the Word of God right on, he has
been such a blessing to our
church already. He preaches
real hard and tells the Word of
God and when his face turns red
and he speaks out loud the truth
of God comes right out. He
believes in God, prayer, healing,
anointing, helping the needy,
tithing, and people praying one
for another. He has faith in God.
We appreciate all he is doing for
God in our church. When a man
of God is called to preach he
must answer to God and no
matter what it takes, he must
please God and not man.

This Scripture we would like to
dedicate to the Rev. and Mrs.
Edwards.

Psalms 91

1. He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
2. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.
3. Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.
4. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.
5. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;
6. Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.
7. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.
8. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.
9. Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;
10. There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.
11. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.
12. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.
13. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.
14. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.
15. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.
16. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Elaine Pressley
East Rockingham Free Will Baptist
Church

**Daniels Chapel Auxilliary
Has Weekend Retreat**

Fourteen members of the JWE Auxilliary, Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, spent the weekend of May 30—June 1 in a retreat at White Lake. Their study was centered on the Howard Hendricks book, *Don't Fake It: Say It with Love*. Prior to departing, each of the auxilliary members read the work and was prepared to analyze and discuss it under the direction of Mrs. Doris Davis.

Along with discussing the book, the auxilliary members also viewed and discussed two films produced by Hendricks. They were entitled "The Christian Home" and "The Miracle Goes On."

While the basis for the weekend was prayerful study, the women of the auxilliary also found time for fun. They enjoyed swimming, sunning, and (of course) eating in between study sessions.

Each auxilliary member who participated in the weekend retreat came back professing a new-found love for one another and a deeper sensitivity to the needs of others. The phrase, "say it with love" has come to their lips many times since that weekend.

**Seniors Honored at
Sidney Church**

On June 8, 1980, a special service was held for five seniors of Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Belhaven, North Carolina. They were Robin Burbage, Michelle Burbage, Kim Arthur, Timothy Bass, and T. G. Clayton Jr.

A message was preached by the pastor, Steve Hargrove, on *Abundant Life*. He urged each of them to let God lead them in each decision they make in the

future, and if they would, that they could have that abundant life. Bibles were given to each one from the church along with a gift from the pastor.

On May 29, the seniors were invited to a cookout given by the pastor and his wife.

**"His Last Days"
Ends First Season**

The drama department of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, North Carolina, has just completed its first season of the musical drama, "His Last Days," which tells the story of the last days of Jesus Christ. During the span of last year the drama was carried to 14 different places including the Junior-Senior Weekend at Camp Vandemere and was done outdoors. The department feels very happy with this outreach ministry as it has been an instrument in seeing people saved, transformed, and rededicated. The play is under the direction of Craig Simmons but the real work is done by the young people of the church who have given their time without hesitation for the work of the Lord. The drama department is now accepting invitations for September which will start the second season of the play. Contact Craig Simmons or Alane Vester in Wilson.

**Jail Service Held
Recognizing Fathers**

A special worship service was rendered by Evangelist Arnold Woodlief at the Jackson County Jail of Marianna, Florida, on Father's Day in which the fathers there were recognized. The subject of the gospel message which he delivered was "Respect and Obedience." A few of the inmates participated in it by the reading of Scripture, by the giving of thanks, and by prayer. The oldest father to be

recognized was 62 years of age, and the youngest father to be recognized was 23 years of age. Evangelist Woodlief requests the prayers of everyone as he continues to minister for the Lord.

**Free Union Church Youth
Honor Pastor**



Front row: Mrs. Nancy Duncan and Susan Strickland; second row: Faye Sherrod, Deborah Sherrod, and the Rev. Lester Duncan; third row: Kent Holmes, and Terry Strickland.

The Young People's Class of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Nash County, honored their pastor, the Rev. Lester Duncan, with an appreciation plaque for his outstanding service in the church. They presented a plaque to his wife, Nancy, for her outstanding service also. The class also presented plaques to the church honoring the past preachers and remembering the deceased.

**Successful Bible School at
Sweet Gum Grove Church**

The Sweet Gum Grove Bible School held June 16 through June 20, was a great inspiration to everyone who attended under the leadership of the director, Mrs. David Hill. There was an average attendance of sixty-eight for the week. The course was entitled, "Jesus, I Believe in You" with the theme: Miracles

(Continued on Page 15)

NORTH CAROLINA MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

To: Clerks and Treasurers of All Free Will Baptist Churches of the State Convention of North Carolina

Dear Friends,

The annual Ministers' Conference at Cragmont will be held on July 21-24 this year. This conference, sponsored by the North Carolina Ministerial Association, is the only opportunity many of our ministers have to visit together in a relaxed and spiritual atmosphere. We encourage all of our ministers to attend this year's conference. We also encourage all of our churches to financially assist their pastor with his expenses to the conference.

Many of our pastors will not be able to attend the meeting unless the church is willing to help in the expense. Inflation has eaten away at the pastor's salary in the same way that it has every other person's salary. Travel has become very expensive to all of us. Please encourage your pastor to attend the conference by paying the expenses for him. The North Carolina Ministerial Association urges all churches to give their pastor at least \$100 toward the Cragmont expenses. If his wife also attends, he will need more financial assistance.

Your pastor needs this week of relaxation and spiritual renewal. It will make him a better pastor! Please consider helping him with the expenses. God bless you for your faithful support in this matter.

Sincerely in Christ,

Royce L. Reynolds, Secretary

MINISTER OBJECTS TO ERCIE WATERS' ARTICLE AND CALLS THE PRESS TO TASK

The following statement is that of Marvin R. Waters, who is solely responsible for its contents.

To: "THE FREE WILL BAPTIST";

AND: D. W. Hansley, President of Board of Directors; Fred Rivenbark, Director; Hubert Burress, Director; James Hardee, Director; C. Felton Godwin, Director; Robert May, Director; and Dewey C. Boling, Director;

AND: Tommy Manning, Editor;

AND: Walter Reynolds, Manager.

Dear Sirs and Fellow Free Will Baptists:

I am left stunned and ashamed from having read the June 4, 1980, issue of the "Free Will Baptist." I refer specifically to the article on Page 11, written by Mrs. Eracie W. Waters, entitled "Opposition to the Proposal Concerning the Children's Home."

I realize that it is stated that she (Mrs. Waters) is solely responsible for its contents. But I do heartily disagree with you. The "Free Will Baptist" is likewise held responsible for its contents. If I have understood correctly, it has in the past been left to the editor as to what has or has not been published in our denominational weekly. It seems that I recall hearing persons in the past say that they had submitted letters to the editor that never got published. Perhaps the ground for this was that such letters or articles were judged to not be in the best interests of our Church or denomination. At any rate, I

think such policy is wise. It is wise because we are a supposedly Christian concern whose purpose is to inform our people of those things that are happening in our denomination that will lend credence to and propagate the cause of Christ among all peoples. Yes, the "Free Will Baptist" is responsible for its contents, and yes, the "Free Will Baptist" is accountable to the best interests of our denomination and the cause of Christ.

What is my complaint with the article? First, the article makes NO valid response toward the issue of Civil Rights Compliance as it regards the Children's Home. Over and over it has been stated (even in the "Free Will Baptist") that no quota system applies to a private agency with a service available. Were the Children's Home publicly funded it might have a quota, but that is not the case.

The article in question seems laced with hate. Can this be in the best interests of a church and the cause of Christ? Why all the controversy over a "quota system" in the first place? Do we not teach our children to sing, "Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world! Red and yellow black and white, they are precious in his sight; Jesus loves the little children of the world"? Wasn't the Church the first to teach our country and indeed the whole world that we ARE OUR BROTHER'S KEEPER? Were my parents lying to me when they taught me those kinds of lessons? Was my

pastor being less than honest when he told us the story about Jesus gathering the little children around him, and then teaching the disciples that if we would be a part of His Kingdom that we would have to become as those little children? Have I been deceived in my upbringing?

Apparently Mrs. Waters is concerned that blacks would shack up with whites, with the result being that they would "sit back under air conditioning, watch soap operas, and old movies, and drink beer" (see Article, Column 2, last paragraph). It becomes apparent that racial prejudice is the motive for the article.

One of the saddest things about the article is its reference to "ministers who get fat salaries." In the same paragraph there is the acknowledgment that our ministers in the past have been treated poorly and that we ought to place them in retirement homes. Well, which is the truth??? What is the "fat salary" that is being spoken of? All of you men who are on the board of directors of our "Free Will Baptist" are ministers. Men, you know better! Do you know of just one Free Will Baptist minister who is getting a fat salary? Haven't you ever wondered why our churches are having such a rough struggle to secure the services of a pastor when their own pastor resigns? The truth is, beloved, our "full-time" Free Will Baptist pastors for the most part are grossly underpaid. This may not be the case with the Free Will Baptist "preacher" who works a job and then "moon-lights" on the side with the ministry. Yes, that kind of pastor may be doing quite well financially, but such is definitely not the case with our full-time pastors. I did not enter the ministry for money. I am not mercenary. And it hurts badly to think that we would be accused of the same. Brethren, anyone would know that a man could make double what a Free Will Baptist pastor makes who has

four years of college training, and some even with graduate degrees, were he to look for employment in any other field. Yes, I do resent it when you allow that statement to be made that insinuates that our ministers are making a mint or making "fat salaries" when we all know better.

What we had in our June 4 issue of the "Free Will Baptist" was an article that should make us all ashamed. This article serves only as an embarrassment to any "real" Free Will Baptist. Any "real" Free Will Baptist is certainly a Christian foremost. To think that a Christian would make such comments as appeared in the June 4 article is beyond my comprehension. I don't know who the pastor was that the lady was speaking of when she commented that she had heard a minister say that he would "vote for it, regardless of how his church felt." Then she comments that she would like to see his face if a group of black or Mexican people walked in his church. (She believes that this minister would allow them in the Children's Home but would not let them in his church.) I do not know who she is speaking of, but let me assure you she is not speaking of me, nor is she speaking of any "true servant of Christ." And I really do not know of any of our ministers who are so filled with hate that they would deny any man or woman the privilege of worship! I'd like to think that Free Will Baptists have grown beyond such senseless prejudices! I would also like to say that I am proud to be a part of a Church that never vocalized those kinds of sentiments of prejudice that I have read in this article of June 4.

Another concern of mine is the comment that the ministers will control the vote on this issue. Perhaps Mrs. Ernie Waters has never been to a State Convention. There it is really easy to see that the lay people far outnumber the number of ministers

who vote. Churches, it is up to you! Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press, I challenge you to respond to the article that I have responded to. All of you are ministers. I hope that you are not afraid of (in her words) "having your salary cut in half" by taking a stand against such verbal nonsense.

It would seem that the biggest issue before us as a denomination is the fact that so many of our people seem so ready to become "independent Baptists" and they are yelling "wolf" at the men in our Church Denomination who are the **MOST** concerned about our remaining Free Will Baptist. It is a real shame that the "firebrands" and "jack-leg preachers" of our denomination have somehow blinded our eyes to the heritage of Free Will Baptists of the English General Baptist Heritage that we share. Perhaps we need some valid rational response to that issue also. It would be of **MORE PRACTICAL BENEFIT TO OUR CHURCH PEOPLE THAN YOUR ALLOWING THE ARTICLE THAT I HAVE REFERRED TO IN THIS LETTER TO YOU.**

Dear people, may we allow judgment to begin in our own house. If we are right in saying that because we are white we are the most blessed, and that if others be black then they are cursed, then, men, we ought to preach it as hard as we can. On the other hand, if this is our Father's world and the Father showed equal concern for all men in the sending of His only begotten Son, how dare we preach otherwise? How dare we allow ourselves to be governed by those who have not yet met the Master?

Many have encouraged me to ask you to publish my response (this letter) in the "Free Will Baptist." I leave that decision to you. I only trust that you will print what you think is in the best interest of the cause of Christ.

Brothers Manning and Reynolds, you have both meant so much to me in my lifetime. I do feel that in this situation you both made a serious error of judgment in the printing of the June 4 article. The article served no real purpose. Certainly you should have realized that! I hope that this letter will not make you think less of me, or even offended. I love our Church! And our people will make the best decision if given true information and true facts, in EVERY situation, I believe.

May the Spirit of Christ direct us as we do the work of **HIS KINGDOM.**

Sincerely,
Marvin R. Waters, Pastor
Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church
Route 1, Pinetown, North
Carolina 27865

COMING EVENTS . . .

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 13—Homecoming and Annual Meeting, Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

July 21-24—Ministers' Conference, Cragmont

NOTICE

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet at the Press on Tuesday, August 5, 1980, at 7 p. m. This meeting was originally scheduled to meet on July 8. Anyone having business with this council is asked to be present for this meeting.

Royce Reynolds, Secretary

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

I visited a tuberculosis patient in the hospital today; the first thing that I noticed was a cigarette in his mouth. He was a preacher friend; I tried to reason with him about it. Results? Not sure.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For July 20

JEREMIAH: MESSENGER OF HOPE

Lesson Text: Jeremiah 32:8-10,
13-15; 33:12, 14-16

Memory Verse: Jeremiah 31:33

I. INTRODUCTION

Jeremiah's faith for the future was founded upon the certain promises of God. When it became apparent that Jerusalem would not turn from wickedness, the prophet proclaimed what the fate of the city would be. "I have set my face against this city for evil, and not for good, saith the Lord: it shall be given into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall burn it with fire" (Jeremiah 21:10). Jerusalem was doomed.

The Babylonian armies came, and the siege began. After a while an army of Egyptians came forth, threatening the Babylonians. For a while the siege of Jerusalem was lifted, and many believed that deliverance had come. But Jeremiah assured King Zedekiah, "Behold, Pharaoh's army, which is come forth to help you, shall return to Egypt into their own land. And the Chaldeans (Babylonians) shall come again, and fight against this city, and take it, and burn it with fire" (Jeremiah 37:7, 8). Lamentations 4:17 apparently refers to this episode: "As for us, our eyes as yet failed for our vain help: in our watching we have watched for a nation that could not save us." Jerusalem's doom was stark reality.

But still Jeremiah had faith for the future! God had promised to make the descendants of Abraham a great multitude. Through them blessing would

come to the whole world. God was also to establish, through the line of David, an everlasting kingdom. Jeremiah trusted in these and in other promises of God. This is why, in the very midst of the terrible days of the siege of Jerusalem, the prophet could speak, in Chapters 30-33, of a glorious future. The tone of these chapters is hope, a hope that Jeremiah could express even when the walls of the city were being battered down and while he himself was shut up in prison (32:2).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The main purpose of the lesson today is to show that for the people of God there is always hope. Jeremiah had brought the message of God to the people and to the king that they could not rebel successfully against the king of Babylon. This was bad news, the kind that the king did not want to hear. So Jeremiah was thrown in prison, and the counsel of the false prophets was followed. Just as Jeremiah had predicted, the country fell and dark days, indeed, came upon the land and its people. Now in the midst of these dark days, Jeremiah held out hope for the people.

B. The purchase by Jeremiah of a piece of land from his uncle's son, his first cousin, gave proof that he believed that there were better days ahead for the country. He believed that the time would come when sheep and shepherds would dot the hillsides of the land again, and the people would have peaceful possession of their land. Because Jeremiah had prophesied that

dark days would come to the country, this illustration of his faith for better days must have been very helpful to the people.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Our lesson today takes us back to a time before the Babylonian Captivity of Judah—to the sad occasion of the imprisonment of the Prophet Jeremiah. He had been apprehended because he vexed Zedekiah, king of Judah, with his repeated warnings of impending invasion by the Babylonians.

B. The appeals of the "weeping prophet" had apparently been wasted on Zedekiah who, it seems, was determined to depart from God, perhaps not knowing that by so doing he would lead his people into the captivity of which he himself was a tragic part. None of this, however, deterred Jeremiah; he persisted in his warnings, even from his miserable prison.

C. But not all his words were warnings of coming doom; there were times when the prophet pointed his people to the future. God had assured him that in time, after many years of captivity in a foreign land, the people of God would be allowed to return to their homeland. Of course, as it was in the wilderness wanderings of Moses following the exodus from Egypt, the adults who left Judah would die in the captivity with the exception of some of the very young adults.

D. The future to which the prophet pointed would be a time when the homeland would be "brought back" and restored to its rightful owners. It would be a time of great joy in rebuilding the walls and the temple and the homes of Jerusalem. But saying so would not make it so; God would be in it to make it so, and the people had to have faith in the future He was planning for them.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

DR. KEITH-LUCAS VISITS BOARD MEETING



Dr. Keith-Lucas and Children's Home board members.

Dr. Alan Keith-Lucas, native of England and father of modern child care in America and national consultant to child care institutions, visited the May Board meeting of the Children's Home. Dr. Keith-Lucas spoke to the need of churches continuing to offer care for the homeless child in America. "The large, state-operated programs lack compassion," he stated.

North Carolina has no large state child care programs. Our state has always felt that the church child care agencies were more than adequate to meet the needs of homeless children in North Carolina. If the churches fail to reach out to the homeless child, then the government will have to do what the church has been commanded to do.

There are laws protecting the rights of all citizens. In the last two decades the rights of minorities, children and women have been the focal point of legislation. Freedom of religion, speech, and the exercise of private enterprise are protected by the constitution. As long as any agency properly defines its abilities to serve and maintains reasonable standards of care,

does not violate the constitutional rights of any citizen who is eligible for the service it offers, that agency enjoys the protection of the law. Agencies that fail to measure up to the standards accepted by the community cannot expect to enjoy the protection of the law.

Government requires two basic things. First, that agencies meet the accepted accreditation standards for the type of services they offer. Second, agencies are expected to refrain from discrimination against any citizen. Having met these two basic requirements governmental intervention is nil, unless, of course, laws are violated.

It's simply a matter of fact that the counties basically control the flow of children. To fail to cooperate with the counties means there will be fewer children to serve privately. The end result is that the government will have to provide more compassionless institutions to care for homeless children.

Government is subject to fads. The school system is an example of that. It's not integration alone that has affected the schools, it's been the continuous experimentation with one new-fangled program after another. Government-operated child care would, no doubt, suffer from the same random experimentation. The church children's homes have moved into new avenues of child care through the years, but they did so carefully and planfully. Children need continuity above all else. Patterned after the attributes of our Lord, the children we serve can find in us a solid foundation that they can build a life upon.

Dr. Keith-Lucas has traveled worldwide and is familiar with child care of all kinds. He feels that the church can still do the best job caring for homeless children. The fact that the channels through which these children come are in the hands of the counties for the most part, does not mean that the churches cannot be what God called us to be.

ANNUAL ALUMNI WEEKEND AND HOMECOMING

by Charles Warren

On Saturday, July 12, the Alumni Association of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home will be having its annual Alumni Weekend and Homecoming.

The activities will begin around noon on the 12th and continue on into Sunday, the 13th. Included are such things as a pig-pickin', volleyball, softball, swimming, and the first annual Alumni Association Fun Run. On Saturday evening, there will be films of previous years' Homecomings. Included will be a film of last year's activities. On Sunday morning will be church services at 9:45 a.m. and the Alumni Association business meeting will be at 10:30 a.m.

Besides all the activities, the weekend provides Alumni with an opportunity to return to their youth: A walk around campus, over to the farm and old pond, remembering the first fish you ever caught, or maybe sneaking in for a swim on a hot afternoon.

Remembering is not only the most popular and most enjoyable pastime of the weekend, but one which can be enjoyed by young and old alike.

All Alumni and friends are encouraged to attend. If you didn't attend last year, we missed you. If you did, this year promises to be even better.

See you there!

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

ANSWERS TO SOME MAJOR QUESTIONS BEING ASKED

by W. Burkette Raper
President

College Hall

Question: When do you expect construction to begin on College Hall?

Answer: We would like to award contracts no later than March, 1981, so that the building will be ready for the opening of the fall semester in 1982. In our minds, we would like for the first event in College Hall to be the 1982 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

This date, of course, is not definite, but the Board of Trustees will be ready to proceed as soon as adequate funds are available through gifts and pledges. The estimated construction time is 18 months.

Question: How much has been raised so far?

Answer: By mid-June, gifts and pledges have reached \$650,000 or approximately one-fourth of the estimated cost (\$2.5 million) of the project. It is encouraging to note that on February 1 the assets of College Hall were \$216,000 but during the months of February, March, April, May, and early June gifts and pledges totalled more than \$430,000.

Question: What plans does the College have for raising the additional \$1,850,000 needed for this project?

Answer: We plan to carry this campaign to every Free Will

Baptist church that will invite us. College personnel are available to visit churches for "Christian Education Sunday" to present information on plans to develop Mount Olive into a four-year college, including the building of College Hall. Dates may be scheduled through Mrs. Jean Ackiss, Secretary to the President, phone (919) 658-2502.

With a good base of support from Free Will Baptists, we plan to ask for support from business and industrial firms in the area served by the College. Also, we will go to Charitable Foundations and individuals whom we believe will consider an investment in this project.

The College Family (trustees, personnel and alumni) is also participating. The thirty members of the Board have accepted a goal of \$250,000 for their support and the Alumni Association has set a goal of \$150,000.

Question: Do you really think the goal of \$2.5 million is attainable?

Answer: Yes. We have just begun.

Senior College Goal

Question: In response to the request of the State Convention for Mount Olive to become a four-year college, what definite steps have been taken to reach this goal?

Answer:

1. The Board of Trustees has authorized the Administration to proceed in every way to attain senior college status.

2. Target dates have been set which call for the addition of the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985. Under this

schedule, students who enter in the fall of 1982 would be in the first four-year graduating class in the spring of 1986.

3. The Board has approved a "Bridge to the Future" program which calls for five-year gift support in the amount of \$7.5 million between July 1, 1979, and June 30, 1984:

\$3,700,000	For educational purposes, including faculty development, library resources, laboratory equipment, student aid, and general development of academic and student life programs.
2,500,000	College Hall
<u>1,300,000</u>	Endowment
\$7,500,000	Gift support needed to make Mount Olive a Senior College

Our plan is to raise one-half (\$3,750,000) of this amount from Free Will Baptists and the other one-half from friends, foundations, business-industry, and alumni.

4. A representative from our accrediting agency, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, has met with a committee from our Board, Administration, and Faculty to review the standards and procedures for accreditation as a senior college.

5. A campaign is underway to increase the volumes in our library from 30,000 at present to at least 50,000 by 1984.

6. Several members of our faculty are engaged in post-graduate study and future appointments to the faculty will be in the light of our senior college goal.

7. A meeting of representatives from our Conference Boards of Ordination has been set for Monday, August 11, at 1:30 p. m. in the Henderson Building to discuss a four-year curriculum for ministerial students. This meeting is open to all interested ministers.

(Continued from Page 4)

knew that he meant it. His preaching was always characterized by convictions that were based on the Word of God.

HIS DEATH

Walter's health had been in jeopardy for the last several years. The end came quietly on a Sunday morning in April of this year. How does one say good-bye to such a dear and trusted friend? I do not know how to do it. Perhaps the words of another Burns, at another place in time, would suffice. Robert Burns, in his Epitaph for a Friend, penned the following words:

An honest man here lies at rest,
As e'er God with his image blest;
The friend of man, the friend of truth,
The friend of age, and guide of youth.
Few hearts like his with virtue warm'd,
Few heads with knowledge so in-
form'd,
If there's another world, he lives in
bliss;
If there is none, he made the best of
this.

(Robert Burns, 1759-1796)

And so, until the morning, old
friend, until the morning!

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 8)

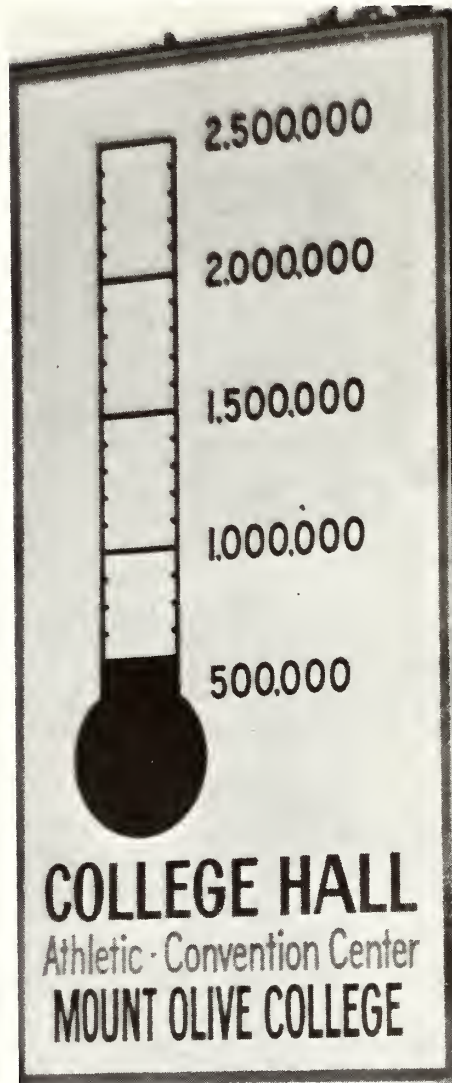
of Jesus. The children looked forward to the visit each day with Doozy, the dog (puppet).

Commencement was held the following Sunday night at 7:30 with each department taking part. Song leader was Mrs. Ginger Briley and pianist, Mrs. Becky Futrell.

Bibles were given to Lisa Thompson for raising the most money for the bike-a-thon and Paula Stillely for raising the most money for the rock-a-thon that were held to raise money to support the Bible school.

A gift was given to Samuel Tripp and Regina Clark for bringing the most visitors to Bible school. Sweet Gum Grove is located on Route 1, Stokes, North Carolina.

PROGRESS ON COLLEGE HALL



A large sign has been erected on the Downtown Campus of Mount Olive College to reveal the progress of pledges and gifts for the construction of College Hall. When the sign was erected in early June, gifts and pledges totalled approximately \$600,000. Each month the sign will be updated.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

God tells us in His Word that if one has aught with his neighbor and attempts to present something for Him at His altar, He will not receive it. He clearly tells us that we must first make things right with our brother before He will receive anything from us.

Four hundred ninety is a large enough figure that few of us need worry about it. If love doesn't conquer during the four-hundred-eighty-ninth confrontation, there is something wrong with both the forgiver and the offender.

Question: Do you think that four-year status is a realistic goal?

Answer: Yes, to the degree that the Free Will Baptist church is willing to give this goal the priority it requires. God will provide the resources if we are willing to commit them. Personally, I had rather face the future with the goal of Mount Olive becoming a senior college than trying to maintain ourselves as a junior college.

Outlook for 1980-81

Question: We hear a lot of talk about declining enrollment in colleges. What is the outlook for Mount Olive?

Answer: We expect another record enrollment.

In the fall of 1979 we had the largest enrollment in the history of Mount Olive College—368 students (compared with 333 in 1978). Our applications for the fall of 1980 are ahead of last year by nearly 10 percent.

There is still time for students to apply for the semester which begins August 25, but dormitory rooms are filling rapidly. If you know worthy students who have not yet made their college plans, encourage them to contact our Admissions Office promptly. Financial aid is also available for qualified students.

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one
today!**



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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 1980
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

LIBRARY
JUL 17 1980
AYDEN, N.C.

Vain expressions, whether printed or spoken, have no place in Christian practice or acceptance.

Frivolous references to God or His Word actually amount to the breaking of the Third Commandment: "Thou shalt not take the Lord's name in vain."

YOU MAY BE TAKING THE LORD'S NAME IN VAIN!

Vain: foolish, silly, idle, worthless, fruitless, empty. **In vain:** to no end, without success or result, in an irreverent or blasphemous manner.

How seriously do we follow the Third Commandment, "Thou shalt not take the Lord's name in vain"? While it is doubtful that any Christian would intentionally take His name in vain, there is strong possibility that we do so unintentionally—and perhaps daily.

"Lord, help me!" is a plea many of us verbalize numerous times in the course of a week. Unless this request is made as a sincere prayer, it amounts to a vain repetition, which, technically, is a violation of the commandment.

We utter numerous other exclamations which fit the category. They have become permanent fixtures in our communicative processes, and they are effective. They give emphasis, they offer the surprise element we want to effect, they show disgust, and may even indicate acceptance or affirmation. Consider "My God!" "Lord, have mercy!" "Oh Lord!" "Lord, yes!" and others.

Such expressions are so widely used by so many diverse groups that they bear little resemblance to expressions having actual religious intent. The fact that the Lord's name is used does not make people consider Him favorably. For many it seems little more than saying, "My word!" But it is not the same. Any time the Lord's name is used lightly, or frivolously, it is wrong.

Bumper stickers and placards carry many such vain expressions—vain in the sense that they are empty and usually foolish, if not indeed irreverent. Often such placards are used as attention getters, not for the Lord, but for **business**—as a calling card, if you will.

A marquee citing, "Smile, the Lord is on your side," or some other such phrase can urge attention from passing motorists; and restaurants have quickly learned their effectiveness. Most people don't feel preached to by such signs, but experience a sort of comfort, and perhaps a psychological enticement which is good for business. After all, a tranquil atmosphere is conducive to eating; a tranquil atmosphere is conducive to all types of purchasing and patronage; and these expressions provide it for many people.

As Christians are thought to be basically honest people, the public will ascribe to owners of businesses who "advertise" thusly a measure of that honesty, simply because they have

(Continued on Page 15)

Cover Photo by
Ed Carlin

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July 16, 1980

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Tommy Manning

Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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DIVORCE AND THE CHURCH

by Bass Mitchell

Part I

I dedicate this article to my wife, Debbie, who has enriched my life in more ways than I can tell.

THIS three-part article represents an attempt to address one of the most perplexing ethical problems confronting the church today, divorce. In Part One I will be making a descriptive examination of the various aspects of divorce. An adequate understanding of the factual data surrounding this problem from legal, psychological, sociological, demographical and other sources is absolutely essential. How can we ever make a fair and accurate judgment on any problem if we haven't taken the time to become as thoroughly informed about it as possible? Perhaps one of the reasons why the world doesn't seem to take the church very seriously is because the church has too often been content to sit in a lofty seat of judgment without coming down into the agony of human suffering and there grappling with the tremendously complexing problems that are tearing our world apart. The relevance and power of the gospel are most fully revealed, not in the judgmental pronouncements from the pulpit, but in that profound love that risks the pain

and suffering of becoming involved in human life in order to lift it to the fullest expression of all that which is good and honorable in humanity.

In the second and third parts of this article I will be trying to show how the gospel can provide guidance for the church in dealing with the whole question of divorce, how the church can minister to the divorced person, and what the church can do in the realm of preventive medicine for divorce. I am greatly indebted in this article to the thought and methodology of Dr. Waldo Beach, Professor of Christian Ethics, The Divinity School, Duke University.

Divorce is a problem that society has had to deal with for a long time. Divorce is also a problem for the church which includes many among its members, both ministers and laity, who have been divorced. Statistics, those cold, empty representatives of human agony, painfully illustrate the escalating problem of divorce. In 1870, one out of every seventy marriages ended in divorce; in 1940, one out of every six; in 1960, one out of every four; and in 1979, almost

one out of every three marriages ended in divorce. In some states, like California, the percentage is even higher. Statistics also show that the percentage of divorces in the second, third, and fourth remarriages is even greater.¹ Perhaps the high rate of divorce is one reason why we have seen in the last few decades the counter-cultural phenomenon of experimental alternatives to marriage; the living together arrangement, trial marriages, swinging singles and single apartment complexes, communal group living, wife swapping, and marital contracts. Regardless of these alternatives, marriage remains the norm for the vast majority of adults in the United States. This may suggest that it is not marriage that many have become discouraged with but the superficial nature of relationships that never reach that depth of sharing which cries out for fulfillment from the very core of the human being.

An interesting facet of the problem of divorce lies within our society's conception of marriage. On one hand, there is

Turn the Page

the romantic view of marriage as a utopia of bliss and love-making, and other such unrealistic expectations. On the other hand, we have the opposite extreme where the expectations for marriage are not great enough. This is what Margaret Mead calls "our expectation about the durability of marriage." "We no longer deeply believe that two people who once have made the choice to marry necessarily should try to weather the storms that shake any vital, intimate relationship. Instead, and more and more, our answer to a difficult marriage is: try it again—with someone else."² Wayne Oates makes an interesting comment about the influence of technology and economics on such a view of marriage. He says that "the mode of our culture is to discard something that will not work and get a new one. In fact, the economy is geared to this newness. When this mood slips over from things to persons, marriage may be looked upon similarly."³ Let us look at some more reasons that are given for marriage failure.

Some immediate reasons come to mind: physical and mental abuse, financial difficulties, sexual maladjustment, infidelity, desertion, abuse of alcohol and drugs, offspring, in-laws, loss of love, mental illness, to name a few. There is also a social dimension which James Emerson has pointed out as the societal ambiguity which surrounds the modern family. He says that the nature of the social community in which people move is unclear, as is the structure of the family.⁴ This is partly due to urbanization, greater family mobility, both parents having to work outside the home, changing sex roles, inflation, increased life expectancy; all are social realities that must be taken into consideration for an adequate study of marriage and divorce.

Divorce is a carrier for a host of other problems for society. Because of the personal nature of divorce, "people do not recognize the effect of divorce on a culture. Divorce wounds society, too."⁵ One of the greatest wounds lies in the suffering of innocent children. It has been estimated that four out of every ten children will spend a good portion of their childhood with only one parent. Child psychologists have long pointed out the vital role that both a mother and a father play in a child's overall development. Children are not able to understand divorce, for they can only see and feel the hurt from the shattering of the only world they know. It is difficult enough to rear children with the help of a husband or wife; how much more difficult it must be to attempt it all alone. Groups such as "Parents Without Partners" have been formed to assist such single parents and they are doing a marvelous work. But the problems do not end here, the trauma experienced by the children can be carried with them the rest of their lives and carried over into their marriages. The whole tragic problem can become a vicious circle that will have serious repercussions throughout our society now and in the future. "The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge" (Jeremiah 31:29).

Divorce takes a heavy toll on the individuals involved and on their communities. Above all else, divorce is failure, and failure at one of the most important relationships that we can have, may easily result in "the shattering of one's self image."⁶ Such a sense of failure can be carried over into every aspect of the person's life; job, health, eating and sleeping habits, relationships with others, with the church and with God. Failure can so cloud one's perception of reality that suicide can be

seriously considered. Divorce has often been compared to death for there is a period of bereavement which follows divorce like that associated with the death of a close relative. This grief can have a devastating effect on a person's life if it isn't worked through in a reasonable length of time. It should not surprise us that divorce is one of the most traumatic experiences that anyone can undergo. But the problems do not stop here.

The legal procedures required in divorce proceedings can be extremely traumatic. Up until recently the whole legal procedure for divorce was based upon an adversary system in which one partner had to prove his/her innocence and the guilt of the other. "To obtain a divorce is not enough to show that your marriage is dead, you must establish that your spouse was at fault for its death and you were free from blame. Moreover, the divorce statutes limit the grounds to several specified kinds of marital faults, typically cruelty, adultery, desertion, and drunkenness."⁷ The problems with such a legal procedure are obvious. The dependence upon an adversary system can only fuel the underlying feeling of hostility and hurt between the partners. Also, this process does not take into account the mutual responsibility that is involved in the vast majority of marital failures, so it therefore requires perjury.⁸ Such faults as these in the divorce laws have led to the no-fault divorce which is in practice in such states as California, Colorado, Oregon, Michigan, Iowa, Florida, and several others. No-fault changes the legal process of divorce from the adversary system to one that recognizes more the mutual responsibility often involved, usually on the grounds of "irreconcilable differences."⁹ No-fault is not without its faults and opponents but it is

(Continued on Page 15)

The Rev. J. B. Godwin

Stancil's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Kenly, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. J. B. Godwin. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A Faithful Man

*submitted by Kathy E. Creech on behalf of
the members at Stancil's Chapel*



The Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Godwin

As of June 30, 1980, the Rev. J. B. Godwin of Selma has pastored Stancil's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church for ten years. We, the members, salute him for his devoted service, exemplary faithfulness, and humble leadership.

The oldest of five brothers, Pastor Godwin was born on December 24, 1917 to Jesse and Pearl Smith Godwin of Johnston County. He was raised in the Holly Springs Community of Route 2, Kenly, North Carolina. He attended Glendale High School and worshiped at Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church.

At age 19, he married Zona Staring on December 24, 1936,

and they have been settled now in the McCall's Crossroads Community for about 40 years. They have four daughters—Peggy Hawley, Dorothy Parrish, Joan Thompson, Joyce Crocker; and one son—Brian Godwin. They also have seven grandchildren.

Pastor Godwin's home church is Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist of Selma, where he became a Christian in 1943. There he worked in the YFA, served as choir director, taught Bible class, was a member of the Deacon Board, and was also Superintendent of the Sunday school. He delivered his first message at Pleasant Plain on the second Sunday night of April, 1969.

The Rev. Godwin began his ministry by pastoring Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist of Raleigh for one year. At Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church, he was ordained in June, 1970. Presently, he pastors both Mt. Zion of Route 3, Kenly, and Stancil's Chapel of Route 2. He has served five years on the Ministerial Character Board of the Western Conference and is now Chairman of the Ordaining Council of our Conference.

During their stay at Stancil's Chapel, both the Rev. and Mrs. Godwin have been most committed Christian servants. They have supported our YFA, visited

our sick across the state, delivered messages to our Senior Citizens in homes and community Rest Homes, served our Conference, supported the Children's Home and Mount Olive College, traveled with us in support of many Christian causes, and participated with us in church projects. We at Stancil's Chapel know Preacher J. B. believes God's Word in its fullness, lives it, and preaches it.

In closing, the Christian love he shares and the steadfast faith he demonstrates are inspirations for us all. We know he is in God's care.

A CONCERNED READER WRITES

*The following statement is that
of Lillian Stanley, who is solely
responsible for its contents.*

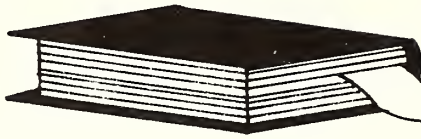
To the Editor:

The Holy Spirit moves me to question the real issue concerning the Children's Home. I am a Christian by the grace of an Almighty God, motivated by His love to work in His vineyard, where He leads and He says there is a need. The following statements are my convictions and I am responsible.

Physical life and spiritual growth are essential, hence, no life—no growth. Perhaps Vernon Smith can enlighten each of us better. "We must strive to understand ourselves and our environment, as well as God's will for our lives, and then decide how we will live our lives. The standards of conduct that we accept must not be what someone else is 'able to get away with,' but rather our own standards, based on what we believe to be 'right in the eyes of God.' "

The issue soon to come before the State Convention for consideration will not be one of

(Continued on Page 11)



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, JULY 20

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:5

YOU CAN'T FOOL GOD

You can fool the hapless public,
You can be a subtle fraud,
You can hide your little mean-
ness,

But you can't fool God!

You can advertise your virtues,
You can self-achievement laud,
You can load yourself with
riches,

But you can't fool God!

You can criticize the Bible,
You can be a selfish clod,
You can lie, swear, drink, and
gamble,

But you can't fool God!

You can magnify your talent,
You can hear the world applaud,
You can boast yourself
somebody,

But can't fool God!

PRAYER THOUGHT

No one can hide anything from God—anytime—the good or the bad. Our Father is all-seeing, all-knowing. Let none of us attempt to deceive Him.

MONDAY, JULY 21

Scripture Reading—John 3:16

NOBODY CARED ENOUGH TO TELL ME

A conscienceless, sinful father taught his children to steal. "If you return home empty-handed, I'll flog you!" he would threaten them. Some time ago, a student of the Moody Bible Institute gave this man a gospel tract, and earnestly pleaded with him to repent of his sins, receive Christ, and live for Him. The Holy Spirit

convicted the man of sin so that he cried to God for mercy. Christ heard his cry and transformed his life. Later he said, "I'm sixty years old and it is the first time I have ever made a start in the right direction. Until that Christian worker told me about Jesus, nobody ever cared enough to tell me."

PRAYER THOUGHT

As Christian people we must exercise the love of God—and that includes steering others in the right direction: to a saving knowledge of Christ!

TUESDAY, JULY 22

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 17:17

WAIT!

I recall an incident that happened in 1921. The distraught father of a diabetic child asked, "Should we prolong this child's misery? Since he can never grow up to be a healthy man, mightn't it be better to let him die?" On the following day the discovery of insulin was announced. Today that diabetic child is a splendid physician, the father of four children!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wait on God. Don't ever take providence into your own hands. Trust in the Lord, that His will might be done. You will be happier for it!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

Scripture Reading—Acts 6:4

ON WINGS OF PRAYER

I breathed a heartfelt evening prayer.

To God on high, and lingered there,

To see if God did truly care
In heaven above.

Down from the heights, my
answer came

A quiet peace passed through my
frame,

I felt His presence, praise His
Name,

For God is love.

I sang a joyful, evening song,
It swept the stars, its way along,
And up amid that heavenly
throne,

Reached God on high:

Then, back into my spirit came,
God's presence, as a bush
afame,

I bowed again and praised His
Name,

For God was nigh.

How wonderful to have the right,
Up past the stars to take our
flight,

Into God's holy, sacred light,
Beyond the blue;

There to have access by His
grace,

Into the presence of His face,
And then, to earth, our way

retrace,

With hope anew.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"God is only a prayer away." How often have we thought of that truth but have not exercised the privilege of talking to Him? Let's make conversation with Him a daily occurrence.

THURSDAY, JULY 24

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 2:19

LIFE-SAVING TEARS

Tears are one of God's good gifts to His children. Tears are

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

escape valves for pent-up sorrow.

According to modern medical science, pent-up grief can be disastrous.

Dr. Erick Lindermann, psychiatrist-in-chief of the Massachusetts General Hospital and a pioneer in the investigation of repressed sorrow, tells of a young nurse who tended her father through the long months of his final illness. She was very devoted to her father, and often fought back tears as she nursed him.

When he died, a well-meaning friend sternly forbade her to show any grief for the sake of her mother who had a weak heart. Within hours, the emotionally-repressed nurse developed a case of ulcerative colitis. She slowly corroded inwardly because of the disordered impulses of her nervous system. Eventually she died, killed by the suppressed grief she would not allow herself to express in copious tears.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Even Jesus wept, though not aimlessly or without reason. The best tears we can shed are penitential ones, and those for the souls of dying men.

FRIDAY, JULY 25

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 4:16

AMERICAN COLLEGES BEGAN CHRISTIAN

It was God from the beginning. Take our educational institutions, Harvard, for example. In the bequest of Mr. Harvard, he gave several rules and precepts that were to be observed by Harvard College, and the second rule reads as follows:

"Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well the main ends of his life and studies; to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life and therefore to lay Christ in

the bottom as the only foundation of all knowledge and learning and see the Lord only giveth wisdom. Let everyone seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek Christ as Lord and Master."

Yale College was founded by Christian ministers in the interest of religious education. Columbia University, in an advertisement dated July 3, 1752, in the *New York Gazette*, stated: "The chief things that are aimed at in this college are to teach and engage the children to know God and Jesus Christ and to love and to serve Him in all sobriety, godliness, righteousness, in life with a perfect heart and a willing mind."

A president of Dartmouth said: "Dartmouth College was conceived in the fervor of a religious revival, and born in the throes of a great missionary zeal dedicated to Christ, our Redeemer."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should thank God for our Christian colleges, and we should give to their support. Let us remember our own: Mount Olive College.

SATURDAY, JULY 26

Scripture Reading—Job 38:33

THE OTHER SIDE

This isn't death, it's glory!
It isn't dark, it's light;
It isn't stumbling, groping,
Or even faith—it's sight.

This isn't grief, it's having
My last tear wiped away.
It's sunrise, it's the morning
Of my eternal day!

It isn't even praying,
It's speaking face to face,
It's listening, and it's glimpsing
The wonders of His grace.

This is the end of pleading
For strength to bear my pain;
Not even pain's dark memory
Will ever live again.

How did I bear the earth life
Before I came up higher,
Before my soul was granted
Its every deep desire?

Before I knew this rapture
Of meeting face to face
The One who sought me, saved
me,
And kept me by His grace!

PRAYER THOUGHT

How happy we shall be at His coming! How wonderful it will be to be with the Lord forever and forever! If you aren't prepared, make provisions today.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Robert Langley announces that he is available for full-time pastoral or interim pastoral services. He has been in full-time pastoral services for the past ten years. Any church desiring his services may contact him at Route 1, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557, phone 284-4178.

The Rev. Ed Taylor of Route 3, Box 342, Benson, North Carolina 27504, announces that he is available for full-time service the first of September. He is recommended by the board of deacons of St. Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Benson, North Carolina, where he will soon complete his work. He can be reached by phone at (919) 894-5551.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Calvin Heath announces that he now has a new address. It is Route 2, Box 297, Walstonburg, North Carolina 27888. His old address was Route 3, Box 225, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551.

ATTENTION: CRAGMONT LOVERS

Dear Cragmont Lover,

Cragmont faces a real and immediate crisis. We owe a \$45,000 payment on our mortgage on November 14. At present we have \$5,500 on hand. We need; no, we **must have** \$39,500 in four and one-half months.

We realize that money is tight, and we realize that each of our enterprises needs funds. We took a giant step recently based on what Free Will Baptists said they wanted. We demolished the old main building and built a new one because you indicated you wanted that. You showed great support for this project last year (December 1978—November 1979) by giving \$86,703.85. Thank you, thank you. But this year we have fallen far behind this record. Through June 30, 1980 (seven months) we have given \$27,082.17. At this rate, we cannot meet our mortgage obligation, and we still have operational expenses. So, we do need to give at least \$70,000 per year to survive.

Many would like to see Cragmont build tennis courts, a swimming pool, a softball diamond, and other recreational facilities. We do need some additional recreational facilities. However, if we do not meet our mortgage obligations, we **cannot** build recreational facilities—we will not have a place to build. If we default, there will be no more Cragmont.

So just how important is Cragmont to you? Cragmont is a tremendous Christian Mission. Each year many young people accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord through the ministry of Cragmont Assembly. Many of our ministers now actively engaged in Free Will Baptist pastorates accepted God's call to the ministry through the work of Cragmont Assembly. Many,

many of our lay leaders dedicated themselves to God's Kingdom through the ministry of Cragmont Assembly. Many Mount Olive College students and alumni made their decision to attend Mount Olive College as a result of the ministry of Cragmont Assembly. Cragmont offers an inexpensive Spiritual Retreat center for Free Will Baptists. Cragmont is so important for all of us that we must not neglect our obligations to its ministry.

Many of you gave significantly last year. Thank you. But we need your continual support; we cannot survive on one big year. We must continue our support.

We ask three things. First, we ask you to give generously to Cragmont now. Second, if you have monies for any project at Cragmont, please send in those funds for the mortgage payment. Third, make a commitment to future giving. We need 25 churches to pledge \$1,000 annually through their budget—\$25,000 total. We need 50 churches to pledge \$500 per year through their budget—\$25,000 total. We need 100 individuals to pledge \$10 per month—\$12,000 annual total. We need 50 individuals to pledge \$20 per month—\$12,000 annual total. This results in \$74,000 per year. Will you make such a pledge? If so, fill out the card below and mail to John R. Watson, Treasurer, Route 2, Box 607, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

Yours for God's Kingdom,
Harry Grubbs, President
John R. Watson, Treasurer

Cragmont Assembly, Inc.

1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, N. C. 27811

PLEDGE CARD

I, _____, pledge \$ _____

to Cragmont Assembly over a period of _____ years, given \$ _____

per _____

Church: _____ Conference: _____

Date: _____ Address: _____

NEWS NOTES

Youth Sunday at Friendship Church

On Sunday, June 29, 1980, Youth Sunday was observed at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina. The ushers for the morning service were Larry Dean Cobb, Ricky Strickland, Jeff Moore, and Gregg Sutton.

The Young Woman's Auxiliary honored the anonymous people of the church by dedicating the

flowers to them. The anonymous people included all those who saw odd jobs around the church that needed to be done and did them—such jobs as sweeping the walk, pulling weeds out of the shrubs, picking up old bulletins, and anything that would add beauty and show respect to the church.

After the silent meditation and prayer, the Gospel Chargers from Winterville, North Carolina, took charge of the morning service and presented a message in songs.

DEFENDS EDITORIAL POLICY

The following statement is that of the Rev. Beverly Ballard, who is solely responsible for its contents.

This article is written in response to articles by Ernie W. Waters (June 4) and the Rev. Marvin R. Waters (July 9) regarding the proposal to sign the Civil Compliance Act for The Free Will Baptist Children's Home.

For some time we have heard discussed among our people, laymen and ministers alike, the pros and cons of the decision of the board of directors of The Free Will Baptist Children's Home to recommend the signing of the Civil Compliance Act.

It is not the desire, I am sure, of any leaders in our denomination to cause strife among the members by their group or individual action. They are merely speaking their conscience

My personal feeling concerning this matter will come out at the time we face the issue in our State Convention.

However, I must express myself about these two articles which appeared in **The Free Will Baptist**.

For more than 25 years, I was employed principally in various phases of the newspaper industry. It is out of this experience that I show my feelings in defense of and objection to the articles by Ernie W. Waters and the Rev. Marvin R. Waters.

Just a few days ago (July 4), we observed the birthday of the signing of the Declaration of Independence for The United States of America. Most of us preachers used this occasion to speak out for patriotism. We talked of our freedoms, our democracy, our forefathers and

their great contributions to a struggling nation.

Along with the freedoms listed in the Constitution of the United States is the freedom of speech. Next to the freedom to worship, which is intertwined with the freedom of speech, is the fact that we are permitted to "sound off" about those things we like or dislike in our nation.

So, while I do not agree with most of the June 4 article entitled "Opposition to the Proposal Concerning the Children's Home," I do agree with its author in her right to speak her conscience. I feel that she failed to make her point of opposition because her attitude bespeaks unchristian-like feelings and the article was not fully based on factual information.

One basic prerequisite to the freedom of speech is that **WHILE I MIGHT NOT AGREE WITH WHAT ONE SAYS, I AGREE TO DISAGREE.**

Now, we turn to Brother Marvin Waters' article. We agree mostly with the statements written in the article, but we must disagree with our good friend's attitude toward **The Free Will Baptist** paper and its officials.

We learned this in our years of reporting the news and publishing the editorial expressions of our readers: **TO SUPPRESS THE NEWS IS TO DENY THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH.**

Editorial prerogatives are permitted. I am sure the editor of **The Free Will Baptist**, Tommy Manning, would allow no article

to appear that would defame God or go against our moral principles and denominational beliefs. But, because this publication is one to which subscribers are sought and it is financed principally by Free Will Baptists, then the editor is obliged to print articles that meet pre-set standards, regardless of the context of the article.

In other words, we feel our people must be enlightened as to both sides of the intent and results of whatever action is taken by our denomination in its convention next September. And in order to get "both sides" out, it is the duty of **The Free Will Baptist** to publish the feelings of the individual members of the denomination.

Therefore, I would hesitate to withhold any viewpoint just because that viewpoint might be contrary to the established facts. Furthermore, we stand behind our denominational publication and praise its attempts to be fair in printing both sides of any question.

It is impossible for **The Free Will Baptist** to print all articles. We know that by personal experience. This article may not get into print. We do have certain limitations and the costs of publications have skyrocketed in recent years. But, when all is said and done, **WE FEEL THE EDITOR AND THOSE RESPONSIBLE PERSONS** at the paper do their best to serve **ALL FREE WILL BAPTISTS** in a commendable way.

WILLING

O Lord, help me to be willing—
to receive what thou givest, to
lack what thou withholdest, to
relinquish what thou takest,
to surrender what thou
claimest, to suffer what thou
ordainest, to do what thou
commandest, to wait until
thou sayest, "Go."

—Uncle Ben's Quotebook

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

MORE QUESTIONS ON FEDERAL FUNDING

The question of Federal funding and guidelines continues to come up. We recently did a study in response to some of these questions and the following facts came to light as a result of our study.

1. No children's home in this state has used Federal funding to build any buildings of any kind, nor do they intend to apply for any in the future.
2. According to state officials, there is no Federal money available for building projects on children's home campuses.
3. No children's home has in the past or in the present received any direct Federal funding. All public funding comes through state agencies and the responsibility for following governmental guidelines falls upon the agency dispensing the funds.
4. Title I funds for deprived children would be available through the county school system ESEA funds and would provide tutors and materials for our children. The funds are administered through the school system and not through our budget; therefore, accountability for the funds lies with the school system.
5. Much has already been said about county support payments. They, too, are administered by the county which has sole accountability for these funds.
6. Several homes have been able to acquire vans for transportation through the North Carolina Department of

Transportation on a 10 percent-90 percent cost sharing basis. There are funds for these vehicles available to rural public and private agencies who serve deprived citizens. Mileage records must be kept for a 3-year period on these vehicles. After the 3-year period is passed the vehicle becomes the property of the Home.

7. Another home was able to lease a van through a similar program for \$2 per year. Mileage records are to be kept and at the end of 3 years or 140,000 miles the vehicle is replaced with a new one.

Most children's home directors feel that the benefits of the programs and services offered through the counties far exceed the documentation such as mileage records that is involved. All directors stated again that their agencies had had no difficulty or encumbrances from the use of county and state funds for educational, nutritional, and transportation purposes. As inflation continues to play havoc with our economy, these benefits would be important to our Home. We would in no way become dependent on these funds but their availability would enhance the lives of our children. If at such time there were unfavorable guidelines on any of these programs including county support payments, we could withdraw our cooperation with the programs and also decide not to receive any more county-placed children.

Our basic freedoms of self-control are in no way endangered. There are no long-term contracts required for any of these services. There is no

reason to fear any unwanted interference from the government in any way.

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS QUARTERLY REPORT

(April, May, June, 1980 - \$43,725.10)

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Albemarle Sunday School Convention	\$ 62.13
Cape Colony Mission	29.32
Free Union	94.00
Hickory Chapel	477.00
Malachi's Chapel	275.00
Mount Tabor	323.51
Mount Zion	300.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	165.17
Plymouth, First	350.00
Shiloh	41.20
Sidney	135.14
Sound Side	123.25
Saint Paul	225.00
Trinity	200.00
Union Chapel	100.48
Union Meeting	19.72
Total	\$ 2,920.92

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	\$ 110.00
Casey's Chapel	138.25
Catalpa Mission	25.00
Eastwood	269.63
Eastover	8.72
Goldsboro, First	6.60
Haymont	108.96
Hopewell	335.99
Johnston Union	551.50
Lee's Chapel	391.36
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	53.74
Oak Grove	300.00
Palmer Memorial	142.64
Riverside	220.00
Saint Mary's Grove	100.00
Saint Paul	20.00
Shady Grove	173.00
Tee's Chapel	57.67
Victory Mission	36.50
Wooten's Chapel	84.35
Total	\$ 3,133.91

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	\$ 709.00
Ayden	365.00
Bethany	132.00
Black Jack	567.20
Community	46.10
Daniels Chapel	317.50
Dawson's Grove	20.00
Dilda's Grove	317.50
Edgewood	113.60
Free Union	1,109.40
Friendship	1,527.70
Grimsley	53.00
Gum Swamp	274.50

(Continued on Page 14)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

PAUL PALMER INSTITUTE OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

(A Program of Study for both Ministers and Laymen) Mount Olive College

Fall Semester—First Session—August 25—October 13 (Mondays)
Henderson Building-Room 115

"Evangelism" 7:00-8:15 P. M. The Rev. Harold Jones
A study on how to witness and share the gospel with other people
(3 units of Institute credits)

"The Gospels" 8:30-9:45 P. M. Dr. Michael R. Pelt
A study of the Four Gospels and the Life of Christ
(3 units of Institute credits)

Second Session—October 20—December 8 (Mondays)
"Introduction to Apocalyptic Writings" 7:00-8:15 P. M. Dr. Michael R. Pelt
A study of the Books of Daniel and Revelation
(3 units of Institute credits)
"Christian Faith and Ethical Issues" 8:30-9:45 P. M. The Rev. Frank Harrison
A study of the Christian faith and its implications for living a Christian life
(3 units of Institute credits)

Costs (Payable at First Class)

Paul Palmer Institute Courses may be taken for credit or audited (non-credit).
Credit: \$20 per course plus a one-time registration fee of \$10
Audit: \$10 per course

College Courses

In addition to programs of study through the Paul Palmer Institute, regular college courses are also available at night for both ministers and laymen who wish to prepare for more effective Christian service. Full information may be obtained by contacting the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Chaplain, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phones: (919) office 658-2502; home 658-9363.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY AT PALMER MEMORIAL CHURCH

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will visit Palmer Memorial Free Will Baptist Church near Garner, on Sunday, July 20, in observance of "Christian Education Sunday."

At 9:45 a. m. he will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes using as his subject, "The Ministry of Mount Olive College in Christian Higher Education." He will also be the speaker for the morning worship service.

The Rev. Danny Braswell is pastor of Palmer Memorial church.

RETIREMENT HOMES

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

June, 1980

\$1,892.80

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

CAPE FEAR	
Catalpa Mission	\$ 25.00
Eastover Mission	17.45
Johnston Union	498.00
Total	<u>\$540.45</u>

CENTRAL	
Friendship	\$250.00
Central Union Number 2	100.00
Reedy Branch	28.70
Tarboro, First	75.00
Williamston, First	33.65
Total	<u>\$487.35</u>

EASTERN	
Davis	\$100.00
Dublin Grove	15.00
Holly Springs	150.00
Sandy Plain	300.00
Spring Hope	50.00
Welcome Home	50.00
White Oak Grove	25.00
Total	<u>\$ 690.00</u>

PEE DEE	
Mount Calvary	\$ 50.00
Total	<u>\$ 50.00</u>

PIEDMONT	
Christ	\$ 50.00
Total	<u>\$ 50.00</u>

WESTERN	
Piney Grove	\$ 25.00
Pleasant Hill	50.00
Total	<u>\$ 75.00</u>

A Concerned Reader Writes

(Continued from Page 5)

expansion or closing of the Children's Home but as individual Christians who are responsible to God for each privilege that He has given. Paul exhorted the Corinthians, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves" (2 Corinthians 13:5).

The area meetings provided an opportunity for learning, spiritual growth and inventory. How many have taken advantages of looking beyond today?

Lillian Stanley
Raleigh, North Carolina

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For July 27

GOD'S MESSAGE OF COMFORT AND STRENGTH

Lesson Text: Isaiah 40:1-11

Memory Verse: Isaiah 41:10

I. INTRODUCTION

In recent weeks our lessons have dealt with the decline of Judah, the destruction of Jerusalem, and Babylonian captivity for the survivors. Attempts had been made to halt the headlong rush toward ruin. Occasionally prophets and kings (consider Hezekiah and Josiah) called on the nation to turn from evil, but the people persisted in wickedness. The judgment of God, therefore, fell upon the nation.

Now the people of Israel were in great distress. Jerusalem lay in ruins, only a sad memory to those of the exiles now growing old in Babylon. The devout among them were deeply troubled by the paganism of their surroundings, for they lived in a land of idols and of idol worship. A new generation had been born, in no way responsible for the sins that brought the exile. Why must they be second-rate citizens in a land not their own? Or, worse, "a people plundered and despoiled; . . . hidden away in prisons; . . . a prey with none to deliver them" (Isaiah 42:22, **New American Standard Bible**). Their fathers spoke of God's promises to Israel, but what hope had they now?

Over a hundred years before the fall of Jerusalem, Isaiah had prophesied the deportation of the Jews (39:5-7). But he had also said that Jerusalem would be

redeemed (1:27). Since in his own day the destruction of Jerusalem lay in the future, his contemporaries were not much concerned. Now that the captivity was a reality, the prophet's words of comfort and hope had great significance. They became a source of encouragement and strength to a people who were beginning to think that they were forgotten of God.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. To be able to understand and appreciate the ministry of the Prophet Isaiah which we study today and next Sunday, we must understand something of the times in which he lived. Therefore, it is important that we take some time at the beginning of this lesson to deal with the political situation in the times of Isaiah.

B. Isaiah was born in Jerusalem about 760 B. C. His active ministry began about 740 B. C., in the year that King Uzziah died. For forty years he preached in his native city, giving to king, princes and the people the burning messages of God. Isaiah has been called the aristocrat of the prophets for two very good reasons. First, he came from a princely line. Second, he was well-educated and had access to the court and high standing with the people of Jerusalem. There is no doubt that his training was the best that was available in his day. Kyle M. Yates said, "His intimate knowledge of the city, the kingdom, the surrounding nations, and the history of the world fitted him to interpret the

meaning of the movements of peoples in the light of God's will." Add to this the fact that he was chosen of God to be a prophet and that God directed him and gave him the message to deliver, then we can begin to understand something of the importance of this great prophet.

—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. "Our lesson for today finds its setting some years after the destruction of Jerusalem. The city is still in ruins, and the exiles are still in Babylon. Many of them are a new generation and have never seen Jerusalem. Yet our Scripture is from the writings of the Prophet Isaiah, who lived a hundred and fifty years or more before this time."

—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

B. This statement is given to show the student how God knew all about what was going to happen both to Israel and Judah, and how He planned their destruction (permitting the enemy to take them) as well as the restoration of Judah. (When the Northern Kingdom, Israel, was taken captive by the Assyrians in 722 B. C. it was never heard of again.) God was using Isaiah to look down the years to the time of this lesson's setting.

C. At the time Isaiah was speaking of these things to come, his countrymen may not have been concerned, since they were to take place so many years after their death, but we may be sure that those who were a part of the Babylonian Captivity would remember his solemn words. His words of comfort would help them greatly.

D. The Book of Isaiah has been divided into two broad parts. In Chapters 1-39 the prophet is looking toward the Babylonian Captivity. In Chapters 40-66 he is looking beyond the captivity to what God has in store for His people. Our lesson is taken from the second section.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

MINISTER COMMENTS ON THE CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE ACT AND THE CHILDREN'S HOME

The following statement is that of Adrian Grubbs, who is solely responsible for its contents.

Yes, every coin has two sides as the article in the June 4, 1980, issue of **The Free Will Baptist** indicated. However, when we speak of the Church and its mission we are no longer talking about coins.

As I see and understand the question before us, our choices have to do with recognizing a need and responding to that need in the name of Christ. Too often, the first question to arise is "What will it cost?" Now, even Jesus said that it is a very foolish person who does not seriously consider the cost of an enterprise (Luke 14:28). But the question is generally raised in a negative way and offered as an excuse for not responding to a perceived need. Jesus also cautioned us about placing monetary value on everything (see Luke 16:13). It may cost considerably now to provide this ministry to needy children, but it may cost more in the long run if we do not. A second question often asked is "Do they deserve it?" The New Testament teaches us to minister to the needs of people, not to judge their character (Matthew 10:42 and 1:1; James 2:1, 9, 15, 16). Human need and the command of God are the only criteria for determining Christian service. Two of the most popular American ripes are government regulations and welfare

chiselers. A lot of emotional energy and contemptuous confusion can be generated with these two topics. Everyone needs something to gripe about occasionally, but our pet peeves and personal prejudices should not even enter the discussion when we are talking about Church mission and Christian service.

Our Children's Home has for many years been a viable ministry of the Original Free Will Baptist Church. Now we are at a crossroads and must decide whether to continue our ministry to needy children. If there is no genuine need, then we should divert all the property, money and energy to where it is needed. But I am convinced from the reports of our Children's Home board and executive director that there is a need for this ministry to continue. In order to perform an effective ministry we must expand our program to meet today's needs and sign the Civil Rights Compliance Act to make our services available to public agencies.

Let us prayerfully examine the facts before us. Let us seriously consider the recommendations of our leaders at the Children's Home. Let us courageously face the challenge before us. And let us base our decision on the need of others and on our Christian duty.

YOUTH

Rejoice, dear youth, rejoice;
Now is the time of cheer;
Thy heart is free from care,
Still free from anxious fear.

Choose well thy path, O youth,
Then walk as pleaseth thee;
The talents lent by God,
Use for eternity!

Remember now, while hope
Still grants thee joy, to serve
Thy Maker, Master, Friend;
Let none thy purpose swerve.

While health and vigor urge
Thy plans to noble deed;
With courage, trust, and faith
The call to action heed.

O let thy life be more
Than idle vanity;
Use youth and all its power
To bless humanity!

—Evangelist Arnold Woodlief

BLESSINGS VERSUS DESTRUCTION

Hear the rain as it falls softly
against the window pane.
See the tormenting flood
destroy all that's in its path.

How cozy the fire on a winter's
cold day.
How frightening the crackle of
the uncontrolled flames.

How sweet the love of Jesus if
you allow Him to live in your
heart.
How devastating the wrath of
God, if He is forced to become
your judge!

—Carol Thigpen Pennell

July is Christian Education Month

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 10)

Greenville, First	345.00
Harrell's Chapel	295.00
Hickory Grove	859.68
Howell Swamp	40.00
Hugo	193.00
Hull Road	300.00
King's Cross Roads	779.97
LaGrange	20.00
Little Creek	185.00
Marlboro	220.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	43.69
Ormondsville	28.00
Otter's Creek	433.88
Owen's Chapel	204.26
Peace	329.50
Piney Grove	297.05
Reedy Branch	633.85
Roanoke Rapids	5.00
Rocky Mount, First	60.00
Rose Hill	195.00
Rose Of Sharon	195.00
Saratoga	5.00
Spring Branch	20.00
Sweet Gum Grove	467.16
Tarboro, First	920.00
Union Number 2	12.76
Union Number 4	45.44
Williamston, First	251.92
Winterville	599.58
Total	\$13,537.57

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	\$ 417.00
Arapahoe	3.00
Bethlehem	500.00
Beulaville	100.00
Bridgeton	208.00
British Chapel	21.00
Cabin	125.00
Christian Chapel	317.54
Core Creek	443.50
Core Point	130.00
Crab Point	45.00
Croatan	100.00
Davis	300.00
Deep Run	216.00
Dublin Grove	235.98
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	40.00
Folkstone	10.00
Friendship	192.02
Gethsemane	240.00
Gray Branch	611.22
Holly Springs	403.78
Hillsberry	45.00
Indian Springs	11.00
Juniper Chapel	76.48
Kinston, First	289.00
Laniers Chapel	171.26
Long Ridge	100.00
Macedonia	450.00
May's Chapel	1,030.00
Moseley's Creek	51.00
Mount Zion (Onslow)	50.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	100.00
New Haven	172.48

Northeast	191.65
Otway	108.74
Pearsall Chapel	170.00
Pilgrims Rest	100.00
Reunion Chapel	100.00
Rock of Zion	476.37
Rooty Branch	120.00
Sarecta	180.00
Sandy Plain	300.00
Sneads Ferry	100.00
Smyrna	75.00
Spring Hope	60.00
St. Mary's	325.00
Union Number 3	185.00
Union Number 5	15.11
Vanceboro, First	524.00
Verona	100.00
Wardens Grove	31.19
Warsaw, First	10.00
Whaleys Chapel	50.00
White Hill	25.00
White Oak Grove	25.00
Wintergreen	500.00
Total	\$10,977.32

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Beaverdam	\$ 525.00
Cypress Creek	175.00
Emerson	197.06
Mount Calvary	100.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	30.00
Oak Grove	220.99
Thomasboro	100.00
Union Number 1	100.00
Total	\$ 1,448.05

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

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Calvary	220.82
Baptist Cathedral	100.00
Community	98.27
East Rockingham	121.00
Heritage Mission	80.00
Highland Pines	330.00
Holy Cross	20.00
Hopewell	120.00
Total	\$ 1,135.09

ROCKFISH CONFERENCE

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Total	\$ 10.00

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE

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Total	\$ 72.47

WESTERN CONFERENCE

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Calvary	375.00
Elwood Lane	122.48
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Fremont	166.25
Free Union	104.00
Friendship	400.00
Kenly	260.00

Little Rock	502.50
Marsh Swamp	175.00
Memorial Chapel	305.50
Micro	140.00
Milbournie	434.00
Mount Zion (Nash)	140.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	25.76
New Sandy Hill	75.00
People's Chapel	145.00
Pine Level	75.44
Piney Grove	170.00
Pleasant Grove	15.00
Pleasant Hill	274.00
Pleasant Plain	175.00
Rock Springs	40.00
Rosebud	94.25
Selma	5.00
St. Mary's	583.23
Sherron Acres	650.00
Spring Hill	20.00
Stancil's Chapel	484.89
Stoney Creek	75.00
Stony Hill	300.00
Trinity	970.00
Union Chapel	102.50
Union Number 1	75.00
Union Number 2	50.00
Union Grove	221.50
Unity	50.00
Watson's Grove	50.00
Wilson, First	1,175.00
Western District Youth Fellowship	50.00
Total	\$ 9,839.46

OTHER RELIGIOUS

Wilson First	\$ 32.50
Middlesex Methodist, Lee's Chapel Baptist, Middlesex Baptist	94.55
Wilwood	53.16
Beaufort Mission	5.00
Nola Ann Dolinger— Trinity Baptist	85.50
Hornes WSCS	20.00
Bim Ladies Aid	20.00
Total	\$ 310.71

OTHER STATES

Boone County Youth League	\$ 100.00
Laurel City Sunday School	76.52
Total	\$ 176.52

STATEWIDE

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	
Christian Service Fund	\$ 163.08
Total	\$ 163.08

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DIVORCE AND THE CHURCH

(Continued from Page 4)

preferable to the previous one. There are other legal matters that are involved in divorce.

Legal fees, court costs, alimony, child custody, are tremendous problems in a divorce proceeding. Legal fees can easily run into thousands of dollars for both partners. Much of the legal cost depends upon whether or not the divorce is contested and the amount of possessions to be divided between the partners. Children too are almost treated like property. The court has to decide which partner will be given custody of the children. But an alternative to single parent custody is joint-custody in which both partners assume equal responsibility for their children. Tragically, the children suffer either way and as if they hadn't suffered enough, they are often used by the partners to get back at each other.

There are many other things that should be taken into consideration concerning the problem of divorce, but they reach beyond the limitations of this article. With all these things in mind, I will turn to the application of Christian ethical norms to the problem of divorce in the second and third parts of this article.

Footnotes

¹ Wayne E. Oates. "The Church, Divorce, and Remarriage," in *Review and Expositor*, Spring 1964, Vol. LXI No. 2, p. 46.

² Margaret Mead. "Too Many Divorces, Too Soon," in *Readings in Human Development: 1976-1977*. Annual editions, eds. Anne Kilbride and others. (Guilford, Conn.: The Duskin Publishing Co., 1976), p. 217.

³ Oates, p. 49.

⁴ James G. Emerson, Jr. "Marriage and Remarriage: Questions About Forgiveness," in *Sex, Family, and Society: In Theological Focus*, ed. J. C. Wynn (New York: Association Press, 1966), p. 141.

⁵ Emerson, p. 152.

⁶ Emerson, p. 153.

⁷ Michael Wheeler. *No-Fault Divorce* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1974), p. 2.

⁸ Wheeler, p. 8.

⁹ Wheeler, p. 19.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. CLARA H. EDWARDS

Clara Hinnant Edwards passed away at the age of 72 on May 26, 1980, after a short illness.

She left behind to mourn her loss, a host of friends as well as her husband, C. D. (Des); two sons, Nelson and Marion; three grandchildren, Neil, Helyn, Marion Jr. (Charlie Brown); two sisters, Mrs. Gurney Edwards and Mrs. Millard Snipes; and one brother, Charles Hinnant; all of Kenly, North Carolina.

She was the daughter of the late H. A. and Mero Hinnant of Kenly.

She was a very active member of the Kenly Free Will Baptist Church and had been since the age of 13.

In her earlier years she served her Lord by working with the young people, teaching Sunday school, and working in Bible school. She later taught the Adult Ladies' Class for several years.

She was one of the organizers of the Woman's Auxilliary and until her death she was a very active member, having served in several different offices.

At the time of her death, she was serving as corresponding

secretary of the Noble Crumpler Sunday School Class and filled in whenever needed at the piano for prayer meeting and Sunday school.

Her presence will be missed by everyone as she was always in her place to do whatever she could for her fellowman.

OUR SISTER

While our eyes are filled with tears,
and our hearts are heavy with grief;

She is in Heaven walking the golden streets.

Heaven is a much better place today,
Because she is there helping the angels
sing "Amazing Grace."

Her face on earth we'll see no more.

Her voice we will not hear;
But the sweet memory we have of her
will always be very dear.

In this world she did her very best,
And we feel for sure she is at rest.

She was a good wife, mother, and
sister,

And loved the Lord Jesus Christ as her
Saviour.

We love you dear Clara very much.
But God loved you more so He took
you home to suffer no more,
There is a vacant spot on this earth
today that no one can fill,
But we must accept your death as
being God's will.

We miss you dear Sister, more than we
can say:

But in Heaven we will see you some
sweet day.

Written by her sisters and brother,
Lucille H. Snipes
Marie H. Edwards
Charles Hinnant

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

alluded to God's goodness—something almost everybody recognizes. But, if the Lord's name is not taken in vain here, it is at the very least used in error. And it has nothing to do with the scruples of a restaurant owner, for the owner (or manager) may indeed be making hollow statements, without really caring whether or not God is interested in anyone.

It behooves us, then, to evaluate such statements, whether printed or spoken. We suggest that they have no place in Christian practice or acceptance, unless used properly. And they cannot be used properly unless they are used in prayer. Idly spoken, whether whispered or exclaimed, they are blasphemous.

The next time you see such a sign or hear such an utterance, consider whether or not it is your Christian duty to voice your disapproval. Think about it.

THE LATE GREAT PLANET EARTH

Hal Lindsey with C. C. Carlson

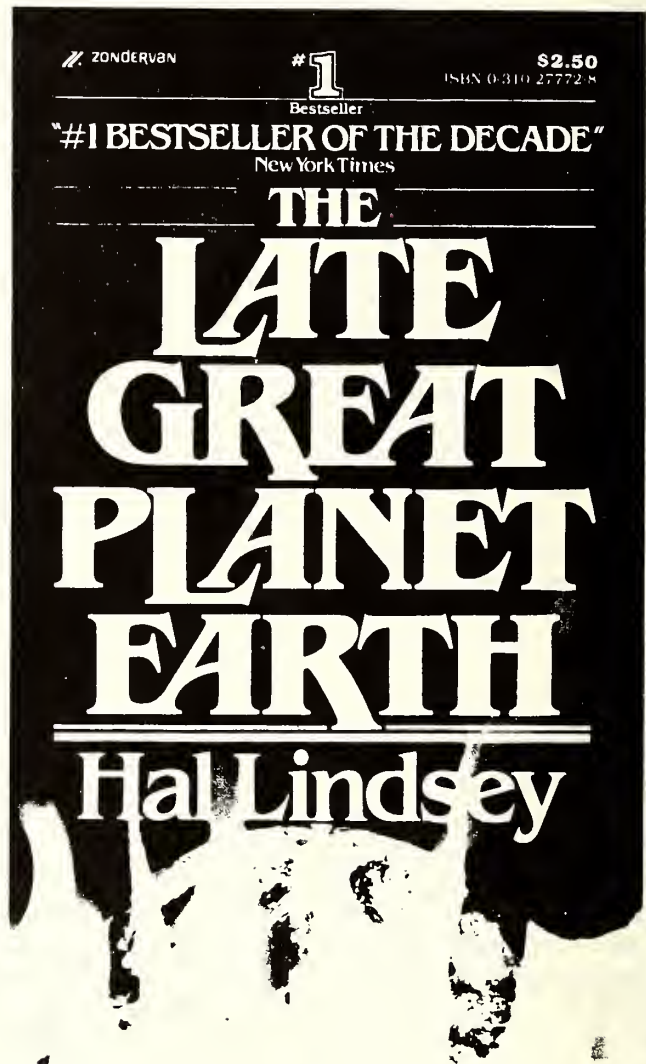
A penetrating examination of the incredible prophecies involving this generation.

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The authors contend that there are certain signs predicted by the Bible which are to usher in mankind's final destiny. **The Late Great Planet Earth** points out the fact that world developments are already fulfilling most of the conditions set forth by the ancient prophets such as: the rebirth of Israel, the increase in natural catastrophes, the threat of nuclear war, overpopulation, pollution and widespread disease and famine. They point out that these events are key signals for the coming of the antichrist . . . and the final global conflict that will bring man to the brink of destruction and to the threshold of man's final destiny.

HAL LINDSEY, a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary, majored in the New Testament and early Greek literature. He traveled to major universities in the United States and abroad as a staff member of Campus Crusade for Christ, speaking to thousands of college students. Lindsey began his writing career in 1970 with **The Late Great Planet Earth**. His other books include **Satan Is Alive and Well on Planet Earth**, **The Liberation of Planet Earth**, **The Terminal Generation**, and **There's a New World Coming**.

CAROLE C. CARLSON describes herself as a mother, grandmother and businesswoman. A free-lance writer, she is the author of several books, and the co-author of **The Late Great Planet Earth** and **Satan Is Alive and Well on Planet Earth**. She currently lives and works in Southern California.



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Before you criticize the pace,
try on the shoes . . .



**“There is a common evil;
at one time or other we have
all done wrong.**

**Either we are, or have been, or may be,
as bad as he whom we
condemn.”**

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

JUL 24 1980

—Mantuanus

DURHAM, N.C.

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

EXHORT, IF YOU MUST—BUT IN THE SPIRIT OF MEEKNESS

No one should claim to have the answer to every problem in the world, nor should he project such an image through his attitude. The person is ill-advised who thinks he knows it all.

He who criticizes, as with authority, without due consideration of the person, the problem, the outcome, and an overview of the whole situation is really being shortsighted. If not spiritually blind, he is at the very least not seeing clearly.

Spiritual enlightenment allows, even mandates, that the individual discern in a broader, fuller way, and at the same time be able to see the whys and wherefores of personal feeling—whether or not the criticizer shares the same conviction. In short, one must grasp understanding before he can lead aright.

To criticize the **person** more severely than his **sin** is totally wrong. It employs a literary device called **ad hominem**, appealing to a person's feelings or prejudices rather than his intellect, and attacking **character** rather than **contention** (or argument). Let none of us be guilty of such.

The Lord's Word offers advice which should be followed by all. If heeded, it will soften tensions, promote good will, and eventually (if not immediately) lead to a resolution of the problem of divisiveness. "If one be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted" (see Galatians 6:1).

Mercy and feeling must be extended to all who err. Otherwise, how dare we insist that the Spirit of God lives in us? We all remember the unforgiving servant, who, after having gained the forgiveness of his master, refused to show mercy to his own debtor. How much like the inconsiderate servant have many of us become!

In *De honesto Amore*, the poet Mantuanus probably assesses the situation for all of us:

"There is a common evil;
at one time or other we have
all done wrong.
Either we are, or have been, or may be,
as bad as he whom we condemn."

The Lord said it this way: "Love one another" and "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." If we are not willing to "restore" in the right attitude, with the right motive—help the erring and help him carry his burden to the Lord—then we have not fulfilled the law of Christ that we so ardently preach.

Because, perhaps, of enthusiasm, fervent zeal, or strength of conviction, many Christian people feel that they have censorious rights—and maybe they do have such rights. But

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July 23, 1980

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Tommy Manning
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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DIVORCE and the CHURCH

Part II

“The misuse of human freedom for self-centered purposes has disrupted the whole created order, which includes marriage.”

by Bass Mitchell

BEFORE we consider a Christian response to divorce, we must have some idea of the Christian conception of marriage. The historical position of the church on marriage and divorce has not been a unified one, and this is still true today. Throughout much of the history of the church, marriage has been seen as a necessary institution for the control of sexual desire. Saint Augustine expounded such a view in the fourth-century and it had a tremendous influence on the church. Celibacy and virginity became signs of holiness and as a necessary step closer to living the ideal Christian life. Those who aspired to become priests or nuns were required to take vows of celibacy, which means that they were not allowed to marry. These traditions are still maintained in the Roman Catholic Church today. It is somewhat ironic that the Roman Catholic Church considers marriage a sacrament through which God's grace is expressed, yet forbids the priesthood to partake of this sacrament. This view of marriage dominated the church until the Protestant Reformation in the sixteenth, which denied the sacramental nature of marriage and allowed Protestant ministers to marry.

The Christian conception of marriage grows out of its understanding of the purpose of

God in creation. Human beings are creatures like all creatures, yet different, for they are made in the image of God. This image of God is partly expressed in the relational nature of human existence. Human beings are created with the capacity and the need for relationship. We are inseparably bound to each other in a common bond of creatureliness. The child is conceived in relationship and spends the rest of his life in relationships. Human life as we know it would not be possible without relationships. We most fully discover what it means to be human and inhuman in our relationships. The best in us comes through in love, fidelity, trust, self-giving, and commitment, while the worst in us expresses itself in hatred, jealousy, prejudice, self-centeredness, and unfaithfulness. It is impossible to conceive of these things apart from relationships. I know of no relationship which provides the potential for the discovery of and expression of the best in humanity than marriage; it equally provides the potential for the expression of the greatest evil. According to the Genesis story, man and woman are a unity, each only partly whole without the other. In this sense the church sees marriage as “two becoming one.” Marriage is a covenant of fidelity and

commitment between a man and woman made within an even greater commitment to God. “A covenant is itself a condition that the parties of the relation enter into with mutual respect and affection. On the basis of that respect and affection, they commit themselves in trust of one another to cooperation. Finding the trust fulfilled in that cooperation enhances the respect and affection, and this in turn enhances the commitment and trust for fuller cooperation. In a covenant this enhancement of mutual trust and commitment, respect, affection and cooperation lays a basis of intimacy, as well as the sense of being at one with each other.”¹⁰ This covenant is ideally thought of as being perpetual as expressed in the sayings of Jesus concerning marriage and divorce. These sayings are at the heart of the church's struggle with the problem of divorce. There are four passages in the Gospels which refer to marriage, they are as follows:

A. Mark 10:11f: And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

B. Luke 16:18: Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery,

Turn the Page

and he who marries a woman divorced from her husband commits adultery.

C. Matthew 5:32: But I say to you that every one who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, makes her an adulteress; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

D. Matthew 19:9: And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another, commits adultery. (Revised Standard Version)

It would take another paper to properly exegete these passages, so it must suffice to say that Jesus believed that it was God's intention in creation that marriage be a permanent union. The emphasis in these verses is not on divorce but on the goodness and sacredness of marriage in the eyes of God. If you compare these verses you will notice one significant difference. We see in Matthew that an exemption clause, "except for unchastity," has been included in both passages. It is thought that Matthew is copying Mark, perhaps the earliest gospel, and has seen fit to insert this exemption clause; if not, then Matthew may be using another source which has this clause. Despite the source, this clause is at odds with Mark and Luke who make no exemption for unchastity or any other reason. When we turn to Paul's thought on marriage we see that he too recognized that permanency was the ideal for marriage, but he found that an exemption had to be made when a Christian was married to a non-Christian and the non-Christian desired to end the marriage (see 1 Corinthians 7). These differences come from the problems and new situations in which the church found itself having to address. The vital question is what happens when God's ideal union in marriage is broken or not realized? The Scripture does not provide one uniform answer to

this question as we have seen from the differences expressed therein. One thing is certain, we cannot make Jesus into a new and greater Pharisee and his teachings a new Torah. "Those who read his words about divorce as literal law ought, in all honesty, to interpret his other teaching in the same manner; for example, his words about selling all our goods and giving to the poor, and his injunction to non-resistance. It is odd to find men so literal on one point and so liberal on others."¹¹ The problem is an old one, the relationship between law and gospel, the ideal for human life and the realities of human fallibility and sin. Jesus knew the law and the ideal, but the spirit of his teaching and actions show that they might be set aside when they inhibit the communication of God's love and grace.¹² The law said that the woman caught in the act of adultery should be stoned, but Jesus set the law aside in order to forgive her. The duty of the church is "to make the ideal of permanence of marriage both meaningful and attractive to people and to repair the damage to this ideal that is done in the process of ignorance, immaturity, and hardness of heart that eventuates in divorce."¹³ Whenever the church gets caught up in legalism, it always neglects the "weightier matters of the law; justice, mercy, and honesty." But the opposite extreme is also possible, when the church becomes so "liberal" that it can no longer be the prophetic voice of the community holding up the ideal for human life. Such a view does not take divorce very seriously and thus obscures the need that is often present for repentance. The literal view is so judgmental that it inhibits the administration of God's grace.

Divorce can be seen as a sign of God's judgment. I have mentioned earlier the suffering and tragedy that accompanies divorce. Is this not evidence of

God's judgment? The misuse of human freedom for self-centered purposes has disrupted the whole created order, which includes marriage. The result is broken relationship. The insight that two must become one is significant. Two self-centered selves cannot exist in a marriage; they must grow toward unity or alienation. The church is under judgment too, when it becomes so legalistic that the alienation is deepened and forgiveness driven farther away. "If it is true that over 90 percent of the persons seeking to be married prefer that a minister perform the ceremony, then the church itself has been negligent in giving pre-marital guidance and counseling aimed to prevent divorce."¹⁴ Repentance is called for on the part of the couple and the church. The church can respond in many ways. One is through the educational process, teaching youth the Christian conception of sex and marriage. A second way is to require the ordained ministry to be trained in pre-marital and marital counseling. Third, the minister and the church have a responsibility to determine the reasons why a couple desires the church to bless their marriage. If they are only nominal Christians, then the minister should help them establish a more durable relationship with the church.¹⁵ Fourth, Wayne Oates suggests that the minister may refuse to marry the couple who do not express a commitment to the Christian faith; he does not do rush job weddings; he must not neglect them after the marriage; and he should render guidance in all aspects of married life from finance and Christian stewardship to sex and parenthood.¹⁶ Fifth, the church can center activities around the family to foster Christian fellowship, understanding, and communication. This would include a liturgy that would speak to the needs of the family within the

(Continued on Page 13)

QUESTIONS "RESPONSIBILITY" OF PUBLISHING

The following statement is that of Marvin R. Waters, who is solely responsible for its contents.

To: "Letter to the Editor" **The Free Will Baptist**
Re: "Editorial Policy" article in **The Free Will Baptist** of July 16, 1980

Brother Beverly Ballard has presented a well written article concerning the issue of "freedom of speech." I commend him for making some response to the article that I wrote in rebuttal to the article written by Mrs. Eracie Waters.

Let me say, however, that my written comments about the editorial policy were not without any thoughts to the question of freedom of speech. In fact, I too am concerned for any individual's right to freedom in saying what he or she wants to say. But here is the question that keeps coming to my mind: "Does freedom of speech mean that I am responsible to publish anything and everything than an individual says, just because that person has the right to say it?"

Some other questions emerge: "Where do your rights mean more than your responsibilities?" Everyone has inalienable rights, granted. "Is there a difference between a secular newspaper and a denominational publication whose purpose is to promote the cause of Christ?" Perhaps I am wrong (and I have been many many times), but my honest feelings lead me to believe that there is a great deal of difference. "If we are a Christian concern, is it our responsibility to publish articles

that promote hatred or bigotry toward other peoples who are of different races?" "Are we responsible to publish articles written by (Hugh Heffner) (unsure of spelling) or Larry Flynt promoting the so called "playboy philosophy?" After all, Flynt "claims" to be a born-again Christian. "Are they merely presenting the other side of the coin?" No, I certainly do not think it is my responsibility to promote by publishing anything that runs against the grain of the Scriptures that teach that "God so loved the world" My question then, is not a question of the lady's right to right to say what she pleases. My question concerns our responsibility in **HAVING TO PRINT IT!!!** Never once have I questioned the integrity of our staff at the Press. In my letter I only said that in "this situation" I thought a mistake had been made in the publishing of the letter. Both the editor and the manager of the Press are good friends. I shall continue in my Church to promote the ministry of the Press. But again, I do not feel that we are responsible to promote by publishing anything that anyone says merely because they have the freedom to say it! Perhaps my closing statement sounds harsh but it is true: If our **RESPONSIBILITY** to print such material is based on the fact that it sells more subscriptions, and we have to do this in order to keep the paper afloat, then yes we have violated serious moral principles, yes we have defamed

God, and yes we have brought disgrace upon our denominational beliefs.

Sincerely,
Marvin R. Waters
Pinetown, North Carolina

P. S. I continue to respect your **RIGHT** to publish or not to publish those things that will lend credence to and promote the cause of Christ.

Current Happenings at

Mount Olive College

STATEMENT REGARDING IRANIAN STUDENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The following statement was released today, July 12, 1980:

"The Administrative Council at Mount Olive College voted July 10 not to admit or re-admit any Iranian students until the American hostages are released and proper diplomatic relations have been re-established between Iran and the United States.

"This decision is neither a hasty nor hostile reaction to Iranian students in America but is rather a sober expression of what we believe is our duty to our Country and the representatives of our Nation who are being held prisoners in Iran.

"Academic freedom is the foundation of higher education as we know it in America, but academic freedom can survive only where there is political freedom. Mount Olive College chooses not to provide a platform for those who support the unlawful and unjust imprisonment of our citizens.

"We take this course of action with reluctance but with the conviction that it is right."

W. Burkette Raper
President

Surprise Anniversary Party Honors Pastor and His Wife



The Rev. and Mrs. Clyde Nations Jr.

White Oak Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro, North Carolina, honored their pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Clyde Nations Jr. with a surprise social in honor of their twenty-third wedding anniversary on July 2, in the fellowship hall of the church.

The church presented the couple with a beautiful coffee server for their anniversary. They also received many other useful gifts.

Mr. Nations came to White Oak church as pastor on January 8, 1980, from Bryson City, North Carolina. He and Mrs. Nations have five children. They are Randy, who lives in Hickory, Carla, who lives in Bryson City, and Teresa, Hope, and Leigh, who live in Bladenboro with their parents.

Ordination Service at Branch Chapel Church

On Sunday, July 6, 1980, Ernie Wayne Price was ordained to preach the gospel. This event marks history for Branch Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

The service opened by the congregation singing "Love Lifted

Me." The Rev. Luby Tyner, father-in-law of Mr. Price, prayed the opening prayer. Mr. Price recognized the Rev. Jerry Taylor, a friend, for comments and devotion.

The Rev. Ashley Turner, pastor of Branch Chapel church preached the ordination sermon. Mr. Turner charged Mr. Price to preach the Word and to stand firm on the Doctrine of the Free Will Baptist as written in our Faith and Discipline.

The Rev. J. B. Godwin presented the questions to Mr. Price.

The Rev. Charles L. Renfrow presented Mr. Price with the Bible, a gift from Branch Chapel church, and charged him to use the sword and study to "show himself approved, a workman that needed not to be ashamed."

The Rev. Roland Cherry presented Mr. Price with the Certificate of Ordination.

The Rev. Ray Wells prayed the prayer of dedication with the laying on of hands by the deacons from Branch Chapel and Pleasant Plain churches and all ordained ministers present.

Mr. Price is pastor of Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church on Route 2, Selma. He is married to the former Peggy Tyner and they have one daughter.

Mr. Turner and the members of Branch Chapel church request prayers for Mr. Price and the four others from the church who have answered God's call and are presently preparing themselves for ordination.

Couple's Prayer Retreat Held At Camp Vandemere

A Couple's Prayer Retreat for husbands and wives of any age will be held at Camp Vandemere, August 15, 16, 1980. The retreat will offer in-depth prayer

study time, discussion, and fellowship that will greatly enrich lives; just ask those who attended last year. Special times will be set aside for private husband-wife communication with one another and with God.

The retreat will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, August 15, and will end at 1 p. m., on Saturday, August 16. The cost is \$20 per couple. Send name and address to the Rev. Ray Williamson, Route 1, Box 3, Grantsboro, North Carolina 28529 or call 745-3993 by August 9, 1980, to preregister.

Heaven Bound to Be At Hugo Church

The Heaven Bound will present a special program of music and song at the Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Grifton, North Carolina, on July 27, at 7 p. m. The Rev. Tom Miller, pastor, and the members extend an invitation to all friends and neighbors to attend.

Successful Bible School at Free Union Church

The Free Union Bible School, Beaufort County, held June 16 through June 20 was a great inspiration to everyone and especially the Junior Class of twenty-nine students.

The director, Mrs. Ellaree Radcliffe was happy to report an average attendance of 95 for the week. The course was entitled "Jesus, I Believe in You" with the theme "Miracles of Jesus." The commencement was held the following Sunday night at 7 p. m. with each department taking part. The song leader was Miss Tammy Whitley and pianist was Mr. Patrick Best. Our craft department had a great week with Mrs. Ann Everette.

Many of the young people have made first time decisions for Christ since Bible school.

Have you renewed your **Free Will Baptist** subscription?

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

THE CHALLENGE OF THE 80'S THE CHILDREN'S HOME BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION

On May 28, 1980, the Board of Directors of the Children's Home met in regular session at the Children's Home. After a review of the responses to the position paper, **The Challenge of the '80s**, and the area meetings held around the state, the Board voted 8 to 3, with one member abstaining, to ask that the Convention allow the Children's Home Board to sign the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964. The Executive Committee has placed the Children's Home report after lunch on the first day of the Convention, Wednesday, September 17, 1980, to allow ample time for discussion. It is our hope that this matter can be brought to the floor, discussed and voted upon in this time period so as not to inconvenience anyone.

The Children's Home Board arrived at this decision for the following reasons:

- The State Convention voted in a special call session in 1970 to ask the Children's Home to withdraw from Compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964;
- The Children's Home Board complied with the wishes of the Convention;
- The Children's Home has experienced most of the adverse effects predicted over the past decade as a result of not complying with the Civil Rights law;
- Recent revisions in the statutes place the responsibility of placement of homeless children with the county departments of Social

Services resulting in fewer available private placements and a significant drop in our campus population;

- The best possible care for the children we are now serving is hampered by our inability to work with counties;
- The need for Christian child care is as great, if not greater, than ever before;
- Our Children's Home is equipped and staffed to meet the needs of the dependent, neglected, and abused child available for care today;
- Our Children's Home has the financial base necessary to care for a larger number of children than will be available through private resources;
- The major obstacle hindering us from serving a larger number of children **and offering the best quality services to those we do have is our inability to receive children from and work with the counties;**
- Our efforts to share the gospel with lost families and children, our efforts to provide for the spiritual, emotional, educational, and physical needs of homeless children is thwarted by our inability to work with the counties;
- Complying with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 would remove these obstacles and would enable us to share God's love with children and families by the hundreds in the next ten years alone;
- Signing the Compliance Act would not bring any unwarranted governmental control since we would be receiving no direct federal

aid;

- We would not be expected to meet any racial quotas;
- We expect no more than 10 percent of our population to be made up of minority children since minority groups have many programs geared to their specific needs and foster homes for minorities are more abundant;
- The desperate need is the care of white, abandoned, dependent, and neglected children.

We encourage our people to give us the opportunity to offer a Christian alternative to several hundred children in the years to come by attending the Convention and voting to support your Board of Directors in its request to be allowed to sign the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964.

Should we not sign the Compliance Act, hundreds of homeless children will be cast adrift in the foster care network of our state or placed in programs that may not meet their needs. Many of the foster homes and alternative programs provided by the counties are no better than the homes the children were removed from. The counties need and want the help of the Christian Children's Homes to rear the next generation of homeless children in this state.

THE ALTERNATIVE

The alternative to the Board of Director's recommendation would be not to allow the signing of the Compliance Act. Should we not be allowed to sign the Compliance Act at this time we could expect the following results:

- Campus population would continue to decrease;
- Planning for many children would be difficult, next to impossible, since we could not work with the counties;
- Since many Free Will Baptist-related children will

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FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, JULY 27

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:
31-39

SHE DIDN'T GIVE UP

Out on the great American desert, an Indian child was lost. There was great fear and excitement. For hours, many searched for the lost child, but to no avail. The searchers began to go silently and sorrowfully away. There was one, however, who would not give up the search—the child's mother. "Not until death reaches me will I stop searching for my lost child," she said. Trudging onward, she finally slumped on the desert sands. When her ear was close to the ground, her keen sense of hearing revealed the faint voice of her crying child. She jumped to her feet and exclaimed, "I have heard my child's cry!" She ran in the direction where the cry came from and mother and child were soon in each other's joyous embrace.

The Bible says that there is joy in the presence of the angels of God when lost souls are found, and when they turn with sorrow to God. How glad we are that the Lord Jesus came to earth to seek and to save that which was lost. Oftentimes even God's children stray, and need to plead the prayer, "I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments" (Psalm 119:176).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it wonderful that God, like the mother in the story above, patiently seeks the lost

and does not give up so easily? Let us thank Him daily for striving with us and giving us salvation.

MONDAY, JULY 28

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 7:15

DARKNESS OR LIGHT?

Once to every man and nation,
Comes the moment to decide,
In the strife of truth with
falsehood,
For the good or evil side,
Some great cause, God's new
Messiah,
Offering each the bloom or
blight,
And the choice goes by forever,
'Twi'x't that darkness and that
light.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Those who know the Lord dwell in light, in the brightness of His glory, and will someday live with Him in that eternal city. The lost dwell apart from Him, grope in darkness, and someday will spend eternity in Hell. If we haven't the light, let us find it quickly while it is still available for us.

TUESDAY, JULY 29

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 13:
33

DADDY HAS ALL THERE IS OF ME!

In returning from Bible conferences, I usually bring little gifts to my girls. One night I came home after they were asleep. Next morning, as I sat in

my study, I could hear overhead the patter of little feet. In a moment the oldest girl bounced into the study and entwined her little arms around my legs. Just then I heard the pitter-patter of little feet on the stair steps. In a moment the youngest little girl came and stood in the door. Tears pearled in her eyes and trickled down her face. She was sad because she had failed to greet me first. The older sister said to her, "See I have all there is of Daddy!" I reached down and took the tearful one in my arms, and folded her to my heart. Looking down at her sister, she said, "You may have all there is of Daddy, but Daddy has all there is of me!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Can anyone say of the Heavenly Father, "He has all there is of me"? We should surely give our all to Him and dedicate our lives to His service.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

Scripture Reading—Psalm 21:1

THE HEART THAT SINGS!

Of all life's good and lovely things
Most precious is a heart that
sings;
That, like a bird in winter's tree,
Chirps anthems of expectancy,
Or in the darkness of the night
Steadfastly proclaims the light.

God's rare and holy gifts abound,
His loving-kindness wraps us
round;
But of all gifts that I would
praise,

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

The peaceful nights, the fruitful days,
All true and good and lovely things,
Most precious is a heart that sings.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The heart can sing when one knows the Lord. He provides happiness so great that it cannot be explained and can be understood only by others who have saving knowledge of Him.

THURSDAY, JULY 31

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 9:22

PASS IT ON

If you hear a kind word spoken
Of some worthy soul you know,
It may fill his heart with sunshine
If you only tell him so.

If a deed, however humble,
Helps you on your way to go,
Seek the one whose hand has helped you,
Seek him out and tell him so.

If your heart is touched and tender
Toward a sinner, lost and low,
It might help him to do better
If you'd only tell him so.

Oh, my sisters, oh, my brothers,
As o'er life's rough path you go,
If God's love has saved and kept you,
Do not fail to tell men so.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The person who is truly saved will want others to know the Lord, too. If we ever find ourselves satisfied to keep Him to ourselves, that is a good sign we are not dedicated to His cause.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:16

I WANT TO LOVE THEE

As an old man was walking to work one morning, Jesus' question to Peter came to his mind: "Simon . . . lovest thou

me?" He wished with all his heart that he could answer as Peter did. He felt sad that he couldn't. Then this thought came to him: "If I cannot say so much as Peter, perhaps I could say, 'Lord, Thou knowest that I do not love Thee.' " He found some comfort in his honest confession. But as he walked along he said, "Lord, Thou knowest that I want to love Thee." He began to think of Christ's great love for him. He thought of Christ's life and of His death as his substitute. From his heart burst forth the affirmation, "Lord, Thou knowest that I do love Thee! He asked Christ to come into his heart and make him a child of God. He went on his way rejoicing—a new creature in Christ Jesus!

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Lord never refuses the sincere, penitent soul. He strives with man because of His great love, not because man is deserving. Let us not neglect our salvation, nor that of others.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

Scripture Reading—Psalm 80:14

LET ME HOLD LIGHTLY

Let me hold lightly
Things of this earth;
Transient treasures,
What are they worth?
Moths can corrupt them,
Rust can decay;
All their bright beauty
Fades in a day.
Let me hold lightly
Temporal things—
I, who am deathless,
I, who wear wings!

Let me hold fast, Lord,
Things of the skies;
Quicken my vision,
Open my eyes!
Show me Thy riches,
Glory, and grace,
Boundless as time is,
Endless as space. . . .
Let me hold lightly
Things that were mine—
Lord, Thou dost give me
All that is Thine!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let no man hold on to the treasures of earth. Let all men prefer, rather, the treasures of Heaven which are eternal.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 7)

be caught in the mandatory placement channels of the counties, we would not be able to serve many of our own people;

—In ten years we will have few children available to us, if any at all, even though there will be hundreds of children needing care through the counties.

Should this be our choice, and we experience the loss of children to serve, it is possible to convert other buildings to retirement apartments. None of our buildings meet Group Rest Home standards; however, and the expense of operating these facilities would far exceed the present income of the

(Continued on Page 13)

Retirement Homes. The regulations on the Group Retirement Homes are more stringent than those on child care.

We remind you again that we are available to go to your church or a group of churches in your area to answer questions concerning this issue. You may call or write us for answers to your questions, as well. We want you to be informed when you attend the Convention this year and we will go to any length to share whatever information is available on the subject.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to seeing each of you at the Convention in September.

CAMP VANDEMERE

Woman's Conference 1980

Nina Grace Register
Eastern District Camp Vandemere
Chairman



"Happiness is . . . a week at Camp Vandemere!"

That view was expressed by a first-time camper at the Woman's Conference in June and echoed by her companions.

The theme, "Happiness Is . . ." was adopted from the 1980 DEVOTION, and began topics for daily devotions and Bible study, such as "Appreciating His Word," "Conversing with God," "Following the Leader," "Loving What You Don't Like," and "Sharing." The theme verse was Psalm 16:11, ". . . in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore." In addition to the theme song, "In the Service of the King," we sang "Happiness Is" (which was printed on our "Happiness Is . . . Jesus" book-marks) at almost every service.

Each day was unique and joyful in its own way.

Monday was Woman of the Year day. The ten women welcomed and honored at a reception that night included

Mrs. Anna Foy, Verona; Mrs. Pauline Garner, Holly Springs; Mrs. Jackie McCoy, Core Creek; Mrs. Bett Ormond, Moseley's Creek; Mrs. Ola Quinn Pappas, Wintergreen; Mrs. Doris Smith, Deep Run; Mrs. Minnie Deaver, Kinston First; Mrs. Ovelma Holton, Mt. Zion; Mrs. Cynthia Wood, White Oak Grove; and Mrs. Sybil Godley, Sound View.

Mrs. Rhoda Prescott arranged beautiful flowers at the Chapel altar in memory of Mrs. Bertha Thompson of Oriental. After the Rev. Ralph Sumner conducted a brief memorial service, two offering plates were dedicated in memory of her and Earl Holton, both of whom were active supporters of Camp Vandemere.

Tuesday's special guests for supper and the evening service were members of the Camp Vandemere Board of Directors. A morning visitor, Ken Green, was greeted with big smiles when he arrived from New Bern to take our picture.

On Wednesday, the big noise was happy campers boarding the bus from Rock of Zion, to tour Beaufort with the Rev. Ray Williamson. The trip included a ferry ride, lunch in Beaufort, a tour of Hampton Mariners' Museum, and visits to gift shops at Morehead and Minnesott Beach. One lucky lady bought a "lighthouse" lamp, and another bought a Christmas tree.

Those who stayed "at home" enjoyed a quiet day and feasted on fried fish—caught by the Rev. Willie Stilley and his helpers.

The Wednesday night service, conducted by Dianne Riley, featured an outdoor segment. After her talk, each took a pine cone and went to the bonfire over which hung an anchor. As the anchor burned, we added our pine cones to the fire to signify our trust in Jesus Christ. An indoor communion and foot-washing service, conducted by the Rev. Ralph Sumner with the assistance of the Rev. Willie Stilley and deacons Reggie Caroon and Norman Foy, was an impressive climax to this special service.

Thursday was missions day. Adaline Gray organized a Rock-a-thon with five rockers and their managers. In less than two hours, they raised \$102.10 to be divided equally between Home and Foreign Missions. She directed a missions skit which she and two other campers presented in the afternoon. She also played some tapes the Rev. Joe Ingram has made concerning mission work. He arrived in person about midday and soon afterwards showed recent slides and gave up-to-date information on the work in Mexico, the Phillippines, and India.

Thursday was also election day. During the evening service the out-going Miss Camp Vandemere, Anna Foy, escorted a speechless Gertrude Ballard to the front and crowned her "Miss Camp Vandemere 1980-81." Mrs. Ballard was elected by secret ballot on Thursday morning.

Norman Foy was also surprised when Mr. Stilley escorted him to the front where he was crowned the permanent "Mr. Camp Vandemere" and given a fishing cap for his crown. He was the first man to register and attend the Woman's Conferences, and has helped by fishing, cutting bushes, moving chairs, etc. Most of all, his presence has been an inspiration to other campers.

Special guests included a group of young people from Fayetteville, who came with the Rev. Taylor Hill and his wife. Mr. Hill played the guitar for them to sing, and they gave testimonies and told about their work there, before his evening message.

Visiting ministers and singers during the week included Mt. Zion's pastor, Bob Yates, and their choir on Monday night; the Rev. Emmett Jones, pastor of Grant's Chapel, and his cousin, Geraldine Sumner of Sarecta, on Tuesday night; a group of young people from Wintergreen who sang on Wednesday night; and the choir from Arapahoe on Thursday night. We also had special music at various times by song leader Annie Belle Hines, Margaret Ard, and Nina Grace Register.

Speakers for morning devotions included Rena Kirk, Margaret Ard, Lillie Jones, Geraldine Gray, and Ralph Sumner. Afternoon Bible studies were conducted by Florence Braswell, Gladys Hill, and Ruth Varrick.

Crafts director Hazel Stilley instructed an enthusiastic group as they made attractive carryalls with crocheted tops, and as they applied scenic pillow tops. Work went on at any time and at odd times, including lunch breaks and bedtime!

Other activities included boatriding with Mr. Stilley, viewing Mrs. Lupton's garden and flowers, walking to town, touring the campus, looking for pine cones and attractive rocks, swinging, rocking, reading. Not much sleeping. In fact, on

Thursday night, after Taylor Hill began playing his guitar and we began singing folk songs, fun songs, and gospel tunes, no one wanted to desert the Sing-a-thon!

Director Happy Taylor reported 34 full-time and 15 part-time campers were registered, with about 125 visitors. Fees and offerings for Camp Vandemere were \$1,661.40, in addition to the Rock-a-thon for missions. She expressed her thanks to everyone who came for the week or any part of the week; to those who spoke or sang or helped with the program in any way; and to the staff members, with special thanks to the kitchen staff.

This is the largest and most successful Woman's Conference yet, and we're looking forward to more growth as more and more people use the facilities at Camp Vandemere. We believe this is the Lord's work and that He can use this place and its atmosphere for the spiritual growth of His people, and use them to bring others to Himself. We ask for your prayers and your support.

NEWS FROM CAMP VANDEMERE

by Taylor Hill



Mrs. Gertrude Ballard

Mrs. Gertrude Ballard was crowned 1980 Miss Camp Vandemere. Mrs. Happy Taylor did the honors. Mrs. Annie Foy, held the honors in 1979.

There was a good turnout and a joyful time; Taylor Hill took a group of mission members from Fayetteville and presented a program on Home Missions.



Mission members

Mrs. Doug Skinner was there with her church choir and they did a great job.

After the program was over, the ladies invited us over to the main building to do some picking and singing and oh, how we had fun! We were up picking and grinning until after midnight; Lois Hill even did some yodeling. We all had a wonderful time.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Robert Langley announces that he is available for full-time pastoral or interim pastoral services. He has been in full-time pastoral services for the past ten years. Any church desiring his services may contact him at Route 1, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557, phone 284-4178.

The Rev. Ed Taylor of Route 3, Box 342, Benson, North Carolina 27504, announces that he is available for full-time service the first of September. He is recommended by the board of deacons of St. Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Benson, North Carolina, where he will soon complete his work. He can be reached by phone at (919) 894-5551.

July is Christian Education Month

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For August 3

PROMISE OF DELIVERANCE

LESSON TEXT: Isaiah 45:1-7,
11-13

MEMORY SELECTION: Isaiah
45:22

I. INTRODUCTION

The image was grotesque to the extreme, having three heads and six arms. As I looked at it, I wondered that anyone could worship such a monstrosity. In the museum there were other gods, equally bizarre. Do people really imagine that such gods exist? Perhaps, at least among the uneducated. Intelligent worshippers at the same shrines regard the images only as attempts to express various aspects of the deity, the image being a visual representation of the imagined nature of the god. The gods of the imagination, however, are not real; they are nonexistent.

That an idol itself has any power is ridiculous—just how ridiculous Jeremiah shows with deep sarcasm. First of all, it is an object of man's own making. It can't talk or walk! It has to be carried! There is nothing to be feared from such gods, but neither is there anything to be hoped for from them (Jeremiah 10:3-5).

In contrast to all imaginary gods and to all of the gods of man's own making is the God who has revealed himself in the Scriptures. He alone is **the living God**. All others are figments of man's mental processes, having no real existence. As the living God, He has come to be known through His mighty acts. These

acts are many in number, and the record of them can be found in the Bible. In many instances, the record has been verified by archaeological research. For Israel itself, the verification was in their own experience. In Deuteronomy 4:31-39, prior to their entry into the land God had promised them, they were reminded of God's deeds on their behalf that had brought them out of Egyptian bondage. "Before your very eyes," they were told, "[God] used his great power and strength The Lord has shown you this, to prove to you that he alone is God and that there is none other" (Deuteronomy 4:34, 35 **Today's English Version**). In the Scriptures God is everywhere associated with the historical event.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Jewish people who had been exiled to Babylon had been warned by a succession of prophets concerning the fall of their nation and their later deliverance. Even after this, the actual deliverance came as a shock for which they were not prepared. In the first place, the chosen people of God found it difficult to believe that God would actually surrender them to a pagan nation, and once they were taken captives they felt that God had forsaken them. So they had given up hope. When the end of the Exile came they were as unprepared for that as they were for the captivity in its beginning. As a result of this, very few of the Jews actually returned to Judah when they had the opportunity. Many of them

had been born in captivity and had never lived in Judah, and the older ones had become settled in Babylon and did not wish to return. They seemed to think that God would leave them alone to live in Babylon in peace for the rest of their lives.

B. How prone people are to take the extremes about God! Like the Jews, we are apt at first to believe that God will not allow certain things to happen to us. Then after they happen we swing to the other extreme and believe that God has forsaken us and give up all hope. It is very difficult for us to understand the place that God takes in the affairs of men. God created man and gave him a will to act. Since God gave us a will and the ability to act, He allows us to suffer the consequences of these acts. On the other hand, we must not feel that God forsakes us. He is always there, ready and willing to comfort and help us if we will only turn to Him.

C. Just as the fact of the Exile and return was hard for the Jews to accept, it is difficult for us to accept some of the things that happen to us and to those whom we love. It is much easier to rationalize than it is to accept facts sometimes. This lesson should help us to face the truth about God and how He deals with us in the ordinary affairs of our daily lives as well as in times of crisis.

—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Are We Obedient?—During a sermon a preacher spent considerable time on the subject of man having his own will to the neglect of his spiritual duties. He told how failing to have prayer at night, failure to thank God in the morning, and failure to have a blessing before each meal was actually disobedience to God. A little girl who had listened very attentively turned and asked her mother, "Mama is he talking about us?"—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

(Continued from Page 4)

context of worship. Sixth, classes should be provided for married couples in which they could share and discuss the concerns and problems that arise in the marital relationship. There are many excellent books written by Christian counselors that could be studied and discussed by the group. Seventh, the church must be so involved in the lives of its families that it will know when a family is going through a crisis and be ready to render its assistance. "The church should expect, instruct, and even require its members to present their family conflicts to some person or persons of their own choosing within the fellowship of the church before going to the courts of law. The purpose of this should be stated redemptively and not punitively."¹⁷ Eighth, the minister can help train the laity in how to handle family conflicts. The resources of the community should be used, the doctors, counselors, and mental health centers. Ninth, the minister should emphasize in the wedding ceremony the responsibility of the whole church to nurture and foster this marriage. Tenth, the church must set forth agape love as the norm for Christian marriage. I will discuss the meaning of agape love and what else the church can do in the final part of this article on August 6.

¹⁰Thomas M. Olshewshy. "A Christian Understanding of Divorce," in *The Journal of Religious Ethics*, Spring 1979, p. 121.

¹¹Joseph Fort Newton. "What God Hath Not Joined," in *20 Centuries of Great Preaching: An Encyclopedia of Preaching*, eds. Clyde E. Fant and William M. Pinson Jr. (Waco, Texas: Word Books, Publisher, 1971,) Vol. IX, p. 85.

¹²Richard N. Soulen. "Marriage and Divorce: A Problem in New Testament Interpretation," in *Interpretation*, October 1969, Vol. 23, p. 441.

¹³Oates, p. 50.

Children's Home

(Continued from Page 9)

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Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

sometimes they (and we) erroneously put words in God's mouth and claim direct communication with Him. Such a claim can be dangerous! If one speaks for God, he must speak from His Word and should be able to cite chapter and verse. All of us must be careful, too, not to take our citation out of context.

If each of us would examine himself—truly seek to understand the sinful intents of our human heart (as opposed to our spiritual restoration), we would find that too often our criticism is offered too harshly and in the wrong quantity. When we consider our own infirmities, we should be more indulgent of others.

But, mind you, no one should excuse sin (nor the sinner). But, if we are to retain the grace of the gospel and of the Lord who died for us, we must take care not to sow seeds which produce a windfall of destruction.

And, if we do not become weary in well-doing, in due season we shall reap a good harvest—if we persevere.

Galatians 6:10 exhorts us properly: ". . . as we have opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Cragmont General Youth Conference

submitted by Marvin Waters



One of the joys and indeed a highlight of being in the ministry has been the privilege to work with the General Youth Conference week of camp at Cragmont Assembly. Cragmont has always elicited pleasant memories for me. As a young camper I always looked forward to the opportunity to attend a week of camp at Cragmont. As I look back over the years I realize more and more the value of those weeks of camp. Never in all my imagination did I ever dream at that time that I would one day work as a counselor with other campers. At that time I also never thought of being in the ministry some day. Now I am keenly aware that God was using those experiences as well as experiences at my home church and later experiences at Mount Olive College to direct me into His will for my life.

I remember the first year I was contacted to work with the General Youth Conference at Cragmont. John Williams, then pastor of the Milbournie Free Will Baptist Church, was serving as director for the week. That week of camp was the best I had ever been involved with. For one thing, no one could possibly imagine the amount of planning, meetings, telephone calls, etc., between John and his staff that had taken place in preparation for the week. When we all arrived at Cragmont, we all knew what our duties were. We knew how each day would be spent. And each day was very well spent!

Again the next year, John directed another highly successful week at Cragmont. General Youth Conference was really growing stronger and stronger! A highlight of General

Youth Conference was the musical program directed by Craig Simmons, youth minister at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson. Craig's wife, Jackie, was also very involved with the AFCers who attended. (A unique feature of General Youth Conference is that the camp is conducted for both YFA and AFC age groups). Last year was our first year using the beautiful new main building at Cragmont. The excitement among the campers at the close of the week at the thought of coming back the next year was so intense that we immediately went to work with ideas and plans for this year's week of Camp.

John Williams became the manager of Cragmont Assembly this year so our new director for General Youth week was Harry Grubbs, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville. Under Harry's leadership another great week of camp was planned. In fact Rick Watson who was in charge of registration for the week received so many registration forms back that we had to plan a fourth bus! All told there were 183 campers including the staff!!! When the fourth bus arrived at Cragmont late that evening, it was apparent that our campers were coming back each year. It was also apparent that they were bringing along their friends from back home.

General Youth Conference was the week of June 15-21 this year. You might ask, "well just what goes on during a week of camp?" Well, each morning, we all rise at 7:30 for exercises directed by Emerson Hobgood and Shawn Carson, our able athletic and recreation directors. IT REALLY IS FUN! There is a flag-raising ceremony and prayer, then after clean-up time everyone is ready for breakfast. After breakfast our classes begin. The AFC have their own classes using crafts, picture art, etc., and the YFAers have their classes. This year the AFC

essions dealt with such topics as faithfulness," using picture art as visuals. Gloria Brown from the Pearsall Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, has worked intelligently with this age group for the last few years. (Her husband Gene is another of our counselors).

The YFA classes are divided up into two different class periods. The first period generally concerns itself with spiritual issues and the second class focuses on current Social issues in the light of Christian commitment and values. This year we made use of films such as Josh McDowell's "Secret of Moving" which is a look at "ragape" love at work in relationships, especially courtship and marriage. We also had another film during the week on contemporary Christian music. The message of the film was that though the music of the church might undergo changing sound, tempo, rhythm, etc., the message of the music is the same. It is the message of Christ.

Jackie Simmons and Harry Grubbs led classes concerning the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Concerning the social issues, it was my task to lead in discussing the current issue of Women's Rights (ERA.). Let me say at this point that our classes are definitely well planned and coordinated. The students this year were as mature as any that we have ever worked with. It is simply a grand experience to work with your children. They are wonderful youth and you, the parents, have every right to be proud of them!

Before lunch, Craig Simmons directed music. Each year we learn new hymns that are lifted directly from the Scriptures and set to music. In addition we all join in on the older more familiar choruses. After lunch we have supervised recreation such as basketball, softball, volleyball, football, frisbee, hiking up the mountain, and

"just plain hiking" that sometimes ends up with a dip in a creek or lake. Then there is more song time, supper, and quiet time.

Around seven in the evening we either have something like a "Kangaroo Court" or a "Talent Night." It is good clean fun that puts everybody in stitches. We have an evening worship service, sometimes outdoors by a campfire, at other times in the chapel. What worship services! I wish all my people could have been with me the night John spoke on "David and Goliath" encouraging all of us to have a vision. I wish you could have heard Craig as he spoke on what sin really is and our victory over sin. I wish you could have heard the message delivered by Harry that encouraged us to love Christ with our minds as well as our soul, strength, and might. And yes, I wish you could have been there each evening to witness the love and joy expressed at Cragmont. It is real and it does equip one for dealing with real life even in the valleys.

This year we were pleased to have with us a guest from Campus Crusade for Christ. Jim Dilehey spoke on "unmasking the enemy," a thought-provoking lesson concerning the music we hear and its message. Our campers were treated that same afternoon to a contemporary Christian music concert by Jim. That day was a day that will long live on in my mind. Before it ended Harry conducted a "love feast" around the campfire. It was a communion service in the highest sense of the word. Any emotional outbursts such as tears were certainly real expressions of what we were experiencing for each other and for our Lord.

Yes, I only wish that we all had the kind of vision to acknowledge the value of doing our part toward Cragmont as well as all of our other denominational enterprises. If we could only see the importance

of leading our churches toward building up instead of tearing down; of being a blessing instead of a curse; of helping and not hindering, then and only then would we experience the joy of unity that the church so desperately stands in need of. For those campers who made decisions renewing their commitment to Christ, for those who for the first time surrendered their lives to Christ, for workers and counselors who gave of their time to make the week a success a word of thanks is in order. But especially to be commended are those of you in Free Will Baptist Churches that have had a vision for the ministry of Cragmont—those of you who have encouraged your church to give of its resources that such experiences as General Youth Conference will be able to continue.

Cragmont means much more to your youth than just an opportunity to "get away from home for a while." It means more than that enjoyable trip to Cherokee and "Unto These Hills." Will you do something now on behalf of your church to insure that it will continue in their lives?

COMING EVENTS . . .

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 21-24—Ministers' Conference, Cragmont

July 26—Western District Youth Fellowship, Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, Fremont, North Carolina, 7:30 p. m.

July 28—Examining Board of Eastern Conference meets at 10 a. m. in the meeting room over Kinston Bible and Bookstore, Kinston, North Carolina.

August 5—Ordaining Council of Central Conference will meet at the Press, 7 p. m.

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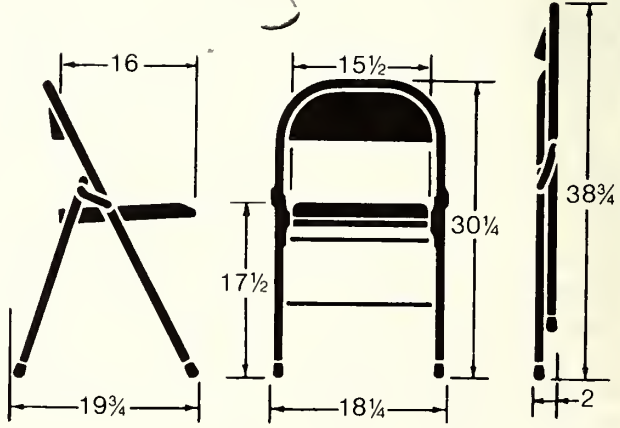
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**THE
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CHURCH OF THE MONTH

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

A Hide and Seek God?

An aged gentleman who sat at a luncheon table with me recently indicated his vast knowledge by citing his educational accomplishments. He really made me sit up and notice when he declared, "When the person who's hiding is found, the game's over." (The discussion had swung to theology.)

"Are you suggesting," I asked rather cautiously, not certain I had heard correctly, "that God hides Himself from mankind?"

"Why, of course. You mean to say you think the God of Heaven will lower Himself to such a lowly creature as man?"

I replied respectfully, but firmly—in accord with my personal conviction and understanding of the Word, "No, I do not believe God ever lowers Himself in the sense of lessening His holiness, but I believe He reveals Himself to those who indeed seek Him in sincerity. Through His Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit He draws men unto Himself that they might be saved."

It so happened that the gentleman who had begun the conversation was a Jewish rabbi, who at this point began to ridicule Christianity's "ludicrous approach to sensible religion." And since he did not accept Jesus Christ as the Son of God it did not bother him that he was offending one of His followers. I had discussed religion with Jewish people before, but never with one who castigated Christianity so vocally, and without provocation.

He continued his derogation, "Christian people know in reality that the Messiah could not have come in the manner told by the New Testament, therefore they explain that away by saying that the next time Christ comes He will come in triumph, as a king. That's why they have the doctrine of the Second Coming."

Quietly, within myself, I reasoned, "He came unto His own and they received Him not." Then I affirmed it to the gentleman. His response was a pitying shake of his head. Then he began to address the subject of Hell and how much off base Christian people are.

"Do you really believe that a God of love could doom His children to Hell?"

"All whose names are not found written in the Book of Life," I replied.

He shook his head again, and then rebuked: "You are alluding to New Testament Scriptures."

I agreed that I was. Then I cited the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah as prophesying the advent of Christ and how it fitted the Jesus of the New Testament. The gentleman admitted his belief in Isaiah's writings but wasn't convinced that my interpretation was accurate.

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Tommy Manning
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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History of Ayden Free Will Baptist Church

*written by the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood while a member at
Ayden Free Will Baptist Church working under the
pastorate of the Rev. C. H. Overman
and dedicated to the late
Mrs. Janice Overman.*

THE Ayden Free Will Baptist Church has played an important role in the Free Will Baptist denomination. The 94-year history of the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church has been an eventful one.

Fred McGlohon and T. N. Manning organized the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church in the early months of 1884. The church was then known as the Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church of Pitt County, North Carolina. The church was organized with about twenty or more members.¹ The church was located about one mile west of Ayden.

The next 13 years were years of growth for the church. Elder W. H. Frost served the church as pastor in the early 90's. It was after this that the "Twin Preachers," T. F. and T. H. Harrison, served the church. Elder T. F. Harrison, who is one of the authors of the first written History of Free Will Baptists died while serving the church as pastor in 1897. During these 13 years the membership of the church grew from 24 to over 112 members.²

An institution of learning was a growing demand among the Free Will Baptists in 1896. The first

real step to found the Free Will Baptist Theological Seminary in Ayden, North Carolina, was made at a union meeting which convened at the Spring Branch church, Pitt County, North Carolina.³

In 1898 at a quarterly business meeting of the Spring Branch church, the church voted to move its location to the Seminary. This move was made so the church could better benefit the students of the Seminary.⁴

E. T. Phillips began pastoring the church after its removal from Spring Branch. It was during the years of the Seminary that the church had many well-educated men as pastors. J. M. Barfield was pastor of the church. He is one of the authors of the first written History of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. George C. Vause served as pastor of the church for a number of years. He was President of the Seminary in 1912 and 1913.

The church built a church building near the Seminary. The church used this building for a number of years.⁵ It was during this period that the Rev. R. F. Pittman served the church as

pastor. He served the church for a total of 18 years.

During Mr. Pittman's first years of pastorate he lead the people in a great way. It was in 1927 that the Rev. and Mrs. Pittman moved to Baltimore, Maryland, where he attended Peabody Conservatory of Music. He studied there for a year.⁶

It was during the next few years that the church worshiped in the main building of Eureka College. L. R. Ennis, President of Eureka College, was serving the church as pastor at this time.⁷ While Mr. Ennis was serving as pastor, the main building of Eureka College burned. After this the church held services in the Ayden City Hall.⁸

Mr. Pittman began serving the church as pastor again in 1931. He was able to see the need for the church to have its own place of worship. It was through his effort and those of the members of the church that a beautiful brick building for worship was built in 1933 and 1934. The bricks on the Ayden church were a gift from the Rev. J. C. Moye. The bricks are from the main building of Eureka College. The last sermon the Rev. R. F.

Turn the Page

Pittman preached in the Ayden church was the dedication service of the new building May 22, 1938.⁹ On July 15, 1938, he died from an operation of the gall bladder. His funeral was held in the Ayden church with several thousand people present.¹⁰ On August 24, 1947, the Hammond Organ which is still being used by the church today was given in his memory by the Fidelity Sunday School Class.¹¹

In the fall of 1949 the Rev. D. W. Hansley came to serve the church as pastor. It was under his leadership that plans for a baptistry were made. Rev. Hansley was able to show the membership of the church a need for a parsonage. He also helped the church plan a full-time program.¹²

The Rev. Charles Craddock was pastor of the church when they began to have full-time services. It was November 2, 1952, when the church started full-time services.

It was around the mid 50's when the parsonage and baptistry were built. They have been a great help to the membership of the church.

It was in the spring of 1962 that the church experienced a division under the Rev. Raymond Gaskins, pastor of the church. The Ayden Free Will Baptist Church held a special business meeting April 30, 1962. It was at this meeting that a motion was made and seconded to retain Mr. Gaskins as pastor. This motion was carried by a vote of 109 for him and 99 against him. As a result he resigned as pastor of the church. This caused the division because some of the members wanted to leave the Central Conference and others did not.¹³

October of 1965 the Rev. A. Kemery Ard came to serve the church as pastor. It was under his leadership that the church yard was landscaped and the church sign was moved. The membership of the church added a family room to the church parsonage. The church also

renovated the Sunday School department and the inside of the Annex.

The Rev. C. H. Overman began to serve the church as pastor April of 1971. It was under his leadership that many great things have been done.

In the latter part of 1971, the young people of the church and several other young people of the Ayden community began work on a Christian Folk Musical. The name of the musical was **Good News**, compiled and arranged by Bob Oldenburg. The **Good News** program consisted of fifteen songs for soloists, trios, groups and narration. The musical was about the good news of Christ's birth and Resurrection and how we must spread this **Good News**. The singers were accompanied by a pianist, guitarist, and bass guitarist.

After approximately nine months of weekly practices, the **Good News** program was presented. It was first presented at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church. Later it was presented for the Central Conference Youth Convention which was meeting at the Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, and on the "Carolina Today" program on Channel Nine in Greenville, North Carolina.

Under the Rev. C. H. Overman the church has had two retreats. One was at Oriental in April of 1973 and the other was at Eagles Nest near Mount Olive. It was under his leadership that the church built a Fellowship Hall. The new addition consisted of a new class room, a kitchen, men and women's rest rooms, a storage room and the Fellowship Hall. The Consecration Service was held September 25, 1977. Mr. Overman and Ronnie Vann Hobgood led the service and the Consecration message was delivered by the Rev. Bruce Barrow.

The Ayden Free Will Baptist Church can be proud of its history. The church has done great things for its community

and denomination. It is concerned about the true mission of the church.

The pastors of the church include: E. T. Phillips, John W. Alford, C. J. Harris Sr., George C. Vause, James Moses Barfield, Robert Franklin Pittman, Matthew C. Prescott, W. W. Lewis, James Clayton Moye, William Henry Oliver, Lonnie Redden Ennis, Charlie Bev Thompson, Chester H. Pelt, R. C. Wiggs, Phillip Woodard, David Wells Hansley, Charles Craddock, I. J. Blackwelder, Raymond Gaskins, Ralph Lightsey, Carol B. Hansley, A. Kemery Ard, and Clarence Henry Overman Jr.

The church clerks include: A. L. Harrington, W. J. Branch, G. W. Prescott, Walter Buck, Larry W. Smith, J. F. Peed, T. D. Cayton, Mrs. L. R. Tripp, Mrs. R. L. Turnage, Mrs. Thelbert Hart, Mrs. Edward Harris, Mrs. J. W. Barfield, Mrs. David Davenport, Mrs. Charles Hall, and Judy Harris.

The Sunday school superintendents include: W. F. Hart, Professor T. E. Peden, G. W. Prescott, Professor J. E. Sawyer, E. F. Hart, Jesse L. Corbett, and George Watson.

The organists include: June Lightsey, Sandra Wooten, Tommy Manning, Deborah Hart, Mitzi Corbett, and Jeanne Overman.

¹ Minutes of the General Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. November 6, 7, and 8, 1884. pp. 3 and 10.

² The Minutes of the Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, 1884-1897.

³ Eureka College, Free Will Baptist Historical Collection, Information File.

⁴ The Ayden Tribune, May 28, 1965, p. 8.

⁵ Letter from R. F. Pittman, Jr., March 30, 1978.

⁶ Program of Organ Dedication at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, August 24, 1947.

⁷ The Goldsboro News Argus, April 21, 1968.

⁸ Letter from R. F. Pittman, Jr., March 30, 1978.

⁹ The Free Will Baptist, May 25, 1938, p. 9.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

The Rev. W. O. Lassiter

Eastover Free Will Baptist Mission, Eastover, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. W. O. Lassiter. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A Faithful Man

submitted by Shirley Haun



The Rev. W. O. Lassiter

Eastover Free Will Baptist Mission, Eastover, North Carolina, is proud to have as its minister the Rev. W. O. Lassiter of Four Oaks, North Carolina. Although small in numbers, the mission is rich in spirit because of the ministry of Brother Lassiter.

He was born October 4, 1912, at Four Oaks, Johnston County, to Zeb and Wilsey Lassiter. He accepted Christ at an early age of fifteen. On December 5, 1931, he married Addie Barnes, daughter of Lester and Bessie Barnes. Brother and Sister Lassiter have a daughter, Joan Godwin of Benson, North Carolina, and a son, Linwood Lassiter of Smithfield, North Carolina. They are both married and have families. Brother and Sister Lassiter have

six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Sister Lassiter is always willing for God's work to come first, giving her prayers and support to her husband.

During the years prior to becoming pastor at Eastover Mission, Brother Lassiter has pastored at the following churches: Eastwood, eight months; West Clinton, two years; Lanwood Chapel, two years; Harrell's Chapel, one year; Pleasant Grove, seven years; Riverside, two years; Stancil's Chapel, five years; Mt. Zion, seven years; Everett Chapel, four years; and Wooten's Chapel, three years. He had preached three years prior to his ordination.

He has served two terms on the Board of Ordination. Brother Lassiter has served several times on committees of conferences and union meetings. He has worked in the Western Conference, Central Conference, and Cape Fear Conference. He has been faithful to his denomination and to the building of God's kingdom.

Brother Lassiter is a God-called minister hungry to see sinners saved by God's grace. To know this minister is to love him. He believes in visiting the sick and the well in his field of service. He preaches the old-fashioned gospel that will stand the test till Jesus comes.

Brother Lassiter and his wife, Addie, have been a great inspiration to us all at Eastover. Sister Lassiter is always ready to lend a helping hand. Brother Lassiter came to Eastover Mission to become our pastor July, 1978, and has served faithfully for two years; during this time we have learned to love him and his wife dearly. We have seen miracles happen through prayers, and the spiritual life of our mission has been strengthened. Our mission has prospered greatly under his leadership. During his ministry many souls were saved and many rededicated their lives to God. Brother Lassiter believes in always letting the Holy Spirit lead him in everything and as a result God has richly blessed them in every way.

We, the members of Eastover Mission, are so thankful to have this man of God to lead us during these difficult times. Our prayer is that God will continue His many blessings upon Brother and Sister Lassiter in all that they endeavor to do.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Gurney R. Chase announces that he is available for full-time pastoral services. He was pastor of Sound View Free Will Baptist Church. He is a member of the Eastern Conference. Any church desiring his services may contact him at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina 28501, or phone 523-3429.

The Rev. Ed Taylor of Route 3, Box 342, Benson, North Carolina 27504, announces that he is available for full-time service the first of September. He is recommended by the board of deacons of St. Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Benson, North Carolina, where he will soon complete his work. He can be reached by phone at (919) 894-5551.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28

EMPHASIS ON THE WRONG WORLD

When David Livingstone's body was brought back from Africa to England, great throngs along the streets watched the funeral procession. An elderly man in the crowd burst into sobs. Lamented he, "I knew Livingstone when I was a young man. We went together. We were friends. When he told me of God's call to him to go to Africa, I ridiculed him. I was ambitious. I chose a life of self-ease. I cared only for my own selfish interests. Now, with a misspent life behind me, I acknowledge that Livingstone made a wise choice when he answered and obeyed God's call. I put the emphasis on the wrong world!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The temporal world is not lasting; it will pass away. The spiritual world will endure forever. Let us remember the old saying, "Only what's done for Christ will last."

MONDAY, AUGUST 4

Scripture Reading—John 3:16

OWNING HIS OWNERSHIP

When I was fourteen, I heard Lyman Beecher preach on the Lordship of Jesus Christ. I went to my room, locked the door, then threw myself on the floor of my room. This was what I said: "O God, I belong to Thee. Take what is Thine own. I gladly recognize Thy ownership on me.

I now take Thee as my Lord and Master!" From that time to this I have never known a thing to be wrong without having an aversion to it. I have never seen anything to be right without having an attraction to it!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Having yielded oneself to God, the person will recognize evil for what it really is and avoid it; he will easily discern the good and be attracted to it. Let us pray daily for such spiritual discernment.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:14

A HAPPY MAN

A gentleman going along a country road met a man to whom he courteously wished, "Good morning."

"I have never had a bad morning," replied the man.

"That is very singular, I wish you may always be so fortunate."

"I was never unfortunate," said he.

"Dear me! I wish you may always be happy."

"And I am never unhappy," said the other.

"I wish," said the gentleman, "that you would explain yourself a little."

"That I will certainly do. I never had a bad morning, for every morning I praise God. If it rains or snows; whether the weather be bright or stormy, I am still thankful to God. You wish that I might be always fortunate, but I cannot be unfortunate, for nothing befalls but

according to the will of God. And His will is always good, in whatever He does or permits to be done. You wished me always happy, but I cannot be unhappy while resigned to the will of God, and as long as His peace rules in my heart."

PRAYER THOUGHT

He who truly yields his heart and life to God can know true happiness—the kind that cannot be explained, and can only be understood by another Christian.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 15:4

HOT OR COOL TEMPER?

When a temper is out of control,
It is a menace to one's soul,
It rages where peace should
abound
And reason is no longer sound.

When tempers rise to angry
heat,
Love goes down in dire defeat
And will-power wanes impotent
Until temper's madness is all
spent.

When temper is controlled and
cool
One's not induced to play the
fool,
Conscience resumes its proper
role
As mentor to one's will and soul.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christian virtues, which are prevalent in one's personality after he has accepted the Lord, will help control attitudes and

NEWS NOTES

Mt. Tabor Church to Have Revival Services



The Rev. Bobby Taylor

The revival meeting will begin at the Mt. Tabor Free Will Baptist Church near Creswell, August 4 and will continue through August 9.

The visiting evangelist will be the Rev. Bobby Taylor, pastor of Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville. Services will begin at 8 p. m. There will be special singing each night.

The pastor, the Rev. David Ricks, and the church membership invite everyone to attend.

Sound Side Church Revival in Progress

Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, North Carolina, announces revival services in progress July 28—August 1. The time of the services is 8 p. m. Special music is being presented each evening. The public is cordially invited to attend the remainder of these services.

July is Christian Education Month

PRAYER THOUGHT

Man, however great should never overshadow God. Great names in religion sometime merit great acclaim, but they should never be lauded so much that they become more important than the message they deliver. Let us pray for guidance that we may never allow anything or anyone to come before Him.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 17:4

BEING WHERE GOD WANTS YOU

One day Queen Victoria, visited unaccompanied and unannounced, some cottagers in Balmoral, Scotland. Among those she visited was an aged, lonely, bedridden man. He didn't recognize Her Majesty. He said, "I am alone. All the folks went away today, hoping to get a glimpse of the Queen."

The Queen chatted pleasantly with the old man. She read a chapter from the Bible to him. Then she gave him a five-pound note. As she left she said, "When your people come back, tell them that the Queen visited you!"

We often miss great blessings by not being where God wants us to be. Elijah would have missed the service of the ravens had he not been in the place God sent him: "I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there" (1 Kings 17:4).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Those humble souls who wait upon the Lord will realize great blessings from Him. Let us never tire of well-doing. Our rewards will be forthcoming.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Have you renewed your Free Will Baptist subscription?

actions. Let us thank God for such spiritually beneficial "controls."

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

Scripture Reading—Galatians 2:20

O FOR A FAITH

O for a faith that will not shrink,
Tho' pressed by every foe
That will not tremble on the brink
Of any earthly woe!

That will not murmur nor complain
Beneath the chastening rod
But in the hour of grief and pain
Will lean upon its God;

A faith that shines more bright and clear
When tempests rage without,
That when in danger knows no fear,
In darkness feels no doubt.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Faith in God is sufficient faith—whether in times of trouble or during carefree moments. Let us not forget to thank Him for that faith that is enduring.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 14:25

WORSHIP GOD

A visiting minister was substituting for the famed pastor Henry Ward Beecher. A large audience had assembled to hear the popular pastor. At the appointed hour, the visiting minister entered the pulpit. Learning that Beecher was not to preach, several began to move toward the doors. The visiting minister stood and called out, "All who have come here today to worship Henry Ward Beecher may now withdraw from the church! All who have come to worship God, keep your seats!"

AN OPINION FROM A READER

The following statement is that of the Rev. Ray Williamson, who is solely responsible for its contents.

Dear Mr. Manning:

I appreciate the forum you provide for lay people and ministers to express themselves on issues within our denomination. I wish more of our church people would take advantage of it.

I would like to express my support for the Children's Home Board of Directors and its Executive Director in their well-prepared proposal to cooperate with County Social Service agencies, in order to provide continued Christian child care.

I, like many fellow citizens, deplore the encroachments the federal government has made into private freedoms. I would be the first to advocate immediate non-compliance if the government attempted to dictate what spiritual training the Children's Home could and could not provide. But that is not the critical issue, and until it is (if ever) I earnestly contend that Jesus would have us "suffer the little children to come unto (us), and forbid them not: for of such is the Kingdom of God."

As much as I hate to think of governmental controls, I hate even more to think of that misplaced boy or girl and that misguided teenager who may never know the love and guidance of a Christian environment which the Children's Home has to offer.

I have tried to relate to my church family that people are more important than things. It

may cost some compromised convictions (or prejudices), but Christians must be willing to pay the cost. We are not in the world to stand up against big government; we are in the world to minister to the needs of hurting and wayward people. The twelfth chapter of Matthew tells of the conflict between Jesus and the Pharisees on the matter of the Sabbath law. The Pharisees believed that the Sabbath regulations must be rigidly observed, whereas Jesus believed that works of mercy and goodness were right on any day in any situation, and that the needs of people always take precedence over any personal dogmatism. Have some allowed their convictions about government to take the same preeminent position as the Pharisees' attitude about the Sabbath?

For sixty years the Children's Home has been developing facilities and programs for needy children that are a source of pride for us all today.

We must not be merely satisfied with a job well done in the past while the future presents such desperate needs that only the church can meet. With the same degree of faith and unified commitment as manifested in the past, we can meet those desperate needs in the future—God will see to it! I respectfully call upon my fellow Free Will Baptists to consider the children first before making a decision, and whatever our

differences are at the State Convention, let us conduct ourselves according to Paul's exhortation in Ephesians 4:29-32.

Gratefully yours,
Rev. Ray Williamson

Foreign Missions

Dear friends in Christ,
Health and Benediction!

Greetings to you all whom God loves and has called to be his dedicated people.

It has been such a pleasure to send this communication to you after quite some time. Even though we do not write to you regularly, we have you in our prayers. In spite of various oddities which are quite likely in this temporal world, the Lord has been kind and merciful to us. We are happy that we have many experiences to be filled with His Spirit. The task of evangelization is great before us. The time is short "The night cometh when no man can work." We are grateful to God that our country is wide open for the Gospel.

Besides about forty active church congregations we now have six elementary schools to look after. The work is gaining momentum. We are grateful to the people of North Carolina for so actively sharing the work. We are grateful to God for the dynamic leadership we receive from Brother Joe Ingram. We will be on evangelistic campaign in the unreached areas of our state of U P which has a high population, Christians are just 2 1/2 percent. We have requested to the Board of Missions to supply us 2,000 Hindi New Testaments and 100 Hindi Bibles for the mission in June. Kindly keep us in your prayers so that millions who do not know the Lord may accept Him as their personal Saviour.

The ladies auxiliaries are being organized.

With Christian love.

In Christ,
The Rev. Dr. Emmanuel M. Lall

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WHAT IS THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH?

by Margaret Ard

President General Conference WA

I have been asked this question often. I would like to give you some facts as well as my feelings and my beliefs about the General Conference.

What is the purpose of the General Conference? A passage from the Constitution and By-Laws of the Woman's Auxiliary of the General Conference explains the purpose of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention, which, in fact, explains the purpose of the General Conference itself. Note Article II: The purpose . . . shall be to unite Free Will Baptist(s) . . . in a Christian Fellowship for the advancement of the Kingdom of God through worship, missions, evangelism, youth work, service, prayer, study, and other means as may be mutually agreed upon. This fellowship recognizes the individual freedom and mutual dependence of all who believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour."

What has the General Conference done for us? In the March issue of **Good Housekeeping** magazine is an article, "The 1200 Religions in America." Listed in this article is The General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists. This proves that the General Conference gives us status and recognition as a denomination. We have a tax exempt number issued to us by our government. I have used it in purchasing things for our church.

What can the General Conference do for us in the church future? I do not see the General Conference as a dictator telling groups how to run their affairs. As long as we adhere to the Free Will Baptist doctrine based upon

the Word of God, I see no reason why we cannot fellowship and worship together. However, I do see ministers and missionaries going into all the states; yea, even the world starting a work for God. As God blesses and these churches grow into other churches, schools, institutes, colleges, or whatever they choose to do, I see the General Conference as a focal point for us to meet together and share our fortunes and misfortunes. We can fellowship and encourage and help each other.

I vision us coming together with hundreds of our young people participating. I vision a combined effort in sending the gospel to those who have never heard. I vision new churches starting; or whatever we mutually agree upon.

What can we do for the General Conference? We can support with our prayers, presence, and money. We can give our talents, our ideas, and our constructive criticism. This is our chance to make us a recognizable denomination again.

Each church, conference, and individual will have to show an interest in the General Conference if we want it to become an organization that we are proud of. May God help us is my prayer.

I know that the General Conference has been a blessing to many people. I have heard comments such as: "I needed what I felt at this meeting. Before I came my life was at a low spiritual ebb. I was lifted up by the power of the Spirit that I was able to feel at the General

Conference. That meeting was just wonderful! It did me so much good! I always receive a blessing at the General Conference."

Our conference this year was a heavenly time on earth. The music and the messages were of the best. My special thanks to each one who participated and attended.

In Memory of BJ

by Nina Tugwell

On December 23, 1976, our first born, our first son, and the first grandchild for my parents, Bobby Wayne Tugwell Jr. was born. Our "little BJ" we called him. He was so alert and bright. He loved everything and everyone. There was always a smile and never a frown. He loved life itself, but most of all he loved people. He was a very happy and contented child, yet so very young. He was so smart. He was different from any other child—something special. I know all mothers think their children are special, but our little BJ was special. He was the child we waited so long for. He was our first child, along with first experiences. He was so much a part of us. He was our whole life, because he was something special.

It was the summer of 1979 and we just had come back from a trip to the beach. It was the first time that BJ had ever camped out in a tent. BJ enjoyed many things from playing putt-putt, going shopping, or going out to eat. He enjoyed every minute. But it was not discovered until we arrived home that BJ had a fever of 104 degrees and was breaking out with a rash. Right away I called the doctor. From that time on the doctors didn't know what was wrong. He was admitted to the hospital a week later to find that our little BJ had Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. After a week of suffering

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Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

OFF TO THE RACES AND THE BEAN FIELD



Michael Stevens, Lee Jones, and friend

Cub Scouts Michael Stevens, Lee Jones, and a neighborhood friend race for the finish line in their cub mobiles. Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, sewing and cooking classes, macrame, string art, poise lessons and swimming lessons and a number of other activities make summer time more fun as well as a learning experience for our children at the Children's Home. We have a summer school program in progress for the child who has learning problems and has fallen behind in school.

Our garden is producing a full variety of vegetables. Hundreds of quarts of beans, tomatoes, corn, butter beans, and fruits of all kinds will be canned or frozen this year. We thank the Lord for our bountiful garden. Our children and their houseparents do most of the food preparation in the cottages. It's not as much fun as the swimming pool, but it's all mighty good, come winter.

THE 1979 DUKE REPORT

Occupancy of child care facilities in North Carolina increased from 77.2 percent last year to 81.8 percent this past year. Ten years ago the rate was

80.8 percent. Admissions were 33.7 percent higher than 10 years ago. Discharges rose 19.4 percent. An average of 2,705 children were cared for per day in the Duke-assisted homes during the past year.

The statistics indicate that the child care picture is somewhat brighter than it was 10 years ago. Most child care authorities agree that the years ahead may be the most successful ever for those Children's Homes who plan wisely and prepare for the child needing care in the future. Orphans and half-orphans

“SENIOR CITIZENS’ DAY” OBSERVED AT AYDEN CHURCH

submitted by
Mrs. C. L. Westbrook Sr.

Sunday, July 13th, was declared “Senior Citizens’ Day” at Ayden Free Will Baptist Church. The event was sponsored by the younger members of the church.

During the morning service the senior citizens were recognized by various members of the church. Those honored included the following: Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hill, Mrs. Mary Davenport, Mrs. Letha Baldree, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Long, Mr. and Mrs. James Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Sutton, Mrs. Victoria Hart, Mrs. Margaret Mosley, Mrs. Bessie Stokes, Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Tripp, Mrs. B. T. Tripp, Mrs. Velma Hawkins, Mrs. Mary Ballinger, Mrs. Letha Bradshaw, Mrs. Mae Pierce, Mrs. Malissa Braxton, and Mrs. Walter Stocks.

We were happy to have the following senior citizens to visit

decreased 45.4 percent over the past 10 years. The child in care today is more likely to have living parents than not. His parents, more than likely, will be separated. Neither may be able to hold down a regular job due to educational, physical, or emotional problems. An alarming increase within the child care population today is due to widespread child abuse and neglect in the state. Hundreds of children are coming into care because of the abuses inflicted upon them by their parents. These children seem to adapt more easily to group care than to foster care.

The Duke Endowment makes an annual grant to our Home of about \$13,000. The Duke Endowment has been a friend of children for many years and our Children's Home is grateful for their support.

with us: Mrs. Lillie McLawhorn from Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Mrs. Madie Lee Bryant from Durham, and Mrs. Edgar W. Hooks Sr. from the Grifton nursing home.

All the honorees received red carnations or boutonnières as they entered the church.

Mrs. Mary Alice Davenport and Miss Kay Jones paid special tribute to the senior citizens, assuring them that they were needed, loved, and appreciated by all. Mrs. H. L. Wingate read a poem that was written by her mother, Mrs. Lillie McLawhorn, “What Does the Church Mean to You?”

Our pastor, the Rev. C. H. Overman, expressed personal appreciation for those honored. His comments on “Things Learned from Older People” were most interesting.

Following the service a covered-dish dinner was served in the fellowship hall. A summer decor was featured using bouquets of roses on the special tables where the senior citizens were seated for lunch.

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MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

submitted by W. Burkette Raper

ANNUAL MINISTERS' INSTITUTE

The annual Ministers' Institute at Mount Olive College will be held August 11, 12 with the theme 'Directions for the 80's.'

Events for Monday, August 11, will include registration and refreshments at 9:30 a. m. Speakers for the morning session will include devotions by the Rev. Bryant Hines of Goldsboro and special presentations on 'The Church in Mission in the 80's' and 'Factors in Church Growth in the 80's' by the Rev. O. D. Martin Jr., Director of Stewardship for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

The leader for the morning worship service will be the Rev. Bill Dale of Goldsboro with the sermon being delivered by the Rev. Ray Wells, pastor of Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County.

At 1:30 p. m. there will be a special session devoted to 'Planning a Four-Year Curriculum at Mount Olive College for Ministers.' All interested ministers are cordially invited to attend and participate in this discussion. Special invitations have been issued to the Boards of Ordination of each conference to attend. The primary purpose of this session will be to receive information from our Free Will Baptist ministers on the kind of education they feel will best serve the needs of persons answering the call to the Christian ministry.

On Tuesday, August 12, morning devotions will be conducted by the Rev. John Owens pastor of Snow Hill Free Will

Baptist Church in Duplin County.

Major items on the program for the day include a presentation on 'Conflict and Management' by Chaplain Vernon Wall of Wilson, North Carolina.

The Rev. Gary Bailey, pastor of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, will be the leader for the morning worship service and the sermon will be delivered by the Rev. Earl Glenn, pastor of LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church.

In the afternoon there will be a presentation on 'Time Management for the Pastor' by the Rev. Cedric Pierce, pastor of Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church in Pitt County.

The Institute will be summarized by the Rev. DeWayne Eakes, pastor of Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama.

MARTIN TO BE SPEAKER

The Rev. Oscar D. Martin Jr. is to be the speaker at the Free Will Baptist Ministers' Institute at Mount Olive College on August 11.

O. D. Martin Jr. is the Director of the Division of Stewardship for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. He became director of this newly-created division September 1, 1977. Before coming to North Carolina to serve in this capacity, the Rev. and Mrs. Martin served for 16 years as Southern Baptist missionaries to Brazil.

Mr. Martin, son of a Baptist minister, was born in Houston, Texas. He graduated from Baylor University, Waco, Texas,

with the bachelor of arts degree, and from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, with the bachelor of divinity and master of theology degrees.

MY 3-DIMENSIONAL VIEW OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Mrs. Ruth B. Allen

I feel that I am in a truly unique position here at Mount Olive College and I am able to view the College as few people can. My 3-dimensional view includes that of Free Will Baptist, student, and staff member.

As a member of Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, I see Mount Olive College through the eyes of a Free Will Baptist. I perceive the College as being a tool used to help further both the growth and strength of the Free Will Baptist denomination. It is at Mount Olive College that Free Will Baptist ministers are able to receive assistance that will make an education not just a dream but a reality for them. They in turn can then go back into the local churches and be better prepared to do the work to which God has called them.

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ has called us to come apart and be a separate people. Mount Olive College has done just that in the area of education. A Christian environment in which to learn is available to anyone seeking that type of atmosphere in which to better prepare themselves for life. I am proud to say that here is an institution of higher learning that I am not afraid to have my child attend.

As a student of Mount Olive College, I have been astounded by the friendliness and willingness of the professors to assist students. Any student

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For August 10

THE CALL TO REBUILD

Lesson Text: Haggai 1:1-9

Memory Selection: Zechariah 8:3

I. INTRODUCTION

One of the great events in the history of Israel was the Babylonian captivity. In the providence of God, however, this was not the final destiny of the children of Abraham. Both Isaiah and Jeremiah, prophets of God, foretold that there would be a return from Babylon. The Persian monarch, Cyrus, issued his decree that made this return possible, and in 536 B. C. some forty-three thousand persons from the exile returned to their homeland (Ezra 2).

The settlers lost little time in rebuilding "the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings therein" (Ezra 3:2). In the second month of the next year the foundation of the temple was laid (Ezra 3:8-11). It seems that the people had a sincere desire to rebuild the spiritual foundations of the nation. However, difficulties arose, and their zeal did not remain constant.

Two things served to dampen their ardor. One was opposition. Certain "adversaries of Judah," the mixed population of the land (partly Israelite and partly heathen; see 2 Kings 17:24) offered to help with work of the temple, but their offer was declined. Subsequently, they "troubled them in building . . . all the days of Cyrus king of Persia" (Ezra 4:1-5). The second factor in the delay in building the temple was the preoccupation of the people with the construction of their own dwellings instead of God's house.

Among those who had returned from Babylon were the Prophets Haggai and Zechariah. Little is known of either of them, but from their messages we gather that they were men of faith and determination. Both of them exhorted the people to finish the task of rebuilding the temple. Haggai met their excuses, chided their selfishness, and urged them to get on with the task.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. After Cyrus the king of Persia had overthrown the Babylonians and had given the Jews permission to return to their homeland, they recognized their good fortune as the working out of the will of God for them. In the seventh month of the year of their return they "built the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings thereon" (Ezra 3:2). In the second month of the next year the foundations of the temple were laid (Ezra 3:8-11). Thus the people began with great enthusiasm by laying a spiritual foundation in the homeland.

B. However, when difficulties arose, their zeal did not remain constant. The work that was begun with such fervor soon came to be neglected, and for about sixteen years or more the work of rebuilding was stopped. If everything had been easy, perhaps it would not have been interrupted. But there was opposition from certain adversaries, undoubtedly the Samaritans. They had offered their help to Zerubbabel to work on the temple, but the offer was declined. Therefore they "weakened the hands of the

people of Judah, and troubled them in building" (Ezra 4:4). "Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it ceased unto the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia" (Ezra 4:24).

C. It was at this time that God raised up the Prophets Haggai and Zechariah. These two were without doubt born in exile, but they were among those who chose to return to the land of their fathers. We do not know their ages or the exact time of their return. However, it appears that Haggai was the older of the two. Zechariah was a young man when he began his ministry (Zechariah 2:4). We can learn from their messages that they were men of unquestioned faith and determination. The love of others might wax cold, but Haggai and Zechariah were constant in their love and devotion to God and the rebuilding of Jerusalem.

— **The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. For about two years nothing was done on the temple. Then Haggai and Zechariah, God's prophets during the restoration (Malachi was also a prophet at this time), urged the people to go back to work. The time was about 520 B. C., fifteen years after the rebuilding of the temple had begun. Had it not been for these two prophets, whose messages stirred the people to action, the temple and the religious fervor of the Jews might have failed.

B. Actually little is known of Haggai. He is believed to have been born in Babylon and was relatively young when he returned to Jerusalem. He is regarded by the Jews as the first prophet who prophesied after the captivity. Zechariah was also a young prophet and upon his return to Jerusalem joined Haggai in pressing for the completion of the temple.

— **The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)**

The Mark of the Beast

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

Time is running out, it's about over, Jesus is coming soon. Whatever we do we must do now. The enemy is working overtime in his effort to deceive the church. Satan's victories depend entirely upon defeat; he cannot stand exposure. Satan did not win a victory at Calvary. Satan was defeated at Calvary. We are not out to win a victory, but to enforce one. The victory has already been won. The only hope that the devil has for victory is through defeat. He exists only by the will of God.

God has no trouble with the devil. He could have put him in Hell 6,000 years ago. He's no problem to God; he's just part of the scheme. The Bible tells us that it was a messenger of Satan that kept Paul from being exalted. So Satan exists only by the will of God, and his kingdom is built entirely on a lie.

If he can make you believe that he has authority over your life, then you are surely defeated. The deceit of Satan works in two directions. He'll accuse God's Word of being a lie as his first attack. He'll tell you that the Bible is not true. He'll tell you that there is no Heaven or Hell, that there is no God or devil. He will tell you that there is no mark of the beast. And he will make some minds believe that God is a lie.

The fool has said in his heart there is no God, but very few people will believe this. So Satan will change his tactics. He'll admit that there is a Heaven and that there is a God. He'll admit that there is a Hell and that there is a mark of the beast. He will even say that there is such a thing as a devil. And he'll interpret him as one wearing a red suit with horns and a forked tail and a pitchfork, and that he will be forking people around in Hell. But he will not be forking anyone

around, because Hell will be hotter for him than anyone else down there.

He has told the church that the beast is future and somewhere down the road there will be a decision to make as to whether or not they will take the mark of the beast. That is a Hell-sold lie. That branding day when 666 is placed on the right hand or in the forehead, whatever that hellist mark might be, it will be entirely too late for you to make a decision. For you are being marked now if you are to be branded then. But because Hell has sold this lie to the church many church members will live out their lives in a lukewarm condition, telling themselves that if they happen to miss the Rapture they will just simply refuse the mark of the beast—meaning the brand in the right hand or in the forehead. When we speak of the mark of the beast we speak of much more than just a brand on the right hand or on the forehead.

In the cattle country, the cattle are branded with an emblem which shows that the animals belong to that man. He brands them because they are his. And in that roundup day, and perhaps in the near future, the antichrist will brand those that belong to him. He will not brand one person that belongs to God; there will be no brand of Hell placed on one child of God. He will brand those that are already his, and who were made his while they lived and breathed. A lot of them sat regularly on a church pew.

In Revelation 15:2 we read about a people who had gotten the victory over the beast and over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on a sea of glass, having the harps of God. This is a very important verse because it gives much information to the

saint of God as to what is taking place. God tells us that this is a people who have already won the victory over the mark of the beast. It tells me, thank God, that I don't have to be marked. Jesus said, "Because I have overcome, you too can overcome." Because He lives, I can live. This verse tells us that these people overcame. Thank God, we can overcome, too.

This verse tells us something about what the mark of the beast is. They had overcome the number of his name. They had overcome the character of his name. A person is known by his character, and to know his name is to know his character.

In the Bible there are only two forces, God and the devil, good and evil, light and darkness; and both forces seek man to be their own. God seeks man to be born again; and to be born again, one must put on the very nature of God. And to be marked by the devil, one must take on the nature of the devil. During the ministry of Peter and John, the people took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. That is having the mark of God. You can also take knowledge of those that have been with the devil. Look at Cain; he had a mark on him.

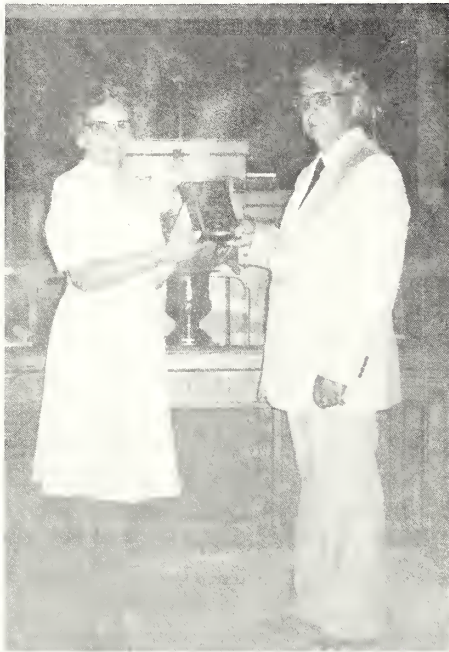
People today are saying, if God doesn't do what I want Him to, I'll burn the schoolhouse down, I'll split the church, or I'll cause a strike. The devil is trying to deceive all the churches. The only way the devil can come to church is to wear someone's dress or someone's pants. He cannot come to church with a sack to kidnap someone; his whole work is through people.

John said that the spirit of the antichrist was already in the world. It's already doing his work. All he will have to do in the Tribulation is to brand those that belong to him.

Because time is running out, you should prepare yourself for His Second Coming and for the evil days that follow.

CAPE FEAR UNION HONORS MRS. RUTH L. WARRICK

This tribute was paid by the Rev. Mike Scott, pastor of Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church at the Cape Fear Union Meeting at Tee's Chapel church on June 28, 1980.



Mrs. Ruth L. Warrick and the Rev. Ed Taylor

The person we honor today is one of both integrity and virtue. She is a person who is dedicated to God, the Word of God, the Kingdom of God, and the glorification of the Son of God. There is no task so great that she will not attempt it with the help of God; nor is there a job that she deems too small to accomplish for the glory of God. This lady is a blessing and an inspiration to her community, her church, and her pastor. She is more than a church member, more than a parishioner. She is a valued friend and prayer partner. If I ask her to join me in prayer for a certain cause, she does. And she continues to pray until the answer comes. Her faith is undaunted, her commitment is unequalled, and her love for God and others is unmatched.

This lady has been a member of the Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church since she was 12

years of age. She has worked actively in her church since that time. She visits the sick and shut-ins, fixes meals when needed, sings in the church choir, has served as church clerk, has been on numerous committees, and presently serves on the Missions committee. She teaches a Sunday school class, which she has been teaching for 37 years. The class is named in her honor. This sister in the Lord knows the Word of God as well and better than many ministers. She is an active worker in the local auxiliary, and has held virtually every office. She attends the Woman's Auxiliary retreat at Cragmont every year, and has served as its co-director.

On a larger scale she has been involved in the work of the Cape Fear Conference. She has served as Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Union Meeting for approximately 20 years. She has been President of the District Auxiliary Convention at two intervals, and has also served as its Vice President. She has been honored with a life membership award on the district level.

She has also worked on the state level by serving as secretary to the State Auxiliary Convention and as program chairman. Currently she is serving as corresponding secretary. She has contributed numerous articles to the program book, **Devotion**.

This lady is a strong believer in education and serves on the Cape Fear Board of Education.

NOTICE

The book which will be used for the Minister's Institute to be held at Mount Olive College on August 11, 12, will be entitled **Understanding Anger in the Church** by Daniel G. Bagby. It can be ordered from the Ayden Bible and Bookstore.

MY 3-D VIEW OF MOC

Continued from Page 11

needing and desiring help with a problem can be assured that his or her needs will be met with sincere concern.

In my position as a staff member at the College I see committed people working together harmoniously to achieve a common goal. Offering Christian education in the world in which we live is not an easy task, but it is made possible here at Mount Olive because of the dedication and hard work put forth in the name of service to our Lord.

I am proud of Mount Olive College! I am proud to be a Free Will Baptist **supporting** it; I am proud to be a student **attending** it; I am proud to be a staff member **working** with it.

Together, with your prayers and financial support, we can fulfill the dream of Free Will Baptists through Mount Olive College in building College Hall and attaining four-year status.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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Nothing costs so little and goes so far as Christian courtesy.

IN MEMORY OF BJ

(Continued from Page 9)

long with a lot of pain, he chose to leave this life to enter a world of no more suffering and no more pain. On July 23, 1979, only two and one-half years old, our little BJ died. I can't explain what I felt. My husband and I, along with the rest of the family just couldn't accept his death. It all happened so fast, one day we were loving and holding him in our arms and the next, he was gone.

Two weeks after his death, my husband and I, his cousins, Dee and Angie, received Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour. A new day, a new life, we so long mourn for. Without God in my life I could not have made it. He gave me the strength to carry on. He showed me that I could be strong. At times of trouble and need to talk to a friend or parent it doesn't come so easy when there's a death in the family, because what you are going through no one could possibly understand. They come to you or they know you need some comfort and to tell you everything will work out, but for me God was there all the time. He was there when I needed someone to talk to. He was there when no one else was. I believe that God will give us the grace necessary to be strong and he will give us the understanding to know His will and His love.

On December 7, 1979, we were blessed with another son, Christopher Aaron. BJ would have loved his little brother. I know he'll never take his place, but he has filled my empty arms that have been longing to hold a child so close to my heart. He has eased the pain, yet pain strikes back for he brings back so many memories. I hold him and have a good cry. For I know God will help me to tell him about his brother and he'll come to know his brother and love him the way we all do.

LITTLE ANGELS

When God calls little children to dwell with Him above.
We mortals sometimes question the wisdom of His love.
For no heartache compares with the death of one small child.
Who does so much to make our world seem wonderful and mild.
Perhaps God tires of calling the aged to his fold.
So He picks a rose before it can grow old.

God knows how much we need them, and so He takes but few.
To make the land of Heaven more beautiful to view.
Believing this is difficult still somehow we must try,
The saddest word mankind knows will always be "good-bye."
So when a little child departs, we who are left behind
Must realize God loves children
Angels are hard to find.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

¹⁰The Free Will Baptist, August 10, 1938, pp. 3 and 8.

¹¹Program of Organ Dedication at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, August 24, 1947.

¹²D. W. Hansley, Free Will Baptist Historical Collection, Information File.

¹³Minutes of the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, April 30, 1962, pp. 119-200.

"Senior Citizens' Day"

(Continued from Page 10)

We surprised Mr. Ed Hill since it was his 90th birthday. Mrs. Edna Earl McLawhorn baked him a cake. Mrs. Hazel Hart paid special tribute to Mr. Hill

by presenting "This Is Your Life," closing with the statement that he was a fine southern Christian gentleman. He was also recognized for having been so supportive and active in the Hull Road church and the Ayden church so many years. We wished him many more happy birthdays.

We were glad to have Mr. Hill's daughter and her family from Zebulon to celebrate with us: Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hales and daughter, Miss Celia Hales.

Our senior citizens have meant so much to our country and our church. We can say that Ayden Free Will Baptist Church was happy for the opportunity to honor those older members who have meant so much to our church and community and who will continue to be a vital part of our lives.

READER WRITES

I enjoy the paper so very much and I want to say "Thank you, staff" for a job well done. Every Free Will Baptist should be very proud of our Press, I certainly am.

May the Lord bless you all in all your work is my prayer.

Ruby B. Griffin

A praying man can never be a useless man.

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

Our conversation was interrupted as the call to order was given and prayer was offered for the meal. I remember thinking, rather sadly, how hurt our Lord must have felt when He was rejected and despised by His own people.

I am surely thankful that the God of Heaven, the Father of our Lord, does not play a hide-and-seek game with us, as suggested by the rabbi, I am thankful, too, that He has shown Himself to us through Christ. And I'm glad that He is not willing that any should perish—not even a rabbi who derogates His Son.

Though my witness may not have been as effective as I would want, at least I claimed the Son as my Saviour and offered Him to one of the descendants of Abraham.

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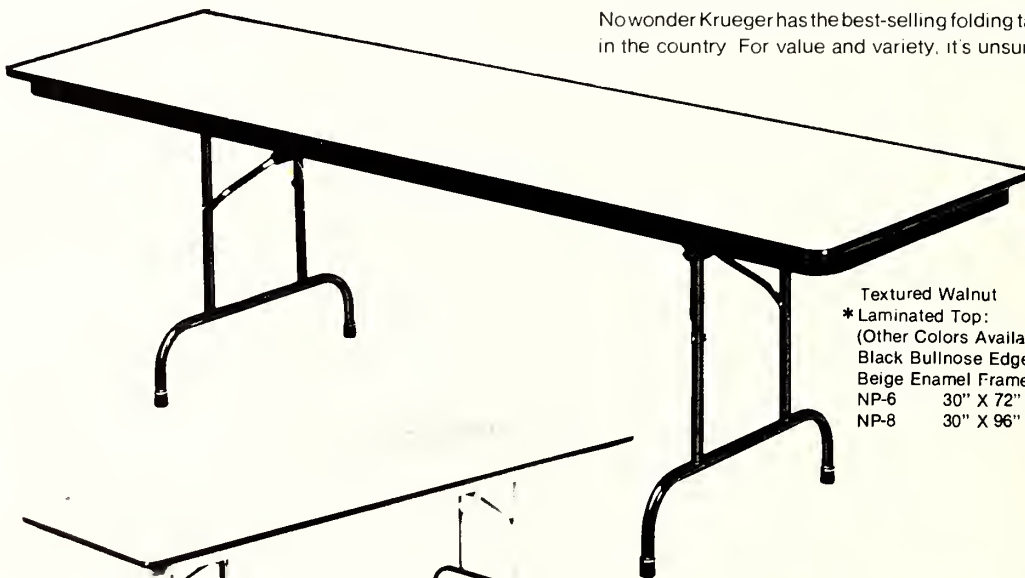
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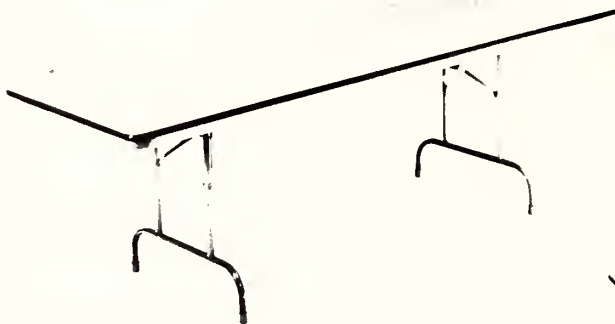
Leg sections are seam-welded tubular steel. To assure long service, they are unit-welded for strength under strenuous use. Chip-resistant enamel in an array of colors plus select models in chrome.

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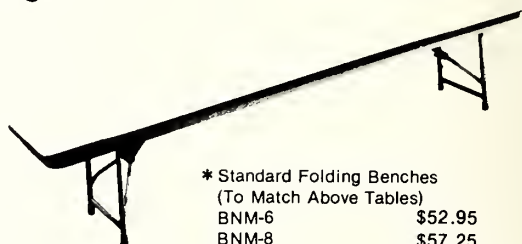
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



Christian faith affords a person a more promising future and, in that sense, deters growing old aimlessly and purposelessly.

CHRISTIAN FAITH DETERS AGING

A recent scientific study indicates that religion is good for the elderly. Dr. J. Cotter Hirschberg, noted psychiatrist, said during a St. Paul, Minnesota, seminar for clergy and physicians: "The aging process can be slowed down by the individual's belief in his continued ability to cope, by his activity in reality, and by a relevant faith."

Faith, as most of us know it, has been described as the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen, and for generations has been the reason that people carry on and hold up under pressure and hardship. It comes as no surprise to the dedicated Christian that faith can help one cope, face reality, and have reason to live.

But faith in just anything will not do. That is why we personally dislike the term "religion." Almost any philosophy can be categorized as religion, if one defines it as a set of attitudes, beliefs or practices, or a cause, principle, or system of beliefs held to with ardor and faith.

But **Christian faith**, while indeed a religion, is much more. It involves belief in a living Lord, eternal from the foundation of the world. It is based on the greatest life ever lived and the divine principles of His Father. The faith thereof is a living faith, an active faith, a faith which makes it possible to cope and face reality, a faith which makes it easier to live—and to die.

For many years, medical doctors have insisted that **attitude** has much to do with one's recovering from a serious sickness. If one has determination, they say, his chances are greater for full recovery. Even those near death are able to return to productive living, if they have the will.

Doctors have been heard to remark, when assessing the physical condition of a critically ill patient, "It is out of my hands. I have done all I can. It's now up to Somebody else." Whether intended or not, this statement seems a reference to the Almighty and His power. Some doctors go so far as to say, "Barring some miracle, he (or she) just simply cannot make it. We've exhausted every medical possibility." For the aged person, this evaluation bears particular significance, for physically speaking there is often the problem of having to deal with deterioration and general deconditioning of the body.

Interestingly enough, by comparison, the sick or ailing persons of advanced age I've known seem to exercise greater faith than many younger ones. They tend to accept "their lot" more graciously—especially if they are Christian. Many of them have been heard to insist, "The Lord has never failed me yet." Many of them have been seen to bounce back to life and activity. Those who did not nonetheless retained a quiet dignity, main-

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August 6, 1980

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Tommy Manning
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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DIVORCE and the CHURCH

Part III

by Bass Mitchell

THE church sees itself as a loving community called into existence for the purpose of sharing the good news that in Christ God has brought forgiveness and reconciliation into human life. Accordingly, the church reaches out to the poor, the sick, the elderly, the orphans, the alcoholics, the drug addicts, the lonely, the bereaved, and to any and all who are in need, both physical and spiritual need. Has the church anything to offer the divorced person? Is the good news only for those who have not been divorced? We must possess the faith to accept God's forgiveness and the fact that God's presence and power are available and at work in the most wretched situations.¹⁸ We cannot separate God's judgment from God's grace, for they go hand in hand. Even when the prophets proclaimed God's judgment upon Israel, the purpose was not so much to punish the people as to call them back to faith in God and to live in accordance to God's commandments. Who is not under God's judgment? Who has not sinned and continues without faith? Who will not be allowed to receive God's forgiveness and grace who is truly repentant? This is the heart of the gospel, that God's love in Christ comes

to us where we are, accepts us as we are, makes it impossible for us to stay as we are, and breaks down all the walls of hostility. God's grace is at work even when it is not acknowledged as such. I see God's grace at work in non-Christian marriages in which reconciliation and forgiveness are present in their relationships. Is there not some grace in divorce itself? In a marriage in which a couple have not fulfilled God's ideal for marriage and the relationship has reached such a point of alienation and hostility, the most loving and merciful alternative is divorce. "So far from being an attack on marriage, divorce in fact is an attempt to protect its sanctity and preserve its permanence. . . . Where love is, there marriage is; where love is not, marriage has ceased to be. . . . If a loveless marriage is chaste just because it is legal, then chastity is a thing of rite and rote, an empty form and not a principle of purity at all."¹⁹ God's grace comes to us even in our greatest failures and weaknesses, but it strengthens us in not allowing them to remain in our lives. In the face of divorce, the church must proclaim a "forgiveness that leads to new life,"²⁰ a "forgiveness that restores the broken creation,"²¹ and a

"ministry that allows a person to achieve wholeness."²² The church can do these things by working for reconciliation in the individual to himself, to the former spouse, and to the community.

Each partner must be reconciled to their individual selves. Often they feel that "they are disqualified as human beings and as members of the church by reason of the failure of their marriages."²³ Many times the church is not even aware that they are feeling these things. The church could become more sensitive to such feelings through seminars to explore the whole question of divorce. This should include the presence of divorced persons for first-hand accounts of their feelings and problems, and how the church could best minister to them. Also, there is much that can be said for the confessional system of penance in the Roman Catholic Church. Protestants would do well to think seriously about a more formal means of confession. This would provide a visible means in which persons could confess their sins and receive a true sense of God's forgiveness, and thus a release from the burden of guilt. Another way in which the church could

Turn the Page

help bring the sense of reconciliation to the divorced person is through the administration of the sacraments and a meaningful liturgy. The sacraments can help the person acknowledge sin and experience God's forgiveness for a new life. The proper use of liturgy and worship can provide a tremendous ministry to the divorced person. Through this liturgy and sensitivity to God's forgiveness of even the failure of divorce, we all can begin to feel with them, share in their pain, and learn with them a deeper meaning of God's grace. The church can also provide supportive groups for divorced and single people, but it should not be limited to unmarried people alone but be a mixed group of married and unmarried people.²⁴ The church should certainly make counseling available to the divorced person to help him/her cope with their feelings in a context of Christian love and forgiveness. Counseling is especially important if the person decides later on to remarry. There is no unified position in the church on the question of remarrying a divorced person. But it seems to me that the church must at least see remarriage as a possible means for further reconciliation and the continuation of God's forgiveness. If we refuse to allow the divorced person to remarry, then in essence we are saying that God cannot forgive them. Let those among us who are without sin cast the first stone at the divorced person. The church has the responsibility through its counseling ministry to help the divorced person "work through the attitudes and feelings that were contributory to the failure in the first place,"²⁵ not to determine for God who will receive forgiveness. Unless the person comes to understand the problems in the past marriage, there is a good chance that those same problems will be carried over into the next marriage. The time factor is important in

remarriage. "Psychologists have found that the vast majority of those who remarry in the first year following a divorce tend to seek out and re-establish the same debilitating relations that led to the breakdown of the former marriage relation. Sociologists have found that more than 50 percent of persons who get divorced get remarried in the first year."²⁶ The church can help the person contemplating remarriage to see that agape love must reign in the marriage relationship. This is the love that has enabled them to be forgiven, accepted by God, and given a new life. This love calls for the same love toward the other in marriage. Agape love is the kind of love that Christ has for us, a love that led him to the sacrifice of His life. Agape love helps the person turn from self as the center of value to God and the other. This love will then manifest itself in a continual process of forgiving and reconciliation in the marriage relationship. It will also express itself in a sincere respect for the other as an individual; it will show sensitivity to the whole person as a Thou and not an It; this love will be a disinterested love that loves freely, purely, and unselfishly. Without regard for self, this love will express itself in a deep sense of responsibility for the needs of the other. If the church can help the divorced person come to this point of reconciliation, then reconciliation to the former mate may be achieved.

One of the principal ways in which the church can help bring about reconciliation between the former marriage partners is to provide a religious service for the ending of the marriage just as it does for its beginning. This service would not be for the purpose of sanctifying divorce but rather as a means for communicating God's grace and forgiveness for a new life.²⁷ The emphasis in the service should be placed on the confession of mutual responsibility, the need

for God's forgiveness, the need to forgive each other, and greater commitment to God as they begin new lives. As the church is to do all in its power to sustain and nourish marriage, it must equally render its resources of forgiveness and love when a marriage falls.

If reconciliation is established in the individuals themselves and between them, then they are well on their way to reconciliation with their community and church. A large part of this problem has been the confusion on the part of the church and its clergy to know how to respond to the divorced person. Sometimes the church will openly reject the person. There are ordinances in the by-laws of some denominations that refuse to allow a divorced person to become a deacon or minister. This is a blatant misjustice and totally alien to the mind of Christ. The church must be a loving and forgiving community that stretches out its arms to embrace the person crushed under the failure of divorce, not add to their guilt and suffering.

The church must address the accompanying problems of divorce. The church can work to provide more realistic expectations of marriage and stand up against that self-centeredness that sees marriage only as a tentative arrangement to be dissolved at will. The church can provide centers of refuge for wives and children fleeing from the hostility so prevalent in many homes. Responsible love requires that the church provide couples with the concept of Christian stewardship in financial matters, in their relationship as fellow creatures, and toward their children. Bonhoeffer said it beautifully, in a prison of all places, "God has laid on marriage a blessing and a burden. The blessing is the promise of children. God allows man to share in his continual work of creation . . . 'Children are a heritage from the Lord' (Psalm 127:3), and they should

be acknowledged as such."²⁸ The church has the responsibility to make the child of a broken home feel loved and accepted. This is part of what James Emerson means when he says that a divorced woman needs a "meaningful man." He suggests that the children of a divorced woman can find a father image in the men of the church. This means that the fathers in the church could take time out for the children of the divorced woman, include them in family activities, and give them a father image.²⁹ The church would thus be giving support to the single parent. The church could render further support by participating in and sponsoring such organizations as "Parents Without Partners."

There is no end to the responsibility of the church to minister to the needs of the divorced person. The church must be constantly upholding the goodness of marriage as God has planned it, and at the same time proclaiming God's judgment when that goodness is defiled by human self-centeredness. But the church cannot stop with the message of judgment, it must go on to proclaim the message of forgiveness and love in Christ that makes new life possible for us all.

¹⁸William B. Oglesby, Jr., "Divorce and Remarriage in Christian Perspective," in *Pastoral Psychology*, Summer 1977, Vol. 25, No. 4, p. 287.

¹⁹Newton, p. 87.

²⁰Olshewsky, p. 127.

²¹James G. Emerson, Jr., "Marriage and Remarriage: Questions About Forgiveness," in *Sex, Family, and Society: in theological focus*, ed. J. C. Wynn (New York: Association Press, 1966), p. 156.

²²James G. Emerson. "The Church and the Divorced Woman," in *Pastoral Psychology*, December 1967, Vol. 18, p. 24.

²³Oglesby, p. 283.

²⁴Emerson, p. 26.

²⁵Oglesby, p. 292.

²⁶Olshewsky, p. 136.

²⁷For an example of such a service see the article by Mary M. Schideler,

"An Amicable Divorce," in *The Christian Century*, May 5, 1971, p. 555

²⁸Dietrich Bonhoeffer. "A Wedding Sermon from a Prison Cell," in *20 Centuries of Great Preaching: An*

Encyclopedia of Preaching, eds. Clyde E. Fant Jr. and William M. Pinson Jr. (Waco, Texas: Word Books, Publishers, 1971), Vol. XII, p. 136.

²⁹Emerson, pp. 26-27.

News from

Cragmont Assembly

Christian Cadet Conference

by James Cahoon



The Christian Cadet Conference was held at Cragmont during the week of June 23-27, 1980. We had a wonderful week and God blessed us abundantly. There were twenty-two people who made first-time decisions to follow the way of our Lord. There were many who rededicated their lives and those who sought strength from Jesus Christ at the altar during our services.

Our camp week was filled with fun, excitement, and worship. Although it rained the first three days of camp, it did not seem to dampen the spirits of the campers nor the counselors. God continued to supply the blessings along with the rain. Our days were filled with teaching classes, singing classes, worship ser-

vices, softball, volleyball, horse-shoes, basketball, swimming, craft classes, mountain climbing, Kangaroo Court, films, talent shows, shaving cream fights, and a trip to the mall in Asheville on Wednesday afternoon. We had a busy week and it was a spiritual revival for many of us.

We received excellent cooperation from the managers and workers at Cragmont and we certainly appreciate all that they did to make our camp week a success.

We appreciate our director, Bobby Taylor, who spent many hours of planning, corresponding, and directing, even before the camp week began.

(Continued on Page 13)

CORNERSTONE

DEDICATED TO RONNIE AND MITZI HOBGOOD

*submitted by Peggy M. Bailey
Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church
Robersonville, North Carolina*

SUNDAY, June 8, 1980, marked the first anniversary of Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church's full-time ministry. The church is located one mile southwest of the Bear Grass Community in Martin County.

The congregation chose this Sunday to dedicate a cornerstone indicating the year the church was organized. Under the leadership of the pastor, Ronnie Hobgood, the church members voted to buy and install the stone showing the name of the church, the date it was organized, and that it was of the original faith.

The church was organized in 1896 and after 83 years of part-time worship services the members voted to become full-time during 1979. The Sunday school was very strong and a parsonage had just been completed. Bruce Barrow and his wife, Alice, were ending their tenure at the church and under their direction, Ronnie and Mitzi Hobgood were steered in our direction.

Mr. Barrow preached the last sermon of his term during the mid-day services. The parsonage was then dedicated with Ronnie and Mitzi singing, "Bless This House." After some Scripture

was read and the prayer of dedication, a fellowship dinner followed. On that evening, June 10, 1979, the torch was passed in a sense from Mr. Barrow (part-time) to Ronnie (full-time).



Ronnie and Mitzi Hobgood

During the morning worship service June 8, just before the message, "One Year of Service" Mrs. Peggy Bailey, President of the Woman's Auxilliary, spoke about the feelings of the membership. Following are excerpts taken from her script.

"As we celebrate the first anniversary of Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church's full-time service, I would like to share my ideas and thoughts concerning

the activities and events I have witnessed during this year. As I think back, I can put these into three categories.

"First, we see transition. Next, we see effect. Third, we see hope and feel assurance of future growth spiritually and in numbers recorded on the roll.

"One of the things observed in the transition was the changing of the Sunday school's role. No longer was it used as the main worship service. Sunday school never was intended to take the place of morning worship. Now we can spend the entire hour in training and instructing classes in Bible study. It has become an auxilliary of a strong church rather than the major decision/policy maker.

"We have seen the young adult class reinstated. A new nursery class was begun. Teachers have assumed their jobs joyfully and with great expectancy. A Christian Board of Education, made up of lay people, has been formed. This board listens to suggestions, makes recommendations and serves as a sounding board when and if problems arise.

"Our youth have been exposed to retreats, Christian camp, field

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days, Christian recreation in many forms and good old-fashioned Bible study. Youth auxiliary groups from within the denomination meet and enjoy fellowship in activities that enhance a young person's Christian life. This is an area that has been sadly lacking in our church, even though we have had very good leaders. This just goes to show the influence a pastor has who is in the community and who knows what is going on in the denominational enterprises.

"The choir has bloomed under the guidance of Mitzi. She works in harmony with the numerous pianists, singers, and her own husband. She takes up the slack, and fills in the voids whenever the need arises.

"She conveyed her own confidence to the choir members and they performed their first Christmas Cantata. This was a highlight of the year. They also presented a program in music at Easter, which was drawn up by Ronnie and directed by Mitzi.

"Ronnie has kept the membership informed, through bulletins, newsletters, and phone calls, of all the various activities at the church. This has taken a tremendous amount of time, which he has given willingly. We really appreciate this since this is our first exposure to service of this type.

"We are now working on a visitation program. Much interest has been shown and we are anxious to put into practice some of the training we have received during the past few weeks.

"The pastor and deacons have established a regular visitation program to the sick and shut-ins. There is an opportunity to receive communion during these visits and the elderly and sick seem to appreciate this phase of our ministry.

"We are frequently asked, 'Have you grown or seen any difference since you went full-time?' Of course, our answer is 'Yes.' There have been several first-time decisions, letters received, and Christians rejuvenated.

"We have had a youth day, a women's day, and various other opportunities to work for the church. We have not missed fresh flowers for the church one Sunday. We have secured housekeepers for each week's cleaning and mowers for the lawn without a hitch. A nursery is provided for those who wish to use it.

"Yes, the effect of having a pastor in our community has been felt. Ronnie and Mitzi have adopted our community, our church and our people. They have shared in the birth and dedication of babies, the illness and death of members, and the growing pains of the church.

"They have served us with love that cannot be measured. Neither can all the results of that love be seen right now. The years to come will show the fruits of their labor. We appreciate their love, their service, their dedication to God and our church.

"In our Scriptures we find the instruction to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Let's follow those instructions and show Ronnie and Mitzi our gratitude and approval. If you don't feel applause is appropriate, let's hear AMEN.

"Since this is a special day and Ronnie has worked so hard to have the cornerstone installed, we in the Woman's Auxiliary do recommend that the church have entered in the Memorial Book that the cornerstone was purchased and installed in honor of Ronnie and Mitzi for the work they have done this year in our church."

After this part of the service, true to character, Ronnie gave the credit for all things done in the past year to the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit. He is most humble and never assumes any praise is due him. He truly feels God's leadership and seeks after the things that would bring glory and honor to Jesus Christ.

The service ended with Ronnie's message and the dedication of the cornerstone. A fellowship luncheon was served immediately following these activities.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. A. B. Bryan, pastor of Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, will be ending his pastorate there soon and will be moving to his home on Route 1, Dudley, North Carolina. He has been pastor of Robert's Grove for six years. Before going to this church he was pastor of Northeast church, Mount Olive, North Carolina, for five years. He is a lifelong Free Will Baptist and is an experienced minister.

His pastoral plans are indefinite at the present time; however, Mr. Bryan plans to continue in pastoral work under the divine leadership. Any individual or church wishing to correspond with him may do so by writing to Route 1, Box 186-D, Dunn, North Carolina 28334, or phone 567-2188.

The Rev. Bass Mitchell announces that he is available for full-time or part-time ministerial service. He may be contacted by calling 286-4744 or by writing to Bass Mitchell, 2206 Guess Road, Durham, North Carolina 27705.

Coming Events . . .

August 10—Eastern District Fall Youth Convention Planning Session, Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, North Carolina, 3 p. m.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23

HE LEADETH ME

In pastures green? Not always;
sometimes He
Who knoweth best in kindness
leadeth me
In weary ways, where heavy
shadows be,
Out of the sunshine, warm and
soft and bright,
Out of the sunshine into darkest
night;
I oft would faint with sorrow and
affright
Only for this—I know He holds
my hand,
So whether in a green or desert
land
I trust, although I may not un-
derstand.

And by still waters? No, not
always so;
Ofttimes the heavy tempests
round me blow,
And o'er my soul the waves and
billows go,
But when the storm beats
loudest, and I cry
Aloud for help, the Master
standeth by
And whispers to my soul: "Lo! it
is I."
Above the tempest wild I hear
Him say
"Beyond this darkness lies the
perfect day;
In every path of thine I lead the
way."

So whether on the hilltop high
and fair
I dwell, or in the sunless valley
where
The shadows lie—what matters?
He is there.
And more than this; where'er
the pathway lead,

He gives to me no helpless,
broken reed
But his own hand sufficient for
my need
So where He leadeth I can safely
go
And in the blest hereafter I shall
know
Why, in His wisdom, He hath led
me so.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*As long as the Lord is with us,
we need not fear—not even the
troublesome valleys or the high,
high mountains. In every path
He leads the way. Rejoice in His
presence.*

MONDAY, AUGUST 11

Scripture Reading—John 4:6

I HAVE ONLY JOY!

All loved and believed Mother
Stetler who daily lived a
beautiful Christian life. As the
passing years exacted their toll
upon her, her health began to
fail. One day she said to her
pastor, "I am God's own through
grace, but, Pastor, I must
confess to you that I have a
great fear of death!" "You'll
have no fear, Mother, as you
enter the valley. The One for
whom you have lived over a long
span of years will not forsake
you when you come to the por-
tals of death."

Some days thereafter the
pastor stood by her bed. A smile
of ineffable glory wreathed her
face. Her lips started to move
and she said, "Pastor, soon I
shall behold the King in His
beauty. I have only joy, not
fear!" So saying, a redeemed
and radiant soul passed to be
forever with her Lord.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*If one knows the Lord, even
death does not seem too fore-
boding. The dying person can
look upon death as an escape to
glory, where he will ever be with
the Heavenly Father.*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

Scripture Reading—Exodus 20:1-17

GOD'S WISE REMINDERS

A king gave his little son a
silver arrow to carry about with
him wherever he went.
Whenever the prince was going
to do something wrong, the
arrow would prick him, and he
didn't like that at all. So, one
day, the prince left the arrow at
home, and, oh, the trouble he got
into! He was glad to get his
arrow back again! God, in His
infinite wisdom, gives us His
Law to keep us from sorrow and
sin, and guide us in the way of
right and happiness. When God
says, "Thou shalt," or "Thou
shalt not," He is only saying,
"Do thyself no harm!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

*God's commandments are
given as guides, as protectors. If
we follow the laws of God we will
be happy, knowing that we have
pleased Him and kept ourselves
from sorrow and sin.*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

Scripture Reading—John 3:16

MOODY'S LOVE FOR JESUS

"The first time I saw Mr.
Moody," said Mr. Reynolds,
"was in a little shanty that had

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Scripture Reading—Acts 4:28

MY JESUS AS THOU WILT!

How variable are the ambitions of growing boys! A minister's little boy said, "I'm going to be a streetcar conductor." Later he said, "I'm going to be an engineer." Still later he said, "I'm going to be a ball player." One day he saw the garbage collector dumping garbage into a big truck. He was fascinated and said, "I'm going to be a garbage collector!" His daddy was wise. He said to the boy, "My boy, you must be what God wants you to be. God needs ministers and missionaries. He also needs Christian school teachers, Christian nurses, Christian doctors, Christian judges and lawyers, and Christian businessmen. God has a plan for your life. Ask Him, 'Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God has a plan for every life. Sometimes He does indeed lead people into secular work—work which is necessary and honorable. Sometimes He leads them into full-time Christian service, no doubt the greatest of callings. Let us listen and be obedient to His call. Only in obedience can we be truly happy.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

I received a check today from a foreign missionary designated for home missions. I wish everybody was that unbiased.

As I watched them search him my life seemed to end.

PRAYER THOUGHT

True love for one's children begins and ends with discipline. Let no one discount the value of a child "trained the way he should go." Many a heartache can be avoided.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

Scripture Reading—1 John 5:14

CALL AND I WILL ANSWER

A devout Christian in Chicago developed a humanly incurable ailment—a tumor of the brain. Two of Chicago's greatest brain specialists were called in on the case. On the following Sunday, the pastor stood before his people, calling their attention to the critical illness of the fellow member. "We'll not have formal worship service this morning. Instead we will unitedly pray that the great Physician, Jesus, will work a miracle and completely restore His servant and our friend. We will trustingly claim the promise: 'And this is the confidence we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us' (1 John 5:14). Never have I felt the presence and power of the Holy Spirit as I now feel His presence! I know that God will hear our cry!" The service was turned into an old-fashioned prayer meeting. Before the meeting adjourned, the Christian doctor on the case entered and exclaimed, "Thank God! a miracle has happened! Our friend has a chance to live. God has answered prayer!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Prayer changes things." We have often heard and spoken the affirmation, but perhaps infrequently exercised the belief. Let us claim the promise of our Lord: "All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive."

been abandoned by a saloon keeper. Mr. Moody had gotten the place to hold a meeting in at night. I was there a little late, and the first thing I saw was a man standing up, holding a boy, and trying to read to him the story of the prodigal son. A great many of the words he could not make out and had to skip them. I thought: 'If the Lord can use such an instrument as that for His honor and glory, it will astonish me!' After the meeting was over, Moody said to me: "Reynolds, I have only one talent. I have no education, but I love the Lord Jesus Christ! I want to do something for Him. Pray for me!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Even the uneducated can witness to the saving love of Jesus Christ. Let no one insist that seminary training, however good, can replace the sincere feeling of the heart which desires the salvation of all.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

Scripture Reading—Job 31:11

I REARED A CRIMINAL

In the August, 1960, issue of the *Ladies' Home Journal* is an article entitled, "I Reared a Criminal." It is the true story of a heartbroken mother.

We quote:

We loved him, but—

His father was too busy to be with him when he was young.

I couldn't bring myself to punish him for misbehavior.

We sided against his teachers when they complained about his work (and conduct) in school.

As he grew up he would hardly discuss the time of day with us.

He was expelled from school.

We gave him money so he wouldn't steal again.

I wept when the police called and I had to turn my boy over to them

Foreign Missions

submitted by Joe Ingram

CHANGE IS NOT EASY

by Fred Baker



Kings boarding plane to Manila

June has brought many changes in our lives here in the Philippines. The rains have begun again for our rainy season. The dust has already turn into mud. The flies and mosquitoes are plentiful again. The grass and foliage are taking on new life. We look around and rejoice to know that our Heavenly Father controls it all.



Leaving the terminal going to plane

Just as God controls the seasons, so He controls the lives of His children. June also brought

another change into our lives. Our co-laborers, the King family, departed for the United States of America. We have already missed them. Our hearts are saddened by their leaving. Then we realize that we are only being selfish. God had another task that He needed Wayne, Deborah, and little Kelly to attend to. Our sadness turns to joy and praise that this family has said "Yes" to the leading of the Great Almighty God. Oh, that more believers would so yield their life to be used of the Master.



Saying good-bye to Kings

The tears at the Puerto Princesa Airport, where many friends gathered to say good-bye, were tears of sadness and of joy. How can we remain sad when our friends are walking in the footsteps of their Lord?

From all of our churches and from every member, we say "Thank You" North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists for sending the King family to the Philippines. Our Philippine Church has been blessed by their ministry here. We say "Thank You," Wayne, Deborah, and Kelly, for



Friends gathered to say good-bye to Kings

NOTICE

When renewing your subscription to THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, please include your complete address. We need the Box Number, along with the Route Number; or, House Number with a Street Name.

News Notes

L. D. Williams Ordained As Deacon

On Sunday, July 6, 1980, in an impressive service, L. D. Williams was ordained as a deacon at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Middlesex. The Rev. Paul Grubbs, pastor of the church, was in charge of the service. The other deacons of the church assisted.

Mr. Williams is a very active member of the church. He is always willing to go the extra mile for his church. He is a trustee of the church, and a member of Long Range Planning Committee. He is married to the former Maloye Hinton, who is also active in the church. They are the parents of one son, Ricky Williams of Raleigh.

After the service, everyone enjoyed an old-fashioned Fourth of July picnic with homemade lemonade. This is an annual event which everyone looks forward to every year.

(Continued on Page 13)

The Rev. Luby Tyner

Riverside Free Will Baptist Church near Princeton, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Luby Tyner. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A DEDICATED MAN

submitted by Louise Hartley



The Rev. Luby Tyner

A dedicated Christian who loves his work, his country, and his fellowman, the Rev. Luby Tyner was born and raised on a farm. It was located on Route 2, Smithfield, North Carolina, in Johnston County. He attended Pine Level Schools. He was married on October 12, 1946, to Ruby Creech, also of Johnston County. They have three children, two daughters, and a son. Nova Ann married Richard McKeel of Selma, who sings with the Missionaries, and Peggy Lynn married the Rev. Ernie Wayne Price. Their son, Luby Tyner Jr., is married to Renea Evans of Selma. They also have two grandchildren, Jeff McKeel, age 11, and Nikki Leigh Price, one year.

The Rev. Luby Tyner's present address is Route 2, Selma, North

Carolina. He served his country with the Marine Corps for five years and nine months during World War II. He was saved April 11, 1955, in the Selma Free Will Baptist Church. He has done pastoral work for twenty-two years. At the present time he is pastor of Riverside Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Princeton, North Carolina, and began on July 1 his fifth year with the church. He is now employed with the Department of Transportation of North Carolina located near Selma.

A TRIBUTE TO

SALLIE INA HILL HARRISON

Sallie Ina Hill Harrison went to receive her heavenly reward on July 2, 1980. After several years of declining health she died at her home at the age of 76.

Her parents were the late Levi and Edith Herring Hill, and she was a lifelong resident of Greene County.

Love, kindness, and generosity were some of her desirable character traits. She always showed great concern for the sick and shut-ins of the community. Her admiration for the beauties of nature was often evident because she enjoyed wearing a corsage of flowers picked from her own yard or garden.

She and Henry Milton Harrison were married December 26, 1923, and they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1973. They had two sons. The first was stillborn, and the second is Henry Milton Jr. of Charlotte. She is also survived by her husband, two grandsons, and a great grandson; along with a sister, Iola H. Barrow.

Being an active and dedicated member of Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church, she never wanted to miss a service as long as her health would permit. She contributed much through her regular attendance to Sunday school, the worship service, and the woman's auxiliary.

Her memorial service was held at Hull Road church by her pastor, the Rev. Leon Grubbs, and the Rev. Leonard B. Woodall, a former pastor. It was one of worship and praise. She was referred to as a gem in several aspects—that of a mother, a wife, a sister, a friend, a church member, and a grandmother. Her son paid tribute to her by sharing his own original poem.

He also gave an interpretation of the meaning of death that God revealed to him while the astronauts walked on the moon. They needed a space suit while there because of the foreign environment. When they returned to earth they no longer needed it. Likewise the Christian while living on this earth needs an "earth suit" or human body. When this life is over he no longer needs it because his spirit ascends to God.

A friend,
Helen T. Beaman

NOTICE

The book which will be used for the Minister's Institute to be held at Mount Olive College on August 11, 12, is entitled **Understanding Anger in the Church** by Daniel G. Bagby. It can be ordered from the Ayden Bible and Bookstore.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For August 17

RENEWAL UNDER NEHEMIAH

LESSON TEXT: Nehemiah 1:1-6; 8:9-12

MEMORY VERSE: Nehemiah 2:20

I. INTRODUCTION

The forty-three thousand exiles who returned to Judah by permission of Cyrus lost no time in rebuilding the altar of the God of Israel. The time was 536 B. C. The next year the foundation of the temple was laid. However, because of some opposition, and also because of indifference, work on the temple was discontinued for fifteen years, although the people went on building for themselves. Haggai and Zechariah persuaded the people that the work should be delayed no longer. In 520 B. C. building was resumed, and four years later the completed temple was dedicated.

Not much is known of the few decades following. Persia was still the dominant world power, but in 460 Egypt revolted. The revolt was crushed by the Persians in 454. Against this background is placed the return from Babylon, in 458 B. C., of another wave of Jewish exiles, to join their brethren already in Judah. Their leader was Ezra, the scribe (Ezra 7). Because of the revolt of Egypt, the Persian king Artaxerxes undoubtedly believed that his position would be strengthened by placing these new settlers in Judah. He could anticipate that, in gratitude for their repatriation, they would be loyal to him. And to make possible the return and to refurbish the temple, the king provided an abundance of silver and gold. Thus we see another

example of God's working through history to set forward His own purposes.

The events of our lesson begin some fourteen years after the return of Ezra to Jerusalem, events that concern Nehemiah. All that we know of this man comes from the book that bears his name, from his personal memoirs. It is evident that he was a man of prayer and one who could be aroused to action. He was concerned for the welfare of his people and was devoted to noble causes. Specifically, as we shall see, he had two main concerns: security for Jerusalem and the spiritual renewal of Judah.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. It would appear that the dedication of the second temple in Judah in 516 B. C. could have been the beginning of a new era of economic, moral, and religious growth, but such was not the case. After the dedication of the temple, there was a period of about sixty years that are passed over in silence in the biblical record. But later references in the Book of Malachi indicate that it was a time of moral and spiritual decline.

B. At the end of this period in 458 B. C. Ezra, a priest and a student of the law, received permission from Artaxerxes to lead a new expedition to Jerusalem. When he arrived, a matter of immediate concern was the fact that many Jews had divorced their Jewish wives to marry, advantageously, foreign

women. A commission of elders was assembled, and all of those foreign marriages were declared null and void. Then Ezra led in a reform movement, the chief result of which was to take the law out of the exclusive control of the priests and to put it into the hands of the people. This was a move of far-reaching and lasting consequences.

—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Nehemiah, principal character of our study today, was a man of strong feeling, resolute perseverance, and great energy. At the time of the events of our lesson he was in Susa, capital city of the Persians who had overthrown the Babylonians. Highly respected and loved by King Artaxerxes, he was the king's favorite cupbearer in 445 B. C. In turn Nehemiah was respectful and obedient to his master, thereby gaining the sympathy of the ruler who would presently show that sympathy by allowing Nehemiah to return to his people on a most important mission of mercy.

B. Ninety-one years had passed since a former Persian king, Cyrus, had decreed that the exiles from Judah should return to their homeland. Groups of them had returned at different times, but Nehemiah, who had grown up during these years, had remained in the land of captivity. Word came to him of the conditions in Jerusalem. The temple had been rebuilt but the city wall still lay in ruins. This was important to Nehemiah because the wall was a symbol of Jehovah's power and protection for His people. In its present state of ruin the wall was a reproach to God and the people. To prevent further disgrace to his God and to protect his people from hostile neighbors, Nehemiah desperately wanted to rebuild the wall.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)**

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Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

GRADUATES



Two of our graduates, Debbie Sasser and Tony Hill

Debbie Sasser and Tony Hill are our most recent graduates from high school. Debbie works at Belk's in Wilson and plans to continue her education at Wilson Tech. Tony has entered the Air Force and will be leaving us in July.

Debbie Marlow graduated from Wilson Tech in the GED program earlier this year, also. She is working toward independent living and will be with us for a while longer.

Claudius Elmore has finished most of his doctoral studies and will be doing his internship next year. He is well on his way to becoming Dr. Elmore.

We are proud of our young people. They all did very well.

We wish God's blessings on them as they go into new endeavors.

MORE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON COMPLIANCE

Could it be that we have finished what God called us to do in child care?

Does an army stop in the midst of a battle and say, "We are finished for today," and leave the battlefield. Does a mother stop caring for her child before the child is grown and say, "I'm finished?" Did our Lord come to the brink of His greatest test of His love and say, "It is enough, I won't go that far?"

No indeed! He went all the way to the Cross for all men, women and children. Now, as God calls our church to go the second mile for children, can we say, "It is enough, we've done all we are supposed to do as a church in child care; we fulfilled our commission." Hundreds of homeless children languish in poverty and want and rail under hands of abusive and neglectful parents. Yet some say we've done our part.

We sing, "Till the whole world knows," but what we really must mean is, "Till the world I want to know knows." We are not finished in child care until the last child is cared for. Just because the placement of children requires a cooperative effort does not mean God wants us to stop His work. His will is carried on through peoples and governments. It was Paul who reminds us that God works through civil authorities also

and that we should, as Christians, cooperate.

This answer may seem only an opinion to many readers, but we challenge you to find a scriptural basis for denying God's children the ministry of mercy offered through Christian child care. If we've finished our witness to homeless children, then our home missions, foreign missions and other outreach programs in the church are finished. We are not and will not be finished until the last child that it is possible to reach is fed, clothed and won to Jesus Christ.

CRAGMONT

(Continued from Page 5)

We appreciate the cooperation we received from Rouse Transportation Service and the efforts put forth by the bus drivers to get us to camp and back home safely.

Most of all, we thank God for allowing His spirit to move upon our camp in such a way as to convert the lives of many sinners and strengthen all the Christians present.

"We have a great big wonderful God." He has used our camp as a stomping ground against Satan. We, as Free Will Baptists, should be very thankful for a camp such as we have been blessed with.

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 10)

Old-Fashioned "Church Sing" At Pleasant Hill Church

Choral groups of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Highway 43 in Pitt County, will present an old-fashioned "church sing" Sunday night, August 10, at 7 p. m. Included in these groups will be the church choir, the church's mixed quartet, the Young People's Choir, and good congregational singing.

The pastor, the Rev. C. F. Bowen, extends a cordial invitation to everyone to attend this unusual service.

Quarterly Yoke Letter

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

Dear Friends:

The Christian faith, in its avowed catholicity, must always attempt to speak to the needs of all sorts and conditions of men. It must, therefore, minister to the young, but it must also minister to those who carry the burdens of middle years, and likewise to those who have entered into the evening of life. Partly because I am involved in it myself, I now have a special tenderness for those who are aware that they are experiencing the last chapter of their lives. The students whom I now address are my own contemporaries! I am glad to affirm now what I wrote more than thirty years ago, in the Preface to **The Common Ventures of Life**, "The best life for mankind will always be that life in which the inevitable experiences are undertaken with the most intelligence, reverence and courage." Just as death is inevitable for each of us, so is old age, unless there is the tragedy of early demise. Since old age normally cannot be avoided, and since we do not really wish to avoid it, the path of wisdom is to face it with expectancy.

The expectancy that is desired must be such that it is compatible with realism. By realism is meant the recognition that not all will be pleasant or comfortable. There will, undoubtedly, be diminution of energy, some dimming of eyesight and, for nearly all older persons, arthritic pain. The prevalence of such pain is indicated by the number of medications which are advertised for its relief. About all this there is, of course, nothing new. When Dr. Samuel Johnson wrote his greatest poem, **The**

Vanity of Human Wishes, he referred to the kind of pain known to nearly all older people, regardless of race or sex, in the line:

"Unnumber'd maladies his joints invade."

With this, millions can identify. When we say blithely, with Robert Browning "the best is yet to be," we run the risk of being gullible, unless we also face the dangers and difficulties of old age, without evasion. A visit to almost any nursing home should suffice to cure anyone of easy optimism. The last years of some people are simply dreadful!

Once we are realistic about the physical dangers, we must also be realistic about the spiritual and moral dangers of longevity. Partly because the pains and disappointments are real, it is easy for persons of advanced years to engage in complaints and recrimination. In spite of the obvious impediments of old age, there are actual advantages which are to some degree compensatory. One significant compensation of age is freedom from hurry. Whereas in most of our years some degree of hurry is a necessity, even for survival, in the final years a slower pace is wholly practicable. It is a genuine blessing not to have to dress with speed, or to fight the clock in trying to reach one's scene of employment. Much joy comes in doing the necessary tasks of life one at a time. It is especially pleasant not to be hectic in the effort to catch up with an over-demanding schedule.

A similar liberation of late maturity is freedom from ambition. For years, ambition to succeed in business or profession may be a driving urge, but the day comes when that pressure

can be removed. The mature woman may rightly look neat, but she has no need to appear on each occasion in a new dress. Her task is to be a good person, not to make an impression. It is chiefly by being good persons ourselves that we help others, our very courage in the face of adversity giving others more assistance than we realize, some of the noblest examples of human character appearing when the drive for success has become obsolete.

One of the experiences of maturity which demonstrates the advantage of a slow pace is the opening of the daily mail. Often, in middle life, this is an essentially hectic task, in which we are forced to hurry if we are to keep promises in other operations. The consequence is that we miss potential richness. Ideally the opening and reading of letters can rightly be seen as a spiritual exercise because some friendship may be renewed thereby. Since we cannot know who our correspondents will be, each envelope may rightly be approached with expectancy. Will I hear today from a person whose handwriting I have not seen for years? Will a message come from far away? Much as we complain about the inefficiency of the postal system, it is still true that it is the means of providing human connections which we value supremely.

Another advantage of late maturity is the possibility of solitude. In most of our active days we are thrown with other people or even beset with crowds. The older person can, if he or she desires, spend much time alone, and thereby become a better person. One who has seen this clearly is the late Albert Einstein, who wrote toward the end of his life, "I live in that solitude which is painful to youth, but delicious in the years of maturity." The single blessing of being allowed to be alone, without the necessity to

impress, is something that can counter-balance many difficulties.

Though the spiritual life may be nurtured in all periods of our earthly pilgrimage, it can be nurtured in old age with increasing attention. The Biblical injunction "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17) is not easily obeyed in the middle years, but may actually become practicable in the last chapter of life. There are many for whom we ought to pray, and prayer can, finally, be just under the surface of consciousness all of the time. It may help you to know that some persons, in spite of their physical weakness, are praying for you.

Prayer is especially important to persons of advanced years because, for some it is the only activity in which they can engage. While there are many written prayers which apply to the experiences of older people, there is one which stands out in a class by itself. Though not actually composed by Cardinal Newman, it consists of phrases which are his, and which appeared in two of his sermons. Because of his instinctive sense of English style, Newman was able to produce phrases which will be remembered as long as the language exists. His basic figure is that in which he compares life to a single day, a figure especially appealing to

those of advanced years, who love to sing "Abide with me; fast falls the eventide." The prayer with the haunting Newman phrases is as follows:

Support us, O Lord, all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, in thy mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last.

Amen.

I do not know how many years I yet have to live, but, however many or few they may be, I want to lift as many human burdens as I possibly can. We are always called to serve, but the calling is even more insistent when the time is short.

The ultimate wisdom about the final chapter comes from Christ himself who said, "We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes when no one can work." Here is the perfect combination of realism and hope. Though no one of us can know exactly when the night will come, we are nevertheless sure of its coming. The reasonable conclusion, therefore, is to determine to make the most of the few days we have. There is really nothing more to say and nothing more that needs to be said.

—D. Elton Trueblood

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

taining that the Lord's will shall be done, that a better place awaited them.

It is wonderful to be able to live and die for the Lord. It can be observed that the Christian elderly person has something going for him. He possesses a quality of life and expectancy that everyone does not have. Those older ones who look forward to eternal life with the Lord can naturally have a more enthusiastic attitude concerning the end time. Always there is that hope of eternal life with God.

So, whether or not Christian faith can make one younger, there is no doubt that it affords a person a more promising future. And in that sense, it deters growing old aimlessly and purposelessly.

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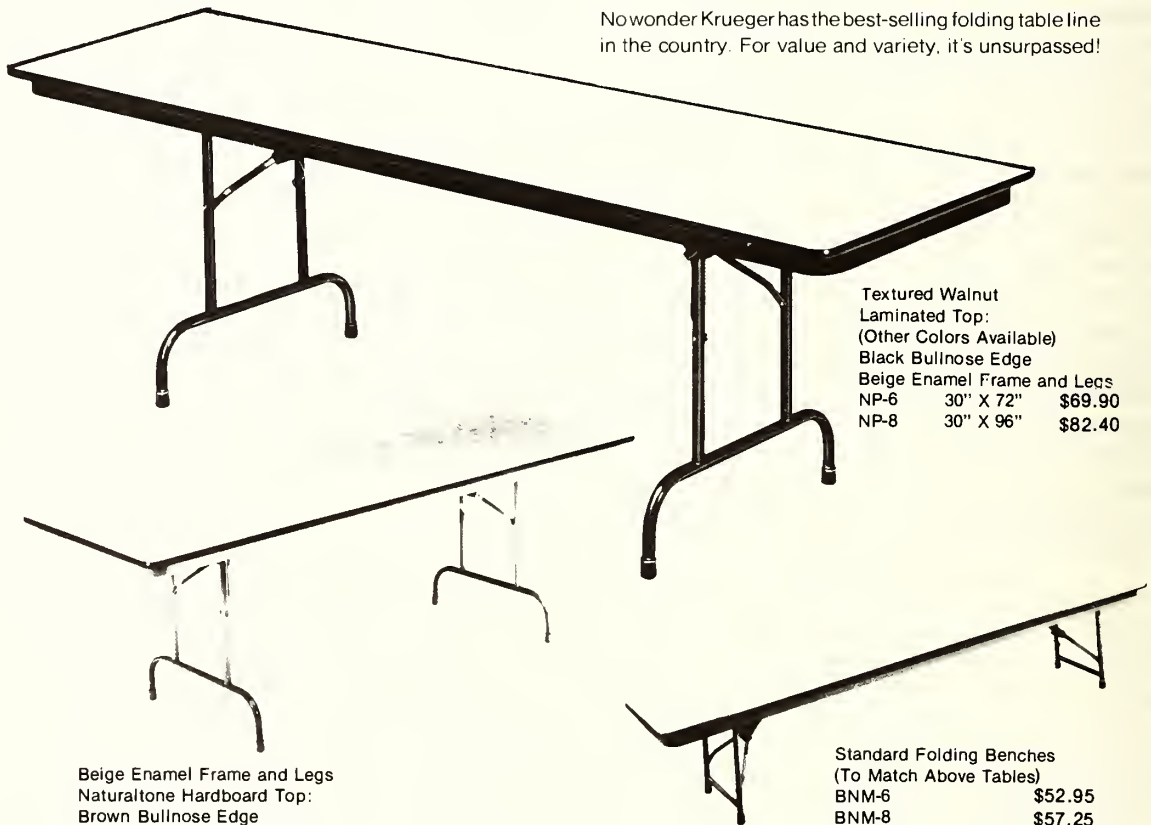
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Wednesday, August 13, 1980, Ayden, North Carolina



Communing with the Father

If we are truly Christian, we will not be satisfied with just being good. We will strive to reach an ever higher spiritual plateau, and therefore move forward in the name of Christ.

Durham, N.C.

It is only as we recognize our need for maturity and advancement—it is only as we recognize our utter dependence upon the Almighty—that we find ourselves truly established in the way

The Free Will Baptist

CHRISTIANITY PAR EXCELLENCE

In every walk of life, serious people strive to be good enough at what they're doing to merit praise. Whether educated or not, those who are really conscientious attempt to better themselves and their performance, so they may enjoy a measure of self-satisfaction at a job well done. Such an attitude is noble. The person who is not content to remain at one level, or who is not content to stand still, is to be admired and is certainly worthy of commendation.

Everybody should be better and can be better at whatever he's doing. There is hardly a person alive, however competent, who has reached the ultimate in performance. Improvement is possible, and can be a by-product of innovation. Novel ideas should never be discounted merely because they are not proven; traditional notions should not be frowned upon just because they are possibly lacking in contemporary interest; the tried-and-tested methods should not be termed old-fashioned or inappropriate for modern-day concerns—neither should they be viewed as the only course to follow.

In short, a combination of the old and new should blend in an enduring marriage of practical methods and ideas. And the sum-total of life itself is a mosaic of good and bad, old and new, borrowed and bought, inherited and acquired.

A good Christian, then, will not be satisfied with just being good. He will want to excel in his "walk." Whether a Bible scholar or not, the very fact that he is a follower of Christ will make him want to give his very best, to follow the Word as closely as he knows how. Though he will not want to bask in self-satisfaction, he will nonetheless want to feel a measure of pride at having tried to live the life well. Too, he will feel good at having matured from the milk to the meat of the Word.

His success as a Christian will be proportional to his striving to maintain a right relationship to his Father, and to his growing in grace. Only as he is dedicated to his Lord and His kingdom's cause will he realize fruitful benefits. And to develop further in the Christian life—to move forward in the name of Christ—to arrive at a higher spiritual plateau, he must be faithful. He must be instant in season and out of season.

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Photo by Harold M. Lambert

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Volume 95 August 13, 1980 Number 30

Tommy Manning
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Named Acting Editor



Janie Jones Sowers

JANIE SOWERS ASSUMES EDITORSHIP

First Woman to Fill Post

JANIE J. SOWERS, creator-developer of The Bible Series Free Will Baptist Curriculum for Children, has been named acting editor at the Free Will Baptist Press. She will assume her duties August 21.

Mrs. Sowers graduated summa cum laude from Atlantic Christian College, Wilson, North Carolina, in 1978, with an impressive 4.0 average. Her scholarship, creative and developmental talents have already been observed in her capacity as staff writer, a position she has held for the past two years. And she brings to the editorship diligence and productivity, and a bent toward perfection—all of which should serve to strengthen the publications under her supervision.

Her background as a Bible scholar and literary experience gained during high school and college, as well as her writing

experience at the Press, equip her well for the demanding job she undertakes. In addition, she brings with her a pleasing personality, enthusiasm, and the ability to pursue details to completion.

Involved in all facets of denominational work, Mrs. Sowers is active on both local and state levels. She is advisor to the State Youth Convention, counselor to the Youth Frontier Conference at Cragmont (a position she has held for seven years), member of the Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention, and serves on various other denominational committees.

She ably assists her husband, the Rev William Scott Sowers, in his pastorate at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church near Farmville. She is organist for the church, pianist for the choir, a member of the woman's auxiliary, a member of the youth committee, co-

teacher for the Senior High Sunday School Class, director of "The Son-shine Express," a group of young people dedicated to witnessing through dramatics, effectively presented with puppets, skits, and music.

At twenty-six, Janie Jones Sowers has youth as a definite asset, and holds the distinction of being the first woman to fill the editor's position.

She is committed to Christian excellence and the establishment of high ideals in all religious and secular endeavors. She represents her church and denomination in a most notable way.

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is fortunate to have a person of Mrs. Sowers' calibre in its employ, and prays God's abundant blessings upon her as she continues in the tradition of serving the Lord through the printed page. □

SING UNTO GOD

by the Rev. Beverly Ballard

HOW should our churches treat contemporary gospel music?

This question was posed recently by a church member, a woman in her late 40s.

A young man asked me a short time ago, "What do you think of contemporary gospel music?"

Having held a special interest during the years for church music and also having a love for much of the gospel music recorded by some of the great artists, so much so that I have collected over 200 LP albums, plus a large number of eight-track tapes and cassettes, I began to ponder the matter of contemporary gospel.

One day I turned on a local radio station that promoted itself as a "station that devotes its air hours to proclaiming the gospel in song and spoken word." What I heard made me think I had turned to the wrong place on the radio dial. The noises from the radio sounded more like rock and roll music. Then I realized after hearing a few words that this was contemporary gospel.

Now, what is contemporary gospel music?

The word contemporary, used as an adjective this way, means (according to Webster's Dictionary) "existing at the same time."

In this light, then we can assume that the music that is in the latest trend of present-day

use is considered contemporary. Of course, we are sure that there is a little more involved definition. Contemporary music in what is set apart as gospel music seems to take on a more modern sound, according to what we have heard.

Let me hurriedly point to one thing, I have nothing against music of any kind that will help to win souls for Jesus Christ. I do think certain music, even the oldies, have their place in the musical program of our worship services.

It seems only a few years ago that quite a difference arose in some of our churches in whether or not to use the Stamps-Baxter type of music, as opposed to the more traditional music of the church. Shaped notes in some of the older compositions and published in books for use in church worship were shunned by some.

Now we have an altogether new strain of musical composition making a debut in gospel singing. The question arises as to whether we want this kind of music to take a place of prominence in the morning worship services.

A national syndicated question-answer program sponsored by the Youth for Christ movement

recently discussed a random question: "Should the new, fast-moving contemporary music be used in the Sunday morning worship service?"

The question also evolved to the use of certain musical instruments normally heard in rock bands and bands caught up in the modern fantasy of disco music.

Now, the answer given was of interest to me. The spokesman left it to the desires of those of the congregation. However, his own opinion was that such music had its place in special musical concerts, usually scheduled at times other than when regular worship services were to be held.

I gave the question a lot of thought and prayer. I wondered if I would want such music, still known as contemporary gospel, to be used in a worship service in my church.

It is my belief that such music fails to meet the criteria of true, worshipful music. My thoughts went to how such music could set the spiritual pace to cause souls to be enthused over the preaching of God's Word as a man of God preached purposefully to see souls accept the

(Continued on Page 15)

"Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob" (Psalm 81:1).

The Rev. J. C. Yates

Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church, Saratoga, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. J. C. Yates. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

REACHING TALL—STOOPING LOW

*submitted by the members of
Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church*



The Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Yates

We cannot begin this tribute with a lengthy documentary of many, many years as pastor of our church or of accomplishments in mortar and brick, or even great membership drives during those years; for the Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Yates have blessed our church and community for only a little more than a year. But since God's time measurements are different from man's, we're so happy for this opportunity to share a bit with you—some of the things that have filled those several months . . . things that we feel have yeasted the organism more than the organization of our church. The impact of their presence here will certainly influence the lives of many people for years to come, regardless of the number of years they are in our midst.

Joseph C. Yates was born in Washington County, Georgia, on November 11, 1924. During his growing-up years, he did not know the Lord. He served his country during World War II in the United States Navy. Being assigned to the Asiatic-Pacific Theater, he helped in the landing of troops on Guam. He was awarded two medals for this service.

In 1946, he was discharged and went to join his parents who had moved to Kannapolis, North Carolina. God had marvelous things planned for this young war veteran. In June of that same year, the Holy Spirit wooed and won him to the Master. He joined the Elwood Lane Free Will Baptist Church in Kannapolis, and began his service for the King. He taught a Sunday school class and worked with the local Boy Scouts. In June of 1947, he answered the call of another kind of spirit and another kind of service—that of husband to Doris Phillips. They were married then, and are now the parents of three sons: Danny, Donnie, and Dennis Yates, and the grandparents of two grandsons and a granddaughter.

Mrs. Yates is very much a part of their ministry, having committed herself to the Lord when she was just a teen-

ager. She has taught Sunday school classes and been active in various church auxiliaries, and in the music department of churches they have pastored. Meanwhile, she was also working outside the home to help out with finances for a growing family. In 1962, she contributed to the Woman's Auxiliary Devotion with the Christmas program. In addition, she has been very helpful to the youth in our church, with her friendship, and in all other ways that come to her attention. She shares her abilities, herself, and the Spirit of God with all of the church family, her neighbors, and the entire community.

Mr. Yates answered God's call to the preaching ministry about six years after he became a Christian. He was ordained in the Western Conference by the ordaining council comprised of the Revs. Fred Rivenbark, James Evans, and Paul Jenkins. His first pastorate was Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist Church. Following this, he pastored at St. Mary's in Wilson County, and Holly Springs at Newport. He surely must have made a good impression on these churches, for each of the three called him to pastor their respective churches the second time. He has supplied at numerous churches and has had full years of evangelism. He came to us at Saratoga the first of April in 1979. We sincerely hope that we will never call him twice; we just pray that he will be with us until his retirement.

His education was pursued at Burton Institute in Charlotte, Catawba College in Salisbury, and Coastal Carolina Community College at Jacksonville.

From the pulpit at Saratoga, we hear the Word of God from the tongue of wisdom granted this man of God. His sermons are exactly what the "Great Physician" orders—to meet the

(Continued on Page 7)



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23

UNEXPECTED WAYS

'Tis good to dwell on years now
past,
And on those problem days,
When we could only on Him cast
The future with its maze;
To find He brought us through at
last,
By unexpected ways!

'Tis good to view, yet once again,
And grateful songs to raise,
On all that He did for us then,
And to His name give praise,
He wrought for us, on things and
men,
By unexpected ways!

What if today we wistful stand,
And on the future gaze,
We see not far, nor understand,
The road is wrapped in haze,
God still will lead, by His good
hand,
In unexpected ways!

PRAYER THOUGHT

*To trust in God for all things
requires faith, but affords untold
benefits. Each of us should
exercise such faith.*

MONDAY, AUGUST 18

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians
2:14-17

CARRYING CHRIST'S EXAMPLE

A press correspondent entered
a small restaurant in a European
village. Later a group of work-
men entered for their noonday
meal. Immediately a delicate
odor of perfume permeated the

room. After the men left, the
correspondent asked the
proprietor, "Who were those
men?" "They are workmen from
a perfume factory nearby. They
bring the perfume with them!"
was the reply. Shouldn't God's
children, too, "manifest the
savour of (Christ's) knowledge
... in every place" (2 Corinthians
2:14)?

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The Christian, by his very
conduct, should represent Christ
so well that no one need doubt
his allegiance. How well are you
exemplifying Him?*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:13-16

THAT "DANGEROUS" DOCTRINE

A young Christian had been
taught that while a person gets
saved through faith in Christ, he
must obey the law of Moses in
order to keep saved. When she
saw that God's Word teaches
that Christians are not under
law but under grace, she said,
"It's almost too good to be
true!" Then she added, "The
Bible does seem to say that, but
don't you think it is a dangerous
doctrine to teach? If Christians
knew that, they might go out and
do just anything." I said, "You
see that that is what the Bible
teaches; are you going out now
to do all the bad things you can
think of?" I wish you could have
seen her look of horror as she
said, "No, of course not." "Why
not?" I asked. She answered
quickly, "Because I love the
Lord Jesus." That is the secret
of the Christian life.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*The true Christian will be
diligent in service, in the
keeping of the Ten Com-
mandments, and in witnessing to
the saving knowledge of the
Lord. No Christian who is worth
his salt will be found idle.*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:9-13

THE CAMEL KNEELS

The camel at the close of day
Kneels down upon the sandy
plain
To have his burden lifted off,
And rest to gain.

My soul, thou too shouldst to thy
knees
When daylight draweth to a close
And let thy Master lift thy load,
And grant repose.

Else how canst thou tomorrow
meet,
With all tomorrow's work to do,
If thou thy burden all the night
Dost carry through?

The camel kneels at break of day
To have his guide replace his
load;
Then rises up anew to take
The desert road.

So thou shouldst kneel at morn-
ing dawn,
That God may give thee daily
care;
Assured that He no load too
great
Will make thee bear.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*It has been said that if one
kneels in prayer at the beginning*

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

of day, the burdens to be carried will be easier to bear. Let us all test that truth.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

Scripture Reading—Matthew 7:24-29

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

Scripture Reading—Acts 2:41-47

THEY ARE GETTING SOMETHING WE'RE MISSING!

A family was driving along the highway one Sunday in a comfortable car, listening to a good sermon on the radio. They passed by a small country church where cars were parked and they could tell that a service was going on. Someone in the car said, "I'm sure they are not hearing as fine a sermon as we are."

"No," said the father, "but they are getting something which we are not. They are in the Lord's house. They are having fellowship together and they may be remembering Jesus as He asked them to do. We hope they are doing as the early Christians did (Acts 2:42). We are not."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God can be worshiped anywhere—certainly—but the best place is in His House with Christian brethren of like faith. Let us not neglect "the assembling of ourselves together."

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

Scripture Reading—Matthew 28:19, 20

WIN SOULS

We cannot all be evangelists, but we can all be soul winners. Try it! There is no work so romantic, so enduring! I covet above all gifts to win souls.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Every Christian should want to bring others into the fold. No Christian who is truly dedicated will neglect witnessing for the Lord.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

THE ROCK

A vessel was wrecked one stormy night off the coast of England. All were drowned except an Irish boy. The waves swept him onto a great rock. In the morning he was rescued. "Lad, didn't you tremble out there on the rock during the night?" "Sure I trembled, but the rock didn't tremble once all night long!"

How safe are God's children on the Rock, Christ Jesus!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christ, the Solid Rock! All else is sifting sand. When we place our trust in Him, we are safe—despite all the storms of life.

Selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

PASTOR OF THE WEEK

(Continued from Page 5)

needs of His flock, no matter their age. All that is required to have him at your bedside or on his knees in prayer for you is to let him know of your need. He does not limit his ministry to those of his church flock—many, many patients at the hospital and in the community claim him as their "preacher friend" because he has listened to and cared about their problems. A lady who was the mother of a local resident passed away and though she had seven children and a number of grandchildren, not one of those relatives had a pastor or anyone who could preach the funeral. Our pastor and his wife had gone to Kannapolis for a visit, but when one of our deacons called him about the situation, Mr. Yates returned to Saratoga the very next day to minister to this family. And though they were strangers to him, he made their

acquaintance quickly and stayed with them through their hours of need.

This same man is alert to every potential need of those around him. More than once he has mowed the church lawn before the one assigned to do it could get the job done, because he knew that person was working late at the shop or trying to get his crop in, or had planned activities with the youth. He visits and comforts the lonely. His quiet manner belies his extremely busy schedule. Both "Jody and Doris" are avid fishermen, usually doing their fishing at night when it will not interfere with their work. At times, when they were about the only ones on the pier catching any fish, they have been known to put their fish in the boxes of those who weren't even getting a nibble—"greater love hath no man . . ."

Mr. Yates has been honored to preach the Memorial Day Services in the City of Wilson. There simply is no task too far above his head or too low in the pits, that he will not tackle with God's permission. Only eternity will chalk up the final score, but at Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church, we know we have a winner! We humbly thank God for sending the Yates family our way.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

Lucille was one of the friendliest and nicest persons that I have ever known, but she died of acute alcoholism in the prime of her life.

Everytime I take off my coat of armor, I become hurt, depressed and dispondent.

Home Missions

submitted by Taylor Hill

ATTENTION CO-LABORERS



The Rev. Taylor Hill

Our State Convention is close at hand and we are busy preparing the program.

We are very excited about what we have to show you at our Mission Rally on Wednesday night, September 17, at the Cumberland County Auditorium in Fayetteville, North Carolina, located on I-95, South.

The Home Missions Department will be in charge of the program this year and we plan to have an informative and inspiring Home Missions program for you.

You can do us a great favor by making separate checks for Home Missions and Foreign Missions; all undesignated contributions will be divided equally. If you see that you cannot attend the rally, you may mail your special offering.

We are convinced that our future is depending on the continued success of Home Missions and Church Extension, and that it should rank at the very top of our priorities. Our endeavor is to reach souls and establish new churches which are the source of our denominational strength.

We are indeed thankful for your prayers and support and trust that you will continue to stand by this important part of our denominational work.

Please plan to bring a large number from your church and let's make it the greatest event for Home and Foreign Missions ever. The program will start at 7:30 p.m.

News from

Cragmont

SUPPORTING CRAGMONT

Friends,

The purpose of this article is twofold. I wish to tell you what the financial picture looks like now at Cragmont and to solicit your support in order that we may be able to meet our financial responsibilities this year.

At present, we need \$37,600 to make our 1980 payment on the main building. You may ask, why is this such a large amount? To fully understand the problem you need to know the following. The balance on our loan is in excess of \$269,000; the rate of interest on the loan is 11.25 percent. With this you can understand that interest alone amounts to more than \$28,000

this year. The loan repayment agreement calls for a principal payment on November 14 each year of \$13,750 plus interest. While last year's payment was paid, it was not all paid on the due date. The portion that was paid late resulted in additional interest of near \$3,100, which needs to be paid this year. Altogether this amounts to nearly \$45,000 just to meet the loan demand. We now have \$7,400 available for this payment. While you have given a little more than \$33,000 to Cragmont this year, please be aware that expenses have approached the \$28,000 level. As you read in the July 16 edition of **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST**, contributions are well below the 1979 level. Your financial support, NOW, is an absolute necessity—our payment is due in just three months.

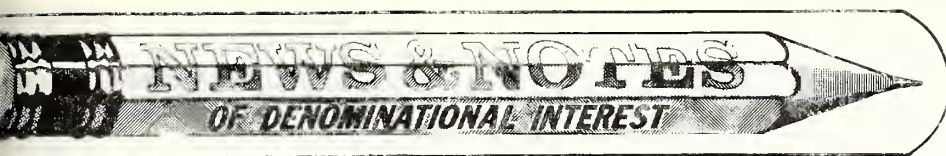
Last month's suggestion of pledges has almost gone unnoticed. We have only received two pledges from you. You were asked to send any otherwise committed funds for Cragmont on to us for use against the debt. No evidence of this has been seen either.

Your Board of Directors is working on some ideas that will help in future years; however, there probably will not be time to institute any new program to help out for this year. Quite simply, to meet the financial responsibilities for 1980, we must call on you to extend generous support during August, September, October, and November. We know, by the number of people who have attended, that you love Cragmont. It is not unreal that you can lose something you love. We beckon you—send all that you can, as soon as you can.

We will be reporting to you the progress of your gifts and we will be announcing new fund raising projects in the near future. We ask your support of these projects and we ask your

(Continued on Page 9)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. A. B. Bryan, pastor of Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, will be ending his pastorate there soon and will be moving to his home on Route 1, Dudley, North Carolina. He has been pastor of Robert's Grove for six years. Before going to this church he was pastor of Northeast church, Mount Olive, North Carolina, for five years. He is a lifelong Free Will Baptist and is an experienced minister.

His pastoral plans are indefinite at the present time; however, Mr. Bryan plans to continue in pastoral work under divine leadership. Any individual or church wishing to correspond with him may do so by writing to Route 1, Box 186-D, Dunn, North Carolina 28334, or phone 567-2188.

The Rev. Bass Mitchell announces that he is available for full-time or part-time ministerial service. He may be contacted by calling 286-4744 or by writing to Bass Mitchell, 2206 Guess Road, Durham, North Carolina 27705.

The Rev. George Greene announces that he is available for full-time pastoral work. He has been in the full-time pastorate for the past twelve years. Any church desiring his services may contact him at P. O. Box 475, Elm City, North Carolina 27822 or call 236-4079.

Cragmont

(Continued from Page 8)

support for the present in any manner that you see fit.

We pray God's blessing upon you for your past support and we trust that you will care for Cragmont as He has cared for you.

Fifth Union Meeting of Eastern Conference to Meet

The Fifth Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference will be held at Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County on August 30, 1980, beginning at 9:30 a. m.

Sugar Frosted Saints at Pine Level Church

The Sugar Frosted Saints from the Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, North Carolina, will present a program on August 17 at the Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church, Pine Level, North Carolina. The time of the services is 7 p. m. The pastor of the church is the Rev. F. B. Cherry. Everyone is invited to attend.

Homecoming and Revival At Belhaven Church

Annual homecoming day at the Belhaven Free Will Baptist Church will be held on August 24, 1980. Fall revival services will be held nightly during the week of August 25-29.

The homecoming message at the 11 a. m. service will be delivered by the pastor, the Rev. Beverly Ballard. Dinner will be served in the fellowship hall. A gospel sing is scheduled for the afternoon.

The Rev. Steve Hargrove, pastor of Sidney church in Beaufort County, will be the guest evangelist for the revival meeting with services beginning at 7:30 p. m. Monday through Friday.

Special music is being planned and singers from surrounding churches are being invited to be on hand at the gospel sing on

August 24 and throughout the revival.

All former pastors, members, and friends are being invited to the homecoming day and other services.

Fourth Union, Central At Otter's Creek Church

The Fourth Union of the Central District will be held at the Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church near Macclesfield, North Carolina, on August 31, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 10:00—Sunday School
- 11:00—Hymn, "Count Your Blessings"
- Welcome, Therman Jefferson
- Response, Brenda Ellis
- 11:15—President's Remarks
- Mission Report
- Mount Olive College Report
- Greetings from the Children's Home
- 11:30—Special Music, Peace Free Will Baptist Church
- Sermon, the Rev. Ralph Aycock
- 12:15—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15—Hymn, "When We All Get to Heaven"
- Devotion, Carrolle Bradbury
- Business Period
- Program, Local Church
- 2:15—Adjournment

COMING EVENTS

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Work Month

(Continued on Page 13)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

submitted by President W. Burkette Raper

FUND RAISE REPORT FOR COLLEGE HALL



Rick Kraft, left, Chairman of the Mount Olive Area Campaign for College Hall, and Jean F. Ackiss, College Coordinator for the Free Will Baptist Church Campaign, show the mid-July progress report of \$750,000.

COLLEGE PREPARES FOR NEW YEAR

It is a hot Saturday afternoon. The freshly cut green grass and the strong oak trees across the open acres look lonely. Summer school is over, students and faculty have gone home and the offices are vacant.

In this beautiful and tranquil setting, my mind turns to the new academic year, soon to begin—with the arrival of students on August 24, Mount Olive College will begin its 29th year of operation.

Enrollment

Based upon applications, and especially advanced confirmation deposits, we anticipate the largest enrollment in the history of the College. Our projection is 385 students, as compared with 368 last year and 327 the previous year. These figures do not include an estimated additional 250 students in our extension program at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro and in the Paul Palmer Institute for Christian Studies.

We are still accepting applications for the fall and we expect to honor our commitment again this year that no worthy and qualified student will be denied admission for financial reasons: Our total student aid program for 1980-81 will exceed \$650,000. Interested students should contact the Admissions Office immediately (telephone [919] 658-2502).

Night Classes

For those who cannot enroll in the regular curriculum during the day, we have expanded our schedule of night classes to include all courses required for graduation. Persons with daytime employment, or housewives whose schedules keep them at home, may now enroll from one to four nights per week, depending upon the number of courses they wish to take. Each night course meets only once per week.

A list of courses and schedule are available through the Admissions Office.

Orientation and Counseling

In some colleges up to one-half of the students who enter never graduate. Among the major causes for failure and drop-out are the lack of a clear career goal, inability to adjust to the responsibilities of adulthood, poor study habits, and inadequate preparation for college. At Mount Olive College we have intensified our efforts to help students overcome these deficiencies.

Special services to students this year will include personal and educational counseling. Miss Caroline Castelloe, professor of mathematics at Mount Olive College for fifteen years and a teacher recognized for her interest in students, will become Director of Counseling Services. She is spending the summer at Florida State University where she is involved in a graduate program in counseling.

One of her priorities will be to assist students in evaluating and selecting career goals from the perspective of Christian vocation. She will also direct a new eight-week orientation program that will cover academic policies, student development, study skills, and library orientation.

Religious Life

The statement of purpose in our catalogue declares: "As a church-related college, Mount Olive seeks to assist each student in developing his full potential as a Child of God. The College was founded by the Free Will Baptist Church in order to provide a program of higher education that is distinctively Christian. It is in the fulfillment of this mission that the College finds its historical reason for existence and its continued purpose for being."

We plan to pursue our religious life goals with as much vigor as

(Continued on Page 13)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

The Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ALUMNI AT HOME



Some of the alumni talk over old times at the Children's Home.

The annual meeting of the Alumni Association of the Children's Home met on July 12 and 13 on the campus of the Children's Home. One hundred alumni from North Carolina and adjacent states were present. Some who lived here in early 1920 and those who were recent residents were here. Registration began at noon on Saturday. The afternoon was filled with fellowship, games, swimming, and reunions. Later in the afternoon there was a pig picking. One of the highlights of the day was the Fun Run. The 1-miler was won by Kim Elmore, age 7, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otis Elmore. The 5-miler was won by Mickey Newton, alumnus of the Home. Jeff Eason, a campus resident, ran the 5-miler barefoot and came in second place. Dozens of the alumni spent the night on campus.

On Sunday the alumni worshiped together at 9:45 and held their annual alumni meeting at 10:30. A picnic on the grounds followed. The afternoon again was a time of reunion. All in all, it was a wonderful weekend.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FAVORS COMPLIANCE

In its annual session, meeting on July 13 at the Children's Home, the members of the Alumni Association in attendance voted in favor of the Home signing the Compliance Act and accepting "the challenge of the '80's." In the words of one of the alumnus, "We now have the opportunity of showing our care for others who find themselves in the same position as we were in during our childhood."

GENERAL CONFERENCE YOUTH CONVENTION REPORT

On June 23, 1980, the General Conference Youth Convention met at Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Vanceboro, North Carolina. The theme was "Lord, You Light Up My Life." The guest speaker was Miss Lynn O'Neal. Lynn is the North Carolina State Youth Declaration winner for 1980.

Joe Ard served as Master of Ceremonies, doing a fantastic job on a minute's notice. Special singing was done by the "Spiritual Singers" of Mount Olive, North Carolina, along with Sharlene Creech and Joan Allen of Goldsboro, North Carolina.

There were seven Bible Bowl teams. Three of these were AFC teams. They included: first place winner, Beaverdam from Chadbourn; second place winner, Tarboro from Tarboro; and third place winner, Shady Grove from Dunn.

Winners from the four YFA teams included: first place, Gum Swamp from Greenville; second place, Victory Mission from Hope Mills; third place, Beaverdam from Chadbourn; and fourth place, Oceana, West Virginia.

This is the first time in a number of years that there was a team from West Virginia.



West Virginia Bible Bowl 1980 team: Back row—Jerry Stafford, sponsor—Vickie Gallsher; first row—Robin Hess, sponsor; Angie Gibson, and Larry Blankenship.

(Continued on Page 15)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For August 24

RESTORATION UNDER EZRA

Lesson Text: Ezra 7:6-16
Memory Verse: Ezra 7:27

I. INTRODUCTION

In 516 B. C. the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem was completed, and the new edifice for the worship of God was dedicated. The leader in this project was Zerubbabel (Ezra 3:8). From 516 to 458 B. C., some fifty-eight years following the dedication of the temple, Biblical history is silent. When the curtain rises again, we find that conditions had deteriorated in Jerusalem. The priests had become careless and indifferent (Malachi 1:6-8). Oppression of the poor and the helpless, and other evils, had become serious (Malachi 2:17-3:5). In withholding their tithes, the people had become guilty of robbing God (Malachi 3:8).

In part, the cause of the spiritual and moral decline in Judah was the corrupting influence of the pagan neighbors. This was made worse by intermarriage. The "holy seed" (including the priests and Levites) had "mingled themselves with the people of those lands," and "the hand of the princes and rulers" had been "chief in this trespass" (Ezra 9:1, 2). It was to reestablish acceptable worship of God and to halt the decline into heathenism and evil that Ezra secured permission from Artaxerxes, king of Persia, to go to Jerusalem. To strengthen the moral and ethical fiber of the people, he would seek to lead

them in building upon the foundation given through Moses in the law.

This is the setting for our lesson. The time was 458 B. C. Note that the events of today's lesson actually precede those involving Nehemiah, about whom we studied last week.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Book of Ezra deals with one of the most important subjects in Jewish history, namely, the return of the remnant from captivity. This took place at the end of the seventy-year servitude in Babylon which was about 536 B. C. Both the exile and the return had been previously predicted in Jeremiah 25:11, 12, and 29:10, 11. The Book of Ezra opens with an acknowledgement of these events, "Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, the Lord God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah" (Ezra 1:1, 2).

B. This prophecy of Ezra quite naturally divides into two parts. The first is comprised of the first six chapters and deals with the return of the captives led by Zerubbabel. The second division encompasses the rest of the book

and deals with the return of the captives led by Ezra. Our Scriptures for the day are taken from this second section of the book.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Today we are going to look at the great priest Ezra—one of the greatest in the Old Testament—and see how he, as a spiritual leader of the people, was able to bring Judah close to God. He could not do it alone; he had God to help him and had the cooperation of the people of Judah.

B. Ezra left Babylon in 458 B. C. with about 6,000 Jews to return to Jerusalem. Like Nehemiah, he had received permission from Artaxerxes, king of the Persians, to do so. Upon his arrival in Jerusalem he found a sadly disorganized and demoralized state. He found that the Law of Moses had fallen into neglect. The poor were being exploited by their more fortunate brethren. And the people were mingling and intermarrying among their heathen neighbors.

C. To correct these evils, Ezra set up needed reforms, both social and religious. Holding a series of what we would call divorce courts, he was instrumental in getting rid of the heathen wives. His reforms did much to bring the people back to purer living. At the same time they helped the people discover the great value of God's Word in their lives, resulting in higher ideals of worship. It is believed that Ezra made a collection of the inspired books and arranged them in very much the order we have them today.

D. The lesson Ezra teaches us today is that leader and people can work together for the glory of God and the advancement of the Kingdom.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F. W. B.)

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 10)

we do our academic or athletic goals; we plan to work as hard to help students grow in their relationship with God as we do to raise funds for the support of the College.

The religious life program will reflect a number of differences over previous years. Attendance at the weekly chapel service for the worship of God will be required. A mid-week Bible study with an emphasis on learning the content of the Bible and its application to Christian living will be conducted by Chaplain Frank Harrison.

In the resident halls students will be encouraged to participate in discussion and devotional groups. The Free Will Baptist Student Fellowship, the Baptist Student Union, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and other campus based religious groups will be active, and religious life retreats will be held at Oriental and at Eagles Nest.

During the faculty conferences preceding the opening of school, a full day will be devoted to the religious life mission of the College with Dr. Ben Fisher, a nationally known leader in Christian higher education, as our speaker and resource consultant.

We have no illusion that programs or policies will make students be what they do not choose to be, but we believe our mission is to provide leadership for those students who wish to attend a college committed to the Christian faith. This, we will do.

Student Life

In the appointment of Dr. Thomas Johnson as Dean of Students, we believe we have a person who will be friendly, fair, and firm with students. He likes

students, and he likes to work with them, and under his leadership we anticipate the development of a new era in student life at Mount Olive College.

His experience as Dean of Students in another four-year church-related college will help make him a valuable member of our staff as we seek senior college status.

Reaffirmation of Accreditation

During the fall we will complete our self-study, and in the spring we will be evaluated by a visiting team of educators appointed by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. This evaluation occurs every ten years and is required for accreditation purposes.

Every phase and program of the College will be critically examined to determine if we are meeting the standards of the Association.

Four-Year Goal

In response to the request of our sponsoring church, we are proceeding with full commitment to develop Mount Olive into a senior college. Our plan is to add the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985, and under this schedule the first four-year class will enter in 1982 and graduate in 1986.

To attain this goal, we will need a minimum of \$7.5 million in gift support during the five-year period of 1979-84.

College Hall

This building will serve the College as a physical education-athletic center and it will serve the Free Will Baptist Church and the Mount Olive area as a convention center. It is an absolute requirement for us to retain our accreditation as a junior college and to even consider becoming a senior college.

Estimated cost of the project is \$2.5 million, and by mid-July we had reached a total of \$750,000 in gifts and pledges. Our goal is to have \$2 million committed by March, 1981 at which time we would like to award contracts. The remaining \$500,000 can be raised during construction.

This project will be a high priority during 1980-81.

Annual Budget

The 1980-81 operating budget will exceed \$2.6 million, and of this amount approximately \$650,000 must be raised in gift support.

Summary

The road ahead for Mount Olive College will not be easy. Plans for senior college status, the building and financing of College Hall, assuring fiscal stability in an era of economic turbulence, and designing vibrant academic and student life programs during times of drastic social change—these plans constitute a stupendous task. But our cause is worthy, and God will give us the resources if we will commit them.

Our goal is more than survival; it is the attainment of excellence in all we do.

Coming Events . . .

(Continued from Page 9)

August 20—Children's Home Board of Directors Meeting, 9:30 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex, North Carolina

August 25—Fall Semester Begins, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina

August 30—Fifth Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference, Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County, starting at 9:30 a. m.

August 31—Mount Olive College Sunday in local churches

August 31—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

LET'S ALL RISE FROM OUR SEATS

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

THE other day when I was reading about a certain church, I came upon the fact that it "seats 900." That's a common enough way of describing size. The Houston Astrodome seats 50,000; the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, 91,000. But, I wondered, is seating power the way a church should be measured? Wouldn't sending power be more relevant? I'd like to know if that church sends 900. Or even 90.

Perhaps we've gotten in the habit of lumping churchgoing with spectator sports, where it is the coming and not the going that is important. That may help to explain why we attach such importance to glossy, fast-paced church services in which even ushers are expected to perform with the choreographed precision of the Rockettes.

The entertainment industry knows all about slickness and image, and if we are trying only to fill seats, that's probably the route. But it seems to me that the church might better be trying to empty its seats. The church is, or ought to be, a sending agency. A recruiting office, as nearly as I can tell, doesn't talk about the number of recruits it can hold, but the number it has sent. Come to think of it, I have never seen a very big or a very plush recruiting office. They don't have to be, because the action is somewhere else.

Churches are not alone in their sedentary terminology. In a university, there is a chair of

economics or history or whatever. A candidate wins or loses a seat in Congress. A judge sits. The word "see" in Holy See comes from the Latin word for seat. A committee has a chairman or, if you prefer, a chairperson. An inquiry in a meeting is addressed to the chair. We all seem to be preoccupied with sitting.

That particular posture is generally regarded as one of the better possibilities for relaxed noninvolvement, but for the Christian, sitting has perils.

The First Psalm opens with these words: "Blessed (or happy) is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." That is an interesting downward progression—walking, standing, sitting. The last one, which takes the least energy and application, is the ideal posture, it would seem, for scorning.

Have you noticed that doers are not generally scorers? People who are busy don't have time or energy for faultfinding. That preoccupation is usually connected with idle hands and an idle mind.

Scorning is mentioned in the same breath with walking in the counsel of the ungodly and standing in the way of sinners—or, as the Living Bible has it, following evil men's advice and hanging around with sinners.

In other words, if you are a scorer, that's the league you're

playing in, even though scorning as practiced by the Christian, is generally regarded as something less than full-blown, front-page sinning. It's a genteel, widely practiced, almost respectable sin, as we have come to grade sins. But it will subtract from your happiness just as surely and totally as will following evil men's advice and hanging around with sinners, according to the Psalmist.

So beware. Sins of the tongue do not require agility or even mobility. A chair will do.

Fortunately, there are some chairs—wheelchairs among them—that scorers could never own. Here, heaven has come close to earth and earth to heaven. True, a physical handicap is no guarantee of sainthood, but from countless such seats of enforced immobility have come prayer and power that changed the world. My own prayer is that when a chair begins to look more inviting to me than it does right now, may God help me to make it a center of intercession and encouragement rather than of carping and criticism.

Resting can also be redemptive use of a chair especially if it means the restoration of strength for even more vigorous activity—as in the case of a time-out during a fast-paced basketball game. I don't know if God sat down when He finished His six days of creative work, but the Book of Genesis says He rested, and that implies sitting.

Whatever the posture, time of inactivity should not be wasted time. Isaiah 40:31 indicates they can be used creatively by making God part of the time-outs: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall

(Continued on Page 15)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

SING UNTO GOD

(Continued from Page 4)

seriousness of the gospel and give their lives to Christ Jesus.

I must hurriedly add, however, that this music must have a place in overall worship. Concerts by artists who intersperse this music with conventional gospel music surely might have their place in the church program.

I cannot and I will not pass judgment on any music that upholds the Lord Jesus Christ, or offers praise, or conveys a message that touches lives and wins souls to His cause.

I feel sure that few, if any, Free Will Baptist churches would give over morning worship services to a group who sing words set to the music of loud sounds of drums, electric guitars, and horns that are exaggerated through sound systems designed to roar in high decibel strength.

If contemporary gospel music, or at least much of it, is to be temporary in that it will be here today and gone tomorrow, then perhaps some of us are happy to know this. If it is to be with us down through the ages, as has been such hymns as "The Old Rugged Cross," "Amazing Grace," and "Showers of Blessings," then perhaps there will be more argument for it than against it.

We shall see if this form of music will stand the test of time.

GENERAL CONFERENCE YOUTH CONVENTION REPORT

(Continued from Page 8)

The rules for the 1981 Bible Bowl Quiz are as follows:

This year the Bible Bowl Quiz will be based on a book called "Test Your Bible Knowledge," by Carl S. Shoup. You may purchase this book at our Free

Will Baptist Bookstores or at any Christian bookstore for \$1.25. The actual quiz will be taken from material found on Pages 112-138. Study Questions 739-909. This will cover Jeremiah through Malachi for a total of 171 questions. (NOTE—Answers to the questions are in the back of the book.) Save this book; we may use it again in the future for another Bible Bowl Quiz.

Eighty-five questions will be studied by the AFC teams. AFCs will study from Jeremiah through Malachi, Page 112 to Page 138. Study ALL the questions of each book except Jeremiah and Ezekiel. In these two books just study the first 4 questions of Jeremiah and the first 5 questions of Ezekiel. YFA will study the entire 171 questions.

Edna Fowler

LET'S ALL RISE

(Continued from Page 14)

run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Just don't wait too long; wings and feet may be readier than you think.

The Prophet Ezekiel sat down redemptively, too. When he arrived among the exiles in Babylon, he was "in bitterness and in the heat of my spirit." But the angry and frustrated prophet says that for seven days "I sat where they sat" (Ezekiel 3:14, 15). As he began to feel the anguish and heartache of the refugees, his own bitterness gradually ebbed away and his spirit was healed.

Ezekiel found wholeness for himself when he spent some creative time in the chair of empathy for others.

But soon the voice of God said to him, "Arise!" The time comes when we need to get moving. Whenever it does, let's all rise from our seats.

And, like the prophet, go forth.

—Stan Mooneyham in World Vision.

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

It cannot be emphasized too much that every Christian should and can be better than he is. No Christian, however close to the Father, is ever as close as he ought to be. He has need for tempering. He has need for improvement. While the Christian will certainly not want to expose himself unwisely to liberal ideas, nor experiment with this or that "ism," he must be aware that even in something as traditional as Christianity there is room for change—if that change is expedient, and more importantly, progressive. But, mind you, change should never be wrought for its own sake!

Christianity as we know it today and the Christian people who practice it comprise a mosaic of the old and the new, the inherited and acquired—and yes, even the good and the bad. It is only as we recognize our need for maturity and advancement—it is only as we recognize our utter dependence upon the Almighty—that we find ourselves truly established in the way.

Then, and only then, can we hope for Christianity par excellence.

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THE LATE GREAT PLANET EARTH

Hal Lindsey with C. C. Carlson

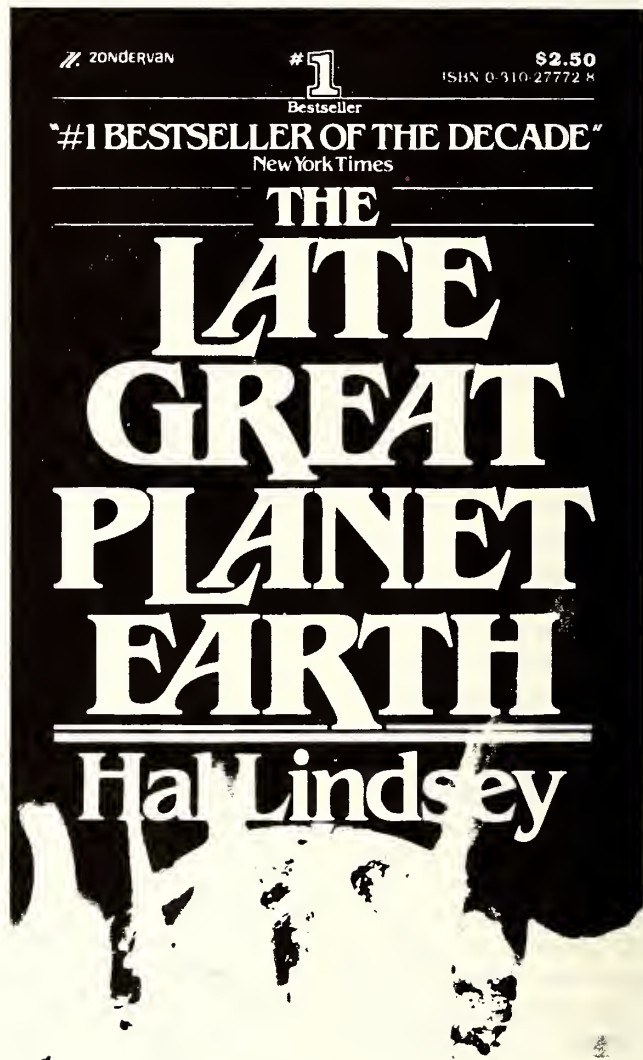
A penetrating examination of the incredible prophecies involving this generation.

The explosion of world-shaking events centered in the Middle East has rekindled the hunger for prophetic writings. And this bestseller of the 70s is selling like never before.

The authors contend that there are certain signs predicted by the Bible which are to usher in mankind's final destiny. **The Late Great Planet Earth** points out the fact that world developments are already fulfilling most of the conditions set forth by the ancient prophets such as: the rebirth of Israel, the increase in natural catastrophes, the threat of nuclear war, overpopulation, pollution and widespread disease and famine. They point out that these events are key signals for the coming of the antichrist . . . and the final global conflict that will bring man to the brink of destruction and to the threshold of man's final destiny.

HAL LINDSEY, a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary, majored in the New Testament and early Greek literature. He traveled to major universities in the United States and abroad as a staff member of Campus Crusade for Christ, speaking to thousands of college students. Lindsey began his writing career in 1970 with **The Late Great Planet Earth**. His other books include **Satan is Alive and Well on Planet Earth**, **The Liberation of Planet Earth**, **The Terminal Generation**, and **There's a New World Coming**.

CAROLE C. CARLSON describes herself as a mother, grandmother and businesswoman. A free-lance writer, she is the author of several books, and the co-author of **The Late Great Planet Earth** and **Satan is Alive and Well on Planet Earth**. She currently lives and works in Southern California.



OTHER BESTSELLING LINDSEY BOOKS

**SATAN IS ALIVE AND WELL
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The Free Will Baptist

Wednesday, August 20, 1980, Ayden, North Carolina



Regardless of where we are: whether in trouble, in the loneliness of a darkened room, in the outreaches of the countryside, traveling sown the highway, in the midst of a large convention—or wherever—there is Someone who cares about us personally and individually.

A THIRD WORLD PERSPECTIVE

MISSIONS . . . IN THE 80s

by Gottfried Osei-Mensah

submitted by Frank R. Harrison

I BELIEVE the Holy Spirit is saying three district things to the church of Jesus Christ concerning her mission in the 1980s.

First He is saying that it is the task of the **whole** church to take the whole gospel to the whole world.

If you live in the Western hemisphere you may be saying, "What's new about this? Has He not been saying this for 2000 years?" But if you live in the Third World as I have all my life, this is a fresh thought. For decades, many of my people, whenever they thought about mission, thought about the Western missionaries taking the gospel from the North American countries or from Europe or Britain or Australia or New Zealand, and bringing it to Africa or Asia or Latin America. It never dawned on us that it is also our task to take the gospel into the whole world.

It was as if Jesus' great commission was addressed to the Western church, saying, "Go into all the Third World and preach the

gospel." We in the Third World thought that our part in mission was only to receive the churches established by Western missionaries, to provide pastors and elders for them, and then to begin training our people for work only in their limited spheres. The Holy Spirit's call for us to go across cultures with the gospel, this is new to us.

It is unfortunate that the younger churches of the Third World were not brought up as missionary churches right from the beginning, in the way that churches were in the first century. The Apostle Paul always involved the churches in his outreach. Toward the end of his ministry, wherever he went to open up new work, he had representatives of the churches traveling with him as apprentices. The churches back home were involved in the ministry by receiving his prayer letters. They were also involved by **sending**, not only sending money for relief work, but also sending men and women (as the Philippian churches did) to

support the apostle in his ministry, and to learn how to pick up the work themselves.

For many years, pragmatism has kept us from tapping the full resources of the church for mission work, but in this generation the Holy Spirit is turning our minds back to spiritual things, to the things of Scripture, to what He has said for nearly 2000 years.

The second thing I hear Him saying is that evangelicals should unite for the evangelization of the world.

This unity is an important tool for evangelization. In John 17 we see this as one of four specific petitions in the Lord's High Priestly prayer. He realized that Satan would make the new covenant community a target of constant attack, to divide evangelicals and to rob us of our joy in the family of God. He prayed not just for unity in the Spirit, a unity inherent in the Body, but for a visible unity—that the world should see that we are really one.

Turn the Page

He said that is part of our weapon for evangelism.

Those who have received His word should manifest their unity to the world, displaying a new solidarity which will stand examination and analysis, showing that what binds these people together is God. The model of that unity is the Triune God himself.

When the world begins to see such unity they will sit up and take notice of our message. For when they hear us proclaim the family of God but cannot see it in us, our behavior negates our message. Then they are not interested. The world already has too many words. They want to see the message operative before their eyes.

The practical implications are far-reaching. It means the national church and the mission society (or other para-church organization) should be seen operating as one. In some places the mission is in a category of its own, and the national church is almost a second-class citizen in the Kingdom. The Lord said He was praying not only for those who go, the missionaries and apostles, but for those who become believers through their word—that they may be one. Together they reach out into new areas. That's God's pattern.

Another implication is that national churches in any locality should cross denominational barriers and operate as one. Factionalism has been a curse to many of us in our countries, often dividing extended families. Thank

God for places such as East Africa, where revival has melted walls of separation between groups of Christians. Denominations are just a convenience. They can be bound together by the Word of God and the Spirit of God.

This applies also to mission societies working among the same group of people. It is painful to see mission societies competing and thereby causing confusion. The Holy Spirit is saying to us that if we are going to make any progress in the 1980s in reaching people with the gospel, we had better put our houses in order.

That is what the Lord is saying to us. I am pleased that these things are beginning to take place, that some mission societies in Africa and the Far East have already set examples of cooperation.

The third thing I believe the Holy Spirit is saying to the church for her mission in the 1980s is that we need to take seriously the cultures of those we seek to reach with the gospel.

We must respect the customs and the way of life of those to whom we are sent. That does not mean that we need to wait until we have PhD's in the study of particular peoples. It does mean that we must study their way of life while serving them.

The Lord wants us to be humble enough to admit that we do not have the answers to another's culture, but that we are sent there by the Holy Spirit and have come to learn and also to contribute whatever the

Lord has given us. In that spirit, we must be willing to receive as well as give in that particular culture.

In October 1978 a conference was held in Glen Eyrie, Colorado, to review the progress of the gospel among the Muslim peoples. Why has the church made so little progress among these peoples? I believe it is because we have approached them with insensitivity to their culture.

Often when we preach the gospel to Muslims, our hearers listen and look and think within themselves, "These people are calling us first of all to abandon our culture, because somehow they think it is evil; to adopt a Western culture because somehow they think that is best; and then to become Christians." All three things come together as a package, and they reject it all. I know that's not what we intend to say; but communication is not what we say, it is what they hear. We must take care that they hear the right thing.

None of us can get out of our culture completely, but when we go with our message we must help our listeners to distinguish between our culture—the form in which the message is coming—and the actual message. We want them to embrace the kernel of what we give them, even though they may peel off the husk. They, in turn, will clothe it with their own culture as it has meaning for them.

This is terribly important. Missionaries have testified that they could not be effective until they had come

(Continued on Page 5)

The Rev. Michael Lewis Whitfield

First Free Will Baptist Church of Warsaw, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Michael Lewis Whitfield. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A GOOD PASTOR

*submitted by the members of the
First Church, Warsaw*



The Rev. and Mrs. Michael Lewis Whitfield

We, the people of the First Free Will Baptist Church at Warsaw, wish to honor our pastor, the Rev. Michael Lewis "Mickey" Whitfield as Pastor of the Week.

Our church is a small church with a small membership. Though we are considered a half-time church, Brother Whitfield preaches every Sunday morning. The mid-week prayer service has improved much under his leadership, and almost as many attend this service as come to worship on Sunday morning.

Mr. Whitfield is a very good speaker and brings wonderful, soul-stirring messages. He is a man of great faith.

He was born in Mount Olive. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. B.

R. Whitfield of Route 5, Mount Olive, North Carolina. Having graduated from Southern Wayne High School, Mount Olive College, and Wayne Community College at Goldsboro, North Carolina, he was ordained at Northeast Free Will Baptist Church of Mount Olive on June 12, 1977. In addition to his pastorate, he is currently self-employed as a carpenter. He assumed pastoral duties at Warsaw in October, 1977.

He is a member of the Indian Springs Volunteer Fire Department where he serves as their chaplain. He is married to the former Donna Herron of Goldsboro. They have one son, Joshua Michael.

Donna is a glowing example for the Lord. She and her husband directed the youth work of the church for two years after he became our pastor. They are a wonderful team.

Mr. Whitfield visits the sick regularly in the hospital and at home. He is also on hand when there's a death in the church family. He talks and counsels young people who are planning to marry.

To us, the people at First Church of Warsaw, he is the pastor not only of the week, but of every month and year also.

MISSIONS . . . IN THE 80'S

(Continued from Page 4)

to terms with this fact. They succeeded only after the Lord gave them grace to suppress their own cultural biases and to accept the culture of their adopted countries and peoples.

Few people who put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ have the ability to feel as much at home in an alien culture as in their own. So when they are told that they must learn to do things the missionary's way and become proficient in carrying on the machinery that has been handed to them, they just opt to remain immature. But when they are challenged, from the beginning, to do things in a way appropriate to where they live, they show plenty of ingenuity and creativity. When circumstances force the missionaries to leave such places and then return later, they find things being done very effectively, because the nationals were free to develop creativity and do things their own way.

These are the three things I believe the Holy Spirit is saying about our mission in the 1980s. May the Lord give us grace to listen. If we learn what He wants us to learn as the church of Jesus Christ in our day, then our message will also go far and wide. In this decade we may penetrate the unreached peoples with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and bring the good news to those who as yet sit in darkness and under the shadow of death.

—from World Vision.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

Scripture Reading—Psalm 65:2

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

President Eisenhower opened his second inaugural address with a plea for "the favor of almighty God" on the common labor of all Americans.

"And the hopes of our hearts fashion the deepest prayers of our people. May we pursue the right—without self-righteousness. May we know unity—without conformity. May we grow in strength—without pride of self. May we, in our dealings with all peoples of the earth, ever speak truth and serve justice."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Before we begin any work or embark on any journey, we should fortify ourselves with sincere prayer. God looks with favor upon praying Christians.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

Scripture Reading—Romans 7:6

BEING PREPARED

- To be honest, to be kind, to earn a little and to spend a little less;
- To make, upon the whole, a family happier for his presence;
- To renounce when that shall be necessary and not be embittered;
- To keep a few friends but these without capitulation—above all, on the same condition to keep friends with himself—
- There is a task for all that a man has of fortitude and delicacy.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Sensible living is often a reflection of godly concern. Christian people make physical, emotional and spiritual preparation toward a productive, Christ-centered life.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:16

THE SON SHINES

At a banquet in the Russian capital during World War II, United States Chamber of Commerce President Eric Johnston and Author William L. White listened to their hosts sing Russian songs. Then the Russians requested their guests to sing an American song.

Johnston and White consulted for a few moments and responded with the only song they both remembered—"Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam."

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Spirit of Christ shines through His followers, to influence souls favorably for the Kingdom. Consider the brightness of your light.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

Scripture Reading—James 5:16

PRAY—SINCERELY

It is not the arithmetic of our prayers, how many they are; nor the rhetoric of our prayers, how eloquent they be; nor the geometry of our prayers, how long they may be; nor the music

of our prayers, how sweet our voice may be; nor the logic of our prayers, how argumentative they may be; nor the method of our prayers, how orderly they may be; or even the theology of our prayers, how good the doctrine—which God cares for. Fervency of spirit is that which avaleth much.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The sincere, fervent prayer is the one God hears—despite the flawed expression. Never feel that you have to speak to Him in grand orations. The heart is more important than the speech.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

Scripture Reading—Luke 18:15

PATIENCE

- We must be a patient people
- With children,
- With parents,
- With administrators,
- With ourselves.
- Watching with a quiet, anxious breath,
- Listening with a still, magnetic ear,
- Living with a slow, emerging self.
- Guided by the values we hold dear,
- While following a planned and charted course,
- To find the time in every day "to do the right,
- As God would have us see the right" to do.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Patience is a virtue each of us needs more of. If we exercise it daily, it will eventually become a natural part of our personality. Ask the Lord for assistance. Therein lies the answer.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

Scripture Reading—Psalm 145:11

OMNIPOTENCE

A Sunday school teacher was examining her pupils after a series of lessons on God's omnipotence. She asked, "Is there anything God can't do?"

There was silence. Finally, one lad held up his hand. The teacher, disappointed that the lesson's point had been missed, asked resignedly, "Well, just what is it that God can't do?"

"Well," replied the boy, "He can't please everybody."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Though light in tone, the incident above should remind us that the ways of God are offensive to unregenerate men. Let us strive to bring everyone into loving favor with Him.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

Scripture Reading—Psalm 4:4

JUST LOVING

Walking down the street one day a lady noticed a little girl leaving the church by herself. When the child passed her, the lady inquired where she had been.

"In there," replied the little girl, pointing to the church.

"And what were you doing in there?" the woman asked.

"Praying," was the prompt reply.

Thinking the child was probably bothered with some problem the lady inquired, "What were you praying for, dear?"

"Nothing," the child replied. "I was just loving Jesus."

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

PRAYER THOUGHT

Sometimes one feels the need just to commune with God, without asking for specific favors. Let us take time to talk

to Him daily; let us not wait until we desperately need Him.

Selected from *The Speaker's Sourcebook*, compiled by Eleanor L. Doan, Zondervan.

WHY FREE WILL BAPTISTS NEED A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE

W. Burkette Raper, President

"MOUNT Olive College was founded by the Free Will Baptist Church in order to provide a program of higher education that is distinctively Christian. It is in the fulfillment of this mission that the College finds its historic reason for existence and its continued purpose for being." (Official statement of purpose, College catalogue).

Why, in the face of the rising cost of operation and a projected decline in the college population, should Mount Olive seek to become a four-year college? Many factors might be cited, but there is a major and controlling reason.

TO BETTER SERVE THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Mount Olive is the only college Original Free Will Baptists have. There is no other source to which our church can turn to prepare the kind of leadership she needs to fulfill God's mission for her. Mount Olive will offer Free Will Baptist youth their only opportunity to attend a four-year college oriented to the specific needs of their church. A senior college is also urgently needed to provide a

more adequate preparation for ministerial students.

It has been my observation that as goes education, so goes the ministry; as goes the ministry, so goes the church.

Education cannot make a minister—only God can do that—but a Christian college can provide the opportunity for one called of God to "Study to show himself approved unto God, a workman who needeth not to be ashamed." Two of the greatest men of the Bible, Moses and Paul, were among the highest educated men of their day. Moses was reared in the palace of the Pharaoh and "was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians" (see Acts 7:22), and Paul studied at the feet of the great Gamaliel and was known for his "much learning" (see Acts 22:3; 26:24).

Many of the outstanding leaders of the Free Will Baptist Church did not have the opportunity of a college education, but today they stand at the forefront of those who are working, praying, and giving that Mount Olive might be a four-year college. They have become the bridge-builders for tomorrow.



Western District to Meet

The Western District Youth Fellowship will hold its monthly meeting on August 23, at 7:30 p. m., at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina.

Cape Fear Ministers and Wives to Hold Banquet

The ministers of the Cape Fear Conference and their wives are planning a fellowship banquet for August 26, 1980, at Holt's Lake Barbecue and Seafood Restaurant, located one mile south of Smithfield on Highway 301.

There will be a time of fellowship from 7 until 7:30 p. m., after which a family-style meal consisting of seafood, barbecue, and chicken will be served. Special entertainment is scheduled after the meal.

All of the ministers of the Conference and their wives are extended a special invitation to attend this supper.

Gum Neck Church to Have Union, Sunday School, and League Conventions

Gum Neck Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, North Carolina, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting, Sunday School Convention, and League Convention, on August 30, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

UNION MEETING

OPENING SESSION,

- 10:00—Devotion, the Rev. Francis Garner
- 10:10—Welcome, Mr. Lyn Jones
—Response, the Rev. Steve Hargrove
- 10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charles Overton

- 10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
- 10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time

BUSINESS SESSION

- 10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
- 10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
- 11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP

- 11:10—Hymn
- 11:20—Special Music, Host Church
- 11:25—Message, the Rev. L. E. Ambrose
—Adjournment and Lunch
Pianist, Mrs. Lucille Jones

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

OPENING SESSION

- 1:00—Devotion, the Rev. Robert May
- 1:10—Welcome, Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Charles Cahoon
—Response, the Rev. Floyd Burkey
- 1:15—President's Message, Mr. Erwin Foreman
- 1:25—Enrollment of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers

- Roll Call of Churches and Delegates
- Bring Reports and Receiving Blanks
- Announcements
- Offering for Children's Home
- Suggestions and Information for the Betterment of Sunday Schools

BUSINESS SESSION

- 2:00—Minutes of Last Convention Read for Information
—Treasurer's Report
—New Business
—Minutes Read and Approved

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

- 2:15—Special Music, Host Church
- 2:25—Benediction and Adjournment

LEAGUE CONVENTION

- 7:30—Devotion Mr. Bentley Oliver
- 7:40—President's Message, Mr. Loyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business of Digest Committee
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Minutes Read and Approved
—Adjournment
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

Third Union of Eastern Conference to Meet

The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at Sarecta Free Will Baptist

Church, August 30, at 10 a. m. Sarecta church is located six miles northeast of Kenansville on rural road 1700.

Cape Fear Union Meeting At Victory Mission

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will meet at Victory Mission, Hope Mills, North Carolina, on Saturday, August 30, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 10:00—Hymn, Congregation
- Devotion, the Rev. Foy Futrelle
- Welcome, Host Church
- Response, J. L. Cooke
- 10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
- Recognition of Visitors
- Reading of Minutes of Last Union
- Appointment of Committees
- Roll Call of Churches
- Report of Denominational Enterprises
- Miscellaneous Business
- 11:15—Hymn, Congregation
- Special Music
- Offering and Offertory Prayer
- Message, Dr. W. Burkette Raper
- 12:00—Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Unfinished Business
- Benediction and Adjournment
- Lunch and Christian Fellowship

The officers for the union include the following: moderator, the Rev. Edward C. Taylor; assistant moderator, the Rev. Leonard Woodall Jr.; secretary, Mrs. Dola Dudley; assistant secretary, Mrs. Ruth Warrick; treasurer, H. T. Hinson; and hymn director, Johnnie Woodall.

Central Conference Layman's League to Meet

The Central Conference Layman's League will meet at the First Free Will Baptist

Church, Greenville, North Carolina, on September 8, 1980, at 8 p. m.

Second Union, SS Convention Central, to Meet

The Second Union and the Sunday School Convention of the Central Conference will meet on August 31 at the Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, North Carolina, at 3 p. m.

NOTICE

The Fourth Annual State Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention will be held September 25, 26, 1980, at Blockade Runner Motor Hotel, Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina. The fee is \$25 or \$30 late registration fee. The workshop topics will include: Emotional Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Adolescent Abuse, Institutional Abuse, Parent Education, Parent Aides and Mothers-Time-Out Programs, Parent Anonymous Models, Alternatives to Corporal Punishment, and Church-Community Response to Child Abuse. Registration begins at 10 a. m. on September 25 and the conference will end on September 26. For more information contact: Mrs. Richard Frazier, Conference Chairman, 220 Vincent Road, Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina 27870.

News from

RETIREMENT HOMES

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS July, 1980

Total \$596.37

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Palmer Memorial	\$ 100.00
Powhatan	50.00
Smithfield, First	50.00
Wooten's Chapel	<u>33.42</u>
TOTAL	\$233.42
CENTRAL	
Bethany	\$ 13.45
Community	10.00
Union Number 2	13.67
TOTAL	<u>\$ 37.12</u>
EASTERN	
Beaufort	\$ 5.00
Macedonia	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL	\$105.00
PEE DEE	
Union Number 1	\$ 23.00
TOTAL	\$ 23.00
PIEDMONT	
Community	\$ 47.83
TOTAL	<u>\$ 47.83</u>
WESTERN	
Wilson, First	\$150.00
TOTAL	<u>\$150.00</u>

DON'T MISS THE

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

September 17, 18, 1980

Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium Fayetteville, North Carolina

This will be the sixty-eighth annual session of the Convention.

More details will be published in the following issues of "The Free Will Baptist."

Cragmont Assembly

submitted by John R. Watson

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

May 1, 1980 – July 31, 1980

Checking Account Balance 5/1/80	\$455.69	Rock Springs	25.00	
RECEIPTS		Western District Auxiliary Convention	25.76	
North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention		Selma	5.00	
Tarboro, First	\$ 42.93	Stancil's Chapel	3.00	
Fremont	11.25	Trinity	20.00	
Little Rock	7.50	Union Grove	3.00	
St. Mary's (Wilson)	215.00	Pleasant Hill (Wayne)	50.00	
Stancil's Chapel	23.00	Wilson, First	100.00	
Free Union (Nash County)	20.00	Arapahoe	3.00	
Albemarle District Convention	30.00	Northeast	3.75	
Macedonia	12.50	Folkstone	10.00	
Whaley's Chapel	50.00	Lanier's Chapel	29.00	
Sound View	15.00	Cape Fear District Convention	13.06	
Christian Chapel	20.00	Christian Service Fund	<u>163.08</u>	2,015.01
Beulaville	60.00			
Black Jack	75.00	ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE		
Daniels Chapel	17.50	Free Union	132.00	
Grimsley	3.00	Shiloh	10.30	
Pearsall Chapel	20.00	Plymouth, First	50.00	
Holly Springs (Newport)	20.00	Albemarle Union Meeting	18.72	
Pee Dee District Convention	20.00	Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	9.00	
Gum Swamp	24.50	Sidney	<u>27.73</u>	247.75
Central District Auxiliary Convention	43.69			
Aspen Grove	15.00	CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE		
Bethany	70.13	Victory Mission	36.50	
Dawson's Grove	33.00	Casey's Chapel	150.00	
Edgewood	10.00	Tee's Chapel	18.25	
Elm Grove	57.00	Shady Grove	300.00	
Free Union (Greene)	10.35	Lee's Chapel	25.00	
Friendship (Greene)	137.27	Sunday School	121.15	
Harrell's Chapel	10.00	Fellowship Class	76.16	
Hickory Grove	10.00	Eastover	8.72	
Hugo	25.00	Pleasant Grove	200.00	
King's Cross Roads	41.50	Johnston Union	12.00	
LaGrange	54.00	Wooten's Chapel	66.83	
Little Creek	20.00	Smithfield, First	50.00	
Marlboro	14.00	Palmer Memorial YFA	100.00	
Ormondsville	20.00	Haymount Mission	<u>72.64</u>	1,237.25
Reedy Branch	10.00			
Rose Hill	15.00	CENTRAL CONFERENCE		
Rose of Sharon	20.00	Rocky Mount, First	45.00	
Saratoga	20.64	Reedy Branch	23.35	
Spring Branch	20.00	Willis Wilson	50.00	
Winterville YFA	77.00	Fidelis Memorial Sunday School Class	40.00	
Winterville (Lela Nobles)	15.00	Sunday School	14.00	
Anonymous	10.00	Bible School	33.45	
Bethel (Johnston)	20.00	Ayden	250.00	
Casey's Chapel	20.00	Friendship	75.00	
Goldsboro, First	6.60	YFA	112.00	
Lee's Chapel	20.00	Hull Road	500.00	
Tee's Chapel	20.00	Greenville, First	200.00	
Riverside	20.00			
Milbournie	9.00			

Harry Grubbs	60.00	
Hugo	75.00	
Daniels Chapel	500.00	
King's Cross Roads	328.51	
Sunday School	17.58	
Aspen Grove	46.95	
Fourth Union Convention	20.23	
Williamston, First	33.65	
Dilda's Grove, Sunday School	42.10	
Free Union	500.00	
Rose Hill Sunday School	50.00	
Tarboro, First	200.00	
Otters Creek	128.00	
Hickory Grove, Sunday School	125.00	
Marlboro	75.00	
Owens Chapel	50.00	
Peace	50.00	
Second Union Meeting	13.67	
Black Jack	830.08	
Winterville—Marty Corbett	10.00	
Grimsley	50.00	
Bethany	95.28	4,643.85

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Sound View	50.00	
Indian Springs	35.00	
Piney Grove	50.00	
Wardens Grove	12.47	
Sandy Plain	300.00	
Gray Branch	200.00	
Cabin	25.00	
Woman's Auxiliary	25.00	
Bethlehem	100.00	
Deep Run	168.00	
Sunday School	100.00	
May's Chapel	100.00	
Juniper Chapel	43.74	
Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Wilson	50.00	
Macedonia	100.00	
White Oak Grove	125.00	
Arapahoe Ladies' Auxiliary	50.00	
Christian Chapel	100.00	
Mount Zion	25.00	
Bridgeton	26.00	
Fifth Union	31.00	
Verona	150.00	
Rooty Branch	75.00	
St. Mary's	177.50	
Kinston, First	320.00	
Fifth Eastern Sunday School		
Convention	10.00	
Daly's Chapel	100.00	
Whaley's Chapel	75.00	
Beaufort Mission	5.00	
Pilgrims Rest	10.00	
Davis	100.00	
Iris Davis	10.00	2,748.71

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Highland Pines	50.00	
Elwood Lane	100.00	150.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Milbournie	83.50	
Bible School	45.00	
First Western District Sunday		
School Convention	25.00	
Wilson, First	500.00	

Friendship	100.00	
Unity	50.00	
Sherron Acres	393.25	
Ladies Auxiliary	10.00	
Pleasant Hill	100.00	
St. Mary's	285.00	
YFA	25.00	
Stancil's Chapel	295.65	
Spring Hill	200.00	
Mount Zion—Nash County	75.00	
Union Grove	112.00	
Pine Level	200.00	
Piney Grove	30.00	
Marsh Swamp—James Hunt	50.00	
Branch Chapel	100.00	
Holly Springs	400.00	
Little Rock	400.00	
Western District Youth Fellowship	25.00	
	<u>3,504.40</u>	

OTHERS

Helen C. Bass	100.00	
North Carolina State Leagues		
Convention	449.18	
Burress Insurance Agency	100.00	
Verena P. Johnson	100.00	
Cash Offering	54.00	
Anna Moretz	10.00	
Thomas E. Coward	35.00	
Ministerial Association		
Roland Cherry	10.00	
Michael Pelt	25.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Johnson	50.00	933.18
Total		<u>933.18</u>
		<u>\$15,480.15</u>

EXPENSES

Salaries	2,640.01	
Insurance	4,287.10	
Net Cash Transfers to:		
General Savings	550.53	
Building Fund	3,679.84	5,180.37
Camp Account	<u>950.00</u>	268.74
Employee Benefits		1,850.00
Improvements to Buildings		46.27
Supplies		34.20
Mileage		54.48
Bank Service Charge		1,067.00
Professional Services		<u>90.00</u>
Work Travel		<u>\$15,518.17</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES

CHECKING ACCOUNT		
BALANCE 7 / 31 / 80		<u>417.67</u>

GENERAL SAVINGS BALANCE

5 / 1 / 80		<u>\$1,149.47</u>
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Transferred to Checking	\$1,149.47	
Transferred from Checking	<u>1,700.00</u>	550.53

BALANCE 7 / 31 / 80		<u>\$1,700.00</u>
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BUILDING FUND BALANCE 5 / 1 / 80		<u>2,235.93</u>
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Transferred from Checking	\$3,679.84	
Interest Earned	<u>55.08</u>	3,734.92

BALANCE 7 / 31 / 80		<u>\$5,970.85</u>
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Total of all Funds on Hand in		
Corporate Account 7 / 31 / 80		<u>\$8,624.45</u>

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For August 31

GOD'S JUDGMENT AND MERCY

Lesson Text: Malachi 3:1-10

Memory Verse: Malachi 2:10

I. INTRODUCTION

The Prophet Malachi stands somewhat as a bridge between the Old Testament and the New. Firmly committed to the law of Moses (Malachi 4:4), the prophet also speaks of the coming of the Lord, "the Sun of righteousness . . . with healing in his wings" (v. 2). From the time of Malachi until the coming of Jesus, no prophet's voice was heard until the coming of John the Baptist, the forerunner of the Messiah.

The Book of Malachi reflects the conditions of the time of Ezra and Nehemiah, but we are unable to date precisely the time of the writing of the book. A date of about 430 B. C. perhaps would not be far afield.

Some in Judah were despondent because there had been drought and other misfortunes. To the skeptical, Malachi reaffirmed the Lord's love for Israel (1:2-5). Many in Judah were cynical and almost contemptuous of any sincere approach to worship. The priests themselves were among the worst offenders. They would daily enrich themselves by appropriating the best of the sacrificial animals, offering to God only the sick and lame ones. In doing this they were, of course, treating the Lord with contempt (vv. 6-8).

Faithless husbands deserted their Jewish wives, who had borne their children, to marry

foreign women, pagans who worshiped idols. Wealthy nobles used oppressive measures to exact from the poor their meager belongings. We can readily understand, therefore, why the judgment of God is a prominent theme in the prophecy of Malachi.

But this is not the whole message of Malachi. There is a way back to God, a way of acceptance by Him, a way that will bring blessings. In view of this fact our lesson today is well entitled, "God's Judgment and Mercy."—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Today, we study the last book in the Old Testament, the prophecy of Malachi. The word "Malachi" means "My Messenger." Because the name is mentioned nowhere else in the Old Testament, some believe that the name "Malachi" is a pseudonym. However, there seems to be no real basis for this belief.

B. The Book of Malachi uses an unusual style. The prophet asks many questions and then proceeds to answer them. Quite often he asks a question and then gives an imaginary objection to the answer before he gives his answer. These passages are introduced by the phrase, "Ye say."

C. At the time of the writing of the book, about one hundred years after the return of the Jews to Palestine after the captivity, the city of Jerusalem had been rebuilt and the second

temple had been constructed. But now the enthusiasm had worn off. There had been a revival under Nehemiah, but now the priests and the people had backslidden and the observance of the law and its rituals had become mechanical. However, even in the midst of their backsliding, they did not seem to understand why God was displeased with them. As we study the Scripture for today's lesson, we should be helped to a better understanding and appreciation of the judgment and mercy of God.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Our final lesson this quarter is taken from the last book of the Old Testament, Malachi. Malachi began his work soon after the prophet Zechariah and was a contemporary of Nehemiah. When Malachi wrote his book, the captivity was already a thing of the past and he does not mention it.

B. His brief message, in four chapters, denounced the follies and abuses of his day, especially laxity in the marriage relation, slothfulness in the service of God and slackness in bringing offerings to the house of God. While his book is the last in the Old Testament, it . . . does not close with a finality that would say, 'All is finished.' On the contrary, a note of great expectancy is struck. Like many others of the prophets Malachi foresaw the time when God's final message to mankind would be brought by the Messiah whom He would send."—Standard Lesson Commentary

C. As we approach this last lesson, let us do so with the purpose of finding God's judgment and mercy both for His people of long ago and for you and me today who make up the Bride of Christ, formed by His grace for His precious Son.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)

Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church

A Condensed Historical Sketch

by the Rev. M. L. Johnson
1946

submitted by Frank R. Harrison

As we look back over the past we are sure that a little over 75 years ago, or in the early part of 1871, there were a few people who had seen the need for a Free Will Baptist Church to serve this community. Those who were interested were not satisfied just to talk of the need and wish something were done about it. They turned words into action, for on May 15, 1871, these people met in a place known as the Clarice Barnes School House, and organized Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church (the first and only name used by this church). Elder Daniel Davis was the minister in charge and was assisted by Elder Joseph Sauls, and Brother Jessey Rose (deacon from Union Grove church in Wayne County.) There were six charter members of this church; Sally Newsome, Milley Daniel, Elizear Woodard, Elizabeth Lucas, Mary Atkinson, and Quilley Moore. During the first year the following were added to the church: Molly Ferrell, Joanna Godwin, Larry Lucas, Pus Lamm, Simon Newsome, and William Woodard. Elder Davis served as pastor for 22 years, or until 1893, and for one more year in 1897. During this time he was assisted by Elders Joseph Sauls, R. H. Holland, J. D. Pate, R. W. Perkins, William Bryant, and P. T. Lucas.

As we read the record that has been left for us by the early

members of this church, we are made to realize that they mingled a lot of faith, prayer, vision, and service together, for without these things we feel that there could not have been the beautiful story of growth and success that is true today.

Just as they were not satisfied without a church organization, they were not satisfied without a church building. So in 1885 a building committee was appointed consisting of Amos Atkinson, Bennett Campell, and James Newsome. From the notations in the Minutes of the Quarterly Meetings, this building must have been completed in the fall of 1887, most of the materials and labor being donated by the members. As we come down to the more recent history, the records show that in 1927 the church and Sunday school had grown to the extent that more room was needed. This need was met by the enlargement of the building and the addition of Sunday school rooms as they now are. Another improvement campaign, completed in 1938, resulted in the complete reworking of the building. A look at our roll today will reveal that this church has grown from the six charter members to a membership of 295.

The above helps us to see something of the progress in the membership and building. But the greatest GOOD done by this church can be seen in the lives

and memory of those who were a part of it and have been served by it. "Heaven, alone, will be able to reveal to what extent this church has been FAITHFUL." As we close the books on the first 75 years of the history of our church, let us now DEDICATE our lives to the further service of our LORD and SAVIOUR. Remember we build today upon the lives and service of those who have gone before us.

The following is a list of those who have served as major officers of this church:

PASTORS: Daniel Davis, 1871-93; P. T. Lucas, 1893-97; Daniel Davis, 1897; J. H. Worley, 1897-99; C. R. Pierce, 1899-1901; L. T. Phillips, 1901-08; G. W. Davis and R. Strickland, 1908-09; J. R. McCaskey, 1912-14; G. W. Ferrell, 1909-12; R. F. Pittman, 1914-18; S. H. Styron, 1918-22; R. F. Pittman, 1922-23; S. H. Styron, 1923-27; C. M. Johnson, 1927-29; S. H. Styron, 1929-36; R. N. Hinnant, 1936-39; M. E. Tyson, 1939-42; and M. L. Johnson, 1942-.

CLERKS: Simon Newsome, J. W. Godwin, James Newsome, J. D. Boyette, George D. Johnson, L. A. Renfrow, H. S. Pittman, and Ralph Barnes.

TREASURERS: Amos Atkinson, J. Newsome, and W. H. Blalock.

DEACONS: Amos Atkinson, Bennett Campbell, Eli Godwin, Luther Johnson, Willis Holland, J. W. Jomp, H. S. Pittman, B. R. Raper, J. R. Peele, Frank Hill, and W. G. Ferrell.

RULING ELDERS: Henry Atkinson, M. C. Dunn, Larry Lucas, W. R. Davis, Sparce Renfrow, B. T. Woodard, George D. Johnson, Wade Davis, J. M. Walker, and Orville Raper.

PRESENT TRUSTEES: F. T. Barnes, J. A. Barnes, and L. A. Renfrow.

Foreign Missions

submitted by Joe Ingram

PALAWAN BIBLE INSTITUTE BEGINS SECOND YEAR



PBI student body 1980-81

Classes officially opened Monday, June 16, 1980, beginning the second year of operation for Palawan Bible Institute. We praise the Lord that our dormitories were completed in time for the students to move into. All five of our students which studied last year returned to complete their training this year. We have nine new students to begin for the first time. This gives us a total of fourteen students of which twelve live in the dorms. There are nine men and five women in our student body.



Studying the word

The school calendar for the 1980-81 school term looks like the following:

- First trimester, September 29
- Second trimester, September 8—November 21

Third trimester, January 5—March 20

The courses of study for the first year students the first trimester are the following: The Biblical Way of Salvation, Introduction to Bible Study, Life of Christ, Music, Bible Reading, and Physical Education. The courses of study for the second year students this trimester are the following: Bible Doctrines II, Principles of Teaching, Witnessing to the Cults, Work of a Pastor, and Physical Education.



PBI playing basketball

There is one new teacher at P. B. I., the Rev. Flor B. Arque. He teaches and leads in the evangelism department. We praise the Lord for Him.



PBI playing volleyball

We deeply need your prayers and support in the early formative years at P.B. I. Don't let us down. Pray daily. Set a regular time to go before the Lord on our behalf. Pray for our students, teachers, and staff. May we say thank you for what you have done in the past for us. May God bless you.

Fred Baker

THE REV. BABU SINGH PREACHES IN NEPAL

by the Rev. Dr. Emmanuel M. Lall



The Rev. Babu Singh

It has been a matter of pleasure to the Free Will Baptists in India to report that the Rev. Babu Singh age 95 years, an active minister of the Free Will Baptist Church of India was on the preaching mission in the Country of Nepal in the month of May and June, 1980. The Rev. Babu Singh is a well versed minister in Hinduism, Islam, as well as Sikhism and is a real daring minister. Every year in the season of summer is his preaching season. This year he went on the foot of Himalyas and climbed to the hills of Nepal and had a month long preaching mission in the Country of Nepal.

The Country of Nepal is totally closed to preaching the gospel. However, the Rev. Babu Singh said he was on a preaching

(Continued on Page 15)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MOC STILL OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

Although indications are that the enrollment at Mount Olive College will reach an all-time high this fall, applications are still being accepted for the fall semester. Limited space is available for both resident and commuting students. The dormitories will open on Sunday, August 24, with classes scheduled to begin on August 27.

A good selection of classes is being offered during the evening program, both at the Seymour Johnston Air Force Base site and on the Mount Olive Campus. If you would like a list of the courses available or information relative to the program, please write or call the Admissions Office (858-2502), Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365

For your convenience, the Admissions Office will be open each Saturday in August from 9 a. m. until 12 noon, and after 5:00 p. m. Monday through Friday by appointment.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

Some small children came by begging for money to buy flowers for a poor deceased friend. I gave them some money but my neighbors called me a fool; they said "those kids are just going around ripping off people." After a few days had passed, I received a heart-warming letter of thanks from some neighbors of the deceased person.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Franklin Brinson announces that he now has a new address: Route 3, Box 39, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580, phone 747-8423. He is now serving Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

Foreign Missions

(Continued from Page 14)

mission for almost one month without knowing that it is barred by the law and the younger generation was keenly interested in his talks. The school children were around him most of the time and picked up his literature kits also. The people of Nepal were found interested in knowing about the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Saviour of mankind and responded favorably demanding the New Testaments and other Christian literature. According to the Rev. Babu Singh the Word was preached among six thousand people. He was not subjected to action or harassment which had happened previously with the missionaries. He said "all were inspired with the Word of God and Christian hymns and none reported against him to the authorities so he was saved from sufferings." The Rev. Babu Singh was questioned by a group of young people whether he would return to Nepal again next year and he boldly said in the same months!

We praise the ministry led by the Rev. Babu Singh for the glory of God in a place where it is prohibited and sincerely hope that the doors will open for the people to know the Lord in that country.

He cannot have taught us
to trust in His name, and
brought us thus far to put
us to shame.

—J. Hudson Taylor

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

"Wherever you are, God is"—a simple and direct truth that needed no embellishment. Even the most uneducated would have little trouble understanding. It was poignant, definite, clear, precise, and true.

Regardless of where we are: whether in trouble, in the loneliness of a darkened room, traveling down the highway, in the midst of a large convention—or wherever—there is Someone who cares about us personally and individually. There is Someone who cares enough to be with us, to carry us through every difficulty. He is even there when there is no trouble to be reckoned with. He just is.

The reassurance of His presence is like that proverbial light out of darkness. It is the light which dispels darkness. We cannot hide from Him, nor should we want to. Such knowledge should also behoove us not to be where He would not want us to be.

"Wherever you are, God is." Let us not forget it.



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**THE STATE CONVENTION of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCHES of NORTH CAROLINA**

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SEPTEMBER 17, 18

**THE
FREE
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Wednesday, August 27, 1980, Ayden, North Carolina

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MY LAST EDITORIAL: A FAREWELL

Except for interested persons who care and who are insisting that I make some statement, I would resist addressing the subject of my leaving the Press. But in consideration of those and others who are wondering and puzzling, I will let it be known that I have pondered the situation for several months. I don't like good-byes.

Early this year I was offered a job with a religious publishing company in San Antonio, Texas—a job, though similar to my present position, and offering a secure future, I nonetheless refused. I had no intention of terminating a relationship I had enjoyed for so long.

It was only after serious prayer and careful consideration that I finally arrived at my decision to tender my resignation as Editor of Literature at the Press, leaving a position I had held for twelve years, and bringing to a close a period of more than sixteen consecutive years at the same institution. (Prior to being promoted to the editorship, I had served as staff artist.)

As my friends must know, my leaving is not easy. The Press has been my life for so long. I began working part-time while a college freshman in 1959, and worked off and on until 1963 when I became employed full-time. I have worked here continuously ever since.

If I did not feel that the new work I have taken is Christ-centered and conducive to Christian living, I would never have accepted it. It is an extension of my present work, though not connected with the Free Will Baptist denomination.

So many friends have offered kind regrets at my leaving—something I appreciate so much. At the same time they have wished me well. My co-workers can never know how much they have meant to me, nor how difficult it will be to carry on in a new place without them. I am certain I will be calling their names and depending on their assistance. It will take some time for me to realize they are not with me.

Please know that I have done what I think is right; I believe I followed the leading of our Father. I have never, in my life, made any important decision without seeking His guidance. On this occasion, as with others, I let Him direct me.

(Continued on Page 15)

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Volume 95 August 27, 1980 Number 32
Tommy Manning
Editor

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All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of The Free Will Baptist. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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STATE CONVENTION

*submitted by Gary Bailey
Executive Secretary*

THE Sixty-Eighth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, along with its mission rally, will be held in the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Attendance at the September 17 and 18 meeting is expected to be great as many churches, delegates, and pastors are getting ready for the Convention.

DURING the two-day session denominational institutions and enterprises will make their annual reports to the Convention. The Rev. O. B. Jones, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tarboro, will deliver the message for the worship service held on the first day. The Rev. Marvin Waters, pastor of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church of Pinetown, will deliver the concluding message on the second day of the Convention. During the mission rally, which will be held on Wednesday night, the Revs. Taylor Hill and Ray Wells will speak briefly.

Displays by denominational enterprises will be located in the lobby. Those in attendance will enjoy viewing and learning of the activities of our enterprises.

EVERY church representing may send one delegate for every 100 members or fraction thereof. It is suggested that

each church send its pastor and delegates, and if possible pay their expenses. It is important that delegates and ministers attend the entire Convention, **not just the first day**, since the majority of business is transacted on Thursday.

REGISTRATION for the Convention will begin at 8:30 a. m., and the session will open at 9:30. The Rev. David Charles Hansley, president of the State Convention, urges attendance.

AS in the recent past, when delegates and ministers arrive, they will receive a booklet of reports. This booklet will help to save time, giving those in attendance an opportunity to see and hear what the speaker is saying instead of trying to hear over those passing out materials. An announcement screen will also be provided so the president and secretary will not be taking up valuable time to make simple announcements. A central information desk will be located in the display area to assist anyone with any questions on locations, as well as, convention facilities. Should anyone be expecting a call, he will be able to leave this information at the desk. He will be informed immediately upon receipt of such. Every effort is being made to make this Convention the best yet.

TO miss this Convention is to miss one of the best opportunities to help your church advance for Christ!

September 17, 18, 1980

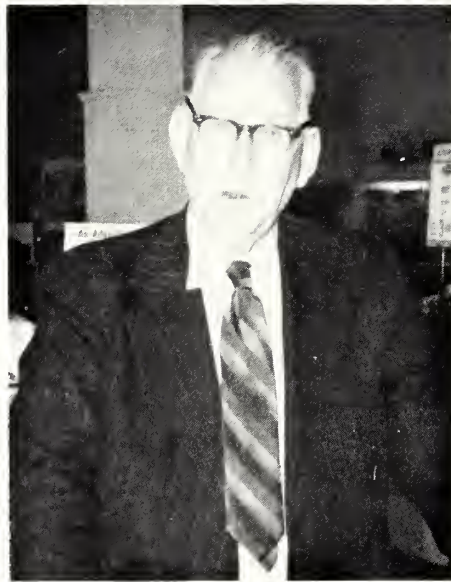
L. E. BALLARD ENDOWMENT FUND BENEFITS HISTORICAL COLLECTION

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MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
Mount Olive, North Carolina

submitted by W. Burkette Raper

THE North Carolina State Sunday School Convention of Original Free Will Baptists has transferred the assets (\$1,000) of the L. E. Ballard Endowment Fund to the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection at Mount Olive College. The earnings of the endowment will be used to process the papers and materials from Mr. Ballard's personal archives that have been deposited in the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection. The fund will continue under the name, The L. E. Ballard Endowment Fund.

The endowment fund was made possible from contributions made by the Convention and individual church Sunday schools who chose to memorialize a man who worked untiringly for many years in the promotion of Sunday school work in the denomination. In making the gift, Sunday School Convention President Stanley Jenkins stated that "we are well pleased that our churches have



The Rev. L. E. Ballard

given as they have to this fund" and encouraged others who may desire to contribute to the endowment.

Income from the endowment fund will be used initially to process and bind certain materials gathered by Mr. Ballard in his historical collection. Storage boxes and

files need to be purchased to store the collection as it is processed. As Mr. Ballard was a prolific writer on a variety of subjects related to the denomination, the income might also be used toward the printing and distribution of material felt to be of general interest to the church.

Librarian Gary Barefoot noted that Mr. Ballard's long years of collecting and assembling of historical materials will be aided further by the wisdom of those who have honored him through the creation of the L. E. Ballard Endowment Fund, a fund whose earnings will enable the Ballard collection to grow and be more meaningful historically.

It is hoped that churches, Sunday schools, and friends of Mr. Ballard will add to the Ballard Endowment in order that it may grow and become a greater tribute to one who gave so much of his life for the advancement of the work of Free Will Baptists.

North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

September 17, 18, 1980

Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium

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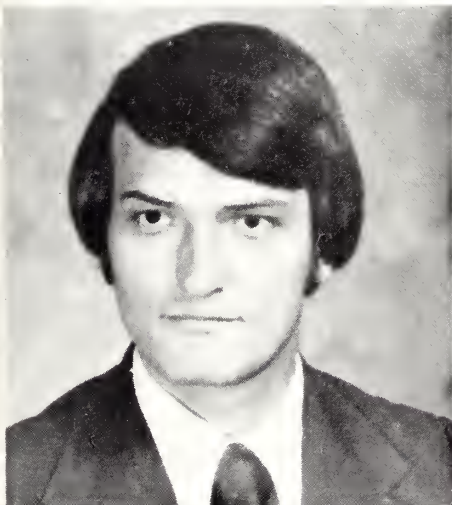


The Rev. David Charles Hansley, president, will preside at this, the sixty-eighth session of the Convention. He pastors Daniels Chapel church, Wilson, North Carolina.



The Rev. O. B. Jones will be the speaker on the first day of the Convention. He pastors the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tarboro, North Carolina.

**Attend
the
State
Convention!**



The Rev. Marvin Waters will be the speaker for the second day of the Convention. He pastors Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church of Pinetown, North Carolina.



The Revs. Taylor Hill and Ray Wells will speak at the Mission Rally to be held on Wednesday night at 7:30.





FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

Scripture Reading—Exodus 23:16

WORK ZEALOUSLY

Emerson said, "Nothing great was ever accomplished without enthusiasm."

Hegel propounded the same truth. He said, "We affirm absolutely that nothing great in the world has ever been accomplished without passion."

In the Bible, Paul says, "It is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing" (Galatians 4:18).

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christian people should serve the Lord with fervor and might. Enthusiasm should not be reserved for secular concerns alone.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Galatians 6:10

A WORTHLESS DAY

Master, I was so busy today doing what I thought of as work for you that I did not see the child who needed comfort, the old man looking for encouragement, the young mother needing a helping hand. I did not see the opportunities you placed in my day for being a friend, for helping one find his way out of despair. Forgive my busyness that made me blind to need, my energy that could not stop to love. Destroy the pride that made me think *my* efforts so

worthwhile that I did not need to pray. This was a worthless day. Father, forgive.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Being busy is no excuse for neglecting good deeds. We usually find the time to do what we really want to do. Before we make excuses, let's examine our motivation.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—Genesis 31

GOING STRONG AT EIGHTY-SIX

It is said that John Wesley traveled two hundred and fifty thousand miles, mostly on horseback and in a buggy, over primitive roads. He preached more than forty thousand sermons, wrote twenty-five massive volumes on a variety of subjects, and mastered a working knowledge of ten languages. As Wesley grew older, he reported regretfully that he had to stay in bed as late as 5:30 a. m. At the age of eighty-six, he limited himself to preaching two sermons a day.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Age should never deter us from serving the Lord. As we grow old with Him, we can find Him nearer and dearer.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—Job 27:19

WHERE RESPONSIBILITY ENDS

Said Dr. W. A. Criswell, "God does not hold us responsible for the response of people. He holds us responsible to witness to them."

If God's children fail "to warn the wicked . . . to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand" (Ezekiel 3:18).

The lost rich man in anguish knew that faithful witnessing to his brothers on the way to Hell might turn their downward steps away from doom and destruction. He pleaded, "Send him (Lazarus) to my father's house: for I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment" (Luke 16:27, 28).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Every true Christian will want to witness to the saving knowledge of Christ. Let us be diligent in this regard.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—Luke 5:14

OF PLAGUE PROPORTIONS

"Austin and the nation are in the midst of an epidemic of nearly plague proportions! No scare tactic—just fact," Joe Pair, state supervisor of the Texas Health Department's VD program, recently said.

In commenting on the problem, Dr. William Miller, public health physician of the Austin-Travis County Health Department, affirmed, "Venereal disease has now become the nation's number one communicable disease! Texas holds the dubious honor of leading the nation in the number of reported infectious syphilis cases per capita. And gonorrhea is completely out of hand. There is little or no hope for gonorrhea control!"

Long ago God gave an immutable law which says, "Be not deceived . . . whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap . . . he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption" (Galatians 6:7, 8).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Social diseases, however distasteful, are real and must be acknowledged. Let us pray for guidance in addressing this serious concern that potential sufferers can be duly warned, lest they reap in tears and disaster.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—Acts 4:33

FUTILITIES

In an editorial in *Decision*, these timely questions were asked:

Do we fiddle around with things that don't mean a straw to God or man, while neglecting the souls of our neighbors?

Do we just talk about people's souls, to the complete disregard of their total being?

Do we burn up God's time in committee meetings that never should have been called in the first place?

Do we encourage people to look past us to our Lord and Saviour, the Prince of Glory?

PRAYER THOUGHT

The would-be "necessities" of spiritual life sometime prevent our doing really worthwhile things for our neighbors and God. Talking about doing good is fine, so long as it doesn't preclude the actual act!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Scripture Reading—Joshua 2:14-16

THE RAT RACE

Said Dr. Alan Redpath, "I find today that people of every

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

age group, including Christians, are involved in a rat race. They're on a conveyor belt from dawn until night seven days a week. They are too tired to pray and read the Bible. Studies, business, the family and the home—all these things create in one the feeling he is beginning to sink. What did Peter do when he began to sink? He cried, 'Lord, save me!'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

A busy schedule is so often a deterrent to godly living, especially to spiritual replenishment. Let us never become too busy to make Him a part of the day.

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

News from

The Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

SUMMER SCHOOL



Students study

For some school is out in June, for others it just goes on and on, or so it seems. Many of our children are two or three grades behind in school when

they come to us. During the school year tutorial help is provided in the afternoon by houseparents and special tutors on a daily basis.

Summer school usually runs for about six weeks. The children are carefully tested, their teachers are consulted, school testing is considered, and special programs are developed for each child. The morning hours are spent in school for selected students; others may work on educational projects in their cottages and come to the Educational Center for help, as needed, or for their regular report period.

The tutors are school teachers who work for about one-half the going rate for tutors. This year we had three local teachers who did an exceptional job with our children.

Plans for the fall school program are being completed. We anticipate our children's successes in school to improve dramatically in the year to come. Individual educational programs developed in conjunction with the schools will provide a carry-over from school to work done at home.

Many of the children have learning disabilities, making it necessary for us to have part-time professional help for them. We have one of the finest young women available in our country to help us in this area. She also provides our children who are gifted with challenges to meet their educational needs, as well.

Food, clothing, and shelter are important, but we must not forget a child's spiritual, emotional, and educational development. Our school program helps to meet a variety of needs for our children. We request our people to pray for our children as they struggle to learn in spite of the handicaps life has given them.



Attention ECU Students

First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville along with its pastor, Harry Grubbs, is sponsoring the Free Will Baptist Student Fellowship at East Carolina University. The organizational and get-acquainted meeting was held at First Free Will Baptist Church, 2600 Charles Street on Tuesday, August 26, at 7:30 p. m.

Webber Is Licensed

Mr. David Timothy Webber was issued a certificate as a licensed minister of the Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, after being approved by the Examining Board of the Eastern Conference on July 28, 1980. The pastor, the Rev. Bobby Brown, presented the certificate to Mr. Webber on Sunday, August 3, 1980. He is available for limited supply work as he is trying to finish his college education so that he may be examined for ordination. Mr. Webber is willing to supply for any minister who is going on vacation or is ill. His phone number is 638-4458. His address is Route 1, Cove City, North Carolina 28523.

North Carolina State Convention Of Original Free Will Baptists

The President of the State Convention, the Rev. David C. Hansley, and the Executive Committee have finalized the plans for this year's meeting of the State Convention. The Convention will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, September 17, 18, at the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

The Revs. O. B. Jones and Marvin Waters will be the speakers during the two worship services planned for the Convention. These men pastor the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tarboro and Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church of Pinetown respectively.

Revival Services at Marsh Swamp Church

Fall revival services at Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Sims, North Carolina, will be September 1-4. Services will begin at 7:45 each evening. The Rev. Charles Renfrow of Piney Grove church, Kenly, will be the guest evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend.

Western Conference Union to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet Saturday, August 30, 1980, with the Free Spirit Mission, Wilson County. The host pastor, the Rev. Dale Albertson, and the Union extend a cordial invitation to everyone. The Rev. Floyd B. Cherry of Pine Level will preach the Union message.

Community Church Schedules Revival and Homecoming

The Community Free Will Baptist Church, 1506 Washington Avenue, Weldon, North Carolina, will have revival September 1-6 at 8 p. m. The Rev. Clarence Harris will be the guest speaker. Special music will be provided each evening. There will be prayer rooms each evening at 7:45. The revival will end with the annual Homecoming on Sunday, September 7, 1980. The Rev. Clarence Harris of Tarboro,

North Carolina, will bring the morning message. Everyone is invited. The Rev. Billy Ray Jordan is pastor.

Revival to Begin At Otter's Creek

Revival services will be held at Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Macclesfield, North Carolina, September 1-7, at 7:30 each evening. Special music will be rendered each night. The Rev. Ralph Aycock, pastor, invites the public to attend.

Dedication Day at Calvary Church

Wendy Kay Barnes, infant daughter of Billy and Kay Barnes, was dedicated to the Lord during the morning worship service at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, on Sunday, July 27. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Owens are the sponsors and godparents. The Rev. Dewey C. Boling is pastor of the church.

Calvary Church Entertains Senior Citizens

The choir of Calvary Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson entertained the senior citizens of the church on Saturday, August 2, with an old-fashioned home-made ice cream party. The Rev. Dewey C. Boling is pastor of the church.

Program at King's Cross Roads Church

"Adoration" of Goldsboro, North Carolina, will be sharing a program of song and praise at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church near Fountain on Sunday night, August 31, at 7:30.

The church is located three miles off Highway 222 between Falkland and Fountain. The public is invited to attend. The Rev. Bobby Futrell is pastor of the church.

INFORMATION FOR 1981 YEARBOOK

In the event some church clerks failed to receive the following letter and form to be completed, please fill in the information requested, clip, and mail the form to the Press. (This applies only to those who did not receive the form by mail.)

Dear Church Clerk:

We are enclosing the form to be used for the 1981 Yearbook "Church Directory." Please check the listing of your church in the 1980 book, and make any changes necessary to have your church report correctly entered. Even if there are no changes from last year, please send the form back to us stating the information is the same as before. (Be sure to list the church and conference on the form.)

We prefer that the information be typed or printed so as to prevent any possible mistakes.

Your cooperation in furnishing this information is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,
Walter Reynolds
Manager

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1980

Name of Church _____ Conference _____

Location _____

Pastor's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Clerk's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Treasurer's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

S. S. Superintendent's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

FWBL Director's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

W. A. President's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Layman's League President's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Others _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR SEPTEMBER 7

GOD: THE COVENANT MAKER

LESSON TEXT: Genesis 9:8-17

MEMORY VERSE: Genesis 9:15

I. INTRODUCTION

God's covenant with Noah has its background in a world of wickedness, a world beyond the reach of God's mercy, a world ready to be wiped out. "And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air" (Genesis 6:7).

We are not surprised to read that the world went bad. We see what is happening in our own world, and from our own experience we know how easy it is to do wrong. It is more surprising to read that one man was still good. And, wonder of wonders, he managed to keep his family in line. Perhaps the secret is revealed in Genesis 6:9: "Noah walked with God." And the secret of that walk is told in Hebrews 11:7. It was "by faith." In the midst of a selfish and cynical world of unbelief, Noah believed God.

So at God's word Noah built the ark, a massive three-story barge with fifteen-foot ceilings and more floor space than two football fields. He stocked it with a supply of "all food that is eaten," and brought into it specimens of every species of animal.

Then came the flood in the six hundredth year of Noah's life, and all flesh living on the earth died.

For a little more than a year Noah and his family and his zoo lived in their huge box. The waters increased and then receded, and the ground began to dry. At last God gave the signal, "and Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him: every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark" (Genesis 8:18, 19). Thoroughly washed, the world was ready to start over. Read the whole story again in Genesis 6-9.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. God has seen fit to deal with mankind through the ages by covenants: He makes a promise to man, and then shows man what He expects of him. It will be interesting if you will take a concordance and go through the Bible and see the use of the word "covenant." This should help you to see something of the importance of God's covenants with man.

B. You will miss the main point of this lesson if you fail to see the relationship between the Fall and the effect of this Fall upon man. This is true because it was as a direct result of the Fall that man became so sinful that God saw the need to destroy him and get a fresh start with humanity.

C. However, God saw that there was one righteous man on the earth—Noah. So God gave Noah instructions for building the ark. Weren't these in-

structions and the task of building the ark something of a test for Noah? God always has a way of testing men to see if they are faithful to Him. Noah built the ark according to God's instructions; then God invited him and his family to come inside.

D. After the waters had abated and Noah and his family were able to come outside the ark, Noah built an altar and worshiped God. Again we see something of the character of this great man. God knew the anxiety that Noah must have had about the future, so He made a covenant with Noah and his descendants. Isn't it marvelous the way God always sees and anticipates the needs of His children and supplies them?

E. Then as a visible token of this covenant, God gave Noah the rainbow. This visible token removed the anxiety from his heart and helped him to trust the Lord more fully. The rainbow reminds us of God's covenant or promise to never destroy the earth by water again, and of God's compassionate care of man. No wonder that the rainbow is beautiful to behold!

—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. When God enters into a covenant with man, whenever the period may be, and man abides by that covenant, the whole earth is blessed also. This would include the animals of the forest and field, and fowls and birds of the air above. Every creature that left the ark with Noah was included in the covenant, and all of their kind that came afterward would share in the blessing of the covenant.

B. Here again we should be reminded that all His promises—of blessings and judgment to come—are made in holy sincerity and nothing can alter the mind of God nor deter Him from His interaction with men.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)**

Cragmont Assembly

ANNOUNCING THE CRAGMONT OPEN

On October 3 Cragmont will sponsor a superbball golf tournament at Happy Valley Country Club in Wilson. The tournament is a one-day affair and will be open to a maximum of 144 players. Registration will be \$25 per person. No other fees will be necessary.

A superbball tournament does not require that a person be a great golfer to be a winner—you don't even have to be good—you don't even need to be a player to contribute. The superbball concept is that wherever the best tee shot is located the rest of the team members place their balls beside it. The same is true of the second shot and so on until the ball is in the hole. A four-member team will have one single score. Each team will be determined by designating four people as either "A", "B," "C," or "D" players. To determine your designation we have allowed a space on the registration form that will fit

your game. Each team will have a player from each designation—so you stand a good chance of winning regardless of what shape your game is in.

We have been promised that three dozen golf balls will be offered for closest-to-the-pin and longest drive and the top team will receive trophies for each member. No prize money will be offered.

A superbball tournament promises to be a lot of fun. You can meet a lot of new people and exchange ideas. This tournament is open to anyone. Sign up today—we want ministers and lay people alike.

To enter you simply need to fill out the following registration form and send it, along with your check for \$25 to John R. Watson, Route 2, Box 607, Wilson, North Carolina 27893. Registration ends September 27, 1980.

REGISTRATION FOR THE CRAGMONT OPEN

October 3, 1980

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE# _____

My Average Score: (Circle One)

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------|--------|
| Over 100 | 95-99 | 90-94- |
| 85-89 | 80-84 | 75-79 |
| 74 or less | I am a Non-Player | |

The Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Sunday School and the Willis Wilson Class donated \$150 toward the purchase of building materials. The Rev. Willis Wilson purchased the materials and built 34 nightstands for use at Cragmont.

Correction

In our last report we reported a contribution of \$50 from Hugh and Ruby Yeatts. This was an incorrect report. The contribution was from the Ladies Auxilliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Durham and was given in memory of James McGhee and Jamie Teasley. We extend our apologies to the First Church Auxilliary in Durham, North Carolina, and to Hugh and Ruby Yeatts, and to the families of those people in whose memory the contribution was made.

Respectfully submitted,
John R. Watson
Treasurer

SPECIAL NOTICE

All churches are reminded of the forthcoming meeting of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Churches are entitled to one delegate for each 100 members or fraction thereof. The names of delegates should be included in the report letters mailed by the church clerks to the secretary of the State Convention. Any church clerk who has not received by mail the blank report form is urged to contact the Rev. Gary M. Bailey, Secretary of the State Convention, P. O. Box 362, Ayden, North Carolina 28513, and request the same.

Home Missions

by Taylor Hill

ATTENTION—CO-LABORERS

Our State Convention is close at hand and we are busy preparing the program.

We are very excited about what we have to show you at our Mission Rally on Wednesday night, September 17, at the Cumberland County Auditorium in Fayetteville, North Carolina located on I-95, South.

The Home Missions Department will be in charge of the program this year and we plan to have an informative and inspiring Home Missions program for you.

You can do us a great favor by making separate checks for Home Missions and Foreign Missions: all undesignated contributions will be divided equally. If you see that you cannot attend the rally, you may mail your special offering.

We are convinced that our future is depending on the continued success of Home Missions and Church Extension, and that it should rank at the very top of our priorities. Our endeavor is to reach souls and establish new churches which is the source of our denominational strength.

We are indeed thankful for your prayers and support and trust that you will continue to stand by this important part of our denominational work.

Please plan to bring a large number from your church and

let's make it the greatest event for Home and Foreign Missions ever. The program will start at 7:30 p. m.

FISCAL YEAR REPORT FOR July 1, 1979—June 30, 1980

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	\$ 135.85
Albemarle District Auxiliary	288.28
Albemarle Union Meeting	25.00
Belhaven	5.00
Cape Colony Mission	50.00
Free Union (Beaufort County)	428.33
Hickory Chapel	818.92
Malachi's Chapel	212.75
Mount Tabor	50.00
Mount Zion (Nash County)	269.38
Piney Grove	25.00
Plymouth, First	75.00
Saint Paul	213.47
Shiloh	270.30
Sidney	667.09
Union Chapel	775.02
TOTAL	\$4,309.39

CAPE FEAR

Bethel (Johnston County)	\$ 123.80
Casey's Chapel	40.00
Catalpa Mission	250.00
Cape Fear District Auxiliary Convention	19.59
Cape Fear Conference	282.31
Daly's Chapel	83.00
Eastover Mission	227.34
Goldsboro, First	1,145.40
Haymount Mission	986.86
Hopewell	894.54
Johnston Union	420.00
Lee's Chapel	755.33
Oak Grove	100.00
Palmer Memorial	205.82

Pleasant Grove	400.00
Powhatan	87.00
Riverside	620.00
Robert's Grove	242.00
Saint Paul	20.00
Saint Mary's Grove	95.00
Shady Grove	393.44
Smithfield, First	222.50
Smyrna	20.00
Tee's Chapel	693.75
Victory Mission	607.51
Wooten's Chapel	462.99
Yelverton Grove	242.50
TOTAL	\$9,640.68

CENTRAL

Ayden	\$ 205.00
Aspen Grove	109.10
Bethany	341.80
Black Jack	543.14
Central Conference Youth Fellowship	10.00
Central Conference Layman's League	899.35
Community	10.00
Daniels Chapel	1,186.00
Dawson's Grove	30.00
Dilda's Grove	220.00
Edgewood	191.12
Elm Grove	480.80
Friendship (Greene County)	2,230.62
Free Union	434.40
Greenville, First	920.00
Grimsley	336.38
Gum Swamp	333.35
Harrell's Chapel	905.00
Hickory Grove	84.85
Howell Swamp	72.00
Hugo	598.75
Hull Road	1,112.18
King's Cross Roads	188.60
LaGrange	127.70
Little Creek	27.00
Marlboro	266.22
Ormondsville	70.00
Otter's Creek	744.46
Owens Chapel	370.00
Peace	205.00
Piney Grove	194.00
Reedy Branch	564.11
Rocky Mount, First	559.50
Rose Hill	552.50
Rose of Sharon	82.50
Roanoke Rapids, First	22.50
Saratoga	170.00
Second Union	66.11
Spring Branch	461.00
Sweet Gum Grove	75.00

Tarboro, First	1,520.00	Sarecta	10.00	Kennedy, Arthur	100.00
Walnut Creek	100.00	Sandy Plain	993.52	Kennedy, Ed.	40.00
Watery Branch	30.00	Saints Delight	417.09	Kennedy, Percy	300.00
Winterville	1,509.92	St. Mary's	1,311.41	Kleinert, Margaret F.	10.00
Williamston, First	641.04	Smith's New Home	150.00	Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Wade	10.00
TOTAL	\$19,781.06	Snow Hill	400.00	Norris, Clarence F.	2.00
EASTERN		Sound View	387.47	Nowell, Billy R.	10.00
Antioch	\$ 400.00	Third Union District	135.00	Overman, C. H.	25.00
Arapahoe	593.00	Trent	100.00	Parker, Ronnie	25.00
Beaufort Mission	216.35	Verona	200.00	Pate, Charles T.	100.00
Bethel (Pamlico County)	140.00	Welcome Home	125.00	Phillips, Frances	5.00
Bethlehem	250.00	Wardens Grove	249.84	Pittman, Cassie L.	1.00
Beulaville	150.00	Westside	206.50	Pope, Herbert C.	5.00
Bridgeton	251.00	White Oak Grove	127.00	Rhodes, Mr. and Mrs. John	10.00
Cabin	217.50	Whaley's Chapel	220.87	Rhodes, Mr. and Mrs. Walter	25.00
Christian Chapel	312.50	Wintergreen	417.91	Rose, Ada	1.00
Core Creek	244.90	Woodrow, First	25.00	Sasser, Ada B.	25.00
Core Point	25.00	TOTAL	\$18,141.33	Scott, Amy B.	5.00
Crab Point	213.50	INDIVIDUALS		Skinner Construction Co.	40.00
Croatan	80.00	Anonymous	\$ 300.00	Spruill, C. L.	2.00
Davis	111.80	Ackiss, Roger and Robin	10.00	Stanley, Lillian	5.00
Deep Run	210.00	Baker, Fred	125.00	Sprouse, Lewis and Lois	60.00
Dublin Grove	100.00	Beaman, Helen T.	25.00	Stokes, Bessie	1.00
Eastern Conference		Braswell, Richard and Gloria	15.00	Taylor, Fred S.	100.00
Auxiliary	112.35	Brinson, Davie	10.00	Warrick, Ruth	10.00
Friendship (Jones County)	129.70	Britt, Juanita	1.00	Watson, Wayne	5.00
Faith Mission	10.00	Burbage, Mary	1.00	Watson, George T.	1.00
Faith	200.00	Burkey, Floyd	5.00	Wells, Lois	2.00
Folkstone	520.00	Capps, Noah	50.00	Weston, Bobby and Celia	40.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	50.00	Cherry, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn	5.00	Whitehurst, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel	2.00
Fifth Union Meeting	139.00	Clifton, Roy T.	25.00	Wingate, James B.	5.00
Gethsemane	233.00	Coats, C. M.	25.00	TOTAL	\$2,497.00
Gray Branch	420.00	Crocker, Mr. and Mrs. Gorden	15.00	PEE DEE	
Grants Chapel	50.00	Deaxer, A. C.	1.00	Beaverdam	\$ 156.00
Holly Springs	3,349.77	Duncan, Lester and Nancy	20.00	Cypress Creek	238.80
Indian Springs	25.00	Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Milton	50.00	Emerson	200.00
Jackson Heights	180.66	Flowers, E.	2.00	Mount Calvary	100.00
Juniper Chapel	525.75	Foyles, Jennifer	5.00	Oak Grove	2,024.21
Kinston, First	245.00	Fowler, Edna	100.00	Pee Dee District	
Lanier's Chapel	89.50	Gardner, Annie Mae	2.00	Auxiliary Convention	330.00
Macedonia	300.00	Goulding, Mr. and Mrs. Parthenia	10.00	Pee Dee Association	148.78
May's Chapel	1.00	Gray, Ruby	2.00	Pee Dee Union Number 1	10.00
Moseley's Creek	60.00	Gray, Adaline H.	10.00	White Oak	47.10
Mount Zion (Pamlico County)	90.00	Harrison, Ray, Jr.	20.00	TOTAL	\$3,254.89
Mount Zion (Onslow County)	100.00	Harris, Dennis I.	75.00	PIEDMONT	
New Haven	260.00	Harris, Floyd P.	500.00	Christ	\$ 50.00
Northeast	107.00	Hansley, David W.	48.00	Cathedral	265.00
Oak Grove	126.83	Harris, Gregory Gene	4.00	East Rockingham	20.00
Oriental	64.85	Hart, Wesley	2.00	Heritage Mission	292.25
Otway	100.00	Hott, T. W.	20.00	Highland Pines	200.00
Pearsall Chapel	360.00	Howell, Johnny	24.00	Hopewell	240.00
Pilgrim's Home	150.00	Jenkins, A. Stanley	2.00	Piedmont District Auxiliary	60.00
Pilgrims Rest	284.52	Johnson, Ora J.	10.00	TOTAL	\$1,127.25
Piney Grove	50.00	Jones, D. H.	5.00	WESTERN	
Rock of Zion	609.09	Jones, Louise	1.00	Agape Mission	\$ 50.00
Rooty Branch	50.00			Barnes Hill	200.00
Russell's Creek	156.15				

Turn the Page

Hotel and Motel Accommodations

Hotel and Motel Accommodations near the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium include the following:

AMBASSADOR QUALITY INN

U.S. 301 South 2 blocks North of Auditorium
Phone 919-485-8135

QUALITY AMERICANA MOTOR LODGE

On I-95 and 301 South
One block South of Auditorium
Phone 919-485-5161

BEST WESTERN DRIFTWOOD MOTOR LODGE

On I-95 and 301
2 blocks South of Auditorium
Phone 919-485-4167 or 485-4168

DOWNTOWNER MOTOR INN

134 Rowan Street
Phone 919-483-4141

GOLDEN EAGLE MOTOR INNS

521 Ramsey Street
Phone 919-483-2621

HEART OF FAYETTEVILLE MOTEL

2848 Bragg Boulevard Highway 24
Phone 919-485-4163

HOLIDAY INN

Highway 301 and I-95
2 1/2 miles North of Auditorium
Phone 919-483-0332
Free-HOLIDEX Reservations

HORNES MOTOR LODGE

220 Eastern Boulevard (I-95 and 301 South)
Phone 919-483-1113

McINNIS MOTEL

Only Motel adjoining Auditorium
Phone 919-485-6151

PRINCE CHARLES MOTOR HOTEL

Downtown Fayetteville,
430 Hay Street
Phone 919-483-2121

Home Missions

(Continued from Page 13)

Branch Chapel	2,000.00
Calvary	400.00
Durham, First	50.00
Elwood Lane	757.73
Everett Chapel	701.63
Flood's Chapel	68.00
Fremont	540.00
Free Union	239.00
Free Union (Nash County)	37.60
Friendship	320.00
Free Spirit Mission	80.00
First Western District	
Sunday School Convention	50.00
First Union of Western	
Conference	325.00
Holly Springs	270.00
Kenly	305.11
Little Rock	402.70
Marsh Swamp	409.54
Micro	27.91
Mount Zion (Wilson County)	25.00
Mount Zion (Nash County)	288.80
Milbournie	6.00
New Sandy Hill	100.00
Oak Grove (Wilson County)	333.25
People's Chapel	228.00
Piney Grove	340.00
Pine Level	380.00
Pleasant Grove	620.61
Pleasant Hill	320.00
Pleasant Plain	95.00
Rains Cross Roads	85.00
Rock Springs	45.00
Rosebud	150.00
St. Mary's	950.00
Second Union	100.00
Selma	105.00
Sherron Acres	600.00
Spring Hill	920.00
Stancil's Chapel	54.00
Stoney Creek	515.00
Trinity	1,040.00
Union Grove	4.00
Unity	250.00
Unity (Wilson)	156.00
Watson's Grove	25.00
Western District Auxilliary	
Convention	121.67
Western District Youth	
Fellowship	50.00
Wilson, First	734.55
TOTAL	\$15,876.10

(Continued next week)

Have you renewed your Free Will Baptist subscription?

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

I cannot—I do not want to—forget the Free Will Baptist Press, nor my church, nor the many friends I have made over the years. Whatever I have achieved, I must give part of the credit to the many who have nurtured me with advice, commendation, and criticism, and who have gone with me through the valleys and traveled with me over the mountaintops. As I sit here today, I see faces (young and old); I hear voices; I remember incidents; I marvel at how it all has worked to my edification, and, ultimately, has prepared me for today. It would be too terrible to sever our ties just because I have accepted another post.

Texas is a far piece, but not that far. Memories travel with me; love will help sustain me. I refuse to say good-bye. I choose, rather, to say so long. I expect to see you again.

And in all things, I trust in our Lord who made it possible for me to serve Him here, and who makes it possible for me to serve Him elsewhere.

I request your prayers that I will not waver from the way.

BOOKSTORES AND PRESS CLOSED

The Ayden Bible and Bookstore and Press Foundation, 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, along with the branch bookstores of Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, will be closed Monday, September 1, in observance of Labor Day. They will open Tuesday, September 2, at the regular hours.

NOTICE

Janie Jones Sowers is recuperating well after major surgery at Durham County General Hospital. We pray God's continued blessings upon her.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Philip Wood wishes to announce that he has a new address. It is 527 South Third Street, Smithfield, North Carolina 27577. His old address was Route 1, Box 97, Kenansville, North Carolina 28349.

STATEWIDE PASTORS' and SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS' BANQUET

September 5, 1980

7 P. M.

King's Restaurant

Highway 70, Kinston, North Carolina

Speaker: The Rev. Sheldon Howard

Topic: "The Two-Hundredth Birthday of the Sunday School Movement"

Don't miss this third annual meeting. The meal will be served family style (at approximately \$4.75 per person).

Enjoy the Fellowship!

Every Church Should Be Using

THE BIBLE SERIES

Free Will Baptist Literature for Children

**Created and Developed
by Janie Jones Sowers**

Student Materials

NURSERY (Ages 1-3)—My Bible Pictures

\$1.10 Per Set

BEGINNERS (Ages 4-5)—The Storyteller

\$.95 Per Book

LITTLE FOLKS (Ages 6-8)—My Bible Weekly

\$.95 Per Book

Teacher Materials

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8576

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

TO THE EDITOR:

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

SEP 5 1980

DURHAM, N.C.

"It seemed good to me . . . to write unto thee . . ." (Luke 1:3).

NOW THAT WE'VE TURNED THE CORNER

Dear Tommy,

Scores of writings have been penned about the many roads one may take in life. But too often, the words of those literary giants don't mean anything to us until times like this. I remember well the day you told us you were going to San Antonio. We tried to smile, but hoped deep down you would change your mind. However, we knew this new road before you held challenges, challenges you can easily conquer. We also knew it would not be easy for us—change "never" is. But you have taught us, you have stood by us, and we will face each new day head on.

Tommy, your abilities are numerous. You used them here and served this institution well. We just hope your new business associates realize what a talented man you are. Yes, we knew you were gifted, but we knew you for much more—you were our boss, our confidant, our "brother," and moreover, our friend. You relied on us and we knew that you would be there when we needed you.

San Antonio is quite a few miles from here. We know that we will miss you. There will be times when we will not do as you would, our words will not be so eloquent as yours, for persons differ. But we will try to carry on in such a manner as to make you proud. (I use that term rather reservedly!)

Tommy, we wish you our best. Our prayer is that God's richest blessings will be bestowed on you.

Your sister in Christ,
Janie

P.S. Use two heaping teaspoons of sugar and one of creamer in your coffee!



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September 3, 1980

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, Manager; Janie Jones Sowers, Acting Editor of Literature.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

A Tribute to Tommy Manning

by Willis Wilson
Pastor of Reedy Branch
Free Will Baptist Church



Tommy Manning

AS I sit here reflecting upon the twenty years that I have known Tommy Manning, my thoughts are all good concerning this outstanding Christian.

First of all, the thing that is so important to me is that he has always displayed a grand example as a Christian. He is not afraid to speak of his faith in Christ and his acceptance of Christ as his personal Saviour.

He possesses a spirit of love for his fellowman that makes him very acceptable to all people. He is loved by many people and freely shares his love with others.

Tommy is a man of many talents. This talent was evident even as he was in school, and proved to be beneficial as he went out after high school seeking a profession.

Tommy has worked with the Free Will Baptist Press for around nineteen years. He began his career with the Press as illustrator for the literature. He was an asset to the Press through his ability to draw.

After working for many years as an illustrator, Tommy began to try his hand at writing. He has a real talent for putting an article together so that all who read it can receive something from it. He is able to draw upon his knowledge and use of words to write poetry that is relevant to the Christian life.

Not only is Tommy able to draw and write, but some of his paintings are works of art.

For the past several years Tommy has served as editor of the Free Will Baptist paper and the religious literature published by the Press. He has done a grand job and many will miss him.

Tommy began playing the organ for the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church fourteen years ago and we have been able to enjoy a most pleasant working relationship. It seems that he always tried to please everyone, and was very conscious of trying to communicate a message of love through his playing.

Turn the Page

The choir director, the pianist, the pastor, and Tommy were able to join in a relationship that left nothing to be desired in a team working to make the worship services more enjoyable. There never arose any kind of dissension to mar this relationship; and as a pastor, I can say this is a most unusual thing to find in any church.

When the pastor was absent, Tommy was able and willing to fill in as the speaker for the morning worship and other worship services. His messages were well received by the congregation. He served as youth director for a time as well as substitute teacher of the Couples Class for many years.

Another talent that he possesses is that of singing. He has sung for many services and his singing was always enjoyed. He could

compose songs, and this he did many times to enhance our Bible school material. He would spend many hours at the piano and at his desk composing songs that have real messages.

On Sunday, August 17, 1980, the people of Reedy Branch had a farewell service for Tommy Manning. There were not many dry eyes in the congregation because they knew the worship services would not be the same without him at the organ. He seemed to speak through his playing, and through his playing the people felt comfortable and loved.

We wish Tommy well as he begins his new position as managing editor of the Christian Jew Foundation in San Antonio, Texas.

Tommy, thanks for sharing so much of yourself with us during these many years

God's Way with WEEDS

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

In my mother's vegetable garden I learned that weed-pulling, not one of the world's more noble or prestigious jobs, is still a necessary one. Since the best garden, if left uncultivated, soon becomes a ragged weed patch, I was called frequently from the pleasant pastimes of childhood to rid the garden of those "undesired, uncultivated plants growing in profusion so as to crowd out a desired crop."

(Those are Webster's words; I invented far more colorful ones to describe those scraggly spoilers of childhood fun.)

I never forgave Adam and Eve, whom I blamed directly for all those thorns and thistles and crabgrass and cockleburs. I think the garden is where I developed my antipathy for

snakes, too, seeing them all as part of the punishment for original sin for which I took no personal blame.

But I knew I was stuck with the consequences.

With that boyhood background, I never had any trouble understanding Jesus' story about the wheat and the tares. I knew about wheat and I knew about weeds and—with some margin for youthful error—I knew the difference between the two. I understood the anxious desire of the farmhands to get the weeds out of the wheat field.

The parable is told in Matthew 13. A farmer who had sowed good seed in his field was told by his hired hands that poisonous weeds (a type of vetch called "tares" in KJV and more accurately termed "darnel" in the NEB) were growing among the wheat. The man knew it was the work of an enemy, for the darnel, which looked much like wheat, would cause nausea, vertigo and possible death if

harvested and eaten with the grain. Sowing darnel in a field for revenge was considered a crime under Roman law.

Since parables are stories about life, Jesus later told His disciples that the good seed represented the children of the Kingdom while the darnel was "the children of the wicked one." The parable depicted the conflict of the ages—right versus wrong.

The laborers wanted to go immediately and pull up the poisonous plants, but the farmer forbade them to touch the darnel, saying, "Let both grow together until the harvest." It was a strange command, made even more strange by today's realities.

Jesus is saying that good and evil should be allowed to grow together until His time—"the harvest."

If you have the uneasy feeling that evil is getting worse, you are right. Paradoxically, good is also getting better. There is a

(Continued on Page 15)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

The Rev. Ed C. Taylor

Saint Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Benson, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Ed C. Taylor. Your pastor can be next one honored. The editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

DEDICATED TO SERVE GOD

submitted by Mrs. Elizabeth Gregory



The Rev. Ed C. Taylor

Some men are dedicated to helping others, some are dedicated to making money, but the Rev. Ed C. Taylor is a man dedicated to serving God. The people of Saint Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Benson, North Carolina, are very fortunate to have had him as their pastor for the past five and half years. To you, Mr. Taylor, a very special "thank you."

On November 23, 1922, James R. and Sarah B. Taylor of Charlotte, North Carolina, were blessed with the birth of Ed C. Taylor. He attended public

school and college in Charlotte. During World War II, he served in the United States Marine Corps and was in combat in Iwo Jima with the Fifth Marine Division. His unit was awarded the Presidential Citation from President Harry S. Truman.

Mr. Taylor is married to the former Natalie Parrish of Smithfield. They have a son, Edward I. Taylor, and a daughter, Rebecca Taylor Byrd. The Lord has blessed the Taylors with six grandchildren. Mrs. Taylor is very dedicated to her husband and supports him faithfully.

Brother Taylor was ordained into the ministry in 1952 and has faithfully served the following churches: Walnut Creek, Community Chapel, Prospect, Pleasant Grove, Palmer Memorial, Dawson's Grove, Bethel, and Saint Mary's Grove. He has served on the Executive Committee of the Cape Fear Conference, the Ordaining Council, Cape Fear Mission Board, and was one of ten men elected to the Liaison Committee to form the General Conference of Free Will Baptists. He is currently serving as Moderator of the Cape Fear Union Meeting.

Mr. Taylor is dedicated to God's work and has done so for

many years. To be with him is to know he serves God and the church to the best of his ability. The road is never too rough for the Rev. Ed Taylor to travel.

The members of Saint Mary's Grove have grown to love this man and his wife. Thank God for allowing them to come and serve in Saint Mary's Grove church. Lives have been enriched by the sharing of God's Word through this dedicated man. He shall be remembered as "The Preacher Dedicated to God."

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

Clifford Ball announces that he is available for pastoral work, beginning immediately. Anyone interested may contact him by writing Route 1, Box 96-A, Grifton, North Carolina 28530; or by calling (919) 524-4337.

Mr. Ball, a licensed minister, is a member of the Central Conference.

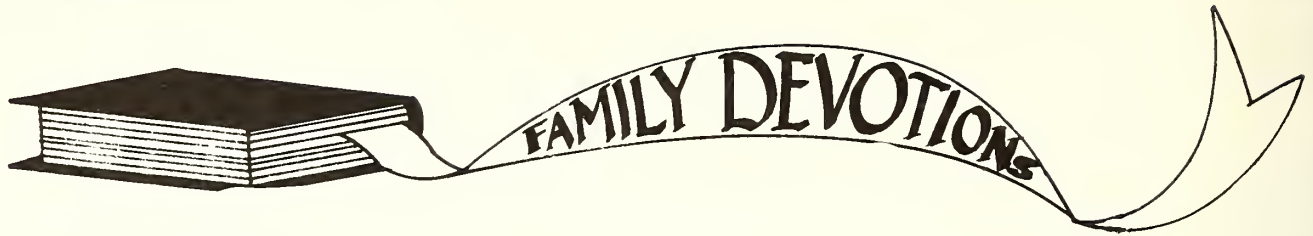
The Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, will be needing a full-time pastor beginning November 1, 1980. The parsonage will be available at that time. Any minister who is interested please contact Jack Bircher, Route 1, Box 48, Cove City, North Carolina 28523, or phone (919) 638-8321.

Verona Free Will Baptist Church near Jacksonville, North Carolina, is in need of a full-time pastor. For more information call Edsel Ottaway at 346-9527 or Charles McKinney at 347-6333.

NOTICE

The Rev. R. P. Harris, 1200 Tarboro Street, Rocky Mount, North Carolina, has been declared in good standing with the Ordaining Council of the Central Conference.

Royce Reynolds
Secretary



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 3:1-10

PRAYER IS A DIALOGUE

Said Bishop Fulton J. Sheen. "Most people commit the same mistake with God that they do with their friends—they do all the talking."

Prayer isn't a monologue. It is a dialogue—our talking to God and God talking to us: "Speak: for thy servant heareth" (1 Samuel 3:10).

PRAYER THOUGHT

There are times when we best commune with the Lord in silence; as the Psalmist said, "Be still, and know that I am God."

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Scripture Reading—Luke 23:35

REFLECTING CHRIST

On the face of Stone Mountain in Georgia, the renowned sculptor Gutzon Borglum, with the help of stonecutters, carved a Confederate memorial. It is cut into an 800-foot wall of granite.

To begin the work, the sculptor needed to show on the face of the mountain the exact outline of the figures of the marching men in the Confederate Army. He tried different experiments but without success. Finally he constructed an enormous projection machine which weighed a ton and anchored it 800 feet from the mountain. Using a slide picture, he reflected on the rock a clear picture two hundred feet high.

Then the stonecutters had a scaled plan to work by.

Through Christ-like Christians the indwelling Holy Spirit reflects on stony hearts the image of Christ, who is the Light of the world and the express image of the Heavenly Father.

PRAYER THOUGHT

A good Bible concordance lists nearly 200 quotations containing the word LIGHT. Surely this confirms its importance from creation on through time and eternity. May we let our light so shine that men may see our good works and glorify the Father.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Scripture Reading—Revelation 2:19

IN LOWLY PATHS

O Master, let me walk with Thee
In lowly paths of service free;
Tell me thy secret, help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move
By some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,
And guide them in the heavenward way.

Teach me Thy patience, still with Thee
In closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's

broadening way.
In peace that only Thou canst give—
With Thee, O Master, let me live.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many hymns are sung to praise God, but some of the best-loved are actually heartfelt personal prayers.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:9-15

COME CONFIDINGLY

It was the custom of a young man in Memphis, Tennessee, to go into his church enroute to work, kneel at the altar and simply say, "Hello, Jesus! This is Jim!"

One morning the caretaker of the church said, "I have often observed you and heard what you said."

Jim told him, "Recently I knelt to say, 'Hello Jesus! This is Jim!' and I was sure I heard Jesus say, 'Hello Jim! This is Jesus!'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

O that more of us were on such intimate terms with the Lord that we would come into His presence informally, confidently and, above all, reverently.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 3:11

CASTLES IN THE AIR

Henry David Thoreau, the famed naturalist, said, "If you

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost. That is where they should be. Now put the foundation under them."

The Bible says, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11).

PRAYER THOUGHT

We all are familiar with the hymn, "How Firm a Foundation." What greater foundation can we have than to build our lives upon Jesus Christ. He is the Solid Rock.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Psalm 34:8

TASTE AND SEE

There are four basic taste sensations to which we react: sweet, sour, salty and bitter.

There is another taste sensation whose delight myriads have experienced since time began: "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him" (Psalm 34:8).

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should trust in the Lord with all our hearts, bodies, and minds. He will never fail His children. He cares for us, because He is our refuge and strength from day to day.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—Psalm 89:47

ONLY A MINUTE

I have only just a minute—
Only sixty seconds in it,
Have to take it, can't refuse it,
But it's up to me to use it.
I must suffer if I lose it,
Give account if I abuse it,
Just a tiny little minute,
But eternity is in it.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many minutes in a day do we give to God in prayer? Do we sometimes have a tendency to get so involved with our daily chores that He is forgotten? We should never forget God. He doesn't forget us.

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

WHAT ONE SOLITARY LIFE DID I

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

"Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a woman who, to her peasant neighbors, was just one of them and one with them. He grew up in another village. He worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty, and then, for three years, he was an itinerant preacher.

"He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put his feet inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself.

"While still a young man, the tide of private opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. As He was dying, His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth, and that was His coat. When He was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

"Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone, and today He is the centerpiece of the human race and the leader of the column of progress.

"I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that were ever built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as has that One Solitary Life!"

—Author unknown

—THE FREE WILL BAPTIST
January 11, 1950

IN MEMORIAM

SUSIE G. BRILEY

On Tuesday, August 5, 1980, our Heavenly Father in His infinite wisdom saw fit to call Mrs. Susie Gray Briley from this earth to her reward.

Funeral services were conducted at 3:30 p. m. on Thursday in the Wilkerson Funeral Home Chapel by her pastor, the Rev. David Hill of Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church. Burial was in Pinewood Memorial Park.

Surviving is her widower, James Wilbur Briley; a son, James Kirk Briley of Stokes; two brothers, Wallace T. Gray of Ahoskie, and Hugh Morgan Gray of Robersonville; and two grandchildren.

Mrs. Susie was a kind, compassionate woman, ready to lend a helping hand. In case of sickness and bereavement in her community you could look for her to be there. She delighted in doing for others.

We are never made great by what we have. Greatness is the result of what we are, and what we are is expressed by what we do. Jesus talked about the importance of simple deeds that grow out of love and concern. Whenever we meet a human need with love, we are doing the work of God. We express our deepest sympathy to the family.

Obituary Committee of Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church

North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention

Treasurer's Report

**End of First Quarter
July 31, 1980**

Balance in Bank, April 30, 1980 \$4,742.71

Receipts

General Fund			
Life Membership Fees	60.00		
Contributions	16.50		
Per Capita Dues	20.60		
Promotional Fund	61.13		
Registration Fees	<u>845.00</u>	1,003.23	
Denominational Enterprises		<u>5,680.07</u>	
Total Receipts			<u>6,683.30</u>
Total for Which to Account			<u>\$11,426.01</u>

Disbursements

Convention Expenses and Allocations	1,414.99		
Denominational Enterprises	<u>5,680.07</u>		
Total Disbursed**			<u>7,095.06</u>
Balance in Bank, July 31, 1980			<u>\$4,330.95</u>

Banks

Branch Banking and Trust Company (Checking)	\$1,330.95
Church Finance Association	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total	<u>\$4,330.95</u>

Total receipts this quarter include all monies received at the State Convention.
Total disbursements include allocations made by the Convention. For itemized list see the report of the Finance Committee in the minutes.

Denominational Enterprise Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions)	\$	\$1,456.86	\$1,456.86
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	53.03		
Mexico	150.00		
State Project (Missionary Wives)	<u>693.30</u>	896.33	896.33
Central Conference Missions		5.00	5.00
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	11.00		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	52.00		
Books	10.00		
Anna Phillips Student Aid	15.00		
State Project (Chapel Parking Lot)	<u>570.90</u>	658.90	658.90

Free Will Baptist Children's Home:
General Fund
Clothing
Child Support
Liners
Music
State Project (Media Center)

Superannuation

Cragmont Assembly, Inc.
Building Fund

Retirement Homes, Inc.

Life Membership Fees
(Children's Home)

Christian Service Fund
Mount Olive College
Missions
Children's Home
Cragmont
Superannuation
Retirement Homes

Totals

* 10 percent retained for promotional (see

STUDY COURSE TO BE HELD

There will be a study course held at Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Sims, North Carolina, on September 9, 1980, at 7:30 p. m. The study will be on the book, "Adventures in Prayer," by Catherine Marshall, and taught by Nadine Crocker. Everyone is invited to attend.

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT WA SECRETARIES

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention will be held at Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, North Carolina, on Thursday, September 25, 1980, with registration beginning at 9:30 a. m.

EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S
AUXILIARY CONVENTION

ARAPAHOE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH,
ARAPAHOE, NORTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER 25, 1980

36.00		
225.00		
455.00		
25.00		
45.00		
<u>468.58</u>	1,254.58	1,254.58
	11.50	11.50
	640.23	640.23
	56.50	56.50
	150.00	150.00
22.26		
22.26		
91.70		
91.69		
61.13		
<u>61.13</u>	550.17	550.17
	<u>\$5,680.07</u>	<u>\$5,680.07</u>

LOCAL AUXILIARY _____

PRESIDENT _____

ADDRESS _____

SECRETARY _____

ADDRESS _____

DELEGATES _____

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, Treasurer

CONVENTION FEE \$ _____ (Note: 40c per capita dues are sent to the spring convention.)

Do you wish to entertain the next convention? Yes _____ No _____

Are you striving to make your auxiliary A-1? _____

Names of auxiliary members who are deceased (since last September):

The report blank included on this page is the ONLY blank you will receive. The reports WILL NOT be mailed to the individual secretaries as in the past. Clip the report, fill it out completely and accurately, and mail it with your \$10 convention fee to me no later than one week prior to the convention.

This is done in an effort to cut expenses and to try and reach more of the auxiliaries in the Eastern Conference. So if YOU are the only one in your church receiving THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, see that the secretary of your church's auxiliary gets the report.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Carol Prescott, Secretary
Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary
Route 1, Box 294-A
New Bern, North Carolina 28560

A YOUNG WITNESS

by Mrs. Colleen M. Harrison

I would like to write a word of encouragement to the parents of very young children. As the mother of a two-year-old daughter, I know all the trials of taking an active child to church services, but do not be downhearted, for I have had an example of the rewards.

Recently, while shopping in our local grocery store, I had my daughter, Tara, sitting in the cart. While I tried to decide on a product, an older gentleman came up near us. Tara, being the outgoing child she is, said, "Hello."

He replied.

In an effort to say something else Tara came up with, "You go to church?"

The man replied, "Yes, ma'm, sure do."

Tara said, "I go to church."

The man was impressed and pleased.

He said, "That is a great way to start."

What a wonderful witness she has already become. In years to come I pray that my efforts to lead her will be as rewarding.

So, parents, please do not get discouraged by your wiggling, crying, or disorderly offspring. They are learning.



Sixty-Eighth Annual Session

Of State Convention to Convene

The Sixty-Eighth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will convene on September 17, 18, 1980, in the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville, North Carolina. The scheduled program is as follows:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

MORNING SESSION

- 8:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates
- 9:30—Convention Called to Order, the Rev. Gary Bailey
- 9:35—Congregational Singing, Mr. Peyton Lee, Music Director
 - Scripture and Prayer, Mr. Jerry Allen
- 9:45—Welcome, the Rev. Felton Godwin
 - Response, the Rev. Billy Hardee
 - Partial Report of the Credentials Committee, the Rev. Bobby Taylor
- 9:55—President's Remarks, the Rev. David C. Hansley
 - Appointment of Committees
 - Executive Committee Report
 - Miscellaneous Business
 - REPORTS
- 10:10—Foreign Missions, the Rev. Joseph Ingram
- 10:25—Free Will Baptist Press, the Rev. Walter Reynolds
- 10:40—Church Finance, the Rev. Hubert Burress
- 10:45—Mount Olive College, Dr. W. Burkette Raper
- 11:00—Congregational Singing
 - Offering (for the Convention)
 - Introductory Message, the Rev. O. B. Jones

- 11:45—Recess for Lunch (Lunch at the restaurant of your choice)

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:30—Congregational Singing
- 1:35—American Bible Society Representative, Mr. Arthur C. Borden, Church Relations
- 1:45—Recognition of Fraternal Delegates
- 1:55—Cragmont Assembly, the Rev. John Williams
- 2:05—Home Missions, the Rev. Taylor Hill
- 2:20—Children's Home, the Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey
 - Adjourn for the Day

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

- 7:30—Mission Rally

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Congregational Singing
 - Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Lloyd Hargis
- 9:40—General Conference, the Rev. J. B. Starnes
- 9:45—North Carolina Ministerial Association, the Rev. C. H. Overman
- 9:50—State Sunday School Convention, Mr. Stanley Jenkins
- 10:00—Superannuation, the Rev. Walter Reynolds
- 10:05—State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Mrs. Happy Taylor
- 10:10—State League Convention, the Rev. Bobby Taylor
- 10:15—Retirement Homes, the Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey
- 10:20—Chaplains Commission, the Rev. James Joyner
- 10:25—Historical Commission, Mr. Gary Barefoot
- 10:30—Camp Vandemere, the Rev. Ralph Sumner
- 10:35—Commission on Scouting, the Rev. Leon Grubbs

- 10:40—Final Report
 - Credentials Committee
 - the Rev. Bobby Taylor
 - 10:45—Obituary Committee Report
 - 10:55—Miscellaneous Business
 - 11:00—Congregational Singing
 - Offering (for the Convention)
 - Message, the Rev. Marvin Waters
 - 11:45—Recess for Lunch (Lunch at the restaurant of your choice)
- #### AFTERNOON SESSION
- 1:30—Congregational Singing and Prayer
 - 1:35—Christian Action League
 - the Rev. Coy C. Privette
 - 1:40—Treasurer's Report, Mr. Frank L. Walston
 - Report of the Resolution Committee
 - Report of the Nominating Committee
 - Adjournment and Benediction

Cragmont Ladies to Have Singspiration

All ladies who attended the Woman's Conference at Cragmont either week are invited to participate in singspiration directed by Mrs. Alma Dale, one hour prior to the evening service of the State Convention in Fayetteville, North Carolina, on Wednesday, September 17. Ladies, please bring the Cragmont songbooks and meet in the auditorium at 6:30 p. m. for a time of singing and fellowship.

Sweet Gum Grove Church Observes Homecoming

The Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1 Stokes, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, September 7. Services will include Sunday school at 10 a. m., morning worship with memorial service at 11 a. m., lunch at noon, and singspiration at 1:30 p. m. featuring the Gospel Changers. Everyone is invited to attend.

Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet to be Held

The third annual Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet is scheduled to be held at King's Restaurant, Kinston, North Carolina, on Friday, September 5. The meal is to be served family-style (at approximately \$4.75 per person). The speaker is the Rev. Sheldon Howard, pastor of Northeast Free Will Baptist Church, Mount Olive. His topic will be "The Two-hundredth Birthday of the Sunday School Movement."

Cabin Church Gains New Members

The members of Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Beulaville, North Carolina, went to Catherine Lake on August 17 after the morning worship services in the church to observe a baptismal service. The services were held by the pastor, the Rev. William Littleton. There were three new converts (two from Cabin church and one from Belverton Grove church).

Everyone enjoyed a picnic lunch afterwards, along with boat riding, skiing, and swimming.

Revival Services at Pilgrim's Home Church



The Rev. W. S. Burns

Revival services will be held at Pilgrim's Home Free Will

Baptist Church, Jones County, on September 15-19, at 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each night. The evangelist will be the Rev. W. S. Burns. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Eldon Brock. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Hillsberry Church to Observe Homecoming

The Hillsberry Free Will Baptist Church, Clinton, North Carolina, will observe September 7, 1980, as its annual homecoming day.

Services for the day will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m., followed by the worship service. The message will be delivered by the pastor, the Rev. Robert Rollins. Lunch will be served at noon.

There will be an afternoon service consisting of singing and various events. The church membership and its pastor invite all its former pastors and friends to come and enjoy this occasion.

Revival Services to be At Hillsberry Church

Revival services will begin September 8 and will continue through September 12, at Hillsberry Free Will Baptist Church, Clinton, North Carolina. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The speaker will be the pastor, the Rev. Robert Rollins. There will be special singing each evening. Everyone is invited to attend.

Youth Night Service At Croatan Church

On August 17, at 7 p. m., Croatan Free Will Baptist Church of New Bern, North Carolina, held its First Annual Youth Night Service. The service was directed by the pastor, the Rev. Linwood W. Ipock Jr., with the assistance of the church's youth workers. They include: Mrs. Mary Cole, Mrs. Hazel McGee, Mrs. Lula Herring, Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Ebron, Mr.

and Mrs. Glenn Godwin, Miss Sherry Ebron, Mr. J. R. Clark, and Mrs. Velma Boswell.

Music was presented by the Croatan Booster Band. Various games were played. A special youth message was delivered. "Willie" the puppet and "JoJo" the clown were present and delighted everyone with their stories from the Bible.

Tracy Clark and Glenn Hacker were crowned Queen and King.

Sidney Church to Observe Homecoming

Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Belhaven, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming, on Sunday, September 28. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. and worship services will begin at 11 a. m. Lunch will be served at noon. There will be a singspiration and memorial service beginning at 1:30 p. m.

Everyone is invited to attend this service.

Hickory Grove Church Plans Fall Revival

The Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church announces fall revival services for the week of September 15-19. The guest evangelist for the services will be the Rev. C. H. Overman, pastor of Ayden Free Will Baptist Church. Services will begin each evening at 7:45. There will be special music each evening.

The church is located on Highway 30, four miles east of Bethel, North Carolina. The pastor, Leon Harris, and the congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

Coming Events . . .

September—Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For September 14

GOD'S COVENANT AND ABRAHAM

Lesson Text: Genesis 12:1-4;
17:1-8

Memory Verse: Genesis 17:7

I. INTRODUCTION

The scattering of the people from Babel meant that many cities sprang up instead of one. The city of Ur, not far from the mouth of the Euphrates River, was the home of Terah and his son Abram, later known as Abraham.

Abram was of the tenth generation after Noah. Humanity's drift away from God had continued through those generations. God was not entirely forgotten, of course. But various imaginary gods were widely accepted. Even Terah was involved in the worship of some of these (Joshua 24:2). There is no record that Abram was, but probably most of the people of Ur were idolaters; many of them were as wicked as those who had been drowned in the flood.

Genesis 11:26-32 records that Terah and his family, including Abram, left Ur and migrated some five or six hundred miles up the Euphrates to Haran. This probably was a rural area where they prospered as shepherds. There Terah died, and we take up the story of Abram in Genesis 12.—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Last Sunday's lesson dealt with God's covenant with Noah; today's lesson deals with the covenant that God made with

Abraham. The lesson last Sunday concerned itself with the new beginning of man after the flood; today's lesson is concerned with the beginning of a new nation, God's chosen people. Although there are only a few chapters of Scripture separating the two lessons, the time span between the two lessons is about three hundred years.

B. After the flood, the three sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, separated to different parts of the world and became the progenitors of different nations. (The Bible is silent as to the identity of their wives.) It is evident that soon men became sinful again as they were before the flood. This sinfulness finally caused them to decide to build a great tower to Heaven. It was not just their ambition to build that made them sinful, but the fact that they disregarded God, even to the point that many students feel that they had gone into idolatry. This caused God to come down and confound their languages, and the tower of Babel became a failure rather than a success.

C. It is interesting to note that it was after the judgment of God upon man because of sin that the flood came. Then God made a covenant with Noah. Now it is after the judgment of God at the tower of Babel that God calls and covenants with Abraham.

D. Abraham is one of the most illustrious characters in all of the Bible. Observe just a few of the titles given to him in the Scriptures: (1) in James 2:23, he

is called "the friend of God," (2) in Romans 4:11, Paul calls him "the father of all them that believe," and one of the titles of Jesus is derived from him when He is called "the son of Abraham" (Matthew 1:1).

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. After the Great Flood of Genesis 7, Noah was the first to receive a covenant from God declaring that the earth would never again be destroyed by water. Next in line to receive God's covenant was Abraham, the great father of the Hebrew people. This covenant embraced God's promise that Abraham would become the head of a great people who would be a blessing to all the world.

B. Such a promise would exact tremendous faith on Abraham's part for two reasons. First, he had no idea where God was leading him. Second, how could he be the father of a great people when he and his wife had no children and were advanced in age? The student should read Hebrews 11:8-12 to understand the significance of these two reasons. With Abraham it was never a question of faith or no faith; the question always was, "In what or in whom do I put my faith?"

C. A study of the Abrahamic Covenant should enrich the Christian's faith. We need an abounding faith that will cut all the t's off all the "Can't's" and make them into "Cans." Augustine wrote: "Faith is to believe on the Word of God, what we do not see, and its reward is to see and enjoy what we believe." Dwight L. Moody once said: "A little faith will bring your soul to Heaven, but a lot of faith will bring Heaven to your soul." Abraham believed the task ahead of him was never as great as the Power behind him. Can we say the same for our faith in God?

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

(Continued from last week)

The Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

THE CHALLENGE OF THE 80's



Denominational leaders and pastors meet to offer feedback on the Challenge of the 80's at the Children's Home.

The Children's Home began in early 1980 an effort to inform our people of the needs of children and families in the next several years. One of the steps the Board felt was needed was to sign the Compliance Act in order to receive a larger number of children.

The Children's Home Board held area meetings, meetings in individual churches, reported to unions, auxiliary conventions, and held a meeting of elected denominational leaders and pastors in an effort to determine the wishes of our people.

Based on their findings, the Board voted in their regular meeting on August 13, 1980, to

table the recommendation to the Convention asking for signing of the Compliance Act.

A motion was then made to develop a comprehensive program that would adequately meet the needs of the Free Will Baptist churches, including child care, family counseling, and programs for the retired.

This program will be developed during the next year and the input of our people will be sought as to their church and community needs. The program will not not bring any major changes to our present child care programs. It will be an effort to utilize existing property and services more effectively for the benefit of all our people.

OTHERS	
Cash Offerings	\$ 568.87
North Carolina	
Woman's Auxiliary	
Christian Service	
Fund	465.94
Refunds	64.00
TOTAL	<u>\$1,098.91</u>
Total Income:	\$75,726.51

DISBURSEMENTS	
Missions	\$22,201.43
All Mission Travel	3,831.72
Payments on Loans	2,969.16
Printing, Postage,	
Equip., Secretarial,	
Bookkeeping and	
All Office Supplies	7,116.87
Deaf Camp	1,300.00
Earmarked Eastern	
Conference Missions	<u>2,663.98</u>
Total Disbursements	\$62,083.16
Balance forward	
July 1, 1979	\$15,478.65
Total Income for Year	75,726.51
TOTAL	\$91,205.16
Less Disbursements	<u>62,083.16</u>
Balance on hand	
June 30, 1980	\$29,122.00

Taylor Hill
Director Treasurer

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Francis Garner announces that he now has a new address. It is Route 3, Box 85-7, Newport, North Carolina 28570. His old address was Route 1, Box 68-F, Pinetown, North Carolina 27865.

NOTICE

There will be a price change in **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST** beginning October 1, 1980.

One Year — \$6.76
Two Years — \$12.48
Four Years — \$24.96

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

submitted by W. Burkette Raper

COLLEGE DAY AT HIGH SCHOOLS

Mount Olive College representatives will be participating in the following College Day Programs during the week of September 8-12. Students may check time with high school counselors.

Monday, September 8

Southern Wayne High School
North Duplin High School and James Kenan High School at James Kenan
Wallace-Rose Hill High School

Tuesday, September 9

Charles B. Aycock High School, Pikeville
Eastern Wayne High School
North Lenoir High School
Goldsboro High School

Wednesday, September 10

Rosewood High School
Hobbton High School
Union High School

Thursday, September 11

Johnston County Schools at Smithfield-Selma High School

In addition to the above a representative will also be attending the College Day Program for Wake County Schools at Crabtree Valley Mall, time 2:00-9:30 p. m. daily, Tuesday, September 9 through Thursday, September 11.

MOC FRESHMEN GATHER



Incoming freshmen gather near college dormitories. Pictured from left to right: Neal Tilghman, Wintergreen church, Cove City; Becky

Prescott, Rock of Zion church, Grantsboro; Lisa Boykin, Marsh Swamp church, Wilson; Dwight Caroon, Mount Zion church, Pamlico County; and Chris Gurganus, Holly Springs church, Newport.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE WELCOMED STUDENTS

August 24 was a busy day as Mount Olive College welcomed incoming and returning students to campus. Interested parents gathered for an information session with College officials, and a general meeting and

worship service was held for all freshmen and transfer students.

Registration, conferences with faculty advisors, and residence hall meetings prepared students for the new semester. Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper held an open house in their home for all students.

Classes began August 27, and orientation activities concluded with Fall Convocation on August 31.

MRS. WOOTEN JOINS COLLEGE STAFF



Mrs. Ida Pope Wooten

Mrs. Ida Pope Wooten has joined Mount Olive as the College Nurse. Her professional experience includes employment at Wayne Memorial Hospital and as a private duty nurse.

She became a Licensed Practical Nurse in 1967 and a Registered Nurse in 1973, earning both licenses at Wayne Community College.

Mrs. Wooten and her husband, James Edward, reside in Goldsboro. They are the parents of three children, and are members of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

GOD'S WAY WITH WEEDS

(Continued from Page 4)

growth dynamic in both sin and righteousness. Neither can remain static.

Some who wring their hands over the proliferation and devilish intensity of sin today misunderstand its true character. It is in the very nature of the weed to grow.

I am troubled by the many well-meaning Christians who feel called to a ministry of pulling up darnel. They identify an evil—real or imagined—and make its eradication their full-time Christian vocation. Not infrequently they found organizations to get others to help them. Recruits and money for these kinds of activities are fairly plentiful, for it seems reasonable that we do God a service by getting rid of evil.

Yet no matter how well motivated the ministry or how dedicated the workers, Jesus specifically forbids trying to eradicate the darnel. And He didn't say it because He has any fondness for weeds.

Jesus has good reasons.

First, it is not easy to distinguish between wheat and darnel until both are full grown. A spiritual amateur (and who isn't one?) is sure to make mistakes. How tragic it would be if some tender wheat were plucked up erroneously by a gardener with more zeal than knowledge. Jesus would rather have the darnel grow than have a stalk of wheat destroyed.

Second, even if we could always tell the difference, our clumsy efforts to get at the darnel would unintentionally root some of the wheat. Rather than allowing us to disturb those fragile roots, Jesus says He has reserved the

separation for the surgical skill of His angelic harvesters.

Third, God has His own plans for the disposition of both wheat and darnel at the time of harvest. The wheat will be preserved in the Father's barn. The darnel will be sorted and burned. The burning is no task for spiritual children who just happen to have a box of matches.

Fourth, a preoccupation with darnel would leave us no time for involvement with the more constructive activities of Kingdom gardening. The more darnel we pull up, the more seed the devil will sow. And he has an inexhaustible supply. If we play the enemy's game, he will

guarantee us a full-time occupation.

Does this mean we are to show no concern for the deadly spread of evil through society? By no means. That which can be positively identified as darnel should be solemnly warned against. Things about which there is some uncertainty should be pointed out with prayer and humility to the careless.

But keep your hands off it!

Sowing, cultivating, watering and reaping in the wheat fields are much more satisfying activities than pulling up darnel.

And if Jesus is to be believed, safer, too.

Stan Mooneyham in *World Vision*.

The Book Corner

by DeWayne Eakes

Nurturing Silence in a Noisy Heart by Wayne E. Oates; Doubleday and Company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1979.

Dr. Wayne E. Oates is Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Louisville (Kentucky) School of Medicine and the author of twenty-five previous books.

We hear a great deal about pollution today. This book is about a specific type of pollution. Noise. It addresses the need we all share for some quiet peaceful moments in our day. It looks at several specific problem areas and offers some practical guidance for attaining peaceful moments which allow the soul to breathe. This is a good book on an urgent topic.

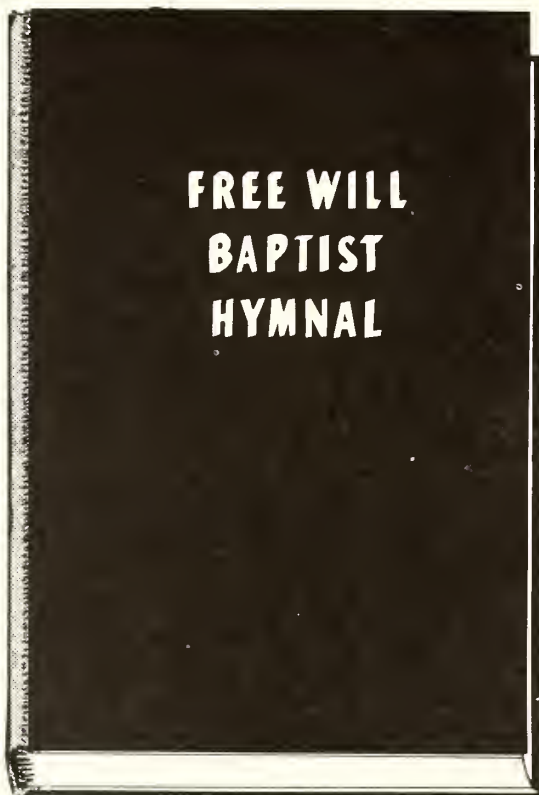
There is a silent part in all of us yearning to grow. It is constantly eroded by imperceptible pressures from societal confusion, competitive work situations, and jangled family relationships, often causing a lot of unnecessary damage that goes undetected for years. Dr. Oates deals with the lack of privacy in our daily lives and recommends how we can increase privacy and keep pace with our normal, busy life-style.

He explores our unused talents. Using the spirit of Jesus' beatitudes, Dr. Oates suggests how to revitalize these unused talents. Particularly valuable is the chapter entitled "Silences You Cannot Safely Ignore." **Nurturing Silence in a Noisy Heart** is an exploration of humanity and its needs—needs that we all share spiritually—making it a truly inspirational book for all our unquiet times.

"Silence is like camellias to me. Silence is not native to my world. Silence, more than likely, is a stranger to your world, too. If you and I ever have silence in our noisy hearts, we will do so on silence's terms for growth—terms which are not your own. You can nurture silence in your noisy heart if you value it, cherish it, and are eager to nourish it . . ." (P. 4).

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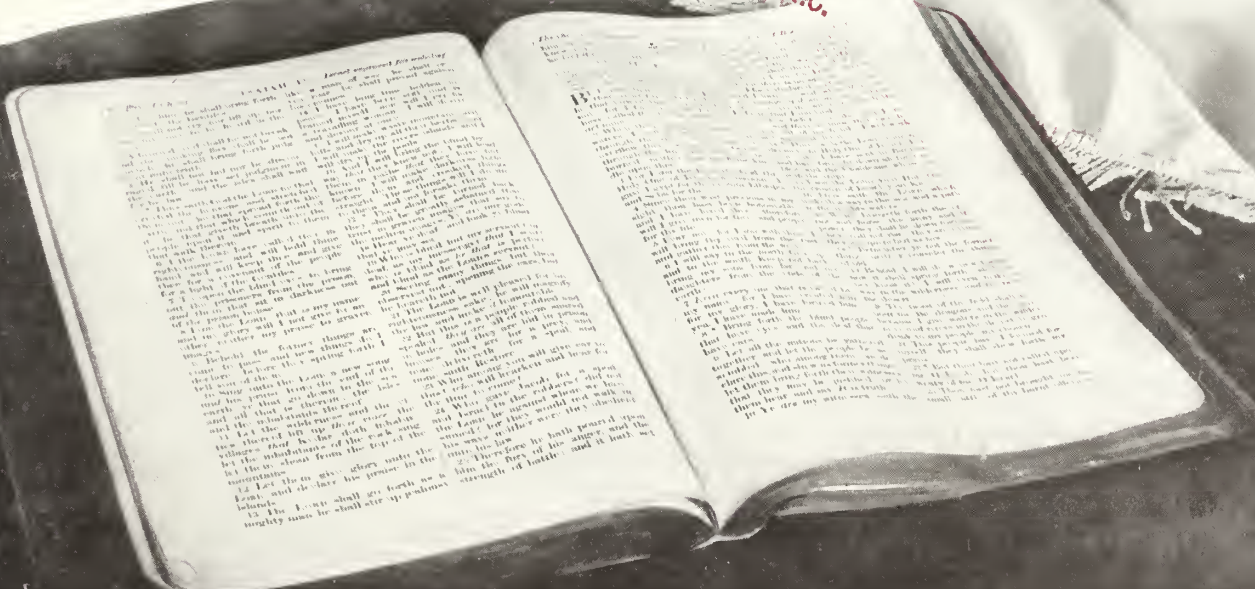
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

THE WHEN AND WHY OF THE STATE CONVENTION

Guest Editorial by David C. Hansley
State President

In 1898 a resolution by Asa Garris at the Union Conference meeting in Pitt County, North Carolina, held with the Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church, began a movement toward a State Convention of Churches. Resolution: "Be it resolved, that we earnestly request every Free Will Baptist church in North Carolina to represent in the next Union Conference by delegate, letter, or pastor with contribution."

It was not until 1912 that any further action was taken toward a combined organization. At the Union Conference and the Ministers' meeting in 1912, Dr. E. L. St. Claire from the South Georgia Association presented the following resolution that began the movement of what is now known as the State Convention of Churches. Resolution: "Brethren: in order to increase our Zion and get our brethren united into one convention, be it resolved: (1) That the name of the body be changed to The North Carolina State Convention of the Original Free Will Baptists. (2) That the officers be a president and a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and an executive committee of three members. A state Home Mission Board of not less than five members and one or more State Evangelists. (3) That a committee be appointed of not less than five members to draft a new constitution and by-laws at the next setting of the body. (4) That an effort be made by the corresponding secretary to get all Free Will Baptists in the Western part of the State in the State Convention. (5) That each church in the State may represent in the convention."

In 1913 on September 17, sixty-seven years ago in Bailey, North Carolina, The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists held its first meeting. At this first session there were four conferences represented—Cape Fear, Central, Eastern, and Western. Sixty-four churches sent delegates with twenty ordained ministers registering.

We believe that Dr. St. Claire gave us the specific WHY for a Statewide organization; however, it would do us well to recapture and rejuvenate our WHY as a State Convention today. The Preamble of our Constitution and By-Laws states, "We, The Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, assembled in order to advance, promote and increase the cause of Jesus Christ." No one church or conference could promote the work or cause of Christ as we do collectively through the convention; therefore, it is necessary for a "patient continuance in well doing" for our State Convention of Churches.

We look forward to this session of our convention to be held Wednesday and Thursday, September 17 and 18 at the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

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September 10, 1980

Volume 95

Number 34

Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

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Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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PROGRESS TOWARD FOUR-YEAR GOAL AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Dr. W. Burkette Raper
President

MOUNT OLIVE is the only college the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina have, and it is the desire of the College to provide for our people the most adequate educational program possible.

In 1977 the Convention asked "The Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College to work aggressively toward making Mount Olive a four-year institution." At the 1979 Convention, the College reported that it had prepared a five-year "Bridge to the Future" program with the goal of adding the Junior year in 1984 and the Senior year in 1985. The Convention was informed that to attain this goal, more gift support would be required during this five-year period (1979-84) than in the twenty-eight years since the founding of the College (1951-1979). The Convention approved the timetable submitted by the College Board.

Gift Support Budget (1979-84) for Developing Mount Olive into a Four-Year College

Educational Services and General Operation	\$3,700,000
(Instruction, Faculty Development, Library Resources, Scholar- ships, Student Services, Education Equipment)	
College Hall	2,500,000
Endowment	1,300,000
	<hr/>
	\$7,500,000

Free Will Baptists are asked

to contribute one-half of this amount, which is \$3,750,000 or \$750,000 annually for five years. This amount is equivalent to \$20 per member annually:

\$10 per member for
Educational Services and
General Operation

\$10 per member for College
Hall and Endowment

\$20 annual support per Free
Will Baptist to make
Mount Olive a Senior
College

Over a five-year period, Free Will Baptist support would amount to \$100 per member. It is not the role of Mount Olive College to tell Free Will Baptists how much they must give, but it is our duty to let our people know what is required to fulfill the mission the State Convention has assigned the College.

College Hall. This building, which will serve as a physical education-athletic center for the College and which will be available to the church as a Convention Center, is essential for Mount Olive to become a four-year college. The estimated cost of this project is \$2.5 million. Architectural drawings are ready and the Board of Trustees has voted to award contracts when \$1 million has been received in gifts and the balance in pledges.

At the close of the fiscal year on June 30, the assets (gifts and pledges) of College Hall were \$733,983, an increase of more than \$500,000 since the 1979 Convention. The urgent need for this building by the College and the rising cost caused by inflation make it necessary that we

Turn the Page



Mount Olive College opens for new year with record enrollment. New students visiting with Dean of Students, Dr. Thomas Johnson, are from left to right: David West, Warsaw; Kim Kornegay, Mount Olive; and Glenda Grady, Pink Hill.

proceed with construction at the earliest possible date. We would like to start building in 1981.

Budget and Fiscal Affairs. The College operated a balanced budget of \$2,384,000 during 1979-80. For the current fiscal year the Board of Trustees has approved a budget of \$2,652,000. Included in this budget is \$67,000 for the addition of new books for the library as a part of our progress to become a four-year college.

OUR BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

Bridge building is another term for preparing for the future. Mount Olive is at a point of transition—the transition from being a good college to one of a handful of colleges that are avowedly committing themselves to spiritual excellence. We believe that education is less than its best if it is not built on the moral and spiritual qualities of life. The commitment to Senior college status is based on the conviction that the kind of education available at Mount Olive is eminently needed in our time.

The advancement to a four-year program reflects the commitment the College has made to provide quality Christian higher education. Success will not just happen. It will take tremendous energy. It will take substantial financial investment. And it will take commitment to excellence. But that is what one would expect of Christian people.

Mount Olive College is boldly moving toward new marks of greatness. Our venture results from the realization that this is a fine moment in the life of our institution. It is a time when enthusiasm and commitments are high and when noble standards of performance are within reach. It is a time to capture the momentum of the moment and respond with vigor and courage.

The realization of our full potential is a risk, but it is a risk worth taking. There is no alternative.

We recognize that making Mount Olive a four-year college will require personal sacrifice. But our lives are governed by

choice, and the choices we make clearly reflect the values we hold and our commitment to the kind of church we want.

Lee's Chapel Has Pastor Appreciation Day

submitted by Agnes Kirby



The Rev. and Mrs. Henry Armstrong

On June 22, 1980, Lee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Route 5, Dunn, North Carolina, honored its pastor, the Rev. Henry Armstrong with Pastor Appreciation Day.

Unknown to Mr. Armstrong, the church invited his family, friends, and neighbors to be present. When he stood to deliver the message, Phyllis Thornton asked to address the congregation. She came forth and presented the pastor with a boutonniere from the Alyne Elmore Circle and explained that the beautiful floral arrangement on the Communion table was given in his honor by the circle and that today was Pastor Appreciation Day.

She informed him that the Woman's Auxilliary and the Alyne Elmore Circle would be treating him and his family to lunch at the Farm House Restaurant. He was also given a love offering from the Sunday school to help pay his expenses to the Ministers' Conference at

Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina. He was then presented a plaque from the church which read:

Pastor Appreciation Day

22 June 1980

Presented to

Rev. Henry W. Armstrong
in appreciation of his faithful
and dedicated service to
Lee's Chapel Free Will Baptist
Church

since February 7, 1965

Designated speakers came forth to tell Mr. Armstrong how much he had meant to them both in their spiritual and personal life. They told of his contributions to our church, its people, and to the denomination. He was praised for his service to the community and for just being a friend.

At one point, time was given to anyone who wished to speak. Many conveyed their love and appreciation for Mr. Armstrong's dedication, patience, kindness, thoughtfulness, and loyalty. They remarked about his wonderful ability to comfort and counsel those who face trying times. It was evident by the response of people coming forward to speak that Mr. Armstrong has not only served Lee's Chapel church, but he did it in a way pleasing to God.

One special moment came when Billie Elmore presented the pastor with one of his beautiful home-grown roses named "First Prize." Mr. Elmore said he felt that the Rev. Henry Armstrong deserved the first prize.

Mrs. Estelene Tart closed this part of the service by reading some Scriptures taken from Matthew 25:31-40; John 13:34, 35;

(Continued on Page 15)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

The Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

"PARTNERS IN CHILDREN'S SERVICES"

A partner is one who partakes or shares with someone else. Partners depend on each other. Last year our staff participated in a conference designed to enhance the relationship between county departments of Social Services and the children's homes in the state. The conference was entitled "Partners in Children's Services."

Since our Children's Home does not receive children through the county departments we must depend **totally** on our church people and friends of the Home to refer children and families to us. Every Free Will Baptist must become eyes and ears for the Home in their local community. We must reach out to families in need and offer the love of Christ **before** the family has to turn to the county for help. If the county feels it must remove the children from the home, plead with the county to allow the parent or a suitable relative to take custody of the children provided the parent or custodian will place the children at the Children's Home. If the family is taken to court by the county for abuse, neglect, or for some other reason, go to court and tell the judge about a Christian alternative for children. Until the custody of a child is placed with the county, we have an opportunity to serve the child and his family. We must reach needy families before custody is placed with the county.

Once our church people have fulfilled their part of this part-

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

nership for the care of children, our staff is ready to begin its work.

The Children's Home has a Family Services Department designed to aid you in placing children. As soon as you discover a family in need call for Family Services Department and they will be glad to assist you in taking the necessary steps to provide services for the family. They will go to the county or court with you in an effort to help you and your church fulfill its partnership role in the care of homeless children.

The Children's Home has no legal authority to go into any community or home without an invitation on the part of the family in need. However, you, as a concerned Christian friend to any family can arrange for us to visit and help. Without your help we will be unable to fulfill the ministry of child care we are called to do. For the sake of homeless and troubled children give us a call today.

News from

RETIREMENT HOMES

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

RETIREMENT HOMES BOARD MEETS

The Board of Directors of the Retirement Homes, made up of the Children's Home Board and the Superannuation Board, met on August 5, 1980; at the Retirement Homes. A review of the past year's work, financial



Retirement Homes Board reviews work.

reports, and budget for the next year were reviewed and accepted.

The Board examined the need for further development. It was noted that there was one application pending and that interest in retirement is growing steadily. Income was up 50 percent above last year. A challenge of two dollars per church member was proposed for the year to come. This would provide for the operational expenses of the Retirement Homes, plus an accumulation of more than \$40,000 toward the building of a new facility or renovation of another, if property became available.

One of the needs discussed was the possible development of a group care facility for the retired who need some assistance. This type facility provides meals, basic housekeeping, and minimal medical care for residents. These facilities are normally referred to as "rest homes."

As the average age of the people in this country moves upward, retirement ministries will become more prevalent. We, as a church, should be proud of the fact that we are on top of the needs of our people.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Roy T. Clifton announces that he now has a new address. It is 817 Lynn Road, Durham, North Carolina 27703. His old address was Route 2, Box 214, Nashville, North Carolina 27856.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 12:2

IN GOD'S HAND

"How can we know what will happen? I may never see you again," said a young man to his soldier brother who was leaving for Vietnam.

Replied the soldier, "None of us knows what the future holds, but we know the One who holds the future—Christ. He has all power in Heaven and earth. We are both in God's hand: you are here at home and I in a faraway country. Let us put our trust in the Lord, and not worry about tomorrow."

"I will trust and not be afraid" (Isaiah 12:2a).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"In God We Trust" is inscribed on our currency. Do we truly depend on the Lord or on the money which bears His name?

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 17:24

DAILY DUTIES

The best things are the nearest: breath in your nostrils, light in your eyes, flowers at your feet, duties at your hand, and the path of God before you.

Then do not grasp at the stars, but do life's plain, common work as it comes, certain that daily duties and daily bread are the sweetest things of life.

"Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes

of a fool are in the ends of the earth" (Proverbs 17:24).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"This is my Father's world, And to my list'ning ears, All nature sings, and round me rings, The music of the spheres

This is my Father's world, I rest me in the thought Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas—His hand the wonders wrought."

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—Matthew 11:30

THE EASY YOKE

Said Henry Drummond, "What is a yoke for? Is it a burden to the animal which wears it? No. It is just the opposite. It makes its burden light. If attached to an oxen in any other way than by a yoke, a plough or cart would be a galling, intolerable burden. Drawn by means of a yoke, the burden is comparatively light."

Jesus said, "For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:30).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Just as the yoke joins draft animals to work together, so should we Christians serve the Lord as yokefellows.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER

17

Scripture Reading—Acts 8:4

SAINTS IN SHOE LEATHER

It is high time for churches to begin putting fewer saints in

stained glass windows and more saints in shoe leather.

"They that were scattered . . . went every where preaching the word" (Acts 8:4).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Apostle Paul makes it clear in his letters that the communion of saints includes the sanctified church members as well as the holy ones who have passed on.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—James 5:9

EXCEPT

"I suppose careful, painstaking nursing can cure almost anything," said a patient to a nurse.

The nurse quipped, "Yes, almost anything except a grudge!"

The Bible says, "Grudge not one against another . . . lest ye be condemned" (James 5:9).

PRAYER THOUGHT

To nurse a grudge is to reject the prayer that Jesus taught us: ". . . forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who have trespassed against us . . ."

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—James 4:13, 14

THE PRESENT IS YOURS

Said Grenville Kleiser, "There are many fine things which you mean to do someday, under what you think will be

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more favorable circumstances. But the only time that is surely yours is the present. Hence, this is the time to speak the word of appreciation and sympathy, to do the generous deed, to forgive the fault of a thoughtless friend, to sacrifice self a little more for others . . . Today you can make your life significant and worthwhile. The present is yours, yours to do with as you will."

"Go to now, ye that say, Today or to morrow . . . ye know not what shall be on the morrow" (James 4:13, 14).

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we recall what the Psalmist said—"Remember how short my time is"—we will not put off those generous deeds.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:16

WITHOUT TRYING

Said Henry M. Stanley of David Livingstone, "He made me a Christian and never knew he was doing it!"

How difficult it is for a non-Christian to be unmoved by a life lived consistently for God and others!

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The words of the children's hymn, "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam," are also meant for the rest of us, whatever our ages.

Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations**, Walter B. Knight.

Have you renewed your subscription to the **Free Will Baptist**?

Locked in a Room With Open Doors?

by DeWayne Eakes

What does the decade of the 80's hold for the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina? That is totally dependent upon how we respond to the challenges set before us. If we respond negatively in fear and anger to each new challenge we shall accomplish very little or nothing and find ourselves "locked in a room with open doors." If we respond positively with a real openness to the Holy Spirit's leadership and to the new opportunities and challenges that living in the world presents we shall accomplish great things as a denomination.

Some 30 years ago the Rev. David W. Hansley and a handful of others with vision saw an open door in the field of Christian higher education. They challenged our State Convention and boldly walked through that open door with little more than faith and vision. Now that vision is Mount Olive College, the best two-year college to be found anywhere. This vision has been perpetuated by the Rev. Lloyd Vernon, first president, Dr. Burkette Raper, and many faithful hard-working Board members. The 80's present us with a further challenge in higher education. Now we boldly with faith walk through another door, that of four-year status for our College granting the Baccalaureate degree. We will succeed, we have caught a vision. We know it is what God would have us do. In the early 70's the North Carolina Ministerial Association passed a resolution asking the college to seek a four-year status, and in 1975 the entire State Convention voted unanimously to do the same.

Following the denominational tragedy of the early 60's we were left with little foreign missions program. We had one door open to us. Mexico! With our Foreign Missions Board's direction and the vision of the Rev. J. E. Timmons we walked through that door boldly and with faith. The Board hired the Rev. Joseph Ingram as full-time Director-Treasurer which was a major step forward! Now we have an ever-expanding ministry there under the leadership of the Rev. Vance Link and the Rev. J. E. Timmons. Africa became an open door and we boldly entered in cooperation with the African Evangelical Fellowship. The Philippines became an open door through our sister denomination, the General Baptists. We walked boldly with faith through that door and now have a prospering missions work there. In the providence of God Dr. Emmanuel Lall sought out our denomination and our Foreign Missions Board saw another open door. We boldly with faith walked through this door which now represents our largest foreign missions work. We had a vision, we acted in faith. God blessed our efforts!

Our Convention saw a need to divide our mission work into home and foreign missions departments. The Rev. Taylor Hill and others accepted the challenge of the open door. Our home missions work has grown establishing new Original Free Will Baptist churches where none previously existed. We walked through the door boldly in faith. God continues to bless this work!

(Continued on Page 14)

Homecoming at Watery Branch Church

Homecoming day will be held at the Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Wayne County, on September 14. A former pastor, the Rev. Clinton Davis, will bring the morning message. Dinner will be served on the church grounds at 12:30 p. m. Special music will be presented in the afternoon.

On September 21, the Foundation Quartet will present a program of music at 7 p. m.

The pastor, the Rev. A. G. Smith, and the church membership invite all former pastors, members, and friends to attend.

Pilgrim's Home Church Presents Plaque



Mr. J. N. Hill Jr. receives plaque.

On Sunday, August 24, at Pilgrim's Home Free Will Baptist Church, Mr. J. N. Hill Jr. was presented a plaque for 30 years of perfect Sunday school attendance. The plaque was presented by the Sunday school superintendent, Mr. Horace Whaley, and given by Mr. Whaley and his wife.

Mr. Hill has attended Pilgrim's Home Free Will

Baptist Church, Route 2, Dover, North Carolina, for the past 21 years. Prior to that he attended Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina, for 9 years.

Mr. Hill, who is 60 years old stated that he had perfect Sunday school attendance for the last half of his life and regrets that he could not say the same for the first half of his life.

Regardless of the weather, Mr. Hill and his wife, Gatsy, are always at church. Even during the big snow last winter, they were the only ones at church on Sunday. He was in the hospital recently and by request was permitted to leave long enough to attend Sunday school.

Mrs. Hill has faithfully supported her husband. She will also receive a 30 year pin in December.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill have been very faithful in service and attendance and are always willing to help in any situation.

Homecoming and Revival Announced at Jackson Heights

Homecoming services will be held at Jackson Heights Free Will Baptist Church near Kinston, North Carolina, on Sunday, September 7, with a former pastor, the Rev. Ralph Sumner, as guest speaker. Following the morning worship, a picnic lunch will be served. There will be special singing by the Anchorman Quartet in both the morning services and the afternoon services.

Revival services will begin September 8, at the church and will continue through September 12, beginning at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Craig Simmons from

Wilson, North Carolina, will be the guest evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. David Thick, pastor, and his congregation extend a special invitation to everyone to join them in these services.

Perfect Attendance Pins Given at Smyrna Church



Group receives pins.

The Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church of Route 2, Dunn, North Carolina, is proud of the following Sunday school students receiving perfect attendance pins recently. They include the following students: Lori Godwin, three years; Brian Norris, one year; Shirley Parker, five years; Sherry Barefoot, eight years; Daren Parker, seven years; Anita Smith, eighteen years; Amy Smith, ten years; Jim Worley, seven years; Rebecca Barefoot, six years; Susan Parker, seven years; Jerry Lynn Barefoot, eight years; Wilma Parker, eleven years; Ella Grace Lee, twenty-three years; Robert Godwin, nine years; Darlene Herring, four years; Doris Tart, twenty-six years; Bonnie Norris, one year; Ione Blackman, eight years; William Blackman, eight years; David Parker, seven years; Graylon Noles, sixteen years; Mike Barefoot, eight years; Leslie Herring Jr., six years; Timmy Parker, eleven years; Doris Jean Parker, ten years; Doris Godwin, twenty-one years; Harold Norris, one year; Herman McLamb, sixteen years; Charlie Norris, twenty-two years; and Joy Lou Lee, three years.

(Continued on Page 14)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

submitted by W. Burkette Raper

COLLEGE DAY PROGRAMS

Mount Olive College representatives will be participating in the following College Day Programs during the week of September 15-19:

Monday, September 15

Cape Hatteras, Currituck, Columbia, and Manteo High Schools at Manteo High School; Camden and Perquimans High Schools, Albemarle Academy and College of the Albemarle at College of the Albemarle; and Northeastern High School.

Tuesday, September 16

Creswell and John A. Holmes High Schools at John A. Holmes High School; Lawrence Academy, and Chowan Academy; and Gates County High School.

Wednesday, September 17

Ahoskie and Murfreesboro High Schools, Ridgcroft School at Murfreesboro High School; and Northampton County High School.

Thursday, September 18

Roanoke Rapids High School, Halifax Academy, Gumberry High School, Gaston High School, Weldon Senior High at Weldon Senior High School; and Enfield High, Northwest High, Scotland Neck High, Eastman High at Eastman High School.

Friday, September 19

Tarboro Senior High, Tarboro Edgecombe Academy, and North

Edgecombe High School at Tarboro High School.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY AT LAGRANGE CHURCH

LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange, will observe Sunday, September 14, as "Christian Education Sunday."

The Rev. Earl H. Glenn, pastor, has announced that Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker. He will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes at 10 a. m. and preach at 11 a. m.

Mount Olive College Day In Your Church

Upon invitation, Mount Olive College will be glad to send a representative to your church to present our "Bridge to the Future" program on making Mount Olive a four-year college. Please write or call (919) 658-2502, Office of the President, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365

COMING EVENTS

September 17, 18—North Carolina State Convention of Churches, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Highway 301 South, Fayetteville, North Carolina

GOD AND FAMILY AWARD



Charles M. Taylor

Charles M. Taylor was presented the God and Family Scouting Award, on Sunday, July 27, at 7 p. m., at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg. The Rev. C. L. Patrick, former pastor of Free Union church, presented the award.

God and Family is the religious program for Cub Scouts. It is home-centered and deals with the boy's relationship to God and his family. Its basic thrust is to help the boy acquire a better understanding of his faith, as it relates to his home and parents, and his family's relationship to the church and community.

Through individual projects and completion of the program, the participant is provided the opportunity to better understand himself, as well as his family, friends, church, and community. The importance of Christian discipleship is emphasized throughout the program.

Charles is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Danny L. Taylor of Route 1, Snow Hill. He is a member of the Webelos of Cub Scout Pack 606. In February 1980 he received the Arrow of Light, the highest award earned in Cub Scouts.

He is an active member of Free Union church and is a member of the Ambassadors for Christ youth organization.

Cub Scout Pack 606 is sponsored by the Laymen's League of Free Union church.

Genevieve Taylor

WOMEN'S CONFERENCES AT CRAGMONT

submitted by Ruth L. Warrick



*FWB WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE
AUGUST 4-9, 1980*

First week at Cragmont

It would be impossible for a writer to pen down the excitement, the fellowship and the love shared in two weeks of conferences at Cragmont.

There were 125 full-time campers the first week and 86 the second week. There were others who shared a part of each week with us.

Each Monday night, Mrs. Dola Dudley, the director, welcomed us to Cragmont and read Psalm 121. We were given our schedule and program for the week and joined our roommates where we got to know each other quite well before the week was gone.

Our theme for each week was "The Guiding Light." The Scripture verse was John 8:12.

Morning devotions were given the first week by Elizabeth Casey, Grace Barbour, Ruth Allen, and Nina Grace Register. They were given the second

week by Rena Kirk, Frances Phillips, Gertrude Ballard, and Becky Jo Sumner.

The music period each morning from 9:45-11 was truly a blessing. We were privileged to have Alma Dale as director; Geraldine Summerlin as pianist; and Nine Grace Register and JoAnn Parrish as organists. Several campers, the Rev. John Williams, Cragmont manager, and some of his staff rendered special music throughout both conferences.

The morning worship services were entitled "Darkness," "Dawn," "Daylight," and "Decision."

The first week's speakers were Happy Taylor, Motie B. Cherry, Helen Beamon, and Lorraine Sutton. These topics were used in the second conference by Rachel Duncan, Sadie Daughtry, Pluma Sullivan, and Edna Fowler.

A memorial service was conducted by Virginia Joyner during the first week.

Our afternoons were filled by just rocking on the porch, a shopping trip to the Asheville Mall or Black Mountain, or a tour of Biltmore Estates. Long trips taken were a trip to Cherokee and the pageant "Unto These Hills" by some the first week and to Gatlinburg, to the Christus Gardens during both



*FWB WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE
AUGUST 11-16, 1980*

Second week at Cragmont

weeks. Fun time was held Friday afternoon with talent contests.

The evening worship services were entitled "Harbor Lights" which was addressed both weeks (Tuesday evening) by Ruth Warrick; "Area Lights" by Lillie Mae Sasser on Wednesday evening of each conference; "Search Lights" by Jean Ackiss the first conference and Lizzie Dawson the second week.

The Rev. Joseph Ingram, Director of Foreign Missions, joined us in the first conference on Friday evening and brought the message, "The Light of the World." Following his message, a communion service was held.

The Friday evening service of the second week was conducted by Lizzie Dawson. She is Missions Chairman of the Cape Fear District. Her subject, "The Light of the World" was climaxed by a candlelight service.

Offerings were taken for Cragmont on Wednesday evenings amounting to \$5,337.68 and for Missions on Friday evenings in the amount of \$2,565.23.

Our thanks go to the manager, the Rev. John Williams, Mrs. Williams, and the staff for their hospitality and especially to Dola Dudley, director, and Alice Barrow, registrar, for two well-planned weeks. May the "Guiding Light" keep us shining in the valley as brightly as when we were on the mountain.

NOTE FROM A READER

The Woman's Conference of August 11-16 was a wonderful week. It was one of the most spirit-filled meetings that I have seen in a long time. The fellowship was wonderful with new friends and some that were not new. The daily devotions and night services were some of the best that I have heard in a long time. We have some wonderful spirit-filled women "preachers," even though they are not licensed or ordained. The at-

tendance was especially good at each devotional meeting. I believe at least ninety-five percent or more attended the noon and night services. Some were not physically able to rise early enough for the morning devotions, but the attendance there was good.

Without meaning to offend anyone, I would just like to ask a question. Is the attendance record for devotions that good at the Ministers' Conference?

I am very concerned about the Free Will Baptist denomination. I have been one for forty-four years and I love it, because I believe its doctrine stands for what the Bible teaches. But unless our leaders get more concerned about soul winning and preaching the Word of God, without watering it down with so many stale and warmed over jokes I'm afraid of what will happen to it. I don't mean that the laymen don't have a job to do too. We do but we need leaders to lead us in the paths of righteousness.

Without Moses, the Children of Israel would not have made it through the wilderness and without Joshua, they would not have made it into the Promised Land. Without Paul and the other writers of the New Testament, we would not have the teachings of Jesus Christ today. They were willing to suffer persecution for the cause of Christ.

If we don't like what's going on in our denomination, let's get involved in its enterprises and try to make them better for the glory of God. But first, let us put our selfish desires aside and pray that God's will be done in all things. Then let us all go to work to bring honor and glory to the blessed name of Jesus Christ who died that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Then when life is over on this earth, we will have eternal life which is the most blessed gift of all.

Mrs. H. D. Brown

ATTENTION LADIES OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet September 25 with the Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County.

Registration will begin at 9:30 a. m. Please note change of date from September 18 to the 25. This is so it will not conflict with the State Convention on September 17 and 18.

Make plans to meet with us there or represent by letter to Mrs. Carol Prescott, Route 1, Box 294-A, New Bern, North Carolina.

Mrs. Rena Kirk
Vice President

MISSION RALLY AT STATE CONVENTION

Our State Home Missions and Church Extension Department is excited. They will present their program at the State Mission Rally this year. Director Taylor Hill says, "We are making plans for it to be both uplifting and informative."

All remarks will be short and to the point. They expect to start promptly at 7:30 p. m. and dismiss no later than 8:45 p. m. The Revs. Taylor Hill and Ray Wells will speak five minutes each. All churches are urged to attend this year's Mission Rally at the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium on September 17, 1980. See you there!

Gary Bailey

**FREE WILL BAPTIST
STATE CONVENTION
IS COMING
SEPTEMBER 17, 18.**

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For September 21

GOD'S COVENANT AND MOSES

Lesson Text: Exodus 19:1-9

Memory Verse: Exodus 19:5

I. INTRODUCTION

Last week we read that God brought Abraham into the Land of Canaan and gave that land to him and his descendants "for an everlasting possession" (Genesis 17:8). But according to our version of the Bible it would be six hundred years before they would evict the Canaanites and take full possession of that land.

Why the long delay? God was not going to take that country from the Canaanites and give it to Israel because Israel was so good, but because the Canaanites were so bad (Deuteronomy 9:4, 5). When they were as bad as the people before the flood, God would bring Abraham's people to wipe them out; but in Abraham's time they were not yet that bad, and God could wait.

Sodom was ready for destruction in Abraham's time, and God waited no longer to destroy it (Genesis 19:1-29). But there was Abimelech, who gave a lesson in honest dealing even to Abraham (Genesis 20). And there was Melchizedek, "the priest of the most high God" (Genesis 14:18). It would be a long time before the influence of such men would be so forgotten that God's waiting would end and the evil successors to those good men would lose possession of their country.

The Land of Canaan was not overcrowded when Abraham came. He lived among the people of the land, usually peacefully.

So did his son Isaac and his grandson Jacob. But about 215 years after Abraham came from Haran, Jacob and his eleven sons moved to Egypt, due to a famine in Canaan. Another son, Joseph, had prepared Egypt for a long famine and therefore had become a favorite with the king. The other members of his family were welcomed and given good land for their cattle and sheep.

With the passing of centuries, however the government of Egypt changed. There came a king who feared the Israelites who lived in his land. There were perhaps two or three million of them by that time. What if they would join with some invader against Egypt? The government might be toppled.

The king made slaves of the Israelites, hoping that overwork would stop them from multiplying. But he was disappointed. Hardship and mistreatment made them tougher and stronger. Finally the king ordered that every boy born to the Israelites must be thrown into the Nile. Then it was that Moses was born.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. It had been three months since Israel had been delivered from the bondage of Egypt. Many things had happened in the meantime. Not only had God given them a leader in Moses, but He had also given them a pillar of fire to lead them at night and a pillar of cloud to lead them in the day. When they left the Red Sea and had gone into the wilderness three days, they found no water. Imagine their feeling when they finally found

water at Marah, but were not able to drink it because of its bitterness. Immediately, the people began to murmur against Moses as though he had made the waters bitter. Moses prayed to the Lord, and was shown a tree to cast into the water. This made the water sweet, and they were able to drink of it. Next they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water. After leaving Elim the people began to murmur against Moses again because they had no food. Then the Lord gave the manna from Heaven. God provided for their every need in a miraculous way.

B. There can be no doubt that God allowed many things to happen to the Israelites in order to teach them. Many of them may have learned lessons from the providence of God, but it is evident that most of them did not. Is not the same thing true today? Some people learn the lessons that God wants us to learn from the trials of life, but most do not.

C. God had given the people a covenant through Abraham. This covenant was the subject of last Sunday's lesson. God said to Abraham, "... walk before me, and be thou perfect (upright), and I will make my covenant between me and thee . . ." (Genesis 17:1, 2). Moreover, He also said, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him" (Genesis 18:19). God demanded obedience of Abraham, but the details of his conduct were not spelled out. Today, we will study a new covenant that God made with His people where He details their conduct much more than in the Abrahamic covenant. This new covenant does not destroy the first, but is an extension of it. We should keep this in mind as we study God's covenant with Moses.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

A LETTER TO A FAITHFUL FWB ON HER BIRTHDAY

This letter was received by Mrs. J. T. Beddard Sr. on her ninetieth birthday. She is a member of Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Ayden, North Carolina.

August 25, 1980

Mrs. J. T. Beddard Sr.
Route 3, Box 154
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

Dear Mammy,

It was a joy to visit with you at your birthday reception yesterday. I wanted to write and once again wish you a happy day on your ninetieth birthday.

The numbers of people who attended the reception spoke so very highly of you. I thank you for your personal invitation and also for the printed one. On the printed invitation I noticed the designation, "No Gifts." For me and everyone else who came we were thankful that no gifts were expected. Let me explain.

How can anyone give a meaningful gift to someone as grand as you? It would be impossible to make a selection of a gift for one who is so richly blessed as you.

We could not give you more friends. Everyone present at the reception was there out of sincere love for you. We could not give you more love. The only way we can do that is with the blessing of God allowing you to stay with us. We could not give you anything you need because you seem like the Apostle Paul when he said "in whatever state I am in I have learned to be content."

Mammy, we could not carry you gifts yesterday. Most of us were there out of appreciation for the rich things you have given us.

Your children were there because you gave them all you ever had. That started with a mother's love and for those fortunate children it has never ended. Your grandchildren were there expressing their appreciation for a grandmother's love and concern. You see, we know you and we know the endless hours you have spent in earnest concern for those you love. Your great-grandchildren were there. Your age alone permitted their presence.

The rest of us, your friends, were there to thank you for these things: the way you have taught us to laugh and the times you have cried with us. We thank you for teaching us to keep on when we might want to quit. (We look at you and decide we cannot quit because Mammy never has.) We thank you for teaching us things we could not have known unless we had known you.

Mammy, we also thank God for letting us have you for all these years. Not many children the age of yours still have their mother with them. At my age it is a real privilege to know someone born in 1890. You were over sixty years old when I was born and many your age have long gone on to their rewards. I thank God for one day leading me to Elm Grove church and there to get to know you.

You have expressed to many of us your hopes of one day joining those on the other side. Many of them have been waiting to thank you again for all you did for them. Those things years ago have not been forgotten either.

We can understand your desires to join them, but we are very selfish. The Apostle Paul also once said he could not decide which was better, to go and be with Christ or to stay and help his friends. Mammy, just as long as God allows you to stay we need you, to help your friends.

I along with all your friends and relatives pray God's richest blessings for you and wish you a very happy birthday.

Love,
Gary M. Bailey

GOD AND COUNTRY AWARD



Dan L. Taylor Jr.

Dan L. Taylor Jr. was presented the God and Country Award, on Sunday, July 27, at 7 p. m., at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg. The Rev. C. L. Patrick, former pastor of Free Union church, presented the award.

The God and Country Award is the highest religious award in the scouting program. It is based upon a study of the Bible, Christian service in the community and world and a knowledge of the denominational service in the community and world and a knowledge of the denominational service organizations. Studies of the church covenant, doctrine and denominational programs and services are included, and appropriate projects to implement the Bible study and Christian service are essential.

The requirements for this program are divided into three

(Continued on Page 15)

LOCKED IN A ROOM WITH OPEN DOORS

(Continued from Page 7)

Cragmont Assembly came about in 1946 when the Revs. W. L. Moretz, Raymond Sasser, James Evans, and a layman, Mr. Fountain Taylor, and others saw an open door. They boldly with faith walked through that door. About ten years ago the Cragmont Board of Directors engaged in its most ambitious program. A five-stage long-range development program was adopted. This program has been developed and implemented under the leadership of the Revs. Cedric Pierce, Raymond Jones, Adrian Grubbs, Willis Wilson, Harry Grubbs, and many faithful and dedicated board members. We are now engaged in the most significant part of that development. We will succeed because this is God's work we do. It is an open door; we walked through it boldly and in faith! This year has seen record-breaking attendance at many conferences and weekend retreats scheduled through December 14.

In the years 1915-1920 another door opened to us! We became aware of a need for a child care institution. It began as an orphanage, opening its doors in 1920. The Rev. B. B. Deans donated fifty acres of land at Middlesex; we accepted the challenge of the open door and walked through it boldly and with faith. The home has prospered under the leadership of numerous, capable and dedicated superintendents and dedicated Christian men and women. In the 50's when society had changed leaving very few orphans but many children in need of care we changed the name of our home from "Orphanage" to "Children's Home." We changed more than our name, we changed the focus of our ministry. We saw an open door, we walked through it in boldness and with faith and God blessed our ministry. In 1970

society's changing elements dictated another change. The Board of Directors saw another open door challenging us. They chose to follow a good Original Free Will Baptist practice and walk through the open door. We as a convention took an unexpected action and decided to close and lock the open door. We reacted in fear instead of bold faith. Has God blessed that decision? God has given us another chance, the door is open for us again! Our Executive Director and Board of Directors have challenged us again to walk boldly with faith through this open door! Will we accept the challenge? God will bless us if we act in faith boldly. He always has! Our ministry of child care of sixty years is still needed. It is a stewardship trust God has given us. It must change because society changes and as John 17 states we are to minister in the world! The ministry of Christian Child Care is more vitally needed today than ever before! We must go through this door boldly and in faith. Thousands of youth need desperately what we offer, it is our God-given task, let's do it in the fine and established tradition of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

In the mid 70's a new door opened to us. The awareness of a need to provide Retirement Homes for laity and ministers and their widows. Our leaders caught the vision and we walked through the open door. With our population having a greater percentage of those reaching retirement age annually this was truly an appropriate response by our church to a changing society. We boldly and in faith walked through this open door and God is blessing us.

Fellow Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, we have inherited a rich tradition. This includes a people who have been characterized, at least in the twentieth century of walking through the doors of challenge that God presents to us. These

doors of challenge are in reality doors of opportunity. The 80's can be a decade of unprecedented growth and maturity for us as a people and a time of expanding our ministry on every hand. Yes, it can be if—if we will continue to walk through the open doors that are available to us!

As the Rev. John Owens very ably remarked in his opening devotions at the 1980 Ministers' Institute at Mount Olive College, "What is absolutely necessary at this time is unity." We must preserve the "Unity of the Body." The tasks before us are too great for any group or portion of us; but they are within our ability to achieve as the united body of Christ. Constructive criticism is always necessary and especially in the Lord's work. Let us cease the negative, divisive, and counter-productive criticism and turn that same energy into achieving the great tasks and goals God has set before us as Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. Let us not lock ourselves in a room with open doors.

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 8)

Homecoming at Piney Grove

Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, the Rev. Tommy Evans, pastor, will have Homecoming Day on Sunday, September 14, with dinner on the grounds following the morning services. In the afternoon the Gabriels of New Bern will be featured in a singspiration.

Revival and Homecoming At Piney Grove

Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Beaufort County, the Rev. Beverly Ballard, pastor, will hold Fall revival services nightly at 7:30, September 15-20. Evangelist will be the Rev. Clyde Cox, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson. Homecoming will be held on Sunday, September 21.

(Continued on Page 15)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Lee's Chapel Has Pastor Appreciation Day

(Continued from Page 4)

John 21:14-19. She made appropriate remarks about his life as applicable to the Scriptures.

Mr. Armstrong thanked the congregation for their expressions of love and assured them that he and his family truly appreciated all that was said and done that day. Although Mrs. Armstrong and his family were aware of the planned activities, he did not suspect anything, and it was a complete surprise to him. The event was planned and sponsored by the Alyne Elmore Circle.

The Armstrong's children and their families were present at the service. Keith and Dianne Armstrong and their two children came from Winston-Salem; and Jerry and Lynne Armstrong from Aurora, brought their two children. Dianne and Tommy Young and their child, who live in Dunn, were also present.

At the close of the service, Mrs. Armstrong joined her husband at the door to shake hands and speak to each member of the congregation as they left.

Lee's Chapel church thanks God for blessing them, and one of the richest blessings they have received is the Rev. Armstrong and his family, who is in his sixteenth year as pastor of the church.

News Notes

(Continued from Page 14)

Central District Youth To Meet at Tarboro Church

The Central District Youth Convention will meet at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, North Carolina, on September 20, at 7:30 p. m. There will be presented a program of music, fellowship, and a play. These events will be followed by refreshments.

All youth auxiliaries, youth leaders, and pastors are encouraged to attend.

Revival Services at Calvary Church

The Calvary Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, North Carolina, has scheduled its fall revival for September 21-26. The service on Sunday will start at 7 p. m., and the rest of the week at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Jeff Scarborough, pastor of Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, will be the evangelist assisted by the Rev. Dewey C. Boling, pastor.

A prayer room will be available each evening before the services. The nursery will be open each night. Everyone is invited to attend.

GOD AND COUNTRY AWARD

(Continued from Page 13)

stages: (1) Bible study, (2) ordinances of the gospel, (3) study of doctrine, and Christian service, fellowship and outreach of the church and denomination. Each stage includes evidence of knowledge and activities in the areas of Christian faith, witness, world outreach, citizenship and fellowship.

Dan is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Danny L. Taylor, Route 1, Snow Hill. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop 606 and has achieved the rank of Life Scout. In 1976 he was selected the National Youth Representative for Cub Scouts in the East Carolina Council. He received the Arrow of Light, the highest award in Cub Scouts in 1976. He is a member of the Caswell District Order of the Arrow.

Dan is in the tenth grade of Greene Central High School this fall. He is vice-president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, plays football, and plays the trumpet in the high school band. He has been actively involved in the Greene County Bloodmobile Program and has Red Cross certification in C. P. R. and Advanced Lifesaving.

Boy Scout Troop 606 is

sponsored by the Laymen's League of Free Union church.

Genevieve Taylor

CENTRAL CONFERENCE MISSION BOARD MEETS



Mission board members James Howard; the Rev. Bob Murray, Albert Proctor, the Revs. Cedric Pierce and Joseph Lehman. The Rev. R. T. Sasser took the picture. Randolph Harris was absent due to illness.

The Central Conference Mission Board met at the Roanoke Rapids Free Will Baptist Church, Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, on August 28.

The board members were impressed with the general appearance of the church property and grounds. They said it looked the best they had ever seen it. Trees have been removed for off-street parking. The house used for Sunday school has been painted during the pastorate of the Rev. Dan Jordan. Inside the metal building chapel, the new wall covering gives a cheerful appearance. One of the class building rooms has been made into living quarters for the pastor, who did the plumbing work.

The board members were also impressed with the progress report of the members and pastor. They are having visitation, and as a result of soul winning efforts a baptism was scheduled for the next Sunday with eight candidates.

Their report revealed substantial increases in attendance and offerings for the last two months compared with a year ago.

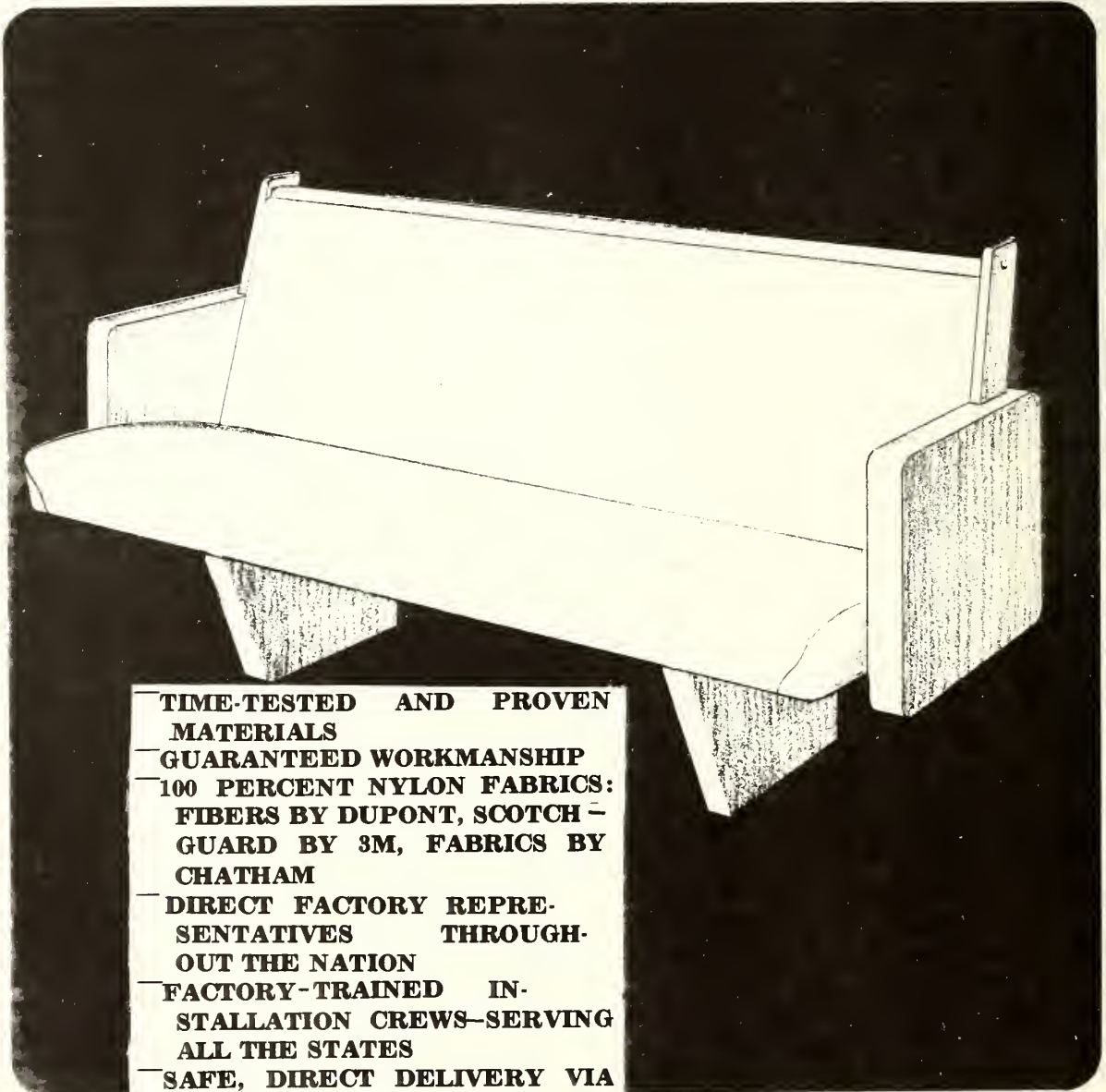
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“. . . Lift up your eyes, and look in the fields: for they are white already to harvest” (John 4:35).

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR US?

Guest Editorial
by Taylor Hill
Executive Director

We know that we do not have complete control over our future, but what we do today usually has some effect on tomorrow in one way or another. My first lesson in good practical business and survival came when I was a child down on the farm. I learned that if we were to have meat and grain in the winter, we must grow it in the summer; and unless we worked hard and kept reinvesting into our home and farm operation, we would be destined to suffer some bad consequences.

It doesn't take a very smart person to see that if the farmer doesn't plant, he will not reap a harvest. Doesn't our Lord tell us to work, plant, reap and give? Otherwise, we would come to nothing.

Also, we are told that the starving people of Cambodia ate up all their seed grain and were left with none to plant. I've said all this to remind us that the same principle applies to our churches and denomination. I see Home Missions and Church Extension as an absolute must if we expect to have very much of a productive future and be a benefit to our Lord's Kingdom. The stronger we are at home, the more we will be able to do for others.

Helping others is certainly the Christian way of life, but we can't give it if we do not have it, and we cannot have it unless we are willing to work for it according to God's plan. Winning souls and building new churches simply mean that we are helping to fulfill the great commission, and accumulating more assets to be used elsewhere.

Finally, our individual churches ought to become more involved in local evangelism, helping the poor and starting new mission churches. We can do that and still support our state and conference programs. Our population is expanding fast and we must continue to expand also.

What does the future hold for us? It's up to us!

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September 17, 1980

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Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

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Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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“Let My People Go . . .”

by the Rev. Beverly Ballard

THERE'S a saying that comes from down on the farm: "Your chickens will always come home to roost."

Paul says virtually the same thing when he writes in Galatians 6:7: ". . . whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

It seems that Americans, and the nation of the United States of America, have come up against this fact in a very real way. The students in Iran hold 50 Americans as hostages. One newspaper explanation of why they held these demonstrations that slandered us and our nation showed a picture of an officer in Los Angeles, California, United States of America, holding down a student street demonstrator with physical restraint that portrayed violence.

The picture, according to the Los Angeles **Examiner**, newspaper serving that city, was from the front page of its own publication in 1968.

It took almost 12 years for that photo to come back at us in a reprint that tried to explain away the actions of horror by our enemies. Our chickens came home to roost.

What has happened to the morals of the world? People have no respect for the lives of other human beings. People have no respect for the laws of their respective lands. People don't even respect international law.

Even in the day of Ezekiel, God saw a similar picture. Ezekiel 8:11 declares, "Violence

is risen up into a rod of wickedness . . ."

The enemies of Israel took advantage of the inner violence of that nation to come in and defile the sanctuary of God. He would not stand for it. He spelled out a formula for handling the matter.

The enemies of the United States came in and defiled the Embassy in Tehran. There may well have been some inner activity not in the best interest of Iran. But, notwithstanding, God has always held to a saying we have used through the ages: "Two wrongs do not make a right."

All right, God's formula for taking care of the situation in Israel during Ezekiel's day may well be used by our own nation today. While we are busy throwing stones at the people of Iran (and I hastily point out that I do not in any way feel they are justified in their crime against the individual, a nation and worldwide law and order), let us look at just why these people feel they have a right to demonstrate violently. We need but take a peek through our recent history of violent demonstrations, on the campus as well as in the streets and even in our Capital, to see where they may have gotten their ideas.

God told Ezekiel in Chapter 8, Verse 23, to "Make a chain; for

the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence."

A chain, in this instance, is symbolic of that used not only to punish physically those who commit crimes, but also to hold captive the guilty. In the old Navy and aboard vessels plowing international waters, a party found guilty of breaking a law of the ship was "thrown into chains." We have our own "chain gangs," although chains aren't used as they were at one time.

In Ezekiel 8:23, God was merely saying, "Do something openly to halt these bloody crimes and violence."

If this didn't work, God had another step to take. He would give over the houses of the criminals and evildoers to the heathen, or outsiders. Then, He promised "destruction" in Verse 25. God had long shown His wrath in the land. The day of wrath has been promised many and in some cases, this wrath has been poured out devastatingly. God doesn't "mess around."

But it always grieves God's heart to have to mete out His wrath on His man. He knows His man better than man knows himself. He knew that as soon as this destruction fell, man would repent. He knew men would seek out the holy men of the nation

(Continued on Page 7)

“. . . according to their deserts will I judge them” (Ezekiel 8:27).

The Rev. L. B. Manning

Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, North Carolina, this week honors its pastor, the Rev. L. B. Manning. Your pastor can be next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A TRIBUTE

submitted by Mrs. W. L. Langley



The Rev. L. B. Manning

"In appreciation for faithful pastoral services, 1977-1980," was the inscription on the Praying Hands Serenity Prayer plaque presented to the Rev. L. B. Manning, recently as he concluded three years as pastor of Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, North Carolina. He is also retiring, after fifty-six years in the ministry of the Free Will Baptist denomination.

He came to our church in July, 1977, as a supply pastor and at a

time when we needed him most. We feel that God sent him our way. He was trying to retire then, as he tried at the church before us, but his love for the Lord, and wanting to serve Him by ministering to others, kept him pressing onward. He accepted the duties as pastor, after the church expressed the desire for him to do so.

He was with us over some three years and served us well.

We finalized plans of our building programs while he was with us, added a large fellowship hall, remodeled the sanctuary, added a baptistry, and installed new carpet. He played an important part in this, giving so generously. He began by giving \$25 of his salary each week toward this project, and later, instead of accepting a raise, he turned it over to the building program, in all amounting to \$1,820 yearly, plus contributing in special drives. Above all, his prayers and encouragement were of utmost importance.

Now going back beyond his brief stay with us, I would like to cover, briefly, some of the highlights of his life.

Mr. Manning was born in Winterville, North Carolina, on May 13, 1900. He was ordained to preach on February 11, 1924. During his fifty-six years in the ministry, he has pastored 25 Free Will Baptist churches (three of these, he pastored three different times; five, two different times) and he pastored his home church, King's Cross Roads, for fourteen years.

He has conducted revivals in 80 Free Will Baptist churches. People in the community where he lives says he has conducted more funerals than any minister in Pitt County. He is loved and respected by the people in the town of Fountain, North Carolina, where he has lived for over 30 years, and has worked with other churches in the town. The people there think of him as everyone's friend.

During these years, he has been honored to serve his church in many capacities. Among these are two years of serving as President of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists, six years as Moderator of the Central Conference, many years as a member of the Ordination Board, member of the State Mission Board, the Press Foundation Board, and the Church Finance Association.

As Mr. Manning leaves us, we will miss him, and we bid him God speed. Although he might not accept another church as pastor, he will never really retire—there's something about "Preacher" Manning, Bible in his hand, preaching the Word—he loves it so!!!

Yes, we at Peace church honor such a man as the Rev. L. B. Manning, who has given fifty-six years of his life in the service of the Free Will Baptist church, and to others who have needed him, and above all, has served his Lord and Master so faithfully. (See Matthew 25:21.)

RETIREMENT HOMES

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

August, 1980

TOTAL: \$636.90

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Victory Mission	\$ 31.79
TOTAL	\$ 31.79
CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Grimsley	\$ 2.00
Hull Road	4.00
Williamston, First	23.03
TOTAL	\$ 29.03
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Deep Run	\$ 15.00
Holly Springs	175.00
Juniper Chapel	15.00
Northeast	2.50
Saints Delight	6.00
Verona	20.00
Warden's Grove	20.00
White Oak Grove	2.00
TOTAL	\$255.50
PEE DEE CONFERENCE	
Oak Grove	\$ 39.45
TOTAL	\$ 39.45
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Pleasant Hill	\$100.00
Wilson, First	120.00
TOTAL	\$220.00
STATEWIDE	
Christian Service	\$ 61.13
TOTAL	\$ 61.13

NOTE OF THANKS

The Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina, wishes to express a warm thank you in love and appreciation to the Rev. Walter Pollard of Greenville, North Carolina, who served as Interim Pastor during the summer months. Brother Pollard endeared himself to everyone, young and old alike. We especially thank him for the numerous visits to our senior citizens and friends and members who were sick.

We recommend him to any church as he is a man dedicated to serve our Lord and is well versed in the Scriptures.

Gladys H. Corbett
Publicity Chairman

WA COMMITTEE MET IN SPECIAL CALLED SESSION

The North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Committee met in a special called session August 27 to consider the resignation of Mrs. David W. (Elizabeth) Hansley as State Youth Chairman. The Committee accepted Mrs. Hansley's resignation with much regret. "Ma" Hansley, as she is affectionately known, has done an outstanding work for approximately 27 years in providing literature for the youth and planning programs for the State Youth Meetings. Along with her Advisory Committee, she has seen many young people commit their lives to Christ in the annual YFA and AFC Youth Conferences at Cragmont Assembly. Her efforts will live on, for which we are grateful.

Miss Alane Vester of 1210 South Tarboro Street in Wilson, a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, was elected to fill Mrs. Hansley's unexpired term. Miss Becky Jo Sumner of Route 4, Box 410 in Ahoskie, a member of Hickory Chapel is the Co-Chairman.

Let us continue to pray for our youth, the Chairman, Co-Chairman, and the Advisory Committee because of the enormous task that is before them.

Ruth L. Warrick
Corresponding Secretary

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

Clifford Ball announces that he is available for pastoral work, beginning immediately. Anyone interested may contact him by writing Route 1, Box 96-A, Grifton, North Carolina 28530; or by calling (919) 524-4337.

Mr. Ball, a licensed minister, is a member of the Central Conference and Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina.

INTRODUCING THE CRAGMONT CLUB

submitted by Harry Grubbs

What is the Cragmont Club? A group of interested and committed supporters of Cragmont Assembly.

Purpose: To create a feeling of ownership at the church member level. To bring the outstanding debt on the Main Building to a swift retirement. To create a cash flow with regularity.

Benefits: You will be a partner in the Cragmont ministry. Your family will receive certain cost reductions while visiting Cragmont.

Plans: (A) \$10 per month - Free room and meals for entire family for two days and nights per year. (B) \$7.50 per month - Free room for entire family for two nights per year. (C) \$5 per month - One-half price on room for entire family for two nights per year.

Cost reductions may not be used by participants of regularly scheduled conferences.

How do I join? Choose the plan best suited for you. Send your check to Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711.

When you send your first installment, indicate that you want to be a member of the Cragmont Club. You will then receive a membership card which you will present when you and your family spend your two nights per year at Cragmont Assembly.

Please join the Cragmont Club.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—John 8:12

IN GOD'S HAND

Helen Keller said on her sixtieth birthday, "If the blind put their hand on God's hand, they find the way more surely than those who see physically but have no spiritual sight."

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12b).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many of us as humans may have defective or blinded eyes physically, but we may have inwardly open spiritual "eyes" or an enlightenment through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord because He truly is the Light of the world.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—Revelation 21:4, 5

NO MORE TEARS

A pastor sat at the bedside of a member of his church who said, "Pastor, I know I am going to die, but I have no fear. As I pass through the valley, the One who has been with me in life will be with me, and I will eternally be with Him in glory."

As the dying man thus spoke, tears came to his eyes. Tenderly the pastor took his handkerchief and wiped away the tears.

Said the grateful man, "Pastor, the next time tears are wiped from my eyes, God himself will do it!"

Did he not speak scripturally? He surely did. The Bible says, "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain . . . These words are true and faithful" (Revelation 21:4, 5).

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we have the Lord God as our Shepherd in life, we should have no fear of death because He will be with us.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—John 10:10

NOT A RITUAL

Christianity is not a system of philosophy, or a ritual, or a code of laws. It is the impartation of a divine vitality. Without the Way there is no going; without the Truth there is no knowing; without the Life there is no living.

Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10b).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many of us have sung the song "Wonderful Words of Life." Do we truly obey God's Word always? Let's not forget that through Him we have life.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Scripture Reading—John 17:21

"ONE IN US"

For God's children to expect spiritual strength by being unequally yoked together with

unbelievers under the umbrage of ecumenism is like expecting two consumptives to get better by marrying.

How precious is the spiritual unity of God's true children, who are one in the Father and one in the Son, though not united denominationally. "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us" (John 17:21).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus prayed that His followers might always be united so that they might also be in union with Him and the Father to show forth the true faith to the world of unbelievers.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 1:23

THE LIVING WORD

Helen Keller said, "Somehow the mystery of language was revealed to me. I learned, for instance, that the word 'water' meant that wonderful cool something that flowed over my hand. Now I know the living Word—God's Word—awakened my soul, gave it light, hope, joy and set me free."

Peter said, "Being born again . . . by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (1 Peter 1:23).

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we are born again, we are given a spiritual baptism into the fellowship of God and His obedience; therefore, there should be a joy within our hearts shining forth to others around us.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—Psalm 51:10, 13

NON POSSUMUS

God's children cannot live wrong and pray right; nor can they live wrong when they pray right.

David pled, "Create in me a clean heart, O God . . . Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee" (Psalms 51:10, 13).

PRAYER THOUGHT

There are many things in life to tempt us, but if we are truly Gods' children we will love Him even more because of this and follow Him daily.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:28

I DON'T KNOW MUCH

One asked George Beverly Shea, "What do you know about God?" Shea replied, "I don't know much, but what I know has changed my life!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many of us have heard words sung in a song that have a special meaning of God's love to our lives. Do we truly realize these words are of greatness and beauty as well as how God can change our lives by them?

—Selected from **Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations**, Walter B. Knight.

"Let My People Go . . ."

(Continued from Page 3)

and ask a vision. Even so, God had to take things in His own hands. He took the law from the priest and counsel from the ancients.

"The king shall mourn" is God's revelation of His own feeling over the sins of His man.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Finally, however, God declared His own triumph. "They shall get their just deserts," to paraphrase Ezekiel 8:27 (the final part) and "they shall know that I am the Lord."

Who is the victor in a standoff, politically or otherwise, between the United States and Iran? Who is the loser?

Actually, there is no winning in this kind of thing except for the individual who may emerge from captivity with his life. Internationally, few nations will ever again trust Iran enough to send into it envoys as long as the present government is in control, nor any other government weak enough to bow to the demands of a rabble-rousing element. So Iran will not win. And neither will the United States. While world sentiment may be on our side in the issue over international law violations, no one cares to trust a nation who might give solace to an accused murderer (even though unproved) nor a nation who might set up enough questionable activity in an embassy to cause a political upheaval.

Whatever the outcome, we can only trust God that innocent lives will not be taken over such a political blowout.

In the final analysis, God will triumph. Righteousness will come out on top. Right will be the victor.

There will be no question, either, as to who is the highest power. "They shall know that I am the Lord," He concludes.

EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH CONVENTION

The Eastern District Youth Convention will meet with the Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, on September 20, 1980. Registration will begin at 9:45 p. m. Dress for the convention will

be comfortable, blue jeans, T-shirts, etc.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you and we are planning a fun day in the Lord. We will have separate programs for the YFA, AFC, Cherubs, and Youth Chairmen. There will be special youth singing groups.

Please keep in mind that we will need an invitation for the Spring Convention which will be held on March 21, 1981.

Linda Ford
Youth Chairman

FORE!!! All golfers and duffers

GET TEED OFF

If you have yet to sign up for the Cragmont Open on October 3, get with it. This super ball tournament, besides helping Cragmont, is going to be super fun. We have some prizes offered, at no cost to us, for giveaway to some lucky people. Remember, for \$25 you play 18 holes of golf, ride an electric cart and stand a good chance of winning a nice prize while helping Cragmont. By the way, you can also help yourself—to all the barbecued pig you can eat. Yes, we're having a pig pickin' for all the tournament entrants at no charge. If you wish to bring someone else to eat, \$3.25 will be the cost of their meal.

Now, don't wait—sign up today. Just send \$25 to: Rick Watson, Route 2, Box 607, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

After I receive your check, I'll send you an entry form. Thank you.

Rick Watson

COMING EVENTS

September 17, 18—North Carolina State Convention of Churches, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Highway 301 South, Fayetteville, North Carolina



Tarboro, North Carolina, on Saturday, September 20, 1980, at 7:30 p. m.

Sneads Ferry Church Announces Revival Services

Sneads Ferry Free Will Baptist Church, Sneads Ferry, North Carolina, will have revival services the week of September 22 through September 26, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Carol B. Hansley will be the evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. O. B. Taylor, and the church congregation invite everyone to attend.

Revival and Homecoming At Barnes Hill Church

Revival services will be held at Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Nashville, North Carolina, September 22-27, at 7:45 p. m. The Rev. Lester Duncan will be the guest evangelist. Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, September 28, beginning with Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Sherron Acres Announces Homecoming and Revival

Sherron Acres Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming day, September 21, 1980.

Services for the day will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a. m., followed by the worship service at 11 a. m. The message will be delivered by the pastor, the Rev. Roy Clifton. Lunch will be served at noon.

Revival services will begin Sunday at 7 p. m. and will continue Monday through Friday at 7:30 each evening. Mr. Clifton will also speak at these services assisted by the Rev. Fred Rivenbark, assistant pastor. There will be special singing each evening. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival and Homecoming At Ayden Church

Revival services will be held the week of September 22-26, at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each evening. The speaker for these services will be the Rev. Norman Ard of Pink Hill, North Carolina.

On Sunday, September 28, the church will observe its annual homecoming services. In addition to the regular Sunday school and morning worship service, there will be a singspiration service in the afternoon. A cordial invitation is extended to all former members, former pastors, and friends to attend these services. The pastor of the Ayden church is the Rev. C. H. Overman.

Tarboro Church to Have Revival and Homecoming

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Tarboro, North Carolina, and its pastor, the Rev. O. B. Jones, cordially invite everyone to its revival services, September 22 through September 26, at 7:30 p. m. There will be special music each evening. The Rev. Floyd B. Cherry from Pine Level, North Carolina, will be the guest evangelist.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, September 28. Lunch will be served at noon. The public is cordially invited.

Musical to Be Given at Tarboro Church

"The Clown," a dramatic musical experience of spiritual encounter and Christian witness, will be presented at the Central District Youth Convention, First Free Will Baptist Church,

This musical will feature the youth of the Tarboro church doing the acting and the singing. Among the featured will be Guyla Evans, piano; Myron Cale, drums; John Taylor, trumpet; and Doug Scott, trombone. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival and Homecoming At Pleasant Hill Church

Two big events will take place at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Highway 43 in Pitt County, within the next few days.

First, there will be a revival, beginning on Sunday, September 21, at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. C. F. Bowen, will be the evangelist. There will be good preaching, inspiring singing, and a cordial fellowship each night through Saturday, September 27. The time of the services is 7:45 p. m.

Second, there will be a homecoming on Sunday, September 28. Sunday school will begin at 10, followed by the homecoming sermon at 11 by the pastor. There will also be a memorial service during the morning worship hour. Dinner will be served at noon, followed by special singing in the afternoon.

An invitation to everyone to attend these two events is given.

Homecoming Services Held At Otter's Creek Church

Homecoming services will be held at Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Macclesfield, on September 21. The Rev. Johnny Taylor will deliver the morning message. There will be an afternoon service of special singing by the King's Messengers and the Oak Grove Boys.

Also on September 27, there will be a special singing featuring the Young Christians beginning at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. Ralph Aycock and the entire congregation invite everyone to come and worship on these two different occasions.

Youth Sunday Is Observed At Friendship Church

Youth Sunday was observed at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina, on Sunday, August 31. The Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor of the church, welcomed the congregation, and Jason Tyson directed the rest of the service.

Gladys Oakley led the young children of the church in a few songs accompanied by Verna Heath on the piano. Lorraine Moore represented the Young Woman's Auxiliary by dedicating the flowers in the church in honor of Johnny Lewis for helping organize and lead the youth choir and many other services for the church.

Silent meditation and prayer in song were presented by Pam and Susan Beaman and Trina Holloman. The devotions were given by Gladys Oakley.

A singspiration followed with the youth choir singing under the direction of Johnny Lewis. Other special selections were rendered by Ken Cobb, soloist; Jason Tyson and Donna Morgan, duet; Donna Morgan, solo; Pam and Susan Beaman and Trina Holloman, trio; and a trumpet and organ special by Chris Croom and Susan Beaman.

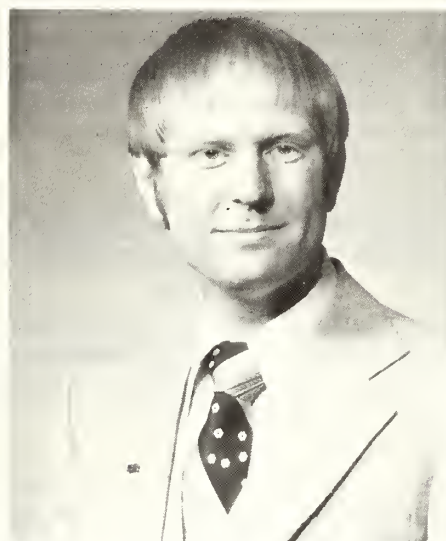
Ushers for the service were Johnny Holloman, Ray Brock, Johnny Ellis, and Carl Shirley. Susan Beaman was organist and pianist for the youth service.

Revival Services Announced For May's Chapel Church

Revival services will be held at the May's Chapel Free Will

Baptist Church, Route 3, Dudley, North Carolina, September 22-26, beginning at 7:30 p. m. Prayer rooms will be opened at 7:15 p.m. The Rev. Marvin Waters will be the guest evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. Andrew Hill is the pastor of May's Chapel church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Spring Hill Church To Have Revival



The Rev. Mike Scott

Revival services will be held at Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church, 4556 Highway 70 West, Goldsboro, September 22-26, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Mike Scott, pastor of Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church near Smithfield, will be the evangelist. He graduated from Mount Olive College, Atlantic Christian College, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Rev. William Dale, pastor of the church, extends an invitation to everyone to come join in an "old-fashioned" revival.

Little Creek Church to Have Revival and Homecoming

Revival services will be held at Little Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina, September 29 through October 3, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Royce Reynolds will be the evangelist. He will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Frank Flowers.

Homecoming services will be held October 5 beginning at 11 a.m. A picnic dinner will be served at noon, followed by a singspiration hour at 1 p. m. The pastor and members of Little Creek cordially invite everyone to attend these services.

Winterville Church Gets New Pastor

The Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina, is happy to announce that the Rev. Ed. C. Taylor has begun his pastorate with them and is now residing in the church parsonage at 804 Cooper Street, Winterville, North Carolina. Mr. Taylor, a native of Charlotte, is married to the former Natalie Parrish of Smithfield, North Carolina. They have a son, Edward I. Taylor, and a daughter, Rebecca Taylor Byrd. They also have six grandchildren. Mrs. Taylor is presently recuperating from foot surgery.

Mr. Taylor attended public school and the Charlotte Bible Institute in Charlotte, North Carolina. During World War II he served in the United States Marine Corps and was in combat in Iwo Jima with the Fifth Marine Division. His unit was awarded the Presidential Citation from President Harry S. Truman.

Ordained into the ministry in 1952, Mr. Taylor has served on the Executive Committee of the Cape Fear Conference, the Ordaining Council, Cape Fear Mission Board, the Liaison Committee to form the General Conference of Free Will Baptists and is currently serving as Moderator of the Cape Fear Union Meeting. He has had successful pastorates with eight churches.

The Winterville Free Will Baptist Church is proud to have such a dedicated man of God as pastor and invites everyone to come worship God and fellowship with them.

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The Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

TELL THEM ABOUT A CHRISTIAN HOME FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

FAMILIES IN CRISIS

Hundreds of children suffer from abuse, abandonment, and neglect in our state. The inability or failure of parents to provide structure and limit-setting leave many children free to roam the streets, perform poorly in school and eventually get into minor trouble at school and in the community.

Single parents are much more likely to experience difficulties in rearing their children. Carrying the burden of both father and mother and trying to earn a living is very difficult. Often the single parent could benefit from the support of a good neighbor and a good church family.

OUR CHURCH CAN HELP FAMILIES IN CRISIS

1. Be concerned about the family life in your community.
2. Get to know the families in your community. If they are unchurched, invite them to your church.
3. When you discover that a neighbor has a problem with his children, his marriage, economic or otherwise, prayerfully seek ways you and your church can help.
4. Inform your pastor of the need and ask him to counsel and offer his support.
5. Offer economic support, if needed, through your church's benevolence fund.

6. A single parent may need baby-sitting services while at work or so they can get out and begin a new life.

7. More than anything else, don't pass by on the other side as the priest and Levite; families need Good Samaritans that will stop and help.

WHEN THE FAMILY NEEDS MORE THAN YOUR CHURCH CAN OFFER

1. Quite often family crises develop into serious problems before you become aware of them and you will need help.

2. Churches and pastors can turn to our capable Family Services workers at the Children's Home to help clarify and respond to a family's needs.

3. When it becomes evident to you that a family will need care beyond the ability of your local church and community, especially where it seems the children will need to be removed from the home, tell them about "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls."

4. Ask them to let you contact one of our Family Services workers at the Children's Home and let them explain the services our Children's Home can offer them during their time of need.

5. As soon as an appointment can be arranged, a representative from the Children's Home will come to your community and meet with you, your pastor, and the family.

6. If our Children's Home is not prepared to meet the family's

needs our Family Services workers can aid the family in getting the assistance they need.

7. **You must not delay!** Unresolved minor family problems can become major problems. **Free Will Baptists can offer families a Christian alternative in:**

- (a) family counseling,
- (b) and especially in the field of child care.

If we fail to reach them, with the healing, redeeming love of Christ, the family's problems may worsen to the point the county has to intervene.

WE MUST NOT WAIT FOR THE COUNTY TO HAVE TO DO GOD'S WORK!

1. Should the county intervene, go to the County Department of Social Services and let them know of your concern and that your church will sponsor the placement of the child in the Children's Home.

2. **AS LONG AS LEGAL CUSTODY OF THE CHILDREN REMAINS WITH THE PARENT** or a relative and if the family agrees, the children can be placed at the Children's Home.

3. **IF A CUSTODY HEARING** is planned our Family Services worker, you, and your pastor would appear in court and plead for legal custody to be left with the parents or a family member and physical custody of the children placed with the Children's Home.

WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO REACH THEM ALL, BUT WE CAN REACH SOME

You, the members of your church, and your pastor are like

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

submitted by W. Burkette Raper

COLLEGE DAY AT HIGH SCHOOLS

Mount Olive College representatives will be participating in the following College Day Programs during the week of September 22-26. Students may check time with high school counselors.

Monday, September 22

Kinston High School and Lenoir Community College at Kinston High School; South Lenoir High School; East Duplin High School; and Onslow County Schools.

Tuesday, September 23

West Craven High School; New Bern City, Jones County, Pamlico County, and Craven Community College at New Bern Senior High School; Havelock High School; Carteret County Schools and Carteret Technical College at East Carteret High School.

Wednesday, September 24

D. H. Conley High School; Greene Central High School; Washington City, Beaufort County, Hyde County, and Plymouth High Schools at Washington High School.

Thursday, September 25

Ayden-Grifton High School; Farmville Central High School; and North Pitt High School.

Friday, September 26

J. H. Rose High School.

MATCHING GIFT BENEFITS

Many corporations in North Carolina have matching gift programs, whereby they match the gifts of employees to colleges and universities.

Texasgulf, Inc. has three programs which benefit Mount Olive College and all students in general, and several students in particular.

The company makes an annual unrestricted grant to the College through Texasgulf Chemicals Company. It was recently

presented to Dr. W. Burkette Raper, College President, and Mrs. Nancy C. Sampsell, Director of Development, by Ed Gibson of Washington, North Carolina, whose management duties include the Texasgulf distribution center at Mount Olive.

In addition to the general grant, Texasgulf matches any gift to the College made by an employee of the company. For further information about matching gift programs, employees can contact the personnel or community relations department of the company.



Dr. W. Burkette Raper, Ed Gibson, and Mrs. Nancy Sampsell discuss operation of the College.

The third program is the provision of grants for children of employees who attend Mount Olive College.

Dr. Raper stated that Texasgulf, Inc. is one of the leading matching gift companies for the College. During the 1979-80 fiscal year, twenty-six companies matched the gifts of 106 individuals, totaling \$10,686 in matched gifts.

RECORD ENROLLMENT

More than 400 students, as compared with 368 last year, have enrolled for the fall semester. They come from eleven states, 40 counties in North Carolina, and four foreign countries.

These figures represent an increase of nine percent over last year. Nationwide, college enrollments are projected to increase 1.1 percent.

Approximately 134 of the total enrollment are students who are returning for a second year of study, and one-fourth of the students are Presidential or Faculty Scholars. Presidential Scholars are those students who maintained an "A" average or graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school class. To be a Faculty Scholar, a student must have ranked in the top 20 percent of his or her high school class.

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Quarterly Yoke Letter

submitted by Frank Harrison

Dear Friends:

Running through the great airport, trying desperately to make connections and thereby keep a promise, we were hindered by young men with shaven heads, demanding contributions. There was no way to learn how the contributions would be used or whether there was any responsible accounting of funds. As we ran we could hear, over the loud speakers, a notice that though the solicitation was not approved by the airport managers, they were helpless to stop the nuisance, because the solicitors, if told to desist, would appeal to the First Amendment concerning freedom of religion.

In your town there may be an establishment called an "Adult Bookstore." Everyone knows what it is. It is a store which sells dirty books and pornographic materials, including lewd pictures. Though nearly all of the citizens desire the removal of this festering sore, the law-abiding people are helpless to do anything about it because the owners of the store appeal to the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

Wishing to lift the moral level of the community, the principal and teachers of the school would like to include the experience of vocal prayer and the reading of a Psalm in the school assembly, but they are afraid to do so, because they are convinced that such evidence of reverence would be construed as incompatible with the First Amendment. What a document it must be that involves consequences of such magnitude!

Since the three examples of our predicament are by no means exceptional or unusual, it is highly important that someone should seek to clarify the issue. Why should not committed Christians undertake this task?

The truth is that we need not occupy a merely defensive or apologetic position. Part of the problem is that many citizens, not having actually read the First Amendment, assume that it is both longer and more explicit than is actually the case. Some assume that it includes the phrase, "separation of Church and State," which it does not. The entire Article is expressed in only 45 words as follows:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

We cannot know exactly what the Founders intended by this succinct statement, but it is obvious that they did not intend all that has been claimed in our generation. There is no valid reason to conclude that they were consciously upholding pornography. Moreover, the notion that they were seeking to defend absolute freedom of speech or of press cannot be defended logically. It has always been recognized that we dare not support a free press unless it is also a responsible press. Since character assassination is not a

constitutional right of anybody, we recognize the limits of the printed word by punishing libel. The idea of absolute freedom, including the freedom to harm others, is obviously something to which no intelligent person can subscribe.

The reference to religion is the one which requires the most careful thinking at this juncture in our national history. Far from being merely academic, the issue is a highly practical one, the urgency being made obvious when religion becomes a racket and all the more dangerous when it is a protected racket. In one particular cult, the business manager refuses to open his books to inspection, claiming that such inspection would be inimical to separation of church and state. The amount of money involved is often fantastically large. Television has increased the ease with which the religious racketeer can operate, in that it enables him to appeal to the generosity of millions without moving from his home base. The appeal, naturally, is for help in the spread of the gospel, but it makes possible affluence on the part of those who do the appealing. If there is absolute separation between church and state, with no accounting required, we are in a sad predicament indeed, but the good news is that the First Amendment, to which appeal is made in such cases, does not, if carefully examined, provide protection for any racket, religious or otherwise.

The very idea of complete separation is a dangerous and damaging one. Far from being of assistance to true religion, separation would diminish religion's role. A wholly separated religion would operate in a segregated corner, without influence on education or government or general culture. If we mean to have a complete separation, we shall have to abolish many helpful practices,

including the use of the phrase, "Under God" in the salute of the flag.

Only by a curiously twisted logic can it be concluded that faithful adherence to the First Amendment forbids the use of the Holy Scriptures or prayer in the tax-supported schools. The Founders knew very well, by first hand experience, what establishment meant, and this is all that they forbade. Establishment means putting one denomination in a favored position with public financial support. The authors of our Constitution were familiar with the establishment of what we call the Church of England, and this was what they were determined to avoid. Valuable as establishment is in Great Britain, with the manifest power of the bishops and with reverent coronations in Westminster Abbey, our ancestors did not wish to perpetuate the practice in North America. But, at the same time, they did not wish to **eliminate** religious experience from the life of the new nation. If they had wished to do so, there never would have been the practice of opening the session of Congress with prayer or the use of the Bible in the inauguration of Presidents and other officers of government.

As we look back now, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the Supreme Court decision, in regard to prayer and Scripture in the schools, was really a calamity. The justices allowed themselves to be intimidated by a vocal minority of persons whose aim was to make America as much an atheist state as contemporary Russia is. The famous decision lacks both clarity and consistency. The lack of clarity has been responsible for the fear in communities which make them forego practices that are not specifically forbidden. The inconsistency lies in the failure to recognize that the same logic employed in regard to the schools would, reasonably, rule out many other practices which

even the justices accept.

The decline in education, which every thoughtful person now recognizes, may be, in part, a result of a false application of the First Amendment. With a clear break in our culture, destroying many of the roots of our civilization, it is not really surprising that standards should be lost in other ways. The sad truth is that many of them have been lost!

The most curious aspect of the School Decision is that, in the alleged fear of "establishment" we have, in practice, produced another establishment. We have provided absolute protection for those who would tear down faith in Almighty God, at the same time that we have made it illegal to promote such faith. The supposed "neutrality" in regard to religion has turned out to be a new kind of official bias.

Most of us are glad that the Founders added the Bill of Rights to our Constitution. Times, however, have changed and we face a new danger of which they could not be aware. They were right to fear the dangers which they observed, but we must now avoid engagement in yesterday's battles. Denominational establishment is not a live option now in anyone's mind, but the option of an arrogant paganism is a genuine option, indeed.

What we need now is not a new Amendment, but clear thinking about what the present Amendments imply and what they do not. In the practice of clarity, Christians are called to take a leading role.

Sincerely,
D. Elton Trueblood

NOTE OF THANKS

To my Cragmont family of the Ladies Conference:

Thank you all for your prayers and all the sweet cards you sent me while I was in the hospital. I am home doing better. Keep

praying for me. Prayer really changes things.

Mrs. C. E. Ladd
101 Spring Road
Durham, North Carolina 27703

Children's Home

(Continued from Page 10)

the shepherd that goes out into the hills and seeks the lost and straying sheep. Once you have found the lost sheep, you may need help in ministering to their needs.

Like the Good Samaritan, you may need to find a good place where care can be given over an extended period of time. Our Children's Home can offer families the time they need to work on their problems, to renew marriage vows, to get on their feet financially and to put their broken home together again while their children are in a safe, secure environment.

**IT IS MOST IMPORTANT
THAT YOUR CHURCH
CONTINUE ITS MINISTRY
TO THE PARENTS IN THE
LOCAL COMMUNITY WHILE
THE CHILDREN ARE IN
CARE AT THE HOME**

The greatest gift you, your church, pastor, and the Children's Home can give is an introduction to a redeeming and healing Saviour. However, for those families who will need long-term care for their children, the Children's Home offers licensed, quality, Christian, group care and foster care for as long as the family needs it.

WON'T YOU TELL THEM TODAY ABOUT "A Christian Home for Boys and Girls." Call us today! We want to be your "partner in child care."

Have you renewed your subscription to the Free Will Baptist?

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For September 28

GOD'S COVENANT AND JOSHUA

Lesson Text: Joshua 24:14-25

Memory Verse: Joshua 24:24

I. INTRODUCTION

Many modern travelers are amazed to hear that the people of Israel took forty years to go from Egypt to Canaan. The distance is no more than four hundred miles, even by the roundabout way they traveled. At the rate of only ten miles a day that would take forty days instead of forty years.

Why did the people of Israel take so long? As a matter of fact, they didn't. Not at first, anyway. Their actual time from Egypt to the border of Canaan was less than a year and a half, and that included eleven months when they didn't travel at all, but camped at Sinai to organize their nation and build their tabernacle.

But when they came to the border of Canaan they chickened out. There were big warriors and fortified cities in the strange land. The men of Israel did not have courage enough to think they could take the land, and they did not have trust enough to think God would give them the victory.

For that reason God said they must stay in the desert thirty-eight more years. During that time the fearful men died. Some of those who finally entered the Promised Land were teenagers or children when their elders turned away, and some were yet unborn.

Even Moses did not live to enter the Land of Promise. Joshua stepped into his place

and led the men of Israel as they took city after city, destroying or driving out the depraved inhabitants. The campaign lasted probably six or seven years, but these men of Israel now trusted God, and He gave them victory.

When they had taken possession of as much territory as they could use, they divided it among their tribes and settled down to peaceful living.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Let's review briefly what God had done for His people from the time of Abraham up to today's lesson. Through a covenant with Abraham, God had raised up and called out a great nation. When this nation became enslaved in Egypt, God raised up Moses to lead them out of their captivity. On their way to the Promised Land from Egypt, God did many marvelous things to protect and preserve them. When finally they did come to the Land of Canaan, God gave them another leader in the person of Joshua to enable them to take the land. Over a period of some 25 years under the leadership of Joshua, the Land of Canaan had been captured and the Israelites settled there.

B. Irving L. Jenson in his book, *Joshua: Rest-land Won*, tells us that the key verse for the entire book is Joshua 11:23, "So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war." This verse also gives us an outline of the Book of Joshua in

the following manner: 1. The conquest: "So Joshua took the whole land." 2. The fulfillment of promise: "according to all that the Lord had said unto Moses." 3. The allotment to the people: "and God gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their division by tribes." 4. The rest: "And the land had rest from war."

C. The scene for today's lesson is at the end of the book. Joshua has led the people in the conquest of the land, and is now an old man who realizes that he is near the end of his life. All of Chapter 24 is a valedictory address by Joshua to the people. In this chapter, he reminds the people of all that God has done for them, and pleads with them for the renewal of God's covenant with them.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Shortly before Moses died, God directed him to select Joshua as his successor and to instruct him in his duties. Joshua had been closely associated with Moses through the long years of the exodus—the journey of forty years from Egypt to the east bank of the Jordan River. Joshua's first obligation as Israel's new leader was to lead the people, under the miraculous power of God, through the river into the land of their inheritance, Canaan.

B. Now, twenty-four years later, the land had been conquered, the battles were over, and the people had slumped into carelessness and open idolatry. The aged Joshua, knowing that his days were numbered and that soon he would go to be with the Lord as his hero Moses had done, sought to bring the people into a condition of dedication to the Lord who had done so much for them. He could not leave them until he had challenged them to their best service to God and deepest devotion for Him.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F. W. B.)

News Notes

(Continued from Page 9)

Mission Organizes Into Church

Free Spirit Free Will Baptist Mission will be organized into an Original Free Will Baptist Church associated with the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, on September 27, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Clyde Cox, moderator of the Western Conference, will conduct the service. All interested persons are encouraged to attend.

The Rev. Dale Albertson, pastor of the mission, will continue to serve as pastor.

Central Conference WA Meets at Howell Swamp

The Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Howell Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, North Carolina, on September 27. Mrs. Frances Carraway is the District President. The theme of the convention is "Walk Worthy of God." The Scripture will be taken from 1 Thessalonians 2:12. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "Our Best"
 - Devotion, Mrs. Lucille Craft
 - Welcome, Mrs. Dorothy B. Gay
 - Response, Mrs. Leona Mills
- 10:20—Recognition Time, President
 - Business Period
 - Missions, Miss Leah McGlohon
 - Roll Call of Auxiliaries (Mission Money and Cragmont talents)
 - Choruses
 - Children's Home, Mrs. Jane Tripp
 - Retirement Homes
 - Love Offering
 - Free Will Baptist Press, Mrs. Elizabeth Hill

- Special Music, Howell Swamp Church
- 11:30—Introduction of Speaker, Lena C. Walston
 - Morning Message, Mrs. Helen Beaman, Hull Road Church
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15—Hymn, "Trust and Obey"
 - Prayer
 - Memorial Service, Mrs. Dot Dail
 - Study Course, Mrs. Albert Proctor
 - Youth, Mrs. Dot Dail
 - Mount Olive College
 - Cragmont, Mrs. Minnie Mae Chandler
 - Anna Phillips Student Aid Fund, Mrs. Jesse Harris
 - Chorus
- 2:00—Business Period
 - Special Music, Miss Leah McGlohon
 - Time of Renewal, Mrs. Frances Carraway
- 2:30—Adjournment
 - Pianist, Mrs. Emily Walston
 - Song Leader, Miss Leah McGlohon

Study Course for Central WA

A study course on prayer will be taught by Mrs. Martha Pittman at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, North Carolina, on Tuesday, November 4, 1980, at 7:30 p. m. A special invitation is extended to all Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary members.

Piedmont Conference Held Meeting

The Thirty-seventh Annual Session of the Piedmont Conference was held at the Mount Olive Free Will Baptist Church, on Saturday, August 23, 1980, in Kannapolis, North Carolina. The Rev. Leonard Lindsay, host pastor, and the church members extended a cordial welcome. Special music was presented. A delicious meal was enjoyed by everyone.

The Executive Board Officers selected for the coming year are: Moderator, the Rev. M. E.

Cox; vice moderator, the Rev. George Greene; clerk, the Rev. John A. Furr; treasurer, the Rev. Carlee Stallard; the Rev. David Atkins, 1983; the Rev. Jackie Lassiter, 1982; and the Rev. Jesse Benoist, 1981.

Revival Services at Piney Grove Church

Revival services will be held at the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Kenly, North Carolina, September 22 through September 26, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Willis Wilson, pastor of Reedy Branch church, will be the evangelist. The Rev. Charles L. Renfrow is pastor of the church. There will be special singing each night.

Revival Services at Mount Zion

A revival meeting will begin at the Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church of Roper, North Carolina, Monday, September 22, and will continue through Saturday, September 27. The Rev. Joe Griffith, pastor of Saint Paul Free Will Baptist Church of Elizabeth City, will be the guest speaker. Special singing will be presented each evening by visiting church groups. The pastor, the Rev. Charlie Overton and the church membership invite everyone to attend. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m.

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 11)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DAY AT CHRISTIAN CHAPEL

Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, located near Pink Hill, will observe "Christian Education Day" on Sunday, September 21, announced the Rev. Edward Miles, pastor.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes at 10 a. m. and speak during the 11 a. m. worship service.

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

CHURCH OF THE MONTH

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pink Hill, North Carolina
Ed Miles, Pastor



THINGS ARE LOOKING UP
(Or Are They?)

Is it not strange how quickly things can change? Why, life was quite normal when I was awakened early that morning, but that was certainly not the case when I came to in the recovery room some eleven hours later! In the course of that time my entire life changed.

For several days I was under the constant care of a very efficient intensive care unit staff. The monitors over my head consistently recorded my vital signs. Doctors and nurses scurried about to attend to those in dire need of their medical expertise. From my cubicle I could easily hear, and at times see, the teenage lad in the bed to my left. Whenever his pain medication was beginning to wear off, his moans and groans amplified. I wanted to help him, but I could not.

When I was transferred upstairs, I was quickly told that I was not to do anything for myself. The bad thing was I could not do much. It had been a long time since I had been so dependent on others—and dependent I was for I could not even feed myself.

I spent a lot of time in prayer and meditation during those days. And more than once did I ponder my new status of being totally dependent. But then I realized that each of us are dependent creations (even though we don't often think about it); we are dependent on our Creator. The Apostle Matthew reminds us of this in his soul stirring question: "Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?" (Matthew 6:27).

Even though we rely on God for our very existence, it seems to be human nature for man to try to make it on his own. Usually it is only during times of desperation that he seeks strength from above. (And more often than not, the Source of that strength is once more forgotten when things are back to normal.)

How terrible it is that we take our God for granted!

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Volume 95 Number 30

September 24, 1980

Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-440).

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor of The Free Will Baptist. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount offered under this plan.

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History of Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church

by Audrey Stroud Powell

THE Church at Christian Chapel of the Free Will Baptist order did organize together as a body of Christians to transact and do the business of the Lord and to be governed by the word of God and the Constitution and Disciplin of the Original Freewill Baptist of North Carolina do constitute this body to transact the business in faith asking God to sit as their moderator in all their deliberations.

"Record of business. On motion of Brother Cunningham, I. J. Heath be appointed Clerk of our Church. On Motion of Brother W. A. Boyette, Brother Henry Cunningham was appointed, I. J. Heath, Alternate. On motion of Brother Cunningham, Brother W. A. Boyette was chosen as our Deacon. On motion of Brother Cunningham, Brother Jesse Howard was chosen as Treasure. On motion of Brother Boyett, Elder Hascal Jones was chosen our Pastor for a period of twelve months and Elder E. E. Noble assistant for the same period. We delegate our Brothers H. H. Murphy and Franklin Stroud to the General Conference. On motion of Brother Cunningham we send one dollar to the General Treasure. Contribution list—W. A. Boyett, 5 cents; I. J. Heath, 25 cents; Jesse Howard, 25 cents; H. H. Murphy, 10 cents; H. Cunningham Jr. 5 cents.

"On motion of Brother Cunningham Jr. our conference adjourned till time in course.

H. Jones, Pastor
H. Cunningham, Deputy Clerk"

From the first Church records: State of North Carolina, lenoir County, October 7, 1872.)

And thus it has remained! The writings above are the first record of Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

As of the first Sunday in October, 1979, the church, located on rural paved road 1116, Route 1, Pink Hill, North Carolina, celebrated one hun-

dred and seven years of Christian service to the citizens of "Old Pink Hill" and its adjoining communities.

According to history and the keen memories of its older members, the first Christian Chapel church building was located in the field next to where now is the old A. G. Tyndall Cemetery at "Old Pink Hill" across the road from what is known as the Ruth Kornegay Store.

The late Miss Lula Tyndall of the present-day Pink Hill and a granddaughter of the late Abner Green Tyndall stated that this was the first Christian Chapel church building she could remember. This building was later torn down and the wood used for outbuildings. Before abandoning this building the members built a new church building near the "Old Kane Davis Place," located on rural paved road 1118 and standing on a plot of land on the west side of the road between the present-day Harold Howard home and the Haywood Howard home.

From the church records January 6, 1894: "We the Church at Christian Chapel met in a Godly Conference according to previous appointment. On motion we accept the offer made by Mr. Anthony Davis Sr. to give us 2 (two) acres of land for a new Church and graveyard and five dollars in money to apply on building a new Church House. On motion Brothers L. J. Howard, I. J. Heath, George Mercer, S. S. Howard and L. P. Tyndall be the building committee. On motion Conference close. Elder H. Cunningham, Moderator; L. P. Tyndall, Clerk."

In April, 1921, the church was rebuilt with new lights added, new sills, new windows and the insurance to be adjusted.

Turn the Page

On December 27, 1935, a deed was given to the church by Brother J. W. and Sister Lina Tyndall. At this time Christian Chapel church building was moved to its present site on "Burncoat Road" on the land given by the Tyndalls with a graveyard contained in the deed.

As the church was being moved from the old site to the new, it happened to be over a weekend and on that particular Sunday the church sat in the middle of the road, but that didn't stop the congregation, they met, "in the middle of the road where the church sat."

From 1935 through December 1977 the old church building served the needs of the people. Remodeling was done over the years with Sunday school rooms attached to the rear of the building with a new brick front being added. A cement block annex, separate from the church, was added at the rear during this period.

On December 23, 1976, the Bicentennial Year, construction began on a new church building which was completed one year later. The congregation moved into the sanctuary in December 1977, just in time for Christmas services.

Brother Clarence Howard and Sister Hazel Howard gave the church a deed to property located adjacent to the Tyndall property on which the new building was erected.

The present structure was designed and built by W. Roy Poole Builders of Kinston, North Carolina. It is of modern design and contains 12,000 square feet of space. Present-day church assets

are valued at three-quarters of a million dollars, which is quite a step from 1872 when the first donation was exactly one dollar and the contribution list contained the names of five people.

Today Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church stands proudly in the community with its steeple pointing towards the heavens and its lights beckoning the people with doors wide open. It is a church made up of imperfect people, whose builder is Jesus Christ, striving to send forth sons and daughters to all parts of the world that others might know of His saving grace.

The minister serving the church longest was the Rev. Hascal Jones who was the church's first pastor and served a total of 14 years. The second church pastor was the Rev. Henry Cunningham who served a total of 33 years! The Rev. Norman Wilson Ard, who was at Christian Chapel a total of 16 years still resides with us in the church community where he makes his home with his family. Mr. Ard, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro, is still available when we need him.

The present pastor, the Rev. Ed Miles of Goldsboro, former pastor at Casey's Chapel, has been with Christian Chapel since July, 1979.

Church clerk is Mrs. Roscoe (Laura) Stroud. Church treasurer is Mrs. John (Ruthie) Howard. Both of these ladies have served for the past 11 years.

The oldest and most beloved deacon is Mr. Jimmy Tyndall, who is now an honorary deacon.

JESUS AND ALEXANDER THE GREAT

submitted by Frank Harrison

Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three,
 One lived and died for self; one died for you and me,
 The Greek died on a throne; the Jew died on a cross;
 One's life a triumph seemed; the other but a loss.
 One led vast armies forth; the other walked alone;
 One shed a whole world's blood; the other gave His own,
 One won the world in life and lost it all in death;
 The other lost His life to win the whole world's faith.
 Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three.

One died in Babylon; and one on Calvary.
 One gained all for self; and one Himself He gave.
 One conquered every throne; the other every grave.
 The one made himself God; the God made Himself less;
 The one lived but to blast; the other but to bless.
 When died the Greek, forever fell his throne of swords;
 But Jesus died to live forever Lord of lords.
 Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three,
 The Greek made all men slaves; the Jew made all men free.
 One built a throne on blood; the other built on love,

The one was born of earth; the other from above;
 One won all this earth, to lose a earth and Heaven;
 The other gave up all, that all to Him be given.
 The Greek forever died; the Jew forever lives.
 He loses all who gets, and wins all things who gives.

—Anonymous

-THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, January 11, 1950

September is Home Missions and Church Extension Month.

The Rev. Clifton Taylor Rice

Westside Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Clifton Taylor Rice. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A FAITHFUL MAN

submitted by Marlene Everett



The Rev. Clifton Taylor Rice

It is a privilege for the members of Westside Original Free Will Baptist Church to present the Rev. Clifton Taylor Rice as Pastor of the Week.

Mr. Rice came out of retirement, September 3, 1977, and served as pastor of the Westside church through August 31, 1980.

During the three years that Mr. Rice was pastor of the church, the membership purchased three acres of land in Northwest Kinston and had a three-thousand-square-foot educational building constructed which contains rooms for eight Sunday school classes, including

a kitchen and dining hall combination and a one-thousand-square-foot temporary chapel or sanctuary and two bathrooms. A parking lot to accommodate forty cars and a pavilion with a storage room attached has been added. The twenty years' loan on the building is the only unpaid debt the church owes, with two payments a month being made on that debt.

Fifty-six new members have been added to the church roll, with sixteen making first-time professions of faith in Christ during Mr. Rice's pastorate at Westside church.

Mr. Rice was born January 9, 1907, at Alliance, Pamlico County, North Carolina. He graduated from the Pamlico County High School and attended Eureka Bible College in Ayden, North Carolina. He has taken and completed many courses with the Moody Bible Institute. He was licensed to preach the gospel by the Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County, North Carolina, during 1926 and was ordained by the Eastern Conference during its session in 1928 at the Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church.

Mr. Rice was married to Miss Dorris Lanier of Kinston, North

Carolina, July 29, 1936. Mrs. Rice has been a source of strength and a real asset to his ministry. Not only has she served as his secretary, bookkeeper, and handyman in his monument business, but she has also served as his personal secretary, typing his sermon outlines, giving him encouragement and doing whatever she could to try to make his job a little easier. Mr. and Mrs. Rice have one daughter and three grandchildren.

During the fifty-four years that Mr. Rice has been in the ministry, he has served fifteen churches. He served the Hugo church for twenty years and Ormondsville for twenty years. He has served as Moderator of the Eastern Conference four years, on the Board of Trustees several years, and on the Examining Board for about twenty-eight years.

Many people have learned to love and respect Mr. Rice through his radio ministry which he conducted over W F T C Radio Station in Kinston daily for sixteen years.

One of the most inspiring areas of Mr. Rice's life, as remembered by his daughter, Joan, has been that of being a pastor to his community. The countless weddings, funerals, sick visits, and counselling services, as well as his many other services through the years to the disadvantaged will long be remembered.

The Rev. Clifton Taylor Rice has made many worthy accomplishments which are impossible to mention in this short article, but we thank God for the privilege that we have had to work with him these three short years. He is truly a man who has faithfully served God and his beloved denomination from a heart of love and sacrifice for the past fifty-four years.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 31:15

IN THE HOLLOW OF HIS HAND

Dan Crawford, for many years a missionary in Africa, vividly translated the verse, "My times are in thy hand," Psalm 31:15) into the native language as follows: "My life's why's and when's and where's and wherefore's are in God's hands!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God sees and knows all the happenings in our lives, because He is ever present and in all places. He loves us and cares for us.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—Colossians 3:13

HUGGING RESENTMENT

Peter Marshall said, "If you hug to yourself any resentment against anybody, you destroy the bridge by which God would come to you."

The Bible says, "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye" (Colossians 3:13).

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should not bear resentment against our neighbors, but we should forgive them and love them because Christ forgives us.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 5:15, 16

WHEN CUP OVERFLOWS

Said Bud Robinson, "I'm not impressed by how high a

shouting man jumps when his cup of joy overflows. I'm concerned about how he walks when he lands on terra firma."

Our daily walk either helps or hinders the gospel: "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15, 16).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Having yielded oneself to God, the person will recognize evil, and will be attracted to good. Let us pray daily for such spiritual comprehension.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Scripture Reading—John 8:11

IF GOD HAS FORGIVEN YOU, SHOULDN'T YOU?

A businessman who had sinned greatly came into my study, dejected and discouraged.

I told him how God graciously forgives those who penitently turn from their sin to the Saviour. Long ago the Saviour said to one who had committed a sin which was punishable by death under the Mosaic Law, "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more" (John 8:11).

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we have been forgiven of a wrongdoing, we should have a feeling of not wanting to do it again, but wanting to always seek to do things which will be right and acceptable for our lives.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

Scripture Reading—James 5:15

PRAYER CHANGES US

Said Henry M. Stanley, African explorer, "On all my ex-

peditions, prayer made me stronger morally and mentally than any of my nonpraying companions. Prayer did not blind my eyes, or dull my mind, or close my ears, but on the contrary it gave me confidence. It did more: it gave me joy and pride in my work. It lifted me hopefully over the 1,500 miles of forest tracks, eager to face the day's perils and fatigues."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Prayer can lift our lives both in our behavior and mentally. Don't forget to pray daily as problems and tasks face us from time to time.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Scripture Reading—Colossians 3:17

LORD OF POTS AND PANS

One of God's faithful mothers prayed, "Lord of all pots and pans and things, make me a saint by getting meals and washing dishes. Warm all the kitchen with Your love. Forgive me all my worrying. Accept this service that I do, as unto Thee!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Colossians 3:17).

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

Scripture Reading—Romans 1:16

ETERNALLY RELEVANT

A Chinese Christian, who was formerly a Buddhist and is now a professor in a graduate school in America, expressed deep concern about the present emphasis of the church on "involvement"

(Continued on Page 15)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

RELIGIOUS LIFE AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



The Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College reviews the religious life program of the College in a special session prior to the beginning of the 1980-81 academic year. Members of the committee are, left to right, seated, Judge Arnold Jones of Goldsboro, Mrs. N. B. Barrow of Snow Hill (chairman of the committee), and Dr. J. Thomas Johnson, Dean of Students; standing, John N. Walker of Mount Olive.

There is a distinct difference at Mount Olive College.

The two-year liberal arts college, as the institution's catalog notes, "was founded by the Free Will Baptist Church in order to provide a program of higher education that is distinctively Christian." The key to the difference at Mount Olive lies in the last two words of the previous sentence—"distinctively Christian."

A distinctively unique atmosphere is evidenced at Mount Olive as a result of the religious life program which is fostered at the College. A total plan to encompass all phases of the student's life, the religious life program was developed for the students and is encouraged by the entire faculty and staff. Parts of the program are

required, as the weekly chapel worship services, and portions are voluntary, such as "rap sessions" in a dormitory room. Moreover, events which are part of the religious life program are scheduled throughout the week; in the evenings, mornings, and afternoons.

The religious life program involves everyone at the College and emphasizes the importance of religion in all phases of daily life. However, the program is not only a structured schedule of events, but an idea and a feeling that pervades the school. Any visitor to the Mount Olive College campus can readily see and feel the Christian difference.

The purposes of the religious life program are many, according to the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Chaplain. In a recent review of the program to the faculty, he stated the following purposes:

—"to enhance in each student a deeper and richer understanding of his relationship to God,—to be accountable to God as Creator,

—to develop a sense of compassion and responsibility to others,

—to develop a deeper appreciation of the Christian heritage,

—to develop a more meaningful personal devotional life,—and to develop a deeper sense that all of life and vocation is service and worship to God."

The avenues by which these purposes are achieved are

varied. The list of events in the program's calendar provides something for everyone. Pointing to the many facets of the program, Harrison said, "For those students who want to give attention to the development of their spiritual life, there is a way to do so here."

WEEKLY CHAPEL

Every Tuesday at 11 a.m., a worship service is held for students and faculty. The service consists of worship experiences, performances by musical groups, and featured speakers. The schedule of speakers includes Wayne County ministers, Free Will Baptist ministers, and Christian lay persons. Attendance is required.

CONVOCATIONS

Convocations are special events, scheduled monthly and include such programs as Founder's Day, a presentation of "The Messiah," and addresses by key speakers. Convocations are considered an important part of a student's education at Mount Olive College, and attendance is required.

BIBLE STUDY

"The main thrust in the religious life program this year," says Harrison, "will be on the Wednesday evening Bible Study." His hope is that the informal and voluntary study and discussion sessions will "give roots and anchors to the students' own faith." Other goals that the Chaplain expressed for the Bible Study are to teach students to share their faith, to help them understand the Bible, and to help them to learn exactly who God is.

RESIDENCE HALL EVENTS

Films on various subjects and themes will be shown in the dormitories during the school year. A particularly interesting film on the slate is "Deceived," which is based on the Jim Jones tragedy in South America.

In addition to the films, resident assistants will lead

(Continued on Page 13)



**Eastover Mission
Announces Revival**

Eastover Free Will Baptist Mission, Old Dunn Road, Eastover, North Carolina, announces revival services for October 5 through October 11, at 7:30 p. m. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Billy Nowell, pastor of Powhatan church in Clayton, North Carolina. The Rev. W. O. Lassiter of Four Oaks, North Carolina, is the pastor of the mission. There will be special singing each night. The pastor and church members extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend these services.

**Fall Revival at
Moseley's Creek Church**

Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, between Dover and Fort Barnwell, North Carolina, will have its fall revival beginning Monday night, October 13, and will continue through Friday night, October 17. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. Everyone is invited to attend. The Rev. Clifton Rice of Kinston, North Carolina, will be the speaker.

**Homecoming Announced
At Moseley's Creek Church**

Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, between Dover and Fort Barnwell, North Carolina, will have its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 19, 1980. Sunday school will be at 10 a. m., and the morning worship services will be at 11 a. m. All members, former members, pastors, and friends are invited to attend this service.

**Revival Services to Be
At Rock of Zion Church**

Revival services will be conducted at Rock of Zion Free

Will Baptist Church in Grantsboro, North Carolina, September 22-26. A different speaker will deliver the message each evening. They include the Rev. Harry Bryan on Monday, the Rev. Stanley Buck on Tuesday, the Rev. Ray Williamson on Wednesday, the Rev. Owen Lupton on Thursday, and the Rev. Grady Tucker on Friday. Everyone is cordially invited to attend these services.

Homecoming will be observed by the church on October 5, 1980.

**Mount Zion Church
Revival in Progress**

Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Onslow County, is having revival services continuing through September 26. The time of the services is 7:45 each evening. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. Jack Mayo is the evangelist. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Harold Swinson.

Homecoming will be observed at the church on September 28. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

**Sts. Delight Church
Observes Pin Sunday**



The Rev. Noah Brown receives pin.

The Sts. Delight Free Will Baptist Church Sunday School observed pin Sunday in July. The pins began with one year and continued through thirty-six years. The superintendent is Mr. Arthur Powers. Mr. Jack Webb assisted the pastor, the Rev. Noah Brown, who received his thirty-sixth year pin. One received her sixteenth-year pin. There were 25 that received pins.

**Plymouth Church Honored
Couple With Pig Picking**



The Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Burkey

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, North Carolina, honored the Rev. Floyd Burkey and his wife, Bernice, with a pig picking celebrating their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary at the Weyerhaeuser Recreational Facility on Saturday, September 13. Many guests were present to enjoy the celebration. The honorees received many lovely gifts. The cake cutting was held immediately following the Sunday evening worship service on September 14. It was a very joyful fellowship.

**Homecoming at
Robert's Grove Church**

Homecoming will be observed at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina, on Sunday, October 5, 1980. The Rev. David Charles Hansley, pastor of Daniels Chapel church of Wilson, North Carolina, will deliver the morning message. He is a former pastor of the church. Lunch will be served at noon. An af-

ternoon program of singing has been planned for everyone's enjoyment. The church congregation invites the public to attend.

Branch Chapel Church To Have Revival

Branch Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, between Mount Olive and Seven Springs, will have revival services September 29 through October 3. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Emmitt E. Jones is pastor of the church. The Rev. Ed Miles will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each evening. The public is invited to attend.

Homecoming and Revival at West Clinton Church

Homecoming day will be held at West Clinton Free Will Baptist Church, Clinton, North Carolina, on Sunday, October 12. A former pastor, the Rev. W. O. Lassiter, will bring the morning message. Dinner will be served following the morning service. Special music will be presented in the afternoon.

On Monday, October 13, a revival meeting will begin with the Rev. C. M. Coats, pastor of Yelverton church, bringing the messages at 7:30 each night. The Rev. Hubert Stanley and the church membership invite all former pastors, members, and friends to attend.

Homecoming and Revival At First Church, Durham

The First Free Will Baptist Church, 225 Chandler Road, Durham, North Carolina, will observe homecoming on Sunday, September 28. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a. m., followed with the worship services at 11. The pastor, the Rev. Fred Johnson, will bring the homecoming message. Lunch will be served on the church grounds. There will be special singing beginning at 1:30 p. m. featuring the Spokesmen Quartet

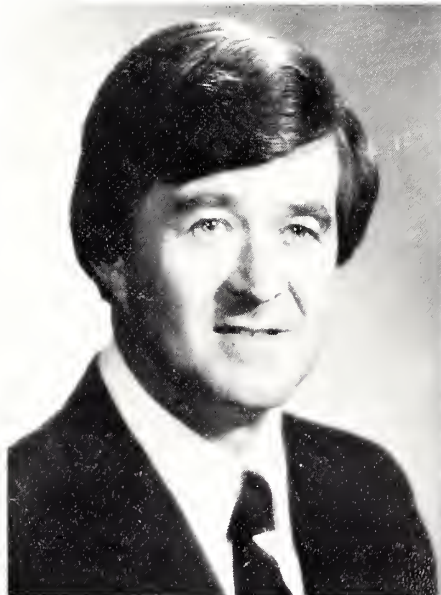
from Durham and the Beacons from Bahama, North Carolina.

Revival services will begin September 29 and will continue through October 3, beginning at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Billy Nowell, pastor of Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, North Carolina, will be the visiting evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Fred Johnson, and the church congregation invite everyone to attend.

Pastor Appreciation Day Held at West Clinton

It was a great surprise to the Rev. Hubert C. Stanley on Sunday, September 14, when the membership of West Clinton Free Will Baptist Church, Clinton, North Carolina, had Pastor Appreciation Day for him and his wife, Lillie. This marked his third year as pastor of the church. Everyone enjoyed a day of fellowshiping and worshipping God together. Dinner was served in the fellowship building.

British Chapel Church to Have Revival Services



The Rev. Jack Mayo

British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina, will hold its fall revival beginning September 29 through October 3. The Rev. Jack Mayo of the Ormondsville church will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. and will

include special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. Bruce Jones, and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend these services.

Mt. Zion Church to Have Homecoming Day

Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Nashville, North Carolina, will have homecoming services, Sunday, September 28. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark will bring the morning message. All members, former members, former pastors, and friends are invited to come and worship. The new pastor is the Rev. Richard Boyette. Lunch will be served on the grounds at noon.

Revival Services to Be At Union Chapel

Revival services will be held at Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Plymouth, North Carolina, beginning September 29 and continuing through October 3. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The Rev. J. B. Starnes will be the guest evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. O. Swade Benson, Clayton, North Carolina, and the church members invite everyone to attend.

Albemarle Conference To Meet at Roper

The Thirty-sixth Annual Session of the Albemarle Conference will be held at the Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Roper, North Carolina, on October 8, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Devotions, the Rev. Ronnie Mohn
- 9:40—Welcome, Mr. Lloyd Jones
- Response, Mr. Oscar Webster
- 9:45—Conference Called to Order, the Rev. Marvin Waters
- Adoption of Program as Order of Business

Turn the Page

- Enrollment of Churches
- Enrollment of Ministers and Delegates
- Enrollment of Ministers (Visiting)
- Enrollment of Delegates of Other Church Bodies
- 10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Robert May
- Appointment of Temporary Committees: Resolution
- Temperance Nominating
- The Morning Offering
- Reports of Standing Boards:
 - Executive Board
 - Board of Trustees
 - Board of Education
 - Board of Missions
 - Board of Ordination
- 11:20—Announcements
- 11:25—Special Music, Mt. Zion Church
- Message—the Rev. Charlie Overton
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Devotions, the Rev. Griffin
- 1:10—Memorial Service, Mrs. Mae Oliver
- 1:20—Report of Albemarle League Convention
 - Report of Albemarle Woman's Auxiliary Convention
 - Report of Albemarle Sunday School Convention
 - Report of Albemarle Union Meeting
 - Mount Olive College Report
 - Free Will Baptist Press Report
 - Children's Home Report
 - Retirement Homes Report
 - Report of Board of Superannuation
 - Cragmont Report
 - Report of Church Finance
 - Report of Foreign Missions
 - Report of Home Missions and Church Extension
- 2:25—Business Period
 - Report of Temporary Committees
 - Report of Treasurer
 - Appointment of Delegates to Various Church Bodies

- Installation of New Officers
- Reading of the Minutes
- Announcements of Next Conference
- Adjournment and Benediction

The Albemarle Conference invites representatives from the various denominational enterprises and institutions to represent at the Conference.

Revival and Homecoming At Gum Swamp Church

Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville, North Carolina, invites everyone to join the membership in revival services now in progress, September 22 through September 26, at 7:30 each evening. Also, the invitation is extended for the homecoming service and fellowship lunch on September 28. Sunday school will be at 10 a. m. worship service at 11 a. m., and a fellowship lunch at 12:30 p. m. The minister, the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor, and membership look forward to everyone sharing in these services.

Homecoming and Revival Announced at Bridgeton Church

Homecoming services will be held at Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton, North Carolina, on Sunday, September 28, with the pastor, the Rev. Owen K. Arthur bringing the message. Following the morning worship, a picnic lunch will be served.

Revival services will begin September 29 at the church and will continue through October 3, beginning at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Calvin Heath from Free Union church, Walstonburg, North Carolina, will be the guest evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. Owen K. Arthur and his congregation extend a special invitation to everyone to join in these services.

News from

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

OLD-FASHIONED HARVEST SALE

Memorial Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, located on the campus of the Children's Home, is planning an old-fashioned harvest day sale on Saturday, November 1, 1980, at the Children's Home. All proceeds from the sale will go to the Children's Home. Everyone is invited to bring to campus by October 11, any item you would like to donate to the sale. If you cannot arrange to bring your items, let us know and we will arrange to pick up your donations to the sale.

The following items will sell well: vehicles, farm equipment: tractors, etc.; furniture, appliances, antiques, clothes, hand tools, canned goods, hay, pigs, hams, cakes, hand-made bonnets, quilts, afghans, bicycles, motor bikes, go-carts, boats, bush hogs, bottom plows, radios, stereos, good TVs, and handi-crafts of all kinds.

We believe we will be able to raise a sizeable sum for the Home through this sale. We hope everyone will support us in donations to the sale and by attendance the day of the sale and finding that bargain you've been looking for!

ATTENTION LADIES TOWELS NEEDED

The Children's Home could use bath towels and wash cloths and a few double sheets. This need is urgent. If you cannot bring them to us, bring them to your Fall Auxiliary Convention and we will pick them up.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

BETHANY VISITS CRAGMONT

by Minnie Chandler



An enjoyable time at Cragmont for Bethany group.

September 5 found seventeen persons going to Cragmont for the weekend. These included Clinton and Frances Cannon; Clifton and Ruth Tyson; Randy, Annie, and little Beverly Tyson; Seth and Lucy Dupree with their sisters, Emma Frazier and Margaret Webb; Ed and Carolyn Rouse and their children, Tommy and Traci; Minnie Chandler; and Viola Best of Free Union church in Beaufort County.

The different families rode up in cars. On the way a Wilson Bus Company bus passed us. Later we passed it. How surprised and pleased we were when the same bus pulled in at Cragmont bearing the Rev. and Mrs. Jimmy Barfield and a group

from the Mt. Zion church in Wilson County. We enjoyed sharing Cragmont with these congenial folks.

On Saturday, two of the families drove over to Cherokee. I was ready to go to the creek early Saturday morning, but Viola said that I could not go until I got my work done! She and I had gone to Cragmont for the purpose of finishing some work we began in the summer of 1978. How pleased and grateful we were when the Cannons and Rouses decided to stay at camp and help us! Even Tommy and Traci helped in opening doors and running errands. We put five mirrors on dressers that had previously been refinished. We

did some needed work on the roll-top desk. Viola put bottoms in four antique oak chairs and reupholstered the pulpit chair in the chapel. She chose gold crushed velvet to cover the seats of two matching oak chairs and the pulpit chair. The grouping looks beautiful and blends so well with the carpet. We were all so pleased with the beautiful results of our labor. Believe me, it was labor but one of love.

We had so much fun and fellowship as we worked together in love for Cragmont and talked of plans to return at a future date to work on about a dozen old pieces that remain to be refinished. When doing that kind of work, I always think of how our lives are much like the ugly, battered and scarred pieces of furniture. They are really no good as they are. However, in the loving hands of one who cares, they can be turned into things of great beauty and more importantly, things of service.

When we finished with the furniture we went to the creek where some went rock hunting; some rode the natural water slide built by the great forces of nature; some just sat with their toes in the creek while the "water flowed past." Two certain persons (no names, mind you) slipped on the rocks and received some bruises but I'm certain that they will be right ready to return at the first opportunity.

Cragmont has so much to offer—except an opportunity to sleep. Strangely enough, it seems that everytime I go, other people talk so much that I just don't get enough sleep!

Some of our people joined with the Mt. Zion group on Saturday night for their vesper service on the lawn. Others of us due to our bruises (still no names) remained on the porch where we enjoyed the singing from a

(Continued on Page 15)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For October 5

GOD'S COVENANT AND DAVID

Lesson Text: 2 Samuel 7:8-16
Memory Verse: 2 Samuel 7:16

I. INTRODUCTION

Why did the people get into trouble again and again? Because they broke the covenant. They did not keep their promise. They did not obey God as they had said they would do. They could have had unbroken peace and prosperity simply by keeping their word, but they chose disobedience and found disaster.

Seldom are people willing to take the responsibility for their misdeeds. The people of Israel passed the buck. Instead of reforming their own ways, they wanted to change the government.

They wanted a king like the kings of other nations. Why? They already had a king—God. When they obeyed Him they had no troubles. But they no longer wanted to obey Him. Wouldn't it be nice to have a king with an army to keep the rustlers and raiders away whether the people were obedient to God or not?

Read about their demand in 1 Samuel 8. God's prophet warned them that a king would be costly and oppressive. It isn't the form of government that makes government good or bad; it's the people who manage the government. A monarchy can be no better than the king and his helpers; government by the people can be no better than the people.

But the people of Israel were in no mood to listen to God's warning. Their situation was not satisfactory, and they would not admit that it was their own fault. So what could they do but change the government?—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. At the end of last Sunday's lesson, we saw the Children of Israel settle in the Promised Land and the death of their leader, Joshua. Soon after the death of Joshua came the period of Judges when God raised them up to deal with the problems of the people. All through the time of the Judges, the people would turn away from God and trouble and defeat would come. Then they would cry into the Lord and He would raise up a leader that would lead them to victory again. This period of the Judges lasted some 326 years.

B. Then the people, seeing that other nations around them had kings, asked Samuel, prophet-priest and last of the Judges, for their own monarch. Even though it was not fully the will of God, after much pleading of the people God told Samuel to allow them to have a king. Samuel sought out Saul and anointed him king. Although Saul had great possibilities and began with many things in his favor, with the passing of time it became clear that he was not going to be obedient to God.

C. After the fall of Saul, God directed Samuel to anoint David as king. Jacob had predicted that Judah would be preeminent

among the tribes of Israel (Genesis 49:8-12). It is an interesting story of how God sent Samuel to the house of Jesse and the sons one by one passed before Samuel, but God turned each one down until finally the youngest son came by. Then God indicated to Samuel that this was the one.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. **The Old Covenant in Its Later Stages** is the title of Unit II which begins with today's lesson with three more to follow. God's covenant with David, known as the Davidic Covenant, is one of the most important of the entire list and one, while temporarily suspended because of the rejection of Christ by the Jewish nation, which was destined to abide "for ever" (2 Samuel 7:16). When Jesus returns to the earth He will sit upon the throne of David during His millennial reign.

B. David was the son of Jesse who in turn, was the grandson of Boaz and Ruth. His Native place was Bethlehem, where his great-grandmother, Ruth, gleaned in the fields. The family of Jesse was devout and highly respected in the great tribe of Judah.

C. David became king of Israel upon the death of Saul, the first king following the period of the judges who had governed Israel according to God's will. David had fought many battles for Israel, but during his reign he wanted to build the temple. God had other plans for the temple; He decided that it should be built by David's son, Solomon, when he ascended the throne after David's death. God's other plans also included something for David: He would make a covenant with him, assuring him that his name would never be forgotten, his throne would always persevere, and through him the Saviour would come.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F. W. B.)

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 7)

groups of students in prayer and discussion two evenings per week in the dormitories. This is an informal time for student fellowship.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship services are held on campus in Rodgers Chapel each Sunday at 11 a.m.

SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Spring Religious Emphasis Week is planned for February. This is a week in which special attention is paid to a particular theme of Christian living. Among other activities, an outside speaker will be featured.

Throughout the year, students who participate in musical groups will schedule special concerts.

In addition, several retreats are planned for students and student organizations during the school year. An annual event, Fall Retreat is a weekend away from campus during which the student can focus on his or her own personal relationship with God and explore some questions and themes of Christian living. This retreat is open to any Mount Olive College student and is held in Oriental. In addition to the Fall Retreat, several other sessions are scheduled to be held at Eagles Nest, a 100-acre site owned by the College and located about seven miles from campus.

The College chaplain is available on campus for counseling and crisis ministry. In addition, he carries on other programs, the purpose of which is to teach students how to be Christian witnesses.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

Several organizations on the College campus provide students the opportunity to gather for fellowship, worship, study, and recreation. While directed by an advisor on the faculty or staff, all such organizations are governed and organized by their student members.

Free Will Baptist Student Fellowship—According to the Fellowship's advisor, Mrs. Dianne Riley, the organization is of a "giving and sharing" nature. Last year, the group visited the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex on several occasions. While all students are encouraged to participate in the Fellowship, the organization was chartered by the Free Will Baptist Church, among other things, "to provide an opportunity for Christian fellowship, service, and worship through which students may strengthen their personal faith and character." The Fellowship's advisor, Mrs. Riley, is Associate Director of Admissions at the College.

Baptist Student Union—An organization originating with the Southern Baptist Convention, the Baptist Student Union is open to all Mount Olive College students. The organization's advisor, Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, a science professor at the College, says that she hopes the focus of BSU this year will be to provide "a ministry among our own students." BSU also provides services in the community; members usually visit a nursing home in Mount Olive several times a year.

Kappa Chi Fraternity—Any student interested in entering a church-related vocation is eligible for membership in Kappa Chi. The main objectives of the fraternity, whose advisor is Dr. Michael R. Pelt, religion and philosophy instructor at the College, are to provide opportunities for personal and religious development.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes—Athletes at Mount Olive College have the opportunity to participate in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, an organization that confronts athletes with the challenge of following Christ, participating in His church, and serving Him through their vocations. Advisor to this organization is Larry Dean, Mount Olive College baseball coach and physical education instructor.

ROBERT EVANS FEATURED FOR PIERSON LECTURE

Robert M. Evans, a former CBS television network news correspondent, will be the featured speaker for the Pierson Lecture on the Mount Olive College campus on Wednesday evening, October 1, at 8 p. m. Mr. Evans will speak on the topic, "Iran and Afghanistan—How High the United States Stakes?"

The lecture, which is sponsored each year at Mount Olive College, will be held in the College Auditorium on the Downtown Campus, 209 North Breazeale Avenue, Mount Olive. Admission is free, and the public is encouraged to attend.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

I don't think that there are any excuses for any Christian churches to not support Home and Foreign Missions. Any pastor that doesn't lead his congregation to give is not doing his duty. Surely everybody can give something.

More than enough money is good for nothing, unless it's being used for the benefit of God and other people.

NOTICE

There will be a price change in **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST** beginning October 1, 1980.

One Year—\$6.76
Two Years—\$12.48
Four Years—\$24.96

The Woman's Auxiliary

ROSE OF SHARON CHURCH LADIES TO HAVE BAZAAR

On Saturday, September 27, 1980, the Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church Ladies Auxiliary will sponsor a Bazaar beginning at 9 a. m. Items for sale will include macrame plant hangers, decorative brooms, crocheted items, Christmas decorations, quilts, baked goods, canned goods, and many other items. Lunch will be served from 10 a. m. until 2 p. m. The YFA will have a carwash in conjunction with the Bazaar.

EASTERN DISTRICT WA CONVENTION MEETS

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at the Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, North Carolina, on September 25, 1980. The theme is "Divine Ownership." The Scripture is taken from Mark 9:41. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "I Am Thine O Lord"
- Devotion and Prayer, Mrs. Elizabeth Hott
- Welcome, Mrs. Letha Paul
- Response, Mrs. Sondra Thick
- 10:25—President's Remarks, Mrs. Grace Jones
- Business Session
- 11:05—Hymn, "In the Service of the King"
- Offering
- Reports
- Vandemere, Mrs. Nina Grace Register
- Free Will Baptist Press, Mrs. John W. Taylor

—Eastern Conference Missions, Mrs. James Gurganus

—Special Music, Host Church

11:25—Message, the Rev. Douglas Skinner

12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Chorus Time, "Happiness Is"

—Prayer

—Memorial Service, Mrs. Florence Slaughter

—Presentation of Pin Award, Mrs. Ellis Banks

1:30—Reports

—Home Mission, the Rev. Taylor Hill

—Cragmont, Mrs. Ruby Hancock

—Children's Home, Mrs. Sarah Styron

—Foreign Missions, the Rev. Joseph Ingram

—Superannuation, the Rev. Walter Reynolds

—College, Dr. W. Burkette Raper

—Miscellaneous

—Hymn, "Now I Belong to Jesus"

—Benediction

Music Director, Mrs. Linda Ford
Pianist, Mrs. Gloria Lupton

HARVEST SALE AND LUNCH TO BE HELD

There will be a harvest sale and lunch sponsored by the Fremont Free Will Baptist Ladies Auxiliary on September 27 at Fremont School. Lunch will consist of fried chicken at \$2.50 per plate. The time of the serving is 11 a. m. until 1 p. m.

At noon until—, an auction will be held. Various items will be for sale including a handmade Carolina "Tarheel" quilt.

WESTERN DISTRICT WA TO MEET

The Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene at Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, on Wednesday, October 1, 1980. The convention theme is "Missions," with Scripture taken from Matthew 28:18-20. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:15—Registration
- 9:45—Hymn, "Bring Them In"
- Devotion, Matthew 9:36-38, Mrs. Edna Fowler
- Welcome, Mrs. Fannie Hare
- President's Remarks, Mrs. Virginia Joyner
- 10:15—Hymn, "Help Somebody Today"
- Our Mission in Benevolence, Mrs. Nadine Crocker
- Youth Is Our Mission, Miss Alane Vester
- The World, Our Mission, Mrs. Florence Taylor
- Special Mission Offering
- 11:00—Hymn, "Jesus Saves"
- Convention Offering
- Special Music, Local Auxiliary
- Convention Message, Mrs. Dola Dudley
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15—Hymn, "Rescue the Perishing"
 - Devotion, 2 Corinthians 5:17-20, Mrs. Esther Barnes
 - Songs and Testimonies from Cragmont Woman's Conference
 - Business Session
 - Closing Hymn, "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go"
 - Benediction
- Bring a mission offering.

CAPE FEAR WA TO MEET

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at Palmer Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Garner, North Carolina, on October 8, 1980. The

theme will be "Can the Presence of Christ be Seen in My Life?" The Scripture will be taken from Mark 8:29. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Registration
 10:00—Hymn, "Praise Him, Praise Him"
 —Devotions, Mrs. Mae Ellen Warrick
 10:20—Welcome, Billie Strickland
 —Response, Jean Brinson
 10:25—President's Remarks
 —Reading of Minutes
 —Roll Call
 —Appointment of Committees
 11:00—Hymn, "Glory to His Name"
 —Children's Home Report
 —Foreign Missions Report
 —Worship Offering
 —Special Music, Host Church
 —Convention Message, Mrs. Lorraine Sutton

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Hymn, "Standing on the Promises"
 —Life Membership Award
 —Special Music
 1:30—Reports
 —Mount Olive College
 —Home Missions
 —Free Will Baptist Press
 —Cragmont, Mrs. Alice Davis
 —Superannuation
 —Youth Report
 2:00—Business Session
 —Hymn, "Take My Life and Let It Be"
 —Adjournment
 —Benediction

Cragmont Assembly

(Continued from Page 11)

distance, the rocking chairs, and the fellowship with each other.

On Sunday morning, we were sitting at breakfast when Clifton Tyson looked over at the Mt. Zion folk and remarked, "Just look at all of the happy smiling faces. I love to look at smiling

faces!" But then every one is happy and smiling at Cragmont.

We were glad to join with Mt. Zion for Sunday school and worship service. The Sunday school offering went to Cragmont. My group had to leave before we found out how much the offering amounted to but let's hope that it was a good one for it will be needed to help make the payment on the new building in November. (I heard later that it was close to \$200.)

We left Cragmont with a lot of happy memories, not the least of which were the wonderful meals served by Wanda Sweat and Sid Clark. They along with John and Arlinda did everything possible to make our visit an enjoyable one. We hope that more of our people will learn just what Cragmont has to offer in the way of inspiration and recreation. I, for one, am ready to go back Any day!

We surely did enjoy the nightstands that Willis Wilson built.

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

(Continued from Page 6)

and its effort to make the Gospel "relevant" to the world. He lamented that the shift from proclaiming God's changeless message to spiritually impoverished souls is causing untold confusion both in the church and the unbelieving world.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The heart-transforming gospel is still "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the Jew first and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16b).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Have you renewed your **Free Will Baptist** subscription?

INFORMATION NEEDED

I am seeking any information concerning the church work of the Rev. D. A. Windham (deceased 1961) of Greenville, North Carolina. This includes any churches pastored (years, if known), any articles written or anything else of interest. This will be used in a biography for Mount Olive College. Please send me the information at 4020 Camelot Drive, B-2, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609.

—Mrs. Ruth Bland

NOTICE

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference will meet on Monday, October 20, 1980, in the meeting room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore on Queen Street, Kinston, North Carolina, at 10 a. m. Any and all persons having business with the Board are urged to meet with us at 10 a. m.

W. H. Willis

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Ed C. Taylor announces that he now has a new address. It is 804 Cooper Street, Winterville, North Carolina 28590. His old address was Route 3, Box 342, Benson, North Carolina 27504.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Larry W. Barbour announces that he is available for supply or interim pastoral work to any pastor or church who might need his services. He has been pastoring now for over 10 years and is a member of the Western Conference. He may be contacted at phone number 291-2512 or writing Route 3, Box 671-B, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

The Rev. Gordon Massey is available for full-time pastoral services. Any church desiring his services may contact him at Route 4, Box 317, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580, phone 747-2694.

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The Free Will Baptist



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8:31).

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OCT 3 1980

DURHAM, N.C.

Sixty-Eighth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists was held September 17, 18, 1980, in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

I'm Ready! Are You?

For many years now, I have truly admired a young Christian writer named Ann Kiemel. Even though she has authored quite a few books, she is probably best known for one entitled, *I'm Out to Change My World*. Every time I read this particular work I cannot help but catch her enthusiasm—I find myself ready to right any wrongs that might prevail!

Even now as I think about the cosmos I call my own, I see that it is primarily composed of my family, my church family, the people I work with, and those who live in my community. As I continue to ponder this, I have to ask, "What difference have I made in my world?" I wonder if I have brought cheer to one lonely soul; I ask myself if others look on me as a real friend. And then more importantly, I consider my Christian testimony. But my queries do not cease at this point.

In just a few weeks, we as the North Carolina State Convention will be able to examine how we did as a body last year. We will be able to see how much growth we experienced; we will be able to see our losses (if indeed there were some). Will we be able to say that we have made a difference in our world? If not, what was our problem? Now, I'm sure we all know how to make things better. That's just part of being human, isn't it? But there's a big difference between knowing and doing!

One of my favorite teachers often told us never to complain unless we were willing to make that which we were criticizing better. If we did not see reason to complain we were admonished to do what we could to help that cause. With this in mind, I have to put things in their proper perspective. I want to make things better for those I know—I'm ready to do my part. How about it? Are you? Let's make our world—and our church—a better place. With God's help we can accomplish much!

Cover Photo by Scott Sowers

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Volume 95

Number 37

October 1, 1980
Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with our work.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist**, P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, \$6.76; two years, \$12.48; four years, \$24.96 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, \$6.50, \$12, and \$24 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, and Smithfield, 9 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

D. W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivenbark, Vice President; Hubert Burress, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Felton Godwin, Robert May, and Dewey C. Boling.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Walter Reynolds, Manager; Janie Jones Sowers, Acting Editor of Literature.

STATE CONVENTION NOW HISTORY

Thanks to the able leadership of Convention President David Charles Hansley, the Sixty-Eighth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists held on September 17 and 18 was a good one. A general spirit of brotherly love and Christian harmony was evident among the nearly 600 persons in attendance.

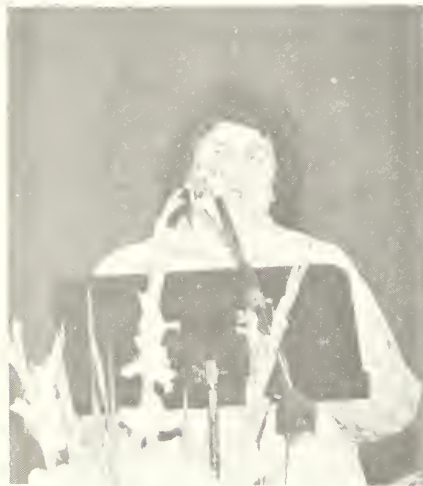
Annual reports from denominational enterprises, institutions, and bodies were given on both days of the Convention. The Rev. O. B. Jones, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tarboro, delivered the message during the morning session on Wednesday. The Rev. Marvin Waters, pastor of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, spoke at the conclusion of the morning session on Thursday. Many present felt the reports and sermons delivered to be highlights of their two-day stay in Fayetteville.

As is custom, the Mission Rally was held on Wednesday night. The North Carolina State Home Missions and Church Extension Department was in charge of the service this year. Each of our ten home mission points took part in the program. Afterwards, the Revs. Taylor Hill and Ray Wells spoke. The offering taken during the Convention for our home and foreign mission programs totaled \$29,156.44. Of this amount, \$14,922 was given for home missions; the remaining \$14,234.44 was for foreign missions.

The business sessions included such routine matters as adopting the program and the minutes of the last Convention. Four amendments to the Constitution were proposed. The first amendment called for the Commission on Scouting to be increased from three members to six. Amendments were then offered which would double the size of both the home and foreign mission boards. Such would increase their membership from five to ten members. The last amendment called for a change in the meeting date of the Convention. The only amendment adopted was the one dealing with the Scouting Commission; all others were referred to the Executive Committee for further study.

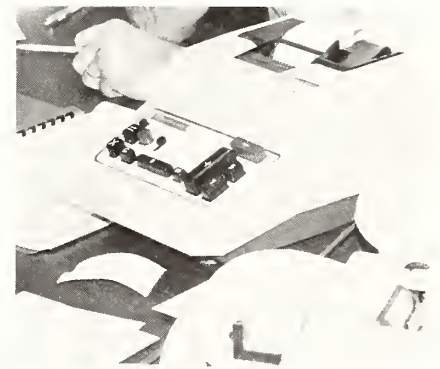
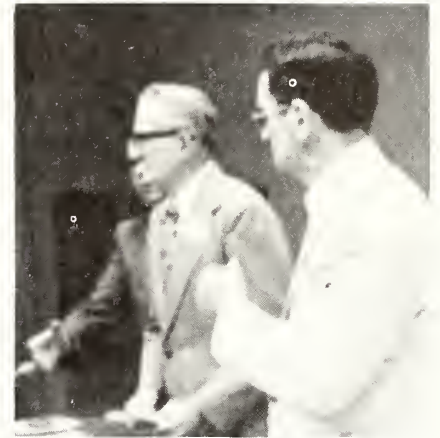
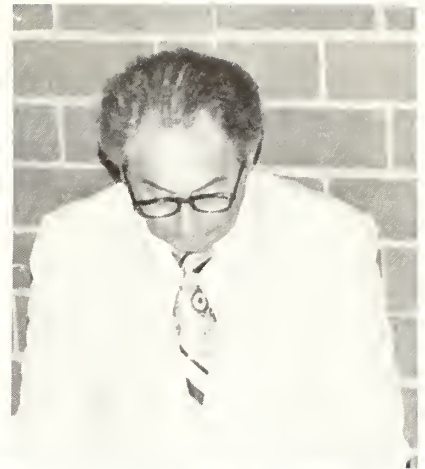


The Rev. David Charles Hansley is the pastor of Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina. During the Convention, Mr. Hansley was elected to serve another two-year term as President.



Resolutions adopted during the Convention include the following:

- BE IT RESOLVED: That nobody be elected or appointed to any office of the State Convention unless, they have a history of supporting the program that they are being considered for, or that they have been approached about the matter first and have promised to give it their wholehearted support.
- BE IT RESOLVED: that our churches be reminded of their responsibility to clear with the ordaining council of their conference, a prospective minister coming from another conference, prior to extending him a call as pastor.
- WHEREAS, our church people are asked to support all denominational enterprises and institutions and, WHEREAS, these same church people have the right to know the workings of these enterprises and institutions,
BE IT RESOLVED: that all enterprises and institutions be required to announce all regular meetings in the **Free Will Baptist**. This announcement is to be placed in the paper two weeks prior to the regular meetings.
- WHEREAS, there is often a great disparity between the economic needs of the clergy and what churches are accustomed to providing, and WHEREAS, there is an increasing need for uniform support of all of our denominational enterprises and institutions from all of our conferences and local churches.
BE IT RESOLVED: that the State Convention appoint a "Committee on Stewardship" to research these areas of need and make recommendations to our member conferences and churches in order that our work as a denomination might progress as rapidly and harmoniously as possible, and



BE IT RESOLVED: that this committee be terminated at such time as the office of General Secretary is filled or at the will of the State Convention,

BE IT RESOLVED: that this board will consist of ten (10) members, giving attention to representation of each conference, clergy and laity in the make up of the committee.

—**WHEREAS,** there is a widespread movement by some liberals toward sexual freedom, and

WHEREAS, there are those persons who condone homosexuality, adultery, and fornication as satisfactory even for Christians, and

WHEREAS, the Bible condemns such actions on the part of any person(s), whether a believer or not (Genesis 13:13, 19:5, 7; Leviticus 18:22, 20:13; Deuteronomy 23:17; Judges 19:22, 23; Romans 1:24-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9, 10, 7:2; Jude 7, 8, 19),

BE IT RESOLVED: that the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists go on record as denouncing homosexuality and adultery as sinful, non-Christian, and condemned by the Word of God, and that we recommend that all pastors and church leaders strongly denounce this unrighteousness and urge purity to prevail and everyone adhere to Paul, in his writing, through the inspiration of the Holy Ghost in 1 Thessalcnians 4:3-7, “. . . for God has not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness,” and that we extend to them the grace and love of Jesus Christ our witness and care.

The final report of the Credentials Committee showed that 282 delegates, 182 ministers (3 of which were licensed ministers), and 117 visitors registered for a total registration of 581. Before adjourning, the body extended its appreciation to the officers of the Convention. Thanks were also extended to the Resolutions Committee for their work.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 53:5

I BELIEVE IT!

A self-righteous woman said to Dr. Harry A. Ironside, "I don't believe in forgiveness of sin through the blood of Christ."

Dr. Ironside replied, "I believe it with all my heart. I believe, as the Bible says, 'But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities' (Isaiah 53:5a). The world needs cleansing. It is morally and spiritually defiled. Long ago God's prophet said, 'In that day there shall be a fountain opened . . . for sin and uncleanness' (Zechariah 13:1). The world needs the transforming power of the Cross."

PRAYER THOUGHT

These are many people in our communities who have never been saved. Some of them may not even know about Jesus. Let's prayerfully consider this and ask God what He would have us do.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

Scripture Reading—Psalm 122:1

A RETURN VISIT

Sam Levenson said, "My wife and children and I like to believe that God dwells in our house. So we feel it is only proper that on the Lord's Day we should return the courtesy by visiting Him in His house."

Long ago David said, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord" (Psalm 122:1).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Yes, the church should play an important role in our lives.

Let us "not forsake the assembling of ourselves together."

truly belong to Him we need never fear for He will always be near.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 6:17

MORE TO BE DESIRED

In the Tower of London lies the jewelled sword of state. Its beauty is dazzling and most valuable. Diamonds, sapphires, rubies and other precious stones adorn it.

Another Sword, however, surpasses in value the jewelled sword of state. It is the "sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:17).

"The law of the Lord is perfect . . . more to be desired . . . than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb" (Psalm 19:7a, 10).

PRAYER THOUGHT

There are few things more precious to a Christian than his Bible. How important is God's Word to you?

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 4:17

ALWAYS WITH THE LORD

If you are in Christ in life, you will be with Him in death. If we live, Christ will be with us: "Lo, I am with you alway" (Matthew 28:20). If we die, we will be instantly and eternally with Him: "Having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better" (Philippians 1:23); "So shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we love Jesus Christ and

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

Scripture Reading—Genesis 2:8

GOD'S NEARNESS

When God created man, He placed him in a beautiful garden: "And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed" (Genesis 2:8).

In another garden—Gethsemane—the Saviour agonized in prayer and emerged victorious over spiritual anguish and sorrow: "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matthew 26:39).

PRAYER THOUGHT

After God created man, He did not leave him as some people have theorized. He is always near. How thankful we should be!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

Scripture Reading—Philippians 8:13, 14

ONE THING GOD FORGETS

A good memory is a valuable asset. To face the future courageously and triumphantly, however, we must also have a good "forgetter": "Forgetting those things which are behind . . . I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 8:13, 14).

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we ask God to forgive us of our sins, He does. As a
(Continued on Page 15)

by Taylor Hill

Woman's Auxiliary

Our State Mission Rally was attended very well and the response was better than usual. We want to thank everyone for your prayers, support, and encouragement. The missions offerings were bountiful; Home Missions received \$15,690, Foreign Missions received \$14,234.44, and this totaled \$29,924.44.

Now that home missions and church extension has become well established, we are anxious to hear from our churches and ministers who want to get some new work started.

ALBEMARLE DISTRICT WA TO MEET

The Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, on Thursday, October 16, 1980. The theme will be "God, the Judge of All." The Scripture will be taken from Ecclesiastes 3:17. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 1:05—Memorial Service, Mrs. Rebanna Fowler
- 1:15—Mount Olive College Report
- 1:30—Cragmont News
- 1:45—News from the Press
- 2:00—Committee Reports
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Announcement of Next Convention
 - Installation of New Officers, Mrs. Lula Daw
 - Benediction and Adjournment

MORNING SESSION

- 9:45—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn, "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"
 - Devotions, Mrs. Eleanor Moore
- 10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Juanita Nooney
 - Response, Mrs. Victoria Cooper
 - President's Greetings, Mrs. Lorraine Garner
 - Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
 - Appointment of Committees
- 10:30—Reading of Minutes
 - Roll Call of Auxiliaries
- 10:45—Mission News (Home and Foreign), Mrs. Katie Roper
 - Offering for Missions
 - Hymn, "Love Divine"
- 11:05—Children's Home and Retirement Home Reports
 - Offering for Children's Home
- 11:20—Special Music, Host Auxiliary
- 11:30—Message, the Rev. Joe Griffith
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Hymn, "Wonderful Words of Life"



CENTRAL DISTRICT YOUTH MEET

Over two hundred and fifty people were present when the Central District Youth Fellowship met at the Tarboro Free Will Baptist Church Saturday night, September 20. During the meeting, the CYDF adopted a new constitution, one on which the young people had worked very hard.

Those in attendance also enjoyed viewing "The Clown," a dramatic musical experience. "The Clown," effectively portrayed by Rhonda Hathaway, represented Christianity. The characters "E," "V," "I," and "L" were symbolic of the world and its attitude toward Christianity. When "I" found Christ, she challenged all Christians to a deeper spiritual encounter and a fuller Christian witness. "The woman of the streets" and "Matthew" related how to be such a witness.

The next meeting of the Central District Youth Fellowship will be held on Saturday, November 15 at 2 p. m. at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church.

Make plans to attend this meeting. You won't want to miss it!

Warsaw Church To Have Revival Services

The Rev. M. L. Whitfield, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Warsaw announces revival services to begin at the church, October 6 through October 10. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Ransom McAbee, pastor of Sandy Plain church, will be the evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend.

Homecoming and Revival At First Church, Goldsboro

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Goldsboro will observe its annual homecoming day, Sunday, October 5. The Rev. Norman Ard, pastor, will deliver the homecoming message. A picnic lunch will be served on the grounds at noon. During the afternoon, a brief memorial service will be observed followed by a program of gospel music by the New Creations of Mount Olive College. All members, former members, pastors, and friends of the church are cordially invited to attend.

Revival services will be held October 13-17 with the Rev. James Joyner from Kenly, North Carolina, as the evangelist. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. Norman Ard, will assist in the services. There will be special music each evening. A nursery will be provided.

Revival at Shady Grove Church

Revival services will be held at the Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Spivey's Corner, October 6-10, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Arnold Price, pastor of Pleasant Grove church, will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. Jeff

Scarborough is pastor of the church. There will be special music each evening. Everyone is invited to attend.

Spring Hope Church to Have Homecoming and Revival



The Rev. Floyd Cherry

Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church, Route 5, New Bern, North Carolina, will have its homecoming service on October 12. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. and the morning worship service at 11 with the pastor, the Rev. Grady Tucker, bringing the message. Dinner will be served at noon.

The fall revival will begin on Monday night, October 13 and will continue through Saturday night, October 18. Prayer rooms will be open at 7:15 p. m. and services will begin at 7:30 p. m. with the Rev. Floyd Cherry of Pine Level as the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. All former pastors and members and friends are invited.

Revival in Progress At Peoples Chapel Church

Revival services are in progress at People's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Elm City, North

Carolina, September 29 through October 3. The time of the services is 7:45 p. m. The speaker is the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry, pastor of Pine Level church, Pine Level, North Carolina.

On Sunday, October 5, the church will observe its annual homecoming. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Revival and Homecoming At Hugo Church

The Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Grifton, North Carolina, will hold its fall revival, October 6-10, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Royce Reynolds will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each evening. The pastor and members extend a special invitation to everyone.

Homecoming services will be held on Sunday, October 12. The church's pastor, the Rev. Tom Miller, will be the speaker. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited.

Homecoming and Revival At Pleasant Plain Church

Two events will take place at Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church on the old Smithfield-Wilson Highway on Route 2, Selma, North Carolina, within the next few weeks.

First, the church will celebrate its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 12. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will bring the morning message at 11. Lunch will be served in the church fellowship hall at the noon hour. There will be a memorial service and a singspiration in the afternoon by the Missionaires from the Selma area beginning approximately at 1:30. All former members and pastors are invited.

Second, there will be a revival beginning October 27 and ending October 31. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Keith Cobb of Fremont Chapel, Fremont, North Carolina, at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. Ernie Price, and the church membership invite everyone to attend these two events.

Homecoming and Revival At Edgewood Church

Homecoming will be observed at Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church near Crisp, North Carolina, on Sunday, October 19. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited.

Revival services will begin at the church on October 20 and will continue through October 24 with the Rev. Jack Mayo as the guest evangelist assisted by the Rev. Robert Strickland, pastor. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Ordination Service Held at Daniels Chapel Church

The members of Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church near Crisp, North Carolina, had a most blessed day on Sunday, September 14. It was on this momentous occasion that the licensed pastor of the church, the Rev. Robert Strickland of Wilson, North Carolina, was ordained at Daniels Chapel church near Wilson, at 3 p. m.

The Rev. Raymond Sasser gave the invocation after the service was opened by the Rev. Gary Bailey and the singing of "To God Be the Glory." Special music was rendered by Mr. Strickland's daughter, Kathy. The ordination sermon was given by the Rev. David C. Hansley. The Rev. Jack Mayo presented Mr. Strickland with a beautiful Bible (from the Daniels Chapel church) and also the Charge for its use.

Mr. Strickland has been active in Christian work for many years at Daniels Chapel

and has done pastoral work for the people at Edgewood for the past six months.

After the service a reception was held in the fellowship hall given by the people of Edgewood church. This was a surprise for him. He is a dynamic preacher of the Word of God; and he and his wife, Dorothy, are loved and respected by many people.

Homecoming and Revival At Kenly Church

Two big events will take place at the Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, North Carolina, in the days ahead. On Sunday, October 5, the church will commemorate its 89th anniversary. The Rev. James V. Joyner, pastor, will bring the homecoming message. There will be a memorial service, commemorating those members who died during the past year. Dinner will be served in the fellowship hall at noon.

Revival services will begin on Monday, October 6, and will continue through Friday, October 10. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Lloyd Hargis of Clayton, North Carolina, will be the guest evangelist. There will be special singing each evening. Everyone is invited to attend.

Oriental Church Announces Revival and Homecoming

The Oriental Free Will Baptist Church, Oriental, North Carolina, announces revival services for the week of October 6-11, at 7:30 p. m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Walter Sutton of Ernul. He will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Ralph Sumner. Special music is being planned for each evening. The public is invited to attend these services.

On Sunday, October 12, the Oriental church will observe its annual homecoming. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy a service of fellowshiping together.

Rock-a-Thon Held at First Church, Goldsboro

On Friday night, August 8, the Cherubs, AFC, and YFA of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro participated in their very first rock-a-thon. The 12-hour event, held in the Thompson Building, was a great success.

The ladies of the Woman's Auxiliary furnished food for the group during the entire 12 hours, and a great time was had by all. There were 26 rockers with ages ranging from 3 to 45. There were 13 who rocked the entire time. The total amount raised was \$528 which will be given to the church's building fund.

The following participated in this event: Cherubs—April Allen, Jeffrey Allen, Walter Aycock, Dwayne Bailey, Johanna Cox, Danny Franks, Sabrina Garris, Jennifer Malpass, Sonny Rollins, and Heather Rose; AFC—Scott Allen, Leslie Bailey, Mary Lynn Bailey, Susan Bailey, Ritchie Cox, Patricia Franks, and Michele Malpass; YFA—Deborah Franks and Melissa Franks; and Adults—Melanie Creech, Sharlene Creech, Mrs. Margaret Ard, the Rev. Norman Ard, and James Malpass.

The leaders of the youth group also participated by rocking and having sponsors. The youth leaders are as follows: Cherubs—Deborah Rollins and Trista Monk; AFC—Joan Allen and Linda Rose; YFA—Carol Franks and Luanne Wall; and Chairman—Charlotte Malpass.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. Norman Ard.

Revival at Reedy Branch

Revival services will begin on Monday night, October 6, and will continue through Thursday night, October 9. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

The Rev. Marvin Waters of Pinetown, pastor of the Shiloh

Turn the Page

Free Will Baptist Church, will serve as the evangelist. Mr. Waters is an outstanding preacher and pastor. He has achieved many awards and positions in the community and his denomination though he is a young man. He possesses real ability as a speaker and the people of the Reedy Branch church feel most fortunate to have him again this year as their evangelist.

Don Waters of Greenville will be playing the organ each evening and will also be singing. There will be other special singing in addition to him.

The pastor, the Rev. Willis Wilson, invites everyone to come and hear an outstanding speaker.

Winterville Church to Have Homecoming and Revival

The Winterville Free Will Baptist Church of Winterville, North Carolina, and its pastor, the Rev. Ed Taylor, cordially invite everyone to its homecoming on October 12. Lunch will be served at noon. The church will be celebrating its 75th anniversary. A special slide/tape program entitled "Winterville Free Will Baptist Church: The First Seventy-five Years" will be presented by Miss Leah McGlohon during the afternoon service. A heritage quilt, made by the Willing Workers Sunday School Class, depicting special people and events will be on display.

Revival services will be held October 13-17 with the Rev. Scott Sowers as evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. Local groups from the church will render special music each night. Emerson Hobgood will be leading the children in choruses each night followed with a Children's Sermonette by Mr. Sowers. The pastor and the church membership invite everyone to attend these services.

Homecoming and Revival To Be at Tee's Chapel

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 5, at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Smithfield, North Carolina. Services will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m. The pastor, the Rev. T. C. Farmer, will deliver the homecoming message at 11 a. m. Dinner will be served on the grounds at noon. The afternoon service will feature various singing groups. Everyone is invited to come and spend the day.

Revival services will begin on October 6-10 at Tee's Chapel church. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Mike Scott, pastor of Johnston Union church near Smithfield, North Carolina, will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each evening. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Indian Springs Church To Have Revival

Revival services will be held at Indian Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Seven Springs, North Carolina, beginning October 6 and will continue through October 10. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 with special music being rendered. The Rev. Ronnie Parker, pastor of Folkstone church, will bring the message each evening.

The pastor, the Rev. Grady Davis, and the church congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone to worship with them during these special services.

Rose Hill Church To Observe Homecoming

Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 5. Services for the day will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m., followed by the morning worship service at 11 a. m. The pastor of the church is the Rev. N. Dan Beaman.

Everyone is invited to attend this service.

Ormondsville Church To Have Revival Services

Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church near Ayden, North Carolina, will have its fall revival, October 12-16, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Royce Reynolds will be the evangelist. The Rev. Jack Mayo is pastor of the church. There will be special singing each evening. The public is invited to attend these services.

Albemarle Youth To Meet

The Albemarle Youth Fellowship Auxiliary Convention will meet on Saturday, October 4, at 10 a. m., at Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Ahoskie, North Carolina.

Grimsley Church Announces Revival and Homecoming

Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church between Maury and Snow Hill, North Carolina, announces its fall revival to be held October 6-10. The time of the services is 8 p. m. The Rev. Frank Flowers will be the evangelist. The Rev. Don Fader is pastor of the church. There will be special singing each evening.

On October 12 the Grimsley church will observe its annual homecoming. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Free Union Church To Have Speaker

Dr. W. Burkette Raper will be visiting with the Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg, North Carolina, on Sunday, October 5, during the morning services. He will teach the Sunday school lesson to the combined adult classes. Dr. Raper will also speak during the worship hour. The pastor, the Rev. Calvin A. Heath, and the membership of the Free Union church, look forward

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

with renewed interest to this annual event in the church.

Arapahoe Church to Have Revival

The Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, North Carolina, will have revival services October 6-10 with the Rev. Bobby Taylor serving as the evangelist. The services will begin at 7:30 with special singing featured each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Doug Skinner, extends a cordial welcome to everyone to attend this week of revival services. He also covets prayers that the revival will continue in the hearts of the people even after the nightly meetings are over.

Revival Services to Be at New Bethlehem Church

Revival services will be held at the New Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Grantsboro, North Carolina, beginning October 6 through October 10, at 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. A. Graham Lane is the pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Oak Grove Church to Observe Homecoming

The Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Newton Grove, 4 miles southwest of Newton Grove on Highway 13, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 5. Services for the day will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m., and morning worship with memorial service at 11. The message will be delivered by a former pastor, the Rev. R. P. Harris of Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Lunch will be served at noon.

The church membership and its pastor, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin, invite all former pastors, and friends to come and enjoy this occasion of Christian fellowship.

Revival and Homecoming at Rose of Sharon Church

Revival services will be held the week of October 6-11, at the Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church, Bear Grass, North Carolina. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each evening. There will be a prayer room at 7:15 p. m. The speaker of these services will be the Rev. O. B. Jones of Tarboro, North Carolina.

On Sunday, October 12, the church will observe its annual homecoming services. There will be a singspiration service in the afternoon. A cordial invitation is extended to all former pastors, members, and friends to attend these services. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Ronnie V. Hobgood.

Sound View Church to Have Revival and Homecoming

Sound View Free Will Baptist Church, Newport, North Carolina, will have its annual homecoming on October 5. Revival services will begin on October 6 and will continue through October 10. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Francis Garner will be the evangelist. The public is invited to attend.

Spring Branch Church Observes Homecoming

Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on October 5. The Rev. C. L. Patrick will be the guest speaker. Dinner will be served in the fellowship hall. The church membership invites all former pastors, members, and friends to attend.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Due to a new rerouting of the Pinetown rural route, the address of the Rev. Marvin R. Waters has been changed from

Route 1, Box 20-A, Pinetown, to Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, North Carolina 27865. Mr. Waters requests that any future correspondence be directed to this new box number.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Harry A. Jones is available for pastoral, supply, or evangelistic work. He may be contacted at Route 1, Box 430, Dover, North Carolina 28526 or by phone, 527-3262 or 527-8459.

The Rev. Larry W. Barbour announces that he is available for supply or interim pastoral work to any pastor or church who might need his services. He has been pastoring now for over 10 years and is a member of the Western Conference. He may be contacted at phone number 291-2512 or writing Route 3, Box 671-B, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

The Rev. Gordon Massey is available for full-time pastoral services. Any church desiring his services may contact him at Route 4, Box 317, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580, phone 747-2694.

PREACHER'S DIARY

*by Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director*

I think my mother has the answer to weight control; she said, "If you don't put it there, it won't be there." The same principle can be applied to those who wish to stop smoking and drinking, etc.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For October 12

GOD'S COVENANT AND ISRAEL'S SIN

Lesson Text: 1 Kings 11:4-13

Memory Verse: Exodus 20:3

I. INTRODUCTION

It took seven years to build a temple and thirteen years to build a palace (1 Kings 6:37-7:1). We need not take the longer time to mean that Solomon thought the palace was more important, but it needed more room for living quarters and offices. Solomon improved the defenses of Jerusalem, and throughout the land he planted fortified army posts and storage facilities (9:15-19). He built a merchant fleet on the Red Sea (vv. 26-28). The fame of his riches and wisdom spread over the world (10:14-29).

Solomon's program was costly, and government has never been noted for doing things cheaply and efficiently. A multitude of bureaucrats was needed, and no doubt many of them knew how to get rich at the public expense. So graft and corruption grew, and taxes went higher and higher.

Endowed with special wisdom from God, the king unfortunately came to trust in wisdom more than in God. Shrewdly he pacified the heathen tribes in and near his empire by bringing their princesses to Jerusalem as his wives. Any little tribe would be flattered to have one of its own women in a favored place at the richest court in the world. Besides, each wife could be a hostage. A tribal chief would not be likely to rebel when his favorite daughter was at the capital

where she could have her head cut off (1 Kings 11:1-3).

If it was wise to fill a harem with princesses, it was wise to keep them contented. So Solomon let each princess bring along her favorite idol, and of course an idol has to be housed in a suitable shrine. So the king laid a trap for himself. —**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. By following his father David's instructions, Solomon became known for his love to the Lord and his commitment to the Law. After a period of worship, God appeared to Solomon in a dream and told him to ask what he wished most. Solomon greatly pleased the Lord when he asked for wisdom to know how to rule his people right. God then vowed to give him not only the wisdom that he needed but also great riches. The wisdom of Solomon may be seen in the Book of Proverbs. His wealth became a subject of discussion all over the known world at that time.

B. Solomon's wisdom came from God, and, no doubt God directed the accumulation of wealth. However, we should not get the idea that God approved of all the ways that he acquired his wealth. There were three main sources of wealth open to Solomon, and he used all of them. First, he taxed the people heavily. Second, he carried on great commerce that was profitable with other nations. Third, he conscripted labor to work on his great building projects. Finally, he received money

from foreign countries as tribute from subject states, and gifts from governments wishing to remain on good terms with powerful Israel.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In his fine book, *Old Testament Studies*, Dr. P. E. Burroughs has given us this striking comparison between David and his son Solomon:

B. David grew to manhood in the open fields following his father's sheep; Solomon grew up in an Oriental harem amidst luxury and the enervating influence of court life.

C. David was trained in the school of adversity and himself built the mighty kingdom over which he ruled; Solomon knew neither poverty nor adversity and while yet of tender years inherited a throne and kingdom.

D. David with singular energy and ability made provision for the king and the generation which should come after; Solomon lived on this lavish provision of his father and failed to make similar provision for the next generation. While the reign of Solomon was one of dazzling glory and surpassing magnificence, we are justified in characterizing it as essentially an era of decline.

E. Solomon and those close to him were largely responsible for the sins of Israel which came out openly during the latter years of his reign and which were in direct violation of God's covenant, which asked only that the people obey Him and keep Him as their God.

F. Why did Solomon, the wisest king of his day, sin? Someone has pointed to the first verse of this chapter as the answer: "But Solomon loved many strange women...." Then Verse 3 reads, "And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart."

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

"NEW CREATIONS" SELECTED SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The "New Creations," a group of 10 Mount Olive College students who present programs of gospel music and testimonials throughout the state, have been selected for this academic year.

Chosen on the basis of written testimonies, performance in a "try-out" session, and a personal interview, the "New Creations" are selected by members of the Mount Olive Music Department faculty and their advisor, Miss Caroline Castelloe. Miss Castelloe is Director of Counseling Services at the College.

This year five new students were asked to participate in "New Creations," from a field of 17 applicants, with five members returning to the group from last year.

New members are: Roy Lewis of Blounts Creek, a member of Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church; Chris Harrell, Morehead City, Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church; Rhonda Jones of Goldsboro; Joanne Hawes, also of Goldsboro; and Terry Ruff of Burlington.

Returning to the group are the following students: Tony Souder of Arapahoe, a member of Trent Free Will Baptist Church; Shirley White of Ahoskie; Mike Warren, Dunn; David Merritt, Fayetteville; and Avis Holland of Dudley.

The "New Creations" have scheduled the following performances for the 1980 fall semester:

Fall Semester, 1980

Date	Place	Time
October 5	Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church—Goldsboro	11:00 a. m.
October 5	First Free Will Baptist Church—Goldsboro	2:00 p. m.
October 11	Beaufort County Dinner—Chocowinity	7:00 p. m.
October 12	Albertson Baptist—Mount Olive	11:00 a. m.
October 14	Edgecombe-Halifax Dinner—Tarboro	7:30 p. m.
October 19	Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church—Pink Hill	11:00 a. m. and 2:00 p. m.
October 20	Onslow-New Hanover Counties Dinner	7:00 p. m.
October 21	Jones County Dinner—Kinston	7:00 p. m.
October 25	Pamlico County Dinner—Camp Vandemere	7:00 p. m.
October 28	Nash County Dinner—Middlesex	7:00 p. m.
October 31- November 2	Spiritual Life Retreat—Oriental	
November 2	Bethel Free Will Baptist Church—Whortonsville	11:00 a. m.
November 6	WMTPC Counties Dinner—Roper	7:30 p. m.
November 9	Free Union Free Will Baptist Church—Pinetown	11:00 a. m.
November 9	Memorial Chapel Free Will Baptist Church—Middlesex	7:00 p. m.
November 16	Free Union Free Will Baptist Church—Spring Hope	11:00 a. m.
November 16	Hugo Free Will Baptist Church—Kinston	7:00 p. m.
November 22	Carteret County Dinner	
November 23	Baker's Presbyterian Church—Mount Olive	

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SCHEDULES 1980 DINNERS

Since 1963 Mount Olive College has held a series of seventeen dinners among the Free Will Baptist churches in eastern North Carolina area. Again this year plans have been made for a dinner to be held in each of the seventeen areas.

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, a graduate of Mount Olive College, who has been associated with the college since 1965, will again be director of the dinners. Last year the 1979 dinners set an all-time high record in attendance and in financial support. Over 4,000 persons attended the dinners and \$134,496 was received in gifts.

With plans to make Mount Olive a four-year college, and due to the rising cost of living, the 1980 goal for the dinners has been set for \$150,000. "When God's people realize that God is the provider for all we have and need and that Mount Olive College is a part of His work which has been entrusted to us, we will then be able to reach and even exceed our goal to carry on this great work," commented Mrs. Ackiss.

The following dinners have been scheduled to date:

Lenoir County, Saturday, October 4, 7 p. m., King's Barbecue Restaurant, Kinston, Stanley Jenkins and Adrian Grubbs, Co-Chairmen. Goal: \$7,175

Beaufort County, Saturday, October 11, 7 p. m., Chocowinity High School, Steve Hargrove, Chairman. Goal: \$7,150

Edgecombe-Halifax Counties, Tuesday, October 14, 7:30 p. m., First Free Will Baptist Church in Tarboro, Rufus Harrell, Chairman. Goal: \$5,325

Onslow-New Hanover Counties, Monday, October 20, 7 p. m., Folkstone church, O. B. Taylor, Chairman.

Turn the Page

Jones County, Tuesday,
October 21, 7 p. m., King's
Barbecue Restaurant,
Kinston, Larry J. (Joey)
Crumpler, Chairman. Goal:
\$3,325

Pamlico County, Saturday,
October 25, 7 p. m., Camp
Vandemere, M. M. (Tom)
Caroon, Chairman. Goal:
\$5,500

Wayne County, Monday,
October 27, 7 p. m., Mount
Olive College Auditorium,
Miss Louise Edgerton,
Chairman. Goal: \$17,550

Nash County, Tuesday,
October 28, 7 p. m., Mid-
dlesex Elementary School,
Lester Duncan, Chairman.
Goal: \$3,550

Craven County, Thursday,
October 30, 7 p. m., West
Craven Junior High School,
New Bern, Miss Marice
DeBruhl, Chairman. Goal:
\$8,825

Duplin County, Saturday,
November 1, 6 p. m., East
Duplin High School,
Beulaville, Chris Singleton,
Chairman. Goal: \$9,800

**Johnston-Wake Counties, Mon-
day, November 3, 7 p. m.**
Everett Chapel church
(Spiritual Life Building),
Clayton, Leonard B.
Woodall, Chairman. Goal:
\$23,800

**Washington, Tyrrell, Martin,
Pasquotank, and Chowan
Counties, Thursday, Nov-
ember 6, 7:30 p. m.,**
Washington County Union
School, Roper, David
Cahoon, Chairman. Goal:
\$5,175

Greene County, Saturday,
November 8, 7 p. m. West
Greene School, Snow Hill,
George Harrison, Chair-
man. Goal: \$8,625

Pitt County, Tuesday,
November 11, 7 p. m., D. H.
Conley, Bobby Taylor,
Chairman. Goal: \$14,225

**Sampson, Harnett, and
Cumberland Counties,**
Thursday, November 13, 7
p. m., Midway School. C.
Felton Godwin, Chairman.
Goal: \$8,125

Wilson County, Tuesday,
November 18, 7 p. m.,
Beddingfield School, James
B. Hunt Sr., Chairman.
Goal: \$14,975

PAUL PALMER INSTITUTE AND THE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

For several years and in various ways Mount Olive College has sought to provide services to the Free Will Baptist church. The Paul Palmer Institute is such an avenue of service to meet the growing educational needs of the Free Will Baptist church. Various courses, institutes, and workshops have been given as requested by the different churches.

In order to broaden and strengthen our service to the church, the Paul Palmer Institute seeks to offer courses and services both on campus and off campus for ministers and lay persons. The programs and courses are designed to help the minister and lay leaders to acquire such knowledge and skills as are needed for effective church leadership.

For those who cannot enroll in college or seminary, the Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies can be the answer to many of these needs. (The Institute takes its name from the Rev. Paul Palmer, the recognized founder of the first Free Will Baptist church in North Carolina in 1727).

The basic curriculum is designed primarily for lay persons who wish to provide more effective leadership and service in their local churches or who simply wish to enrich their own lives through a systematic program of study. A certificate is awarded to those students who earn 45 units in this curriculum.

The advanced curriculum is designed for ministers who cannot enroll in a regular

college curriculum to enable them to meet the requirements set by the conferences. Ministers who have already been ordained and are serving churches will find that many of the courses in the advanced curriculum will provide valuable experiences in continuing education. A certificate will be awarded upon completion of 64 units from a broad base of course selections.

Courses which cover a broad area of study may be offered in the local church as well as on campus and may vary in length according to need.

The two courses offered on campus for the second session of the fall term, October 20 through December 8, are as follows:

Introduction to Apocalyptic Writings—7 p. m., Monday, Room 115, Henderson Building, taught by Dr. Michael Pelt. This is a study of the nature of the Book of Daniel and the Book of Revelation. (3 units)

Christian Faith and Ethical Drives—8:30 p. m., Monday, Room 115, Henderson Building, taught by the Rev. Frank Harrison. This is a study of Christian Faith and its implications for living a Christian life. (3 units)

Each class meets for one hour and fifteen minutes on Monday nights for eight weeks, beginning October 20. These courses may be audited (non-credit) for \$10 each, or taken for credit in the Institute for \$20, plus an initial \$10 registration fee.

If you desire a course or other type of program in your local church, please call the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Director, at (919) 658-2502 or write: Institute for Christian Studies, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Too "Chicken" to be a Christian?

by Sharlene Creech

I work at a restaurant. During the past few months, we've been full of people every weekend coming through town on their way to the beach. Sometimes I think how nice it would be to see people as enthused about the things of God as some people are about the ocean.

But I can understand their enthusiasm. I love the ocean. I could stay in the water all day. There is one problem: I can't swim. As much as I love the water, I never took the time to learn to swim (or maybe I was just too "chicken").

Haven't we been the same way with the Lord? There are lots of people who really love to go to church and hear a good sermon or go somewhere and hear gospel music. But they never took the time—or maybe they were just too "chicken"—to "take the plunge" and commit their own lives to Jesus.

There are different kinds of non-swimmers at the beach. Some of us stand with our feet barely wet and talk about things like somebody's cousin who drowned 15 years ago, or about sharks or undercurrents or something else we hardly know anything about. But isn't that just like some of us in the church? We stand with one foot in the church and one foot in the world and talk about the danger of becoming too fanatical. Sometimes we're just waiting to have all the an-

swers to all of our doctrinal questions before we go too far in this Christian life. But mostly we talk about one thing: those people on the inside working, and all the faults they have.

Children are different in the ocean and in the church. They don't realize there are any "dangers," so they plunge right in. Maybe that's why Jesus told us we needed to become as little children.

Of course, some little children have been taught to have a healthy fear in the ocean. But isn't it sad when we see children whose parents have taught them to fear becoming too serious about God?

Sometimes, when I'm at the beach, I'm afraid to go very deep into the ocean. I like the fun of the big waves, but I also like the safety of being near the land. But when I'm a little braver, I find the water is calmer farther out. Then I get out there, relax, and a big wave comes and knocks me over. Of course, when that happens I hurry back to a safer place.

Christians can be like that too. We try to find a comfortable, safe place where we can enjoy the benefits of the Christian life, but not get so involved that we have any of the burdens or any of the work that's involved when we're too committed. Sometimes we may step a little deeper and if we find it a little rough, we

rush back to safety. The problem is that it's hard to half-live the Christian life, and God has so many blessings for us when we are willing to follow Him unreservedly.

There is one way I can "swim." And that is when someone holds me up above the water, and I paddle with my hands and feet. And in that way, we are all able to really live a successful Christian life, because we know that "underneath are the everlasting arms" (Deuteronomy 33:27).

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

(Continued from page 6)

result, we become new creations. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

Scripture Reading—Psalm 68:11

"THOSE THAT PUBLISHED IT"

On a global scale, a translation of at least one book of the Bible is available in more than 1,325 languages, and 242 of these have the whole Bible. Revision work is going on in about eighty percent of the languages that have the Bible in whole or in part.

"The Lord gave the word; great was the company of those that published it" (Psalm 68:11).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Those who publish the Scripture do a great work; they provide us with copies of God's Word. But how much greater is the reward of those who live accordingly!

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

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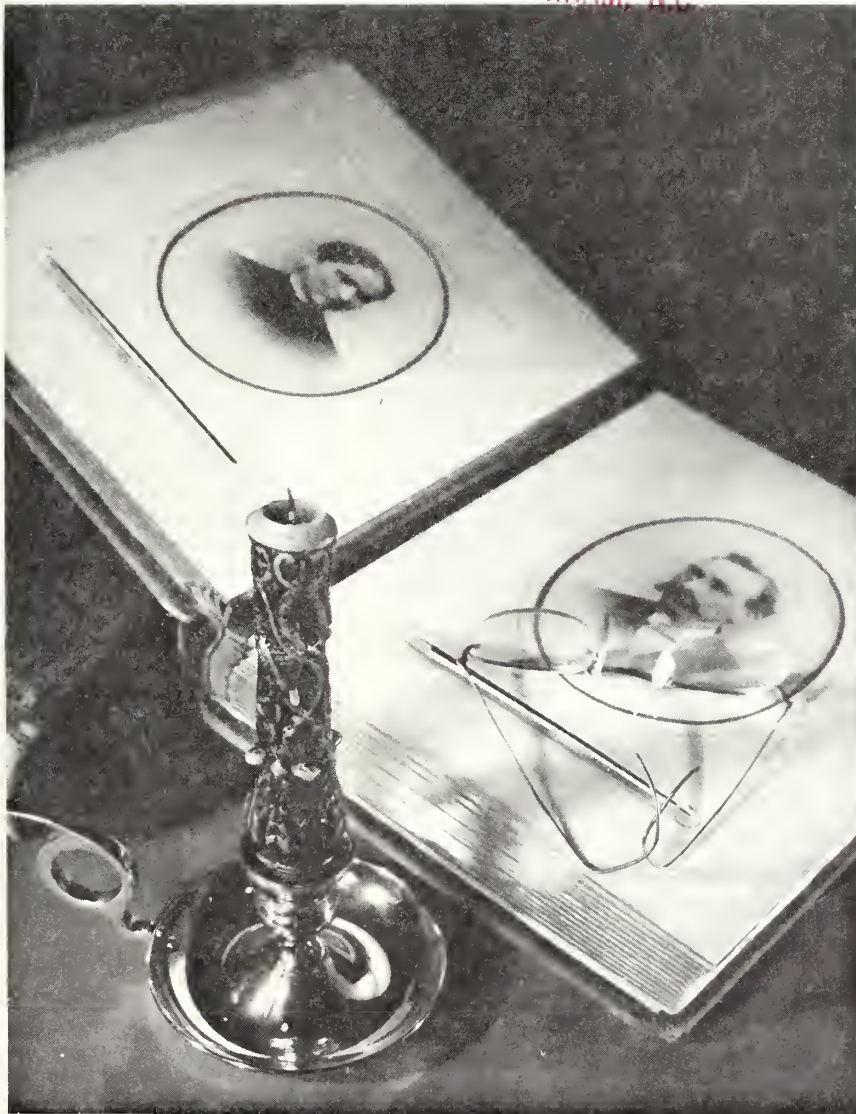
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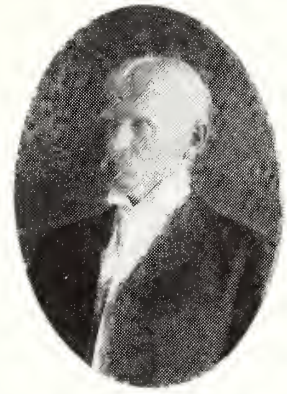


The Sunday School movement is over two hundred years old. Will it survive much longer? Its future may well be up to you and me.

Sunday School Work— Two-hundredth Anniversary

An Overview

by Bill Futch



ROGER L. Shinn in an article entitled "The Educational Ministry of the Church" wrote, "The Christian Church has one ministry, not many This ministry is many-faceted. It includes the telling of the gospel to mankind, the cultivation of worship, deeds of mercy and works of love, efforts of Christians to live as citizens of God's kingdom while they are citizens of the kingdoms of this world, the education of the faithful and of humanity to the meaning of God's activity in the world."

One facet of the church's ministry is its educational task. Through the major epochs of history, the church has developed different agencies and instruments by which it has sought to fulfill its educational task. While it would be profitable to look at the way the church worked during those epochs of history, such as the Biblical period, the Patristic period, the Medieval period and the Reformation period; the Free Will Baptist denomination has its educational roots in the Modern period.

In the nineteenth century, the new United States of America, and especially North Carolina, developed its characteristic system of schools. There had been academies, church schools, charity schools for the poor,

and private tutorage. The early Sunday school movement had its start in the charity school system. As the nineteenth century progressed, the "common school" supported by local government agencies became the foundation of the American school system. The Sunday school had to shift its purpose to retain a place in the educational system. That new purpose was the teaching of elementary level Biblical and doctrinal materials. In the second half of the century the Sunday school movement vigorously expanded. The various Sunday school societies united with the American Sunday School Union which adopted the Uniform Lessons and set forth a program for the establishment of new Sunday schools.

After the Civil War the Sunday school moved into Eastern North Carolina. The records of some of our older churches include items of donations to the Sabbath School Unions. These unions in each county crossed denominational lines to the extent that they were the first interdenominational means of co-operation. At the turn of the century Free Will Baptists had recognized the place and value of Sunday schools to the extent that they became a means of home mission endeavors. Some of the churches

established in the early twentieth century started as Sunday schools and later developed into churches.

The earliest copies of Sunday school literature available today are those published by the American Bible Society. Years ago, Dr. St. Claire of Eureka College in Ayden worked diligently among Free Will Baptist churches and students to foster the Sunday school and give it sound principles as the educational arm of the church. From the earliest period Free Will Baptists have strived for good educational methods and materials, never being satisfied with inadequate programs. To strengthen the work of the Free Will Baptist Sunday schools, the State Sunday School Convention was established in 1940. Continuing in the spirit of St. Claire, the Convention has set up workshops and learning programs for teachers and Sunday school workers. Modern-day Sunday school work remains a part of the ministry of the Christian church. Its task remains that of education of the faithful and of humanity to the meaning of God's activity in the world. For two hundred years ministers and laymen have carried forth this task. The twenty-first century will provide new opportunities and challenges. It is an exciting time to look forward to.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

Scripture Reading—Psalm 57:1

UNDER HIS WINGS

A mother hen senses the gathering storm as black, ominous clouds scud across the sky and the thunder rumbles. She clucks loudly and her baby chicks come running to her. Then she covers them safely under her wings. The storm cannot touch them.

This commonplace happening must have been in the mind of the psalmist when he wrote, "In the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge until these calamities be overpast" (Psalm 57:1). It was also in the mind of the Saviour when He lamented over Jerusalem, saying, "How often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not" (Matthew 23:37b).

How safe are those who dwell "in the secret place of the most High (and) abide under the shadow of the Almighty" (Psalm 91:1).

PRAYER THOUGHT

As Christians, we can find refuge in Jesus. Remember He said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:8

WHY CHRIST WAS MANIFESTED

A minister, standing at the bedside of a terminally ill man, asked, "Is there anything I can do for you?"

The patient replied, "No, sir, not unless you can undo my

sordid, sinful past."

The minister replied, "I am powerless to do that, but long ago God sent the Saviour to blot out our sins. His Son, Jesus, came not to condemn us but to give eternal life to anyone who penitently looks to Him for mercy and forgiveness."

How grateful we are that "the Son of God was manifested that he might destroy (undo, loose) the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8b).

PRAYER THOUGHT

No matter how hard he might try, man cannot undo his past. It is only through the shed blood of Jesus Christ that he can find forgiveness.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Scripture Reading—Matthew 10:39

GLORIOUS MOMENTS

During college, I found many of my boyhood ideas about the world, based on the Bible, shaken by new learning. I felt betrayed. I had accepted certain things as true. Now apparently there were different truths. Why would God allow such a thing to happen?

One Friday in early fall, as I drove to class, this feeling seemed to climax. I steered my car automatically, arguing in my mind with my teachers and then with God.

I crested a hill, and suddenly before me lay a wooded valley with every leaf of every tree ablaze with glorious color, running the spectrum from yellow to deep wine.

I had to stop! Recalling my textbook, I said to myself, "This color results as the leaves surrender their vital

factors to the tree, giving it a reserve for winter—an undeniable scientific fact."

But then another fact from another Book came to me: *He that loses his life shall find it.*

And all at once I knew the conflict had been only in me. There were not different truths—only different roads to the same reality. In this case, an old religious truth had been clothed for me in bright new colors—we and the leaves are never more beautiful than when we surrender our life to the Creator!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Man often tries to explain things that need to be accepted in faith. (If he only had the faith of a child!)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

Scripture Reading—Psalm 119:9

GATES TO HELL

Long ago Martin Luther warned, "I am afraid the universities will prove to be the great gates to hell, unless they diligently labor to explain the holy Scriptures and engrave them upon the hearts of youths. I advise no one to place his child where the Scriptures do not reign paramount. Every institution where men are not unceasingly occupied with the Word of God must become corrupt."

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word" (Psalm 119:9).

PRAYER THOUGHT

It would be easy for us all to stray from God if we did not feed upon God's Word, pray,

and seek fellowship with other believers. "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:2).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 5:2, 3

PREACHING AND PRACTICING

Keenly aware of his failure to practice what he preached, a minister said to his people, "Do as I tell you and not as I do."

Another minister said, "It is easier to teach twenty, than to be one of twenty to follow my own teaching."

Peter admonished, "Feed the flock of God . . . being ensamples to the flock" (1 Peter 5:2, 3).

PRAYER THOUGHT

We have all heard how we should practice what we preach. Often it is not easy to do. Let's all strive to be more like Christ!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18:20

WHERE THEY WORSHIPED

Said Philip Schaff, "Until about the close of the second century the Christians held their worship mostly in private houses, in desert places, at the graves of martyrs, and in the crypts of the catacombs."

God is everywhere: "If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me" (Psalm 139:9, 10).

God's children may worship "in spirit and in truth" anywhere: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).

There is no substitute, however, for the collective worship of His children: "And let us consider one another . . . Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24, 25).

PRAYER THOUGHT

How wonderful it is that we can worship our God anywhere whenever we want to! Let us not take Him and His work for granted.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 10:23

MY ETERNAL DESTINY

Isaac Watts said, "I believe God's promises so surely that I stake my eternal destiny on them!"

The Bible says, "He is faithful that promised" (Hebrews 10:23b).

Myriads of God's children can testify with His ancient servant Joshua: "Not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake . . . all are come to pass" (Joshua 23:14).

PRAYER THOUGHT

God is faithful and He will do as He has promised. Oh, if man were half as reliable!

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

NOTICE

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet, at 10 a. m., on October 21, 1980, at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina. Anyone having business with the council before Conference meets on November 5 should be present for this meeting.

Royce Reynolds
Secretary

IN LOVING MEMORY OF CELIA HALES

On Sunday, June 22, 1980, our Aunt Celia went to be with the Lord. It seems that day had been set aside for her to go home, for when I went after the paper that morning I thought it was about the most beautiful Sabbath day I had ever seen. To me there is a special meaning for the Christian on the Sabbath day, and to Aunt Celia it was more special that day because she was going to meet Uncle Harvey who passed away August 10, 1972. It seemed she got so tired she fell asleep that day and didn't wake up. She was a real dedicated Christian. You never heard her say anything bad about people. She taught me to accept people as they are and to help people that don't know the Lord. I heard her say some of the sweetest words I ever heard spoken. She could see the best in people.

She was a member of Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Pikeville, North Carolina. She had been a member for fifty years or more. She wasn't able to attend church for a long time before she passed away. Her Christian friends meant so much to her while she was sick. We met at her home on April 25 and celebrated her eightieth birthday. We had a real nice day, but we all knew Aunt Celia would soon be going home because she was so feeble.

Even though we children were grown and had families of our own, going back to Aunt Celia's house was very special. Our parents passed away when we were young. We always had a special welcome back on holidays or anytime. I could never put on paper what that Christian home meant to

(Continued on Page 14)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

SINGING TOGETHER



Students at Mount Olive College selected to be members of the vocal and witnessing team, the "New Creations," are, left to right, front row, Shirley White of Ahoskie, Joanne Hawes of Goldsboro, Terry Ruff of Burlington, Rhonda Jones of Goldsboro, and Tony Souder of Arapahoe, a member of Trent Free Will Baptist Church; second row, Mike Warren of Dunn, David Merritt of Fayetteville, Roy Lewis of Blounts Creek and a member of Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church, Chris Harrell of Morehead City and a member of Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church, and Avis Holland of Dudley.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE ALUMNI TO WORK FOR WORLD RELIEF

The Rev. Dwight Hawley and his wife, Aileen, made a stop at Mount Olive College to speak to the Free Will Baptist Student Fellowship and to say good-bye to some old friends just prior to leaving for Bangkok, Thailand. The Free Will Baptist couple were scheduled to depart for the Southeast Asian country on October 1. While there, they will be employed by World Relief Corporation, a division of the National Association of Evangelicals, as missionary support personnel. The World Relief Corporation is an international, nondenominational aid organization.

In speaking to the members of the Free Will Baptist Student Fellowship, the Hawleys explained their association with the College, reviewed their life in the ministry, and discussed their

mission in going to Thailand. Mrs. Hawley, speaking first, told the group that she and her husband had both been

students at the College. She added laughingly, "He only got one degree, but I got two from here—an A. A. and a



The Rev. Dwight Hawley, center, and his wife, Aileen, right, discuss their upcoming move to Thailand with Mount Olive College freshman Cynthia Hansley after presenting the program at a Free Will Baptist Student Fellowship meeting.

Mrs." The Hawleys, who met at the College, were married in 1974. Mr. Hawley had already graduated with the Class of 1974, and Mrs. Hawley graduated in 1976.

Open to God's Will

The main thrust of Mrs. Hawley's message to the Fellowship was "to be open to God's leading." She explained that as a young girl from Creswell in Washington County she had thought that she would never live anywhere else, especially not out of the state—and never out of the United States. Since graduating from Mount Olive College, she and her husband lived for three years in Georgia, where he was pastor of Zion Free Will Baptist Church; in Miami, where Mr. Hawley earned a four-year degree in broadcasting; and now they are on their way to Bangkok, Thailand.

Mr. Hawley assured the students that they had no reason to feel they would have to pursue a career in which they were uninterested in order to work for God. "God would not have given you interests and enthusiasm for a particular field for no reason," he said. "He will take your life and use your interests in His way."

The speaker continued this theme by explaining how God was using his interest in broadcasting to minister to others. Mr. Hawley worked as an announcer for a Christian radio station in Miami, and he also gained experience with a Christian television station in Florida.

Nature of Their Work

The Hawleys are now looking forward to their work as missionary support personnel in Thailand, where they will be providing services to

aid the missionaries in the work that is being done in the refugee-flooded country. The couple is committed for six months to one year of service in Thailand, during which time Mr. Hawley will be working in a new diplomatic division of World Relief Corporation in trying to reunite Cambodian refugee families and to send them to sponsoring countries, such as the United States and Canada. At the same time, Mrs. Hawley will be employed as office manager for World Relief Corporation's main office which is located in Bangkok.

The couple, in talking of their "adventure," said that they are not afraid. "Thailand," they said, "is one of the few countries in that part of the world that is welcoming Americans." "They have hundreds and thousands of hungry, homeless people crossing their border, and they know we want to help," said Mr. Hawley.

As for the future, they said that, if God leads them to, they will stay in Thailand as long as they are needed.

Mrs. Hawley is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Moore of Creswell. A native of Wilson, Mr. Hawley is the son of Mrs. George Leslie Hawley of Wilson and the late Rev. Hawley.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE PRESIDENT TO DELIVER HOMECOMING SERMON

Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church, located near Selma in Johnston County, will observe "Homecoming" on Sunday, October 12, announced the Rev. Ernie Price, pastor.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will deliver the message during the 11 a. m. worship service.

WESTERN CONFERENCE BOARD OF ORDINATION TO MEET

The Western Conference Board of Ordination will hold its annual meeting on October 10, at Stancil's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, at 10 a. m.

Any licensed minister who is eligible to take the ordination examination should make arrangements with some member of the Board of Ordination to take the examination in order that it may be graded by the Board and reviewed with the candidate on the 10th. Any church wishing to clear a pastor, any pastor seeking clearance to pastor in the Western Conference, or any person seeking to be licensed to preach should come before the Board at this time.

Contact the Board chairman, the Rev. J. B. Godwin, at 965-3054 so that he can schedule the time for you to appear before the Board of Ordination.

De W. Eakes, Clerk

J. B. Godwin, Chairman

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

I am fully convinced that the persecutions and suffering that I have endured have brought me peace and understanding that I could never have had otherwise. On the other hand, suffering can cause us to develop bad attitudes if we are not careful.

We were talking about people loving material things more than God or people. A young man spoke up and said, "You know what? I have never seen a trailer hooked behind a hearse."

**Revival at
Black Jack Church**



Dr. James G. Knox III

Revival services will be held at the Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Greenville, North Carolina, beginning Sunday, October 12, at 7 p. m. and continuing Monday through Friday, October 13-17, at 7:30 p. m. Dr. James G. Knox III will be the speaker. Children's church and a nursery will be provided each night. The Rev. Cedric Pierce is pastor of the church.

Special music will be rendered each night. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Revival and Homecoming at
Whaley's Chapel Church**

Revival services will be held October 13-17 at Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Hargett's Crossroads in Jones County. The guest speaker for the week will be the Rev. Eldon Brock of Kinston, North Carolina, with the pastor, the Rev. Donald Venable, assisting in the services. Services will begin each night at 7:30.

On Sunday, October 19, homecoming and harvest day will be observed. The morning worship hour is at 11 with the pastor bringing the message.

A picnic lunch will be served from 12:30 to 1:30 p. m. There will be special music from Mount Olive College for the afternoon service. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

**Revival in Progress
At Snow Hill Church**

Revival services are being held at the Snow Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Mount Olive, North Carolina, through October 10. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Eddie Edwards from the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church will be the evangelist for the week. There will be special singing each night under the direction of Mrs. Mary Gold Bell, which will be rendered by singers from other churches and the home church choir. The pastor, the Rev. John Owens, and the church membership extend a cordial invitation to everyone to share the blessings of God.

**Shiloh Church Announces
Revival and Homecoming**

The Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, North Carolina, will be having a week of revival services beginning Monday evening, October 13, and continuing through Friday, October 17. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 p. m. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Fred Rivenbark of Durham, North Carolina. There will be special music each evening and a nursery will be provided.

On Sunday, October 19, the church will be observing its annual homecoming day. Lunch will be served as a part of the day's festivities. The pastor, the Rev. Marvin R. Waters, along with the entire

membership of the church, invite all former members, former pastors, and friends to share these special services with them.

**Revival Services at
Sidney Church**

Revival services will be held at Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Belhaven, North Carolina, October 13 through October 17. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Francis Garner of Sound View church, Newport, North Carolina. There will be special singing each evening. The Rev. Steve Hargrove is pastor of the church. The public is cordially invited to attend.

**Owens Chapel Church
Revival and Homecoming**

Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City, North Carolina, is in revival through October 11. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. M. E. Cox of Durham, North Carolina. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Melvin Moore is pastor of the church.

The church will observe its annual homecoming, Sunday, October 12. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m., followed by the worship service at 11, with the Rev. J. C. Lynn, a former pastor, bringing the morning message. Lunch will be served on the church grounds after the worship service. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend.

**Peace Church to Have
Revival Services**

Revival services will be held at the Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, North Carolina, October 13-17, at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. Danny Braswell, will be the evangelist. There will be special music each evening. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival Services at East Rockingham Church

Revival services will be held at East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, East Rockingham, North Carolina, the week of October 13 through October 17. The Rev. McDonald Bennett of Highland Pines church, Hamlet, North Carolina, will be the evangelist. There will be special music each evening. The Rev. Eddie Edwards is pastor of the church. The public is invited to attend.

Homecoming and Revival at Core Point Chapel Church

Core Point Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Core Point, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 26. The worship service will begin at 11 a. m. with dinner served on the church grounds at noon.

Revival services will begin on Monday night, October 27, and will continue through Saturday night, November 1. The Rev. Bobby Jones will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Garry Langston. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival and Homecoming At Wooten's Chapel Church

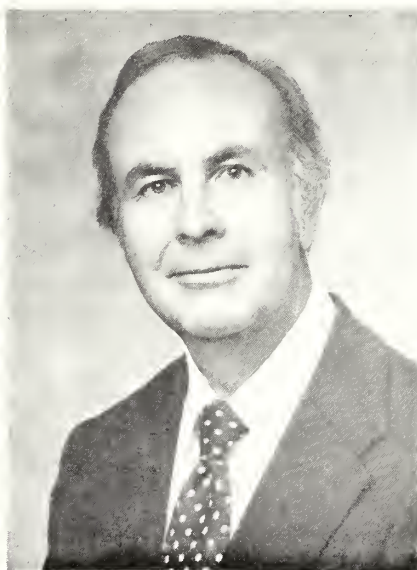
Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church will observe homecoming on Sunday, October 12, 1980. The day's activities will begin at 9:45 a. m. with Sunday school, followed by the worship service at 11. The pastor, the Rev. J. B. Caton Sr., will bring the homecoming message. Lunch will be served on the church grounds.

Revival services will begin on Monday, October 13, and will continue through October 17, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Davie Brinson, pastor of Hopewell church, Smithfield, North Carolina, will be the visiting evangelist. The pastor

and the church congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

The church is located at Route 3, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Homecoming and Revival At Elm Grove Church



The Rev. Earl Glenn

Homecoming will be observed on October 12, at the Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Ayden, North Carolina.

Revival services will be held at the church, October 13-17, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Earl Glenn will be the evangelist. The Rev. W. S. Burns is pastor of the church. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Homecoming at Pleasant Hill Church

Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 19, 1980. The Rev. C. M. Coats of Smithfield, North Carolina, a former pastor, will bring the morning message at 11. Lunch will be served at noon. The afternoon service will begin at 2 p. m. with Mrs. Sabra Pittman bringing the devotion. It will be followed by

a memorial service by Miss Angela Bunn. A program of music will follow with Mrs. Susan Smith and Mrs. Bonnie Moor in charge.

Mt. Tabor Church To Observe Homecoming

The Mt. Tabor Free Will Baptist Church near Creswell, North Carolina, will observe homecoming on Sunday, October 12.

The day will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m., followed with the worship service at 11. The pastor, the Rev. David Ricks, will bring the homecoming message. Lunch will be served on the church grounds at noon. In the afternoon, there will be special singing featuring the Gabriels of New Bern.

The pastor and the church membership invite all former pastors and members to attend.

Cape Fear Sunday School Convention to Meet

The Cape Fear Sunday School Convention will meet at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Smithfield, North Carolina. This is the One Hundred and Second Session of the convention. It will be held on October 11. The theme will be "Where to from Here." The Scripture will be taken from Matthew 20:6. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Hymn
 - Welcome, the Rev. T. C. Farmer
 - Response, George E. Norris
 - Devotion, the Rev. Mike Scott
 - Special Music, Host Church
 - President's Remarks, the Rev. Arnold Price
 - Appointment of Committees
 - Special Music, Loren Price

(Continued on Page 10)

The Children's Home

Submitted by Stewart Humphrey

Summer School, A Big Success



A student is tutored in summer program.

When children have been deprived of the structure and limit setting that a good home provides, they suffer in many ways. Their educational needs almost always go unmet. The family crisis makes good performance in school impossible. School needs go unnoticed by parents caught up in the trauma of divorce, separation, economic or social crisis, or illness and/or death.

Most children come to the Home way behind in their school work. It's hard to catch up. This year in our summer school four teachers worked with our children. As a result, there was a one year and three month average gain in math. Progress ranged from eight months to two years and three months. Reading recognition had an average gain of seven months, reading comprehension, nine months, and spelling, eight months.

The students were taught on a one-to-one basis. Each

student had his or her special time during which his specific needs could be dealt with.

Our students returned to school this fall with renewed dedication. They are more nearly on the level of their classmates. They feel better about themselves, with renewed self-esteem and sharper educational skills. We feel they will be able to realize their highest potential.

We are thankful for teachers who spent six weeks of their summer for very little pay helping our children with their educational deficiencies.

News Notes

(Continued from Page 9)

- Offering
- Program, the Rev. David C. Hansley
- Hymn
- Business Session, the Rev. Arnold Price

- Roll Call of Churches, Mrs. Margaret Lassiter
- Recognition of Teachers and Superintendents
- Treasurer's Report, Mrs. Lillian Stanley
- Presentation of Plaques
- Report of Committees
- Benediction and Grace

Revival and Homecoming for Corinth Church

Revival services are in progress this week through October 10 at Corinth Free Will Baptist Church of Route 2, Jamesville. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The evangelist is the Rev. Jack Mayo. Special music is being provided each evening. The pastor, Paul Melson, invites everyone to attend these services.

Homecoming will be observed at the church on October 12.

Revival and Homecoming at Pearsall Chapel Church

Revival services are in progress at 7:30 p. m., through October 10, at Pearsall Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Kenansville, North Carolina. The Rev. Leon Grubbs is the guest speaker. Special music is planned for each evening.

Homecoming will be October 12. The Rev. Stephen Smith will deliver the morning message. Special music is planned following the lunch hour.

All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend the revival and homecoming.

October is
Superannuation Month.

A VISIT WITH THE REV. AND MRS. VANCE LINK

submitted by Wendy Coates

August 7 was a very exciting day for Cathy Moss, Tammy Whitley, Sherry Potter, and Donna Glisson along with their directors, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Coates of Pinetown, North Carolina. Cathy is a sophomore at Mount Olive College and a member of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church. Tammy goes to Beaufort Community College and is a member of Free Union church in Pinetown. Sherry is a student at Pitt Community College and is a member of Free Union church in Pinetown. Donna is a secretary at Rose High School in Greenville, North Carolina.

After the Rev. Francis Garner led the group in prayer, they departed Pinetown for an unforgettable trip to visit the Rev. and Mrs. Vance Link in Quemado, Texas. Mr. Link is the missionary to Mexico.

"Many experiences of the week stand out in my mind. The most impressive experience happened on Wednesday night when Mr. Link took us across the border to a Mexican church. We couldn't understand anything that was being said and we really felt out of place. It was not until a Mexican girl handed us a songbook did we feel more relaxed and at ease. As we tried to sing Spanish hymns with southern accents, we could really feel the presence of God at work. As the six of us sang, 'I Keep Falling in Love with Him,' the people watched us with the sweetest expressions of the peace of God on their faces. It was as if they understood every word that we sang. As I listened to the sermon and felt the movement of the Holy Spirit in

that small Mexican church, it really amazed me to think that my great big wonderful God knows Spanish!" says Cathy.

Tammy remarks, "When I first arrived at the Link's home in Quemado, Texas, I realized then that my dreams, thoughts, and expectations of the mission field had been totally off-base. I had expected to see a beautiful home with a nice landscaped yard. Needless to say, I was wrong. The house was moderately styled and the land was very dry. It had been many years since I had seen the Links, but they still had their lovely smiles and their sweet Christian attitudes. They received us into their home just as if we were their relatives. They had very busy schedules, but never once neglected to make us feel at home. The longer I stayed at their home the more beautiful it became. The moderately-styled house became a place of beauty. It is amazing how a place can change before your very eyes when Jesus takes control. Their home is filled and overflowing with joy and peace from above. I learned to appreciate our missionaries and the sacrifices they are making to win lost souls to Him. I think we, as Free Will Baptists, should feel honored to have such a dedicated family as the Links for our missionaries. They are doing a great work in Mexico and we should always remember them in our prayers."

"While we were visiting with our missionaries we got involved in their church and the work it is accomplishing. The members of the Lighthouse Baptist Church are on the way

to completing a new combination church and Christian academy. We had an opportunity to help with some of the final preparations such as varnishing doors and cleaning up after the carpenter and sheetrockers. We helped address and mail Bibles across the border to Mexicans. One of the most interesting things the group did was to visit some of the Mexican churches. I believe everyone gained helpful experiences and grew closer together through Christ Jesus," adds Sherry.

Donna concludes with her thoughts, "As we stood on the Amistad Dam (this is across the Rio Grande and is jointly owned and operated by Mexico and the United States), I marvelled at the grandiose beauty that God had etched over the centuries. The multicolored layers of rocks revealed the years of cutting by the river. I could see the blue haze extending for miles. The beauty of God's handiwork was tremendous. In contrast to the magnificent beauty of God's building was the degradation of man's buildings. The reed huts and small houses of poverty were in evidence everywhere I looked. It reminded me of the contrast between God's will and man's will. God in His perfect righteousness and knowledge leads us to the perfect direction for our life which would make our life as picturesque as the view from the dam, but man often says—'No, God, my way is better!' Then our life becomes poverty-stricken and resembles the reed huts. I asked God to help me to always remember the message of Psalm 121:1, 'I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help.' "

The group sincerely thanks all those who had a part in supporting this trip. May God bless each and everyone.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For October 19

GOD'S COVENANT AND JEREMIAH

Lesson Text: Jeremiah 31:1-3,
29-34

Memory Verse: Jeremiah
31:33

I. INTRODUCTION

Jeremiah was God's prophet as Judah was crumbling into ruin (Jeremiah 1:1-3). For forty years he proclaimed the truth to people determined to ignore it. The destroyer was coming, he warned (4:5-8), for an upright man could not be found in all Jerusalem (5:1-3). Still there was time to change if the people would do right.

But the people of Judah had no interest in doing right. Instead of heeding the prophecy they hated the prophet! Jeremiah's life was in danger. The king of Judah lacked the courage either to kill him or to defend him, and so he lived on perilously till Jerusalem was destroyed.

When the army of Babylon advanced upon the city, Jeremiah advised surrender. God was now against Jerusalem, he said, and it surely would fall (21:1-10). This advice too was ignored. The Babylonians besieged the city for a year and a half, and then broke in and overwhelmed the starving defenders (2 Kings 25:1-7).

Though Jeremiah foretold the doom that came, his message was not without hope. Captivity was sure, he said, but it was not forever. After seventy years God would set His people free and bring them back to their own land (Jeremiah 29:10-14, see also Chapter 30).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Prophet Jeremiah was called by God to attempt to turn the Hebrews from their stubborn resolution to ignore God's directions. He tried to call them back to their covenant with God, for it was in the covenant that they found direction. Most of his lifetime Jeremiah spent in calling the attention of his people to their departure from God's way, and warning of the disastrous consequences that would follow. He dramatized his message, risked his life for it, and even dared being declared a traitor to get the message across.

B. The Hebrews were seemingly intent upon abandoning their covenant with God, and Jeremiah was unsuccessful in calling them back. God revealed to Jeremiah, however, that He would bring about a great restoration after the frightful destruction of the nation of Israel. This restoration would consist of three elements: the return of Israel from exile, the sending of the Messiah, and the making of an entirely new covenant. Few who lived in Jeremiah's day would have expected anything good to come from what happened to them as a people. But Jeremiah, by his life, demonstrated a conviction that God would be able to bring triumph out of disaster. Israel would not forever be an exile and a wanderer, but would experience the grace of God in the great restoration.

—**The Bible Teacher**
(F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Jeremiah has been called "the prophet of Judah's decline," meaning the Southern Kingdom of Judah. He was undoubtedly the greatest figure in the nation during its last years. He was called to prophesy when but a child, and began in the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah (Jeremiah 1). A little over forty years later Judah would be gone, taken into captivity by the Babylonians.

B. He was no mere weak complaining prophet, as some have described him. He stood in one of the toughest spots of history, and his personality was a moral rock of Gibraltar while all around men of expediency and without principle succumbed to their vanity. There were times when he wept, yes indeed; but they were tears for his beloved Judah, not for himself. These words of the prophet himself show his great concern for the people who were plunging headlong into ruin and captivity: "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!" (Jeremiah 9:1).

—**The Advanced Quarterly**
(F. W. B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A Dark Picture—There is a picture of an aged man in a dungeon in which was only one tiny window. Into the gloom of that prison chamber comes one ray of light through this small window. The old man had his face in that shaft of light, looking upward. How can we help but think that this is a picture of men in darkness, and the ray of light that gives hope is Jesus Christ?—**The Bible Teacher**
(F. W. B.)

Have you renewed your
Free Will Baptist sub-
scription?

ELDER WILLIAM T. POLLARD: A Soldier of the Cross

Prepared by Frank R. Harrison

Elder William T. Pollard was born April 15, 1870, to John and Mary Pollard. John Pollard did not live to see his son become a minister of Jesus Christ, having died six weeks after the birth of W. T. Pollard.

Very little is known about his early and formative years as a lad other than the fact that he grew up in rural Pitt County around Greenville, North Carolina. He made a profession of faith in Christ in 1887 and joined Parker's Chapel church the third Sunday in June 1887, and bought his first Bible in 1887. His wife, Effie Pollard, united with the Free Will Baptist Church at Parker's Chapel the third Sunday in July, 1888.

At age 21, he was granted license to preach on December 12, 1891, and was ordained in 1894. He had little advantage of education but studied the Scriptures intently to prepare himself as best he could for service in the Kingdom of God.

He is listed among the ministers of the Central Conference in 1896 when the conference met at Malachi's Chapel. His address was listed as Grindool, North Carolina. In 1897, he is listed among the ministers of the Central Conference when the conference met at Saratoga, North Carolina.

According to the minutes of the Central Conference, Elder Pollard did not miss a meeting of the conference until 1938. In that year, the conference met at Spring Branch church on November 9-11, and Elder D. W. Alexander made a few remarks about Elder W. T. Pollard. Elder M. Joyner made a few remarks about the

condition of Elder Pollard and an offering was taken for him and Elder E. T. Phillips, each receiving \$17.32.

Elder Pollard listed his address as Stokes, North Carolina, when the conference met at Howell Swamp, in Greene County, in 1904. In 1910, the conference met at Reedy Branch church, Pitt County, and Elder Pollard preached one of the conference sermons on November 10, at the 11 a. m. service, using as a text 2 Timothy 4:5, "But watch then in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry."

In 1896 he was instrumental in organizing Piney Grove church in Beaufort County, and served as its pastor at different times for 14 years. From his ordination in 1894 until 1936, Elder Pollard actively preached and served in the Free Will Baptist church.

In 1919, the conference met at Black Jack church, Pitt County, and Elder Pollard preached a conference sermon at the 11 a. m. service on November 6. In 1920, he served on the Resolutions Committee of the conference when it met at Hickory Grove church, Pitt County.

He attended the conference in 1936 at Rose of Sharon church, Martin County, where an offering was taken for him in the amount of \$18.76. In 1937, he attended the conference at Reedy Branch and made an appeal to the conference to help the church at Rocky Mount to finish the inside of the building.

In 1939, the conference met at Black Jack church, Pitt

County. Elder Pollard was listed as "retired." A motion was made to send him a telegram and \$10. The telegram, which is in the Historical Collection of Mount Olive College, was signed by Elder D. A. Windham.

On May 3, 1940, at 10:30 a. m., Elder W. T. Pollard joined those saints whose labors have ended in the world. His funeral was conducted by Elder E. L. Abrams and Elder D. W. Alexander at the home of Mrs. Lillie Harrison, Crossroads Township, Martin County. He was buried in the old cemetery at Parker's Chapel church, beside his wife, Effie Pollard.

In 1940, when the Central Conference met at Antioch church, Wayne County, November 6-8, Elder D. W. Alexander was asked to conduct a short service in memory of Elder W. T. Pollard. Elder Alexander remembered him with these words: "Brother Pollard was very interested in his work, walking many miles to preach. He organized a number of churches which are doing good works at this time. He was very loyal to his home, church and its pastors. He was very much appreciated by his family, friends, and church, Union Meetings and Conferences, living a very worthy life, which was an example to all who met him."

We who labor in the Lord's vineyard today enjoy the fruits of men like Elder W. T. Pollard who labored unceasingly and often under very adverse circumstances for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom.

THE BOOK CORNER

reviewed by Bass Mitchell

The Preaching Event is Dr. John R. Claypool's contribution to the prestigious Lyman Beecher Lectures on Preaching at the Divinity School of Yale University. The author has been in the parish ministry for over twenty-five years and is minister of Northminister Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi.

The author's thesis is that preaching is an "event" of decisive and enormous significance. "Authentic preaching catches up all the faculties of the human beings involved in the process—their minds and bodies and emotions as well as their tongues and ears. Thus it can rightly be called an event, something that happens so wholistically that it leaves the kind of impact on one that accompanies participation in any decisive happening." Dr. Claypool examines "the preaching event" from four perspectives.

First, what is the preacher trying to do? Dependent on the thought of the great English preacher, P. T. Forsyth, the author says that the goal of the Christian preacher is to "reestablish a relation of trust between the human creature and the Ultimate Creator. Reconciliation of the profoundest sort is the true business of the preacher—somehow to facilitate a spirit of openness, trust, at-one-ment, at the deepest level where what is made and what has done the making come together."

Second, why does the preacher preach? The question is one concerning motivation. The author's confessional style is refreshing, honest, and penetrating. He shares some of the deep insight that he has learned about himself and what it means to be human. For example, his overwhelming drive to compete, not only when he was in college and seminary, but even in the pastorate with other ministers. His description of how he discovered this about himself, how he gained the courage to take off his "mask" and share it with a group of five ministers, and the "sense of grace" and self-acceptance which he found as a result is touching and painfully relevant. It was through this experience that he answers the question of motivation as the sharing and giving of the gifts and experiences that are given the preacher by the grace of God. "I go into the pulpit to give something of myself, not to get something for myself."

Third, how is preaching to be performed? "The secret of ministry consists of two things: first, the faithful tending of one's own woundedness, and second, the willingness to move to the aid of another and make the fruits of one's own woundedness available to others We will make our greatest impact in preaching when we dare to make available to the woundedness of others what we have learned through an honest grappling with our own woundedness."

Fourth, when is preaching to be done (the question of timeliness)? Dr. Claypool sees the preacher as a "timely nurturer" who is aware of "the general contour of the human saga, infancy, childhood, adolescence, young adulthood, adulthood, and old age," and who is an active listener to his people. "If we do not go to the trouble of perceiving where our people are—the questions they are asking, the point where they are in their own struggling—then it will be virtually impossible to speak a relevant and appropriate word to their situations."

In Loving Memory of Celia Hales

(Continued from Page 5)

me as a child and since I have been grown. I will always cherish the memory of going back to her home and that warm hug she always gave me. If you have a rose to give someone you love, don't wait until it is too late.

She leaves to mourn one daughter, Mrs. Jim Howell, and two precious grandchildren. I often wondered how her daughter could keep both homes going while her mother was sick. She made the remark one day that the Lord was walking beside her and helping her. I told her I believed He was carrying her. She was always so sweet, kind, and patient to Aunt Celia. The funeral service was held on Tuesday afternoon at Pleasant Grove church by the Rev. Lupton and the Rev. Leon Lewis. We trust that someday we will be able to meet her again where parting will be no more.

There is an open gate at the
end of the road
Through which each must go
alone
There is a light we cannot see,
Our Heavenly Father claims
His own.

A precious one from us has
gone
A voice we love is still
A place has been made vacant
Which can never be filled.

God bless memories she left
behind
The patience shown, and deeds
so kind
That we may seek to follow
her example
And leave a good record for
mankind.

Aunt Celia is gone, but she
will not be forgotten. The life
she lived and the good deeds
she did will live on and on.

Mrs. Cleatus Sullivan
Her Niece

WHO IS A MINISTER?

submitted by the Rev. Gary Bailey

A minister is one of an identifiable group called "Reverends," "Preachers," "Skypilots," "Holy Joes," "Clergy," "Chaplains," and "Pastors," but most commonly, "Ministers."

Ministers believe they are called by God to care for people in God's name. They like to assume that God is boss, but the people served sometimes remind them that their salary is paid by the congregation. Ministers are caught, therefore, somewhere between people and God, and maybe that is where they ought to be.

Ministers occasionally get put on pedestals. On pedestals, they seem just a bit better than others, at least a little less sinful, but then, one day, there is a fall, and people are disillusioned. Ministers would rather be where people are in the first place. They would like to be seen as someone who struggles, hopes, fights temptation, is discouraged and disappointed and sometimes does the wrong thing, just like anyone else, but in it all still tries to speak God's Word and do God's deed in the midst of God's people. Without a bit of the heavenly, ministers wouldn't be much good to the earthly, but without being "in and of" the earth, they couldn't really serve the heavenly.

Ministers think they have something to say that God wants said. In the process, the ego gets tickled. Just standing in a pulpit on Sunday mornings with most folk looking on

expectantly, even if others are asleep, does give a minister a certain feeling of self-importance. However, there are always those who let them know, afterward, that what was said wasn't all that great!

Ministers, most often, have families, but, except for vacations, they don't have much chance to enjoy them. They find that life is often one meeting after another, some good and many a bore. In the church, ministers have to be administrators, custodians, counselors, mechanics, comforters, public speakers and flunkies. Their presence is expected on all kinds of occasions, and sometimes this can be fun. Whatever takes time, however, means just that much less for their families. It is little wonder that "preachers' kids" are sometimes among the most

ornery, give school teachers fits, and are the despair of their parents.

Ministers share a lot of other people's joys and sorrows, troubles and triumphs, sins and moral victories. It is the minister's privilege to share the depths of life with others, depths where God is. Once in a while, they find those depths in themselves.

In the end, it is a great, rewarding and joyous experience to be a minister.

COMING EVENTS . . .

- October—Entire Month
Designated by the State
Convention as Superan-
uation Month
- October 16—Albemarle Dis-
trict Woman's Auxiliary
Fall Convention
- October 16—Western Con-
ference
- October 18—Pee Dee
Association Annual
Meeting, White Oak Free
Will Baptist Church,
Bladenboro
- October 22, 23—Eastern
Conference
- October 25—Piedmont District
Woman's Auxiliary Fall
Convention

Editorial

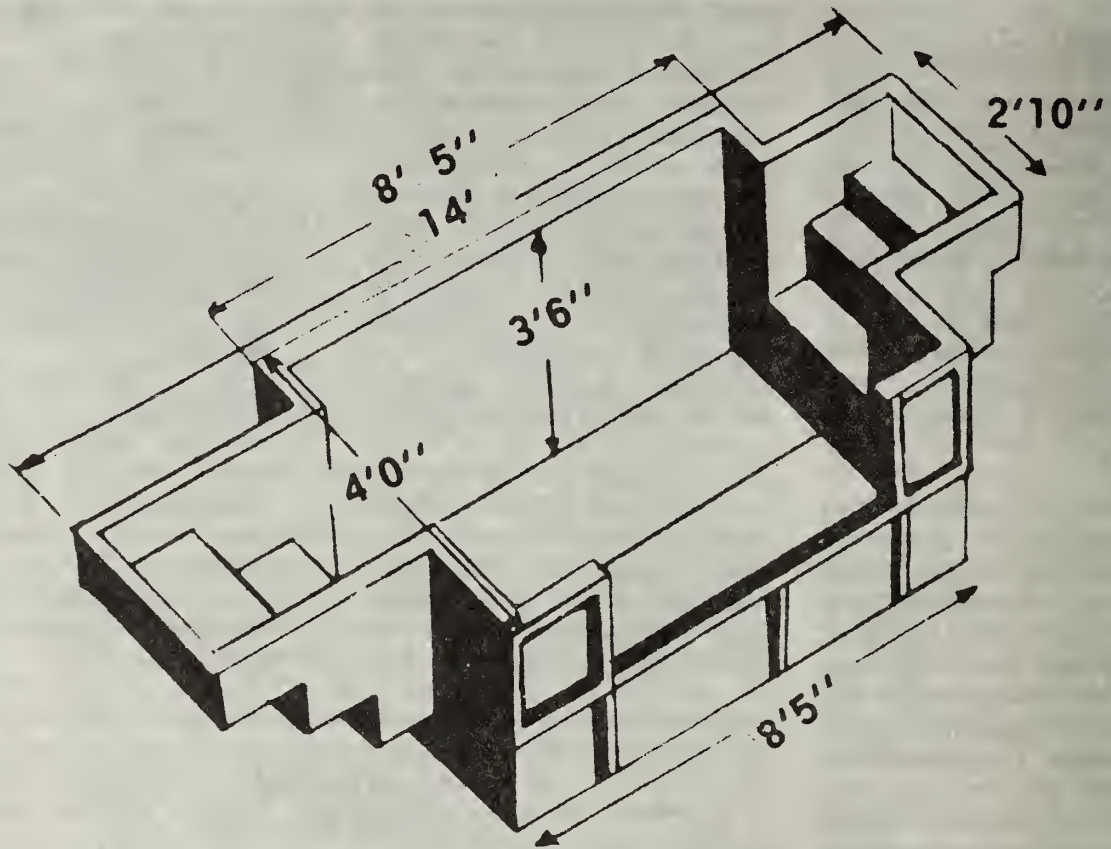
(Continued from Page 2)

spiritual health, the personal growth, and the social fellowship of existing Christians." Such self-centered education does not motivate people toward involvement in the church's mission of growth and outreach." The purpose of outward-focused schools is quite different. They "exist primarily to participate in God's Great Commission and to train and equip laity for ministry to the world." Their focus is to make disciples of others.

When two hundred pastors and executives of various denominations were asked recently why the Sunday school movement was experiencing problems, one of the two answers given the most was: "Classes not concerned with reaching/recruiting new people." If this is the case, and it seems to be, it is time that we—you and I—look at what we are doing. Are we ministering to our own? Are we doing all we can for the cause of Christ?

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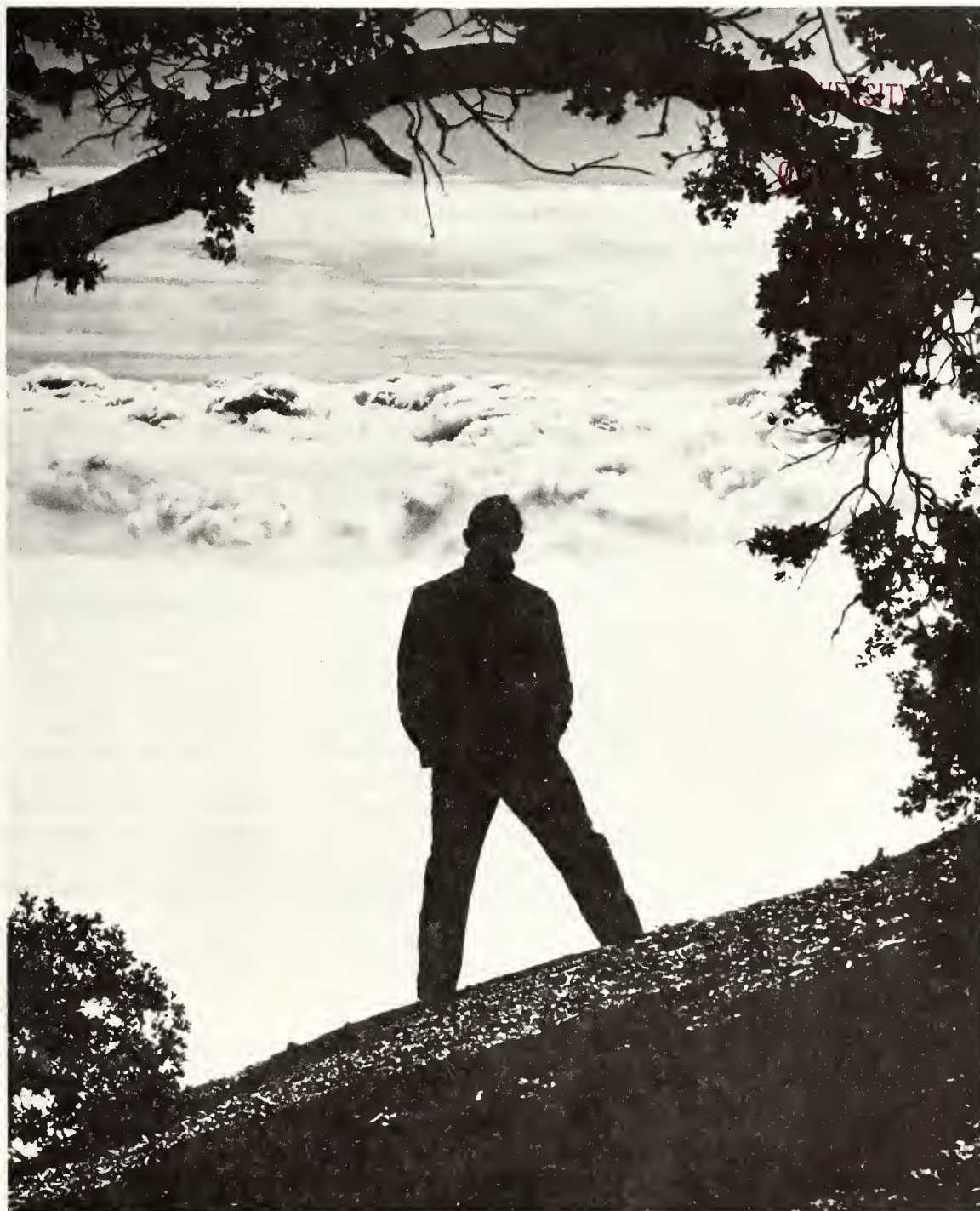
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—WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA—

MINISTRY IN THE 80s

This address was delivered by the Rev. De Wayne Eakes as the concluding message at the Ministers' Institute, at Mount Olive College, August 12.

TO introduce this topic I shall quote from two very familiar sources. The first is the hymn written by Charles Wesley, "A Charge to Keep I Have." The second and fourth stanzas are particularly relevant to this discussion: "To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill; O may it all my powers engage, to do my Master's will—Help me to watch and pray and on Thyself rely, and let me ne'er my trust betray, but press to realms on high." The second quote is this word of Jesus as recorded in Matthew 16:25, ". . . whoever will save his life shall lose it; and whoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it." These two concepts are central to an understanding of genuine discipleship which is adequate to prepare us for ministry in the 80s.

Another element which surely must be considered is the rise of secularism. Harvey Cox in his upsetting book, *The Secular City*, projected the demise of the authority and health of organized religion and the church as we know it in the latter decades of the twentieth century. Secularism is defined as follows: "a system of belief, or an attitude which in principle denies the existence or the significance of realities other than those which can be measured by the

methods of natural science . . . a way of life and an interpretation of life that include only the natural order of things and that do not find God, or a realm of spiritual reality, necessary for life or thought."¹ Basically, this world, a secular world which has come to trust in technology as its modern Baal, is the world to which the church must address itself in discipleship in order to know a viable ministry for the 80s. In a discussion of conservation of energy and ecological concerns in our oldest adult Sunday school class the statement was made, "I believe that before our fossil fuels are depleted we will be able to develop adequate alternative fuel supplies." Of course this person was making this statement from the faith perspective that modern technology is God's gift which enables us to have responsible dominion over the earth. The majority of our nation holds this view minus the faith perspective.

Recent surveys conducted in the spring of 1978 surveying 3,062 "unchurched" and 3,062 "churched" Americans reveal some challenging facts.² "Some sixty-one million American adults are not members of any church or religious institution."³ Eighty

percent of Americans believe that he or she can be a good Christian or Jew without attending a church or synagogue. Ninety-four percent of Americans believe in God, seventy-seven percent of all Americans believe that Jesus Christ was the Son of God or God but only forty-one percent attend church regularly.⁴ The researchers say that "The results of this survey show nationwide acceptance of traditional values. Thus, while the 1960s and 1970s have sometimes been labeled decades of revolt and disillusionment, the 1980s may come to be regarded as a return to normalcy."⁵ They mean by this that views on authority, family ties, hard work, drug usage, and sex are showing strong traditional leanings. Furthermore, the vast majority project less emphasis on money and more emphasis on positive self-expression.

The surveys also checked out attitudes toward organized religion. Public confidence in the church or organized religion is higher than in eight other key institutions of society. About six in ten nationally express "a great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in the church or organized religion. Among the

(Turn the Page)

churched the percentage expressing this high confidence was eighty percent as compared to thirty-eight percent among the unchurched.⁶

What does all this mean to us as we minister in the 80s? First, just as Dr. Carlyle Marney did, so must we begin all of our theological thinking with the maxim that "people are paramount." This attitude can be marvelously documented from the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Christian ministry must keep the person in stage center in lieu of rules, self-perceived absolutes or our own pet theories. This is not to say that rules or absolutes, such as God seen as supreme, or love as normative, should be discarded; but in ministry we must keep the person, his needs, worth, etc. central as we move toward fulfilling our discipleship under God.

"What is needed is for the church to speak with a sane voice, and be a community of compassion and grace for all who struggle to find love and dignity in their lives. We do not honor our Lord," said Marney, "when we stereotype people, condemn them without knowing who they are, and isolate them from the bonds of community."⁷

Second, we must have a real view of people as they are instead of some superficial dichotomy upon which we apply a judgmental nomenclature such as "saints and sinners." "Confusion, hypocrisy, greed and selfishness are with us all the days of our lives and masks of deception are not wholly removed even after a visit of the Holy Spirit. The 'redeemed' person (as Martin Luther said) is redeemed from sin but not sinning. Confidence in life comes not through claiming goodness for ourselves but in trusting in the renewing, forgiving grace of God."⁸ We must learn to see

ourselves as we really are in our relationships with God and each other. The following quote from the children's book, **The Velveteen Rabbit**, which is a discussion between an "Old Skin Horse" and a "New Velveteen Rabbit" illustrates this much needed point of being really real or honest in our religion:

"What is real," asked the Rabbit one day, when they were lying side by side in the nursery . . . "Does it mean having things that buzz inside you and a stick out handle? Real isn't how you're made," said the Skin Horse. "It's a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but really loves you, then you become Real." "Does it hurt?" asked the Rabbit. "Sometimes," said the Skin Horse, for he was always truthful. "When you are Real you don't mind being hurt." "Does it happen all at once, like being wound up," he asked, "or bit by bit?" "It doesn't happen all at once," said the Skin Horse. "You become. It takes a long time. That's why it doesn't often happen to people who break easily, or have sharp edges, or who have to be carefully kept. Generally, by the time you are Real, most of your hair has been loved off, and your eyes drop out and you get loose in the joints and very shabby. But these things don't matter at all, because once you are Real you can't be ugly, except to people who don't understand! . . ." The Rabbit sighed. He thought it would be a long time before this magic called Real happened to

him. He longed to become Real, to know what it felt like; and yet the idea of growing shabby and losing his eyes and whiskers was rather sad. He wished that he could become real without these uncomfortable things happening to Him.⁹

Christ's emphasis was not to teach us how to become little gods unto ourselves but how to become Real. To teach us to become wholly human and to learn to be priests to each other is the goal of ministry. In the 80s with sham, hypocrisy and every sin under the heavens imaginable being committed in the name of religion we must be Real with our people and stress to them a need for a real discipleship. And a discipleship which costs us nothing is not Real.

Third, we must redefine for ourselves and our fellow pilgrims the term "discipleship." We must ask constantly, "What does it mean, in terms of the local congregation, to be God's pilgrim people in a secularized world?"¹⁰ We must hear the words of Christ anew, "Therefore go and make disciples . . ." (Matthew 28:19a). We cannot afford to sit back in our beautiful edifices and say here we are, come to the church! The mandate for discipleship is as recorded in the high priestly prayer of Christ in John 17. We are not to segregate ourselves in our comfortable pews but we are to congregate in the world. The call is to discipleship . . . following the Master ministering among men in the world. His call to us is "Go." He says "Come" to me, be saved, be made whole, become Real; then He always says "Go," "Tell," "Share . . . the good news, the good life I give." As old Dr. Vance Havener says, "We are called to serve, not sit in the Kingdom of God." Christ calls us to be salt and light for the

world, leavening in a secular society. To accomplish this we must adopt a self-emptying model of discipleship. When we as leaders can lead our churches to adopt this attitude and method of discipling we will find that in our emptying we will be filling our churches with disciples instead of pew-sitters.

A word that I have heard used to describe this type of discipleship is "Para-clerics." world, leavening in a secular society. To accomplish this we nurtured to the point that they can engage in an active, effective Christian witness. It means showing Christians how to make their vocation a means of discipleship wherever they happen to be. This is, I believe, what Charles Wesley had in mind in the words of his great hymn, "A Charge to Keep I Have" and what Christ meant by "losing our life for His sake." This is the direction that ministry must take in the secularized world of the 80s!

¹ Leslie Newbigin, *Honest Religion for Secular Man*, The Westminster Press; Philadelphia, Penn., 1966, p. 8.

² Surveys by the Princeton Religion Research Center and The Gallup Organization, Inc., 1978, Princeton, N. J.

³ *The Unchurched American*, The Princeton Religion Research Center, Princeton, N. J., 1978, p. 1.

⁴ *Ibid*, p. 27ff.

⁵ *Ibid*, p. 5.

⁶ *Ibid*, p. 7.

⁷ "Carlyle Marney As Ethicist", *Theology Today*, July 1980, Vol. 37, No. 2, p. 173.

⁸ *Ibid*.

⁹ Margery Williams, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, Doubleday and Co., Garden City, N. Y., 1971, pp. 16-20.

¹⁰ Newbigin, *Honest Religion for Secular Man*.

Home Missions

by Taylor Hill

Free Spirit Mission Organizes into Church



Congregation at Free Spirit

On September 27, 1980, the Western Conference organized the Free Spirit Mission into a church. The conference board members who were present were: Clyde Cox, moderator; Rudy Owens, assistant moderator; Johnny Howell, clerk; Luther Bissette, treasurer; Harry Brown, member at large. Other guests were State Home Missions Board Chairman, Ray Welis; Taylor Hill, Executive Director; Dean Kennedy, Field Promotor; and a total of seven members from the Haymount Mission in Fayetteville, North Carolina. It was a blessed occasion. There were several inspiring testimonies. After the service refreshments were served.

The pastor, Dale Albertson, and his family—wife, Jasmine; son, Britt; and daughter, Greta—started the work approximately six years ago. There have been many mistakes, tears and disappointments but Satan has been the loser. We can be proud of

the Free Spirit church. Its future looks very good.



Pastor Dale Albertson with wife, Jasmine, and children, Greta and Britt.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

I am persuaded that there is some good and bad in everybody.

The human mind has the ability to keep secrets because God saw from the beginning that it was necessary. I agree with God.

OCTOBER IS

SUPERANNUATION MONTH



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 22:6

TOMB AND WOMB

Yesterday is in the tomb. Tomorrow is in the womb!

The future goes forward on the feet of little children. It is ours to nurture and train the little ones in the right way and go that way ourselves.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should train and teach little children to love and obey God by setting good examples for them to follow. They could be watching and observing to see how love shines in our lives. Don't we want our lives to always show the love of God?

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 2:5

"TAKE MY HAND, PRECIOUS LORD"

During the darkest days of World War II, King George VI said in a New Year's message, "I said to the man who stood at the gate of the New Year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' But he answered, 'Put your hand into the hand of God. That will be better than a light, and safer than a known way!'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God always has His hands open wide for His children to hold no matter what the problem in life may be. He understands and cares for us; therefore, we should hold fast to our faith in Him.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 11:1-3

CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE

Billy Graham testified, "I dueled with my doubts, and my soul seemed to be caught in the crossfire. Finally, in desperation, I surrendered my will to the living God. I knelt before the open Bible and said, 'Lord, many things in this Book I do not understand. But Thou hast said that the just shall live by faith. All that I have received from Thee, I have taken by faith. Here and now, I accept the Bible as Thy Word. I take it all. I take it without reservations. Where there are things I cannot understand, I will reserve judgment until I receive more light. Give me authority as I proclaim Thy Word, and through Thy Word convict sinners and turn them to the Saviour.'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

There should have been a great change in our lives when we opened our hearts to God. There should be no "crossfire" left, because God lives within us. We should read God's Word daily for added strength.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 2:25

LIKE LITTLE BO PEEP

Said Dr. C. George Fry, "Sheep counting is an agelong remedy for insomnia, but not so with clergymen. It only serves to keep them awake. Not since the depression have ministers had so much cause

for sleepless nights as they have today. Like little Bo Peep, they are wondering where all the sheep are!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God is concerned over all His sheep, because we are His children; therefore, this should be true with the clergyman. He should be concerned over each person in his congregation and community which he watches over.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

Scripture Reading—Psalm 19:1

EVERYTHING BEAUTIFUL

Many tourists who go to Ireland visit the Holy Trinity Church in Glengarriff. The church has some beautiful stained-glass windows. After a casual glance at them, the visitors go to a clear-glass window through which they see a most wondrous view—a lake of deepest blue, studded with rhododendron-carpeted islets, fringed by range after range of purple hills. When the sightseers step back slightly from the window, the scene seems to be actually in the glass itself!

How appropriate is the inscription beneath the window: "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1).

Of God's creation, the Bible says, "He (God) hath made everything beautiful in his time" (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of us like to take nature walks? Do we stop to observe the beauties of it? The

fall of the year is a good time to do this. Let's remember to thank God daily for the many blessings of life.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

Scripture Reading—Numbers 32:23

WHAT ONLY GOD CAN DO
Sometime ago Governor Frank G. Clement of Tennessee commuted the death sentence of five convicts to ninety-nine years imprisonment. He acted less than twenty-four hours after the State House of Representatives, by a 48-to-47 vote, rejected his plea to abolish the death penalty by statute. The Senate had earlier approved its abolition by a 27-to-7 vote.

Facing the condemned men who were behind barred doors, the governor said, "I personally have studied and prayed over this matter, and I hereby commute your sentence from death to ninety-nine years."

Rube Sims, scheduled to die that very day for murder, was the first to speak. Joyfully and tearfully, he exclaimed, "Praise the Lord! Thank you, governor. Thank You, God!" The others joined in a chorus of gratitude.

The governor spoke further saying, "I can commute your sentences. I have saved your lives, but I cannot pardon your sins. Only God can do that. Now I tell you to devote yourselves to prayer behind these prison walls. Try to do something for the good of mankind and look to the Lord who can and will forgive your sins and remember them against you no more!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Only God will judge and forgive our sins, remembering them against us no more. We should always serve and love the Lord, even when we are tempted to sin.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

Scripture Reading—James 4:17

USEFUL

Cotton Mather said that the pagans mistakenly identified the early Christians as "Chrestians." Perhaps the reason was because the Greek word *chrestos* meant "useful." Christians were considered "the useful ones." They followed the example of Christ, "who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil" (Acts 10:38b).

Do-nothingism in our sorrowing, suffering world is most reprehensible: "To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).

PRAYER THOUGHT

We can all be "useful" workers for God by witnessing, reading His Word, and obeying it. Why not tell someone about God's love today? Do something good for a neighbor?

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

IN MEMORY OF REBA GATES MALPASS

On the morning of September 11, 1980, our dear friend Mrs. Reba Malpass took her flight to Heaven. We at the Goldsboro First Free Will Baptist Church are heavy-hearted because of our loss, but yet we also realize that our loss here is Heaven's gain, and that one day we shall meet our dear sister again.

Mrs. Reba Gates Malpass was born November 1, 1909, the child of Ella and Charlie Erwin Gates. She spent most of her childhood in Lenoir County. She was active in church as a young person, and joined the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Duplin County.

Mrs. Reba married Robert Bruce Malpass on September 15, 1927, and their marriage was blessed with four children: Robert (Bobby) of Goldsboro; Peggy Culbert of Coconut Creek, Florida; James of Goldsboro; and Julia Holloman of Raleigh.

Mrs. Reba and her husband, Robert Bruce, joined the Goldsboro church in 1929 and were both very faithful until the angel of death came to take them home to Heaven. Mrs. Reba was always in her place in the church, and faithfully attended every service unless sickness prevented her. Her smiling face was such a welcome sight to us all.

She has served on every committee in the church down through the years. She was on the building committee in 1966 which made plans for and supervised the building of the present sanctuary at 604 East Ash Street.

The Woman's Auxiliary was doubly blessed for her service, for she has served as President of the Auxiliary and was an active member of the Ruth Circle. Every phase of the auxiliary work was a special challenge to this deeply courageous, consecrated woman. Her special love for the orphanage was shown by the gifts and the concern for the children there, along with her prayers and visits. Yes, our children at Middlesex have lost a very good friend and good supporter in Mrs. Reba.

Mrs. Reba had been awarded a Life Membership award in our local auxiliary. She also served as a teacher in the Home Department of the Sunday school where she went into the home of our shut-in members to teach the Sunday school lesson to them. She also was a member of the Cora Mitchell Sunday School Class. The Senior Citizens Group of our church—the Senior Sunbeams—was blessed to have

(Continued on Page 15)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

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A large number of public-spirited firms and industries will match the gifts of their employees to colleges like Mount Olive. Alumni, Free Will Baptists, and friends who work for these firms can literally double their support to our college by utilizing the matching gift opportunities.

Information and forms are available usually through the personnel or community relations department of the company. If the information is not available at the place of employment, the College will be glad to assist in securing it from the home office.

There are approximately 581 firms with matching gifts programs that include junior colleges. The College will be glad to furnish a complete list upon request.

During the 1979-80 fiscal year, Mount Olive College received \$10,685.53 from twenty-six companies to match the gifts of like amount of 102 employees. All together, the Matching Gifts Program accounted for \$21,264.48 in gift support to the College last year.

*Some companies contribute \$2 for every \$1 contributed by their employees.

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* Ashland Oil Foundation, Inc.	80.00	1	40.00	120.00
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Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company	900.00	4	900.00	1,800.00
Collins and Aikman Corporation	50.00	1	50.00	100.00
Daniel International Corporation	100.00	1	100.00	200.00
*Dun and Bradstreet Corporation Foundation	50.00	1	25.00	75.00
Eaton Corporation	125.00	1	125.00	250.00
Firestone Tire and Rubber Company	250.00	5	250.00	500.00
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Gifts to Moyer Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of September, 1980, totaled \$560 and are as follows:

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Mrs. Gladys Davis Alford by Sunday school, Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Middlesex.

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**IN SERVICE TO
 FREE WILL BAPTISTS
 Paul Palmer Institute:
 October 20—December 8
 (Mondays)**

The following courses will be taught on the campus of the College in the Henderson building. Registration and the first class will meet October 20 and all interested persons are encouraged to enroll.

"Introduction to Apocalyptic Writings"—7:00-8:15 p. m. A study of the Books of Daniel and Revelation taught by Dr. Michael R. Pelt. (3 units of Institute credits.)

"Christian Faith and Ethical Issues"—8:30-9:45 p. m. A study of the Christian faith and its implications for living a Christian life taught by the Rev. Frank Harrison. (3 units of Institute credits.)

Costs (Payable at first class): Credit: \$20 per course plus a one-time registration fee of \$10 Audit: (Non-credit) \$10 per course.

The Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies is designed

(Continued on Page 15)

and Mrs. Doug Connor, Mount Olive; and Mrs. Rachel Garris, Goldsboro.
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 Gilbert A. Whitford Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey A. Whitford and Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Harrison, Vanceboro.

In Honor of

F. Brent Baker by Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount Olive.
 Letha Baldree by Celia Hart Garris Woman's Auxiliary, Ayden



Bethany Centennial and Revival

On Sunday, October 19, at 11 a. m., Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, will observe its Centennial Celebration during homecoming services. Tribute will be paid to those who have labored faithfully in the church through the years, and there will be a memorial service for those who have died during the past year. The Rev. C. L. Patrick will deliver the homecoming message. It is expected to have a Yearbook ready for homecoming containing the history of the church and many other features. All former pastors, members, and friends are urged to attend this very special event in the life of Bethany church. The nursery will be open from 10 a. m. until noon. Lunch will be served during the noon hour followed by a time of Christian fellowship and gospel singing.

Beginning on Monday, October 20, at 7:30 p. m. and continuing through Friday, October 24, the Rev. W. S. Burns will be the evangelist for the fall revival. In addition to the gospel messages, there will be special music each evening. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Oak Grove to Have Homecoming and Revival

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Bladenboro invites everyone to worship at its homecoming services on Sunday, October 19, at 10 a. m. Dr. Burkette Raper of Mount Olive College will be teaching the Sunday school lesson and will also bring the morning worship service assisted by the Rev. James B. Hardee, pastor. The featured singers for the homecoming will be the Cashwell Family, Mrs. Helen

Skinner, and Oak Grove's Senior and Junior Choirs.

Revival services will begin on Sunday night, October 19, at 7:30 p. m., and will continue through Saturday, October 25. The Rev. Walter Sutton, pastor of Macedonia church in Vanceboro, will be bringing the messages for the week. The pastor extends a welcome to everyone to attend these services.

Revival in Progress At Watery Branch Church

Revival services are in progress through October 17, at Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Stantonsburg. Services are beginning each evening at 7:30. The Rev. Rudy Owens is the guest evangelist. Special singing is being featured each night. The pastor, the Rev. A. G. Smith, and the church members invite everyone to attend.

Winterville Church Has Harvest Sale

The Rev. Ed. Taylor, pastor of Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, reported the harvest sale sponsored by the Christian Fellowship Class of the church on October 4 was a tremendous success. Proceeds from the sale, including the auction and carwash, amounted to \$7,027.51. This amount will go towards the homecoming goal for the building fund.

The gospel sing before the auction was well attended and the Lord's presence was felt as The Psalms, The Gospel Chargers, and Jack Weathersby sang praises unto Him. Pastor Taylor was overwhelmed at the enthusiasm manifested in love and fellowship among everyone. He expressed great

appreciation to everyone who participated in any way.

Wintergreen Church to Have Revival and Homecoming

Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, will have homecoming on Sunday, November 2. All former pastors and their families are invited to attend. The Rev. Raymond Hardison will bring the morning message to be followed by lunch on the grounds. At 2:30 p. m., the Four in Christ will present the gospel in song.

Revival services will be held November 3-7 at 7:30 p. m. with the guest speaker for the week being the Rev. Charles Richardson, pastor of Smyrna church. There will be special singing each night. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Bobby Brown. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Memorial Church to Have Revival and Homecoming

Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Chocowinity, will have its annual homecoming service on Sunday, October 19. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. and the morning worship service will begin at 11 with the pastor, the Rev. Dallas Pinkham, bringing the message. Dinner will be served at noon.

The fall revival will begin on Monday night, October 20, and will continue through Friday night, October 24. Services will begin each night at 8 with the Rev. C. H. Overman of Ayden as the evangelist. All former pastors, members, and friends are cordially invited to attend all of these services.

Homecoming and Revival At Casey's Chapel Church

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 19, at Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church on Highway 70 East of Goldsboro. The Rev. Bryant Hines, pastor, will

deliver the morning message. During the hour, a memorial service will be held. Lunch will be served in the educational building at noon.

Revival services will begin on Monday night, October 20, and will continue through Friday, October 24, at 7:30 p. m., with the Rev. Harry Grubbs, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville, as the guest evangelist. Special singing will be featured each night. The public is invited to attend these services.

Revival Services to Be At Rose Hill Church

Revival services will be held at Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, October 20-24. The evangelist will be the Rev. Royce Reynolds. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each evening. The pastor of the church is the Rev. N. Dan Beaman. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Cape Fear Conference To Meet

The One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Session of the Cape Fear Conference will meet at Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 5, Dunn, on October 30. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 8:30—Registration
- 9:00—Congregational Singing
 - Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Billy R. Nowell
 - Welcome, the Rev. Jeff Scarborough
 - Response, the Rev. Foy C. Futrelle
- 9:15—Call to Order
 - Registration Rules Explanation by Credentials Committee Chairman
 - Roll Call of Officers
 - Roll Call of Churches
 - Roll Call of Ministers

- Recognition of Visitors
- Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin
- Appointment of Committees
- 9:45—Children's Home Report
- 10:00—Mount Olive College Report
- 10:15—Denominational Enterprise Reports
- 11:15—Congregational Singing
 - Offering and Offertory Prayer
 - Special Music
 - Sermon, the Rev. Mike Scott
- 12:00—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15—Congregational Singing
 - Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. T. C. Farmer
 - 1:25—Report of Standing Committees
 - Executive Committee
 - Ordaining Council
 - Sunday School Convention
 - Cape Fear Mission Board
 - Woman's Auxiliary
 - Cape Fear Ministers' Conference
 - Board of Education
 - 2:15—Report of Temporary Committees
 - Temperance
 - Resolution
 - Obituary
 - Credentials
 - Nominating
 - 3:00—Business Session
 - Treasurer's Report, Mr. Harvey Hinson
 - Adjournment
- Song Director, Mr. Johnnie Woodall

Revival Services Scheduled At Friendship Church

Revival services will be held October 20-25 at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Farmville. The guest evangelist for the week will be the Rev. L. B. Manning. The pastor, the Rev. Walter Reynolds, will be assisting in the services.

Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

Marlboro Church Announces Revival and Homecoming

Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Farmville, will be having a week of revival services October 20-24. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The Rev. Danny Braswell, pastor of Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, will be the guest evangelist.

On Sunday, October 26, the church will be observing its annual homecoming day. Lunch will be served after the morning message, which will be delivered by the Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to share in these special services.

Homecoming at Mount Zion Church

The annual homecoming day will be observed at Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church of Roper, on Sunday, October 19. Following the Sunday school hour, the Rev. Charlie Overton, pastor of the church, will bring the morning message, at 11 a. m. A picnic lunch will be served on the church grounds at noon. After lunch a singspiration will begin featuring the Gospel Countrymen Quartet of Elizabeth City and the Free Union Free Will Baptist Church Quartet of Pinetown. All members, past members, pastors, and friends of the church are invited to attend.

Western Conference to Meet

The Ninety-Fourth Annual Session of the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet at First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, on October 16, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Hymn
- 9:35—Devotions, the Rev. Larry Barbour

(Continued on Page 14)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For October 26

GOD'S COVENANT AND EZRA

Lesson Text: Nehemiah 8:3;
9:32-38

Memory Verse: Nehemiah 8:8

I. INTRODUCTION

God's punishment can be terribly severe, but usually it does not come without warning. People can avoid it if they will.

As the people of Israel stood at the border of the promised land, they rejoiced in the assurance of victory, peace, and prosperity if they would keep God's covenant. At the same time they were warned of what would happen if they did not keep the covenant. They would have trouble of every kind, and finally lose their land and be scattered (Deuteronomy 28:15-68). That was exactly what happened.

Born and reared in Babylon or Persia, Nehemiah became a trusted friend and helper of the Persian emperor. Learning of the affliction of his people in Jerusalem, Nehemiah requested that the king send him to build again the ruined walls of the city. The king agreed and appointed him governor of Judah.

In Jerusalem Nehemiah rallied the people and went at the building with vigor. Soon the massive walls were finished (Nehemiah 6:15). Then it was time to rebuild the moral and spiritual structure that also had been neglected.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In the lesson last Sunday, we saw that Jeremiah

prophesied to Judah just before her downfall. The nation of Israel had been captured by the Assyrians. Then during the ministry of Jeremiah the Babylonians came and captured the country of Judah. In each case many of the strongest and best citizens were taken captive. In this lesson today, we are concerned with the return after the captivity.

B. The return of the remnant of the Jews to Judah took place in three movements. The first one took place about 538 B. C. when Cyrus the Persian issued the decree which gave the Jews the liberty to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. Only a small group, led by Zerubbabel, responded. The second one took place about 458 B. C., a generation later. This group was led by Ezra. The third movement took place when Nehemiah was given permission to return to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem about 445 B. C.

C. The accounts of the return of these three groups of captives to the homeland are given in the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah. In the first half of Ezra we have the return under Zerubbabel, and in the second half we have the return under the leadership of Ezra himself. The final return under Nehemiah for the purpose of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem is described in the Book of Nehemiah.

D. Ezra was one of the captives in Babylon. In fact, it seems certain that he was born there. He was a priest and a scribe. As one would

expect, he was concerned mostly about the reopening of the temple and the reestablishing of worship in the homeland. Nehemiah, a cupbearer in the court of Artaxerxes, heard about the condition of the wall around the city of Jerusalem and became interested in going back and rebuilding it. He received permission from the king to make this trip.

—The Bible Teacher
(F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The events of our lesson today took place in the years immediately following the return of the Israelites from the Babylonian Captivity, during the time known as the Restoration of Judah. For some seventy years they had been in a foreign land, under the rule first of Babylon and then of Persia. Their homeland, especially Jerusalem, still lay in partial ruin from the invasion of the Babylonians when the captivity began. There was an urgent need for rebuilding and restoring, a need somewhat similar to that of the South following the Civil War.

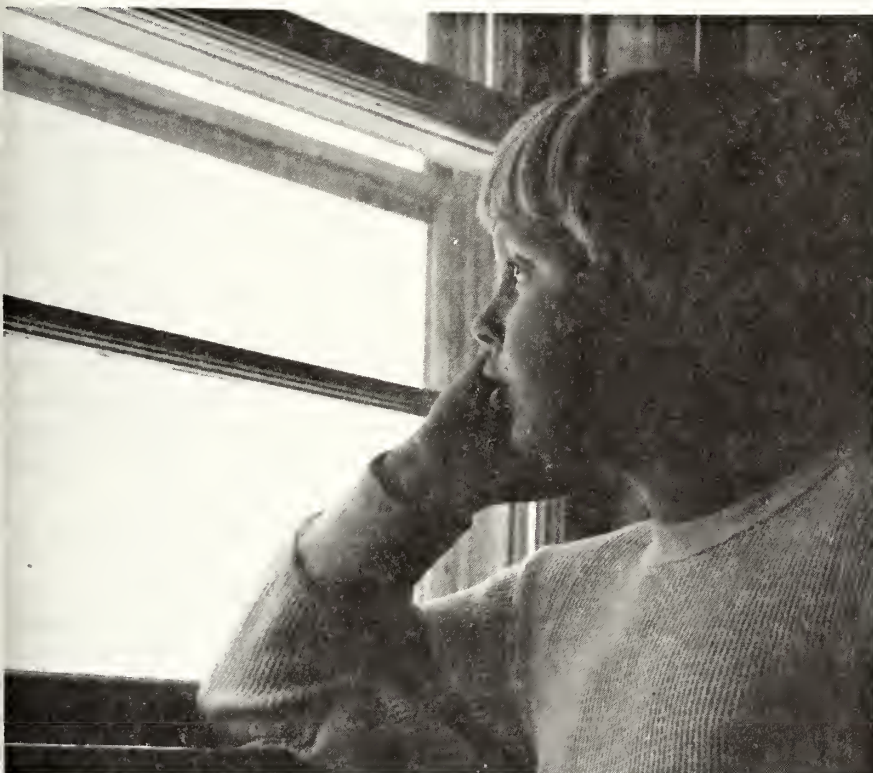
B. God saw the need for rebuilding not only the land, homes, and the city walls, but also the temple which stood as a representative of their need for God. He knew that until Judah's spiritual life was strengthened, there could be no real national life. Hence, He called forth such men as Zerubbabel, Nehemiah, and Ezra. The first two would be concerned primarily with rebuilding the spiritual life of the people. These men served as provincial governors of Judah under the close scrutiny of their Persian overlords. They had almost complete freedom, but were obligated to make periodic reports to their superiors.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F. W. B.)

The Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILD CARE



As far back as the mid-70s the Children's Home had begun to realize the need for some children to be placed in private homes. Some youngsters need the special care and love that a mother who has a very small group of children can give. Not all children fit in the large campus groups customary on children's home campuses. Some are too young to be cared for adequately in group care. Others have physical or mental handicaps or some other disability that might prevent them from having their needs met on the campus. Also, the child who may be destined for long-term care without very much parental involvement may be better

served in a foster home where he or she can grow up in the nearest example of a real family that we can provide.

Foster homes enable us to serve children from birth to adulthood. Since we usually don't receive children under age five on campus, foster homes enable us to offer care from the earliest moments of life. Care for special children is possible also. The campus program can admit only children with a narrow range of abilities. Foster homes, on the other hand, can care for many different types of children with varying needs. Foster parents can be taught to deal with all kinds of handicaps. In a foster home the special child escapes the

pressures that can be exerted on those who are "different," as might be the case when living on a campus with "normal" children.

The Children's Home currently has about ten children in foster care. We are looking for Christian couples who are willing to share their home and family with one to four children who need a special touch. The children may range in age from birth to the teen years. Some of them will be able to grow up with the family serving as legal custodian. Working mothers can be foster parents, as long as adequate day care is available.

Foster parents receive no pay for their work. Funds made available are only sufficient to cover room and board. The Children's Home also furnishes clothing, medical and dental care for foster children.

There is a child that needs the love you can give. Why not write to us today and let us help you share the love God has given you for others through our foster home program? Some child will be glad you did!

Write Muriel Overman, Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., P. O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557.

COMING EVENTS

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 16—Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention

October 16—Western Conference

October 18—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, White Oak Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro

October 22, 23—Eastern Conference

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 11)

- 9:50—Welcome, Host Church
- Response, Rufus Hare
- Roll Call of Ministers, Clerk
- Roll Call of Churches, Clerk
- Recognition of Visitors, Moderator
- Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. Clyde Cox
- Business Session
- 10:45—Report of Mount Olive College
- 11:00—Hour of Worship
- Offering
- Special Music, Host Church
- Conference Message, the Rev. Royster Martin
- 12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Devotions, the Rev. Roy T. Clifton
- 1:15—Report of Carolina Bible Institute
- Report of Cragmont
- Report of Home Missions
- Report of Retirement Homes
- Report of State Convention
- Report of Board of Ordination
- Report of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
- Report of Superannuation Board
- Report of Foreign Missions
- Report of Children's Home
- Report of Executive Board
- Report of Church Finance Association
- Report of Temporary Committees
- Report of Ministerial Character Board
- Report of Credentials Committee
- Report of Treasurer
- Final Business Session

—Closing Devotions, the Rev. Harold Jones
—Adjournment

Song Leader, the Rev. Royster Martin
Pianist, Host Church

OCTOBER IS SUPERANNUATION MONTH

TO: Co-Workers in Original Free Will Baptist Churches
SUBJECT: "Superannuation Month"

Dear Co-Workers:

We greatly appreciate your faithful support in the past and it is reassuring to know that we can continue to depend on your support for the future.

At the present time we have two ministers and four minister's widows on our Superannuated list and eighteen on our Ministerial Retirement System list. The annual State Convention approved a budget for the coming year in the amount of \$37,500, based upon \$1.50 per member of the churches. We urge our churches to support this program.

The Board of Superannuation continues to recommend that the churches support their pastor and provide for him the benefits offered through the board.

Prayer is requested for the work of Superannuation and for the members of the North Carolina Board of Superannuation.

Remember that October is Superannuation Month and send your gifts for this cause.

For further information write North Carolina Board of Superannuation, P. O. Box 474, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

Respectfully,
Walter Reynolds

COMING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 13)

October 25—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention

PASTOR APPRECIATION BY WINTERGREEN CHURCH

submitted by Jill Davis

The Rev. Bobby Brown is greatly appreciated by the Christian members of Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church. His devotion to and his stand on the Word of God is what the world needs today. Pastor Brown is a man of God and will not compromise God's Word.

Pastor Brown has a lovely family standing behind him. His wife, Betsy, has been a blessing to him as well as to us in the church. Her devotion to the Lord and her never-ending work for the Lord is as a running river, never-ending and full of fresh ideas and love to be shared by all. They have two children, both who are standing on God's solid rock and who show qualities of deep devotion and love for God and God's people.

Pray for our church here at Wintergreen and for our pastor, as we grow in the Lord. We are all here to serve the Lord in spirit and in truth. Spreading God's Word and winning lost souls to Christ is our purpose here on earth and doing this in the manner the Lord tells us to. Pastor Brown in his ministry is a blessed example of God's plan for His people. We here at Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church thank God for him and his family and pray God will continue to bless him and continue to use him here at Wintergreen.

NOTE OF THANKS

We express our deep appreciation to you for your interest, concern, gifts, cards, flowers, and most of all for your prayers during my illness. I am progressing satisfactorily after being hospitalized in Sea Level Hospital, July 11-14, and

Continued on Page 15

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 9)

for ministers and lay persons who wish to prepare themselves for more effective service to Christ and the church. Although these courses do not carry college credit, they do carry Institute credit and persons who complete the prescribed program will earn a certificate. The Institute takes its name from the Rev. Paul Palmer who is recognized as the founder of the first Free Will Baptist Church in North Carolina in 1727.

For information regarding additional courses, contact: The Rev. Frank R. Harrison; phone (919) office 658-2605 home 658-9363.

COLLEGE DINNER OFF TO GOOD BEGINNING

The 1980 Church Dinners for Mount Olive College have begun on a successful note. Mrs. Jean Ackiss, director of the dinners, reported that gifts at the Lenoir County dinner, the first to be held this year, totaled \$5,788, an increase of twenty percent over last year. Attendance was 247.

The largest contribution was \$1,440 by the LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, the Rev. Earl Glenn, pastor, and Milford Singleton, chairman. Largest contribution per capita was by Hugo church,

the Rev. Tom Miller, pastor, and Mrs. Ruby Eubanks, chairman.

The dinner was held October 4 in Kinston with Stanley Jenkins and the Rev. Adrian Grubbs serving as co-chairmen.

MOC PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

A homecoming service is planned at Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Bladenboro in Bladen County on Sunday, October 19.

The Rev. J. B. Hardee, pastor, announced that Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes at 10 a. m. and speak during the 11 a. m. worship service.

IN MEMORY OF REBA GATES MALPASS

(Continued from Page 7)

Mrs. Reba as a member, where she played with the Rhythm Band.

All throughout her life, Mrs. Reba could be counted on to support all the programs of the church, along with the denominational enterprises. She led others to do so also.

The local hospital, Wayne Memorial, was blessed by Mrs. Reba as she served as a volunteer for nine years. She worked in the mail room, with the notions cart, and in the gift

shop. Many sick people had their day brightened by her radiant smile, and her kind, loving words of encouragement as she made her rounds. It made going to the hospital worthwhile to have this contact with her.

Yes, to all of us who were blessed to know her, Mrs. Reba demonstrated Christianity in action in her daily life with everyone. We dearly loved this precious saint, and are looking forward to that great homecoming day in Heaven when she greets us there.

She leaves behind her four children, eleven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren; also three sisters, Pheobe Huggins, Nanny Aldridge, and Mary Raynor, and one brother, Charlie Erwin Gates.

Respectfully submitted,
Goldsboro, First Free Will Baptist Church

The Rev. Norman Ard, Pastor
Mrs. Hazel Casey, Church Clerk

NOTE OF THANKS

(Continued from Page 14)

September 6-17, in Kinston as a result of unstable angina pectoris. I am not in the pastorate now. I am at our home, Route 1, Box 100C, Seven Springs, North Carolina 28578.

Thank you again for your concern; may the Lord continue to bless each of you. Please remember us when you pray.

James A. Evans

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

The Scriptures relate that Jesus' return will be sudden, and as Christians, our key word should be "Watch!" We should be prepared, for when Christ returns we will not have "time to pray for forgiveness, to apologize for a wrong, to give up a sin, to express thanks for a kindness."

The question we need to consider is whether or not Jesus is our Lord. Are we living for Him? We also need to ask what we are doing to further His cause. No, we can't predict when Jesus will return, but we can prepare for that return, for therein is our hope founded.

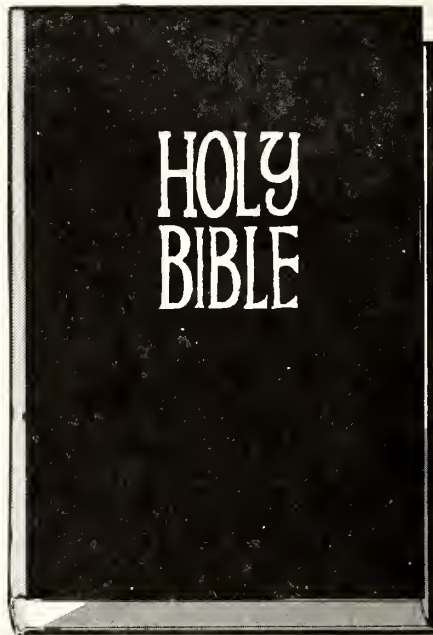
MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Gurney R. Chase announces that he is available for pastoral work. He is a member of the Eastern Conference and has just completed his pastorate at Sound View Free Will Baptist Church. He may be contacted at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or phone 523-3429.

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DIVISION
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Zion Free Will Baptist Church

Blakely, Georgia
Donald Coates, Pastor



CHURCH OF THE MONTH

Church of the Month

History of Zion Free Will Baptist Church

submitted by the Rev. Donald Coates



School House—Fellowship Hall

IN April, 1880, Mt. Hebron (White Plains) extended arms to Zion church, then belonging to the Missionaries in the Sowhatchee Community. The constitution of Zion church was formed during October, 1880. The Rev. W. B. Lane was pastor and J. W. Anglin was clerk. The church presbytery consisted of the Rev. W. B. Lane and G. T. Wiley. In March, 1881, it was agreed to extend arms back to the School House, the former place of worship. On Saturday before the second Sunday, November, 1881, Zion and Mt. Hebron came together and agreed to consolidate with the regular meetings to be held at Zion church. At a meeting of the presbytery and after due examination of members present, it was considered that a church of Free Will Baptists be formed. In June, 1882, a committee was appointed for the purpose of building a house of worship. Then in March, 1883, the committee was dismissed, and the entire membership was appointed on the building committee. In August, 1883, Brother Jordan Walters was received by letter from Zion Missionary Church, and he presented the deeds and land to Zion church. The church was to retain its name of Zion, and the Free Will Baptists were to put it in good repair and keep it so.

The first church building was of wood. On October 10, 1954, under the pastoral

leadership of the Rev. T. B. Mellette, a building committee was appointed, composed of Henry Green Wiley, J. D. English, Hollis Still, Martin Still, and Gordon Lane. A building fund was started in February, 1955. A new church was everyone's desire, but everyone was afraid to mention something so far beyond our reach. Our pastor said, "Why not build a new church? We can, you know, by the help of our Lord." A building fund was started and an offering received the second Sunday in each month. The first offering was \$17.95—this was a beginning. This was deposited in a savings account. By 1961, we had \$5,080.50. We had been having Sunday school in the School House so it was decided to remove a wall between the two big rooms and make it large enough to have our church services in. Improvements were made in the foundation, sills, and floors; and we worshiped in it for eight months. Brother Mellette, with the help of some of the members, had drawn up the plans for a new church. The old church building had been torn down, and much of the old lumber was used in the framework of the new building. Right after Christmas in 1962, we held our first service in our new church. It was not finished, but we could worship in it. In February, 1962, \$1,200 was borrowed from the bank to complete the

(Turn the Page)

inside. Our pastor gave his part of the offering and for seven months all second-Sunday offerings went on this note. On December 24, 1962, the bank note was paid. Zion church was out of debt. Praise the Lord! On January 9, 1963, a dedication service was held. A heating and cooling system was installed in October, 1965. The church voted to repair the School House—Fellowship Hall at the same time. A new piano was purchased in June, 1966. In January, 1967, the church voted to increase the building fund by receiving an offering each second Sunday for the purpose of adding Sunday school rooms, a baptistry, and pastor's study to the present building. The School House was wired for electricity in November, 1967; and in December remodeling of the church was begun. In February, 1968, we borrowed \$5,000 from the bank. In May, 1970, new pews were purchased. In October, 1972, Zion church was once again out of debt, thanks to our God. Deacons were in charge of annex repair. In October, 1974, the Sunday school rooms were carpeted. In the spring of 1975 a steeple was purchased for the church. The church was also roofed. In November, 1975, an organ was presented to the church. In July, 1976, renovation on the interior of the School House was begun to panel the dining hall, lower ceilings, and make other necessary improvements. Stained glass windows were installed in the church. A speaker system with amplifier was presented to the church. In April, 1977, a new heating and cooling system was purchased. In July, 1978, a mobile home was purchased for our pastor to live in. A committee, consisting of Mrs. Hallie Still, Mrs. Duane Davis, and Mrs. Sue Hughes, was appointed to contact the members to pay off the School House restoration note. In January, 1979, the note was paid. This same committee served to accept pledges for a parsonage. In October, 1979, work was begun on the parsonage. The Donald Coateses moved into the parsonage on March 1, 1980.

When Zion church was organized, and for many years afterwards, the members met only once each month for services. Church conference was held on Saturday, at

which time the church roll was called. Members were dismissed from the church for absence, distilling whiskey, unchristian conduct, profanity, playing cards, dancing and drinking. Unless the member confessed the error of his way and asked the church for forgiveness, he would be subject to dismissal from the church or excommunication. Eventually, many church members objected to this manner of church discipline. The date of discontinuing the roll call is unknown.

In 1954 under the leadership of the Rev. T. B. Mellette, the church voted to go "half-time" (two Sundays each month instead of one worship service).

The church conference was changed from Saturday to Sunday with a fellowship lunch (date unknown).

In January, 1975, the Rev. Daniel Pelt seriously discussed a full-time ministry at Zion, suggesting we look for someone to serve as full-time pastor.

After Mr. Pelt's death in June, 1975, the Rev. W. F. McDuffie served as a "fill-in" until the church called the Rev. Dwight Hawley and voted to initiate full-time worship services, which means the church meets each Sunday in the year for worship at both morning and evening services.

In the beginning, Sunday school was conducted in the afternoon. This was discontinued in the early 1950's, and Sunday school is held now on Sunday morning. As of this date, the Sunday school enrollment is 81. Our Sunday school literature is purchased from the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, North Carolina.

The Woman's Auxiliary was first organized by the Rev. T. B. Mellette in 1928. Mrs. Laurie Anderson was the first president, and the membership consisted of six. The Woman's Auxiliary has been and is a very active and vital organization. It is dedicated to missions and all denominational enterprises. It is one of the two auxiliaries in the Paul Palmer Conference. As of April, 1980, the membership includes 24. Several members of Zion's Auxiliary have attended the Woman's Auxiliary Conference held annually at Cragmont.

(Continued on Page 13)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

DINNER CONTRIBUTIONS MARK INCREASE

Two of the seventeen annual dinners for the benefit of Mount Olive College have been held; and Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, Co-ordinator of the 1980 Mount Olive College Dinners, reports that North Carolina Free Will Baptists are showing great support for their College through the fund-raising event.

A total of \$12,588.27 in gift support has come to the College, states Mrs. Ackiss, from the first two dinners, which were held in Lenoir and Beaufort Counties. The Lenoir County dinner brought in \$5,853, an increase of 20 percent over the previous year; and Beaufort County contributed \$6,735, an increase of 21.3 percent.

A schedule follows of the remaining 1980 Mount Olive College dinners:

Pamlico County, Saturday, October 25, 7 p. m., Camp Vandemere, M. M. (Tom) Caroon, Chairman. Goal: \$5,500

Wayne County, Monday, October 27, 7 p. m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Miss Louise Edgerton, Chairman. Goal: \$17,550

Nash County, Tuesday, October 28, 7 p. m., Middlesex Elementary School, Lester Duncan, Chairman. Goal: \$3,550

Craven County, Thursday, October 30, 7 p. m., West Craven Junior High School, New Bern, Miss Marice DeBruhl, Chairman. Goal: \$8,825

Duplin County, Saturday, November 1, 6 p. m., East

Duplin High School, Beulaville, Chris Singleton, Chairman. Goal: \$9,800

Johnston-Wake Counties, Monday, November 3, 7 p. m. Everett Chapel church (Spiritual Life Building), Clayton, Leonard B. Woodall, Chairman. Goal: \$23,800

Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank, and Chowan Counties, Thursday, November 6, 7:30 p. m., Washington County Union School, Roper, David Cahoon, Chairman. Goal: \$5,175

Greene County, Saturday November 8, 7 p. m. West Greene School, Snow Hill, George Harrison, Chairman. Goal: \$8,625

Pitt County, Tuesday, November 11, 7 p. m., D. H. Conley, Bobby Taylor, Chairman. Goal: \$14,225

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, Thursday, November 13, 7 p. m., Midway School. C. Felton Godwin, Chairman. Goal: \$8,125

Carteret County, Saturday, November 15, 6:30 p.m., East Carteret High School near Beaufort; David Ward, Chairman. Goal: \$7,525

Wilson County, Tuesday, November 18, 7 p.m., Beddingfield School; James B. Hunt Sr., Chairman. Goal: \$14,975

MOC REPRESENTATIVE TO SPEAK SUNDAY

Dr. Michael R. Pelt, Professor of Religion at Mount Olive College, will be the guest

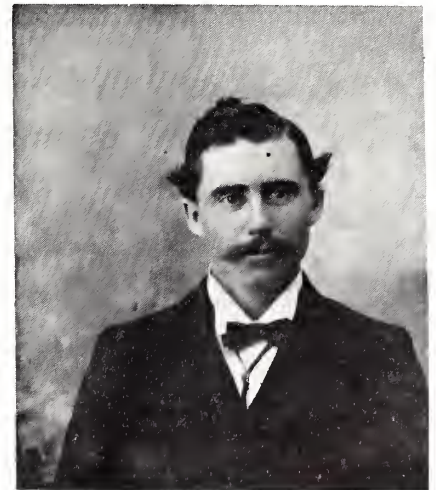
speaker at Lee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Dunn, on Sunday, October 26. Dr. Pelt will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes at 10 a.m. and speak during the 11 a.m. worship service, according to the Rev. Henry Armstrong, pastor of Lee's Chapel.

MOC PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Bethany Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville in Pitt County will observe "College Day," on Sunday, October 26.

The Rev. C. L. Patrick, pastor, announced that Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes at 9:45 a.m. and speak during the 11 a.m. worship service.

FAMILY DONATES FROST'S COLLECTION



W. H. Frost

The family of the late Rev. W. H. Frost, a Free Will Baptist minister who lived from March 1, 1872, to June 10, 1906, has donated a collection of the Rev. Frost's writings, sermons, and other papers to the Free Will Baptist Collection of Mount Olive

(Continued on Page 14)



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

Scripture Reading—Psalm 19:1

THE HEAVENS DECLARE

Said astronaut Major William Anders, "The more I see of God's universe the deeper is my belief in God!"

The psalmist said, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? . . ." (Psalm 8:3, 4).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 6:6, 7

A MERCHANT PRINCE TESTIFIES

J. C. Penney said, "The highest duty of parents is to build Christian homes where children can grow spiritually strong, and to teach the Bible in season and out of season. I never apologize for better Christian homes, because my entire experience tells me that the dealings between men in business, government and social relationships are influenced for good or ill by home background."

Long ago God gave this directive to parents: "And the words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart; and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house" (Deuteronomy 6:6, 7a).

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's Word says that parents are to train their children to love and obey them, and to grow spiritually, so when they get old they will not depart from this great love. What better place to train children than in a Christian home? Many a heartache can be avoided in the parents' lives, especially if their children are trained to go to church and the parents go with them. Let no one discount the value of children "trained in the way they should go."

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 126:6

NO SUBSTITUTE FOR TEARS

Spurgeon said, "If there were no sowing in tears, there would be no reaping in joy!"

The Bible says, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him" (Psalm 126:6).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us prayerfully consider Spurgeon's words for "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37, 38).

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

Scripture Reading—John 3:16

THEY WANTED TO KNOW

A religious survey was conducted in Germany's Erlangen University. Among the questions asked thousands

of students were these: *Who is Christ?* Only sixteen percent answered correctly. *How does one become a Christian?* Ninety-two percent didn't know. To the question, *Would you like to know more about how to become a Christian?*, seventy percent replied affirmatively.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:14, 15).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 18:4

BROKEN PIECES

God will mend your broken life if you will give Him the pieces: "And the vessel that he made was marred in the hand of the potter . . . so he made again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it" (Jeremiah 18:4).

PRAYER THOUGHT

A broken heart as well as a broken life can be mended by the love of God. He knows every ache and sorrow in one's life. Only He can ease the pain.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 33:3

HAS NEVER BEEN FULLY TRIED

Hudson Taylor said, "The power of prayer has never been fully tried in any church. If we want to see the mighty wonders of divine grace and power, instead of weakness,

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

failure, and disappointment, the whole church must accept God's standing challenge: 'Call unto me and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not' (Jeremiah 33:3)."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Prayer can change many things. Through it, we may find the strength and guidance to face disappointments and failures in life. Just think what a revival we would have if everyone would learn this truth!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 13:1-10, 13

LIFE'S RAINBOW

I sat beneath a great old tree
One sunny, childhood day
And dreamily fished in the
little brook
That crossed the meadow gay:
A lowering cloud came o'er
the sky
And hid the sun from view;
Then, lo, a gorgeous rainbow
came,
Its beauty shining through.

Those halcyon days have
passed away;
No longer am I a child;
The clouds of life hang low,
and oft
Tears come instead of smiles
But through the mists of
doubts and fears,
If I but lift my eyes,
A lovely bow of HOPE will
shine
Across life's cloudy skies.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: But when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known" (1 Corinthians 13:11, 12).

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

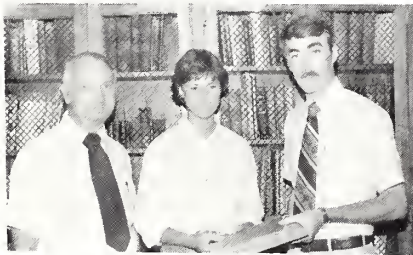
Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*,
Walter B. Knight.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 5)

College Library. The collection, in the form of two booklets, includes handwritten sermons, newspaper and magazine clippings with personal comments, and other notes.

Mary Rouse, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Rouse of Lucama and granddaughter of the Rev. Frost and a freshman at Mount Olive College, made the presentation to Gary Barefoot, College Librarian and Director of the Historical Collection.



The Rev. Frank Harrison, Mary Rouse, and Gary Barefoot.

The Frost donation is one of approximately twelve collections of materials belonging to Free Will Baptist ministers which are incorporated in the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection. Barefoot emphasized the importance of saving such documents for future generations. "We are interested in collecting anything biographically and historically, about ministers," he said. "These writings reveal a great deal about the development of the church, as well as the times," for example, some of Mr. Frost's papers reflect the temperance struggle in America.

Other parts of the Frost collection reveal information about the man and his life. One newspaper clipping tells of his marriage to Etta Lucas.

Yet others communicate that he was first associated with the "Disciple Church" in 1890 and soon after joined the Free Will Baptist denomination. According to information gathered from his papers, the Rev. Frost preached for the first time in December, 1891 or 1892. He was licensed as a preacher two years later. Then on July 28, 1894, W. H. Frost was ordained a Free Will Baptist minister.

Mr. Barefoot said that Mount Olive College invites the families of other ministers and lay leaders to deposit biographical materials with the Free Will Baptist Collection.

THE CRAGMONT OPEN— EVERYBODY WAS A WINNER

by Craig Simmons

The First Annual Cragmont Open at Happy Valley Country Club was a tremendous experience for everyone involved. For a \$25 investment, 28 of us shared 18 holes of fun and fellowship and an old-fashioned pig picking that just wouldn't quit! Most golf tournaments that are just being started do well to break even, but thanks to the hard work and dedication of Rick Watson, the tournament coordinator, Cragmont made \$430 which again is fantastic for a new tournament.

We would like to also give special thanks to Mr. Foyce Jones, Club Professional, because without his help this tournament would have not been possible. He helped in the administration of the tournament and even donated a golf bag worth \$105 to the tournament. Other contributors included: Happy Valley, Bill's Drive In, Regency Courts, Wilson Power Mower and Saw Service, J. C. Penney's, Roscoe Griffin,

(Continued on Page 14)

Conference News

Albemarle Session Held

The Thirty-sixth Annual Session of the Albemarle Conference was held Wednesday, October 6, at Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Roper, North Carolina. The Rev. Charlie Overton, pastor of the host church, delivered the conference sermon, challenging all of those present to greater service.

While in session, the Conference reminded its member churches of their responsibility to clear with the ordaining council a prospective minister coming from another conference prior to extending him a call as pastor.

Among the new officers elected were: moderator, the Rev. Robert May; assistant moderator, the Rev. Charlie Overton; secretary, the Rev. Marvin Waters; assistant secretary, the Rev. Oscar Webster; and treasurer, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.



Eastern Conference to Meet

The Eighty-fifth Annual Session of the Eastern Conference will meet at Davis Free Will Baptist Church, Davis, on October 22, 23. The scheduled program is as follows:

WEDNESDAY MORNING

- 9:00—Registration, Ministers, Delegates, Visitors
- 9:30—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Ray Williamson
- 10:10—Conference Called to Order, Conference Clerk
 - Welcome to Davis, Host Church
 - Response, the Rev. A. Graham Lane
- 10:20—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Carol B. Hansley
- 10:30—Roll Call of Ministers
 - Partial Report of Credentials Committee
 - Seating of the Delegates
 - Recognize and Welcome Visitors
- 10:55—Report of Camp Vandemere, Inc.
 - Receive Camp Vandemere Offering
- 11:05—Report from Children's Home
- 11:15—Worship Service
 - Introductory Sermon, the Rev. Chris Singleton
- 12:00—Lunch

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

- 1:30—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Mickey Whitfield
- 1:40—Report of the Executive Committee
- 1:45—Report of the Examining Board
- 1:50—Report from the North Carolina Board of Superannuation
- 1:55—Report from the General Conference
- 2:00—Report from the North Carolina State Convention
- 2:05—Report from the North Carolina Ministerial Association
- 2:10—Report from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
- 2:15—Report of the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention
- 2:20—Report from the Church Finance Association

- 2:25—Miscellaneous Business
- 2:45—Recess

THURSDAY MORNING

- 9:30—Registration
- 10:00—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. James Sowers
- 10:10—Read and Approve Minutes of Previous Day
 - Roll Call of Ministers Absent Wednesday
 - Receive Church Letters Not Turned in Wednesday
- 10:30—Report from Cragmont Assembly
- 10:35—Report from the Eastern Conference Mission Board
- 10:45—Report from the North Carolina State Mission Board
- 10:50—Report from the North Carolina Church Extension Board
- 10:55—Report from Mount Olive College
- 11:05—Worship Service
 - Conference Offering
 - Conference Sermon, the Rev. Grady Tucker
- 12:00—Lunch

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

- 1:30—Memorial Service, Memorial Committee
- 1:45—Final Report of the Credentials Committee
 - Final Report of the Examining Board
- 2:00—Committee Reports
 - Leagues
 - Sunday School
 - Temperance
 - Digest
 - Finance Committee
 - Nominations
 - Election
- 3:00—Miscellaneous Business
 - Read and Approve the Minutes
 - Installation of Officers and Committee Members
- 3:15—Adjournment
 - Closing Hymn
 - Benediction

Central Conference To Meet

The Two Hundred and Thirty-second Session of the Central Conference will meet with the King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church on Highway 121 northeast of Farmville on November 5.

Each church is asked to send \$11 to the meeting. (This money will purchase two yearbooks for each church.) Lunch will be catered, but it will not be barbecue.

The scheduled program is as follows:

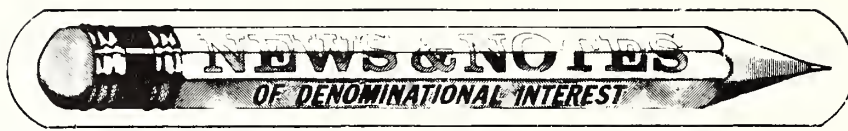
MORNING SESSION

- 9:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates
- 10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Robert Strickland
- 10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Bobby Futrell
 - Response, Mrs. Lou McLawhorn
- 10:20—Moderator's Message, the Rev. Willis Wilson
 - Recognition of Visitors
 - Appointment of Committees
 - Business
- 10:30—Report of the State Convention
- 10:35—Report of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
- 10:40—Report of Superannuation
- 10:45—Report of Mount Olive College
- 10:50—Report of Cragmont Assembly
- 10:55—Report of Children's Home
- 11:00—Report of Foreign Missions
- 11:05—Report of Church Finance
- 11:10—Report of Home Missions
- 11:15—Report of Board of Ordination
- 11:25—Report of Obituary Committee
- 11:30—Introductory Message, Mr. Roscoe Eason
- 12:00—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:00—Scripture and Prayer, Mr. Leon Harris
- 1:05—Business Period
 - Credentials Committee
 - Executive Board
 - Central Conference Missions
 - Trustees
 - Historian
 - Temperance Committee
 - Resolutions Committee
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Nominating Committee
 - Final Business
 - Adjournment

(Photos by Scott Sowers)



Homecoming and Revival at Free Union Church, Pinetown

Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, will have revival services beginning Monday, October 27, and continuing through October 31. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Joe Griffith will be the evangelist.

On Sunday, November 2, the church will observe its annual homecoming services beginning at 11 a. m. The pastor, the Rev. David Thick will bring the homecoming message. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall at noon. In the afternoon, there will be a memorial service. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Marsh Swamp Church To Have Homecoming

Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Sims will observe its annual homecoming on October 26. The Rev. Ray Wells is pastor of the church. There will be a picnic lunch, and no afternoon service. All former members, pastors, and friends are invited to attend.

Revival in Progress at First Church, Wilson

Revival services are in progress at First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson and will continue through October 24 with the Rev. Henry Armstrong being the guest evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Clyde W. Cox, extends a warm welcome to everyone to come and worship in these meetings. Special music is being presented each night; there is also a special sermonette for the children each night by the associate pastor, the Rev. Craig Simons. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m.

Homecoming and Revival At Fellowship Church, Wilson

Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will be observing its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 26.

Revival services will begin October 27 and will continue through October 31 at the church. The Rev. Ray Wells is the evangelist. The Rev. Joe Johnson is pastor of the church. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival in Progress At Harrell's Chapel Church

Harrell's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Snow Hill, is having its fall revival this week through October 24. The evangelist is the Rev. Davie Brinson, pastor of Hopewell church near Smithfield. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Franklin Brinson. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Homecoming at Friendship Church

Homecoming services will be observed at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, on Sunday, October 26. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m., and the morning worship at 11 a. m. The speaker for the occasion will be the pastor, the Rev. Paul Grubbs. There will also be a memorial service. Lunch will be served in the fellowship-educational building. Everyone is invited to attend.

Malachi's Chapel to Have Homecoming

Malachi's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Columbia, will

hold its annual homecoming service on October 26. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. and the morning worship at 11 a. m. The speaker will be the Rev. N. D. Wiggs, pastor. Everyone is invited to attend this day of fellowship.

Free Union Church Announces Revival and Homecoming

Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2 Walstonburg, will be having a week of revival service October 26 through October 31. The pastor, the Rev. Calvin A. Heath, will speak during the Sunday night service beginning at 7. The services Monday through Friday will begin at 7:30 p. m. with the Rev. Frank Flowers, pastor of Little Creek church, as the guest evangelist. There will be special music each evening and everyone is invited to attend.

The church will observe its annual homecoming, Sunday November 2. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m., followed by the worship service at 11 a. m., with the Rev. C. L. Patrick, a former pastor of Free Union for thirty years bringing the morning message. Lunch will be served in the fellowship building after the worship service. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend.

Hopewell Church to Have Homecoming and Revival

Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, will have its annual homecoming service on Sunday, October 26. Dinner will be at noon at the church and an afternoon program is planned. The pastor, the Rev. Davie Brinson, will bring the homecoming message.

The church will have its fall revival beginning on Monday, October 27, and continuing through October 31. There will be a different guest

(Continued on Page 14)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For November 2

GOD'S COVENANT AND JESUS CHRIST

Lesson Text: Luke 4:16-21
Memory Verse: John 13:35

I. INTRODUCTION

"All have sinned" (Romans 3:23), and "the wages of sin is death" (6:23). Then are all of us doomed? We would be if the old covenant were the end of God's dealing with us. But God was not content to have it so. That is why He offers a new covenant. The striking feature of that new covenant is "I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more" (Jeremiah 31:34).

We were sinners and Jesus was righteous, but God laid our sins upon Him and bestowed His righteousness upon us. This is the blessed benefit of the new covenant. See Romans 3:21-26.

Near the beginning of His ministry Jesus caught the nation's attention at the feast of Passover in Jerusalem (John 2:13-23). Galilean visitors heard His teaching and saw His miracles there. When He went to Galilee some eight months later, they were eager for more. So He went from town to town, teaching in the synagogues (Luke 4:14, 15). —Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. A covenant is a contract or pact between at least two people. In our lessons so far this quarter, we have seen how God called out a nation to be His chosen people through Abraham and made a covenant with them. This

covenant was greatly expanded in the giving of the Law through Moses, but it was basically the same covenant made with the same people. All through the Old Testament, we see various aspects of this great covenant. In fact, this is where this part of the Bible gets its name, "Old Testament," which literally means "Old Covenant." We also saw that God through Jeremiah promised that there would one day be a new covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34.) So now we come to begin a study of the New Covenant; and like the first, it gives the Bible part of its name, "The New Testament" or Covenant.

B. When Jeremiah prophesied that a new covenant would be given, he said that the emphasis in the New Covenant would be on the inner person, the heart of an individual. Furthermore, this covenant was with individuals rather than with a nation. The Old Covenant was with the called-out nation of Israel; the New Covenant would be with a called-out people who would believe. The Old Covenant was national and racial for the most part, but the New Covenant would include men of all nations and races who would believe. Perhaps the greatest contrast between the Old Covenant and the New is that under the Old men were in bondage to the Law; but under the New they have freedom, the freedom of love.

C. This New Covenant is realized in one's life as he accepts Christ as Saviour and

then allows the changed heart within to lead to the changed life without. One discovers the meaning of freedom in this new relationship as he lives and serves Jesus Christ. The compulsion to do right does not spring from a set of laws, but from the great motivation of love within the heart.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Viewing God as The Covenant Maker, the past eight lessons have dealt with the covenants God made with different Old Testament personalities and with the nation of Israel, with special emphasis on the covenant of the Law of Moses. Beginning today and continuing to the end of the quarter, we will be in Unit III, **The New Covenant in Jesus Christ**, and will observe the marked differences in this covenant and those which have gone before.

B. The covenant in Christ is one of grace. It was assured by His death on Calvary's Cross, established in the church at its birth on the Day of Pentecost, and has been the means of salvation to all who received Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. This new covenant has never been repealed; it will endure until Jesus returns to the earth. The new covenant was foreshadowed in Jeremiah 31:31-34, a part of which reads: "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah." Those days came when Jesus the Messiah gave His life to establish the covenant.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

NOTICE

There will not be a FREE WILL BAPTIST for October 29, due to our policy of publishing 48 issues a year. The next issue will be November 5, 1980.

Editorial Department

Children's Home

OLD FASHIONED HARVEST SALE

Memorial Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, located on the campus of the Children's Home, is planning an old-fashioned harvest day sale on Saturday, November 1, 1980, at the Children's Home, beginning at 1:30 p. m. All proceeds from the sale will go to the Children's Home. Everyone is invited to bring to the campus any item they would like to donate to the sale by November 1. If you cannot arrange to bring your items, let us know and we will arrange to pick them up.

The following items will sell well: vehicles, farm equipment, tractors, etc., furniture, appliances, clothes, hand tools, canned goods, hay, pigs, hams, handmade bonnets, afghans, bicycles, motor bikes, go-carts, bush hogs, bottom plows, radios, stereos, good TVs, handicrafts of all kinds, cakes, and quilts.

We believe we will be able to raise a sizeable sum for the Home through this sale. We hope everyone will support us in donations to the sale and by attending the day of the sale and finding that bargain you've been looking for!

You will note that the sale is on the same day as our Thanksgiving Service, so come early and join us for that also if you can.

QUARTERLY CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT

(July, August, September, 1980)

Total: \$43,754.12

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Corinth	\$ 5.00
Free Union	54.00
Hickory Chapel	485.00
Malachi's Chapel	200.00
Mount Zion	120.00
Mount Tabor	279.88
Sidney	101.68

Sound Side	65.00
Sunday School Convention	141.66
Trinity	192.00
Union Chapel	513.87
Union Meeting	21.44
TOTAL	\$2,179.53

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Daly's Chapel	\$ 200.00
Eastover Mission	5.70
Faith	56.60
Goldsboro, First	500.00
Hopewell	426.68
Johnston Union	20.00
Lee's Chapel	1,074.78
Oak Grove	200.00
Palmer Memorial	133.78
Pleasant Grove	100.00
Powhatan	300.00
Riverside	200.00
Robert's Grove	295.00
Saint Mary's Grove	200.00
Saint Paul	300.00
Shady Grove	30.00
Smithfield, First	285.00
Tee's Chapel	350.00
Victory Mission	31.79
Wooten's Chapel	98.42
Yelverton Grove	399.08
TOTAL	\$5,206.83

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	\$ 595.00
Ayden	615.00
Bethany	237.02
Black Jack	1,089.35
Cedar Grove	100.00
Community	244.35
Dilda's Grove	70.00
Edgewood	329.79
Elm Grove	120.00
Free Union	428.43
Friendship	298.59
Grimseley	213.00
Greenville, First	415.00
Gum Swamp	505.00
Harrell's Chapel	250.00
Hickory Grove	10.00
Hugo	257.00
Hull Road	193.50
King's Cross Roads	194.34
LaGrange	25.00
Little Creek	275.00
Ormondsville	16.00
Owens Chapel	140.76
Peace	126.00
Piney Grove	197.44
Pleasant Hill	300.00
Reedy Branch	310.00
Roanoke Rapids	5.00
Rocky Mount, First	120.00
Rose Hill	644.05
Saratoga	445.26
Tarboro, First	150.00
Union Number 2	23.71

Union Number 4	55.7
Walnut Creek	200.0
Watery Branch	15.0
Williamston, First	138.1
Winterville	847.6
TOTAL	\$10,200.1

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	\$ 355.0
Bethlehem	10.0
Beulaville	1,255.0
Beaufort Mission	5.0
Cabin	125.0
Christian Chapel	300.0
Core Creek	241.2
Crab Point	45.0
Croatan	200.0
Daly's Chapel	50.0
Davis	200.0
Deep Run	390.0
Dublin Grove	211.9
Edwards Chapel	422.2
Faith (Onslow)	150.0
Friendship	10.0
Gethsemane	120.0
Grant's Chapel	25.0
Gray Branch	220.0
Holly Springs	320.0
Jackson Heights	167.9
Juniper Chapel	350.0
Kinston, First	205.0
Lanier's Chapel	60.0
Macedonia	200.0
Memorial	100.0
Mount Zion (Onslow)	100.0
New Bethlehem	262.5
New Haven	331.2
Northeast	180.8
Oriental	19.0
Pearsall Chapel	170.0
Reunion Chapel	100.0
Rock of Zion	300.0
Rooty Branch	100.0
Russell's Creek	6.0
Saints Delight	449.0
Sandy Plain	100.0
Smith's New Home	10.0
Smyrna	75.0
Sneads Ferry	100.0
Sound View	25.0
Spring Hope	150.0
St. Mary's	300.0
Sunday School Convention	68.0
Union Number 3	100.0
Union Number 5	72.0
Verona	20.0
Warden's Grove	136.0
Whaley's Chapel	175.0
White Hill	25.0
White Oak Grove	23.0
Wintergreen	500.0
Youth Fellowship	25.0
TOTAL	\$ 9,654.0

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Ash	\$ 20.0
Beaverdam	525.0
Cypress Creek	90.0
Emerson	115.0
Mission Valley	64.0
Mount Calvary	50.0
Oak Grove	350.0

Union Number 1	137.27
TOTAL	\$1,352.37
EDMONT CONFERENCE	
Bethany	\$ 100.00
Baptist Cathedral	66.50
Community	95.66
East Rockingham	289.90
Heritage Mission	64.00
High Point	100.00
Highland Pines	100.00
Hopewell	120.00
House of Prayer	50.00
TOTAL	\$ 986.06
THE RIVER CONFERENCE	
Fox's Creek	\$ 200.00
Harris Creek	100.00
Minister's Fund	368.61
Freedom's Chapel	107.66
Daring Creek	170.39
Sugar Hollow	100.00
TOTAL	\$1,046.66
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Grape Mission	\$ 50.00
Barnes Hill	195.00
Branch Chapel	675.00
Valvary	200.00
Wood Lane	10.13
Verrett Chapel	238.88
Wood's Chapel	75.00
Friendship	200.00
Kenly	120.00
Little Rock	500.00
Living Waters	100.00
Marsh Swamp	485.00
Memorial Chapel	400.00
Micro	325.00
Milbournie	375.00
Mount Zion (Nash)	100.00
Mount Zion (Wilson)	78.00
New Sandy Hill	225.00
Northern	1,000.00
Oak Grove	339.40
People's Chapel	135.00
Pine Level	25.00
Piney Grove	155.00
Pleasant Grove	740.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Pleasant Plain	125.00
Pains Cross Roads	150.00
Rosebud	15.00
St. Mary's	489.55
Telma	100.00

Sherron Acres	525.00
Spring Hill	650.00
Stancil's Chapel	398.25
Stoney Creek	25.00
Sunday School Convention	25.00
Union Chapel	97.50
Union Grove	224.30
Union Number 1	75.00
Watson's Grove	75.00
Wilson, First	2,552.50
Youth Fellowship	100.00
TOTAL	\$12,473.51

OTHER RELIGIOUS

Trinity, Baptist	
------------------	--

(Nola Dolinger)	\$ 75.00
TOTAL	\$ 75.00
OTHER STATES	
Laurel City Sunday School	\$ 164.24
Bim Ladies Aid	30.00
Boone County Youth League	75.00
TOTAL	\$ 269.24
STATEWIDE	
Christian Service Fund	\$ 91.70
State Auxiliary	
Convention Offering	43.83
North Carolina Free Will	
Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	175.00
TOTAL	\$ 310.53

MEMORIAL GIFTS: TOTAL \$647

BY:

- Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Brown and Lea Vern
- Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church by Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Scott
- Mr. and Mrs. J. Ben Barnes
- Mr. and Mrs. Alton A. Barnes
- Blanche Barnes Loftin
- Kenly Free Will Baptist Auxiliary
- Sunshine Club
- Hickory Chapel
- Eunice Pierce
- Mrs. Myrtie Caton and John and Dorothy Wells
- Mr. and Mrs. Billy Dilday and Kevin
- Johnny, Rose Nell, Ina Perry and Ruth Aswell
- Davis Wholesale—James Robert Davis
- Kenly Free Will Baptist Auxiliary
- Tri-Community Volunteer Fire Department
- Gerald and Janet Frye
- Mr. and Mrs. John Banks
- Margaret and Selma Briley
- Mr. and Mrs. Maurice VanHorne
- Mrs. Fannie Rowe and Joe and Bette Price
- Kenly Free Will Baptist Auxiliary
- Hugo Free Will Baptist Church

MEMORY OF

- Verna Johnson
- Clinton Barnes
- Clinton Barnes
- Clinton Barnes
- Clinton Barnes
- Jesse Woodard
- Mrs. Sam Pittman
- Mrs. Jessie Brown Hollowell
- Blanche Snell
- Mrs. Don Gaskins
- Mr. Clayton Earley
- Mr. Clayton Earley
- Irene N. Pittman
- Jesse Woodard
- Mrs. Lila G. Gaskins
- Blanche F. Snell
- Mrs. Lauretta Banks
- Clarence and Martha Briley, and Walter and Catherine Briley
- Sterling VanHorne
- Clarence Wade
- Jesse Woodard
- Allen Faulkner

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

The first youth training organization in the Free Will Baptist denomination was called "Young Peoples Free Will Baptist League." This was introduced to Zion Church by Henry Melvin in 1931. The League continues to function as a training organization for both youth and adults. The enrollment is 64 as of this date.

The following have served Zion church as pastor: W. B. Lane, G. T. Wiley, J. L. Adams, W. A. McDonald, W. T. Wiley, J.

Houston, S. Ely, J. L. Tedder, J. G. Harris, T. B. Mellette, K. V. Shutes, J. N. Barnes, J. B. Lovering, Daniel F. Pelt, W. F. McDuffie, Dwight Hawley, and Donald Coates.

"Zion has faced the past with the faith and determination to see God's will performed, regardless of the cost. It is the desire of its members today to face the present and future with the same type of zeal."

News Notes

(Continued from Page 10)

speaker each night. On Monday, the Rev. F. B. Cherry will speak about the church. On Tuesday, the Rev. Ed Gonzalez will preach on God's Word. The Rev. Davie Brinson will speak Wednesday on soul winning. The power of prayer will be the topic Thursday night for the Rev. Earl Glenn. Then on Friday night, the Rev. Fred Rivenbark will close the revival speaking on the subject the Christian example. The pastor and congregation extend a welcome to the public to attend and support these services.

Western District Youth At First Church, Wilson

"The Accident" will be presented at the next Western District Youth Fellowship meeting which will be held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson on Saturday night, October 25, at 7:30. The drama deals with teenagers and alcohol and what can happen when the two mix. All pastors and youth leaders are asked to encourage the youth of their church to attend this moving production.

Revival Services to Be At White Oak Church

Revival services will begin at White Oak Free Will Baptist Church of Maysville on November 3 and will continue through November 7. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. Frank Williams Jr., who is presently supplying for the church, will be the evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend.

Homecoming and Revival At Cabin Church

The Cabin Free Will Baptist Church near Beulaville, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 26. Sunday school will begin at 9:45 a. m. The morning message at 11 a.m. will be delivered by the Rev.

Aaron Murphy from Lynchburg, Virginia. A picnic lunch will be served on the church grounds at noon. Everyone is invited to come and fellowship in these services.

Revival services will begin on Monday, October 27, and will continue through October 31. The Rev. Philip Wood from Smithfield will be the evangelist. The prayer rooms will open at 7:15 p. m. and the message will begin at 7:30 p.m. The pastor, the Rev. William Littleton, will assist in the services. There will be special music each evening. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival in Progress At Holly Springs Church

Revival services are in progress through October 24 at Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Newport, in Carteret County. The guest speaker is the Rev. Harry L. Bryan, pastor of Warden's Grove church in Lowland. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m.

On Sunday, October 26, the church will observe homecoming and harvest day. A picnic lunch will be served from 12:30 until 1:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. Jerry Rowe, and the church membership extend a cordial invitation to everyone to share the blessings of God.

Homecoming at Reedy Branch Church

On Sunday, November 2, Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church of Winterville, will be celebrating its 180th Anniversary.

The activities will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. and morning worship at 11 a.m. At noon the church will serve lunch in the recreational building. At 1:15 p. m., there will be a singspiration under the direction of Mr. Blanie Moye, choir director. There will be

solos, a quartet, choir specials and at the close of the service a combined choir will sing several old-time hymns.

The pastor, the Rev. Willis Wilson, will be celebrating his 17th year with the church and will be bringing the morning message.

Mr. Tommy Manning, who played the organ at Reedy Branch for 14 years prior to taking a position in San Antonio, Texas, will be coming home to play the organ for the homecoming service.

All friends, former members, former pastors are urged to join the church in this celebration.

Cragmont Assembly

(Continued from Page 7)

Rosenbloom Levi, Rices Men's Shop, Atlantic Credit Williamson Truck Lines Patterson's Grocery, City Auto Sales, Parktown New and Used Cars, Goodyear, Wilson Bargain Center, Furniture Corner and Mello Ice Cream all Wilson firms.

First place trophies and dozen golf balls each were awarded to John Williams Harold Hawley, Ben Strothers and Doug Skinner, the first place team with a score of five under-par, 67. Another tournament is being planned for the spring, so if you miss out on this Cragmont Open you might have another chance next spring. See you then!

NOTE OF THANKS

Mrs. David W. Hansley is recuperating nicely after surgery at Durham County General Hospital and would like to express her thanks to her friends and loved ones for the cards, flowers, visits telephone calls, gifts of food and money and for their prayers.

During
October . . . **OBSERVE**
Superannuation Month
in
YOUR CHURCH

The State Convention has designated October as
Superannuation Month
in our Free Will Baptist Churches

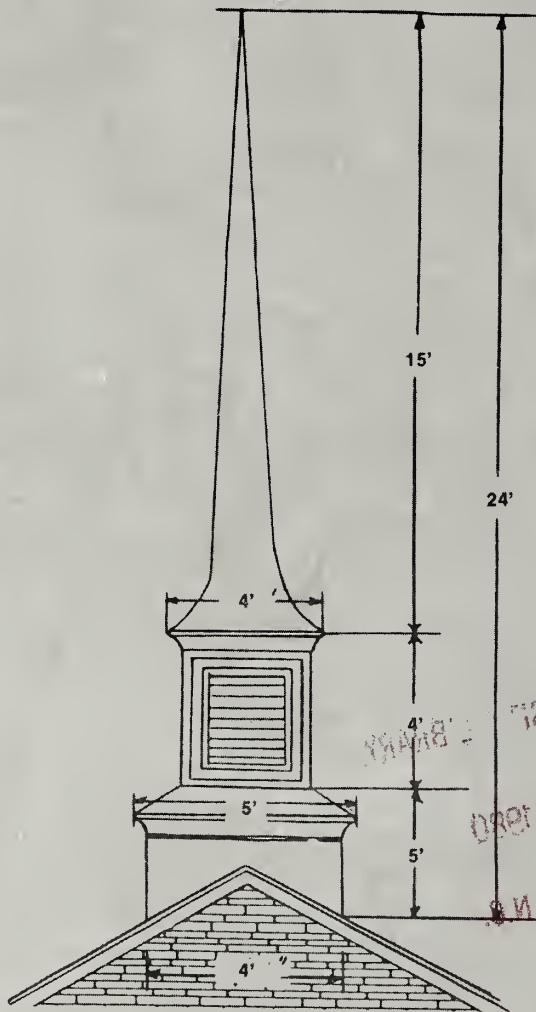
HERE'S HOW TO HELP YOUR SUPERANNUATION PROGRAM

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3. Urge Special Individual Gifts, and . . .
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The Free Will Baptist



Beware! THE Silent Killer usually weakens one gradually and it often goes unnoticed—in the beginning.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial

Symptoms of THE Silent Killer

Cancer is one of man's most dreaded diseases. The mere mention of the malady causes fear. Second only to heart disease, this disorder is a leading cause of death. Most scientists and physicians believe there is no single "thing" that causes the growth of purposeless cancer cells; many factors seem to be involved. In its early stages, this "silent killer" gives little or no warning.

There are few of us who have not been touched by this disorder. And as terrible as cancer is, I believe there is a condition worse than this ailment will ever be. Many Christians—and churches—have been affected by it; and I'm afraid some will even succumb to its weakening ability. Although this condition is spiritual in nature, its warning signals are much like those of its physical counterpart. For lack of a better name, let's call this disease, "Spiritual Malignancy." The warning signs of this killer are:

1. An unusual preoccupation with the "self." (Individuals suffering from this disorder overemphasize the terms "I," "me," "we," "us," "mine," and "ours.")
2. A lump or thickening in one's wallet or bank account without regard for the great need of others.
3. A sore feeling of resentment or anger that does not heal.
4. A change in one's prayer life or worship—from regular to irregular.
5. A feeling of hoarseness or uneasiness when matters relating to God, Christ, or the Church are mentioned.
6. Indigestion or difficulty in swallowing Christian thoughts or references to committed witnessing and stewardship.
7. A change in size, color, or complexion when asked if an individual is an active member of a church.

Beware! Spiritual Malignancy usually weakens one gradually, and it often goes unnoticed—in the beginning. If you detect symptoms of this disease in your life, contact the Great Physician at once. This malady does not have to be terminal.

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Volume 95

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November 5, 1980

Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

STAKES ARE HIGH IN IRAN AND AFGHANISTAN

by Dr. Pepper Worthington

"THE trouble with the future is that it is no longer what it used to be," quoted Robert Mayer Evans, a former foreign correspondent for CBS. As CBS Bureau Chief in Moscow, Evans covered all of Russia, tracked across Afghanistan in a jeep expedition, camped in many towns and mountain passes where the Russians had been fighting, covered President Carter's summit conference with the Shah of Iran, investigated the Palestine Liberation Organization and its tactics of terror in Lebanon.

Featured as the speaker for the Pierson Lecture at Mount Olive College, Evans vigorously analyzed the current crisis in the Middle East with his topic, "Iran and Afghanistan—How High the United States Stakes?"

"The stakes are high, higher than they've been since 1946 when Harry S. Truman used the language of vital strategic security interest in the formation of NATO," Evans said.

"Russia's invasion of Afghanistan is the first time the Soviet Red Army has crossed an international border not considered to be a satellite country. The United States stakes in the Soviet invasion of Hungary in 1956 and in Czechoslovakia in 1968 were not as high as the invasion now in Afghanistan.

Both Hungary and Czechoslovakia were considered at the time of the invasions to be Soviet satellite countries, but Afghanistan is not a Soviet satellite country."

Evans observed, "The Russians are going to find Afghanistan difficult to gain because the mountains and hills are complex, the altitude of these mountains reaches 15,000 to 16,000 feet and the country has no roads, no maps. The Russians may have knowledge of weapons and military tactics, but the fighters in Afghanistan have knowledge of these incredible mountains. Afghanistan could become Russia's Viet Nam."

Iran and Iraq

Turning to the complex issues between Iran and Iraq, Evans clarified the distinct differences between these two strife-torn Mideast countries. Iran is a country of Aryans, historically called Persians. Most of the Iranians are Moslem, active in the Shiite sect.

With the denunciation of the Shah of Iran, the Iranians are now following the Ayatollah Khomeini, a radical Moslem leader who longs to return the Iranians to the old Moslem order, where the men would become soldiers of Islam, the women would withdraw, veiled once again. If death occurred to Khomeini, he would be

constructing his own funeral pyre as the religious martyr of the true Islamic order.

With the rise of Khomeini's fanatical religious leadership, Iran has declined. For some twenty months, Evans reported, Khomeini has not established a cabinet nor a functioning government. Conflict exists now between the nationalists, the Prime Minister, and Khomeini. The Iranian military is weak after Khomeini's charge to shoot some 700 to 800 officers under the Shah. Inflation is up 40 percent; unemployment in Iran has risen; oil production has fallen to 10 percent of what it was under the Shah.

Now Iraq has demanded full sovereignty over the Shatt al Arab River and the return of the three islands in the Strait of Hormuz—Lower and Upper Tunb and Abu Musa.

Iraq, Evans reported, is a country of Arabs, Moslem in faith, but members of a different Islamic order, the Sunnis. Iraq is a Russian ally. Bitter at the Shah of Iran's demand to control the border of the Shatt al Arab River, the Iraqi now see the decline of Iran as the time to regain the Shatt al Arab River borders.

Iraq's leader, Saddam Hussein, no longer has to fight the rebellious Kurds, aided earlier by the Shah of Iran. The Iraqi now wish to defy

(Turn the Page)

the 1975 Treaty where Iran agreed to withdraw its support from Iraq's rebellious Kurdish minority seeking independence from Iraq, provided Iraq agreed to share equally sovereignty over the Shatt al Arab.

"The United States stakes are high now with Iraq and Iran at battle over the border disputes along the Shatt al Arab River," declared Evans. "What we cannot permit is blockage of the Strait of Hormuz," emphasized Evans, "because 60 percent of the free world's proven oil supply passes through this 1 1/2 mile wide strait. To the United States and the free world, the Strait of Hormuz is the jugular vein, the life fluid which keeps us alive. If the Strait of

Hormuz is blocked, then the United States must open it."

Evans reviewed President Carter's January 20, 1980, State of the Union Address. Evans stressed, "President Carter did an extraordinary thing. He did not address any domestic concerns. He spoke only about foreign concerns, the Mideast, the Persian Gulf. That's how high our stakes are."

Not wanting to leave on a pessimistic note, Evans referred to the Chinese ideogram for crisis. The first part of the Chinese concept of crisis is **danger**. The second part is a symbol which conveys the idea of **opportunity**. "From this crisis now in the Middle East," Evans said, "there is opportunity."

Current Happenings from

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

MISS PELT PRESENTS SENIOR VOICE RECITAL

Miss Sharon Ann Pelt, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Michael Pelt of Mount Olive, will present a voice recital on Sunday, November 9, at Mount Olive College Auditorium, at 3 p. m.

The public is cordially invited to attend the recital and the reception, which will be held immediately following the performance.

A senior voice performance major at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Miss Pelt will sing selections by Bach, Strauss, Gounod, Debussy, Menotti, and Britten.

A graduate of Southern Wayne High School and a 1978 graduate of Mount Olive College, Miss Pelt recently represented UNC-G at the National Opera Convention in Birmingham, Alabama. Last

spring she played the role of Micaela in the opera, "Carmen," on the UNC-G campus. In addition, she is an active member of the University Chorale.

While enrolled at Mount Olive, Miss Pelt was a member of the College Chorus and the Mount Olive College Singers.

After graduation from UNC-G in December, Miss Pelt plans to continue her studies in voice at the graduate level.

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE TO SPEAK

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss of Mount Olive College will be the guest speaker at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson on Sunday, November 9, for the 11 a.m. worship service.

"Great changes in society have come when the society has switched from one source of energy supply to another," he said. Wood burning was the source of energy in the nineteenth century. Coal burning was the new source of energy which ushered in the Industrial Revolution. The shift to oil and petroleum has brought the Transportation Revolution.

"Today," Evans said, "we are on the threshold of a new basic source of energy. The impact will be beyond the dreams of anybody today."

Again Evans quoted the French poet, Paul Valery (1871-1945): "The trouble with the future is that it is no longer the way it used to be."

The Rev. Dewey C. Boling, pastor, invites the public to attend this special service.

COLLEGE DAY FOR HIGH SCHOOLS SET

Representatives from the Admissions Office of Mount Olive College will be participating in the following "College Day" programs at the high schools listed. Free Will Baptist students in these schools are encouraged to visit with the Mount Olive College representatives when they come to their area. Information on admissions programs of study, and financial aid will be available.

Wednesday, November 5
Northern Nash High School
Southern Nash High School
Thursday, November 6
James B. Hunt Jr. High School
Ralph L. Fike Senior High School
Beddingfield High School
Friday, November 7
Farmville Central High School
Monday, November 10
Whiteville High School
West Columbus High School
Nakina, Williams Township, and
Tabor City High Schools at
Williams

(Continued on Page 14)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



ZION F.W.B. CHURCH, Y.F.A. AND A.F.C. AT CRAGMONT, SEPT. 1980

Even though the 1980 camping season is over at Cragmont, it is still an exciting place, especially on weekends, because that is when many church groups "retreat" to the facility. Groups from Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, and Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, recently traveled to Mount Allen.

Mrs. Hilda Johnson from Mt. Zion church related, "We could hardly believe September 5 had finally gotten here as we stepped on the bus. Out of the total number of 45, including the bus driver, only our pastor and one other person had ever been there. We didn't know what to expect, but were anxious to go as we had heard some good reports from Cragmont.

"Friday night turned out to be a rainy one," Mrs. Johnson continued, "but that didn't dampen our morale. The kids soon found the game room and gym where they played until the older members of our groups had to literally shove them in bed."

The group went to Christus Gardens in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, on Saturday morning. When they returned to Cragmont, many of them attempted to climb the mountain. A few brave individuals almost made it to the top, but they were glad to see that preparations were being made for a weiner roast when they reached camp again. The remainder of the evening was spent around a campfire where everyone sang and worshiped God. Sunday school and a worship service were held in the assembly room on Sunday morning. Mrs. Johnson called the weekend "an unforgettable experience."

Weekend Groups Enjoy Retreats

For seven consecutive years, members of Friendship church have enjoyed a weekend at Cragmont. This year was no exception. Forty-two people attended a retreat held October 9-11.

All who attended can attest to the unique spirit of fellowship which exists during such a weekend. Besides fellowship, but in no way subordinate, were times spent in devotional studies of the Apostle Peter and worship.

While appreciating and benefitting from the serious group meetings, there were at least two occasions for "Fun Time." During these occasions, two skits were presented. "A Womanless Wedding" was enjoyed by all in attendance on Friday night; much was "learned" about "The Model Husband" on Saturday evening. The group also spent some time at the Asheville Mall and the area Farmer's Market.

The Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor of the church, related that the group experienced a good time in Christian fellowship and spiritual edification. From all reports, everyone is looking forward to the eighth annual retreat.





FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—Luke 24:13-35

BURNING HEARTS

Said John Henry Jowett, "The Gospel of the broken heart demands the ministry of burning hearts."

Long ago the erstwhile distraught Emmaus disciples asked with deep emotion. "Did not our heart burn within us while he (Jesus) talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" (Luke 24:32).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The love of God can heal a broken as well as a burning heart if we keep our faith.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—Romans 5:10-12

GOD IS NOT THE ENEMY OF OUR ENEMIES

After languishing for months in Hitler's prison, Martin Niemoller emerged saying, "It took me a long time to learn that God is not the enemy of my enemies. He is not even the enemy of His enemies!"

The Bible says, "When we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son" (Romans 5:10a).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 1:3-5

FAMILY PRAYER

Dr. Donald Lind, a nuclear

physicist and astronaut, said, "Science may tell you how electrons bounce off protons, but it doesn't tell you how to handle juvenile delinquency, divorce and war. Most of that, I think, is going to come through common sense and revealed religion. And I think we should start in the home. We have family prayer every morning and evening. Once a week we have 'family night' when my wife and I teach and discuss the principles of the Gospels. The children not only get some instruction, but they know we are believers, too."

PRAYER THOUGHT

It has been said that many things are taught through our homelife. What greater way can a family be strengthened than through family prayers? Why not take time daily to get each member of your family together for this?

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—Luke 4:27

USE THIS

STAMMERING TONGUE

In one of Dwight L. Moody's services in London, several members of the nobility were present. One prominent member of the royal family sat in the royal box.

As Moody read the Scripture lesson, he came to the verse, "And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet" (Luke 4:27). To his embarrassment, he had difficulty in pronouncing Eliseus. Bravely he made three attempts to pronounce the word, but without success.

Closing his Bible, Moody

looked upward and pleaded "O God, use this stammering tongue to preach Christ crucified to these people!"

God answered his plea. Torrents of eloquence poured from his lips. The Holy Spirit's convicting and converting power melted the audience. All of those present knew the answer to the ancient question: "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" (2 King 2:14).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let's pray that our stammering tongues may refrain from evil utterances so our lips will speak only of God.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 48:10

GOD, THAT'S YOUR BUSINESS

In His unerring wisdom God sometimes chooses the furnace of affliction for some of His saints: "Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction" (Isaiah 48:10). It is certain, however, that God makes no mistakes.

A missionary had been a invalid for eight years. Constantly she had prayed that God would make her well, so that she might do His work. Finally, worn out with seemingly futile petition, she submissively prayed, "All right. I give up. If You want me to be an invalid, that's Your business. Anyway, I want You even more than I want healing."

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Son of God prayed thus

"O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt . . ." (Matthew 26:39).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 2:2, 4

TOES WITHIN THE GATES
Captain Edward Rickenbacker, an ace aviator in World War I, had a close brush with death when his plane crashed in a swamp near Atlanta, Georgia. He was critically injured. For days his life hovered close to death. Later, in speaking of the ordeal, he said, "Seven times my toes were within the gates of death! But I had no fear—only ineffable joy as scenes of indescribable glory and beauty beyond description came into view!"

Long ago Paul was "caught up to the third heaven . . . and heard unspeakable words" (2 Corinthians 12:2b, 4a).

As Dwight L. Moody's life ebbed away, he exclaimed, "I see heaven opening! God is calling! I must go!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:20, 21).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 12

CONGENIAL FOR CHRIST
In the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City, August 1969, Elaine Briggeman, twenty-one-year-old Miss Nebraska received the title Miss Congeniality.

"What an ideal time to give

credit to the right Person—my Lord!" said the vivacious beauty.

"What an ideal time was the Miss America pageant to communicate the love of God with some very precious people! I realize that I could not do this by myself. I relied upon God's Spirit to really use me. This is what is so beautiful in living and working with God. It is not enough to give a pious profession. I know that Christ has redeemed me. I just want to express this love toward others and bring Christ to my neighbors and friends. This is done by loving, forgiving, and accepting Christ

as a whole and total personality!"

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12).

PRAYER THOUGHT

We can be congenial for Christ by expressing our love for Him to our neighbors and friends. Let's tell others of Him who died that we might have life!

Selected from Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations, Walter B. Knight.

Cragmont Assembly

TIME FOR PAYMENT DRAWS NEAR

by John Williams

It is almost time to make the yearly payment on our new building. However, we still have some way to go in receiving enough funds to make the payment which is due on November 14. There is still time for our Free Will Baptist churches to help us out. We now have about \$34,000 toward that payment. We need \$45,000.

At the Ministers' Conference in July, a plea was made for financial assistance to help meet the payment on the new building. We asked our ministers to pledge themselves to raise \$1,000 above and beyond whatever they or their churches were already giving. Several ministers accepted this challenge. At this time we are pleased to announce that two churches have already responded. They are Juniper Chapel in Vanceboro, Stanley Buck, pastor; and Northern near Bahama, Harry Brown, pastor. By their generous gift and prompt response they demonstrate that they feel Cragmont is important to the ministry of Jesus Christ. Cragmont is a place where souls are won to the cause of Christ. Most of them are the precious souls of our young people.

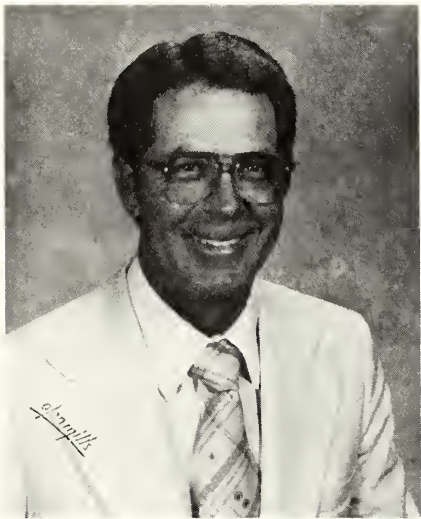
Remember our payment is due on November 14. If your church would respond quickly we still have a chance to make this payment on time without costing us any further increase in interest. Hope to hear from you soon.

The Rev. Norman Ard

First Free Will Baptist Church of Goldsboro, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Norman Ard. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A WORTHY MAN

submitted by Hazel Casey



The Rev. Norman Ard

Norman Wilson Ard was born June 6, 1936, the child of Maude and the late John Ard. His early childhood was spent around Pamplico, South Carolina, near the banks of the Pee Dee River. He enjoyed fishing and also cooking the fish he caught on the bank of the river. Norman graduated from the Pamplico High School, and began classes at Mount Olive College in 1957. He graduated from Mount Olive College in 1959. He was married on August 18, 1956, to Margaret Vause, the daughter of the Rev. Julius Vause, and the granddaughter of the Rev. George Vause—both Free Will Baptist ministers. Mr. Ard was ordained into the ministry

in 1957 at the Beulah Free Will Baptist Church, Pamplico, South Carolina. Mr. Ard began his pastoral work at May's Chapel, Dudley, North Carolina, in 1958. He has pastored the following churches: Elm Grove, Ayden; Gray Branch, Deep Run; Christian Chapel, Pink Hill. He came to the Goldsboro church on August 1, 1979. We feel very fortunate to have this dedicated, outgoing man of God to lead us.

Mr. Ard has served on the Foreign Mission Board for approximately six years. In November, 1975, he accompanied the Rev. Joe Ingram on a trip to India. They went to inspect the work there so as to determine to what extent they should ask Free Will Baptists back home for support. Mr. Ard went back to India in October 1978. Accompanied by his wife Margaret, he surveyed the work and its progression. This devoted pastor and his wife have made many contributions to the foreign mission program.

Mrs. Ard is invaluable to her husband for she makes visits with him, helps in teaching, comforting, and counseling. On some occasions she has even filled in for her husband.

Mrs. Margaret Ard attended Turbeville High School where she graduated. She holds degrees from Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee; Bob Jones University, Greenville, South Carolina; Peabody College, Nashville, Tennessee; and East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina. She has taught school for 11 years.

The Ards have three children: Marla, 22 years old, is a senior at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson and is to graduate in December of this year. She leads the Youth Choir at the Goldsboro church. Joe, 21, is a graduate of Wilson Technical Institute. At present, he is working with his father's Custom Service for Farmers. Todd, 17, a senior at South Lenoir High School, also works with his father's custom service.

Outside his custom service, Mr. Ard works with the Goldleaf Warehouse in Kinston three months each year. Among his hobbies are fishing, working with wood and wrought iron, and meeting new people. Ministers also play an important role in his life, for he enjoys fellowship with them.

The Rev. Norman Ard's goal and ambition in life is to have a loving, growing, soul winning, and trouble-free church. He does everything within his power to bring this goal into a reality. Yes, we take our hats off, and salute the Rev. Norman Ard a "Pastor of the Week."

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

As one thing leads to another; new ideas and discoveries are born. No one deserves all the credit for his achievements.

ANNUAL MEETINGS HELD

The Revs. Clyde Cox, Jackie Godwin, and Carol B. Hansley have been busy the last several weeks; the conference or association each serves as moderator has met recently.

The ninety-fourth annual session of the Western Conference met at First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, on October 16. The Rev. Royster Martin, pastor of Holly Springs church, Kenly, delivered the conference sermon. Mr. Cox is the moderator of the Western Conference.

The Pee Dee Association held its one-hundred-eleventh annual meeting October 18, at White Oak Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro. The Rev. J. W. Byrd, pastor of Mount Calvary church, Whiteville, challenged all present to greater consecration when he brought the morning message. Mr. Godwin presided.

The Eastern Conference met for its eighty-fifth session on October 22, 23. The two-day meeting was held at Davis Free Will Baptist Church, Davis. The Rev. Chris Singleton, pastor of Beulaville church, preached on Wednesday; the Rev. Grady Tucker, pastor of Spring Hope church, near Bridgeton, spoke Thursday morning. Mr. Hansley serves as moderator of the conference.

Each of the meetings was well attended and business items were disposed of in a spirit of Christian brotherhood. We commend the brethren for their work.

(Photos by Scott Sowers)





Revival in Progress At Westside Church

Revival services are in progress through November 7 at Westside Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston. The Rev. Clifton Rice is the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Deborah King has something special planned for the children each evening. A nursery is provided. Special music is being featured each evening. The Rev. Wayne King is pastor of the church.

Revival in Progress At St. Paul Church

Revival services are in progress throughout the week of November 2, at St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth City. The time of the service is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Ronnie Mohn, pastor of the Cape Colony Mission in Edenton, is the evangelist. There is special singing nightly. Everyone is invited to attend.

The mission is located on Cedar Street just one block off U. S. 17 By-pass. The Rev. F. Joe Griffith is the pastor.

Revival at Highland Pines Church

Revival services will begin at the Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church, Hamlet, on Monday, November 10, and will continue through Friday, November 14. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Arnold Price. Services will begin at 7 p.m. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. McDonal Bennett, pastor, and the congregation extend a prayerful invitation for everyone to attend these services.

On Sunday, November 9, the church will have old fashioned Sunday. Everyone is invited.

Harvest Day and Revival Announced for Oak Grove

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Elm City, will observe harvest day on November 9. The Rev. Don Kivett, pastor of the church, will deliver the message. Lunch will be served in the fellowship building. There will be an afternoon song service featuring the Sentinels, and Oak Grove Boys of Elm City.

Revival services will begin at the church November 10 and will continue through November 14, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. C. F. Bowen is the evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Aspen Grove Church Announces Revival Services

Aspen Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Fountain, will be having a week of revival services November 10 through November 14. The evangelist will be the Rev. Ray Wells, pastor of Marsh Swamp church. The services will begin each evening at 7:30. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Hubert Burress. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival in Progress At Dilda's Grove

Revival services are in progress at Dilda's Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Fountain and will continue through November 8 with the Rev. Ralph Aycock being the guest evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Luther Bissette, and the church membership, extend a warm welcome to everyone to come and worship. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m.

Revival in Progress At Free Spirit Church

Revival services are in progress through November 7,

at Free Spirit Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson. The Rev. F. B. Cherry is the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Special music is being rendered each night. Everyone is invited to come to the remaining services.

Revival in Progress First Church, LaGrange

Revival is in progress through November 7, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. O. B. Jones is the evangelist. The Rev. Earl H. Glenn is pastor of the church. Special music is being presented each evening. A nursery is provided. Everyone is welcomed to come and join in the remainder of these services.

Revival at Cape Colony Mission

Revival services will be held at Cape Colony Mission, Edenton, beginning November 16 and continuing through November 22. The speakers will be the Revs. David Ricks, Marvin Waters, Joe Griffith. Everyone is invited to attend. The Rev. Ronnie A. Mohn is the pastor of the mission.

Revival in Progress Holly Springs Church

Revival services began November 3 and will continue through November 7, at Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly, North Carolina. The guest evangelist for the week is the Rev. Jimmy Barfield, pastor of Watson's Grove church, Kenly. The services will begin each evening at 7:30.

The pastor, the Rev. W. R. Martin, and members invite everyone to attend the remaining services.

Robert's Grove Church Has Homecoming

On Sunday, October 5, Robert's Grove Free Will

Children's Home

submitted by
Stewart Humphrey

NOVEMBER IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH



A young child in prayer.

and destitute adult could be met. “. . . bring forth all the tithe of thine increase . . . and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest” (Deuteronomy 14:28, 29).

During November every church is encouraged to receive special Thanksgiving offerings for the Children's Home. The second Sunday in November has been set aside as Children's Home Day in our churches. If your church does not meet on second Sunday, choose a Sunday that is convenient for your congregation.

We would like to invite everyone to come to our campus on Saturday, November 22, and share in our annual service of thanksgiving and praise. The service will begin at 10:30 a.m. Bring a picnic lunch. We will provide some barbecue, slaw, bread, potatoes, and drinks.

After lunch, at 1:30 p.m., we will have a Harvest Day Auction Sale to raise funds for the Children's Home. We are soliciting donations for the sale. If you have something, old or new, you would like to donate for the sale, please contact us right away. You're sure to find a bargain, so plan to stay for the sale.

We look forward to seeing each of you on November 22 at 10:30 a.m. for our annual Thanksgiving service, lunch, and the sale at 1:30 p.m.

According to the preacher in the Old Testament, there is a time for all things. November is a special time of thanksgiving for Free Will Baptists. It is during this month that we pause to give thanks to God for His blessings upon our Children's Home and the many children He has given us to serve through the years.

This past year we have served more than 60 children. Fifty-one are in our care now. Dozens of children and their families come to know the Lord through the ministry of the Children's Home each year. For this opportunity to witness and many others, we pause to give thanks this November.

God commanded His people to bring their tithes into the storehouse in order that the needs of the homeless child

Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, observed homecoming-harvest day. The day began as usual with Bobby Johnson in charge of the adult Sunday school and Miles Jackson in charge of the junior department.

During the worship service, the Chancel Choir sang, "Above All Else" for the special. Mrs. Ann Barefoot was in charge of the memorial service, and the Honeycutt Trio sang, "Beyond the Sunset." The morning message was delivered by the Rev. David Charles Hansley. His topic was "Lord, for a Closer Walk with Thee." He emphasized the need of Christians to use their time, talents, tithes, and selves to reach others. It was a very inspirational message. At the close of the message everyone was given an opportunity to bring their tithes and offerings to the altar. The homecoming offering was \$5,468.32.

After lunch, a singspiration was enjoyed by all.

Homecoming Celebration at Heritage Mission of Charlotte

The Heritage Free Will Baptist Mission, Charlotte, will celebrate its annual homecoming on Sunday, November 9. A group from the sponsoring church, Black Jack church of Greenville, will be in charge of the services. The morning message will be delivered by the Rev. Cedric Pierce. After lunch, the Sugar Frosted Saints will be featured. They will present a program of music that is sure to please everyone. A cordial invitation is extended to everyone.

NOTICE

The meeting place and time of the Superannuation Board meeting have been changed. The Board will meet on November 4, 1980, at the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, at 10 a.m.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For November 16

GOD'S COVENANT AND PAUL

Lesson Text: Acts 2:14-17; 3:18-26

Memory Verse: Acts 2:17

I. INTRODUCTION

Why should one church have five great leaders while millions of people in other places had never heard of Jesus or salvation? The Holy Spirit chose two of those great leaders to spread the word of Christ abroad (Acts 13:1-3). One of them was Saul, but before he had gone very far he became known as Paul (v. 9).

Starting their journey from Antioch of Syria, he and his companion in time came to another city with the same name in the district of Pisidia, which formed a part of the Roman province of Galatia in Asia Minor. There in the synagogue of the Jews Paul gave the message of Jesus so powerfully that he was urgently invited to speak again on the next Sabbath Day (Acts 13:4-43).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Let us be sure that we do not think that this lesson, and the ones that follow in this series on God's Covenant, deal with different covenants. The lessons deal with the New Covenant that was prophesied in the Old Testament and fulfilled in Jesus Christ. This lesson and the ones that follow in this series are only manifestations of this New Covenant.

B. Although the Scripture itself does not say so, it has been accepted from the

earliest times that it was written by Luke, and is the sequel to the Gospel of Luke. Even though it is called "The Acts of the Apostles," it does not give all the work of the Twelve. It is an important book, however, because without it we would have no knowledge of the Early Church except that which could be deduced from the New Testament Epistles.

C. Of course, Luke wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as did all of the biblical writers. What reason did Luke and the Holy Spirit have for giving us the Book of Acts? As one reads this book, three reasons for its existence seem evident: (1) It commended Christianity to the Roman government. It takes great pains to show that Christians were good citizens. (2) It shows that Christianity is for all men and all nations. It begins by showing that in the beginning the church was largely a Jewish organization. But later the gospel was carried to others and they accepted and were saved. (3) It shows how the work of the risen Christ was carried on.

D. Although many other people are mentioned, it might be said that the Book of Acts is mainly about two people: Peter and Paul. The first part of the book deals with the ministry of the Apostle Peter, and the second part of the book deals with the ministry of the Apostle Paul. Our lesson today deals with the manifestation of the New Covenant in the ministry of the Apostle Peter, and the one for next Sunday will do the same

for the ministry of the Apostle Paul.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In God's infinite wisdom and foreknowledge He knew that the nation of Israel, His special people, His covenanted people, would reject Him (Acts 3:26); God does not act upon His foreknowledge without giving man a chance to act upon his knowledge. This is a part of the freedom of the will which God first instilled in man in the Garden of Eden.

B. Having in mind what He knew Israel would do regarding the offer to Jesus their Messiah, God in the same infinite wisdom and foreknowledge decreed that ultimately the gospel would be extended to all men everywhere—unto the Gentiles as well as the Jews. Paul was not the first to witness to Gentiles, but He was the first to be designated officially by God to be the spiritual emissary to the Gentile world. It would be Paul, then, who would break the good news to Gentiles that they, too, share in the covenant—if they chose to accept it—made to the Old Testament fathers, mainly Abraham.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The Holy Spirit—We do not believe in a second work of grace. We believe that men are baptized by the Holy Spirit into the body of Christ at the time of their conversion. But we do believe that one can be filled with the Spirit. This is not a once-for-all experience, but is a repeatable experience. We are filled with the Spirit of God as we surrender to Him and allow Him to control our lives.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

FALL HIGH SCHOOL DAY FOR SENIORS

Saturday,
November 8, 1980

at
Mount Olive College



*What better place to prepare for your future than
at Mount Olive College, "the College that cares."*

**YOU ARE INVITED
To Move Ahead Toward Your Future!**

PROGRAM

9:30 a.m.	Arrival, Registration—Henderson Building Open House—Henderson Building, Moye Library	12:00	Lunch Downtown Campus (Auditorium)
10:00	Devotions—Rodgers Chapel Special Music: New Creations		Special Music: MOUNT OLIVE SINGERS
10:30	Panel Discussion: Mount Olive College Students and Alumni		Remarks: Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President
11:00	Group Meeting: Academics Career Planning Spiritual Life Student Services Financial Aid	1:00	Auditions: Mount Olive Singers Music Service Scholarships Conferences (Upon request) Faculty Admissions Personnel Visitation to Men and Women's Dormitories

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 4)

Lumberton Senior High School
 Hoke County High School
Tuesday, November 11
 Bladen County Schools at Bladen
 Technical Institute
 Dunn High School
 Harnett Central High School
 Western Harnett High School
Wednesday, November 12
 Westover Senior High School
 South View Senior High School
 Terry Sanford Senior High School
 E. A. Laney High School
 New Hanover High School
 J. T. Hoggard High School
 Brunswick County Schools at South
 Brunswick High School
Thursday, November 13
 Pender County High School
 Hallsboro High School
 Reid Ross Senior High School
 Cape Fear Senior High School
 Pine Forest Senior High School
Friday, November 14
 Seventy-First High School
 Douglas Byrd Senior High School
 E. E. Smith Senior High School
 Robeson County Schools at Pem-
 broke State University

JERRY TAYLOR FAMILY AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS



Jerry Taylor Family as Noah's Ark animals.

The Jerry Taylor Family will be available for Christmas programs at your church. They will be using the Noah's Ark animals with special

lighting effects in a musical drama entitled, **Angels, Lambs, Ladybugs, and Fireflies.**

The presentations will be made on a love-offering basis with the entire donation going to the Children's Home. The Taylor Family still has some nights open during December and would like to present this Christmas story to your church or group. Please call Jerry or Linda Taylor soon at 235-4690 or 235-2161; or write to them at Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557.

News from the

Retirement Homes

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT

September, 1980

Total \$730.69

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Eastover	\$ 11.40
Total	\$ 11.40

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Ayden	\$100.00
Reedy Branch	32.25
Union Number 2	10.04
Total	\$142.29

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Dublin Grove	\$ 15.00
Oriental	5.00
Saints Delight	250.00
Total	\$270.00

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Mount Calvary	\$ 25.00
Total	\$ 25.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Flood's Chapel	\$ 7.00
Little Rock	100.00
People's Chapel	25.00
Piney Grove	50.00
St. Mary's	100.00
Total	\$282.00

COMING EVENTS

November 6—Mount Olive College Dinner, Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank, and Chowan Counties, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Union School, Roper, David Cahoon, Chairman. Goal: \$5,175

November 8—Mount Olive College Dinner, Greene County, 7 p.m., West Greene School, Snow Hill, George Harrison, Chairman. Goal: \$8,625

November 11—Mount Olive College Dinner, Pitt County, 7 p.m., D. H. Conley School, Bobby Taylor, Chairman. Goal: \$14,225

November 11—Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board will meet at 9:30 a.m., in the Mission Board Office.

November 12—Children's Home Board meets at 9:30 a.m., Conference Room, Children's Home Campus

November 13—Mount Olive College Dinner, Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, 7 p.m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, Chairman. Goal: \$8,125

November 15—Central District Youth Fellowship, 2 p.m., Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church

November 15—Mount Olive College Dinner, Carteret County, 6:30 p.m., East Carteret High School near Beaufort, David Ward, Chairman. Goal: \$7,525

November 18—Mount Olive College Dinner, Wilson County, 7 p.m., Beddingfield School, James B. Hunt Sr., Chairman. Goal: \$14,975

November 22—Annual Thanksgiving Service of Children's Home, 10:30 a.m., Memorial Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Children's Home Campus

November 22—Old Fashioned Harvest Day Sale, 1:30 p.m., Children's Home Campus

"Let Us Give Thanks"

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Saturday, November 22, 1980

10:30 A.M.



Worship



Fellowship



Fours

*Bring a
Picnic Lunch*



*Spend the
Day*

"Thanksgiving in the Heart enlarges the gift until
the need is filled and unveils as best of all
the loving motive of the giver."

—SWAIN

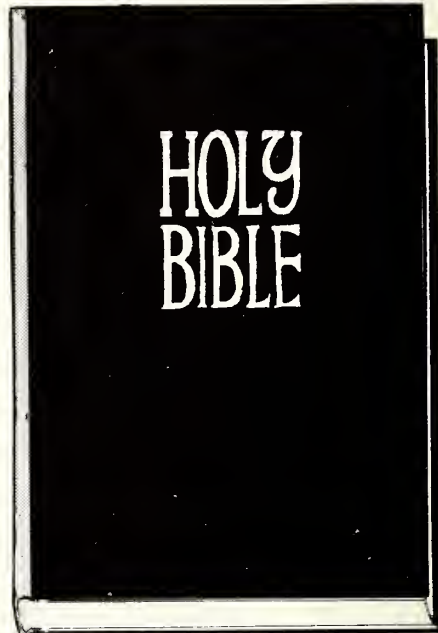
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 - 5 pages The Messianic Prophecies Fulfilled in Jesus Christ
 - 32-page Reading Guide on: Jesus, Man for All Time; The Bible, Book for All Time; Questions about God and Man; Life in Bible Times
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



*There is no
way of
knowing when
something we
do is
becoming part
of the thread
that winds
through
another's
memory.*

Quilt

Relates Church's History

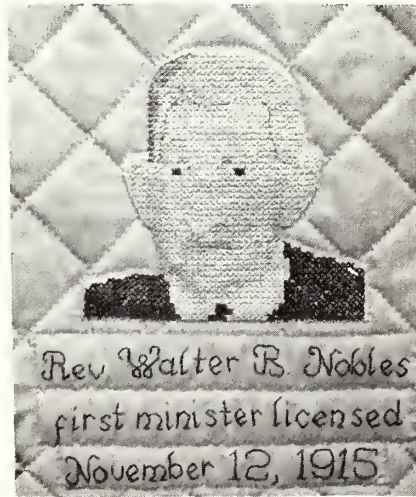
Information submitted by Mrs. Louise Hines
Winterville Free Will Baptist Church
Winterville, North Carolina

MUCH has been said about 'The Quilt' that contains the history of our church in 35 separate squares," Mrs. Louise Hines began. "Looking over the different squares done in cross-stitch and applique, one tends to go back and relive some of the times and events captured in pictures and words by the quilt makers of the Willing Workers Class," Mrs. Hines continued.

The idea for the quilt originated a year and a half ago during a telephone call Mrs. Hines made to Mrs. Pallie Avery. The Willing Workers Sunday School Class of Winterville Free Will Baptist Church adopted the project, and ideas were soon given of what events should be pictured. "The quilt had been planned as a fund-raising effort for the building fund, but it became so meaningful to those who worked on it that it was decided by the class that it should belong to the church," Mrs. Hines related.

The squares portray such times and events as the founding of the church (November 7, 1905), the

charter membership list, the beginning of the Ladies Aid Society, the first licensed minister from the Winterville church (the Rev. Walter B. Nobles), the first missionaries from the church, homecoming 1955 (50th anniversary), the



The Rev. Walter B. Nobles

first member to attend Mount Olive College (Miss Jo Ann Hines), and Winterville's 75th anniversary.

The Rev. Ed Taylor, the new pastor of Winterville church, asked if anyone had kept up with the number of hours spent on the quilt. "No,"

replied Miss Leah McGlohon, "but at minimum wage, it would be worth every penny of \$5,000." Miss McGlohon did relate, however, that she spent approximately 37 hours embroidering a square bearing a list of the church's charter membership. She traced the actual document on material and embroidered it with its misspellings. For example, "female" was spelled "fe-male" and "McGlohon" was rendered "McGhlohon."

"The quilt top was put together in chronological order. Our first frames were too small and we had to have others made. We sewed the quilt top in the frames and began quilting before Labor Day," Mrs. Hines said.

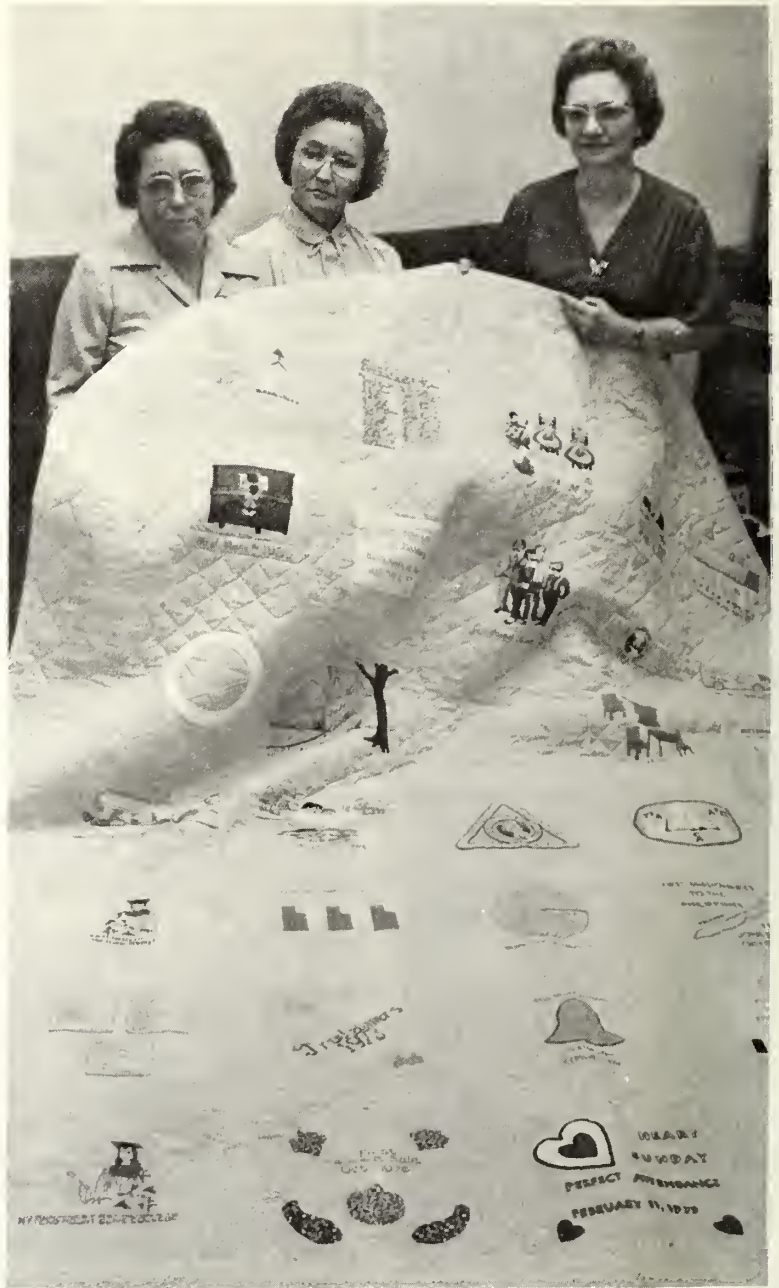
"Our families were very generous toward us during this project because they didn't see us much," Mrs. Avery related. "There were several things we did while burning the midnight oil that we had to do over when we saw it the next morning," she added.

(Turn the Page)

The Heritage Quilt was dedicated on October 12, 1980, the church's 75th anniversary. Mr. Bruce Gray, chairman of the Board of Trustees, accepted the quilt for the church; Mr. Guy Corbett prayed the prayer of dedication. A total of \$5,000 has been raised for the building fund through the sponsorship of squares.

Mesdames Louise Hines, Pallie Avery, and Miss Leah McGlohon, the Quilt Committee—and the quilt—will be featured on "Carolina Today," November 17 at 7:15 a.m. ("Carolina Today" comes on WNCT, Channel 9, Greenville, North Carolina.) The quilt will also be on display November 18-20 at the Quilt Show held during the Greenville Tobacco Festival.

Shown holding the Heritage Quilt, left to right, are Mrs. Pallie Avery, Mrs. Louise Hines and Miss Leah McGlohon.



COMING EVENTS

November 12—Children's Home Board meets at 9:30 a.m., Conference Room, Children's Home Campus

November 13—Mount Olive College Dinner, Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, 7 p.m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, Chairman. Goal: \$8,125

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November 22—Annual Thanksgiving Service of Children's Home, 10:30 a.m., Memorial Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Children's Home Campus

November 22—Old Fashioned Harvest Day Sale, 1:30 p.m., Children's Home Campus

ALBEMARLE DISTRICT
YOUTH
CONVENTION NEWS

On October 4, 1980, the fall session of the Albemarle District Youth Convention was held at the Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Ahoskie. The theme was taken from Psalm 119:11, "Thy word have I hid in my heart." The congregation sang, "Trust and Obey." Devotions followed, taken from Psalm 119:9-16 and delivered by Elizabeth Newbern and Lisa Overton. The welcome was given by Nikki Overton, followed by the response given by the Plymouth church.

The AFC of Hickory Chapel entertained us with two puppet shows. The first, entitled "Giving," was performed by Kevin Dilday, Sandra Newbern, and Susan Taylor. The second, entitled "Man's Best Friend," was performed by Donnie Overton, Dale Clay, and Wendi Nixon.

The business period followed with an offering of \$18. Roll call of churches showed six churches present with forty-four people registered for the convention. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Recognition of ministers showed three ministers present. Group reports were given by the different youth groups. The St. Paul youth volunteered to host the Spring Convention on the first Saturday in April.

The banners were awarded to the Plymouth YFA and AFC. Mrs. Betty Sawyer gave the Youth Chairman's report. She reported that the new State Youth Chairman is Alane Vester, and assistant is Becky Jo Sumner.

Chorus time was provided by the Hickory Chapel youth. The program was given by Michelle Baker, Renee Sullivan, and Craig Simmons

(Continued on Page 15)

THE Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

JOIN US FOR THANKSGIVING

We invite all of you to share Thanksgiving with us on the campus of the Children's Home on November 22, 1980. We will worship together at 10:30 a.m. We will share a Thanksgiving feast together at noon. God has blessed us all this year and this is a fitting time for all our people in the denomination to come together and praise God for His wonderful blessings on our churches and denominational programs as well!

The Children's Home will provide barbecue, slaw, bread and drinks. You can bring a picnic lunch and we will have a scrumptious feast.

We will have open house in the afternoon and you will be able to visit with the children on campus and experience the day-to-day routine of campus life.



About 1:30 p.m. we are going to have an "ole time" auction sale. Interesting and useful items of all kinds are being sought for this sale. The proceeds from the sale will go to the Children's Home. If you have items that you would like to donate, please bring them to campus or call and let us know when you plan to bring them. You may "No Sale" an item that does not bring as much for the Children's Home as you want it to. This sale will be a bargain hunter's paradise. You won't want to miss it! Most of all, it will give you an opportunity to get something you need, as well as make a contribution to our beloved Children's Home.



FAMILY DEVOTIONS



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Scripture Reading—John 3:16, 17

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Evangelist Leighton Ford said, "We cannot identify our gospel only with the past, and oppose all change. God is not tied to 17th-century English, 18th-century hymns, 19th-century architecture and 20th-century cliches. God is constantly prodding us, as He did the people of Israel, and saying, 'Strike your tents and move on.' Let us tell God's people to get out and share their faith, to take the gospel message where the people are. Jesus did."

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of us are like the woman who searched diligently for her lost coin? We should be concerned about our lost brother or sister enough to tell them about the love of God and His saving power. Pray for some lost soul today.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 7:5

ONE OUT OF THREE

Said Billy Graham, "Latest statistics show that whereas one out of three marriages in America ends in divorce, only one out of 500 occurs in homes where there is regular prayer and Bible study!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"The family that prays together stays together," is a saying which we have all heard. Prayer can help a family have more happiness, thus preventing it from ending in divorce and unhappiness.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—Philippians 4:19

BEGGING

One day, when Sir Walter Raleigh made a request of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth I, she petulantly said, "Raleigh, when will you leave off begging?"

Sir Walter replied, "When your Majesty leaves off giving!"

The Queen was greatly pleased with his reply, and his request was granted.

God delights to bestow the best of gifts upon his children "according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

*Thou art coming to a King
Large petitions with thee
bring;
For His grace and pow'r are
such,
None can ever ask too
much.*

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets" (Luke 6:23). The Children of God are blessed with many gifts.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 2:8

FACE WITHOUT WORKS

"Daddy, I want a watch, so I can tell the time," pleaded little Jimmy.

"Very well, son, I'll get you a watch."

Going to a five-and-ten-cent store, Daddy bought the watch. Jimmy was especially

delighted because the face of the watch was colorful.

Before Jimmy retired that night, he set the watch at 8 o'clock and put it under his pillow.

The next day was Sunday, and the family usually got up at 8 o'clock to get ready for Sunday school and church. When Jimmy awoke, he looked at his watch. It was 8 o'clock. He leaped from his bed and ran downstairs. Seeing his mommy and daddy sound asleep, he shouted, "Get up, sleepyheads! It's 8 o'clock!"

Daddy looked at his wrist watch. It was only 5 o'clock. He said, "Go back to bed, Jimmy!" Then he told Jimmy the sad news: his new watch didn't keep time. It had no works to make it move.

In the morning church service, the minister's text was "Faith without works is dead."

"Why, Daddy," whispered Jimmy, "he's preaching about my watch!"

"Your watch?" asked Father in surprise.

"Yes, Daddy. He said, 'Face without works is dead!'"

How like Jimmy's watch are some people. They put on a good face or front before people, but within them there is only spiritual deadness. They don't believe in Jesus and love Him.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" (James 2:20).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—Matthew 24:44

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

IKE WAS READY

Just before General Eisenhower died, Billy Graham was invited to visit him at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D. C. He was told he could stay thirty minutes. When he went in, the general was wearing his usual big smile, even though he knew he didn't have long to live.

Later, Billy Graham told what happened:

"When the thirty minutes were up, he asked me to stay longer and said to me, 'Billy, I want you to tell me once again how I can be sure my sins are forgiven and that I'm going to Heaven, because nothing else matters now.'

"I took out my New Testament and read him several Scriptures. I pointed out that we are not going to Heaven because of our good works, or because of money we've given to the church. We are going to Heaven totally and completely on the basis of the merits of what Christ did on the Cross. Therefore he could rest in the comfort that Jesus paid it all!

"After prayer, Ike said, 'Thank you! I'm ready!'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Are you ready for death? Are you sure? Jesus said, "Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" (Matthew 24:44).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 5:8

A SELF-DELUDED ONE

Sometime ago Brother Andrew began a self-appointed, wearisome trek. He left Key Largo, Florida, to walk to Maine, pulling behind him a seventy-five pound wooden cross mounted on wheels. Self-deluded, he believed he was obeying the command of the Saviour, "If

any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24).

The irony of this exhibition was the fact that Brother Andrew had a wife and five children who were on public relief in Maine. If he had really wanted to obey Jesus, he would have been at home working and providing the necessities of his wife and children.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's Word says, "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith and is worse than an infidel" (1 Timothy 5:8).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Psalm 127:1

GOD A NECESSITY

Said George Washington, "It is impossible to govern the world without God!"

"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain" (Psalm 127:1).

PRAYER THOUGHT

God created the world and all that is in it. He is also omnipresent. Therefore, it is hard for someone to say that he can do without God. The Lord helps us make many decisions and face problems in life. Our lives need to be centered in Him.

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Harry A. Jones is available for pastoral, supply, or evangelistic work. He may be contacted at Route 1, Box 430, Dover, North Carolina 28526, or by phone, 527-3262.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO MEET

The Free Will Baptist Historical Society will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, November 22, at Moye Library on the campus of Mount Olive College. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

The program will focus on a local church history and will feature a slide-tape presentation of the history of Winterville Free Will Baptist Church by Miss Leah McGlohon, a member of the congregation and vice-president of the Historical Society.

Several local church histories have been featured in issues of *The Free Will Baptist* during the past few months. Members of local churches have shown a greater interest in preserving their heritage and sharing the data of their history with other readers of the *Baptist*. This kind of effort is essential if the origin and development of many Free Will Baptist congregations are to be recorded and preserved for posterity. Copies of these local church histories should be deposited with the Free Will Baptist Collection at Mount Olive College.

Officers for the coming biennium will be elected by the membership at the meeting on November 22. Participation in this election will help to assure the continuation of efforts to achieve the purpose of the Historical Society.

Interested persons are invited to attend and to become members of the society. Dues are five dollars per year for regular members, ten dollars for contributing members, and fifty dollars for life membership.

Cragmont Assembly

STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

August, 1980

Checking balance 8/1/80 \$ 417.67

	Receipts	
NORTH CAROLINA		
WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES		
Piney Grove (Johnston County)	\$ 20.00	
Stoney Creek	100.00	
Deep Run	20.00	
Friendship (Jones)	10.00	
Sound View	15.00	
State Auxiliary Convention Offering	43.83	
Free Union (Greene County)	5.65	
Grimsley	48.00	
Hull Road	6.00	
Tarboro, First	25.00	
Shady Grove	20.00	
Pearsall Chapel	20.00	
Lowland	50.00	
Verona	20.00	
St. Mary's (New Bern)	25.00	
White Oak Grove	23.00	
Bridgeton	20.00	
Westside	46.00	
Northeast	3.75	
Whaley's Chapel	20.00	
Gray Branch	20.00	
Saints Delight	29.00	
Smith's New Home	10.00	
Smithfield, First	20.00	
St. Mary's Grove	100.00	
Wilson, First	20.00	
Christian Service Fund	91.69	
(To correct previous report) (100.00)		\$ 731.92

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	19.44	19.44
Albemarle Union Meeting	<u>19.44</u>	

CENTRAL CONFERENCE	660.93
Saratoga Ladies' Auxiliary	51.00
Winterville Sunday School	84.20
Friendship	25.00
Spring Branch	353.35
Otter's Creek Sunday School	22.88
Edgewood	40.00
Hickory Grove Sunday School	74.50
Winterville, Marty Corbett	<u>10.00</u>

EASTERN CONFERENCE	1,926.06
Juniper Chapel	1,007.00
Third Union District	50.00
Warden's Grove	19.06
Third District Youth Fellowship	100.00
Wintergreen	200.00
Holly Springs	<u>550.00</u>

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	100.00
Daly's Chapel	31.79
Victory Mission	60.00
Casey's Chapel	44.59
Palmer Memorial	<u>50.00</u>
Powhatan	

WESTERN CONFERENCE	40.00
Friendship, Ladies' Auxiliary	37.50
Milbournie	300.00
Marsh Swamp, Geraldine Mangum	125.00
District Youth Fellowship	100.00
Sherron Acres	<u>125.00</u>

OTHERS	865.00
Ministerial Association	20.00
Willing Workers	100.00
Sunday School Class	25.00
Verena P. Johnson	2,104.73
Reba Hill Blizzard	50.00
State Youth Convention	50.00
Robert and Loydene Proctor	50.00
The Rev. and Mrs. Paul Grubbs	50.00
John M. and Margaret Furlough	50.00
Abbots Labs—In Memory of Mrs. Lucy Jones	15.00
Anonymous	<u>85.00</u>
Total Receipts	D

Office Supplies	
Manager's Benefits	
Transfers to:	
Building Fund	4,163.65
General Savings	<u>2,568.27</u>
Total Disbursements	
Checking Account Balance 8/31/80	
Building Fund Balance 8/31/80	
General Savings Balance 8/31/80	
Total of all funds on hand in corporate account 8/31/80	Sep

Checking account balance 9/1/80

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	50.00
Mount Tabor	
Sunday School	\$ 50.00
Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	10.00
Union Chapel	22.39
Free Union	<u>20.00</u>

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	100.00
Wooten's Chapel	200.00
Tee's Chapel	<u>5.70</u>
Eastover Mission	

CENTRAL CONFERENCE	405.00
Winterville Sunday School	50.00
Rose Hill Sunday School	25.00
Friendship	300.00
Gum Swamp	107.00
Owens Chapel	200.00
Sweet Gum Grove	10.04
Saratoga	23.03
Second Union Meeting	140.00
Williamston, First	225.00
Ayden	100.00
Greenville, First	<u>20.71</u>
Saints Delight	
King's Cross Roads	

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Holly Springs	25.00
Holly Springs	
Woman's Auxiliary	125.00
Pilgrims Rest	10.00
Jackson Heights	55.98
Fifth Union	35.00
Rooty Branch	
Woman's Auxiliary	25.00
Mount Zion	<u>25.00</u>

300.98

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Heritage Mission	<u>64.00</u>
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64.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Milbournie	37.00
Virginia Hayes and	
Bessie Lamm	200.00
Piney Grove	244.00
St. Mary's	250.00
Sherron Acres	125.00
First Union	150.00
Fifth District	
Sunday School Convention	25.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Flood's Chapel	5.00
Selma	25.00
Friendship	50.00
Wilson, First	250.00
Unity	200.00
Little Rock	200.00
Marsh Swamp, Mr. and Mrs.	
James B. Hunt Sr.	50.00
Northern	1,000.00
Micro	100.00
Selma	<u>25.00</u>

3,036.50

OTHERS

The Rev. and Mrs. Phil Wood	30.00
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Lane	50.00
Iris Davis	10.00
Cecilia H. Garris	
Woman's Auxiliary	185.00
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Allen	20.00
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sutton	25.00
Hilda Sasser Circle	50.00
Larry and Cathy Crumpler	15.00
Anonymous	10.00
Bank credit for service charge	<u>9.00</u>

404.00

Total Receipts

5,839.35

Disbursements

Salaries		1,753.34
Advertising		339.32
Postage		30.00
Transfers to:		
Building Fund	15.00	
General Savings	593.01	
Camp Account	<u>500.00</u>	
		<u>1,108.01</u>

Total Disbursements

3,230.67

Checking Account balance 9/30/80

3,898.36

Building Fund balance 9/30/80

10,149.50

General Savings balance 9/30/80

4,861.28

Total of all funds on hand in corporate account 9/30/80

\$18,909.14

Respectfully submitted,
John R. Watson, Treasurer



286.38

727.50

3,364.73

7,716.96

23.45

89.58

6,731.92

6,844.95

1,289.68

10,134.50

4,268.27

\$15,692.45

980

\$ 1,289.68

\$ 102.39

305.70

1,625.78

NEWS & NOTES

Whaley's Chapel Church To Have Dinner and Bazaar

Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Richlands, will hold its annual dinner and bazaar on November 15, 1980. They will be serving dinner consisting of barbeque and fried chicken at 11 a.m. Handmade items and a white elephant sale will be featured at the bazaar.

Revival in Progress at New Haven Church

Revival services are in progress through November 14 at New Haven Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Earl Glenn is the guest speaker. The Rev. David Cauley is the pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Revival in Progress at King's Cross Roads

Revival services are being held through November 14 at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church near Fountain. The Rev. Doug Skinner, pastor of Arapahoe church, is the guest evangelist. There is special music being rendered each evening.

The church is located three miles off Highway 222 between Falkland and Fountain. The Rev. Bobby Futrell is pastor of the church. The public is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Ordained Deacon at Pleasant Grove Church

On August 17, a deacon ordination service was held at Pleasant Grove Free Will

Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville, for J. D. Jones. The service was opened by the singing of a hymn and Scripture being read by other deacon board members, Alpheus Jones, Dee Glover, and Guy Bedford. The Rev. James Lupton, pastor of the church, then used Scripture to explain about the duties of a deacon and a deacon's wife. The laying on of hands was done by the pastor and members of the deacon board, in which time an ordination prayer was given by other deacon board members, Rufus Hare and Worth Overman Jr. After the prayer, there was a handshake by the church membership.

Revival in Progress at Pleasant Grove Church

Revival services are in progress through November 14 at Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Frank Brinson is the evangelist. The pastor of the church is the Rev. James Lupton. Prayer room opens at 7:15 p.m. There is special music being rendered each night. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Central District Youth To Meet

The Central District Youth Fellowship will meet on November 15, 1980, at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Belvoir, at 2 p.m. The young people will be divided into groups at the meeting (YFA groups, AFC

groups and a Cherub group). The purpose of this is to help them get to know each other. Ideas on how to improve the district work will also be discussed. Mesdames Dot Dall and Joan Little will also be conducting a session for youth sponsors. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting.

Revival in Progress At Sweet Gum Grove

Revival services are in progress through November 15 at Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes. The guest evangelist for the week is the Rev. Lloyd Hargis. The services begin each evening at 7:30. Everyone is invited to attend. The Rev. David Hill is pastor of the church.

Benefit Performance Planned in Ayden

Marshal Desten's Wild West Show will give a benefit performance for the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on Sunday, November 16 in downtown Ayden. The Wild West Show will stage two live gunfights during the afternoon. The Gospel Chargers of Winterville will be singing in the old Ayden Police Station at 3 p.m. These activities will take place on West Avenue. Everyone is invited to attend.

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Otway Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Beaufort, needs a pastor for full-time church services. Anyone interested please contact Mr. Michael Taylor or Mr. Norman Gillikin. Mr. Taylor can be reached by writing Route 2, Box 677, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516 or phoning 728-3935. Mr. Gillikin's address is Route 2, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516, or phone him at 728-3931.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

GROUP ENJOYS SPIRITUAL RETREAT

—written by Mrs. Elizabeth Scott—

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help." This was the feeling of 79 people from Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church as they prepared for a Spiritual Life Retreat at Cragmont Assembly. The group began leaving at various times, depending on work schedules, Friday, September 26. About 40 arrived in time for supper, with the rest arriving between 8 p.m. and midnight. After leaving the heat wave we had been experiencing in Wayne County, the "cool" weather was a blessing. We enjoyed fellowship on the front porch and relaxing in the rocking chairs.

On Saturday morning after breakfast, we gathered in the chapel for a meaningful service. Our pastor, the Rev. Gary Bailey, challenged us to look for God in the activities of the day. After the service, several chose to climb the mountain, some went on shopping excursions, some toured Asheville, some went over to Cherokee and on into Tennessee, but some just rested.

That evening we assembled in small groups to discuss the activities of the day and where we had seen God or experienced His blessings. After this, we assembled in the chapel again for vespers, followed by a discussion of the day's activities. This proved to

be most interesting in that everyone had different ideas. Some of them were:

Climbing the mountain: Comparing this to living the Christian Life. At times it seemed you just couldn't make it, but God gave the strength and with determination you made it and experienced an exhilaration on being successful.

Fellowship with various age groups: The youngest in the group was 11 months old and the oldest, in the 70's. But at Cragmont we didn't really care about age differences. Everyone shared fellowship and activities and became closer because of this.

The nature element: God is in all nature but we felt closer

to God at Cragmont because of the serenity. The hills and mountains seemed nearer to Heaven. We were away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, no telephones, no television, nothing to distract us.

The vesper service, with its discussions, proved to be one of the most spiritual of all.

Later in the evening we gathered for a fun time with a "Kangaroo Court." Our pastor served as prosecuting attorney; Delbert Scott, chairman of our Deacon Board was the judge; and four of our members were indicted for various "crimes" committed at Cragmont. Mr. Preston Holland was charged with

(Continued on Page 15)



THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For November 23

GOD'S COVENANT AND THE NEW ISRAEL

Lesson Text: 1 Peter 2:4-10
Memory Verse: 1 Peter 2:9

I. INTRODUCTION

When God's Word is proclaimed, the crowd of hearers is sharply split according to "the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). On one side are those who are "pricked in their heart" and eager to obey the word (Acts 2:37). On the other side are those who are "cut to the heart" and furious enough to kill the preachers (Acts 5:33). Last week's lesson pictured such a division. When Paul and Barnabas brought the gospel to Antioch, great numbers of people swarmed to hear it and accepted it gladly. But others were so filled with envy that they opposed the preachers and finally drove them out of town (Acts 13:42-52).

Such violent opposition made it more necessary for Christians to band together for mutual support and help. From the beginning, then, the Christian task was twofold: first to bring people to Christ, and then build them together in stable and harmonious churches.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Without engaging in any of the critical comments that have been made by scholars about this Epistle of First Peter, we would like to begin this discussion by quoting the words of Jesus to Peter as found in Luke 22:31, 32: "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon,

behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." The suffering Lord strengthens Peter that he might strengthen his brethren. This we find him doing so beautifully in this epistle.

B. As we study a selection from this epistle, let us keep in mind that the Christians who received this epistle, whether they were Jews or Gentiles, had one thing in common, and that was trouble. The word "suffer" either as a verb or noun appears prominently in each of the five chapters. So it seems evident that Peter wrote at a time of great persecution when the church was undergoing great trial.

C. Since we have been studying the covenants of God this quarter, and these covenants contain some of God's greatest promises to His people, we will be able to see how God keeps His promise in the hour of trouble for His people.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

D. The covenant of God in its primary form was restricted. Narrowly embracing only the Jewish people, with their rejection of the New Covenant as expressed in the Messiah, it was extended to include the Gentiles as we saw in last Sunday's lesson. God's description of His people Israel was now applied to the church (the new Israel) made up of both Jews and Gentiles. These now enjoyed such identifications as "a chosen generation," "a royal

priesthood," and "an holy nation," among others. The Christian church became known as "the new people" of the covenant.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The Epistles of Peter have been points of great controversy among Bible critics. We should not concern ourselves with them, however, in this lesson. We are sure that the epistle we study today was written by the Apostle Peter, and that it was written to a persecuted people who knew the meaning of suffering. It is believed that the majority of the recipients of this epistle were Gentiles.

B. The idea of Jesus as a Stone is one that is introduced in the Old Testament, and continues in the New Testament. Peter calls Christ the Living Stone. Paul calls Him the Foundation. It is interesting that Christ once called Peter a rock, and that in this epistle which we study today, Peter calls Christ the Living Rock.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

God Is Our Provider—A small boy went with his mother to a grocery store. The grocer held out a candy jar and asked the boy to take a handful. The boy simply held back and would not reach into the jar. The grocer reached into the jar and got a handful of the candy and gave it to the boy. Later the mother spoke to the lad about being so shy and asked him why he would not reach into the jar for the candy. The boy replied, "I wanted him to get the candy for me because his hand is bigger than mine." God's hand is bigger than ours, and when He supplies our needs, we may be sure that they are adequately supplied.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

FREE WILL BAPTIST STUDENT FELLOWSHIP OFFICERS



The Fellowship has elected officers for the academic year. They are, left to right, front row, Vice-President, Elaine Tyson of Pitt County, a member of King's Cross Roads church; Benevolent, Terri Ruff of Burlington; Treasurer, Rhonda Jones of Wayne County, a member of Rosewood church; Pianist, Tammy Ambrose of Beaufort County, a member of Shiloh church.

Back row, Tony Souder, President, of Pamlico County and a member of Trent church; Song Leader, Nancy Boykin of Wilson County, a member of Marsh Swamp church; Publicity Chairman, Laura Raper of Wayne County, a member of Mount Olive church; Donna Lambert, Pianist of Johnston County, a member of Riverside church; Publicity Chairman, Kathy Herring of Lenoir County, a member of White Oak Grove church; Publicity Chairman, Cynthia Terrell of Wayne County, a member of Goldsboro church; Mrs. Dianne Riley, Faculty Advisor, of Craven County, a member of St. Mary's church; and Avis Holland, Benevolent, of Wayne County, a member of Dudley church.

Not pictured is Cathy Moss, Secretary. She is from Beaufort County and a member of Shiloh church.

PRIVATE COLLEGES SHOW APPRECIATION FOR STATE TUITION AID PROGRAM

Mr. William N. (Bill) McLawhorn of Ayden, a member of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees and a member of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, left; Trudy Corbett, a Mount Olive College sophomore from Walstonburg, a member of Howell Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, center; and Samuel D. Bundy of Farmville, right, were among the honored guests from 13 counties in attendance at an appreciation dinner hosted by Mount Olive College and the North Carolina Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.



(Continued on Page 15)

Home Missions

by Taylor Hill

CHILDREN ARE OUR PRESENT AND FUTURE



Haymount Mission Youth leaving on a field trip. This mission has always been self-supporting.

I love children but that is not the point that I wish to make. It's the future of those individual children and our church and society that I am thinking about. When I look upon a child, I can see one whose life is being formed by the world around him. I can see a prospective teacher, deacon, preacher, business person, politician, youth director, etc. I can see that if he is loved and trained properly, he can grow up to become a great asset to the church and our society. I am convinced that special interest in our youth is imperative but the question is, how far should we go with our responsibilities as a church? We have found it to be a proven fact that personal attention, well-organized church recreation and field trips are paying off. It is true that not all people will ap-

preciate or take part in such things but children never forget how they are treated while they are growing up. Let's reach all the children that we can and give them all the love and training that we can while we can. Our best traits can live on perpetually if they are impressed upon the children around us.

CATALPA MISSION DOING WELL

The Catalpa Mission has come a long way in a short time. Pastor Alton Howard has worked hard and has been faithful to the work; he has held a full-time job in addition to his mission work.

People have remarked to me on several occasions how easy it has been for our home missionaries. Well, it just isn't that way; our missionaries go



Catalpa Mission youth

through a lot that most people do not know about.

Besides all other responsibilities, we have a doctrine to teach and uphold. Many people come and go because their minds are flexible, but the Word of God is not. There are many times that the missionaries lose members and friends because they are not willing to compromise.

The Catalpa Mission expects to become totally self-supporting the first week of January, 1981.

NOTE OF THANKS

We want to thank everyone for the gifts you gave us during my sickness. The Conference, Union Meeting, churches, Sunday schools, and Auxiliaries thoughtfully remembered us with cards and letters. We hold them very dear. And most of all, we thank you for your prayers because we know prayers have been answered.

I desire your most earnest prayers for the Lord's will be done. We offer our thanks again.

Rev. and Mrs. Wiley Ferrell

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

Experience has taught me that I'm taking an awful chance to underestimate the other fellow.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 13)

North Carolina legislative candidates from 13 counties gathered on the Mount Olive College campus in Mount Olive, Tuesday evening, October 14, for an appreciation dinner and a review of the North Carolina program of aid to students attending private institutions of higher learning. The dinner program, one of 13 district meetings to be held throughout North Carolina, was sponsored by Mount Olive College and the North Carolina Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, an organization composed of the thirty-eight institutions of higher education in the state.

Principal speakers of the evening were Mr. John T. Henley of Raleigh, president of the North Carolina Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NCAICU); Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College; Senator Harold W. Hardison, Democratic candidate from Lenoir County; Mrs. Betty Cobb, Financial Aid Director, Mount Olive College; and Dr. Pepper Worthington, professor of English, Mount Olive College. The presentations reviewed the support that the legislature has demonstrated to students enrolled in private colleges and universities and examined the progress that it is hoped the legislature will make in the future in aiding students from this state in attending privately funded colleges and universities.

The following legislative candidates for a seat in the Senate were in attendance: the Honorable Joseph E. Thomas (Democrat-Craven), the Honorable Harold Hardison (Democrat-Lenoir), the Honorable Henson P. Barnes (Democrat-Wayne), and Mr. John Radford (Democrat-Johnston).

Legislative candidates for a seat in the House of Representatives included Mr. Gerald Anderson (Democrat-Craven), the Honorable Chris S. Barker (Democrat-Craven), the Honorable Daniel T. Lilley (Democrat-Lenoir), the Honorable Samuel D. Bundy (Democrat-Pitt), Mr. Carl L. Tilghman (Republican-Carteret), Mr. Richard R. Grady (Democrat-Wayne), and Mr. Martin Lancaster (Democrat-Wayne).

TRUSTEES TO MEET

The Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College will hold its next regular meeting on Tuesday, November 25, at 9 a.m. on the College campus. At 11 a.m., the trustees will participate in the celebration of the twenty-ninth annual Mount Olive College Founders' Day program.

MOC PRESIDENT TO BE GUEST MINISTER SUNDAY

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be guest minister at Davis Free Will Baptist Church in Carteret County, on Sunday, November 16.

Dr. Raper will teach a combined adult Sunday school class at 10 a.m. and will speak during the 11 a.m. worship service.

GROUP ENJOYS SPIRITUAL RETREAT

(Continued from Page 11)

disturbing the peace. (He knocked too loudly when waking everyone else on Saturday morning.) Judy Mozingo was indicted for assault. (She was grabbing limbs to keep her balance coming down the mountain and as she released them, they would hit those behind her in the face.) Judge Arnold Jones was cited for littering, and

Mrs. Bobbie Holland for slander. (Her comments about her husband were hilarious.) "Sheriff" Joe Lancaster had his hands full bringing in the defendants, and the appointed attorneys were most ineffective as they lost all their cases. If laughter is the best medicine, we all left the "courtroom" in perfect health.

About 11 p.m. we had a bonfire and roasted marshmallows. This was most enjoyable.

Sunday morning, we gathered for Sunday school and a worship service. This started with a song service led by our pastor's wife, Mrs. Kristie Bailey, accompanied by Mrs. Leckie Scott. After the service we began our journey home. It was with a little sadness that we left but our hearts were full of happiness that we had had an opportunity to share in the blessings received at Cragmont, and we look forward to the time we can return.

Albemarle Youth Convention

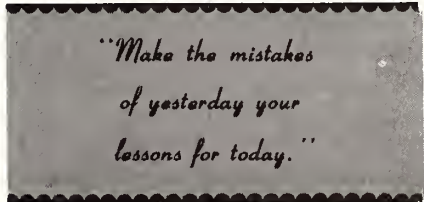
(Continued from Page 5)

of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson.

The benediction and blessing were given by Dale Clary. Lunch was served by the host church.

We wish to invite all of our youth of the Albemarle District to our next District Youth Convention to be held the first Saturday of April, 1981. The meeting will be held at the St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church of Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

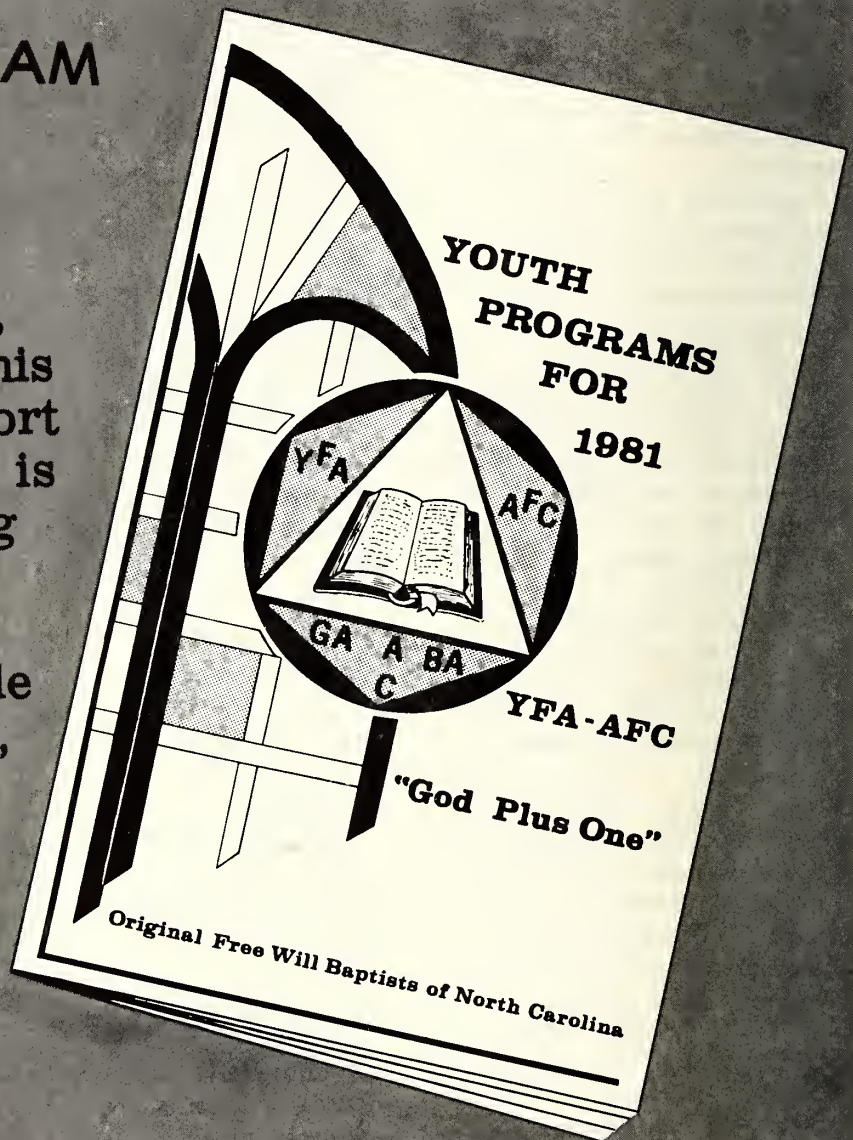
President, Linda Brickhouse
Secretary, Kim Peele



*"Make the mistakes
of yesterday your
lessons for today."*

1981
YOUTH PROGRAM
BOOK

The 1981 Youth Program Book is based on the theme, "God Plus One." This book is the joint effort of many people and is a *must* for all young people and their sponsors. Now available at all Bible Bookstores—Ayden, Kinston, New Bern, Smithfield, and Wilson.
(Price \$2)



Order from the Free Will Baptist Press, Box 158,
Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

The Free Will Baptist



“Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 19:13, 14).

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial

COMPLIANCE, NO! QUALITY, RELEVANT CHILD CARE SERVICES, YES!

Guest Editorial by J. Stewart Humphrey
Executive Director, Free Will Baptist Children's Home

Our great nation spoke its mind on November 4 in clear, unmistakable terms. So did our church people this past spring and summer when asked whether or not they wanted our Children's Home to sign the Compliance Act. The presidential election is behind us, and so is the compliance issue.

However, another word must be said about our choosing to remain out of compliance. **If we plan to offer services to children and families on a private basis, we must not sacrifice quality or relevancy no matter the cost!**

Quality care involves meeting the total needs of a child and his family through counseling, education and alternative placement for periods of time for the children. Alternative placement must be characterized by Christian principles, love, compassion, discipline, understanding, instruction and meeting basic human needs. To fail to provide these and any other services a child and family need (services within our capability to provide) would be displeasing to God and beneath the dignity of this great denomination of ours. It would be far better to care for fewer children well than a larger number in a manner displeasing to God.

Every denominational program should be concerned about its relevancy in today's world. Are we meeting needs? Do the needs we set out to meet still exist today? Child care has changed through the years. Capable leaders in the past sought to keep our child care ministry relevant to the needs of children and families. We moved from the orphanage concept to the children's home concept as orphans gave way to children with living parents. The quest for relevancy must never end if our agency or any ministry of the church hopes to fulfill God's call. Jesus offered relevant solutions to the problems people faced. As the family structure endures assaults of every kind, the church at the local level and on the denominational level must deal with current problems with solutions that work today. Hence, we will change. We will change to meet the needs of people today, as we have done heretofore.

The search for relevancy on the part of the church and its various ministries must be undertaken and it must be undertaken prayerfully and planfully. It must be done at all costs. Paul said, "I must become all things to all men . . . (and of all time, he might have said) . . . in order that I might win some."

This November, pray for guidance for our Children's Home Board as it seeks to maintain a quality, Christian child care program that is indeed relevant to the needs of children and families in this world of ours today!

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Janie Jones Sowers

Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of The Free Will Baptist. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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D. W. Hansley, President; Fred A. Rivenbark, Vice President; Hubert Burress, Secretary; James B. Hardee, C. Felton Godwin, Robert May, and Dewey C. Bolling.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Jerry Allen

Starts New Life

At 38

by Dr. W. Burkette Raper



Jerry Allen, pastor of Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, is embarking on a new career as a Free Will Baptist minister and a Mount Olive College student at age 38.

JERRY Allen, at the age of 38, is beginning a new life. The new life, he readily relates, is dedicated to God.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. George Allen of Route 3, Four Oaks, Jerry left a life of security and an almost-paid-for home of 18 years in Clayton to begin anew. After 13 years as a barber and several more years in what he described as a "good-paying" job as a driver for a trucking company in Charlotte, the 38-year-old husband and father of two exchanged his truck and house in Clayton for life as a Free Will Baptist minister and a Mount Olive College student.

ORDINATION

Jerry was ordained a Free Will Baptist minister in services held in September at

Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton, where he and his family held membership while living there.

Dr. Billy R. Yawn, Everett Chapel pastor, preached the ordination sermon and explained the ministerial code of ethics during the ordaining ceremony. Jerry received his Certificate of Ordination as a large congregation of co-workers, teachers, family, and friends watched. "My family and I were really touched at the many people who came, some from so far and others with very busy schedules. We were just amazed and thankful for their support," Jerry stated softly.

Jerry currently is serving as pastor of Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County.

Turn the Page

In December, 1978, Jerry "accepted the call" to preach—after two years of struggling with the decision. He preached his first sermon on the first Sunday in February. According to policy at Everett Chapel, Jerry had to wait 90 days before petitioning for a license. This he did, and on August 16, 1979, he was licensed as a Free Will Baptist preacher.

After being licensed for one year, Jerry was eligible to take the written and oral exams given by the Board of Ordination of the Western Conference, which he successfully passed. The test requires a thorough knowledge of theology, ethics, and the doctrine of the Free Will Baptist Church.

NEED FOR MORE EDUCATION

In addition to ministering to the people of Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Jerry spends his week days at Mount Olive College in Mount Olive, where he is completing his freshman year.

The need for more education was a realization that came to Jerry after he decided to become a minister. He said that he now sees that "education will never stop" once a person accepts the call to preach. However, he admits that he struggled with doubts for quite a while before finally deciding to return to school. "I didn't make up my mind to go to college until I came to Mount Olive," Jerry noted, adding that it is "tough" to go back to school after being out for twenty years, and even more difficult to begin college for the first time at age 38. Jerry said that visiting Mount Olive College, seeing the friendliness of people on the campus and feeling the Christian atmosphere, was the deciding factor in his becoming a college student. The only Free Will Baptist College, Mount Olive, being a "product of our Free Will Baptist denomination," also influenced Jerry.

Earning a college degree was completely an elective decision on Jerry's part as the Western Conference does not require its ministers to have a college degree.

One of the greatest obstacles, Jerry found, is the gap that exists between what he learned in high school years ago and what is current now. He added with a chuckle that his lack of interest in studying while in school twenty years ago did not help either.

In addition to the knowledge gaps, financial concern is one of the main problems for the Allen family. "We always had material security," said Jerry, adding that quitting his job and selling their home made the family uneasy. "But we knew God would supply our

needs, and He has," he concluded with a warm tone and a look of complete trust and faith.

Since beginning college during the spring semester of 1979, Jerry's education has been aided by a Ministerial Scholarship awarded by the College; substitute speaking in area Free Will Baptist churches; a Church-College grant made possible by Everett Chapel church; and now his position at Bethel church.

SACRIFICES

Not only did Jerry's decision to become a minister and a student mean sacrifices for himself, but for his family as well. His wife, Ruth, left her work at North Carolina State University after eight years. The Allens' two sons left their friends and schools of many years to move to a new town and a different school.

"Very supportive" were the words Jerry used to describe his family's reaction to his new life. "Ruth and the boys have had to give up, as I've given up," he said.

His wife, he said, is a great source of encouragement. "Ruth is strong in her faith," he stated, adding, "She also is serving the Lord."

Ruth, a native of Benson, is now working full-time as a secretary in the Development Office at the College, as well as taking several courses to prepare her for life with Jerry in the ministry.

Jerry and Ruth's sons—Jerry Jr., 17, and Jamie, 13—had to make adjustments, too. According to Jerry, it was very hard on both boys at first, but especially for Jerry Jr., who had only one year before graduation from Clayton High School. However, when given the choice of living with friends in Clayton for the year or staying in Mount Olive and graduating from the new school, Southern Wayne, Jerry Jr. decided to keep the family together.

The Allens currently are residing at 617 North Church Street, Mount Olive.

BUSY SCHEDULE

When asked about his hectic life-style, driving to the coast every weekend to serve his church and studying days and nights during the week, Jerry responds, "I don't do it on my own strength." He also said that he takes one day at a time and trusts God to help him.

He doesn't complain about the work or lack of free time, but simply says, "Serving the Lord is demanding, as it should be."

ANNUAL SESSIONS NOW HISTORY

All of the conferences and associations of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists have held their yearly meetings. The last two to meet were the Cape Fear Conference and the Central Conference.

The one hundred and twenty-sixth annual session of the Cape Fear Conference convened October 30 with Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 5, Dunn. The Rev. Mike Scott, pastor of Johnston Union church, preached the Conference sermon. The Rev. C. Felton Godwin serves as moderator of the Conference. He pastors Oak Grove and Saint Paul churches, Newton Grove.

The Central Conference met for its two hundred and thirty-second annual session, November 5, at King's Cross Roads church, Farmville. The Conference sermon was delivered by Mr. Roscoe Eason, a layman from the King's Cross Roads church. The Rev. Willis Wilson, pastor of Reedy Branch church, Winterville, was reelected to serve another two-year term as moderator during the meeting. The Central Conference is the oldest regional Free Will Baptist body in North Carolina.

It is hard to find better fellowship than that which characterizes our Convention's meetings. It is always a joy to attend them for an individual can surely find good preaching, a prevailing spirit of Christian brotherhood, hospitality at its best (not to mention good food), and a love for God and His Word.

(Photos by Scott Sowers)



FAMILY DEVOTIONS



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—Lamentations 3:27

MATURITY IS NOT THERE

Lt. Gen. Beverley E. Powell, a staunch supporter of good schools and colleges said, "Our present academic society doesn't bother with responsibility. The forced-feeding type of education has not taught maturity. It deals in theory.

"In the past we equated maturity with education, but now maturity is not there. The young have had no responsibility. Everything has been dished out to them. They have the education. Now we must teach them responsibility."

PRAYER THOUGHT

How it must grieve the Heavenly Father when His children fail to grow up and become mature, responsibility-assuming individuals. The Bible says, "It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth" (Lamentations 3:27).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—Exodus 20:12; Ephesians 6:1, 2, 4

JUST PLAIN HAPPY!

A lad wrote a letter to Ann Landers in which he said, "My problem is that my mother understands me, and I have a father who cares.

"We live in a modest but comfortable home. My wardrobe is adequate, and I have just about everything I need. There are rules and regulations around here, and I am expected to obey them. There are also some great privileges.

"My mother doesn't work, and my father doesn't drink. When I do something wrong, I get punished. When I do something good, I get praised.

"I'm a fourteen-year-old boy, and I ask you—with a problem like that, who needs a solution?—Just Plain Happy!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"... ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—John 11:25

CHRIST DIED FOR ME

A news reporter, sitting with other journalists in the editorial office, spoke thus of Billy Graham: "The evangelist said that Christ died for sinners. Why, he said that Christ died for me! The moment he said that, light went on in my soul and mind. At that very moment, I was converted, as the wondrous truth gripped my soul!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (1 John 12, 13).

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—John 20:10

BEAUTY OF CHARACTER

An ancient Chinese proverb teaches: "If there is righteousness in the heart,

there is beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let's not forget that it is in the home that a child begins to talk, to walk, and to develop habits which will go with him throughout his entire life. These habits will help mold his character. Pray that each child you know will always carry forth the love of God in his heart.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—Matthew 4:18, 19

WHERE THE FISH ARE

Authentic fishers of men do not fish in a nice stained-glass aquarium to which have been invited prospective fish to be caught by the big fisherman properly attired, but rather they fish where the fish are—in the fast-flowing streams and muddy pools of life.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's Word says, "... Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men" (Mark 1:17).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 9:22

STILL AN OFFENSE

Centuries ago an English soldier was taken prisoner in a

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Moslem country. In prison, he sketched various designs on paper. His guards were impressed by his skill. The soldier was promised his freedom if he would sketch a mosque, and he began to make a blueprint of a majestic mosque. Upon its completion, his captors were greatly pleased.

Before the soldier's liberation, however, it was detected that he had cleverly fitted into the design of the mosque the shape of a cross—a symbol hated by Moslems. Displeased and angry, his captors put him to death!

PRAYER THOUGHT

The cross is an offense to those who reject its message and refuse to believe that "without shedding of blood is no remission" (Hebrews 9:22).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 1:18

HOW GRAND THE PROMISE!

White as snow! How grand the promise
For the heavy-hearted breast;
When by faith the soul receives it,
Weariness is changed to rest.

Red like crimson, deep as scarlet,
Scarlet of the deepest dye,
Are the manifold transgressions
Which upon the sinner lie.

White as snow! Can my transgressions
Thus be wholly washed away,
Leaving not a spot behind them,
Like a cloudless summer day?

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Yes, at once, and that forever,
Through the blood of Christ,
I know,
All my sins, though red like crimson,
Have become as white as snow!

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*,
Walter B. Knight.

COMING EVENTS

November 22—Annual Thanksgiving Service of Children's Home, 10:30 a.m., Memorial Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Children's Home Campus
November 22—Old Fashioned Harvest Day Sale, 1:30 p.m., Children's Home Campus

IN MEMORY OF

MRS. STELLA HINNANT

Mrs. R. N. (Stella) Hinnant, wife of the Rev. R. N. Hinnant, died on October 17, 1980, in

Denham Springs, Louisiana, following a lengthy illness. She was 82, a native of Lewistown, Pennsylvania, a resident of Denham Springs, Louisiana, and a former resident of Mount Pleasant, North Carolina.

Upon graduating from Moody Bible Institute's School of Music, she married Mr. Hinnant and served with him in pastorates in North Carolina for forty-seven years. When they retired to Louisiana in 1969, she continued in her service of music until disabled by several strokes.

Mrs. Hinnant is survived by her husband, the Rev. R. N. Hinnant, Denham Springs, Louisiana; a daughter, Mrs. Harold R. (Doris Fay) Hine, Denham Springs, Louisiana; a grandson, Christopher Hine, Denham Springs, Louisiana; a sister, Mrs. Mary Lovina Miller, Johnstown, Pennsylvania; and a brother, Harry A. Wray, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.

Her family expresses their appreciation to everyone who extended sympathy at her death.

November is
Children's Home Month.

SS TEACHERS WEEK PROCLAIMED

The week of November 17-23 has been proclaimed as "Honor Sunday School Teachers Week in North Carolina" by Governor James B. Hunt Jr. This is the 13th consecutive time that the state's chief executive has made such a proclamation. This practice was first begun when former Governor Dan K. Moore was in office.

Raleigh hosiery mill executive Burr Patchell, who has been instrumental in the promotion of Sunday school work in the state, has made available free certificates of appreciation for churches to use in honoring their teachers. They are available on request by writing to: The Sunday School Teachers, 3920 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27610. Certificates can also be obtained from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation in Ayden.

All Free Will Baptist churches are urged to take part in this special week and to recognize their Sunday school teachers on November 23.

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary

Treasurer's Report

**End of Second Quarter,
October 31, 1980**

Balance in Bank, July 31, 1980 \$ 4,330.95

	Receipts	
General Fund		
Life Membership Fees	30.00	
Contributions	137.65	
Promotional Fund	79.84	
Reimbursement of Camp Fee	97.50	344.99
Denominational Enterprises		21,873.33
Total Receipts		22,218.32
Total for Which to Account		26,549.27

	Disbursements	
Convention Expenses and Allocations		351.34
Denominational Enterprises		21,873.33
Total Disbursed		22,224.67
Balance in Bank, October 31, 1980		\$ 4,324.60

	Banks	
Branch Banking and Trust Company (Checking)		\$ 1,324.60
Church Finance Association		3,000.00
Total		\$ 4,324.60

DENOMINATIONAL ENTERPRISE REPORT

	ITEMIZE	RECEIVED	DISBURSED
Church Extension (Home Missions)		\$ 1,931.43	\$ 1,931.43
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	3,013.33		
Mexico	310.00		
Lugo's Wife, Medical Expense	226.00		
Fred Baker	50.80		
Bibles for India	10.00		
State Project (Missionary Wives)	1,358.91	4,969.04	4,969.04
Central Conference Missions		160.00	160.00
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	47.63		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	59.50		
J. C. Griffin Scholarship	35.00		
Books	20.00		
Anna Phillips Student Aid	97.00		
State Project (Chapel Parking Lot)	1,190.51	1,449.64	1,449.64

Free Will Baptist Children's Home: General Fund	68.44
Clothing	150.00
Child Support	545.00
Allowance	25.00
State Project (Media Center)	1,377.70

Superannuation
Cragmont Assembly, Inc.
Building Fund

Retirement Homes, Inc.

Life Membership Fees
(Children's Home)

General Conference
Woman's Auxiliary

Carolina Bible Institute

* Christian Service Fund:	
Mount Olive College	159.68
Missions	159.68
Children's Home	119.76
Cragmont Assembly	119.76
Superannuation	79.83
Retirement Homes	79.84
Totals	

* 10 percent retained for
promotional (see receipts \$79.84)

SENIOR CITIZENS HONORED AT BETHEL

submitted by Ruth B. Allen

Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico County paid tribute to its senior citizens on Sunday, November 2, 1980. Flowers were presented to each of them, and the following poem was read in their honor.

After the worship service a luncheon was served in the fellowship hall.

SENIOR CITIZENS

We have come to offer tribute
On this, a very special day,
To those who have walked before
us,
And helped us along the way.

We call them "Senior Citizens,"
But that is just a phrase,

"Bible Sunday" Declared By the American Bible Society

2,166.14	2,166.14
227.00	227.00
9,467.45	9,467.45
625.15	625.15
75.00	75.00
5.00	5.00
78.93	78.93
<u>718.55</u>	<u>718.55</u>
<u>\$21,873.33</u>	<u>\$21,873.33</u>



Tamil New Reader Scripture portions are being offered to passengers on a suburban train in Southeast India.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, Treasurer

For the folks that we are honoring
Are worthy of our praise.

The years may have dulled their hearing,
Or even dimmed their eyes.
However, time cannot detract
From their godly, well-spent lives.

Many times the road they've traveled
Was painful and quite rough,
But they put their trust in Jesus,
Enjoyed the good, and endured the rough.

They have taught us many lessons
About life, and love, and God,
And we have seen their faith at work
As down life's path they've trod.

Suffering, pain, and heartaches
Have eluded them not at all,
Yet a smile is upon their faces
For they have heard the Master's call.

So, to you "Senior Citizens,"
We love you and we pray
That God will richly bless you
Not just now, but every day!

In the vast subcontinent of India, Scriptures cannot be imported. This year the Bible Society of India will produce and distribute 100 million Scriptures for a population exceeding 600 million people which speak 1,652 languages and dialects. On November 23, "Bible Sunday," thousands of Christians across the country will be reminded of the millions throughout the world, like those in India, who have never heard God's Word and had the opportunity to respond to its saving message.

November 23 has been declared "Bible Sunday" by the American Bible Society. The purpose of the day is to focus attention on the world's spiritually impoverished. Churches are being asked to remind themselves that God's Word, though in ample supply here, is in short supply in many countries around the world.

"It's estimated that seven out of eight Christian homes in the Third World do not have a Bible. A Bible in every Christian home is still an unfulfilled dream for the world at large," says Arthur C. Borden, church relations secretary for the American Bible Society. "Despite our efforts we have only been able to reach a small portion of the world's Christians with the Bible. Millions more have never received God's Word and are thus deprived daily of learning of the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ," he continued.

The American Bible Society, founded in 1816, is a nonprofit organization whose sole purpose is the translation, publication, and distribution of the Holy Scriptures.

So, when you think November 23, think "Bible Sunday."

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

RELIGIOUS LIFE RETREAT A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE



Miss Caroline Castelloe, Director of Counseling Services at Mount Olive College, left, and sophomore Avis Holland of Dudley, center, help College Chaplain Frank Harrison with his luggage. More than 50 Mount Olive College students, faculty, and staff members boarded a bus for the Religious Life Retreat held in Oriental on October 31 through November 2.

"How does one describe an experience with God? How can human words express the inexpressible?" This was the reaction of the Rev. Frank Harrison, chaplain of Mount Olive College, after the Religious Life Retreat sponsored by the College and held in Oriental during the weekend of October 31 through November 2.

Approximately fifty students and faculty members filled a bus, and several cars as well, at 3 p.m. on Friday for what several participants have

since described as "a wonderful spiritual experience." A kind of expectancy and excitement had prevailed over the campus as students waited for the retreat to get under way.

The Religious Life Retreat, an annual event sponsored by Mount Olive College, is, as Mr. Harrison explained, "a time for reflection, worship, and commitment to God."

"The Friday evening worship service," Mr. Harrison reported, "was a meaningful experience as the Holy Spirit

began to move upon hungry and prepared hearts." The Rev. Owen Lupton, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Woodrow, New Bern, brought a message Friday evening on one's Christian commitment, using the account of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in Daniel 3 as the basis of his message. "God's presence and power were evident in the service as everyone came under the reign of divine love and grace," said Mr. Harrison.

According to the chaplain, much time was spent prior to and during the retreat in prayer and Bible study. He also said that when the retreat was over, everyone knew that God had fulfilled the promise He made in Jeremiah 29:12-13: "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."

The "Singspiration" held on Saturday evening at Oriental Free Will Baptist Church also was said to be a highlight for those participating in the retreat, as well as for members of the Oriental Community.

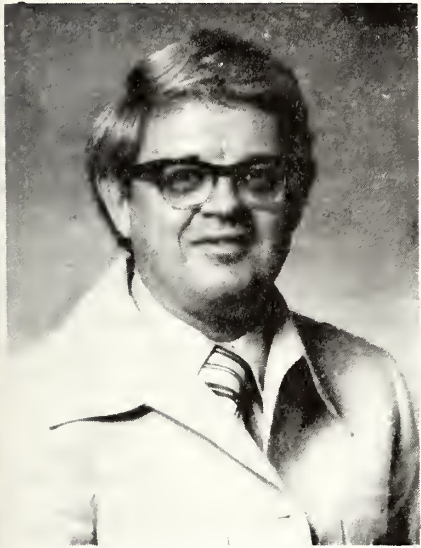
"Tears of joy and love flowed freely as God moved among all of us, filling each of His vessels to overflowing with His everlasting grace and mercy," Mr. Harrison said of the weekend experience, adding that those involved share the testimony of Peter in the Day of Pentecost when he said: "This Jesus God hath raised up, and of that we are witnesses . . . we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard."

EUGENE SUMNER ELECTED TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Eugene Murphy Sumner, a native of Duplin County and current faculty member at Meredith College, Raleigh, has been elected to the Board of

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Trustees of Mount Olive College. Dr. Sumner was elected to a six-year term on the 30-member Board by the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the sponsoring body of the liberal arts junior college in Mount Olive.



Dr. Eugene Sumner

Although Dr. Sumner is new to the Board of Trustees, he is not new to Mount Olive College. After graduating from Beulaville High School, he attended Mount Olive to earn an A.A. degree.

With his A.A. degree, Dr. Sumner enrolled at Atlantic Christian College, where he graduated with a B.A. in 1964. He then earned a Master of Divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1968. In 1973, he graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Master's degree in Social Work, and this year he earned his Doctor of Social Work degree from the University of Utah. Dr. Sumner also holds certificates in Clinical Pastoral Education and Group Child Care.

Dr. Sumner is an ordained Free Will Baptist minister and has served as pastor of two Free Will Baptist Churches; Dublin Grove, Aurora, and Little Creek, Ayden; and as assistant superintendent of the

Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex. He is currently chairman of the Department of Sociology and Social Work at Meredith College.

Dr. Sumner holds membership with Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, located near Beulaville.

Mount Olive College, founded in 1951, is a fully-accredited co-educational institution with an enrollment of over 400 students.

FOUNDERS DAY AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



The Rev. C. L. Patrick

Mount Olive College will observe the twenty-ninth (29th) anniversary of its charter with Founders Day activities on Tuesday, November 25.

The Board of Trustees will meet at 9 a. m. in Moyer Library and a Founders Day program will be held in Rodgers Chapel at 11 a. m. with the Rev. C. L. Patrick of Winterville, pastor of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, as the speaker.

STUDENTS PLAN, SUPPORT COLLEGE HALL WEEK

Students at Mount Olive College are concluding an exciting schedule of activities

which was planned by the students to raise money to help fund the building of College Hall, a physical education and convention center to be built on the College campus. The activities, which began November 11 and will end November 22 with "College Hall in the Mall," a day-long program of events to be held in Berkley Mall, Goldsboro. The students set as their goal for College Hall Week, \$1,000. Making the project more exciting is the challenge that was issued to and accepted by the faculty and staff to match the students' goal.

Shelia Windham of Wilson, a sophomore at the College, and freshman Laura Raper of Mount Olive, both members of the Student Activities Committee, are co-ordinating the event. "College Hall Week shows the concern of the students and faculty and their desire to see Mount Olive College grow," said Miss Windham of the students' efforts for College Hall.

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Gifts to Moyer Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of October, 1980, totaled \$622 and were as follows:

In Memory of

Miss Georgia Andrews by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mr. Edgar T. Brame by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards Jr., Wilson.

Judge Joseph Herman Brisson by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Melville Broughton Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Council, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Mittie Conger by Mrs. Frank Rouse, Goldsboro.

Iris Jane Copher by Mr. and Mrs. Willard Barefoot, Dunn.

Mr. Jesse Rudolph Creech by Mr. and Mrs. Russell Peele, Middlesex.

Mrs. Myrtis Denson by Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Council.

Mrs. Etta J. Ferrell by Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama.

Mrs. Edna Gragg by Mr. and Mrs. Claude Moore, Turkey.

(Continued on Page 15)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For November 30

GOD'S COVENANT AND THE NEW JERUSALEM

Lesson Text: Revelation 11:15-19; 21:10-14

Memory Verse: Revelation 11:15

I. INTRODUCTION

A lesson writer approaches the Book of Revelation with fear and trembling—at least this lesson writer does. The Lord revealed to the Apostle John some majestic and dramatic visions, but He did not explain what all of the visions meant. So John did not attempt to explain all of them, and the attempts of uninspired men may not be altogether dependable.

Some things, however, appear very plainly. First, conflict is pictured—titanic conflict involving angels and nations, the Lord and the devil, as well as humans. Second, victory is presented very plainly—the victory of God and His people. Third, the book is quite clear about some things God's people ought to do.

Then let us come to the Book of Revelation with eagerness rather than fear, for John pronounces a blessing on those who read it and "keep those things which are written therein" (Revelation 1:3). —*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. All this quarter we have been studying the Covenants of God. According to E. Schuyler English in his book, *A Companion to the New Scofield Reference Bible*, there are eight major covenants in the Bible: (1) The Edenic

Covenant (Genesis 2:16-19); (2) the Adamic Covenant (Genesis 3:14-19); (3) the Noachic Covenant (Genesis 9:8-17); (4) the Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 12:1-3); (5) the Mosaic Covenant (Exodus 19:3-6); (6) the Palestinian Covenant (Deuteronomy 30:1-10); (7) the Davidic Covenant (2 Samuel 7:4-17); and (8) the New Covenant (Hebrews 8:7-12). That these covenants were made no one will deny; however, for all practical purposes, there have been two main covenants. These two covenants are summed up by the two major sections of the Bible: the Old Testament and the New Testament. In fact, the word 'testament' as used here literally means covenant. So when we speak of the Old Covenant, we are speaking of the sum of the Old Testament covenants, and when we speak of the New Covenant, we are speaking of the New Testament covenant.

B. All of these many covenants summed up in the two great covenants are moving in one direction. Before the creation of this universe and man, God had a plan for His creation, and each covenant was a stage in God's self-revelation which leads to the culmination of all things in Jesus Christ.

C. In this last lesson of the quarter, we come to the end of our study of covenants. Therefore, it seems appropriate that we study the final consummation toward which all of them have been and are moving. In doing this we will study something of the Millennial Reign of Christ on

earth, and the final and eternal home of God's people.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Specifically, our studies this quarter began with a look at God's covenant relationship as made with Noah, but actually it began with Adam when God gave him the promise of a Redeemer for mankind as found in Genesis 3:14. During the first part of the quarter we looked at the Old Covenant in its early and later stages. Then we were introduced to the New Covenant, the testament of Jesus which He established with the institution of the Lord's Supper. We are still in the New Covenant, it having been extended to Gentiles when Peter preached in Cornelius' house as seen in Acts 10, and spread throughout the world of Paul's missionary journeys.

B. One outstanding element of God's covenant is its permanency; He has never repealed it; it establishes today our relationship with Him through His Son Jesus Christ; it will extend until the end of time and then reach out in a more glorious way into the endless ages of eternity.

—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Where the Lord Is—The child of a seriously ill woman was taken to live with friends during the duration of his mother's illness. These friends treated the child with great kindness and actually provided better facilities than the child was accustomed to at home. One day the child was asked where her home was and replied, "I live here, but my home is where my mother is!" We live here, but, as Christians, our home is where the Lord is! —*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

NEWS & NOTES

Cape Fear Sunday School Convention Meets

The One Hundred and Second Session of the Cape Fear Sunday School Convention met at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, October 11. The 22 Sunday school teachers and 10 superintendents present were recognized by the Rev. Arnold Price, president of the Convention. Among the twelve churches that represented at the meeting were Powhatan church, Clayton, which was presented a plaque for having the largest increase in its Sunday school attendance; and Pleasant Grove church, Dunn, which received plaques for having the largest number at the Convention, and for having the most teachers present.

During the sitting of the Convention it was decided that Sunday school superintendents would give brief reports of their school's work at the next Convention. It was also determined that Sunday schools could not receive the yearly attendance increase award unless they represent at the Convention.

Daniel Chapel Begins Special Study

Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Wilson, is presently engaged in a 52-week program of Bible study. The program which began November 12, involves a book-by-book survey of God's Word. These studies begin each Wednesday night at 7:30. The Rev. David Charles Hansley is pastor of Daniels Chapel church.

Play Scheduled At Piney Grove

The drama department of Wilson Free Will Baptist

Church will present the play, "His Last Days," on Saturday, November 29, at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville. The play, which recaps Christ's last days on earth, will begin at 7:30 p. m. Everyone is invited to view the production. The Rev. Tommy Evans is pastor of Piney Grove church.

May's Chapel Church Received Honorable Mention

The Brogden Grange sponsored May's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in the Rural Church of the Year. The church received honorable mention and recognition was given at the State Grange Convention. The Rev. Andrew Hill is pastor of the church.

Three-Day Revival Slated For Johnston Union

A weekend youth revival will be held at Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church on Friday and Saturday evenings, November 21, 22, at 7:30, and will conclude with the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, November 23. Philip Boykin, pastor of Trinity church near Pantego, will be the guest evangelist. He attended Mount Olive College from 1977-79 and is presently a student at Campbell College.

The Johnston Union church is located three miles west of Smithfield on Highway 70, and the pastor and congregation extend a heartfelt invitation to everyone to attend these services.

Fourth Union of Central Conference to Meet

The Fourth Union of the Central Conference will meet at Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Elm City, on

November 30, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

- 10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "Have Faith in God"
—Welcome, Evelyn Moore
—Response, the Rev. L. B. Manning
11:15—President's Remarks
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College Report
—Mission Report
11:30—Special Music, Peace Church
—Sermon, the Rev. Melvin Moore

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 1:15—Hymn, "Heavenly Sunlight"
—Devotion, Ed Thornton
—Business Period
—Program, Local Church
2:15—Adjournment

Layman's League Singspiration at Bethany Church

The Layman's League Singspiration of the Central Conference will be held at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, at 7:30 p.m., on November 21, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

- Welcome, Host Church, Randy Tyson
Congregation, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"
Devotion, Host Church
Program Master of Ceremonies, Delano Wilson
Program:
The Gospel Chargers, Winterville
Harrell's Chapel Duet, Harrell's Chapel
Clark Family, Free Union
Ayden Singers, Ayden
Elm Grove Singers, Elm Grove
Congregation, "Standing on the Promises"
Offering for Cragmont

(Turn the Page)

The Rev. Calvin Heath, Becky and Morris Hill, and Penny Gray, Free Union
 Ormondsville Choir, Ormondsville
 James and Brenda Owens, Otters Creek
 Melody Makers, Black Jack
 Benediction

**Layman's League
 Singspiration at
 First Church, Tarboro**

The Layman's League Singspiration of the Central Conference will be held at First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, at 7:30 p. m., on November 22, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

Welcome, Host Church, Larry B. Hathaway
 Congregation, "He Keeps Me Singing"
 Devotion, Host Church
 Program Master of Ceremonies, Delano Wilson

Program:

Men's Quartet, Tarboro
 Marlboro Singers, Marlboro
 Rose of Sharon Singers, Rose of Sharon
 Greenville Quartet, Greenville
 Piney Grove Singers, Piney Grove
 Congregation, "All Hail the Power"
 Offering for Cragmont
 Charles Watson and Kathy Herring, Tarboro
 Friendship Singers, Friendship
 The Gospelaires, Tarboro
 Rose Hill Singers, Rose Hill
 Aspen Grove Singers, Aspen Grove
 Messengers, Winterville
 Benediction

**Layman's League to Have
 Quarterly Meeting**

The Layman's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will have its quarterly meeting Monday, December 1, 1980, at 7:30 p.m. Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church will be hosting the meeting. There will be a supper beginning at 7:30 p. m. and the meeting will

begin at 8 p. m.

Henry P. Beaman is secretary-treasurer of the Fellowship.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

Here is something that shouldn't be a problem but often is: that is, when church members prefer to take sides with the enemies of the church.

I said to a long-time Christian servant today, "I thought that you would have become a preacher by now." He said, "No

Sir, and if I ever do, I'm going to be sure that it's God tugging at my heart's strings." He said, "There are already too many professional preachers playing the role these days."

One of the things that motivates me the most in putting first things first is when I remember that I haven't led a soul to Christ lately. When a Christian goes a long period of time without even trying to win a lost soul to Christ, it should be a matter of concern.

"Let Us Give Thanks"

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Saturday, November 22, 1980

10:30 A.M.



Worship



Fellowship



Tours

*Bring a
 Picnic Lunch*



*Spend the
 Day*

"Thanksgiving in the Heart enlarges the gift until the need is filled and unveils as best of all the loving motive of the giver."

—SWAIN

Old-Fashioned Harvest Day Sale at 1:30 p.m.

Won't You Join Us?

Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.

THE BOOK CORNER

by Ray Wells

COPING WITH ABUSE IN THE FAMILY, by Wesley R. Monfalcone. Wayne E. Oates, editor; The Westminster Press, Philadelphia, 1980.

Dr. Wayne E. Oates has assembled a series of books entitled "Christian Care Books." This is a ten-volume series of which **COPING WITH ABUSE IN THE FAMILY** is volume ten in the series. The author, Wesley R. Monfalcone, is director of chaplaincy services at University Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky.

"Abuse? In the **Christian** family? You've got to be kidding!

"No, family abuse is no kidding matter. Abuse does happen in the Christian family. The whole scale of abuse from subtle, socially acceptable neglect to extremely violent mistreatment happens in Christian families" (p. 17).

This book deal with abuse and the many familiar and unfamiliar ways by which we abuse our families and loved ones. This book covers the spectrum of abuses from subtle to severe abuses, from religious abuse to child abuse. Dr. Monfalcone discusses openly the problems that face families and the things that lead to mental and physical abuse. He explains and explores the hidden reasons for such abuse and offers suggestions for preventing such abuse.

COPING WITH ABUSE IN THE FAMILY is a book that should be read faithfully and thoughtfully by all families. The physical, mental, and spiritual health of our families may depend on whether or not we can recognize and deal with the problem of abuse in the family.

In my opinion, this book needs to be in every pastor's library and in every church library.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 11)

Mrs. Laura Allen Graham by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr., Lucama.

Mr. Leslie Giles by Mr. and Mrs. Claude Moore, Turkey.

The Rev. Calvin Jesse Harris by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wyrick, Greensboro; and Mr. and Mrs. James L. Thorpe, Greensboro.

Mr. J. P. Harris by Lloyd, Mary Lou, and Thelma Dilday, Ahsokie.

Mrs. Jesse Hawley by Miss Louise Edgerton, Pikeville.

Mrs. Thannie Hawley by Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

William Thomas Holmes by Mr. and Mrs. Claude Moore, Turkey.

Sara Jane Kornegay by the Rev. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive.

Mr. Vernon H. Lamm by Mrs.

Sossie Brinson, Wilson; Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama; and Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr., Lucama.

The Rev. Donald McMahan by Mr. and Mrs. Claude Moore, Turkey.

Mrs. Reba Malpass by Mrs. Frank Rouse, Goldsboro.

Mr. Kenneth McRoy by Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Webster, Pinetown.

Mr. Jesse Mayo Sr. by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Nora May by Mrs. T. A. Beaman and Miss Ann Beaman, Dudley; and Mrs. Lela W. Beaman, Mount Olive.

The Rev. Willet L. Moretz by Mrs. Anna H. Moretz, Swannanoa.

Mr. Hoyt Nichols by Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Vick, Wilson; and Mr. and Mrs. Roney B. Bunn Jr., Kenly.

Mr. Dallas Paul by Mr. and Mrs.

Frank Daw and family, Bath.

Mr. Elmer F. Pittman by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Dolly Quinn by Mr. and Mrs. Fernie Wood, Chinquapin.

Mr. Shelton B. Rogerson by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Teachey, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Lena D. Sasser by Sunday School, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville; and Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Mrs. Bessie Shirley by Mrs. Lena C. Walston, Walstonburg.

Mrs. Sally M. Stallings by Mrs. Betty Millard and Mrs. Doris Williams, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Esther Stancill by Angie M. Rhodes, Beulaville; and Mrs. Nora M. Miller, Beulaville.

Mr. J. Paul Thigpen by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr., Lucama.

Mr. Tom West by Estell West, Plymouth.

Mrs. Maud Williams by Mrs. Lillie Mae Pender, Pikeville.

Teddy Williams by Mr. and Mrs. Fernie Wood, Chinquapin.

In Honor of

Ellen Corbett by Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxiliary, Pikeville.

Mrs. Nettie Cottle by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Brandon Lee Jernigan by Mr. and Mrs. David W. Sampsell Jr., Beulaville.

Melissa Ann Lewis by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. David W. Sampsell Jr., Beulaville.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Roper by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Daw and family, Bath.

Jennifer Taylor Whitfield by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

NOTICES

Bethany Free Will Baptist Church in Pitt County is anxious to contact the family of **Elder James T. Craft**, who pastored the Bethany Church from 1880 to 1899. If anyone knows of Elder Craft or where they may contact his family, please write or call the following: Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Route 1, Box 178, Winterville, NC 28590; phone: (919) 746-4609.

The Executive Committee of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will meet in the conference room over the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, December 2, at 10 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTMAS

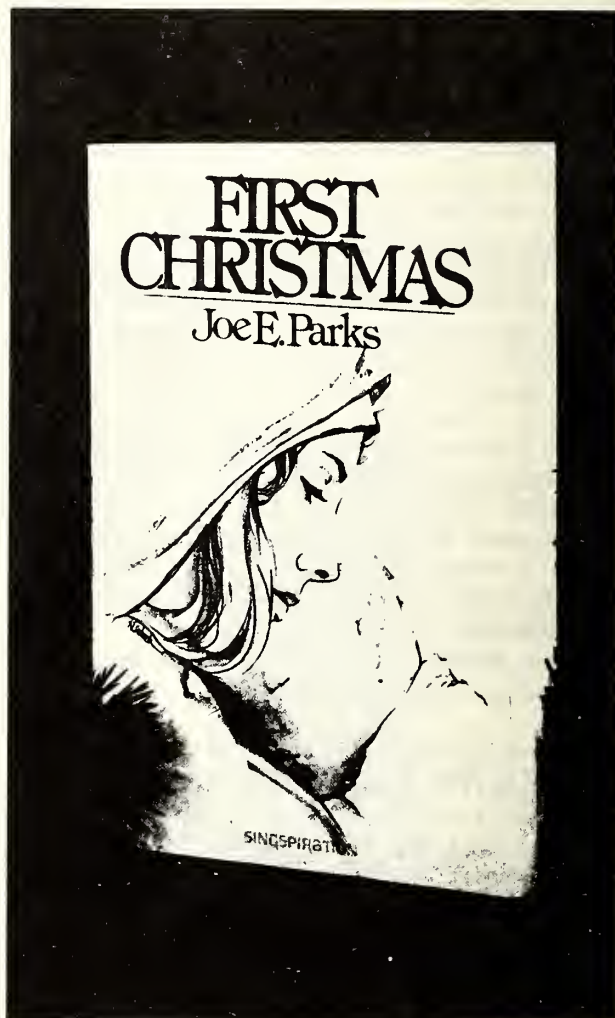
by Joe E. Parks

The new Christmas cantata for small to medium choirs. This charming Christmas celebration creatively weaves the orchestrations of David T. Clydesdale with a descriptive scriptural narration.

Accompaniment Products:

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

ORMONDSVILLE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

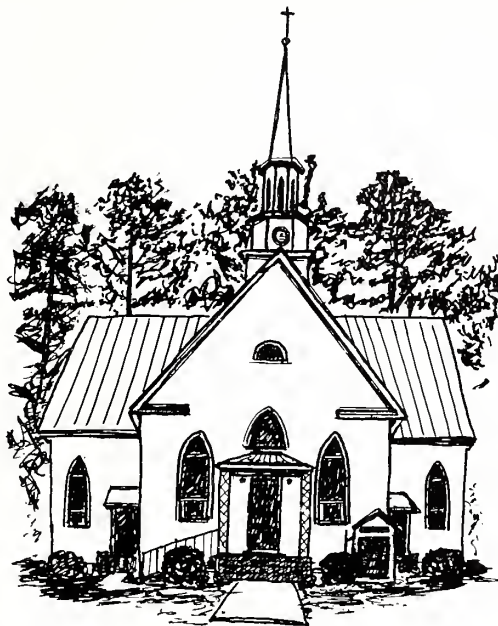
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1980
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Route 1
Ayden, NC
Jack Mayo, Pastor



History of Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church

submitted by Mrs. Clovis Bowen



The Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church, located at Ormondsville, North Carolina, and pastored by the Rev. Jack Mayo, is a rather young church. In June, 1947 at regular quarterly church conference, the members of Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church voted to relocate to Ormondsville Chapel church, formerly a Methodist church. Money was raised for the complete payment of the building within two weeks, and shortly after the move was completed. However, because of strong family roots, some of the members remained at Saints Delight. The Rev. D. W. Alexander was pastor at the time of the move.

On June 26, 1948, the building and furniture were dedicated to the service and glory of God. On March 26, 1949, it was decided to change homecoming from the fourth Sunday in June to the fourth Sunday in September. That same year, plans were made for the building of a fellowship hall, which was completed in 1955. It sits on the same grounds as the church. On March 21, 1953, the members voted to change the name to Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church. The pastor at the time of this change was the Rev. R. N. Hinnant.

Until June, 1954, the church had Sunday school each Sunday and church one Sunday a month. At that time, still under the pastorate of the Rev. R. N. Hinnant, the services began to be held two Sundays each month.

After the resignation of Brother Hinnant, the Rev. Steve Smith, known to many as "Pa Smith," acted as supply pastor from September, 1954 to January, 1955, when he became

pastor, Pa Smith served for about one year and left to serve at the Children's Home.

Following Mr. Smith's leaving, the church pulpit was filled by the Rev. Clifton Rice in 1956. Soon after Mr. Rice began his pastorate, stained-glass memorial windows were installed. In 1959, new pulpit furniture was installed and a Hammond organ was purchased. In 1961, the church began to take on a different look as a porch with iron rails was added on the front of the church.

In November 1963, the church began to hold services each Sunday except for fifth Sunday. That year a modern heating system was installed replacing the heaters located on each side of the church, thus again changing the appearance of the church. Outside, the church was taking on another new look as concrete walks were laid around the front and sides of the church.

In 1965, due to growth within the church, a nursery was established in the fellowship building. That same year, the baptistry was added on the church with two dressing rooms at the back of the baptistry. In 1966, a new roof was placed on the fellowship building. In 1967, the church installed a central air conditioning system. In December 1968, new wall-to-wall carpet was installed. New pews were installed in March 1970. That same year, a project was begun to place aluminum siding on the church.

In March 1976, a beautiful scene was painted in the baptistry. Later in the year, an altar set was given for the communion table.

Turn the Page

The Rev. Clifton Rice retired from the church in October, 1976; but even now he continues to serve God through filling pulpits in various churches from time to time.

Jack Mayo, along with the assistance of his faithful family, began his pastorate the first Sunday in November, 1976. The church has grown in many ways since that time.

In June, 1977, a new piano was purchased by the church. In 1978, a wheelchair ramp with railing was added to the porch. The same year, highway signs were placed on the outskirts of Ormondsville welcoming those visiting in the area. Also, the renovation of the fellowship building was completed. A new Sunday school room was added to the fellowship building with a new walkway extending to the room.

Just this summer a beautiful steeple was erected, adding much to the beauty of the building. A chime system was also installed

much to the enjoyment of the members as well as the entire community.

The Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church supports all denominational enterprises. The church has a scholarship program through Mount Olive College. There are auxiliaries for all ages within the church.

Fifth Sunday is set aside as youth Sunday with the young people assuming complete responsibility for the service. The service is followed by a covered dish luncheon.

New members entering the church comment on the strong feeling of love evident among the members who are proud of the existence of "no generation gap"; you will find young and old alike working together on church projects or enjoying church outings. If you do not have a home church, we the members welcome you to Ormondsville.

BLESSINGS

by Nancy Matthews

C H V I S I O N P E S O O H C O T Y T I L I B A
 H E G D E L W O N K L A C I D E M O O N R I N N
 R A D A R K N E S S C O L O R R S P R T O P A O
 I V A S E C R U O S E R L A R U T A N F E E L I
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 A E E C O P I T M U S I C E L C Y C E F I L A R
 D A V O S E L B A T E G E V Z I X O R E Y A R P

FIRE
 FISH
 FORGIVENESS
 FRIENDS
 FRUITS
 HAPPINESS
 HEALTH
 HEAT
 HEAVENLY FATHER
 HUMAN BODY
 LAND OF FREEDOM
 LAWS OF NATURE
 LIFE CYCLE
 LIGHT
 LOVE
 MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE
 MOON
 MUSIC
 NATURAL RESOURCES
 NIGHT
 OXYGEN
 PEACE
 PRAYER
 PRINTING PRESS
 RAIN
 SALVATION
 SEASONS
 SERMON
 SCRIPTURES
 SLEEP
 SOUND
 SUN
 SMELL
 TASTE
 TRUTH
 UNIVERSE
 VEGETABLES
 VEGETATION
 VISION
 WATER
 WHEEL
 WIND

We fail to give thanks for many blessings because we are too busy to think about them. When you have found all that are hidden in the letter maze, breathe a special prayer of thanksgiving. The blessings may run up, down, horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forward, or backward.

ABILITY TO CHOOSE
 ABILITY TO THINK
 ANIMALS
 BIRDS
 CHRIST
 CHRISTIAN HERITAGE
 COLOR
 COMMUNICATION

DARKNESS
 DAY
 DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT
 DIVINE POWER
 EMPLOYMENT
 FAITH
 FAMILY
 FEEL

A DAY OF THANKSGIVING

by Floyd B. Cherry



THREE dates stand out in the history of Thanksgiving Day.

The first was that first Thanksgiving Day. Governor William Bradford decreed a special Thanksgiving Day because he and the other Pilgrims were grateful to God for their survival during their first winter in America, and now they were well provided with meat and grain. So the Pilgrims were joined by a group of friendly Indians, and spent three days feasting, praying and listening to sermons. We should never forget this first Thanksgiving Day.

The second important date in the history of Thanksgiving Day is November 26, 1863, when Thanksgiving Day was observed as a national holiday for the first time.

President Abraham Lincoln was persuaded by Sarah Hale, a magazine editor and leader of women's rights, to issue a proclamation establishing Thanksgiving Day as a national observance. One of Lincoln's biographers has said, "President Lincoln was easy to persuade; he knew how to say thank you to men and to offer praise to God."

This first national observance of Thanksgiving took place during the Civil War. The North had reason for gratitude. Grant had just

smashed the center of Southern resistance, paving the way for Sherman's famous march through Georgia. In fact, the battle of Chattanooga ended on November 25, just one day before the date set for the national observance of Thanksgiving.

The South did not share this first national observance of Thanksgiving. On November 27, one of the South's leaders, Sam Davis, was hanged as a spy. His death was symbolic of the Confederacy's plight.

Against this backdrop of war and grief Lincoln summoned the people to thanksgiving for "bounties which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the Source from which they come . . ." Although much of the nation did not participate in this observance, it is still an important date in the history of Thanksgiving Day.

The third date of great interest in the history of Thanksgiving Day came in November, 1939.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt had changed the observance of Thanksgiving Day from the last Thursday in November to a time one week earlier for the purpose of giving the merchants a longer shopping time between Thanksgiving Day and Christmas. Some states

dubbed the new day as "Franksgiving" and stubbornly observed the old date as Thanksgiving Day. To end this wrangle and unite the nation in the observance of Thanksgiving Day, Congress decreed that after 1941 the fourth Thursday in November would be the legal holiday for Thanksgiving.

Sarah Hale exemplified the courage and spirit of the Pilgrims who had braved the perils of the world, and President Abraham Lincoln had borne the burden of a divided nation and the sorrow of many bloody battlefields. But the nation did not become united in the observance of Thanksgiving Day until Congress set the date in 1939.

We must not miss the obvious lesson here. Was a nation going to unite on a day for the convenience and profit of merchants and thus show that they thought profits were more important than Thanksgiving? To borrow Sidney Mead's description, "The nation with the soul of a church" would not consent to barter that soul away.

More recently, Congress has been tampering with the calendar to the point of changing some of the birthday celebrations of our great national heroes to Mondays.

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FAMILY DEVOTIONS



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 27:2

SELF-PRAISE

Said Sir Francis Bacon, English philosopher, "The less people speak of their greatness the more we think of it."

The Bible says, "Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth" (Proverbs 27:2).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let others be the ones to praise you. Don't go around patting yourself on the back. Our greatness should be measured according to God's terms. (If it is, we will be more humble!)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Luke 19:41

"WE'VE WON!"

A husband and wife, who were football enthusiasts, sat watching a professional football game on TV. As they looked, they sipped cokes and munched on cookies, peanuts, and fruitcake.

Suddenly their favorite team intercepted the ball and scored a touchdown which won the game.

The wife leaped to her feet and screamed piercingly, "We've won! We've won! We've won!" Then she grabbed a copper cowbell from the side table and shook it vigorously as she shouted, "We've won!"

The husband sat silent. After the din subsided, he blurted: "We haven't done anything but add another two pounds to our human blubber and lengthen our waistline!"

It is good to be enthusiastic about things that are

character building. The Bible says, "But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing . . ." (Galatians 4:18).

PRAYER THOUGHT

More of God's children should be as zealously concerned about winning souls for Christ as they are about winning a football game and should weep with Christ over sin-shackled souls: "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it" (Luke 19:41).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—Luke 16:15

GROWING UP

When you're small, you believe in the big. When you're big, you believe in the small.

"That which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God" (Luke 16:15).

PRAYER THOUGHT

As a child tries to follow in the footsteps of his earthly father, so are we to follow the footsteps of our Heavenly Father. We are to walk in His wisdom and stature.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—John 3:16, 17

LIKE THE FRANTIC BIRD

A woman, deeply burdened by her sins, went into a church to pray. As she prayed, she heard the frantic fluttering of a bird, flying high up in the vaulted ceiling, seeking a way out of the church.

Finally the bird descended and perched on a pew. As it rested there for a moment, the

bird saw an open door through which it streaked.

Thought the woman, "How like that frantic bird I have been, seeking vainly a way out of my lostness when all the while the door of God's mercy and forgiveness has been open. My pride and self-righteousness have kept me from descending to the low level of humility to confess my sins and turn penitently to the Saviour for His cleansing blood."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Does our pride and self-righteousness keep us from doing our best for God?

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 62:6

"KEEP NOT SILENCE"

A Christian engineer said, "I always found it easy to justify my lack of results in witnessing to my fellow workers on an industrial railroad. I didn't associate with them, but they knew where I stood as a Christian. I didn't drink, smoke or swear, so getting my reputation as being 'religious' was easy. One night, however, one of the men of my crew said to me, 'If you have the answers to our spiritual needs, why don't you share them with the rest of us guys? Or don't you care about us?'"

"His question struck home. I confessed, 'You are right! If I were really concerned about you guys like I pretend, I wouldn't let any opportunity pass to show my concern. What an inadequate repre-

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

sentative of Christ I've been!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Scriptural directive is crystal clear: "Ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence" (Isaiah 62:6b).

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—Psalm 34:8

GOD ACCEPTED HIS CHALLENGE

Said Horace Bushnell, as he struggled with his doubts, "What is the use of trying to get further knowledge, so long as I do not cheerfully yield to what I already know?" Then he fervently prayed, "O God, I believe there is an eternal difference between right and

wrong. I give myself to the right and refrain from the wrong. I believe You exist. If You hear my cry and will reveal Yourself to me, I pledge myself to do Your will—fully, freely, and forever!"

God accepted Bushnell's challenge and his doubts vanished.

PRAYER THOUGHT

"O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusteth in him" (Psalm 34:8).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

Scripture Reading—Acts 8:4

SAINTS IN SHOE LEATHER

It is high time for churches to begin putting fewer saints in

stained-glass windows and more saints in shoe leather.

"They that were scattered . . . went every where preaching the word" (Acts 8:4).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Stained-glass windows are beautiful to look at but they don't move; therefore, true servants of God should be as shoes; they should be on the go working for God every day.

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

November Is Children's Home Month.

Foreign Missions News

Happenings In the Philippines

by Missionary Fred Baker

FIRST FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATION

Palawan Bible Institute held its first Annual Foundation Day Celebration on October 17, 18, 1980. Palawan Bible Institute actually opened its doors to train men and women for Christian ministries on June 13, 1979. It was decided that October 17, 18 would be designated as Foundation Day and celebrated for the marvelous things God has done in opening P.B.I.

talent show that was enjoyed by everyone.

Everyone enjoyed Saturday lunch on campus provided by the school. Late that evening the ribbons were awarded to the championship teams. In the activities we came to know and appreciate each other better. Too, we met many new friends from the community. It was a wonderful time in the Lord.

EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH

Over the past months we have been involved in evangelistic meetings. These meetings were held in each of the communities where there is a worker to supervise the follow-up. It was thrilling to share with those interested in the gospel. It was such a joy to pray with those wanting to turn from their sinful ways and accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Each of the meetings consisted of four nights of services in each community. A different filmstrip was shown each night. We translated and recorded our own sound track for each filmstrip. The filmstrips used were "The Story the Bible Tells," "Jesus and His Life," "Friends of Jesus," and "The Life of Paul." The meetings consisted of visiting homes, singing, film showing, and a message based on the film.

Palawan Bible Institute students were deeply involved as a part of their training. They went visiting, passed out tracts, rendered special singing, and served as counselors. This provided a good opportunity for them to use what they were learning in class.

There is no way to evaluate these area meetings. Great was the spiritual benefit reaped by the more than fifty persons who responded to the call of salvation. Also, those of us who prayed and labored found that our own lives were made stronger and blessed in a special way. God is so good

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NEWS & NOTES

Recent Events at Robert's Grove Church

Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina, is blest to have a Sunday school superintendent who is always aware of the different days to be observed during the year. Mr. Bobby Johnson is this type of man.



Grandparents of Robert's Grove church.

On Sunday, September 7, he recognized Grandparents' Day. The grandparents were asked to come up front where he presented carnations to the ladies and a bar of candy to the men. Then they went outside the church in a group for pictures to be taken.



Mrs. Gertie Bass and Mrs. Elgree Faircloth.

On Sunday, October 19, Mr. Johnson presented red car-

nations to Mrs. Gertie Bass and Mrs. Elgree Faircloth, secretary and assistant secretary of the Sunday school in recognition of Secretary's Week. They have done a very good job for the many years they have had this position.

Then on Saturday night, November 1, Robert Grove's was host to the Cape Fear Conference Youth Rally. The meeting was opened and the business of the hour was taken care of, consisting of electing officers for the coming year. Then the meeting was turned over to Mrs. Susan Faircloth, youth director of Robert's Grove. She directed the youth in a splendid program. Anyone who did not attend the rally cannot imagine the spiritual inspiration that was revealed in the program.

After the benediction, the congregation was invited into the fellowship hall for refreshments and a time of wonderful fellowship together. The rally was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Second Union and SS Convention of Central Conference to Meet

The Second Union Meeting and the Sunday School Convention of the Central Conference will be held at Community Free Will Baptist Church, Washington Avenue, Weldon, at 3 p. m., on November 30, 1980. Mr. Randolph Harris is the moderator of the Union Meeting and Mr. Bruce Gray is the president of the Sunday School Convention. The Rev. Billy Ray Jordan is pastor of the church.

Cape Fear Union Meeting At West Clinton Church

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will convene at West

Clinton Free Will Baptist Church, Clinton, North Carolina, on Saturday, November 29, 1980. The scheduled program is as follows:

- 10:00—Hymn, Congregation
- Devotion, the Rev. J. Walter Stanley
- Welcome, the Rev. Hubert C. Stanley
- Response, the Rev. C. M. Coats
- 10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
- Recognition of Visitors
- Reading of Minutes of Last Union
- Appointment of Committees
- Roll Call of Churches
- Report of Denominational Enterprises
- Miscellaneous Business
- 11:15—Hymn, Congregation
- Special Music
- Offering and Offertory Prayer
- Message, the Rev. Phillip Wood
- 12:00—Report of Treasurer
- Report of Committees
- Unfinished Business
- Benediction and Adjournment
- Lunch and Christian Fellowship

The following are officers of the Union: moderator, the Rev. Leonard Woodall; assistant moderator, the Rev. Jeff Scarborough; secretary, Mrs. Dola Dudley; assistant secretary, Mrs. Ruth Warrick; treasurer, Mr. H. T. Hinson; and hymn director, Mr. Johnnie Woodall.

Third Union of Eastern Conference to Meet

The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at 10 a. m., November 29, 1980, at Snow Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Mount Olive.

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet Saturday, November 29, 1980,

at Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, Wayne County. The host pastor, the Rev. Keith Cobb, and the Union extend a cordial invitation to everyone. The Rev. J. B. Godwin will preach the Union message. Ken Forehand is clerk for the First Union of the Western Conference.

Hickory Chapel and Mount Zion Churches To Host Meetings

Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 4, Ahoskie, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention. Mount Zion church, Roper, will host the League Convention. These meetings will be held on November 29, 1980. The schedule programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING

OPENING SESSION

- 10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Steve Hargrove
- 10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Robert May
—Response, the Rev. Marvin Waters
- 10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charles Overton
- 10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
- 10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time

BUSINESS SESSION

- 10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
- 10:50—Reading of Minutes for Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
- 11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MORNING SESSION

- 11:10—Hymn
 - 11:20—Special Music, Host Church
 - 11:25—Message, the Rev. Robert May
—Adjournment and Lunch
- Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

OPENING SESSION

- 1:00—Devotions, the Rev. David Thick
- 1:10—Welcome, Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Billy Dilday
—Response, the Rev. Floyd Burkey
- 1:15—President's Message, Mr. Erwin Foreman
- 1:25—Enrollment of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches and Delegates
—Bring Reports and Receiving Blanks
—Announcements
—Offering for Children's Home
—Suggestions and Information for the Betterment of Sunday Schools

BUSINESS SESSION

- 2:00—Minutes of Last Convention Read for Information
—Treasurer's Report
—New Business
—Minutes Read and Approved

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

- 2:15—Special Music, Host Church
- 2:25—Benediction and Adjournment

LEAGUE CONVENTION

- 7:30—Devotion, Miss Kathy Oliver
- 7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill

—Hymn

- Recognition of Ministers
 - Announcements
 - Special Music
 - League Program
 - Minutes of Last Convention
 - Business of Digest Committee
 - Report of Digest Committee
 - Awarding of Banners and Picture
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Minutes Read and Approved
 - Adjournment
- Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

THANKSGIVING

by Mrs. Luther Tugwell

November is a miracle month to me,
The air is cool and crispy,
The leaves are yellow and brown.
Frost is scattered over the ground.
Wild flowers appear here and there.
Autumn's great beauty shines everywhere.
Thanksgiving comes to you, see—
It's a happy time for you and me.

Why do we have Thanksgiving Day?
Surely you must know—
The Pilgrims landed on Plymouth rock
Many, many years ago—
They traveled three thousand miles
Of wild ocean—
To reach our shores and be free.
The pioneers were poor in material goods—
But rich in harmony.

Thanksgiving is celebrated, not because
God needs our praise.
We need to be thankful you see.
So count your blessings on this day—
And thank God in every way.

The Rev. W. Royster Martin

Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. W. Royster Martin. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A CAPABLE MAN

submitted by the members of the YFA



The Rev. W. Royster Martin

We, the YFA members of Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly, North Carolina, take great pride and pleasure in honoring our pastor, the Rev. W. Royster Martin, as pastor of the week.

Mr. Martin was born May 2, 1924, in Bentonville to Mr. and Mrs. John L. Martin. He grew up in Riverside Free Will Baptist Church. On February 10, 1950, he was married to Mary Wellons and to this union were born two children, Teresa, who is married to Donnie Rose of Princeton and has two children; and Bryan,

who is a senior at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson where he is majoring in music.

Mr. Martin was ordained to preach by the Cape Fear Conference on March 31, 1963. He served his first pastorate with the Free Spirit Free Will Baptist Mission in Wilson where he was preaching when he was ordained.

In July, 1965, Mr. Martin came to Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church. At this time Holly Springs was not full-time and Mr. Martin also served as pastor of Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County. Under Mr. Martin's leadership Holly Springs church went full-time in 1968 and he resigned at Mount Zion and came to be our full-time pastor. We find him to be a friendly person who preaches each Sunday with love and reminds us that there is only one God and that to get to Heaven we must commit our lives to Him and live our commitment. We also realize that Mr. Martin lives his commitment each day. He is the type of person who is always the same every time we see him.

Although Mr. Martin has a fertilizer business in Kenly and serves on the Johnston County Board of Education, each member knows that he is never too busy to talk to them

or go to see them at any time. It never gets too late or too early if we need him. He continuously stresses this fact. Mr. Martin does not limit his visits and ministry to just his members but reaches out to everyone with whom he comes in contact. Truly, Mr. Martin has taken Paul's command to Timothy to be "instant in season and out of season." We all love him and his wife dearly.

We realize that we take much of Mr. Martin's time which he could be spending with his family and we truly appreciate Mrs. Martin's understanding and kindness toward us and the work she does for us and the church. Mrs. Martin is faithful and does whatever she can to help. It is her lot to print the bulletins for each Sunday; she assists in teaching the Adult Sunday School Class and does numerous other jobs for the church.

Under Mr. Martin's leadership Holly Springs church has completed many dreams—the most important being—having full-time Sunday morning services, increasing membership and seeing souls saved. We have installed a baptistry and choir loft, carpeted the church, enlarged the educational building and carpeted it, remodeled our restrooms, cemented sidewalks, bought an organ, landscaped the yard, bought land for cemetery lots and made other improvements.

May God bless our pastor and his family as they continue to endeavor to fulfill the call to the ministry.

NOTICE

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and its Bible bookstores in Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston will be closed November 27 in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

CARON BROTHERS WORK TOGETHER AT MOUNT OLIVE



Dwight and Randy Caroon

There is a popular adage that says that "birds of a feather flock together." In the case of Randy and Dwight Caroon, the statement certainly applies.

Sons of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Caroon of Lowland, Randy, age 20, and Dwight, 18, have a great deal in common in addition to being brothers. Both young men are students at Mount Olive College. In fact, they chose to be roommates in Grantham Hall, a residence hall on the College campus.

The brothers also share an enthusiasm for education. Instructors note that they are both good students. Randy currently is participating in the Academic Honors Pro-

gram at Mount Olive as a Faculty Scholar, an honor for which he became eligible by graduating in the top twenty percent of his high school class. Academically, both Randy and Dwight are pursuing the same field of interest—business administration.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Recently the Caroon brothers have developed another common interest at Mount Olive College. Randy and Dwight are serving as leaders of their respective classes: Randy is president of the Sophomore Class, and Dwight is president of the

Freshman Class. Elected by the more than 400 members of the student body, the Freshman and Sophomore Class Presidents conduct class meetings, represent their classes in the Student Government Association Council, and strive to see that the students' goals are met. Both expressed several objectives for their terms as president of their College classes. Randy said that his major thrust for the year will be to instill "more unity between the students and between the students and the faculty." He mentioned that he hopes to accomplish this goal by having his class sponsor several activities during the year that would bring students and faculty together for fun and fellowship. As leader of the Freshman Class, Dwight stated that he would strive to establish his class's first constitution, after which he hopes to concentrate on planning the annual prom.

When asked how the brothers decided to enter the race for class president, Randy quickly spoke, with a chuckle and a grin in his brother's direction, "I decided to run, and then I convinced Dwight to join me." Both young men are very excited about their responsibilities at Mount Olive College during the academic year. "There is a lot to be done, and I am sure that we will have a successful year," Randy expressed.

This is not the first experience in student government for either Caroon. Dwight was vice-president of his senior class at Pamlico County High School, and Randy recalled that he had "always been involved" in student government, as well as in many other activities.

In addition to his involvement in student government while in high school, Randy was a member of the

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For December 7

MATTHEW PRESENTS THE MESSIAH

Lesson Text: Matthew 1:1, 17;
5:17-20; 9:9; 13:51, 52
Memory Verse: Matthew 5:17

I. INTRODUCTION

A fine old preacher I knew loved to tell the story of a little boy who wanted to read the Bible through, and began the task several times. He never succeeded, for, in his own words, "I always got stuck in the begats."

Genealogies can reveal important matters. The genealogy of Jesus recorded by Matthew is a case in point. In establishing Jesus' descent from David, Matthew sets forth one of Jesus' qualifications to be the Messiah. Without this fact, all His claims would mean nothing. The Scriptures solidly establish His line of descent.

An area in which Jesus demonstrated His nature and work as God's Son was in His attitude toward the Law. In today's lesson, He emphatically declared that it was of God, and that its precepts would be binding until it was fulfilled. With His work and His teachings complete, we know what He meant: the gospel, God's power for our salvation, stands as the present means of man's access to God.

The first unit of our quarter's study (Lessons 1-4) is entitled "Preparation for Ministry." It draws particularly from the first four chapters of Matthew. These chapters are rich in examples of Old Testament prophecies and their New Testament fulfillment. Matthew wrote to convince his contemporary

Israelites that Jesus of Nazareth was the Messiah from God. He carefully documented various types of evidences to sustain this conviction.

It is suggested that both teacher and students make a special study of Matthew's many quotations of Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah. A Bible with good marginal or center column references will assist in this.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. We begin today a twenty-one lesson series based on the Gospel of Matthew. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to learn more about this Gospel and apply its truths to our everyday living. These twenty-one lessons are comprised of five units of study. We begin today a unit called "Preparation for Ministry," which covers the first four chapters of this Gospel.

B. Before we begin a serious study of this first book in the New Testament let us bridge the gap between the Old Testament and the New Testament. In order to appreciate and have a right understanding of the New Testament, it is necessary to know something about the period of time between the close of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New Testament, which is a period of approximately 400 years. This is the period between the Prophet Malachi and the Gospel of Matthew, or the birth of Jesus Christ. After Malachi had spoken, there was no prophetic voice for 400 years. Then one day the angel

of the Lord broke in on the time of prayer when a priest by the name of Zacharias was standing at the altar in the temple in Jerusalem. He gave the announcement of the birth of John the Baptist, who was a forerunner of the Lord Jesus Christ.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. For the next twenty-one sessions, extending into the next quarter, we will study the Gospel according to Matthew, his book being the longest of the four gospel narratives. Matthew wrote especially to the Jews, depicting Jesus as the Messiah (the Christ) who came to His own people in fulfillment of Old Testament promises (John 1:11). The lessons this quarter are divided into three units of four lessons each (we have only twelve lessons this quarter), which we will name as we come to them.

B. Matthew, known also as Levi, was a Jew of Galilee who had taken service as a tax-gatherer under the Romans. As a publican, therefore, he was despised by his Jewish brethren. That was all changed later when he became a follower of Jesus, being one of the twelve apostles.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Jesus Christ is Truth—Over the entrance to Rockefeller Center in New York City are these words: "Man's ultimate destiny depends not on whether he can learn new lessons or make new discoveries and conquests, but on his acceptance of the lesson taught him close upon two thousand years ago." This reference—that truth is found only in Christ—reminds us that man does well only when he seeks Christ.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



Adding Meaning to Your Thanksgiving Celebration

(Adapted from and used by permission of
World Vision International)

Cadet is always hungry. Sometimes she cries herself to sleep because she is so hungry. About the only thing her family has to eat is cornmeal. There is no meat or fish.

Her mother wants Cadet to go to school so she will not have to be poor when she grows up. But there is no money to send Cadet to school. This Thanksgiving Cadet has little to be thankful for.

Our family can help children like her. We cannot help all of the children like Cadet, but we can help at least one.

Here are ten ideas to help make this Thanksgiving an extra special time for you and your family. They are designed for family members of all ages. Use as many of the ideas as you wish.

1. The Thanksgiving Story

Share the Thanksgiving story with your family before you gather around the table at mealtime.

2. Family Sharing

Let each member of your family share one thing they are particularly thankful for this year.

3. An Empty Place

When setting the table at mealtime, set an empty place to represent one of the world's 500 million undernourished children. Explain that the empty place is a reminder that there are millions of people in the world who do not have enough to eat, and that we should be thankful for all we have. We should also be willing to share with those who are less fortunate.

4. The Story of Cadet

Have a child read the following short story.

This is a story about a little girl on the island of Haiti. Her name is Cadet (pronounced Ka-day). She is six years old. Her family is very poor. Last year her father earned only \$20 for the whole year.

Cadet's mother tries to earn money by buying bread and selling it for more money. But there is never enough money.

5. Gift Giving

Send a Thanksgiving gift, equal to at least the cost of your Thanksgiving meal, to missions.

6. A Sample Diet

Have for display a typical diet of many of the world's people. This can be done by preparing a bowl of cooked rice, a couple of garden-variety green onions and about half a cup of weak tea. Explain that millions of the world's population dine like this daily.

7. A Dinner Guest

Share the things you have to be thankful for with someone who has less. There may be elderly people in your community who would enjoy such a visit.

8. A Thanksgiving Basket

Put together a Thanksgiving meal for a family in need. Go as a family when you deliver your basket. Spend a few minutes with those who receive it. Listen to them. Find out what their needs are. Be their friend. Touch their lives in Jesus' name.

9. A Thanksgiving Prayer

Share a special Thanksgiving chain prayer before you eat. Let everyone participate.

10. A Thanksgiving Service

Attend a Thanksgiving worship service. These services are usually brief and have a special warmth about them that can help your family appreciate their spiritual heritage.

THE

Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

CHRISTMAS FOR AN ANGEL!



December 25 is close! All our 40 children have been good. They are making their Christmas lists and anxiously awaiting the arrival of Christmas Day.

We need forty people who will give \$80 for our children's Christmas. Your Sunday school class, men's group, YFA, or ladies may wish to share in sponsoring a child's Christmas gifts this year. If you prefer, we will mail their list to you and you may fill it yourself.

This is an opportune time for you or your group to become involved in a child's life. Let us hear from you soon. Write or call us: P. O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557; phone, 235-2161.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY TO HONOR PASTOR AND WIFE

The Woman's Auxiliary of Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Highway 70 West, Goldsboro, will be honoring its pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. William L. Dale, on their thirty-fifth wedding anniversary on Sunday, November 30, from 3 until 5 p.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall. All friends of the couple are invited to attend the anniversary reception.

In lieu of gifts it has been requested that contributions be

given to either the Spring Hill church building fund or the Cragmont Assembly building fund in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Dale. All gifts are requested to be made payable to the Spring Hill Woman's Auxiliary and earmarked for the proper fund to which the gift is given. An appropriate space will be provided at the reception for contributions.

Have you renewed your subscription to the Free Will Baptist?

IN MEMORY OF MR. LELAND C. HALL

On Thursday, October 23, 1980, Mr. Leland C. "Mann" Hall, departed this world. He was 52 years old. He was the son of Mr. Lester L. Hall and Mrs. Fannie T. Hall. His father departed this world 8 years ago.

Mann was a faithful member of Sound View Free Will Baptist Church. He would always open the church doors every Sunday morning around 9 a. m.

He was also a member of the Woodmen of the World

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Camp 336, Newport, North Carolina.

His funeral was Saturday, October 25, 1980, at 3:30 p.m., at Sound View Free Will Baptist Church at Gales Creek near Newport, North Carolina. The Rev. Francis Garner, pastor of the church, conducted his funeral. His burial was in Gethsemane Memorial Garden Park.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Fannie Hall, Route 1, Newport, North Carolina; two sisters, Mrs. Loraine (Goody) Dickinson, Newport, North Carolina, and Mrs. Lillie H. Allen, Chesapeake, Virginia; three brothers, Mr. Linwood Reginald "Chuck" Hall, Morehead City, North Carolina, Mr. Lester L. Hall, Newport, North Carolina, and Mr. Larry David Hall, Newport, North Carolina.

Mann was a very close friend of my family. He was one that we could sit and talk over our problems with, and he would talk over his problems with us. He was the type of friend that would not gossip about your problems. He was always willing to lend a helping hand to people who needed a helping hand.

Mann never put a person down, but always tried to lift them up by saying a kind word or doing a good deed.

He was a very good friend. I can't say enough good about him because he was a friend I will never forget. The things he told me I will keep in my mind forever.

Our loss is Heaven's gain and I am sure he has gone to a better place than this world.

Mrs. Geneva Ward

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 11)

Future Business Leaders of America, Beta Club, French Club, Science Club, and was president of the Library Club. He also played varsity basketball.

Dwight was very active during his high school years as

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

well. In addition to the office he held as vice-president of his senior class, he was vice-president of the French Club, a member of Future Farmers and Future Business Leaders of America, and a bus driver. He, too, played varsity basketball.

Randy and Dwight are members of Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church.

REPRESENTATIVES TO VISIT AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Representatives from the Mount Olive College Admissions Office will be participating in several College Day programs during the first week of December. Free Will Baptist students in these areas are encouraged to visit with the representatives in their area. Information on entrance requirements, financial aid programs, academic programs, and other points of concern will be available at this time.

Monday, December 1

John Graham High School, Norlina High School, and Warren Academy at John Graham School

Vance Senior High School and Vance Academy at Vance Senior High

J. F. Webb, South Granville, and John Nichols High Schools at J. F. Webb High

Tuesday, December 2

Bunn High School and Louisburg High School and Franklinton High School at Louisburg High

Wednesday, December 3

Northern High School
Southern High School
Person High School

Thursday, December 4

Durham High School
Hillside High School
Jordan High School

Friday, December 5

Orange High School

COMING EVENTS

November 29—The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at 10

a.m., Snow Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Mount Olive

November 29—The First Union of the Western Conference will meet at Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, Wayne County

November 29—The Cape Fear Union Meeting will convene at West Clinton Free Will Baptist Church, Clinton

November 30—Second Union and Sunday School Convention of the Central Conference, 3 p.m., Community Free Will Baptist Church, Weldon

A DAY OF THANKSGIVING

(Continued from Page 5)

We are told that this has been done to give the working people a longer week-end. We are glad they have not tampered with Thanksgiving Day again. We hope that on the last Thursday in November regardless of what else we may be doing that each one of us will take time to stop and remind ourselves of the real Source of all our blessings. If we do this, we will quietly and humbly say, "Thank you Lord for another Day of Thanksgiving."

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 7)

and wonderful. He planned services for us Christians to help us grow and develop our own lives while helping others.

Why not stop where you are and whisper a prayer to God for these young believers right now? Life has just begun for them and they need your help. You can be a valuable part of that help by praying every day for the Philippines and those who are trying by God's grace to live for Him. Intercede daily for those who have not found the straight and narrow way that leads to life everlasting.

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA!



Are you having problems deciding what to give certain friends or relatives for Christmas? Why not give **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST** as a gift?

Use the form below to subscribe for that friend or relative. The Press will send a card to the person acknowledging the subscription as being a gift from you.

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free . . . If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed” (John 8:32, 36).

Editorial

The Undelivered Message

John Currier, a man who could neither read nor write, was found guilty of murder in 1949. Originally sentenced to life in prison, Currier was later paroled to work for a wealthy farmer in Nashville, Tennessee.

In 1968, his sentence was terminated and the State Corrections Department wrote a letter to Currier and the farmer to whom he had been paroled to that effect. But Currier never saw the letter; he never knew such a document had been written. One year went by . . . then two . . . then five, and finally ten years passed and Currier still did not know he was a free man.

By this time, the farmer was dead. But Currier kept on working, trying to serve out his sentence. His life was a hard one, one filled with strenuous labor. The sentenced man slept in a drafty trailer and bathed in a nearby horse trough using a water hose. He knew little joy and no hope.

This went on until a year ago when a state parole officer learned of his plight and informed Currier of the missing letter, and more importantly, of his freedom.

Would it matter to you if someone sent you (or someone you love) an important message, the most important message you could ever receive, and it was never delivered? While you are pondering this, think of a different situation. Imagine that a child is born, he grows up and dies, and never hears that there is a God who loves him. The child is therein sentenced to live his life in servitude with Satan being his cruel and powerful master. When the child has children, they, too, live and die in bondage.

This is the condition of the great multitude of people who live outside the circle of the gospel. These individuals are spiritually dead without Christ. Many Christians like to believe that these people will automatically learn of God's love. But they will not.

During recent months, we have been concerned about 52 Americans being held hostage in Iran. We have prayed for their safety and hoped for an immediate release. We have anxiously watched news broadcasts and voiced our indignation. But what about the three billion people in our world who are being held hostage by sin? Do we care about them?

The gospel can be carried to those who have never heard it, but **each of us** has to do his part. Our hearts should be burdened. The lost condition of the world's masses should cause us to care, to pray, to weep, to witness, and to give.

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Volume 95

Number 4

December 3, 1980

Janie Jones Sowers
Acting Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-440).

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of The Free Will Baptist. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

"WERE THERE NOT TEN CLEANSED?"

by the Rev. Beverly Ballard

HERE were ten men, all lepers, seeking the blessing of Jesus. They met the Master (see Luke 17:12) in a "certain village."

Leprosy was a dreaded disease. Christ often used leprosy to typify sin. Although leprosy was a common disease in the Orient in that day, it held a stigma. Those with this disease lived, usually, in a colony. They were shunned by the public at large.

In all likelihood, this group of ten lepers were members of a colony. They all were outcasts. In Luke 17:10, "They all lifted up their voices." They all sought the same thing—cleansing from their disease. Their united request of Jesus was "Have mercy on us."

Then, as the result of this request, ". . . as they went, they were cleansed" (Luke 17:14). All received the sought-after blessing.

But this apparently was where their solidarity ended. Immediately after they were all cleansed, Verse 15 tells us, ". . . one of them . . . turned back . . . glorified God," and when ". . . fell down on his face at his (Jesus') feet, giving him thanks." And note the addition of the description: "he was a Samaritan."

Most are familiar with the division between the Jews and the Samaritans in the day of Christ. This Samaritan was perhaps the one man in the group less likely to return to pay homage to Jesus, a Hebrew by birth.

Christ seemed somewhat puzzled that only one—a Samaritan—returned to express his thanks. Then He asked of the other nine, "Where are they?"

At this time of the year, after the harvest, we observe a national holiday known as "Thanksgiving Day." It is a time for all to give thanks to God for his bountiful harvest.

Our forefathers invited the Indians—their natural enemy in Early America—to sit down at a table laden with the "fruits of their labors." This was their way of expressing thanks. They gave thanks to a God the Indians did not recognize at that time. But the Indians did realize there was a "supreme being" who caused the seed they planted to grow and produce food. They willingly joined in being thankful.

Because "all" receive, "all" should be thankful, one would think. This is not always true. It was not true with the lepers.

Is it true with God's people today? We know that God has extended His mercy to all of us. We know He gives us bountiful harvests. His blessings are innumerable.

But, are we "all" thankful? I'm afraid some aren't. At least, I fear many never give

an expression of thanks to God. They do not outwardly act thankful. We can only know the thankful by the way they treat God. We can only know true thanks by the attitude of the thankful.

We ask ourselves at Thanksgiving Day: Are one-tenth of the people God blesses all year long pausing to give thanks? Do even one-tenth of those who call themselves "Christian" stop amid the hurry and flurry of the day to fall on their faces "at His feet, giving thanks?"

Let's consider "the nine." Just why did nine of the lepers not return as this one? Why would nine-tenths of the people who have taken on the name of Christ and thereby declare themselves as His servants not bow down in praise and thanksgiving at an appointed time, just one day out of 365?

The answer lies again in attitudes. We might classify the nine of ten unthankful church members as follows:

(1) Mr. Thoughtless—a likeable, easy-going fellow who gets along with his fellows, but who might say something like this: "I just didn't think it was necessary to return to give thanks. Surely God knows my heart."

(Turn the Page)

"And Jesus, answering, said: Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?" (Luke 17:17).

(2) Mr. Laziness—also easy-going—too easy—who doesn't hate church work, but is always ready to lie down beside it and sleep. He might say something like this, if asked: "I just couldn't get up the energy to go to God's House and give thanks to Him."

(3) Mr. Ungrateful—a man who just never has shown his gratefulness to anyone. He may reply to the question "why" by saying: "Why should I return and give thanks? I had it coming to me anyway. I'm not sure it was Christ who healed me or that I was predestined to be healed at this time. After all, whatever is to be, will be!"

(4) Mr. Busy One—a man of many outside interests. He might say: "Too busy! Yessir! I had to get back home and take care of several matters. After all, isn't a man supposed to make a living and provide for his own needs?"

(5) Mr. Excuse Giver—a typical American. (Most all give excuses for not doing the right thing, even as most have ready excuses for doing evil.) This man might reply: "Well, I had something else to do . . . something else came up to detain me . . . I just didn't feel well . . . after all on Sunday, some relative or friend might come to see me, so I had to stay at home." On and on, the excuses are given.

(6) Mr. Meaning-Well—not an unordinary man. "I meant to stop and give thanks, but you know how these things happen. I did mean well though."

(7) Mr. Backwardness—a shy fellow. (How many church people never vote on important matters, or refuse to do anything openly because of an over-used shyness.) His answer to "why" might be: "I just couldn't get up before anyone and openly say thanks. I certainly couldn't say 'thanks' to such a great person

as Jesus. You know how I am."

(8) Mr. Forgetful—one of a breed that includes so many. He simply says, "I just forgot!" Then, he might add the common explanation: "You know how it is with age." Or, "You know how many things a fellow has to remember these days; he's apt to forget something."

And, finally (9) Old Man Not-My-Duty. Now here is a bird church leaders and pastors run into often. "What? Me give thanks? Why, that's the job for my pastor. I help pay him. No siree! That's not my duty." This is the man or woman, especially one who might have been sick as the leper was, who might say: "My family should have done that" or "My fellow class

members should have give thanks for me." He might even have had enough gall to say, "Why, that guy who went back and gave thanks, he was delegated that duty. It wasn't my duty."

It all boils down to the fact that far too few recipients of God's blessings pause to do what should come naturally to all of us: GIVE THANKS TO GOD.

What about you? Are you like the one-tenth or the nine tenths? Are you the ONE? Or are you among the NINE?

Give thanks to Him on Thanksgiving Day and every day in the year.

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and bless his name (Psalm 100:4).

News from



THE Children's Home

submitted by Stewart Humphrey

CHILD CARE DIRECTOR RESIGNS NEW DIRECTOR SOUGHT

Sam Lane, director of Child Care at the Children's Home, resigned effective November 15, 1980, to assume duties with the Halifax County Department of Social Services. Sam has served the Children's Home faithfully for the past six years. It is with much regret that we see him go. We wish Sam and his wife Dianne, and their daughter Sarah, our best in their new home and new job.

The Children's Home is seeking a new Director of Child Care. The qualifications are as follows: a Christian, active in church and civic affairs; a graduate of a four-year college or university; M.S.W. preferred, B.A. in social work, social work administration or related human service fields will be considered; must be at least 21

years of age, 30 or above preferred; applicant may be male or female; must have management and supervisory ability, must supervise staff about 10; must be familiar with social work practice weekend, night work involved (this is not an eight-hour-a-day job, it is a ministry); applicant must be bondable. Benefits include competitive salary, housing, utilities, grocery allowance, hospitalization, life insurance, retirement, and liberal vacation policies.

Persons interested in the position should apply to the Executive Director, Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27556. Interviews for applicants will be arranged. They should bring with them a recent photograph and an up-to-date resume.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

THE REV. ROLAND C. CHERRY ASSUMES NEW PASTORATE

The Rev. Roland C. Cherry moved to Morehead City several weeks ago to begin a new pastorate at Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Cherry had lived in Johnston County for the past twenty years.

The Cherrys give the Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church community the credit for their first love for Johnston County. The friendliness which characterizes the people there helped them enjoy a good ministry and witness a continued growth in the church. Mr. Cherry served as pastor of the Hopewell church for four years.

In 1966, Mr. Cherry was called to pastor Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson. He became a member of the Western Conference at that time and has since served as Chairman of the Conference's Ministerial Character Board. At the present time, he is on the Ordaining Council.

Mr. Cherry was called to serve Micro Free Will Baptist Church in August, 1969. Since he was the only resident



The Rev. Roland C. Cherry

minister in the community, he was a very busy man. The Micro church experienced a continual growth under his leadership. The church was completely renovated and many additions were made to existing facilities. Mr. Cherry resigned from the Micro church on Sunday, September 28, 1980.

Mr. Cherry was ordained by the Central Conference in 1951. He attended the Free Will

Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee; studied pastoral theology at Mount Olive College and has attended Carolina Bible Institute. He has also studied psychiatry under Chaplain Wall.

Mr. Cherry is married to the former Motie B. Taylor of Williamston, North Carolina. They have two sons: Eugene of Kenly, North Carolina, and Ralph of Vacaville, California; and one daughter, Linda Finnell of Micro. They have five grandsons and one granddaughter.

Mrs. Cherry has been active in the Western Conference Woman's Auxiliary work. She has served as Missions Chairman for six years and as Field Secretary for two years. Mrs. Cherry was the Program Chairman for her local auxiliary at Micro, as well as a Sunday school teacher. She is supportive of her husband in all his duties.

Mr. and Mrs. Cherry express gratitude for the opportunity to serve God in Johnston County. They left the area with some regrets as they have many friends there. But they know God will bless them and their new work.

FAMILY DEVOTIONS



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 30:1-16

THE SURE REMEDY

A cross section of the American public was recently asked this question: "What is your greatest or most distressing problem?"

The reply of an overwhelming majority was: "Anxiety or tension."

The Bible gives the sure remedy for taut nerves and overwrought minds: "In returning and rest shall ye be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength" (Isaiah 30:15).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"The LORD God is my strength . . . and he will make me walk upon mine high places . . ." (Habakkuk 3:19).

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

Scripture Reading—John 8:28-32

FOREVER FREE!

Said Horace Greeley, journalist, "It is impossible mentally and socially to enslave a Bible-reading people."

Jesus said, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

IF WE SURVIVE

Said Franklin D. Roosevelt, "If civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationship—the ability of all peoples, of all

kinds, to live together in the same world at peace."

"The Lord make you to . . . abound in love one toward another, and toward all men" (1 Thessalonians 3:12).

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are to love our neighbor as ourselves. Let us not be guilty of putting ourselves first! We should put God first in our lives, others second, and ourselves last.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 29:31

"TO MAKE THEM THINE"

Tennyson said, "Our wills are ours, we know not how. Our wills are ours, to make them Thine."

On the last day of his life David Livingstone wrote in his diary, "My Jesus, my King, my life, My All, I again dedicate my whole self to Thee."

Spiritual life begins in full-orbed blessedness when we say:

"Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's workers should be consecrated to Him and want to do all they can to please Him.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:9-18

DON'T MARRY HER!

A man became greatly interested in a woman whom he wanted to marry. He asked John Wesley's opinion of her.

"Don't marry her under any circumstances," advised Wesley.

"Why not?" the man asked in surprise. "She is a member

of your church in good standing, isn't she?"

Wesley replied, "That is right."

"Then why shouldn't I marry her? Can you give me one good reason why I shouldn't?"

Wesley replied, "Brother, the Lord can live with a great many people you and I can't."

PRAYER THOUGHT

" . . . be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless" (1 John 3:14).

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:24-39

SERENITY . . .

COURAGE . . . WISDOM

Reinhold Niebuhr, theologian and philosopher, prayed, "God grant me the serenity to accept things I cannot change, courage to change things I can, and wisdom to know the difference."

PRAYER THOUGHT

" . . . all things work together for good to them that love God, . . ." (Romans 8:28).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 3:9-13

MARRIED ON THE ROCK

If ever a marriage was started on the rocks, it was that of Robert Homer Berdan and his bride, Frances Frei, who were married in a ceremony on top of the Rock of Gibraltar, in St. Michael's Cave.

(Continued on Page 15)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

NEWS & NOTES

Mount Zion Church Observes Mount Olive College Day

Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church of Roper, North Carolina, observed Mount Olive College Day on November 2. The Rev. Charlie Overton, pastor, delivered both the morning and evening messages on "Christian Commitment and Christian Growth."

Special music was rendered during the morning service by the church choir, a soloist, and a quartet. An invitation was given at the end of the service during which three responded.

Concluding the evening message, Mr. Overton spoke about the growth of a student from the freshman year on until the senior year when he is ready to receive a diploma—the prize or joyous event. It is then when a student has reached his goal. He also stressed that when Christians are fully committed unto the Lord that there is a home in Heaven to be gained.

It was truly a day enjoyed by everyone.

Calvary Church Observed Old-Fashioned Sunday

Calvary Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson observed Old-Fashioned Sunday on November 16. It was a colorful occasion with many different fashions from long dresses to derby hats. Old-fashioned bouquets, dippers, and water buckets decorated the sanctuary. Pallets were provided for the children who couldn't stay awake. The choir presented an old-fashioned medley.

Special music was presented by Mrs. Florence Taylor and a trio composed of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Bartlett and Mrs. Betsy

Pittman. The Rev. Dewey Boling preached a good old-fashioned sermon.

Senior Citizens Honored At Calvary Church

The Adult Class of Calvary Free Will Baptist Sunday School of Wilson entertained its senior citizens from 60 years up with a chicken stew supper on Saturday, November 15, in the fellowship hall of the church. Songs from the gay 90s were appropriately presented by Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Harrell and Mrs. Harrell and Mrs. Lucille Pate and were enjoyed by everyone present. The senior citizens truly appreciate all the younger people do for them and the church.

Camp Vandemere Board Meets

The Camp Vandemere Board of Directors gave an appreciation dinner for the 1980 Summer Workers at Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, on November 23. Dinner was served by the auxiliary of the church.

On behalf of the Board and the Eastern Conference, Chairman Ralph Sumner thanked the Camp Directors and workers for giving their time and talents to promote the work at Camp Vandemere.

He reported that the 1980 camping season was the largest and best ever. A Woman's Conference, Ministers' Conference, Prayer Retreat, Junior-Senior Weekend, and four successful weeks of camping were held this summer. Two churches held vacation Bible schools at the camp, and several baptisms were also held there. He stated that every week was filled during the camping season with church retreats.

The Board of Directors met after supper for its regular November meeting. The next stated meeting will be on January 29, 1981, at Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Deep Run, at 7:30 p.m.

Winterville Church Honors New Pastor

Sunday, November 23, was a happy day for the Rev. Ed C. Taylor, pastor of Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina. Under the sponsorship of the Pulpit Committee and the Willing Workers Sunday School Class, the church

(Continued on Page 15)

CENTRAL DISTRICT YOUTH FELLOWSHIP MEETING HELD

submitted by Angela Branch

The Central District Youth Fellowship met at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church on Saturday, November 15, 1980. Those present were divided into the following groups: Sponsors, Cherubs, AFCs (4 groups), and YFAs (5 groups). Each group talked about the purpose of the Convention, about the Cragmont project, and the elections which are coming up. The small groups gave everyone the opportunity to meet more people and to speak freely. Afterwards, delicious refreshments were served. The twelve churches present thought the rap sessions were a good idea. All praise was given God for the successful day.

Home Missions

submitted by Taylor Hill

**QUARTERLY REPORT
FROM
JULY 1—SEPTEMBER
30, 1980**

Total: \$25,526.29

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle District	
Sunday School Convention	\$ 10.00
Albemarle Union Meeting	7.00
Cape Colony Mission	70.00
Free Union	20.00
Hickory Chapel	148.70
Mount Tabor	125.00
Mount Zion	100.00
Saint Paul	1.00
Shiloh	50.00
Union Chapel	293.34
Total	\$ 825.04

CAPE FEAR

Bethel	\$ 20.25
Casey's Chapel	50.00
Catalpa Mission	50.00
Cape Fear Union Meeting	40.01
Daly's Chapel	100.00
Eastover Mission	34.20
Goldsboro, First	425.00
Hopewell	181.97
Johnston Union	118.56
Lee's Chapel	272.94
Mount Olive	10.00
Palmer Memorial	157.71
Pleasant Grove	200.00
Powhatan	310.00
Riverside	200.00
Robert's Grove	200.00
Saint Mary's Grove	175.00
Shady Grove	100.79
Smithfield, First	115.00
Tee's Chapel	450.00
Victory Mission	31.79
Wooten's Chapel	110.05
Yelverton Grove	142.00
Total	\$3,495.27

CENTRAL

Aspen Grove	\$ 10.00
Ayden	120.00
Bethany	184.35
Black Jack	185.77
Community	22.50
Daniels Chapel	290.00
Edgewood	118.20
Elm Grove	9.95
Free Union (Greene County)	17.00
Friendship (Greene County)	605.87
Greenville, First	150.00
Grimsley	189.50
Gum Swamp	150.00
Harrell's Chapel	225.00
Howell Swamp	50.00
Hickory Grove	72.84

Hugo	207.00
Hull Road	147.50
King's Cross Roads	117.60
Little Creek	50.00
Marlboro	110.25
Ormondsville	250.00
Peace	11.00
Piney Grove	60.00
Reedy Branch	125.00
Roanoke Rapids	30.05
Rocky Mount, First	125.00
Rose of Sharon	75.00
Rose Hill	210.00
Saratoga	100.00
Second Union	10.04
Sweet Gum Grove	36.00
Tarboro, First	16.71
Walnut Creek	100.00
Watery Branch	15.00
Williamston, First	92.12
Winterville	406.83
Total	\$4,696.08

EASTERN

Antioch	\$ 100.00
Arapahoe	415.75
Beaufort Mission	86.00
Beulaville	200.00
Bridgeton	588.00
Christian Chapel	200.00
Core Creek	130.00
Core Point	20.00
Crab Point	49.00
Croatan	20.00
Davis	111.34
Dublin Grove	10.00
Faith Mission	10.00
Faith (Morehead)	210.64
Fifth Eastern	
Sunday School Convention	10.00
Fifth Union	66.00
Friendship	55.00
Gray Branch	200.00
Holly Springs	221.79
Indian Springs	15.00
Jackson Heights	83.97
Juniper Chapel	362.16
Kinston, First	45.00
Lanier's Chapel	25.00
Macedonia	72.50
May's Chapel	100.00
Moseley's Creek	200.00
Mount Zion	50.00
New Bethlehem (New Bern)	50.00
New Haven	100.00
Northeast	182.50
Oak Grove	10.50
Oriental	10.00
Pearsall Chapel	75.00
Pilgrims Rest	55.00
Rock of Zion	100.00
Rooty Branch	25.00
Russell's Creek	6.00
Saints Delight	1,026.00

Sandy Plain	425.00
Sarecta	200.00
Smith's New Home	111.30
Snow Hill	210.00
Sound View	23.61
Spring Hope	50.00
St. Mary's (New Bern)	397.28
Third Union District	65.00
Verona	120.00
Wardens Grove	100.76
Welcome Home	10.00
Westside	200.00
Whaley's Chapel	170.00
White Oak (Jones County)	20.00
White Oak Grove	2.00
Wintergreen	310.00
Total	\$7,712.10

INDIVIDUALS

Allen, Annie	\$ 1.00
Baker, Linda and Fred	60.00
Baldree, Versie	10.00
Brown, Herbert	5.00
Coats, C. M.	25.00
Dunn, Mrs. Callie	31.00
Edwards, Flossie W.	5.00
Gaskill, Eugene L.	25.00
Harrison, Ray, Jr.	20.00
Hathaway, J. C.	5.00
Hayes, Mrs. Jenny	10.00
Heath, Calvin	5.00
Hott, T. W. and Elizabeth	20.00
Hunt, James B.	50.00
Jones, D. H., Jr.	7.00
Kennedy, Percy	200.00
McAbee, Ransom	5.00
Manning, Elza M.	10.00
Murray, Clyde	25.00
Pepkin, Kathleen P.	10.00
Phipps, Dorothy	2.00
Price, Mrs. Mozelle H.	10.00
Rhodes, Mr. and Mrs. John	10.00
Roberson, Michael G.	1.00
Roper, Mr. and Mrs. E. G.	10.00
Salter, Mrs. Mary	12.50
Skinner, Mr. and Mrs. J. D.	10.00
Sumner, Ralph	5.00
Watson, Wayne	5.00
Woodall, Johnnie	5.00
Total	\$ 559.50

PEE DEE

Beaverdam	\$ 676.56
Cypress Creek	45.31
Emerson	50.00
Mission Valley	32.22
Mount Calvary	25.00
Oak Grove (Bladenboro)	735.35
Union Number 1	5.00
White Oak	20.30
Total	\$1,589.74

PIEDMONT

East Rockingham	\$ 332.00
Heritage Mission	209.25
Hopewell	123.11
Total	\$ 664.36

WESTERN

Agape Mission	\$ 50.00
Calvary	50.00
Elwood Lane	205.50
Everett Chapel	148.05
First Union	100.00

First Western	25.00
Sunday School Convention	25.00
Floods Chapel	23.50
Free Spirit	25.00
Fremont	150.00
Friendship	105.00
Kenly	100.25
Little Rock	236.00
Living Waters	50.00
Marsh Swamp	137.00
Micro	100.00
Milbournie	25.00
Mount Zion (Nash County)	82.06
Northern	1,589.00
Oak Grove	164.70
People's Chapel	65.27
Piney Grove	75.00
Pleasant Grove	22.26
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Pleasant Plain	135.00
Rains Cross Roads	5.00
Rock Springs	47.50
Rosebud	47.98
Second Union Meeting	50.00
Selma	50.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	500.00
St. Mary's	225.00
Stancil's Chapel	25.00
Stony Hill	125.00
Trinity	100.00
Union Grove	100.00
Watson's Grove	25.00
Wilson, First	395.18
Total	\$5,609.25

OTHERS

Mission Rally	
Cash Offerings	\$ 201.86
Camp Vandemere	
Woman's Auxiliary	
Conference	50.05
North Carolina State	
Woman's Auxiliary	
Convention	21.91
North Carolina State	
Woman's Auxiliary	
Christian Service Fund	61.13
Total	\$ 334.95

**CATALPA MISSION
SAYS THANKS**

Dear Friends in Christ,
We at Catalpa Free Will Baptist Mission would like to take this time to share with each of you the wonderful blessings that God has bestowed upon us. In the Bible we are told that the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. Truly at Catalpa Mission we have been exercising the blessed work of salvation. In the last couple of months, we have rejoiced in our Saviour as 16 precious souls have accepted Christ.

(Continued on Page 15)

THE BOOK CORNER

by DeWayne Eakes

Ladd, George Eldon, *THE BLESSED HOPE, A BIBLICAL STUDY OF THE SECOND ADVENT AND THE RAPTURE* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmann Publishing Company, Tenth printing 1979, paperback 167 pages).

Dr. George Eldon Ladd is a professor of New Testament Exegesis, History and Biblical Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California. He is a conservative evangelical scholar widely read and respected in all areas of the theological spectrum. Among his writings are *A Commentary on the Revelation of John* and *A Theology of the New Testament*. Dr. Ladd's works consider various views on all subjects with careful exegesis of the Biblical text and a clear statement of his own view.

Dr. Ladd states that the conviction that "Jesus Christ is coming again" is the Blessed Hope which has since the earliest days of the church motivated biblical Christians looking for the full revelation of God's redemption. Among those who have most devoutly looked forward to this coming again of the Lord there have often been disagreements about its nature. If pursued dogmatically, these disputes can lead to the breakdown of fellowship among those who should be standing firmly together against unbelief.

This book by George Eldon Ladd, written more for the men and women in the pew than for scholars, sketches the history of interpretations of Christ's second coming and carefully and clearly examines the biblical passages on which this doctrine is based. Ladd's conclusion is that the **Blessed Hope** is the second coming of Jesus not a pretribulation rapture of believers in a secret coming of Jesus. He concludes that "There should be liberty and charity toward both views. That which is essential is the expectation of the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of our God and Saviour Jesus Christ" (p. 167).

"There is in our Lord's teachings a twofold emphasis: expectancy and perspective. He wished to leave every generation of His people in the position where they might feel that their generation might be the last and yet be unable to set dates . . . Paul lived his entire Christian life with an attitude of expectancy toward the return of Christ. He talks as though his generation would witness the end yet he nowhere expressly affirms that the end will come in his lifetime. On the other hand, he has a long-range historical perspective. He sees the salvation of the Gentiles and then the final salvation of Israel. Paul lived as though Christ was coming back in his own generation; but he worked and planned as though the world would go on for a long time" (p. 156).

This book is a refreshing alternative and a far more biblically honest treatment of the ever-intriguing subject of the second advent and rapture than the wildly speculative and biblically irresponsible popular offerings on the subject flooding the market today.

“WHO CARES?”

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

Do you sometimes feel like junk mail when you try to talk to someone? Are you pushed aside just as junk mail is? Junk mail goes unnoticed and is soon thrown into the wastebasket. You can always tell when this is happening by the look in the eyes of the person that you are trying to talk to. You know what they are thinking because the look in their eyes is saying, “Who cares?” You know that they are thinking of other things and could care less about what you are saying. That is when you are being pushed aside like junk mail.

Conversation will never work if we ignore others or are ignored by others. The personal-insult factor is very high when this happens. When we are insulted by others we wonder, “Who cares?” People can never amount to anything as long as they are treated like junk mail.

Do you really know what it's like to be pushed into the wastebasket as junk mail? Do you know what the feeling is like that goes with it? Sometimes you may feel like a child that rushes into the house all excited to tell his parents something and only receives, “Don't bother me, can't you see I'm busy watching TV?” This child is not going to come back very often. Then later his parents complain, “You never tell us anything. Why don't you ever come to us with your

problems?” This rings a bell deep down on the inside of us at times, but “Who cares?”

Do you know what it's like to speak to a brother or a sister, or even a minister, and have him turn and walk away without speaking to you? He is pushing you into the wastebasket as if you were junk mail. Do you know the feeling that goes with it, but, “Who cares?”

Do you know what it's like not to be one of the crowd? Maybe because you don't drive as nice a car as others do. Or maybe you don't have as much education as they do, or maybe you didn't go to the same school that they did. Do you know what it feels like to have these things happen to you, but “Who cares?”

Sometimes the truth hurts, but it will be standing when this old world is on fire. God expects us to get along one with the other. And we must remember our position in Christ. There are many reasons why we who are saved by grace should get along with each other.

1. There was a day that we were all sinners, lost without Christ and on our way to a devil's Hell.

2. We were all saved by the same Jesus and through the same undeserved grace of God.

3. We follow the very same Christ. He is our leader, He is our example, and the eyes of

all believers are fixed upon the very same Jesus.

4. We are filled by the same Holy Spirit. Jesus said, “I'll give you another Comforter that He may abide with you forever.”

5. We read and we study the very same Bible. We get our instructions from the very same inspired Word of God. If your Bible said one thing and mine another then we could understand why we could not agree.

6. We pray to the very same Heavenly Father. We are members of the very same family, the family of God.

7. We are all striving to go to the very same Heaven, which will be the eternal home of all redeemed people.

We need to remember the next time we want to discard someone like junk mail and push them into the wastebasket, that we might have to spend an eternity with that person. We need to take a stand against Satan and not to be a tool for Satan's work. Refuse to let him use us in a way that would harm some precious soul. Then instead of saying, “Who cares?” we will know who cares?

We know when all have turned their backs on us and by their actions are saying, “Who cares?” it's then that we can join with the Apostle Peter in 1 Peter 5:7, as he was inspired to write these words: “Casting all your cares upon Him, for He careth for you.”

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS



Members of the Advisory Committee for Ministerial Education met recently. Members of the committee are left to right above, (seated) W. Burkette Raper, David W. Hansley, Michael R. Pelt, David C. Hansley, Leonard B. Woodall (standing) Joseph Ingram, DeWayne Eakes, Donald Coats, Frank R. Harrison, and Opey D. Jeanes.

Members of the Advisory Committee for Ministerial Education gathered on the Mount Olive College campus Thursday, November 13, for their first meeting. The primary objective of the committee is to develop a four-year program of study for prospective ministers to be provided by Mount Olive College as a part of its expansion to senior college status. The first baccalaureate degree is expected to be granted by the College in 1986.

The Rev. DeWayne Eakes, pastor of Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County, was elected Chairman of the committee.

The Advisory Committee is composed of W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College; David W. Hansley, LaGrange, Eastern Conference Board of Ordination; Michael R. Pelt, chairman of Department of Religion, Mount Olive College; David C. Hansley, Wilson,

president of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists; Leonard B. Woodall, Princeton, Cape Fear Conference Board of Ordination; Joseph Ingram, Goldsboro, Director of Foreign Mission Board; DeWayne Eakes, Lucama, Western Conference Board of Ordination; Donald Coats, Blakely, Georgia, Paul Palmer Conference Board of Ordination; Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College Chaplain; and Opey D. Jeanes, vice-president and dean of Mount Olive College.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES

The Rev. Melvin K. Everington informs us of his new address: Route 4, Box 306, Kinston, NC 28501; phone, 569-7671. His old address was Box 266, Cove City, NC 28523.

The Rev. Harry Grubbs announces that he now has a

new address. It is 3000 Briarcliff Drive, Greenville, North Carolina 27834; phone, 756-8585. His old address was 110 Bryan Circle, Greenville, North Carolina 27834.

THANK YOU

Thank you Lord, for giving to me
A heart full of love and serenity.
A desire to tell others of your love,
And that beautiful home above.
Thank you for this peace in my heart
I would not trade it for silver or gold.
It's a feeling I do not want to live apart,
As I travel down life's road.
Sometimes I often ponder—
I haven't any talent you see.
As I gaze away up yonder,
I asked—why me?
Thank you for a desire to give,
And this simple life I live.
With others I would like to share
And show that someone cares.

Mrs. Luther Tugwell
King's Cross Road Church

NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, phone calls (including efforts not completed), flowers, gifts, every expression of love and concern shown me during my two recent periods of hospital confinement due to surgery.

Although there was cancerous tissue found in the tumor removed from my bladder on September 29, none remains. The surgery on November 7 was to remove my gall bladder which was not malignant.

I am recovering quickly at home and have already attended two worship services.

Your friend in Christ,
Jerry Rowe

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For December 14

JOHN PREPARES THE WAY

Lesson Text: Matthew 3:1-12
Memory Verse: Matthew 3:3

I. INTRODUCTION

John and Jesus were near relatives. Luke 1:36 has been variously translated to say that their mothers were cousins, or simply kinswomen. The word used can indicate either.

John grew up knowing that God had appointed him to perform a difficult job. His childhood and young manhood are described briefly in Luke 1:80. The great lesson to be drawn from his story is that he had a thankless, secondary role to fill, he did it commendably, and he died rather than compromise his conscience (see Matthew 14:1-10). Little wonder that Jesus, when speaking of John, said that no prophet greater than he had been born of women (Luke 7:28).

John's role was that of preparing the people to receive the Christ when He came. When Jesus began to preach, He could count on the fact that many of His hearers, and of the chosen twelve as well, had been readied by the introductory messages of John. At the close of our lesson, we should have a fuller understanding and a deeper appreciation of this great man's unselfish efforts.
—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. For a long period of time, the voice of no prophet had been heard in Israel. Then

suddenly John the Baptist appeared heralding forth the Word of God. It might have been his unusual appearance that caused many to want to see and hear this man because we are told that great crowds of people went out to hear him.

B. There are three great truths about John the Baptist that we should recognize in the beginning of this study about him. First, he appeared as a courageous proclaimer of the truth of God. Wherever John saw evil, he denounced it. You will remember that he called the Pharisees a "generation of vipers." He seemed to have no fear whatever as he denounced evil. Whatever else we may say about John the Baptist, we must admit that he was a man of great courage.

C. Second, John called men to righteousness. He not only denounced their sins, but he challenged them to repent and turn to God, away from their sins. One of the easiest things in the world to do is find fault, and one might say that John the Baptist was finding fault when he was denouncing evil. But he did a great deal more than that: he challenged men to repent and turn to God. The primary meaning of this word **repent** is to turn from sin, to be truly sorry for it. John challenged men to change their minds about themselves and the lives they were living and turn to God. He not only diagnosed the disease of unrighteousness, but he prescribed repentance and turning to God.

D. Third, John pointed men away from himself to another who was to come. The Old Testament had prophesied that

a forerunner of the Messiah would come (Malachi 4:5), and John claimed to be that person. Regardless of how large his crowds were, he never forgot that he was merely a forerunner preparing the way for the One who was to come.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In last Sunday's lesson Matthew presented the Messiah, Jesus Christ. In today's lesson he presents one who served as the forerunner of Christ, one who prepared the way for the coming of Christ. In a real sense, he also led the people—his followers—to prepare for His coming. His name was John the Baptist.

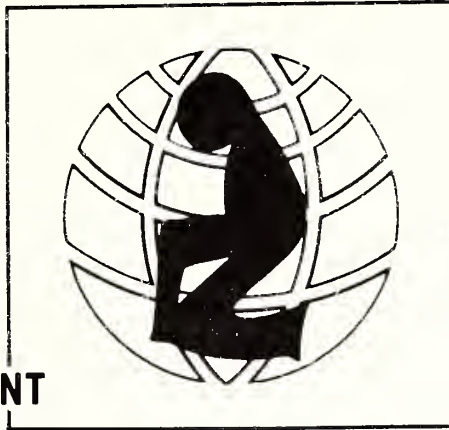
B. John was called the Baptist because he baptized those who heard his message and repented of their sins. John was born in the hill country of Judea. The locale of his birth and early life was probably Judah, near Bethlehem. Some believe it was near Hebron that he grew up; both cities were not far from the wilderness along the western side of the Dead Sea. Of his youth, Luke wrote: "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel" (1:80).

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The Necessity for Preparation—The question is asked, "Why prepare?" It may be answered with other questions. Why must a fish have water? Why must lungs have air? Why must the body have blood? Why must a newborn baby have milk? The answer to these questions is "It is God's provision." We must prepare to meet God because man is unfit in himself. Are you prepared to meet the King?—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



OUR COMMITMENT TO CHRIST—

A Thought for Missions

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

In light of Jesus' clear command to go and make disciples of all nations, His universal authority and His love for all humanity, let us make the following commitments to Christ, which we will seek His grace to fulfill.

1. We pledge ourselves to *live* under the lordship of Christ, and to be concerned for His will and His glory, not our own.
2. We pledge ourselves to *work* for the evangelization of the world, and to bear witness by word and deed to Christ and His salvation.
3. We pledge ourselves to *serve* the needy and the oppressed, and in the name of Christ to seek for them relief and justice.
4. We pledge ourselves to *love* all those we are called to serve, even as Christ loved us, and to identify with them in their needs.
5. We pledge ourselves to *pray* for the church and for the world, that Christ will renew His church in order to reach His world.
6. We pledge ourselves to *study* God's Word, to seek Christ in it, and to relate it to ourselves and our contemporaries.
7. We pledge ourselves to *give* with the generosity of Christ, that we may share with others what He has given to us.
8. We pledge ourselves to *go* wherever Christ may send us, and never to settle down so comfortably that we cannot contemplate a move.
9. We pledge ourselves to *labor* to *mobilize* Christ's people, so that the whole church may take the whole gospel to the whole world.
10. We pledge ourselves to *cooperate* with all who share with us the true Gospel of Christ, in order to reach the unreached peoples of the world.
11. We pledge ourselves to *seek* the power of the Spirit of Christ, that He may fill us and flow through us.
12. We pledge ourselves to *wait* with eagerness for Christ's return, and to be busy in His service until He comes.

LORD OF THE SPARROWS

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

A famous preacher was disturbed by a dream he had. He thought he had died and was standing before St. Peter at the gate of Heaven. He was surprised that the office of information in Heaven had done such a careless and sketchy job with their records, when Peter asked him his name. Finally he answered stoutly, "Ian MacGregor," as if that would make all the difference in the world and out of it too. But St. Peter simply nodded his head in bewilderment.

"What? Have you not heard of me?" MacGregor asked. "Have you not heard how the boys from the university used to line up outside my church in Edinburgh hours before the doors were opened so that they could hear me preach?"

"No," said St. Peter, "I can't say that I have."

"Then how about the time when in her shabby lodging down in London I sat the night through with a humble serving girl who was dying and had sent for me? There was a meeting in my church the day before. I should never have missed it, but I went right away and at my own expense too."

"No word has come of that," said Peter.

MacGregor was bewildered and at the point of giving up. Then St. Peter said: "Wait a minute! Are you the Ian MacGregor who used to feed the sparrows on Princes Street?"

"Yes, yes, I'm the one."

And then the gates of Heaven were opened to him, and St. Peter said: "Come right in! The Lord of the sparrows wants to thank you."—Jerry Hayner, First Baptist Church, Gainesville, Florida.

(Used by permission, Pulpit Digest, Jackson, Mississippi 39216.)

THEY READ IT IN THIS PAPER

40 Years Ago

"I have been asked the question, 'Why have we grown so slowly? This is a very important question . . .

"First, our church has been largely a rural work . . .

"Second, a great many of the members of our church are going to the cities and towns where we have no churches . . .

"Thirdly, our church in North Carolina and in the South at large has failed to build educational institutions . . .

"Fourth, in a general way, according to history, especially in North Carolina, the Free Will Baptist Church has been the most proselyted people that we have any record of . . .

"Fifth, the Free Will Baptist Church was too small for a certain class of people who at one time were members of our church . . .

"Sixth, many of our ministers have failed to preach and encourage foreign and home missions as they should . . .

"Seventh, those of us who have money and have been blessed with abundance of this world's goods have been too tight-fisted and failed to give to spread the gospel . . .

"Eighth, last and by no means the least, we have been too much divided . . ."—J. C. Griffin

"We want to call attention to the large number of subscriptions to the Baptist that are now in arrears. For several weeks a number of subscribers have failed to renew their subscriptions. But we must insist that they renew soon to avoid us from having to discontinue their papers. We hate to do this, for the Press needs your patronage and you should continue taking the church paper.

"We are prone to believe that these arrears are largely due to an oversight on the part of those who are behind with their renewals . . ."—Editorial

INSURANCE PLAN BEING NEGOTIATED

The Board of Superannuation is making an effort to make available medical insurance for Free Will Baptist ministers and their families. They have negotiated a plan with Blue Cross/Blue Shield that they believe is a good one. One of the requirements in forming this group is that there must be seventy-five percent participation from those who are eligible. Some ministers may not be financially able to join this group. Churches may wish to make it possible for their pastor to participate by either paying all of the premiums or at least a portion of them.

Time is an important factor in this matter since the effective date for the proposed plan is December 15, 1980. The Superannuation Board requests that this information be made known to the proper people.

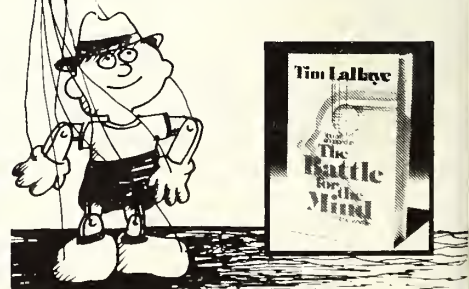
All correspondence on this matter should be directed to the Rev. Walter Reynolds, Box 474, Ayden, NC 28513, on or before December 15.

Do you have a mind of your own?

Read THE BATTLE FOR THE MIND today, and learn what you can do to combat a force that threatens your very future.

\$8.95 (Hardcover)
\$4.95 (Quality paperback)

Order from
Free Will Baptist Press
Box 158
Ayden, NC 28513



MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Harry A Jones is available for pastoral, supply, or evangelistic work. He may be contacted at Route 1, Box 430, Dover, North Carolina 28526, or by phone, 527-3262.

The Rev. Bass Mitchell announces that he is available for full or part-time ministerial services. Mr. Mitchell is presently enrolled in Duke Divinity School, Duke University. He may be reached by writing Bass Mitchell, 2206 Guess Road, Durham, NC 27705, or by calling (919) 286-4744.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION		
FOR THE YEAR ENDING		
1. TITLE OF PUBLICATION	2. NUMBER OF ISSUES DURING YEAR	3. YEAR ENDING
THE FREE WILL BAPTIST	12	12/14/80
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HOME MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 9)

There have been 16 to follow through with baptism and 24 new members added to the church. Our hearts have been warmed beyond measure.

On January 1, 1981, we will become a self-supporting mission. We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all our many friends who have supported us with their prayers and offerings. Please continue to support the Home Mission Program and always pray for us.

Alton D. Howard
Pastor, Catalpa Mission

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

(Continued from Page 6)

Berdan said later, "We chose the site because we wanted to found our marriage on a rock."

How wise are newlyweds who found their marriage on the enduring Rock of Ages, the Saviour. Of Him the Bible says, "For other foundation can no man lay than is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock . . . it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock (Matthew 7:24, 25).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

celebrated the 58th birthday of their new pastor.

During Sunday school, members of the congregation placed gifts and cards in a pumpkin designed by Mrs. Herman Nobles that was located in the vestibule of the church. The pumpkin was

given to Mr. Taylor by Jack Weathersby during the morning worship service. Also, Carl Wesley McLawhorn presented Mr. Taylor a birthday cake made by Miss Bessie Nobles, and Mrs. Debbie Gray remembered him with a boutonniere.

Winterville church continued their day of celebration by honoring Mr. Taylor and his wife Natalie after their singspiration on Sunday evening. Everyone enjoyed this time of fellowship and refreshments and used it to officially welcome the Taylors to Winterville church.

COMING EVENTS

December—Entire Month
Designated by the State
Convention as Foreign
Missions Month

December 20—Christmas
Holiday Begins, Mount
Olive College, Mount Olive,
North Carolina *

December 25, 26—Free Will
Baptist Press Foundation,
Inc. and All Bible

Bookstores Closed—Ayden,
New Bern, Smithfield,
Wilson, and Kinston

December 25—Christmas Day

BIBLE BOWL

QUIZ INFORMATION

Questions for the 1981 Bible Bowl Quiz will be taken from the book **Test Your Bible Knowledge** written by Carl S. Shoup. Individuals who cannot locate the book or who need a set of the new rules for the 1981 quiz should contact Mrs. Edna Fowler, the General Conference Youth Chairman. She can be contacted by writing Box 164, Cumberland, NC 28331; or by phoning (919) 425-7873.

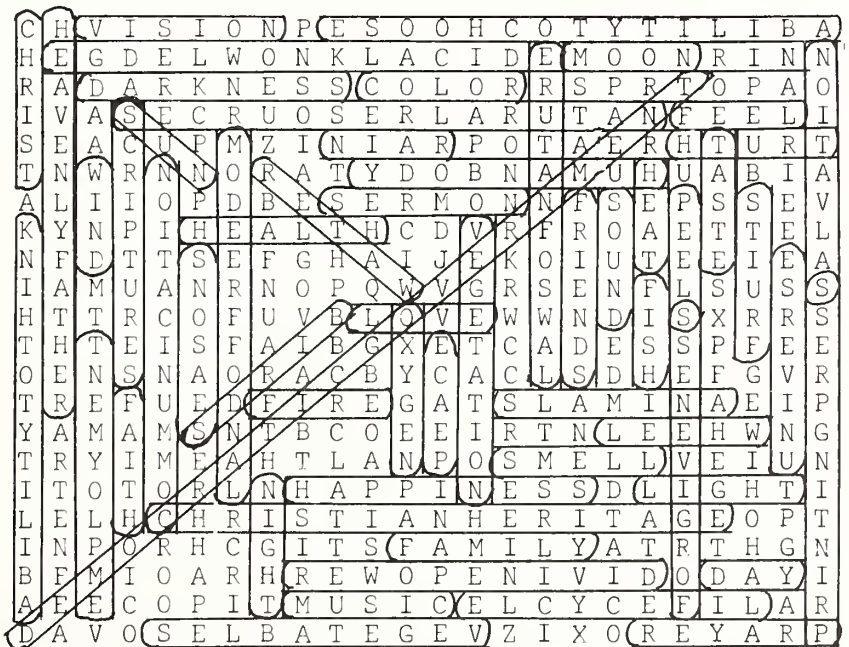
PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill

For some reason some people argue that just because God allows them to prosper He is in agreement with them.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

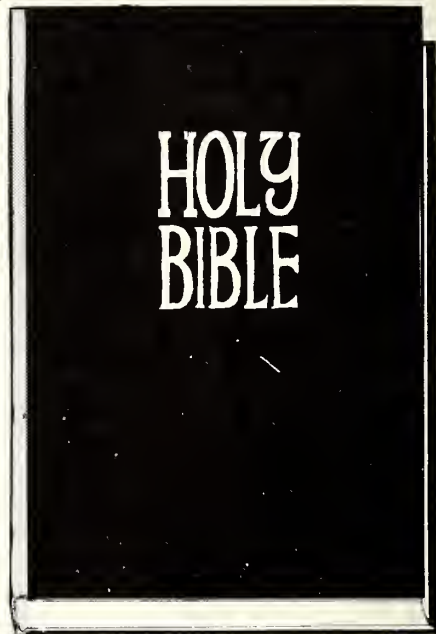
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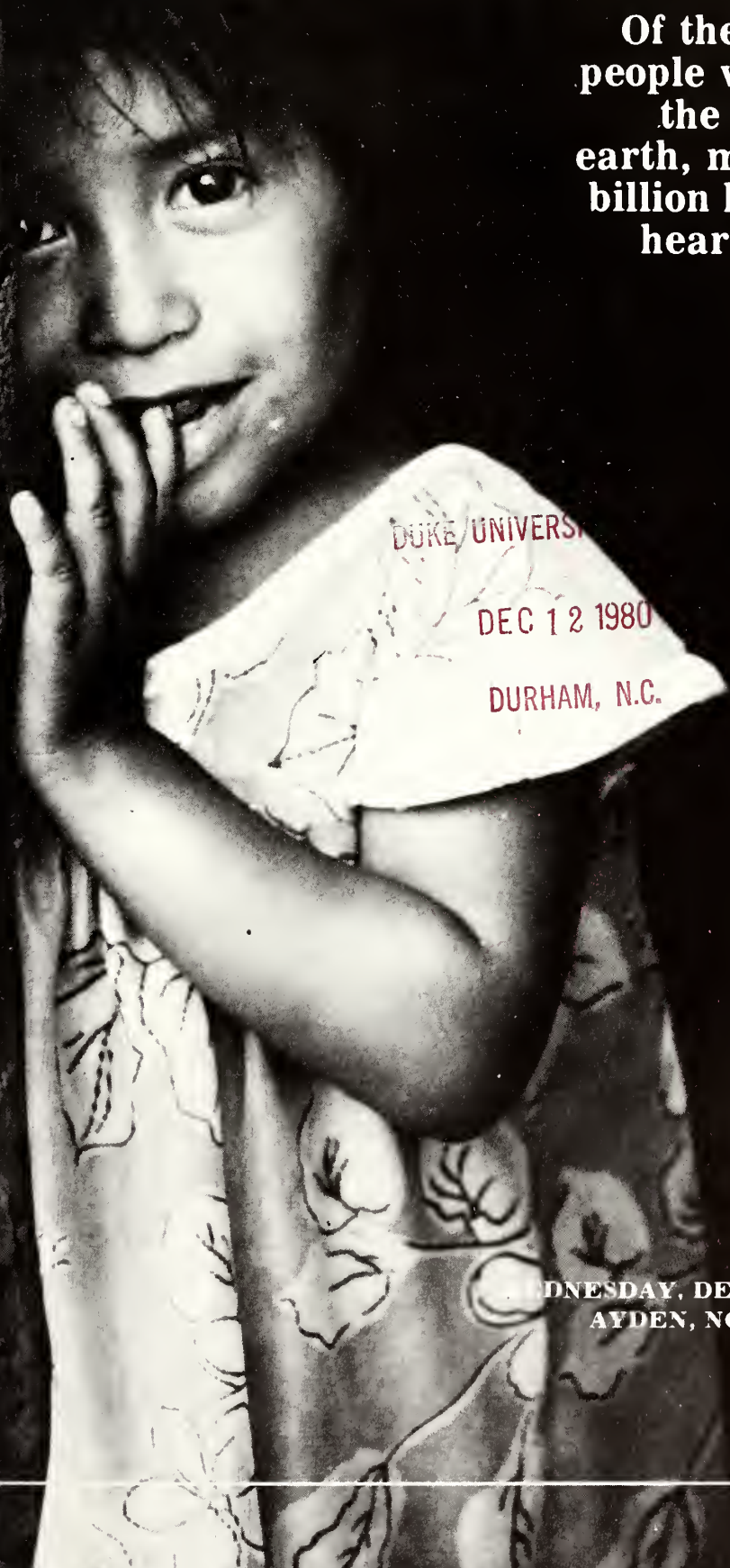
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The Free Will Baptist

Of the 4.2 billion people who live on the face of the earth, more than 3 billion have yet to hear the gospel message.



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1980
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial

WITH LOVE, OUR MISSION IS POSSIBLE

Of the 4.2 billion people who live on the face of the earth, more than 3 billion have yet to hear the gospel message. Two billion of this number are not only unreached, they live in areas that are not accessible to Christians. It is the obligation of every Christian to make the message of Jesus known. The whole body of Christ needs to become concerned about the lost condition of the world's masses. But even though the task of reaching the "unreachables" seems tremendous, it will be more easily dealt with than the attitude of many Christians.

It is easy to become disturbed when our churches are not growing, to write a check for a good cause, or to drop a coin in an outstretched hand, to feel a momentary pain in response to another's suffering. But it is not easy to sustain Christian compassion.

Compassion has a **now** and a **then**. Asking what to do now helps establish the priority of need. For most of us, the now is not too hard to minister to. For example, disease is a **now** thing; it must be properly treated. We can easily handle such. It's the **then** that causes problems. That's where mission comes in. Having given once, having shared the good news once, we think we have done our part—or at least we think we have done enough. But we are not just life-savers; we are life-builders. That is likely to require not only our money, but ourselves and our time, and not just once, but again and again.

Many of the individuals that you and I know have little family loyalty, battered aspirations and spiritual longings. In their faces we see they are yearning, waiting, hoping. Do we not have a message to share? Because we love them, we **must** tell them about the Saviour who loves them. We are their fellowman, their fellow struggler. We cannot witness sight unseen, touch untouched, feelings unfelt—Christian love demands more. Christian love does not take place in a vacuum. For Christian love is active. And Christians must look at the condition of others.

And care.
And love.
And act.

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Volume 95

Number 46

December 10, 1980

Janie Jones Sowers

Acting Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news item that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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WHILE traveling through an eastern North Carolina city recently I made a wrong turn and instead of taking the regular highway route through the city I traveled through the "slum area." Both the physical environment and the appearance of the people made a vivid impression on my mind.

The houses were in poor condition—in need of paint and repairs, rusted out screens hanging loose, sagging porches with dilapidated furniture, unkempt yards, houses built so closely together that hardly a car could pass between them, no recreation areas in sight. In general, it was the appearance of a place to exist rather than to live.

DID I TAKE THE WRONG TURN?

*by W. Burkette Raper
President of Mount Olive College*

The people themselves appeared to reflect their environment—no one was at work, they were just loitering around, huddled in groups at corners, very poorly dressed and some hardly dressed at all, with the appearance of waiting for darkness to settle so that they could begin their activities for the evening. The porches seemed to be occupied by elderly men and oversized women. I saw no activity which expressed joy, purpose in living or goals in life.

I asked myself, "Does it have to be this way or is there the possibility of a better life for these people?" It is an old question, "Does the environment control the people or do the people control the environment?"

I thought of the solution that the late President Lyndon B. Johnson sought to bring to this problem—"The Great Society," he called it. He envisioned that if these people could be provided better housing, better food and more adequate medical care that their lives would be

(Turn the Page)

different. Surely these physical needs are important, but meeting them within itself is not going to change their quality of life.

There is no easy answer and I do not presume to have a solution, but driving through this community did provoke some thoughts.

Is There a Way Out?

First, there must be the **desire** on the part of these people for a better life. Unless they themselves want to improve, nothing that others do for them will ultimately change the standards by which they live.

In the second place, there must be **opportunity**. If the desire is there, then through education and work these people can determine for themselves their quality of life. Through education, people can attain for themselves almost all the advantages which come to the affluent by birth.

In the third place, there must be the willingness to commit one's self to **honest labor** and beneficial services to others. We never attain the stature in life God designed for us as long as we are merely recipients. It is only when we can contribute to our fellowmen that our own lives are enriched. There is surely enough worthwhile work to be done in our world to fully occupy the time and energy of

any person who is willing to give himself to making life better, not only for himself but for others.

A major question which came to my mind as I drove through this community was, "To what extent has the gospel of Jesus Christ been presented to these people?" I wondered how many churches in that city would lament on Sunday that their pews were only half filled, and I also wondered how many of these churches have visited these people to share with them the good news of Jesus Christ. I do not know, but the question will not leave my mind, for I know from experience that it is out of a living relationship to an Almighty and Eternal God that the vision of a good and great life is born. The gospel of Jesus Christ is a transforming power that begins from within.

I seem to remember the voice of One who spoke of going into the "byways and hedges" and compelling people to come in, and then I thought of how much more convenient it is to make a token gift to missions and have the self-imposed satisfaction that I have helped people in faraway places.

On second thought, was it really a "wrong turn" I made that day? Or did God choose this route through the city because He had a message for me?

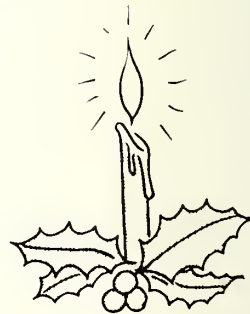
THEY READ IT IN THIS PAPER 30 Years Ago

"Whether to tithe or to tip is the question before Free Will Baptists. The Bible recognizes no portion of one's income less than a tithe as a full recognition of Christian stewardship. When we give less than a tenth, we have appropriated unto ourselves the right to determine the value of the Lord's service to us and the amount of our obligation to Him. In other words, we offer the great God of Heaven and earth a gratuity—a tip. Thus far the cause of Christ has been advanced by our tips rather than by our tithes."—Mrs. J. E. Frazier

"It is not what men eat but what they digest that makes them strong; not what we gain, but what we save that makes us rich; not what we read, but what we remember that makes us learn; and not what we preach, but what we practice that makes us Christians."—Lord Bacon

"May we reason together, dear readers, and see if we can find where the fault does begin. We often hear some people complaining about the way the young generation is getting so wild and sinful . . . But are we really trying to lead them in that straight and narrow way, and desirous of their following our way of life?"—Orlander Harrison

DECEMBER IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH



The beautiful Christmas Season is almost here again and we remind you that December is Foreign Missions Month. You can join hands with your missionaries in the regions beyond by sending in your special Christmas offering to the Rev. Joseph Ingram, PO Box 979, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530. We hope to hear from you soon.

CALLING ALL MEN!

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptist Layman's League is attempting to determine the number of Layman's Leagues or Men's Fellowships which are currently active throughout the state. The purposes of the Layman's League are (1) to further the cause of Christ throughout the world by the unity and cooperation of the men of the church, (2) to increase our knowledge of the church and her institutions and enterprises, (3) to generate a spirit of Christian fellowship, and (4) to work for the general welfare of the church.

When men stand up for Christ, things begin to happen. It is with this belief that the Executive Committee has begun its mission to not only determine the current status of the Layman's League but also to foster the establishment of a Layman's League program in churches where the men are not yet organized.

A group of interested men met with the Executive Committee on November 18, 1980, in Kinston to begin planning the development of the Layman's League in North Carolina. Those present were Lloyd Hobbs of Newton Grove, J. T. Wilson of Vanceboro, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin of Newton Grove, Ervin G. Foreman of Washington, Charlie J. Keech Jr. of Pinetown, Octavus R. Wallace of Pinetown, Garland Jarman of Pinetown, Dallas G. Foreman of Washington, Kenneth R. Willoughby of Washington, Danny Kirby of Fremont, Harry F. Hinson of Fremont, and L. G. Creech of Newton Grove. The members of the Executive Committee are J. M. Langly, 602 Sorey Avenue, Tarboro, NC 27886 (823-2356), Henry P. Beaman, Route 1, Snow Hill, NC 28580 (753-4263), and Tommy Benson, Route 1, Box 193-AA, Kenansville, NC 28349 (296-1337).

The Executive Committee requests that all churches complete the form below and return it to one of the three men on the committee. Your help in this matter and your prayers of support will be greatly appreciated.

Name of church: _____

Address of church: _____

Conference of church: _____

Pastor of church: _____

Do you presently have an organized men's group meeting at your church? _____

If so, what type organization? (Layman's League, Men's Fellowship, other) _____

If not, would you be interested in receiving help in establishing a men's organization? _____

Comments: _____

IN MEMORY OF ELMER FRANKLIN PITTMAN

On the evening of October 6, 1980, at 6 p.m., the Lord called our friend, Elmer Pittman, home to Heaven. The people of Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church realize our loss is Heaven's gain.

Elmer was born July 27, 1915, the son of Sallie and Frank Pittman, Route 1, Kenly, North Carolina. He grew up in Johnston County and attended the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church.

Elmer married Ruby Austin of Raleigh on October 11, 1941, and their marriage was blessed with two children, Margaret Ann and Franklin; and four grandchildren.

Elmer and family moved to Wilson County in 1956 and became active in the Daniels Chapel church. He was a man who was dedicated to the Lord, serving his church in many different ways. He was a member of the usher board and the finance committee. He will be greatly missed by his family, his church, and his community.

We look forward to that great homecoming day in Heaven when he will greet us there.

His funeral was conducted by his pastor, the Rev. David Charles Hansley, on October 8, at Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Friends and Family

BROTHER HERMAN WOOTEN SR. IN GREAT NEED

The physical condition of the Rev. Herman Wooten Sr. is most serious at this time.

An appeal is herein being made to his many friends and especially to the churches he has served, to express their concern for both him and his family.

His address is 204 Avery Street, Garner, NC 27529.

FAMILY DEVOTIONS



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—John 7:32-39

A SINE QUA NON

Water is absolutely essential to every form of life. Every living cell of both plants and animals depends on water.

We have about five quarts of blood in the blood vessels of our body. Water makes up about three quarts of the blood fluid.

Of every ten pounds of our weight, about seven pounds is water.

Without water to drink, we would die in a short time.

We will die of spiritual thirst if we refuse to slake our thirst with living water, which Jesus freely gives: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink" (John 7:37); "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely" (Revelation 21:6).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"... Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst..." (John 4:13, 14).

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 22:1

A LIVING FORCE

"A good name," said Henry Ward Beecher, "awakens among those who hear it honoring thoughts, lively emotions of pleasure, respect, gratitude, confidence and even love and enthusiasm. It is not a dry, leafless thing with faded remembrance of beauty. It is a living energetic force. In short, a good name is the impression which your real

life has produced on the heart and the imagination of those who have known you."

The Bible says, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold" (Proverbs 22:1).

PRAYER THOUGHT

"A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth" (Ecclesiastes 7:1).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—Philippians 1:23

"IT'S WONDERFUL"

"Ever since surgery had revealed that my mother had an inoperable malignancy," said Julia Tinkey, "I had spent a part of each day at her side in a hospital. This night I had to be with her. All her life Mother had been such an active person, teaching school, running the farm, raising five children, and cheerfully taking on tasks at church. As I sat at her bedside, I prayed that mother would not go with drugs numbing her mind and that she be allowed to go to God in dignity and peace.

"As I sat prayerfully with her, she stirred and said, 'Julia, are you there?'

"I assured her that I was. Her eyes opened and she said, 'The doctor told me. And, Julia, it's all right. I am in God's care and it's wonderful!'

"As she talked, she seemed to be bathed in effulgent light! As I gazed intently at her, the mysterious radiance seemed to envelope me too. She was smiling, and I smiled back at her. I felt that Mother was seeing a world beyond the

physical world, and that I was almost there with her. I asked, 'Do you mean, Mother, that you see God?' She replied, 'Yes, Julia, face to face! It's so wonderful!' I asked, 'What's so wonderful? Tell me!'

"She replied, 'Millions and millions of people! There's light, light everywhere!'

"These were her last words. Her eyes closed, but the smile did not fade."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wondrous and indescribable glory awaits God's children when they come to life's setting sun: "At evening time it shall be light" (Zechariah 14:7b). *Paul earnestly desired "to depart and be with Christ; which is far better"* (Philippians 1:23).

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 6:12-16

CROWN HIM!

Who is He in yonder stall,
At whose feet the shepherds fall?

'Tis the Lord! O wondrous story!

'Tis the Lord, the King of glory!

At His feet we humbly fall—
Crown Him! Crown Him, Lord of all!

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King

of glory . . .” (Psalm 24:9, 10).

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—Galatians 6:1-13

NOT MEDALS BUT SCARS

Elbert Hubbard, author, said, “God will not look you over for medals, degrees or diplomas, but for scars.”

How many of us can say with the Apostle Paul, “I bear in my body the marks (scars of service) of the Lord Jesus”? (Galatians 6:17b).

PRAYER THOUGHT

“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2).

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—Luke 14:7-24

KIM GOT THE POINT

The emphasis in the pastor’s morning message was the need for every Christian to visit the unsaved, unchurched ones and invite or bring them to church.

Four-year-old Kim got the point as she listened intently to the sermon.

That evening, just before service, Mother suddenly missed little Kim. Hastily she went outside and began to search for her. Finally the parent found Kim two blocks away, standing outside a door, patiently waiting for her new friends to get ready to go to church with her.

“Dear, I was greatly worried when I couldn’t find you!” said Mom.

Little Kim sweetly said, “But, Mom. I was just on visitation!”

How slow many of us are to obey the command: “Go out . . . and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled” (Luke 14:23).

PRAYER THOUGHT

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in

the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 28:19).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—Titus 2:1-15

THE INEXTINGUISHABLE BEACON

A radar guidance system now enables pilots to “see” through fog and line up a descending plane accurately with the runway. Snowstorms and fogs are becoming no hindrance to landing.

God’s “sure word of prophecy” enables His children to see through the mists and fogs which envelope this distraught world. It is an inextinguishable light “that shineth in a dark place” (2 Peter 1:19b), and will shine until “the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13b).

PRAYER THOUGHT

God’s love for His children enables us to live for Him no matter what circumstance in life we may have to face. He is the Shining Star which guides us along.

Selected from *Knight’s Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

ALL ARE TO BE MISSIONARIES

adapted from *COMMAND*

Every Christian should be a missionary in his own time and place, but not everyone is qualified to be a **foreign missionary**. There is a difference. Perhaps the following story will help you decide whether you qualify.

At three o’clock one wintry morning, a missionary candidate climbed the steps to the examiner’s home. He was shown into the study where he waited until eight o’clock for an interview.

Upon arriving, the old clergyman proceeded to ask questions.

“Can you spell?”

“Yes sir,” was the reply.

“All right—spell baker.”

“Baker—b-a-k-e-r.”

“Fine. Now do you know anything about figures?” the examiner inquired.

“Yes sir—something.”

“How much is twice two?”

“Four,” replied the lad.

“That’s splendid,” returned the old man. “I believe you have passed. I’ll see the board tomorrow.”



At the board meeting the man submitted his account of the interview. “He has all the qualifications of a missionary,” he began.

“First, I tested him on self-denial. I told him to be at my house at three o’clock in the morning. He left a warm bed and came out in the cold without a word of complaint.

“Second, I tried him on promptness. He appeared on time.

“Third, I examined him on patience. I made him wait five hours to see me, after telling him to come at three.

“Fourth, I tested him on temper. He failed to show any sign of it; he didn’t even question my delay.

“Fifth, I tried his humility. I asked him questions that a five-year-old child could answer, and he showed no indignation. So you see, I believe this lad meets the requirements. He will make the missionary we need.”

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

FOUNDERS DAY: A DAY OF VISION

by Dr. Pepper Worthington



Dr. W. Burkette Raper and the Rev. C. L. Patrick.

"Yes, I have a dream," said the Rev. C. L. Patrick, speaker for Founders Day at Mount Olive College on November 25. "I have a dream of a greater school, of this College moving ahead with College Hall, with a four-year status, with alumni going out from this College and being the greatest supporters of its values. I dream of a flock of young men and women who see visions, who strive to be the best they can be as they are going about their Father's business."

The entire tone of Founders Day at Mount Olive College reflected the theme of vision Mr. Patrick emphasized in his Founders Day address, "In Everything Give Thanks." It is only through the visions of

young dreamers that great works are realized.

Mr. Patrick recalled the historical incident in July, 1491, when the Dean of the Church in Seville called his board together and proclaimed, "Let us build a cathedral so great that those who see the cathedral will think we were mad even to conceive it." The result? Today the Cathedral at Seville remains one of the landmarks of all Spain.

"Remember," Mr. Patrick emphasized, "the dreams which are important are not those dreams we have in our sleep but those dreams we have in our waking hours. Joseph dreamed great and he built a great life. Jesus dreamed of a new Jerusalem

and he brought immortality to life. Columbus dreamed of a new route to India and he discovered a whole new world. Our task now at Mount Olive College is to dream big and to make our dreams a reality."

To dream a dream, Mr. Patrick declared that the dreamer must be one who is willing to allow God to provide the way and the means for the dream to become a reality. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" he asked. "If we are willing to allow God to provide for us, how can our dreams fail?"

Dreams are rooted in the fundamental movement of God's presence in a man of vision. Mr. Patrick recalled the account in Acts of Peter's immense response to God and Peter's concomitant strength in communicating his vision of God's presence. He recalled the time in April, 1940, when he felt the movement of God's power in his own thinking. He recalled the excitement he felt at the 1955 Free Will Baptist State Convention when his address focused upon his dream of what the Free Will Baptist church was going to become. Now he has another dream, a dream of a splendid future for Mount Olive College.

Turning to a clipping from a September 1954, article, he read an account of an evening he spent with young Burkette Raper. He and Dr. Raper discussed the prospects of this young College with its 22 students. Mr. Patrick turned to Dr. Raper and asked, "If you had a child ready to go to college, would you enroll your child in this college now?"

Dr. Raper answered with an emphatic, "Yes!"

Now it is 1980. The dream for this College is to add the junior year in 1984, the senior year in 1985, offering in 1986 the first Baccalaureate Degree to the first graduating class.

"I believe the Lord will provide us a way," declared Mr. Patrick. "I am reminded

of the fable of the hawk and the buzzard. The hawk was a smart old bird, but he had no patience. He believed he had eyes to see his prey and claws to grab the prey. The buzzard was a more relaxed old bird, and he believed that the Lord would always provide him with food. This old hawk laughed at the buzzard and questioned the buzzard about breakfast. Neither had eaten that morning. Suddenly the hawk saw a robin on a sharp fence. Without a thought the hawk dipped downward to grab the robin, but to his surprise the robin saw his shadow and flew away. In this downward plunge the hawk could not stop and he suddenly crashed into the sharp corner of the fence post. He died. Slowly the buzzard descended and in the even swoop of his dive, he found his breakfast dead on the corner of the fence post. He had waited on the Lord and the Lord had always provided."

To conclude his speech, Mr. Patrick declared, "I have a dream. I dream of a class registering in the Fall of 1984 when no one has to worry about transfer credits. I dream of a College Hall where students can receive their diplomas and play ball on their own courts. I dream of a day when students from other states and other nations will fall in love with our campus, come here, and feel the effect of this College on their lives so that they will go forth and build a greater community."

With a pause Mr. Patrick concluded, "I have a dream. I have a dream."

Honored at Founders Day were Arnold Ogden Jones and Lloyd Marvin Edwards Jr. who have served the College as Trustees for six years. Also honored were Bessie Dobson, James Everette Andrews, and Joyce T. Andrews, who have served the College as personnel for six years.

The Rev. David C. Hansley, president of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, closed the ceremony with a prayer which once again reflected the tone of this unique Founders Day—the tone of joyful praise of a moment in history when a College with its vision has a chance to bring out the greatest potential for good in a world which needs young men who see visions and old men who dream dreams.

DIRECTOR OF EAGLES NEST CONFERENCE CENTER AND COOPERATIVE EDUCATION



Mr. W. P. Kemp Jr.

Mount Olive College announced today the appointment of Mr. W. P. Kemp Jr., president of Kemp Furniture Industries, Incorporated, of Goldsboro, to the position of Director of Eagles Nest Conference Center and Cooperative Education. Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of the College, also announced that Mr. Kemp will head up the planning of the Business Department as a part of the development of Mount Olive into a four-year college.

Mr. Kemp is assuming his new duties on a part-time basis immediately and will

phase into his college employment on a schedule consistent with his retirement and his educational plans. A 1948 graduate of the University of North Carolina in Business Administration, Kemp plans to enroll in the Graduate School of North Carolina State University in January to pursue a graduate degree in higher education.

One of Mr. Kemp's first tasks will be to establish a blue ribbon advisory committee representing business, industry, and education to assist in planning the four-year business curriculum at Mount Olive and the development of Eagles Nest Conference Center. Mr. James B. Hunt Sr., chairman of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees, reported that according to a schedule approved by the Board, the College will add the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985. The freshman class entering in 1982 will be the first baccalaureate graduates.

"Our objective will be to relate the Department of Business of Mount Olive College with the industrial and business community of eastern North Carolina," Dr. Raper declared. "We further envision the development of Eagles Nest into a conference center for both industry and education that will strengthen and foster our private enterprise system, and through our program of Cooperative Education our students will have an opportunity to enrich their classroom studies with on-the-job experiences in places of potential future employment.

Dr. Raper reported that Eagles Nest will still function as a facility for church and youth groups.

NEWS & NOTES

A Scene from Old-Fashioned Day at Calvary Church



For several years Calvary Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson has had an Old-Fashioned Day on the third Sunday in November. This year's old-fashioned day service was held on November 16. Pictured above are left to right, bottom row: Lisa Britt and Jeannie Pittman; left to right, second row: David Britt, Shirley Britt, Jan Pittman, little Wendy Barnes, Mrs. Dewey Boling, and the Rev. Dewey Boling.

Winterville Church Youth Sunday

"Come Alive" was the theme for Youth Sunday at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, on the fifth Sunday in November. Larue Young, Angie Branch, and Alesia Forlines greeted everyone and pinned a "Come Alive" sunshine badge on them. The youth really came "alive" with Craig Forlines acting as Sunday school superintendent; Tim Hines as secretary-treasurer; and Alice Hines, Donald Ribeiro, Cindi Branch, Jo Ann Hines, Wayne Garris, Connie Wade, Lynn Wade, and Wayne Wilson teaching the various Sunday school classes.

Donald Ribeiro was the youth minister for the morning

worship service. Jason Branch recited Psalm 100, Chuck Branch played a piano solo, Cindi Branch directed the Booster Band, and Alice Hines directed congregational singing. Special music was rendered by the Youth Choir and soloists Elaine Smith, Wayne Wilson, and Wesley McLawhorn. They were accompanied by Jo Ann Hines, pianist.

Randy Wingate, Winton McLawhorn, Adam LaDuca, and Brad Cayton served as ushers.

The pastor, the Rev. Ed Taylor, was very pleased with the participation and fine services performed by the young people. They brought honor and glory to the Lord and the local church.

Union Grove Church Sunday School Honors Teachers

The week of November 17-23, 1980, was proclaimed as "Honor Sunday School Teachers Week in North Carolina" by Governor James B. Hunt Jr. Mr. Russell Corbitt, superintendent of Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church Sunday School presented the teachers with certificates of appreciation.

Those receiving certificates were Mrs. Inez Sullivan, Melba Kirby, Ruby Buck, Margaret Aycock, Jackie Edgerton, Ellen Kirby, Agnes Corbitt, Louise Edgerton, Geneva Pope, and James Kirby. Several of the teachers have been teaching for 25 years, and Mrs. Margaret Aycock has taught for 50 years.

Christmas Cantata At Piney Grove

The Cantata, "Ring the Bells," will be given on Wednesday, December 17, and Sunday, December 21, at 7:30 p.m. at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville.

The Rev. Tommy Evans is pastor of Piney Grove church.

NOTICES

The Central Conference Mission Board has elected a new secretary-treasurer. He is the Rev. Cedric D. Pierce Jr., Route 3, Box 325, Greenville, North Carolina 27834. All Mission Board contributions should be sent to this address. The Rev. Raymond T. Sasser now serves as chairman of the board.

The Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet Tuesday, January 13, 1981, at 10 a.m. at the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation in Ayden. Anyone having business with the Council is asked to be present at that time.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

In Memory of **TERESA PELT GRUBBS**

Teresa Pelt Grubbs, 24, of Chinquapin, passed away on November 26 at Duke Hospital following an extended illness. She was the wife of the Rev. Frank Grubbs, pastor of Lanier's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, and the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Michael R. Pelt of Mount Olive.

Teresa was a 1974 honor graduate of Southern Wayne High School, and in 1976 received an associate degree in art from Mount Olive College where she

was the recipient of the Martin Award for high scholastic honors. She earned a bachelor of science degree in art education at East Carolina University in 1978.

Mrs. Grubbs obtained a master's degree in art education in 1980 at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. She taught in the Wayne County school system at



both Carver and Belfast Elementary Schools and was a member of the North Carolina Art Education Association. Since her marriage in June this year, Teresa taught private art classes in Kenansville and Chinquapin.

Survivors include her husband, the Rev. Frank Grubbs; her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Michael R. Pelt; two sisters, Sharon and Julie Pelt, Mount Olive; a brother, Cary Pelt, Goldsboro; and her maternal grandmother, Mrs. Lizzie Etheridge, Mount Olive.

The family requested that in lieu of flowers, friends consider gifts to the Teresa Pelt Grubbs Memorial Fund at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365.

Every Free Will Baptist home should be receiving **The Free Will Baptist**. Why? Well, the paper relates what is going on among Original Free Will Baptist churches, denominational enterprises and institutions, the mission fields—both home and abroad. Inspirational messages found in each week's issue also prove to be challenging.

Presently, **The Free Will Baptist** goes into over 3,600 homes. Needless to say, many ministers and laymen do not subscribe. Many Free Will Baptists do not know that such a denominational paper even exists. If you know someone who does not subscribe, share your paper with them. Let them see what they are missing.

There are two subscription plans that should be considered by every Free Will Baptist church. The first plan is the **EVERY FAMILY PLAN**, whereby the church has the paper sent to the home of every member. The church is billed quarterly and receives a 25-percent discount. If a church has fifty families in its membership and it chooses to join the nineteen churches who participate in this plan, the cost for the year is \$253.50, or \$63.38 quarterly. That's only \$4.88 a week!

The second plan is the **BUNDLE PLAN**, by which **The Free Will Baptist** is sent to one address in lots of 25 or more. A 50-percent discount is offered under this plan.

The cost of individual subscriptions is one year, \$6.76; two years, \$12.48; four years, \$24.96.

For more information write or call the Subscription Department, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513; phone 746-6128.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For December 21

GOD SENDS THE SAVIOUR

Lesson Text: Matthew 1:18-25
Memory Verse: Matthew 1:21

I. INTRODUCTION

The account of the birth of Jesus Christ is far from an isolated story, separated from all else. It is the record of a divine and deliberately planned event that divided history, brought the good news of salvation to the world, and broke down all barriers between the warring nations of men. When this good news is proclaimed among and received by all, it brings spiritual life to the spiritually dead, hope to the hopeless, and peace to the troubled. This marvelous plan involved the beautifully simple fact that God would come to earth as a human child—a child who would carry out the most difficult mission conceivable, at the cost of His own life.

No matter how many times the story of Jesus' birth is told, it will never lose its fascination. Even the birth of an ordinary child is intriguing; but the manner in which God sent His only Son into the world has charmed all generations since that day. It captivates men, women, and children alike.

Back of the simple account are several notable facts: the birth of this child had been foretold in a veiled manner to Adam and Eve (see Genesis 3:15), and numerous times later through the inspired prophets. An entire nation had been specially prepared for the event, beginning with the call that had brought Abraham

from Ur of the Chaldees (see Genesis 12:1-3; Acts 7:2, 3). A carefully selected virgin was made pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit, making the child uniquely the son of a woman and of God himself (Matthew 1:18). He was descended from the lineage of King David, thus fulfilling a positive prophecy given hundreds of years earlier (2 Samuel 7:12-16). The place, circumstances, and many other details were foretold so precisely that coincidence or happenstance can be ruled out completely.

When God plans, He makes His plans beautiful and perfect. Our lesson today demonstrates this fact more clearly than any other event in all recorded time.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. This is the Christmas lesson. A theological word that we should get acquainted with at Christmastime is the word "Incarnation." It literally means "in the flesh." It refers to God coming to earth in the Person of His Son and taking upon Himself human flesh. This is what Christmas is all about.

B. The Christian doctrine of the virgin birth of Jesus Christ has come under great fire. This is because it is physically impossible unless one believes in the supernatural. If we will watch closely we will see that those who dispute with the virgin birth of Christ also dispute with the other supernatural elements in the Christian religion such as the new birth, the miracles of Jesus, etc.

C. The virgin birth of Christ is and was necessary for two very simple yet important reasons. First, the Bible had predicted it. If it is not true, then the Bible is not true; therefore, it is necessary to the integrity of the Bible. Second, for Jesus Christ to be a Saviour, He had to be more than a mere man. If He had been human only, He would have been under the curse that came upon mankind through Adam. But the fact that He was born of a virgin without aid from a man assures us that He is God and is capable of living a perfect life in this world and redeeming us from sin.

D. We make a great deal of Mary as a godly woman, not as a supernatural woman as do the Roman Catholics. She was a godly, obedient woman, and deserves our respect. What about Joseph? Don't you think that He showed that he was a godly man, obedient to the Lord?

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. It is the blessed Christmas season again. God has given us one more chance to show that we understand the meaning of His Son's birth. Christmas began in the heart of God. It is complete only when it reaches the heart of man. Until one feels the spirit of Christmas—there is no Christmas. All else is outward display—so much tinsel and decorations. For it isn't the holly; it isn't the snow. It isn't the tree nor the firelight's glow. It's the warmth that comes to the hearts of men when the Christmas spirit returns again.

B. This year let us make every effort to keep Christ in Christmas; perhaps this lesson will help. Someone has said, "Take Christ out of Christmas, and December becomes the bleakest and most colorless month of the year.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

ASKING FOR TROUBLE

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

Nobody in his right mind, we say, goes around asking for trouble. Along with the pursuit of happiness, the avoidance of trouble whenever possible is held to be one of our inalienable rights. We've even given noninvolvement a quasi-legitimacy by affirming it in maxims and proverbs: "Let well enough alone," "No news is good news," "Ignorance is bliss" and "What you don't know won't hurt you."

They sound so authoritative and indisputable, don't they? Added together, they say, "Don't go around asking for trouble." It's a kind of mind-your-own-business, I'll take-care-of-me-and-mine syndrome.

True, if a troubling need suddenly confronts us and looks us in the eye, we usually do something about it, with whatever degree of resignation. But as a lifestyle—even a Christian lifestyle—we tend to insulate ourselves against any involvement that impinges on our comfort, our conscience, our convenience.

I used to think that the priest and the Levite who saw the beaten man on that road which "went down from Jerusalem to Jericho" crossed over the road to the safe side. But now I'm not so sure. The story says only that they "passed by on the other side."

Maybe they were already on the other side. Could their sin have been not that they walked away from trouble, but that they didn't walk toward it? Perhaps they said, with self-justification, "Why go asking for trouble? Let well enough alone. What I don't know won't hurt me."

If that sounds disturbingly familiar, it could be because that is how we, too, rationalize our noninvolvement. But that is not what the good Samaritan did. He went asking for trouble.

So did Jesus. Peter says of Him that He "went about doing good" (Acts 10:38). That had always seemed to me to be a pleasant, certainly true, but not particularly dynamic text—until I realized the shattering implications for all Christians. For not only did Jesus **do** good, but He **went about** doing good.

In other words, Jesus went looking for trouble.

He sought out troubled people—those who were hurting, those who carried crushing burdens, those who knew the numbing experience of grief, those who were hungry, those who were sick, those who were dispossessed. He didn't wait for trouble to come to Him. He asked for trouble.

"Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden," is the way He put the invitation. Not "Come unto me, all ye who have no problems, no worries, no cares." Not "Come all ye who are sanitized, deodorized, clean, well-fed, nicely adjusted." Not "Come, ye who are self-supporting, financially solvent and trouble free." Jesus asked for life's problem people. He asked for trouble. If we take Him seriously, that is what we do, too.

If ignorance is bliss, pray tell me for whom? Not for those caught in the middle of tragedy, whether across the street or across the world. Not for those dying and helplessly watching the dying. Not for the children whose bellies are

bloated and arms shrunken by malnourishment. Not for those trying to scratch a crop from rock-hard soil. There's precious little bliss at that end of the line, I can testify; and the more willful ignorance there is at our end, the less bliss at theirs.

There's something else that needs to be said, too. If those of us capable of changing the world do not go looking for trouble, sooner or later trouble will come looking for us. When it does, it often comes with gun in hand.

Though spawning their own inequities and suffering, revolutions and violence are usually caused by festering infections that were not lanced, sudden volcanic release of grievances that were never heeded, pent-up pressure of injustices never redressed. We failed to go looking for trouble, satisfied instead to live the safe, comfortable life in our evangelical cloisters. So trouble came looking for us—from Africa, from Latin America, from the Middle East, make your own list.

We didn't do enough "going about." What we chose not to know did hurt us and is hurting us and will hurt us. No news may be bad news.

And as for letting well enough alone, where on this wracked and shaken planet can we find anyone well enough? The church was not commissioned to preserve the status quo, but to challenge it and change it. And when the church speaks with a prophetic voice and does prophetic deeds, it can expect the denunciation that comes to prophets. King Ahab assured Elijah he was one "that troubleth Israel" (1 Kings 18:17).

Go ahead and look for trouble. Then do something about it.—Stan Mooneyham

Reprinted with permission from World Vision magazine (May, 1980).

SUPERANNUATED WIDOWS, MINISTERS, WORKERS, AND RETIREMENT SYSTEM LIST

Remember these persons who have served the Free Will Baptist church so faithfully during the past years. Perhaps you will want to remember them on their birthdays or during the special holidays.

MINISTERS' PENSION LIST

(Birthdays)

Rev. Herman Wooten	104 Avery Street, Garner, NC 27529	February 15, 1893
Rev. Wiley Ferrell	601 Tower Street, Selma, NC 27576	September 27, 1902

DENOMINATIONAL WORKERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM RECIPIENTS

Rev. J. P. Barrow	7934 Charlotte Pike, Nashville, TN 37209	October 26, 1889
Rev. L. S. Joyner	1220 Lynn Road, Durham, NC 27703	November 5, 1905
Rev. J. A. Evans	Route 1, Box 100-C, Seven Springs, NC 28578	November 10, 1905
Rev. Willie E. Stillely	Route 6, Box 180, New Bern, NC 28560	July 28, 1909
Rev. L. B. Manning	Box 163, Fountain, NC 27829	May 13, 1900
Mr. Wade Long	727 Fairmont Village, Ayden, NC 28513	June 21, 1909
Rev. R. W. Allman	901 Danbury Drive, Durham, NC 27703	December 25, 1908
Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark	904 Midway Avenue, Durham, NC 27703	January 16, 1910
Mrs. Alice Barrow	Route 2, Snow Hill, NC 28580	August 15, 1911
Rev. N. B. Barrow	Route 2, Snow Hill, NC 28580	October 23, 1911
Rev. Clifton T. Rice	Box 1303, Kinston, NC 28501	January 9, 1907
Rev. Edgar Benton	Route 1, Box 395-A, Fremont, NC 27830	September 26, 1911
Mr. Ralph A. Bowen	Route 1, Box 394, Ayden, NC 28513	March 5, 1914
Rev. C. L. Patrick	Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, NC 28590	August 17, 1911
Rev. W. O. Lassister	Route 3, Box 65, Four Oaks, NC 27524	October 4, 1912
Rev. R. T. Sasser	517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, NC 27893	March 8, 1912
Rev. N. D. Beaman	Route 4, Box 400, Snow Hill, NC 28580	October 27, 1909
Rev. Carol Hansley	Route 1, Box 611-B, Newport, NC 28570	December 19, 1914
Rev. Dewey C. Boling	712 East Horne Street, Clayton, NC 27520	October 7, 1918
Rev. L. B. Woodall Jr.	Route 2, Box 12-A, Princeton, NC 27569	November 21, 1915

WIDOWS' PENSION LIST

Mrs. Duffy Toler	131 North Eastern Street, Greenville, NC 27834	February 8, 1884
Mrs. Julia W. Snyder	718 First Rainbow Street, Lexington, NC 27292	August 25, 1896
Mrs. Mary J. Parrish	Box 43, Elm City, NC 27822	September 23, 1903
Mrs. W. H. Lancaster	405 Raleigh Road, Smithfield, NC 27577	August 2, 1899

The Rev. Melvin Moore

Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Melvin Moore. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A DEDICATED MAN

submitted by Linda Webb



The Rev. and Mrs. Melvin Moore.

Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church is indeed fortunate to have as its pastor a dedicated servant of God, the Rev. Melvin Moore.

Mr. Moore began as pastor of our church on November 13, 1979. He is faithful and understanding of the spiritual needs of our members in sickness and sorrow. His messages each time are truly Scriptural and inspirational. He is truly a very dedicated man of God who has served our church well.

He was born August 8, 1934, in Greene County. He is the oldest of ten children. His parents are Bertha and Bruce Moore. He attended Mount

Olive College and Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee. He was ordained by the Central Conference, December 31, 1960. He has pastored churches at Marlboro, Farmville; People's Chapel, Elm City; Powhatan, Clayton; Trinity, Clayton; White Oak, Bladenboro; and St. Paul, Elizabeth City.

Working together with our pastor is his wife Evelyn. They have three children.

During this time we have experienced the joy of receiving seven new members. As we have grown spiritually beyond measure, we have also experienced physical growth. We at Owens Chapel church know that God gave us His special blessing by sending the Rev. Melvin Moore and his family to us.

Mr. Moore, we love you and thank God for the work you are doing among us. Yes, you and your family are part of us and our prayer is for God to continue to bless you as you sow His seed, as He promised to reap the harvest.

CAPE COLONY MISSION DOING WELL

by Taylor Hill

The Ronnie Mohn couple and their children are doing great things at Cape Colony, near Edenton, NC.

Mr. Mohn is keeping house, pastoring, and evangelizing while Mrs. Mohn is getting her college degree; she should finish this school year.



The Rev. and Mrs. Ronnie Mohn

Mr. and Mrs. Mohn, their children, and the members of the mission are working hard and building a church for our Lord and denomination. Presently they have about forty-five in attendance.

PRESS EMPLOYEE PASSES

Mrs. Wilma Turner died Tuesday, December 2, in Pitt County Memorial Hospital, Greenville, North Carolina. She was 60. Funeral services were held Friday, December 5, at 11 a.m. at Farmer Funeral Home, Ayden.

She is survived by her husband, Gordon; two sons, William C. of Providence, Rhode Island, and Gordon D. of Greensboro; two sisters; and three grandchildren.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Turner have been employed at the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation in Ayden for the last two years. Mr. Turner is assistant production manager; Mrs. Turner worked in the bindery.

Our hearts go out to the family in genuine compassion and we pray for God's special grace for them in these days of pungent grief.

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA!



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The Free Will Baptist



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



FOR the last 20 years, the Woodmen of the World fraternal organization has been sponsoring a Christmas party for the children at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex. This year's party was held Monday night, December 8.

"Are there anymore besides you?" the young lad asked who stopped us as we neared the Children's Home. "You are here for the party, aren't you?" he continued, not giving us time to answer his first query. We assured him and his companions we were. Enthusiastically, the young boys directed us to the canteen, the site of the party.

As we opened the door to go inside the canteen, we were surprised to find so many people. Not only were there boys, girls, and staff members from the Home present, but Woodmen from as far away as the Virginia border were there. Many units were represented; some national delegates had even come.

"ARE YOU HERE FOR THE PARTY?"

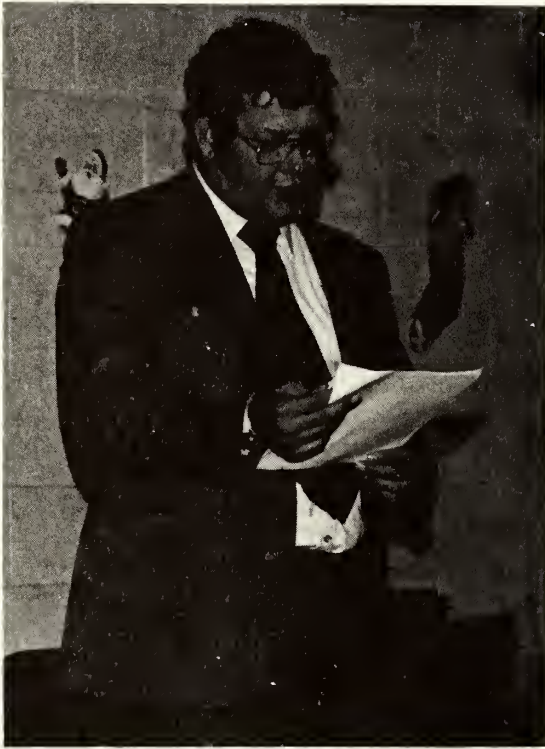


Mr. Bill Butler, a Woodmen area manager from Oak City, hosted the event. Being the jovial fellow he is, Mr. Butler easily captivated everyone's attention. Mabel Butler, his wife, shared the Christmas story and concluded her remarks by relating that there "still is no room for Jesus in the hearts of many people today."

The mood of the party became quite lively after that. Mrs. Butler read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" while a blond little girl from the Home pantomimed the story. Afterwards, Mrs. Kathy Steadman led the group as it sang traditional Christmas carols. And it wasn't long before "jolly ole St. Nick" came to pay a visit.

Mr. Harvey Bedsole, state Woodmen of the World manager, related that the Woodmen would be providing Christmas parties for all of the children's homes in North Carolina this year with the possible exception of one or two.

(Turn the Page)



Last year, the group spent in excess of \$22,000 for Christmas parties. The money for the parties came from local and state units with a lot of it being donated by Ranger and Rangerette youth groups.

One might wonder why a group like the Woodmen of the World would spend so much time, money, and energy on such an event. When asked Mr. Butler said, "We come to bring joy and love for they are great gifts. Why do we do this? Because we love kids. We get more out of this than the kids probably do. That just goes to prove that 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' This all makes us better citizens and parents."

While everyone was opening gifts and eating refreshments, I talked with several of the boys and girls from the Home. I wondered if they were ready for—and excited about—Christmas.

Cindy Rhodes assured me that she was "ready for Christmas!" Cindy expects to spend the holidays with her sponsors in Wilson.





Margaret Dement, 14, is looking forward to getting away from the Home and spending time with her sponsors in Garner. Margaret said she "usually has a good time" when she goes to visit the people at Palmer Memorial church. She went on to say that life at the Children's Home is "not like a real home, but at least I am glad I did have somewhere to go. If it were not for the Children's Home, I would probably be starving and everything."

While I was talking with the Rev. Stewart Humphrey, Executive Director of the Children's Home, a young boy looked at me and said, "Hi, Janie!"

I answered him back and went to kneel beside him. (I thought we could talk a little better if we were on the same eye level.) Soon, I learned that the lad's name was John Wayne. He is 11.

"John," I asked, "did you have a good time tonight?"

Smiling, he quickly replied, "Yes, ma'am. I sure did." Almost as if in the same breath he continued, "Did you?"

You know, I am thankful for people like the Woodmen of the World, people who care enough to share a part of themselves with others. I am thankful for the staff at the Children's Home, people who unselfishly give of themselves twenty-four hours a day. And I'm thankful for boys and girls like Cindy, Margaret, and John. They add a breath of fresh air, a glimmer of hope to our world. And all they ask is that someone care.





FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—Luke 2:11

“WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST?”

H. G. Wells said, “Christ is the most unique Person of history. No man can write a history of the human race without giving the foremost place to the penniless teacher of Nazareth.”

Dr. Arnold Toynbee, famed historian, said, “As we stand and gaze with our eyes fixed upon the farther shore of history, a simple figure arises from the flood and straightway fills the whole horizon. There stands the Saviour!”

PRAYER THOUGHT

“For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe” (1 Timothy 4:10).

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—Psalm 82

ONE IN HIM

In Christ now meet both East and West,
In Him meet South and North,
All Christly souls are one in Him,
Throughout the whole wide earth.

PRAYER THOUGHT

“There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all” (Ephesians 4:4-6).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 9:2

EUPHORIC ELATION

Swept along on the wave of worldwide elation incident to the lunar landing of the United States astronauts and their safe return to earth, former President Nixon said, “This is the greatest week since the beginning of the world! Nothing has changed the world more than this mission!”

While sharing the former President’s whelming enthusiasm as he praised the exploration of a heavenly body, we disagree with what he said. The greatest and most wondrous event in the world occurred when the angelic being announced long ago the hope-enkindling advent of the Saviour: “I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born . . . a Saviour” (Luke 2:10, 11).

Globe-girdling blessings were brought by His coming: “The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined” (Isaiah 9:2).

PRAYER THOUGHT

“In him was life; and the life was the light of man” (John 1:4).

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Scripture Reading—Luke 2:10

THE JOY YOU GIVE

Somehow, not only for Christmas
But all the long year through,

The joy that you give to others
Is the joy that comes back to you;
And the more you spend in blessing
The poor and lonely and sad,
The more of your heart’s possessing
Returns to make you glad!

PRAYER THOUGHT

“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7).

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—Matthew 3:7-12

NO WARNING

“Holiday joy turned to tragedy Christmas Day for families faced with the grim task of identifying the bodies of twenty relatives killed in an airliner crash that injured twenty-seven others,” reported an AP dispatch.

A survivor of the tragedy said, “We had no warning of the impending danger. It seemed as if we were headed for the runway in a normal way. Then it happened!”

Each Christian is under obligation to lovingly warn and plead with unsaved ones to “flee from the wrath to come” (Matthew 3:7) lest they go out into a lost hereafter.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Great will be our accountability to God if we fail to do this: “When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning . . . to save his life; the same wicked man shall die”

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand” (Ezekiel 3:18).

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—Matthew 2:1-10

WE HONOR HIS BIRTH
Jesus asleep in the manger,
Joseph and Mary nearby,
Greeting the birth of our
Saviour,
Bright shines a star in the
sky.

Shepherds on guard in the
nighttime
Listen to angels who sing,
“Glory to God in the highest,
Peace in the name of our
King.”

Jesus asleep in the manger,
Lowly God’s Son came to
earth,
Bringing us gifts beyond
value,
Grateful, we honor His birth.

PRAYER THOUGHT

*“Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace, good will
toward men” (Luke 2:14).*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah
29:10-14

NOT SEEKING ANSWERS

Said a dissolute, discouraged
college youth who had come to
the end of himself, “I’m not
seeking answers anymore. I’m
seeking Jesus Christ!”

“And ye shall seek me, and
find me, when ye shall search
for me with all your heart”
(Jeremiah 29:13).

PRAYER THOUGHT

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

Selected from *Knight’s Up-
to-the-Minute Illustrations*,
Walter B. Knight.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

GIFT SUBSCRIPTION COUPON

Hurry! This is your last chance to send THE FREE WILL BAPTIST as a Christmas gift. If you act now that special friend or relative will receive the December 24 issue.

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send form to: The Free Will Baptist Press, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

EDWARDS IS RECOGNIZED



James B. Hunt Sr., Marvin Edwards Jr., and President W. Burkette Raper.

Marvin Edwards Jr., of Wilson, was recognized for his six years of service on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees during the College's annual Founders Day ceremony. The event commemorated the College's twenty-ninth anniversary.

Owner of Edwards Electric Company in Wilson, Mr.

Edwards serves as vice-chairman of the Board of Trustees and chairman of the Business Affairs Committee. He was elected to a second six-year term in September during the North Carolina State Convention.

Mr. Edwards is a member of St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church in Kenly.

PAUL PALMER COURSES FOR SPRING SEMESTER

Mount Olive College is offering the following Paul Palmer Institute courses for the spring semester.

The Free Will Baptist Church I (History), January 19—March 16, on Monday from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Henderson Building, Room 115 on the college campus (2 units of credit). Part II will begin March 23 and finish May 11,

and will cover doctrine, polity, and programs.

Church Administration, January 19—March 16, on Monday from 8:30 p.m.-9:45 p.m., Henderson Building, Room 213 on the college campus (3 units of credit). This course will include church organization, funerals, weddings, communion service, and church budget.

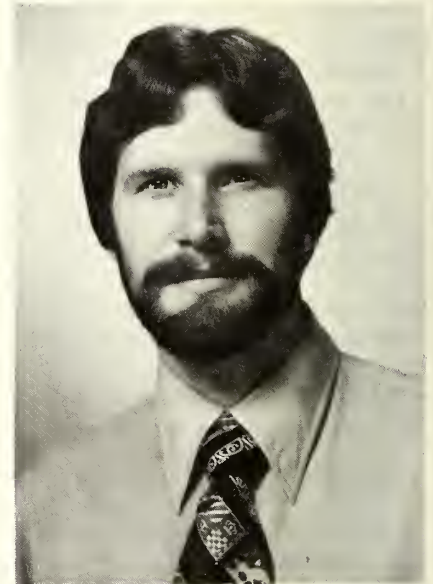
These courses may be taken for institute credit (\$20 per course), or non-credit (\$10 per course). They will be taught

by Dr. Michael R. Pelt and the Rev. Frank Harrison.

For college credit, a course on **The Free Will Baptist Church** (History, Administration, Doctrine, and Program) will be offered beginning January 19 and ending May 11, on Monday from 7 p.m.-10 p.m., Henderson Building, Room 115 on the college campus. The course may be taken for three (3) semester hours credit or audited for \$20.

For further information, contact Mr. Frank Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Telephone 658-2502 (office); 658-9363 (home).

APPOINTMENT MADE TO COLLEGE FACULTY



Mr. Calvin R. Mercer Jr.

Mr. Calvin R. Mercer Jr. has been appointed to the Mount Olive College faculty in the Department of Religion. He will begin his duties in January with the opening of the spring semester.

A native of Duplin County, Mr. Mercer was reared near Beulaville. He received his undergraduate degree in 1975 from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Continuing his education at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, he earned

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

the Master of Divinity and Master of Theology degrees. He also attended Florida State University where he completed the major requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

While engaged in doctoral study, Mr. Mercer taught Religion at Florida A. & M. University. His professional associations include the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature.

Mr. Mercer is married to the former Marilyn Michele Miller who graduated from Mount Olive College in 1972. He is a member of Cabin Free Will Baptist Church near Beulaville.

CHRISTMAS CARROUSEL

The Mount Olive College Concert Choir will be performing in the Christmas Carrousel on December 25 at 11 p.m., WITN-TV (Channel 7). Their presentation will feature sacred Christmas carols and Fred Waring's arrangement of "'Twas the Night Before Christmas."

A MEANINGFUL CHRISTMAS GIFT

Christmas is a time for sharing and rejoicing in the glory of the season. A gift with permanent value is a meaningful way to express your feelings to friends and loved ones during the holidays.

Moye Library is the educational cornerstone of Mount Olive College. Students in every field can depend on a library that works with them and for them as they strive for academic success. Growth to the Senior college level means an increasingly important role for the academic heart of the institution, and a goal of \$67,000 during fiscal year 1980-81 has been set for the development of library resources.

A gift to Moye Library can be made in honor or in memory of a friend or loved one this Christmas as a meaningful expression of your love and appreciation. The name of each person honored or memorialized will be placed in a library book with your name as the donor. In addition, the recipient of your gift to the library will receive an attractive card showing a beautiful Christmas sketch of Moye Library notifying your gift.

Through your gift to the Library, you will have the satisfaction of knowing you are supporting the foundation of the College. You will know that your gift is being used to purchase that most basic element of culture and learning—a book. Make this Christmas a time of sharing through a gift of permanence to Mount Olive College.

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of November, 1980, totaled \$632.50 and are as follows:

In Memory of

Rudolph Barefoot by Mr. and Mrs. Willard Barefoot and family, Dunn; and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wood and Pamela, Four Oaks.

E. C. Bissette by the Rev. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Lula Boone by Mr. and Mrs. Lester L. Duncan Jr., Wilson.

Edgar Brame by Mr. and Mrs. Roney Bunn Sr., Kenly.

Mrs. Minnie Cayton Cuthrell by the Julia Matthews Bible Class, St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern.

Nellie Daniels by Mrs. Estell M. West, Plymouth.

Charles Eldridge by Miss Lena Sutton, Mount Olive.

W. W. Elmore by Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie G. Howell, Pikeville.

Henry Floyd by Adult

Sunday School Class, Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

Mrs. Edna Gragg by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, Mount Olive; and Mrs. Lucy Mooring, LaGrange.

J. Edgar Hare by Mr. and Mrs. Russell Lee Peele, Middlesex.

The Rev. C. J. Harris by Christian Service Auxiliary, First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville, Greenville.

Bunyan Harrison by the Rev. and Mrs. N. B. Barrow, Snow Hill; Mrs. Helen T. Beaman, Snow Hill; and Mrs. Nellie G. Outlaw, Dudley.

Mrs. Essie Heath by Mr. and Mrs. S. Woodrow McCoy, Cove City; and Mr. and Mrs. Randall Dawson, Trenton.

Chuck Herring by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smith, Mount Olive; and Gary Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mrs. R. N. Hinnant by Woman's Auxiliary, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Homer Holley by Fountain Brothers Store, Chinquapin.

Howard Jackson by Mr. and Mrs. Willard Barefoot, Dunn.

Mrs. Beulah R. Jones by Mrs. Lucy Mooring, LaGrange.

Mrs. Sara Jane Kornegay by Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount Olive.

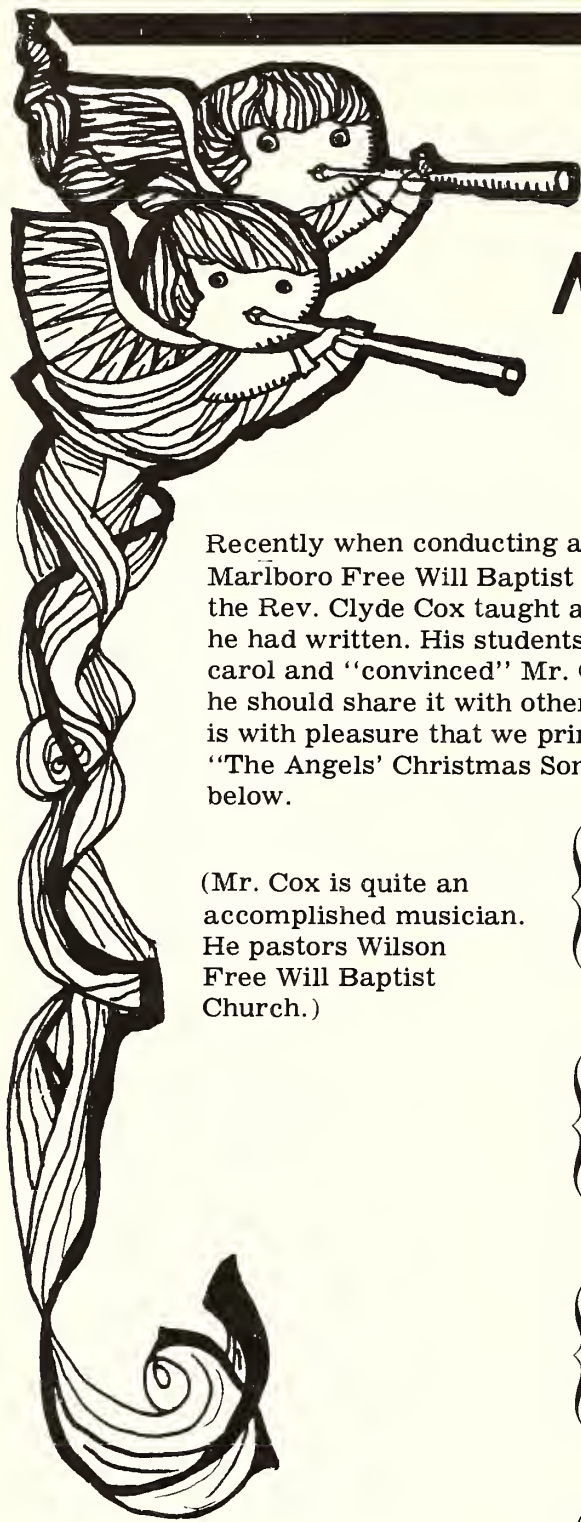
Jesse Franklin Murphy by Mrs. Berlene M. Hobgood, Farmville.

Mrs. Thelma Page by Mr. and Mrs. Lester L. Duncan Jr., Wilson.

Mrs. Mildred Price by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama; May's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Dudley; Northeast Free Will Baptist Church, Mount Olive; Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; the Rev. Stephen A. Smith, Beulaville; and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smith, Mount Olive.

Jim B. Radford by Mrs. Daisy Pearl Walston, Tarboro.

(Continued on Page 15)



MINISTER SHARES CHRISTMAS CAROL

Recently when conducting a singing school at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, the Rev. Clyde Cox taught a Christmas song he had written. His students enjoyed the carol and "convinced" Mr. Cox that he should share it with others. It is with pleasure that we print "The Angels' Christmas Song" below.

(Mr. Cox is quite an accomplished musician. He pastors Wilson Free Will Baptist Church.)

The Angels' Christmas Song

by Clyde W. Cox

1. God's an-gels sang a song one night on ole Ju-de-a's hill.

They sang a song of peace on earth a mes-sage of good will.

Their voi-ces rang out in the night their mes-sage to pro-claim,

A- bout the birth of God's own Son, Christ Je-sus was His name.

(Copyright pending)

2. The shep-herds watch-ing o'er their flocks were filled with dreadful fright. They stood a-mazed and sore a-fraid to view this glor-ious sight. And then with haste to Beth-le-hem we see them make their way, 'Twas there they found the Ho-ly Child who in a man-ger lay.

3. The song the an-gels sang that night still rings a-cross the years. In-vi-ting all man-kind to share the peace that drowns our fears.

Come with your bur-dens and your cares on this glad Christ-mas Day, And let the song the an-gels sang bring peace and joy your way.

NEEDLE AND THREAD

submitted by Nancy Matthews

Are you one of those people who feels you're wasting valuable time when you are sitting around doing nothing? Everyone needs rest, and a great way to rest is with a needle and thread.

It is fascinating what can be done with colored string and a scrap of material. You feel like Rembrandt and Rockwell must have felt as they stroked colors onto their now famous canvases.

A special message cross-stitched for a friend will have loving value long after the needle pricks have healed in not too deft fingers. What better expression of compassion to one with health problems than a small framed piece of work bearing the message, "God Cares"? Framed works can also bear an effective witness of one's Christian faith.

Materials needed are a needle, embroidery floss, hoop, evenweave cloth, and a diagram. Diagrams may be purchased in specialty shops or you may design your own—as simple or elaborate as it pleases you.

Several gauge materials are available—"Aida," with 14 squares per inch is popular and easy to work with. The closer the material weave, the smaller the finished design will be.

Should you desire more information about counted cross-stitch or a diagram for a special message, please send your request to Mrs. Nancy Matthews, 709 Anson Street, Wilson, NC 27893.

Amazing Grace

NEWTON WALKER

1. A-maz-ing grace, how sweet the sound
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
 3. Thru man-y dan-gers, toils and snares
 4. When we've been there ten thousand years

That saved a wretch like me
 And grace my fears re-lieved
 I have al-ready come
 Bright shin-ing as the sun

I once was lost but now I'm found
 How pre-cious did that grace ap-pear
 'Tis grace has bro't me safe thus far
 We've no less days to sing God's praise

Was blind and now I see,
 The hour I first be-lieved,
 And grace will lead me home,
 Than when we first be-gan.

The design shown is of the song, "Amazing Grace." Mrs. Matthews suggests that light shades be used in stitching the music bars and that dark shades be used for the notes. The lyrics should be stitched in medium shades. The approximate size of the completed design is 9 1/2" x 15 1/2" if 14 squares per inch gauge material is used and 6" x 10" if the gauge is 22 squares per inch.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

For December 28

JESUS BEGINS HIS MINISTRY

Lesson Text: Matthew 3:13-17;
4:17-25

Memory Verse: Matthew 4:17

I. INTRODUCTION

The Gospel records are all but silent about the eighteen years in Jesus' life between the ages of twelve and thirty. Only Luke gives any information at all: "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:52).

The facts, while not related to us, are most certainly simple: Jesus grew up as a healthy lad among the dwellers in Nazareth, leading a normal life, avoiding all of the sins and pitfalls of His companions. Doubtless He worked beside Joseph in the carpenter shop, for every Jewish boy was required to learn a trade.

Now, when Jesus was about thirty years of age, He was ready to undertake His ministry. This He did in no ordinary way. He demonstrated His complete dedication to the will of God by walking from Nazareth to the lower Jordan to be baptized. He did not have a personal need for repentance or the remission of sins, for He was sinless. Rather, He was setting a perfect example for us, just as He did in all other aspects of His life.

The ministry of Jesus began, continued, and closed with acts that were totally unselfish—acts designed to show His absolute commitment to doing the Father's will.
—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. From last Sunday's lesson to our lesson today, there is a period of some thirty years. These are called "The Silent Years" in the life of our Lord because we know so little about them. The Gospel of Luke gives us one glimpse into this period at the time when Jesus was in the temple at twelve years of age. Other than this, the Bible is silent about our Lord's childhood.

B. James Stalker in his book **Life of Christ** has this to say about this "silent" period in the life of Jesus: "It was natural that, where God was silent and curiosity was strong, the fancy of man would attempt to fill up the blank. Accordingly, in the Early Church there appeared Apocryphal Gospels, pretending to give full details where the inspired Gospels were silent. They are particularly full of the sayings and doings of the childhood of Jesus . . . In short, they are compilations of worthless and often blasphemous fables."

C. We cannot go far wrong in assuming that Jesus grew up in a normal Jewish home; and, therefore, learned the things that any normal Jewish child of that time would learn. First, we will assume that He was sent to the local synagogue school where He was taught the basic tenets of Judaism. This included the **Shema** which is a passage of Scripture used in all the synagogue services and is found in Deuteronomy 6. It also included the **Hallel** which are words of praise to God found in Psalms 113—118. Other passages of Scripture with

which He must have become familiar with were the story of the creation in Genesis 1—6, and the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The "silent years" of Jesus' life—from a small child to twelve years of age, and from twelve to about thirty—were over; the time had come for Him to begin His ministry which would last something better than three years. The silent years, however, were not wasted, for during this time Jesus " . . . grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon him" (Luke 2:40). These were years of vital preparation for the work God had sent Him to do. It should be noted that here was a worker for God who spent thirty years preparing to do three years of ministry. Should not that be a lesson to us who are trying to cram so much training in so little time?

B. Before He began His ministry He was baptized of John the Baptist, not for the remission of sins—baptism could not have done that anyway—for He had no sin. He was baptized to show, among other things, that He was set apart for ministry. Our own baptism, following our conversion, implies a commitment on our part to share in Jesus' ministry, a ministry of winning souls to Christ.

C. Following His baptism and His temptation in the wilderness, Jesus set forth to proclaim that the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand. This was at the center of His messages, and this same proclamation should fill the central place in our message to the lost. The Kingdom is even at hand and all who will hear our message will also be able to share in Christ's ministry.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

The Rev. Bobby Ray Taylor

Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina, honors its pastor this week, the Rev. Bobby Ray Taylor. Your pastor can be the next one honored. The acting editor will be happy to assist you in making this a pleasant surprise for him.

A SINCERE MAN

submitted by Bernice H. Clark



The Rev. Bobby Ray Taylor

The members of Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina, are thankful and proud to honor their pastor, the Rev. Bobby Ray Taylor.

He was born on August 9, 1947, in Columbia, North Carolina. In October, 1972, he was licensed to preach the gospel, and on November 2, 1973, he was ordained into the ministry at Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church. He is presently a member of the Central Conference. Since July, 1978, Mr. Taylor has been the pastor of Gum Swamp church.

Mr. Taylor is truly a devout Christian and a sincere servant of God. He works with the youth groups on special projects and gives them Christian encouragement. Shut-ins and people who live outside the community enjoy the tape ministry with which Mr. Taylor so faithfully works. He has taught study courses and workshops to further educate the members of the church. He is indeed a shepherd to his flock, serving in so many ways.

Mr. Taylor faithfully supports all of the denominational enterprises and institutions. He has been the director of the Christian Cadet Conference at Cragmont Assembly for the past three years and served as chairman of the Pitt County Mount Olive College Dinner Committee in 1979 and 1980. He is a graduate of Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College. He has a B.A. degree in psychology.

Many improvements have been made at Gum Swamp church since Mr. Taylor has been pastor. The Sunday school department has been painted and carpeted; carpeting has also been installed in the parsonage. New church doors have been added, the pastor's office has been

completely furnished, and a program for the Boy Scouts has been started.

New members have been added to the church, and there have been many rededications since Mr. Taylor's pastorate at Gum Swamp. He is a Bible preaching minister and always delivers soul-stirring messages from the Word of God. He often lets it be known that he is always ready to assist his people. The congregation of the church is pleased to have Mr. Taylor as pastor.

Mr. Taylor is married to Audrey Brewington Taylor, who was born in Clinton, North Carolina. They have one child, a son, born May 10, 1979, in Greenville, North Carolina. His name is Stephen Ray Taylor.

Mrs. Taylor is a graduate of Mount Olive College and attended Atlantic Christian College. She faithfully assists her husband. She is now the choir director of the church, and often sings in duets and trios. Just recently, Mrs. Taylor taught a study course for the church's auxiliary.

May God greatly bless Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and their son, as they labor together for the betterment of the church and for the glory of God.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

Donald Walston announces that he is available for pulpit supply. He can be reached by calling 291-9854 or by writing PO Box 7231, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

NOTICE

Any clerk who has not submitted conference minutes for the 1981 YEARBOOK, is asked to send them to the Press as soon as possible.

NEWS & NOTES

Core Creek YFA to Present Christmas Program

The members of Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church YFA, Cove City, will stage a live nativity scene December 22, 23, Monday and Tuesday, from 7 to 9 p.m. Mrs. Joan Ipock, the youth chairman; and Mrs. Gail Wilson and Mrs. Jennifer Smith, the sponsors, invite everyone who will to come and share this wonderful event.

Hugo Pastor Presents College Scholarship Funds

On Sunday, November 30, the Rev. Tom Miller, pastor of Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, presented scholarship funds to five college students. Each student received an equal share of \$1,375. The money came from the church

budget and through individual gifts. This is but another way the church shows love and appreciation for young people. The recipients were Sonya McCoy, Penny Waters, Grayland Letchworth, Ivan Braswell, and Gail Letchworth.

Jerry Taylor to Present Program at King's Cross Roads

The Jerry Taylor family will present their new Christmas program on Saturday, December 20, at 7:30 p.m., at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church.

The church is located three miles off Highway 222 between Falkland and Fountain. The Rev. Bob Futrell is pastor of the church. The public is invited to attend.

THINK ABOUT IT

Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST**. We would like to suggest the Every-Family Plan, by which a 25-percent discount is given when churches send the paper to the home of every church member. Names and addresses are provided by the churches and churches are billed quarterly for subscriptions. As an added incentive, the Press offers a complimentary subscription to the pastor of any church who participates.

Seventeen churches and two missions are presently active in the Every-Family plan. They are: Aspen Grove, Fountain; Cape Colony Mission, Edenton; Core Creek, Cove City; Davis, Davis; Dawson's Grove near Scotland Neck; Free Spirit, Wilson; Free Union, Pinetown; Friendship, Farmville; Haymount Mission, Fayetteville; Hickory Grove, Bethel; Marlboro, Farmville; Oak Grove, Newton Grove; Reedy Branch, Winterville; Rock of Zion, Grantsboro; Rocky Mount, First, Rocky Mount; Saint Mary's, Kenly; Saint Paul, Newton Grove; Tarboro, First, Tarboro; and White Oak, Maysville.

Why not make your church a member of this distinctive group? Discuss the plan with your church membership.

For more information write or call the Subscription Department, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513; phone, 746-6128.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR

All of us at Home Missions and Church Extension wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are very thankful for your prayers and support.

Board Members:

Ray Wells, Chairman
David W. Hansley
Floyd Burkey
Francis Garner
Jack Penny

Administrative:

Taylor Hill, Executive Director
Dean Kennedy, Promotional Assistant
Treva Kennedy, Bookkeeper
Gail Canady, Assistant Secretary

"MISSIONARIES"

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CATALPA, Fayetteville
CAPE COLONY, Edenton
AGAPE, Raleigh
EASTOVER, Fayetteville
FAITH, Leland
BEAUFORT, Beaufort
ADVANCE, Winston-Salem

UNKNOWN FRIEND

(Half a World Away)

by Florence Wahl Otter

I did not know
you thought of me that day
while I stood begging on a dusty road.
I could not see your offering on its way
nor hear the selfless prayer that eased my load.

But I had need,
a searing deep inside
of hunger pang and fear that knew no bound,
that stripped away all semblances of pride
until hope withered on a fallow ground.

I could not guess
that half a world away
a stranger would make sacrifice for me
and while aware that I could not repay
would nonetheless endow me willingly.

Although you live
a different time and place,
a culture that I cannot comprehend,
within my heart an image I embrace
of what you are to me, an unknown friend.

Reprinted with permission from *World Vision magazine* (October, 1980).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 9)

Mrs. Lillie F. Radford by
Rains Cross Roads Free Will
Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Thomas L. Reynolds by the
Rev. and Mrs. Earl Glenn,
Goldsboro; Mrs. Lucy
Mooring, LaGrange; Gary F.
Barefoot, Mount Olive; Annie
G. Albertson, Mount Olive;
and Mrs. Lorelle Martin,
Mount Olive.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Rouse by
Mrs. Nellie G. Outlaw, Dudley.

Mrs. Bertha S. Smith by Mr.
and Mrs. Walter Rhodes,
Beulaville.

Mrs. Mignonette Smith by
Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount
Olive.

Mrs. Carol Aldridge Sutton
by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W.
Wilson Jr., LaGrange.

Leonard Taylor by Mr. and
Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr.,
Lucama.

Billy Thompson by Mr. and
Mrs. Randall Albertson, Mount
Olive.

Reginald W. Walston by
Mrs. Helen T. Beaman, Snow
Hill.

Mrs. Flora Lloyd Warren by
Mr. Eugene L. Gaskill,
Fayetteville.

Teddy McCoy Williams by
Fountain Brothers Store,
Chinquapin.

Mrs. Thullie B. Williford by
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt
Sr., Lucama.

In Honor of

Zachary Chris Singleton by
Mount Olive College Alumni
Association.

Carrie Ann Brown by Mount
Olive College Alumni
Association.

James Aaron Hinson by
Mount Olive College Alumni
Association.

Mary Jennings Lambert by
Mount Olive College Alumni
Association.

Mrs. Hilda B. Sasser by
Mrs. Ada B. Sasser, Selma.

CONTINUE TO PRAY

submitted by Vance Link

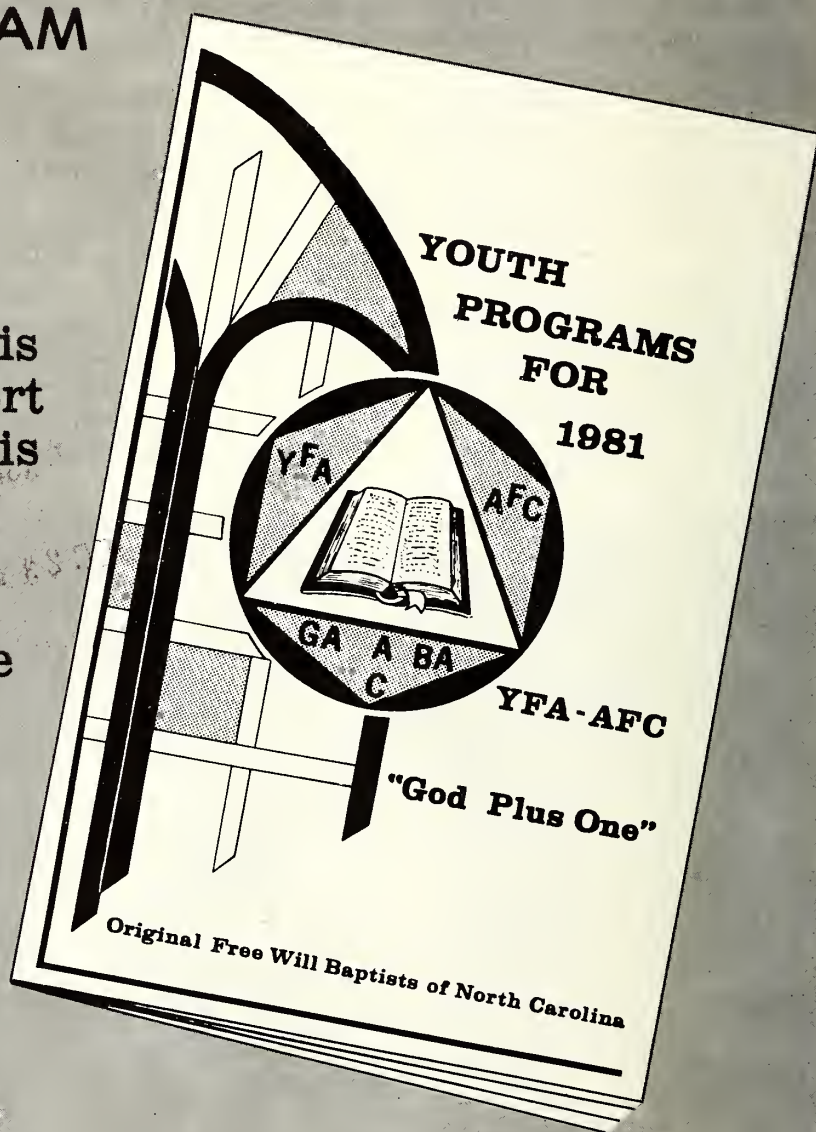
We would like to thank you for your prayers on the behalf of Antonia Lugo, Brother Isaias Lugo's wife. She is much better. She has cancer but they have determined that it is the slow-growing type. They have operated on her three times, and Dr. Yost, the attending physician, seems to think they have removed all the growth. She has been recovering very well, thanks to the prayers of God's people. She is to return to the hospital for a check-up and at that time they will determine if further surgery or treatment is necessary at the present. Please continue to pray for her and her family that God's perfect will might be done.



Many of you have been faithful in your prayers for Mrs. Lugo, the wife of one of our very active Mexican pastors. Many of you have even sent in offerings to help defray her medical expenses which have now reached over \$6,000. As of the first of November, gifts had amounted to \$2,500.

1981 YOUTH PROGRAM BOOK

The 1981 Youth Program Book is based on the theme, "God Plus One." This book is the joint effort of many people and is a *must* for all young people and their sponsors. Now available at all Bible Bookstores—Ayden, Kinston, New Bern, Smithfield, and Wilson.
(Price \$2)



Order from the Free Will Baptist Press, Box 158,
Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

The Free Will Baptist

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1980, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

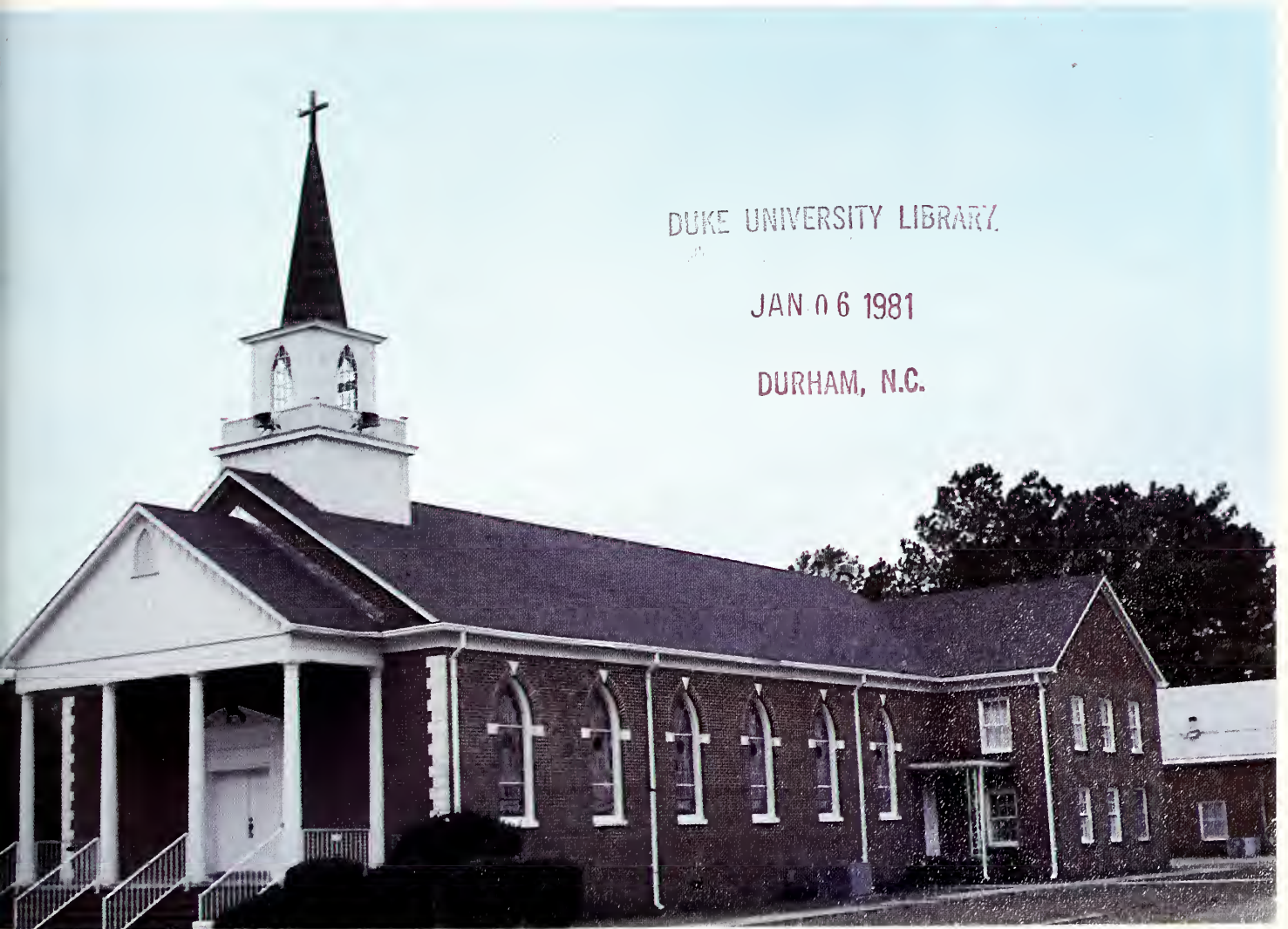
SANDY PLAIN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Beulaville, North Carolina
Ransom McAbee, Pastor

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CHURCH OF THE MONTH

“For Unto Us Is Born . . .”

When a three-year-old girl had many questions about Christmas, her mother patiently explained that Christmas is Jesus' birthday. “Then why don't we give Him presents?” she asked, quite bewildered. The mother explained that the tradition of giving gifts was but one way we show our love for others. Seemingly, that was the end of the matter.

But it was not.

After carefully placing a clumsily wrapped package under the tree on Christmas Eve, the young girl delighted in telling her parents that it was Jesus' birthday present. She was sure He would open the package during the night. The girl's parents waited until she was asleep. Since they didn't want their daughter to be disappointed, they opened the box only to find it empty.

The little girl was thrilled the next morning to find that the box had been opened. Confused by the whole matter, her mother asked, “What was in the box? What did you give Jesus?”

Smiling, the little girl responded, “Why, I gave Jesus a box of love!” How Christlike were the girl's actions.

Christmas is a time to celebrate the joy of brotherhood; it is a time of giving, sharing, living, caring. It is a time for being all Christ really wants us to be. Christmas is but the time when men follow God's pattern for living. “God made Christmas happen; friends make Christmas beautiful; giving makes Christmas joyous; love makes Christmas complete.”

Our emphasis during this holy season is usually on temporal things. We concentrate on the “self”; we talk of wanting things we can hold in our hands. How great it would be if we would but emphasize the angel's announcement: “Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.” But “what profit is it to us if Christ is born in Bethlehem and not in our hearts?” The work Christ does is inward; the peace He bestows is eternal; the life He gives is everlasting. Man can read Shakespeare and Milton, and his nature will not be changed. But he cannot embrace Jesus without a miracle being performed in his life.

How can we but reaffirm the happy news? **The Saviour is born!**

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 Janie Jones Sowers
 Acting Editor

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SANDY PLAIN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

1880-1980

Submitted by Mrs. Arthur Kennedy

“ . . . I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, . . . His work is honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth forever. He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered . . . ” (Psalm 111:1, 3, 4).

ONE hundred years ago on November 6, 1880, fourteen faithful Christians, led by the power of the Holy Spirit, met to organize a Free Will Baptist Church. The first meeting took place under an old oak tree, located between Pink Hill and Beulaville in a place known as the Bay Pond (which is now in the yard of the home of Wilbur Sumner); thus Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church was founded.

The purpose of the church, as was stated in the first minutes, “was to transact and do the business of the Lord, to be governed by the Word of God, the Constitution, the Discipline of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, and . . . organized to transact the business in faith, asking God to sit as their chief moderator in all their deliberations.”

The first pastor was the Rev. W. I. Smith who also aided in the organization of the church. The Rev. Parham Pucket was the assistant pastor, and James D. Kennedy was appointed the first deacon, with Jesse W. Kennedy the first clerk.

Those fourteen precious charter members were: James L. Kennedy, John D. Baker, Jesse W. Kennedy, Lucy J. Jones, Eady Sumner, Nancy Sumner, Racksey Bishop, Barbara A. Baker, Cealy A. Kennedy, Penie J. Kennedy, Nancy J. Kennedy, Eleanor J. Baker, Pricila F. Kennedy, and Elizabeth Kennedy.

The first church structure was located near the oak tree site. It was an unpainted frame building with doors on three sides and wooden shutters for windows. This building was used until 1904 when it was destroyed by fire. It was then decided to rebuild on a site near the old schoolhouse, approximately two miles west of the present site. An impressive and inspirational dedication service was held to dedicate this new building to God. The services began with the officers and several ministers assembling on the grounds some distance from the church. They marched double file for several steps, then knelt and prayed. This was repeated many times until they were inside this new house of God. Through the prayers and dedication of our faithful forefathers, Sandy Plain was built on a firm foundation and has stood the test of time for these past one hundred years.

Some of the fondest memories of many of the older members are the revival meetings, when the ministers would come and stay in the community from two to three weeks and proclaim the whole counsel of God. In the daytime, at eleven o'clock, the school teachers would close the classes and all the students would march to the house of God and join in singing the wonderful songs of Zion. Only God knows what impact those times had on the lives of those precious young souls.

(Turn the Page)

Since the beginning, the altar played a very important part in our worship; it was always open to those who wished to come and pray. Many souls were saved around this most sacred place, and many were drawn much closer to God.

Under the leadership of the men God sent to us, we ventured out in the thirties to build Sunday school rooms, and in the early forties we began to have vacation Bible school. Later, a vision of the need of reaching out beyond our own doorsteps came about with the idea for a bus. The bus was bought and put into action; as a result, it wasn't long until the Sunday school rooms were full and overflowing. Classes were held in two private homes near the church, and one in the attic of the church in the winter, and in the bus in the summer.

By 1904, the church was holding regular monthly meetings, quarterly meetings, and Sunday school. In June 1949, the church voted to go on half-time services. On March 5, 1952, the Rev. W. S. Burns was elected to become our first full-time pastor.

In September 1954, it was decided to begin construction of a parsonage for our pastor. One year later, on November 6, 1955, dedication services were conducted for the parsonage.

In June 1957, a definite decision was made to build a new building on land located on the Beulaville and Pink Hill highway. The land was donated by John Sumner, one of our most faithful deacons, who served for thirty-three years. This location is less than one mile from where those fourteen faithful members first met under that old oak tree. In September of 1957, pledges were made for \$8,600 for the building. One week later, pledges were made for the purchase of 27,000 bricks; but as great and wonderful as these are, by far the greatest were the souls that were touched and many were brought to Christ, as they were able to see God's people begin to move out on

faith. Because of the touch of God, many, even though not members, were moved to donate timber and labor for the building of God's house. By so doing, we were able to get the building ready for the roof before having to borrow money.

Five years after the first offering on April 17, 1960, the first service was held in the new church at sunrise on Easter Sunday morning. This first service was led by the late Rev. Wilbert Everton. Oh, what a wonderful service it was as we worshiped our risen Lord, the one who had made it all possible on that wonderful Easter morning!

In March 1963, it was decided to move the parsonage. A remodeling program was begun, a carport and brick veneer added.

Along about this time, we had three young men to answer the call to the ministry. Many were saved and born into the Kingdom of God.

Between the years of 1969 and 1973, many things were accomplished. The church was carpeted, a P.A. System installed, the upstairs completed, and a Day-care Center opened. Two buses were bought and put into operation, and a soul-winning visitation program begun. A new educational building was started and completed. The final payment was made in February, 1978. In May 1974, the parsonage was carpeted and in June 1975, a van was purchased for the use of the members. In September 1975, a new sign was built in front of the church. In May 1976, a new piano was purchased, and a storage building was built behind the parsonage. In September 1980, draperies were purchased for the baptistry and a tennis court is now under construction.

Though there were many pastors, each one was led to Sandy Plain by our Heavenly Father for a specific purpose. Through their leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, our Lord has blessed this church greatly. The membership of our church has grown from those fourteen charter members to three hundred and seventy-nine members today.

COMING EVENTS

December—Entire Month
Designated by the
State Convention as
Foreign Missions
Month

December 25, 26—Free
Will Baptist Press
Foundation, Inc. and
its Bible Bookstores
Closed—Ayden, New
Bern, Smithfield,
Wilson, and Kinston

December 25—Christmas
Day

January—Entire Month
Designated by the
North Carolina State
Convention as Re-
tirement Homes Month

January 1—Free Will
Baptist Press Founda-
tion, Inc., and its
Bible Bookstores
Closed—Ayden, New
Bern, Smithfield,
Wilson, and Kinston

January 17—Central
District Youth Fel-

lowship, 7:30 p.m.,
Rose of Sharon Free
Will Baptist Church,
Bear Grass

NO "BAPTIST"

In accordance with our policy of printing only forty-eight issues of "The Free Will Baptist" each year, there will not be an issue on December 31. The next "Baptist" printed will be the issue of January 7, 1981.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Unto Us a Son Is Given

by W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

CHRISTMAS! There is no other time of the year like it. It is the one season that brings into a matrix the entire scope of all that is dear and meaningful in human life.

Family relationships are never more tender and there is no time when we had rather be at home than at Christmas.

It is the time of the year when our relationship with friends beyond the circle of our families rises to new heights of meaning. If there is ever a time when we are able to overcome the barriers that separate us from even our enemies, it is at Christmas. This season has the capacity to bring the best out of the worst of us.

In spite of our self-centeredness which drives us to spend a major portion of our lives gathering for ourselves, Christmas vindicates the teaching of Jesus when He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." When I was a child, I looked forward to Christmas because of what I hoped to receive, but when I became a parent, I learned that the true joy of Christmas is not in what my children do for me but in what I can do for them. What parent had rather receive than to give to his children?

The celebration of the birth of Jesus has inspired the noblest and most creative artistic expressions of the human spirit. The music of no other season can compare with the carols, cantatas, hymns and oratorios that are performed in churches and in music halls around the world. When George F. Handel had completed the "Hallelujah Chorus" to the **Messiah**, he exclaimed, "I did think I did see all Heaven before, and the great God himself," and after



the last monumental Amen was finished, he confided to a friend, "I think God has visited me."

Events identified with the birth of Jesus have also inspired the world's greatest artists to paint their best known and most loved works. The frescoes in the great cathedrals of Europe and the stained-glass windows of simple rural churches all bear witness to imprint the nativity of our Lord.

God in Action

Beyond all the commercialism, social events, gaiety, parties, and endless travel in which we have become entrapped, the historical and central meaning of Christmas is not what man does but what God does. Christmas is the story of God in action: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Christmas begins with God. The birth of Jesus is the revelation of how the great and eternal God who created this vast universe has entered into human life. God is not only holy and omnipotent, He is our Father who has given to us His Son, and no effort to "desex" the Bible can change this truth.

(Continued on Page 15)



FAMILY DEVOTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 2:1-10

A UNIVERSAL POSSESSION

Said Mohandas K. Gandhi, "I believe that Jesus belongs not solely to Christianity, but to the entire world!"

Gandhi was eminently right! Jesus' love is all-pervasive. His gospel is race-inclusive. His vicarious death was for all mankind! Jesus "by the grace of God (tasted) death for every man" (Hebrews 2:9b).

Said John Wesley, "Take back my interest in thy blood unless it flowed for the whole human race!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7).

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—Romans 9:1-5

SOLICITIOUS CONCERN

A critically ill girl was visited by her pastor. She said, "Soon I will go to Heaven to be forever with Jesus."

Then a look of sadness pervaded her face, as she added, "My dad doesn't know Jesus as His Saviour. At my funeral, I want you to talk right to his heart and do your best to make him know that we will be separated forever if he doesn't ask Jesus to come into his life and change it!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

O that more Christians were solicitously and sleeplessly concerned for perishing ones

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—Acts 16:31

ONE THING LACKING

Dr. George Sweeting, president of the Moody Bible Institute, recalled, "A woman once said to me, 'I have been a Christian for twenty years. I am not aware, however, of having led anyone to the Lord. I have memorized Scripture verses and know how to meet the objections of the unconverted. But I have brought no one to a decision for Christ. Why hasn't God been using me?'"

"Wanting to help the distressed woman, I said, 'Have you ever wept over unsaved ones, and yearningly prayed for them? You have not failed for lack of knowledge but for lack of love. When one has genuine love for people, she will weep over them and yearn for their conversion.'

"Going to her room, she began to pray earnestly for her unsaved sister. Then she went to her. She enfolded her in her arms and weepingly said, 'More than anything in this world, I want you to become a Christian!'"

"That night in church the sister responded to the plea of God's servant to publicly confess Christ and ask for His mercy and forgiveness."

PRAYER THOUGHT

O that more of us were weeping with Christ over lost souls!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

Scripture Reading—John 14:27

GIFTS I ASK OF THEE

These are the gifts I ask of Thee, Spirit Divine:
Strength for the daily task,
courage to face the road,
Good cheer to help me bear
the traveler's load,
And, for the hours of rest that
come between,
An inward joy of all things
heard and seen.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Let us remember the words of our Lord who said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

Scripture Reading—Zechariah 4:1-10

WHEN GOD IS IN IT

If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.

The Bible asks an ever-pertinent question, "For who hath despised the day of small things?" (Zechariah 4:10a).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Ever remember, "When God is in it, little is much!"

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 6:1-10

PARENTS MAY

As Parents may in deepest love
Refuse their child's request,
Our loving Father may say
no;
He, too, knows what is best.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

PRAYER THOUGHT

"Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss . . ." (James 4:3).

it be face to face and heart to heart, will make the whole life different."

Observing the boldness of Peter and John in the long ago, some "marvelled; and . . . took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus" (Acts 4:13).

we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard . . ." (Acts 4:19, 20).

Selected from *Knight's Up-to-the-Minute Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Editor's Note: Because of our policy of printing only 48 issues each year, there will be no magazine for next week, and thus no Family Devotion. Please use other inspirational readings to continue your family devotions.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

Scripture Reading—Acts 4:5-13

HEART TO HEART

Said Henry Drummond, "Ten minutes spent in Christ's presence, even two minutes if

PRAYER THOUGHT

". . . Peter and John answered and said unto them . . .

NEWS & NOTES

Court of Honor Held at Marlboro Church



Scouts present at the Court of Honor—(First row) Greg Walston, Mark Joyner, Jamie Buck; (Second row) Scott Beamon, Robin Brady, Johnnie Mack Smith, Romus Morris; (Third row) Dana Suggs, Ron Cooper, Mike Kennedy, Scoutmaster Sam Summerlin.

Marlboro Boy Scout Troop 388 held a Court of Honor Sunday, December 7, at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church. Scoutmaster Sam Summerlin presented badges and skill awards earned by the scouts. Every member of the troop received recognition as every boy had made advancements in the scouting program. The scoutmaster also recognized the Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor of Marlboro church, for organizing the

troop. He presented Mr. Sowers an organizer's pin and a certificate.

Ron Cooper, Romus Morris, and Dana Suggs received their second-class badges. Tenderfoot badges were presented to Robin Brady, Scott Beamon, Jamie Buck, Mark Joyner, Mike Kennedy, Ken Kirkland, Ron Morgan, Johnnie Mack Smith, Ed Tyson, and Greg Walston. Since the troop is less than one year old, the boys have done remarkably well in

the scouting advancement program.

The boys had earned merit badges in 11 different areas and skill awards in 7 fields. The following boys were presented skill awards and merit badges: Ron Cooper—5 skill awards, 7 merit badges; Dana Suggs—4 skill awards, 7 merit badges; Romus Morris—3 skill awards, 7 merit badges; Scott Beamon—2 skill awards, 2 merit badges; Greg Walston, Mark Joyner, Robin Brady, and Ron Morgan—1 skill award, 2 merit badges; Jamie Buck, Mike Kennedy, Ken Kirkland, Johnnie Mack Smith, and Ed Tyson—2 merit badges.

Sandy Plain Church to Host Youth Meeting

Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church near Beulaville will host a youth meeting and New Year's Eve watch night service on December 31. The Eastern Conference Third District Youth Rally will begin at 8 p. m., followed by an extended service featuring the Limestone Singers of Potters Hill and the Four in Christ of New Bern.

The pastor, the Rev. Ransom McAbee, and the congregation, invite everyone to come and help pray the New Year in and the Old Year out.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

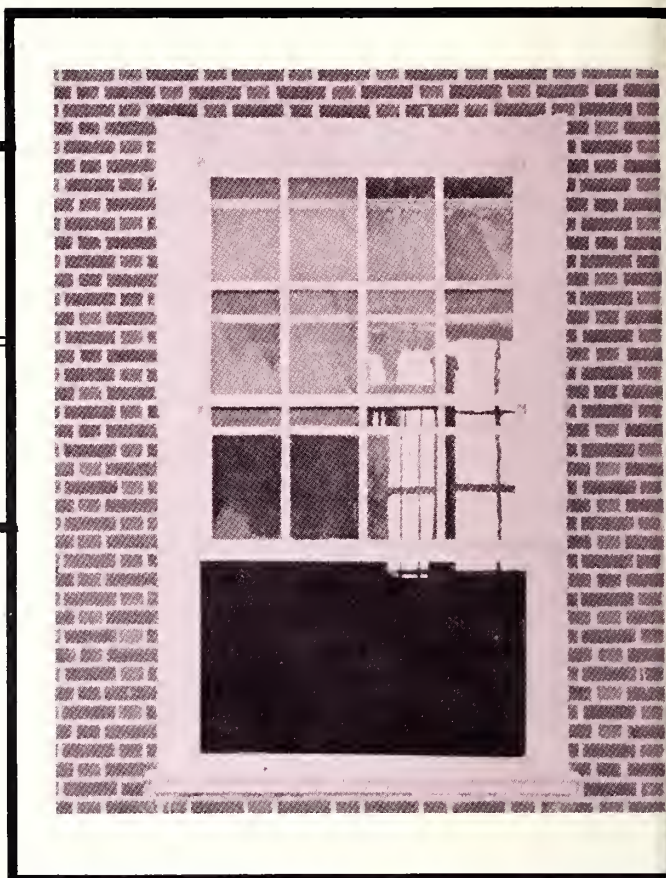
No Snow for Christmas

by Nancy Frost Rouse

THE dusk of another Christmas Eve was settling low over the hills beyond Lavinia Waters' still and silent opened curtains. She could see the pink tint of a beautiful day lingering after sunset and almost feel the chill of night descending. There were not many things left for her to enjoy, but the window was her prize and her escape. She could watch as the winds tumbled roughly through the pines, and in spring the birds were her most comforting and faithful companions. Her friend, Lula Bridgers, said every day she would gladly give a year of life to have Lavinia's scenic window.

Perhaps it was the sunshine and the life-giving force of the rain that had kept Lavinia young enough to feel as "chipper" as she usually did. Her window was her life, and sometimes she felt it would be her passageway to Heaven. As she watched night creep slowly over the horizon, her spirits drooped and the shadows which crept stealthily into her room penetrated the hope she had held so tightly in her mind. There would be no snow this Christmas—no delicate patterns to decorate her beloved pines or the housetops in the distance—no snow-covered veil through which to listen for the peel of bells on Christmas morning. No snow was almost no Christmas for Lavinia.

She rested her head against two huge white pillows; clasped her frail, knotted hands; and sighed as she glanced through her open door to the well-lighted ceramic walls of the corridor and the dimness of the room beyond. Bessie Peters lay asleep in her bed across the hall, living again in childhood, and probably now unaware of the small Christmas tree with its blinking lights and chirping birds singing beside her high-railed bed. The tree had been a delight for Lavinia since the nurses had set it up after breakfast—a gift from Bessie's daughter who lived too far to visit—but now the



cheep-cheep of the tiny plastic birds was becoming increasingly irritating.

There was nothing merry about the nursing home filled with people wearing out their lives in slowly boiling frustration and hours of pain. There were men and women who no longer walked, or spoke, or even heard the chirping birds. There was a blind man down the hall, and Bessie, who could not even move her arthritic hands when left alone. People waiting, as Christmas grew near, waiting only for death and its prayer of relief.

This Christmas was worst of all, for no one was allowed to visit. There would be no caroling children from the church, no small nativity play in the lounge, not even the minister would come to pray because of the threat of influenza.

"I'd rather die than live like this," Lavinia muttered sadly into the dimness of her small, private room. "At least I have the sensibility left to know I had rather die," she added thoughtfully.

The outside lights wavered on as she spoke, and she gazed silently out into the darkness which played around the edges of the lawn. "No snow," Lavinia spoke quietly with an air of surrender new to her. "Not even snow for Christmas."

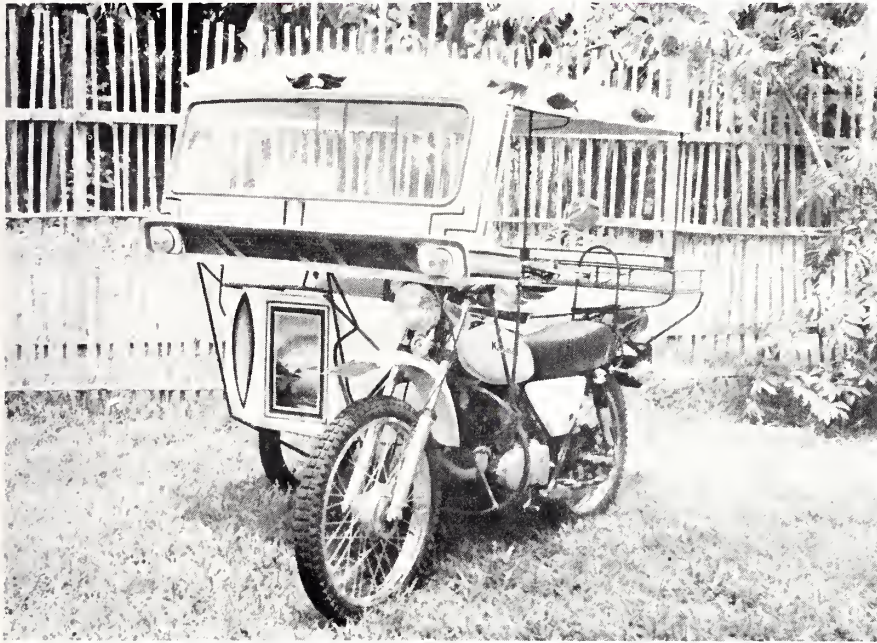
But even as her hope had dwindled, something was happening beyond the window in the old parking lot. A throng of children

(Continued on Page 15)

Foreign Missions

THE NEW TRICYCLE IS JUST WHAT WE NEED

by Fred Baker



All the world keeps its ears tuned to the price and availability of gasoline and oil products. We are no different here in the Philippines. Price increases in gasoline seem to be more regular than our birthdays. Trying to cope with increasing costs and still be able to get the job done is the problem of the day.

We have taken steps here in the Philippines, with the agreement of the Foreign Mission Board, to help in a small way with this problem. The 1973 model Ford Escort owned by the Mission has been sold. It has given many years of very good service. It was replaced by a new Kawasaki KE 125cc motorcycle with a sidecar (making it really a tricycle when the sidecar is attached.) With the sidecar it still gets about double the miles per gallon as the Ford Escort. The sidecar is easily removed for using the motorcycle by itself. It takes about five minutes to remove or to put on the sidecar. We have really enjoyed the use and service of the tricycle and especially the fuel economy.

TWO PRAYER REQUESTS

ONE: Pray for Mrs. Isaias Lugo (pictured here), wife of one of our fine Mexican pastors. She is suffering with cancer. Already their hospital bill exceeds \$6,000, with more to be added.



TWO: Pray that God will call a couple to the mission field in the Philippines, and pray that they will answer that call. The need is great!

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS?

Let's get him a bike or a shiny sled and a Santa Claus cap to wear on his head. Maybe a toy pistol with exploding caps or a Mickory Mouse pillow for taking his naps.

Said the little boy humbly, with fear in his voice, I need other things if you give me a choice. My grandmother died on the way here, and my poor sister's body is lying right near. My mother is here, but she's barely alive. She has run out of milk to keep Baby alive.

So, if you don't mind, some rice I will take and then with my mother a small meal we'll make. Some shoes would be nice, but I know that's a lot. This T-shirt and shorts are all that I've got.

You know I'm not lazy. I've worked in the field to grow the brown rice, but the land did not yield, for the soldiers they came and trampled it down to starve us all off and take over our town.

A small chance to live is all that I need. There's not much you need give, just some tools, food and seed. I know you'll have bills for the gifts that you buy, but could you spare something for Mother and I?

If you do, then you'll know, when comes Christmas Day, that you've helped others out when you kneel down to pray. And you'll know that you did what you'd want me to do if the person there starving was not me, but you.

Mrs. Karen L. Iliff
Bridgeport, Michigan

Reprinted with permission from World Vision magazine (November, 1980).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

FINANCIAL AID FOR STUDENTS



Becky Prescott enjoys her work in the biology lab under the direction of Mrs. Lorelle Martin.

Becky Prescott, Trudy Corbett, Tim Bass, Donna Lambert, and Melody Kennedy are Mount Olive College students who come from varied backgrounds and have lived in different sections of the state or nation. Representative of the freshman and sophomore classes they are pursuing different career goals; however, they all have several things in common.

First, they are all good students. They maintain high

grade-point averages at the College. All have Free Will Baptist backgrounds, and they have demonstrated a willingness to work and study at the College. Finally, all of them are participating in several financial aid programs. Such programs are helping these students and many others like them to realize their educational goals.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

For example, a freshman from Belhaven, Tim Bass, said

that without the financial support that he is receiving this year, Mount Olive would have been an impossibility. However, Tim said that of all the aid he receives, he is proudest of the academic scholarship which he received from the College. Having graduated in the top 10 percent of his high school class, with an "A" average, Tim was qualified for a Presidential Scholarship giving him up to \$500 for the year to be used toward his educational expenses. "The scholarship money really helped out a lot, and I feel good about it because I earned it," Tim stated. Moreover, Tim and other students on academic scholarships must maintain a standard of excellence in the classroom.

In addition to the Presidential Scholarship, Tim participates in the Church-College Matching Grants Program through Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Belhaven; the North Carolina Legislative Tuition Grant for residents of North Carolina attending private colleges; and the Work Study program.

WORK STUDY

Becky Prescott, a freshman from Grantsboro in Pamlico County and a member of Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church, talks with great satisfaction of her experiences in the Work Study program at Mount Olive College. Becky works under Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Chairman of the Natural and Physical Science Division, several hours each week. Qualified students such as Becky work from five to 15 hours per week with payment going directly to the student. Being a biology major, Becky says that the work she does for Mrs. Martin in preparing for and cleaning up after labs is very interesting and educational. "I really enjoy the work, because I do so

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

many different things," she said.

Sophomore Trudy Corbett of Walstonburg also speaks highly of working and attending school. Through the College, Trudy has participated in the PACE program for the past two summers, once working in the Town Hall of Snow Hill and once working in the Greene County ASCS office. In both positions Trudy was instructed on the use of computer equipment. This she found to be most enjoyable as she is working toward an accounting degree and has an interest in the computer field. "I learned much more working through the PACE program than I would have working in a department or grocery store," she said.

Trudy further stated that she enjoyed the opportunity to work during the summer so that she is able to have more free time during the school year for activities. Trudy is president of Phi Theta Kappa, a national honors fraternity; secretary of Henderson Science Club; a member of Phi Beta Lambda, an organization for business majors; and a member of the Academic Affairs Committee.

Trudy also is a Presidential Scholar and a member of Howell Swamp Free Will Baptist Church in Walstonburg.

CHURCH MATCHING

The many combinations of financial aid sources available, emphasized sophomore Donna Lambert, are very important. She noted that the support from her church, Riverside Free Will Baptist Church near Princeton, along with aid from the College and the North Carolina Legislative Tuition Grant, made the choice of Mount Olive College possible for her. "I never would have been able

to go to a church-related college without the financial support that I've received," she stated.

Under the Church-College Matching Grant Program, the College provides a matching grant of up to \$250 per academic year to each Free Will Baptist student who is granted similar aid by his home church or church organization.

OTHER AID

Melody Kennedy, a freshman from Pink Hill, and a Free Will Baptist, also was glad to be able to choose a Christian college. She especially noted appreciation for loans and grants, such as the North Carolina Legislative Tuition Grant (NCLTG) for North Carolina residents attending private colleges and universities, which helps to make it possible for students

to have a choice between public and private institutions. The NCLTG this year provided \$550 to each North Carolina student at Mount Olive College.

In addition to loans and grants, Melody also receives support in the form of a Presidential Scholarship and Church Matching Grant. She is a member of Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church.

STRENGTHENS COLLEGE

While aiding students and allowing them a choice, the financial aid program also strengthens Mount Olive College. In one instance, the program attracts academically talented students through Presidential, Faculty, and Campus Scholarships. Further, it encourages students with special talents to continue their education.

COLLEGE DINNERS SHOW INCREASE

The 1980 series of county dinners to raise money for Mount Olive College resulted in \$143,817, an increase of \$9,321 over the previous year. The dinners, which were begun in 1963, have raised \$1,328,842 over the eighteen year period.

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss coordinated the seventeen dinners this year. The chart below describes the attendance figures, gift totals, and chairmen.

"The success of our 1980 dinners is due to the generosity of the many Free Will Baptist people who have shared their time and resources, and we are grateful to each and every one," stated President W. Burkette Raper.

County	Attendance	Gifts	Chairman
Beaufort	209	\$7,038.27	Steve Hargrove
Carteret	275	7,295.00	David Ward
Craven	262	8,156.00	Miss Marice DeBruhl
Duplin	200	8,832.25	Chris Singleton
Edgecombe-Halifax	110	4,608.00	Rufus Harrell
Greene	184	8,698.62	George Harrison
Johnston-Wake	590	21,340.64	Leonard B. Woodall Jr.
Jones	72	2,619.00	Larry J. Crumpler (Joey)
Lenoir	247	5,878.00	Stanley Jenkins
Nash	121	3,154.50	Lester Duncan
Onslow-New Hanover	158	1,447.00	O. B. Taylor
Pamlico	152	9,024.18	M. N. Caroon
Pitt	290	13,091.00	Bobby Taylor
Sampson, Harnett, Cumberland	195	7,904.10	C. Felton Godwin
Washington, Tyrrell, Martin,			
Pasquotank, Chowan	230	4,665.00	David Cahoon
Wayne	329	16,748.45	Miss Louise Edgerton
Wilson	243	13,317.25	James B. Hunt Sr.
Total (17 Counties)	3,867	\$143,817.26	

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

FOR JANUARY 4

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Lesson Text: Matthew 5:1-16

Memory Verse: Matthew 5:16

I. INTRODUCTION

We get the idea from Jesus' genealogy in Matthew 1 and from the rest of the book that Jesus is not going to be squeezed into anybody's mold—except God's.

As a Jewish man, Jesus' lineage can be traced back to Abraham (Matthew 1:1); but as the Lord of all men, He wasn't embarrassed to admit kinship with people who had failed miserably—Tamar (1:3), Rahab (1:5), and Bathsheba (1:6). Tamar and Judah committed incest, Rahab was a prostitute, Bathsheba and David committed adultery. We should not be surprised, then, to hear Jesus tell His disciples to be merciful.

Jesus' lineage included many Jews, but He was not ashamed to profess kinship to a Moabite (Ruth 1:5). So we should not be shocked to hear Him call His followers to the task of being peacemakers.

Although He is king of the world, Jesus did not come demanding the luxuries of a king. When we read of His humble birth, we should not be surprised to hear Him tell His disciples to be humble (poor in spirit).

Although He came to be the Saviour of man (1:21), He soon had to be saved from the men He came to save (2:13-20). We should not wonder, then, that Jesus talked about persecution.

He came to serve the world, but He would not let the world dictate how He was to live. The devil tried to do so in the wilderness temptations (4:1-11), but struck out all three times. When Jesus refused to go the devil's way but chose instead to be filled with the Word of God (4:4), He was living out what He soon asked others to do—hungering and thirsting for righteousness. When He would not compromise—not even for all the world (4:8-10)—He demonstrated what it meant to be "pure in heart."

We can see that by the time we read the Beatitudes of Matthew 5, Jesus already had shown in His life the characteristics of a disciple of God. Jesus came to make God known. He came to demonstrate in His own life the characteristics of God (John 14:9).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In our last lesson we saw Jesus calling some of the Apostles, and in this lesson we begin a new unit of study, "The Meaning of Discipleship." This unit is composed of three lessons, and covers Matthew 5 through 12.

B. Matthew 4 closes with the spread of Jesus' fame throughout all Syria. Then Matthew 5 opens with the first of many great sermons preached by Jesus when He was on earth. This one is called the "Sermon on the Mount." Matthew Henry in his commentary reminds us that when the Law was given, the Lord came down upon the mountain; now the Lord goes

up into a mountain to give this great sermon that inaugurated His ministry of preaching and gives the basic principles of the Kingdom of Heaven. In fact, this sermon has been called "The Constitution of the Kingdom of God."

C. In our lesson today, we cover the first 16 verses of Matthew 5. Thus we are able to get the setting for the sermon, the basic premise upon which the sermon is built, and some application of the sermon.

—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. "The Meaning of Discipleship" is the emphasis of Unit II, involving the next four lessons, covering Matthew 5-12. In the previous unit we studied the beginning of Jesus' earthly ministry, including the calling of His twelve apostles, some of whom were named in the Bible text. It follows that our Lord would stress the meaning of discipleship to His newly recruited companions.

B. Discipleship is more than just going out into the world doing great things for God. Before the going there must be something else. We may be doing Jesus an injustice in stressing the fact that He so frequently said "Go . . .!" His first word to His disciples was not "Go" but "Come." He first called them unto Himself that they might learn the meaning of discipleship; after that they would have plenty of time to "go" into all the places He had designated for them.

C. The apostles' discipleship was costly. James the brother of Jesus and James the son of Zebedee were killed by mobs in Jerusalem; Matthew was slain by a sword in Ethiopia; Philip was hanged in Phrygia; Bartholomew was beaten to death in Armenia. Andrew was crucified in Achaia; Thomas was run through with a lance in East India; Thaddeus was shot to death with arrows; a

cross was the instrument of death for Simon the Zealot, and another in Rome for Peter. Matthias was beheaded; only John escaped a martyr's grave.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F.W.B.)

FOR JANUARY 11

BUILD ON THE SOLID ROCK

Lesson Text: Matthew 7:13-29

Memory Verse: Matthew 7:20

I. INTRODUCTION

In Matthew 5-7 Jesus was teaching His followers about the inner characteristics and the outer conduct expected of a disciple. The word **disciple** (5:1) does not mean merely a listener; it means to make learners. In this passage Jesus was in the process of developing some people to become His disciples. He was putting truth into their minds; He was directing them to choose the right way.

But it was not enough for them to have perfect attendance at all His lectures or simply to have an emotional reaction to His teaching. Jesus was also motivating them to live out in their lives what He was putting into their minds.

He did not stop with informing and motivating them; He led them to the point of total commitment. He wanted them to listen, to learn, and then to follow. He made it clear that they had to make a decision to live out through their conduct the content He had put into their minds. He called them to decide to walk in a different direction by going through a different gate and staying on a different way that is built on a different foundation.

The same decision faces us. We cannot just listen to His words and expect to be considered His disciples.
—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Bible holds out two kinds of wisdom: the wisdom of this world, and the wisdom of God. Men may have wisdom of this world from learning and experience, but the wisdom that is from God must come from God. Psalm 1 gives us an example of this. In Verses 1-3 we have laid out the way of the "blessed man." Then in Verses 4-6 we have laid out the way of the "ungodly." A great illustration of what the wisdom that is from God can do for us is found in Proverbs 2. Here we are told how wisdom protects our pathway, how it directs our pathway, and how it perfects our pathway.

B. As has been pointed out above, the wisdom of this world may be learned or acquired from books, personal experience, and personal observation; however, the wisdom of God cannot be acquired in these ways. It comes from God: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him" (James 1:5). This is not to say that there is no good in earthly wisdom. There is much good in it. The best wisdom, of course, is that which is trained in the ways the world trains; then the wisdom of God should govern the use of that which we have gained from the world.

C. In this lesson today, Jesus closes His great Sermon on the Mount by some illustrations that point out to us the need to follow the wisdom of the Lord. In fact, these four great illustrations that He gives in our printed Scripture for today give us the four essentials for discipleship. Let us not be mistaken; these things cannot give or make one a disciple until he is first born from above. The new birth makes one a Christian, and living in the way that glorifies God

makes one a disciple. True discipleship is more than just being Christian. It is following the wisdom of God in our daily living.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Christian discipleship must have its foundation in the purposes God has for our lives. A discipleship—so called—which is built upon our own desires and purposes cannot meet the test of divine scrutiny. God sees it for what it is, a man-made effort to substitute a second best, or perhaps a third or fourth best for the perfect will of God in us. Our discipleship, if it is approved of God, must have its foundation in the perfect leadership of the Holy Spirit and upon the Solid Rock, which is Christ Jesus.

B. Discipleship involves both hearing and doing the Word of God. James declared that our faith without works is not faith at all. The same may be said of works which are not based on faith. A preacher said in a recent meeting, "What we need today in the church is more doers of the Word." He might have added that what we really need is more hearers of the Word, for when one hears the Word he will most likely do it. Too many of our "works" in the church have no foundation in faith. The fact is, many Christians backslide doing good things in the church; they don't take enough time—or their "works" consume too much of it—to grow in the Word of God. Christians have a responsibility to both hear and act upon the Word of God.

C. The development of our lesson today will be interesting; we have a series of twos in our lesson outline: the two ways, the two tests, the two professions, and the two foundations.

—The Advanced Quarterly
(F. W. B.)

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JANUARY RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH

Board of Superannuation Proposed Insurance Group

The Superannuation Board mailed letters and information on November 10, 1980, concerning the formation of a Blue Cross and Blue Shield insurance group. A response was required from all Original Free Will Baptist ministers by

December 15, 1980. However, the Board did not qualify for this insurance group because all the ministers did not respond; less than 38 percent of our ministers replied making it impossible to even determine eligibility. The Board recommends to those who were interested in this group to seek coverage from other sources.

NOTICE

Harold Mac Wallace and Larry Melton have voluntarily surrendered their credentials to the Western Conference Board of Ordination and are no longer affiliated with the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The licenses to preach of the following men have been terminated: Brother R. E. Mitchell and Brother John Pittman III.

All persons having business or questions with the council should direct correspondence to Ray Wells, clerk of the council. His address is Route 1, Box 67-A, Sims, North Carolina. The new chairman of the council is the Rev. DeWayne Eakes of Lucama, North Carolina.

DeWayne Eakes, Chairman
Ray Wells, Clerk

Youth Build Float

If you attended a Christmas parade in the Ayden area, you probably saw a float designed by some of the youth from Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Ayden. The young people worked hard and completed it in time to enter it in several parades. The theme of the float was "Born to Die for Our Sins." A manger scene was located at the front of the float and a large cross was positioned at the rear. Many of the youth from Ormondsville church rode on the float and sang traditional carols as it was en route.

The Rev. Jack Mayo is pastor of Ormondsville church.



Unto Us a Son Is Given

(Continued from Page 5)

One of the dangers Christians face is that in the modern celebration of Christmas we may overlook the dynamic and extraordinary significance of the birth of Jesus. His advent into the world was no common event and it did not just take place in the flow of history. It was the making of history.

The significance of the Virgin Birth is that Jesus was not simply the son of man but He was also the Son of God. The message to Mary, the one whom God had chosen to be the human mother of Jesus, was, "The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35).

When God goes into action, He does not do so in a cosmetic manner. God does not tinker; He goes to the root of things and His actions make a difference, a profound change. In the gift of His Son, God made the difference between life and death for the human race, "they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined" (Isaiah 9:2). Through Jesus Christ God wants to rescue the human race from the darkness of death and bring us into the light of immortality.

"Unto us a son is given." And what a Son He is! God's only begotten, conceived by the

Holy Spirit and born of a virgin! What greater action could God have taken? What greater love could He have shown?

Jesus came as the "Lamb of God" to take away the sins of the world. "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows . . . he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. 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" (Isaiah 53:4-6).

He saved us from annihilation, from perishing, from death—and He gave us life—eternal life. What more could He have given?

Our response to God cannot be a surface matter—polite acknowledgement, but rather His action demands a radical, transforming response. Believe in Him—faith—the full and absolute commitment of ourselves to Him. This response requires that God be first and all in our lives. God is not to be one of many loyalties but the One great loyalty of our lives. He is everything, and apart from Him nothing else is really important.

"Unto us a Son is given." That Son is God's Christmas gift to each of us—the gift of abundant and eternal life. It is the gift that imparts meaning to all other gifts. It is the gift that transcends time. It is the true gift of Christmas.

No Snow for Christmas

(Continued from Page 8)

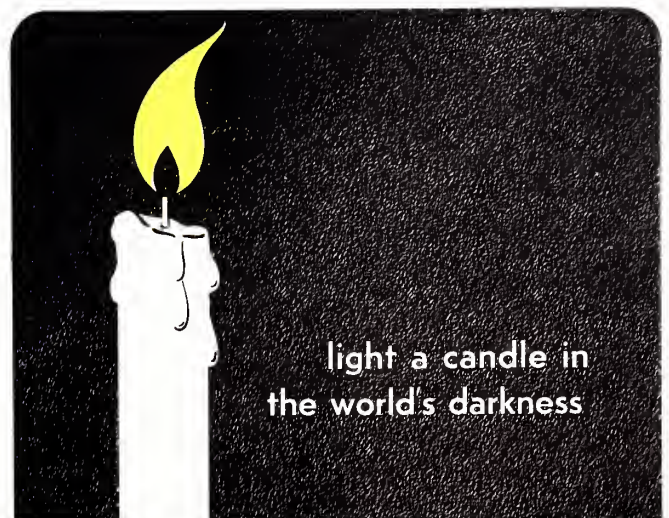
gathered in old-fashioned garb, and a choir of angels waited with tinsel wings. And as Lavinia gazed heartlessly out into the clear and lonely night, a lovely thing happened.

Four small shepherds saw a shining star through the cloudless sky as they walked over the lawn with two dogs draped white into sheep. Three young wise men followed on dappled ponies, their tinsel crowns bright in the spotlight from above. Then on the lawn came a small cardboard manger with the feet of two little boys barely visible beneath it. Mary and Joseph walked in from the darkness and knelt beside the wooden manger where Mary laid the child she carried in her arms. And suddenly, from the intercom, came a choir of voices ringing through the halls with peace and love for all who lay within.


The warm, quiet voice of the minister followed with a prayer of thanks for the life which God had given this child almost two thousand years ago in a place as desolate as a

nursing home and under a sky as clear as the one outside. And to all the weary faces which watched from Lavinia's and other overlooking windows, there came peace and joy to be counted among men.

"Christmas," Lavinia sighed with tears in her eyes, "is a miracle to behold." And quietly she murmured as she lay back in bed, "There was no snow in Bethlehem."



light a candle in
the world's darkness



"Christmas is as peaceful as Heaven, as joyful as sunrise, as beautiful as snowfall . . . as always as love. Wishing you a beautiful Christmas and a New Year of peace and happiness."

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