

**THE FREE WILL BAPTIST.**  
THE ORGAN  
—of the—  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
—of—  
**NORTH CAROLINA**

R. K. HEARN Editor  
REV. A. R. BRADBURY, A. M.  
Corresponding Editor.

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We left home Thursday last to visit the Union Meeting of the Eastern District to convene at White Hill, Beaufort Co. and arrived at Mr. R. Bergeron's late in the afternoon and spent Thursday night, Friday night, and Saturday night with him and his good wife. There was a small delegation Friday, but the neighbors turned out which made quite a respectable congregation. We acted as clerk. We left for home Sunday morning contemplating to publish the proceedings in this issue, but after traveling about four miles we had forgotten our valise and proceedings. The session was a harmonious one; love and union prevailed. The crowd was quite a large one Saturday, and we had the pleasure of meeting and shaking hands with numbers of our good brethren. At the close of Conference, a collection was taken up for the benefit of the "Free Will Baptist" paper and received eight dollars. We arrived home late Sunday afternoon and found all well for which we return thanks to the Lord.

**FROM BRITISH CHAIR.**

**ELD. HEARN**—I did not think of writing until after our Quarterly Meeting but I saw in our paper of January 13th that some man has falsified our church and spoke contemptible of us which hurt my feelings at first, but I thought of the words "Tret not thyself of evil doers." We are told "he that lives Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecutions." "I would like to know his or her name and I would then know better how to reply; I cannot think their name is on our church book. Our elders and deacons, live as near up to their duty in the church as any man I know of, and I defy any one to bring a charge against their department. I do not say that every name on our list of over one hundred names are perfect or what they ought to be; for there are black sheep in every flock but if there is one, we know not of him. I wrote some time ago that peace and harmony prevailed in our church and I say so now. Who is that peevish, contemptible person that wrote to you? I want to know.  
Yours in Christ.  
R. T. PATTERSON.

**For the FREE WILL BAPTIST.**  
**A Short Sermon.**

BY REV. A. R. BRADBURY, A. M.

I. Sam. xiv: 6. There is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few.

There is no restriction or limitation to the Lord to save by many or by few. The whole verse reads: And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armor, Come and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the Lord will work for us; for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few.

And his armor bearer said unto him: Do all that is in thine heart: turn thee; behold I am with thee according to thy heart.

Then said Jonathan, Behold, we will pass over unto these men, and we will recover ourselves unto them. Jonathan said unto us, Tarry, until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up to them.

But if they say thus Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the Lord hath delivered them into our hand: and this shall be a sign unto us. And both of them discovered themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines; and the Philistines said, Behold, the Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hid themselves.

And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armor bearer said, Come up to us, and we will show you a thing. And Jonathan said unto his armor bearer Come up after me; for the Lord hath delivered them into the hand of Israel. And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armor bearer after him, and they fell before Jonathan; and his armor bearer slew after him. And that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armor bearer made was about twenty men, within as it were an half acre of land.

And there was a trembling in the host, in the field and among all the people: the garrison and the spoilers, they also trembled, and the earth quaked; so it was a very great trembling. And the watchman of Saul in Gibeath of Benjamin looked; and behold the multitude melted away and they went on beating down one another.

And Saul and all the people that were with him assembled themselves, and they came to the battle; and behold every man's sword was against his fellow, and there was a very great discomfiture. Yes Jonathan and his armor bearer verified the truthfulness of Jonathan's words in my text, for they went alone into the garrison of the uncircumcised, routed them with an immense slaughter, for the hosts of the Philistines bewildered fought against each other and slew each other by the thousands.

In proof of the truthfulness of our text let us refer to the Bible and cite a few instances. Let us examine the case of Noah. Jehovah commanded him to build an ark to save his family and multitudes of creatures. In obedience to this command Noah for long weary years toiled to build the ark in the dimensions and in every other way according to God's directions. He was all alone. He toiled all alone for scores of years and finished the work. Then the creatures entered the ark.

And the Lord said unto Noah: Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for there have I seen righteous before me in this generation. They entered, God shut the door. They were safe. No water could enter. Then the Lord opened the windows of heaven, poured down the waters in abundance; and broke up the fountains of the great deep; in other words rolled the great oceans over the continents, till every living creature on the surface of the globe was drowned. God everthrew these creatures, and saved Noah and his family, because Noah did as he was commanded. There is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few.

Let us, My Hearers, look at the case of Joseph the pious son of Jacob. His brothers through envy sold him to be carried into Egypt to be sold as a slave. But God was with him. By the wickedness of the wife of his owner, he was cast into prison. By his wisdom in interpreting the dreams of his fellow prisoner he was liberated to sell king Pharaoh, the meaning of his dreams. He explained the meaning by God's assistance, which brought him in power next to the king. He rode in the second chariot of state

with a gold chain around his neck. A mighty elevation from a prisoner in jail to the second office in that vast empire of immense wealth.

God showed the king by his dreams that there would be seven years of great plenty and then seven years of an immense famine, not only in Egypt but far off in the Holy Land, where Jacob and his eleven sons lived.

Pharaoh made Joseph overseer in laying up the abundance of eatables in the seven plenteous years. He filled every thing full and made many, very many new barns and granaries. All were crowded to overflowing.

Then came the seven years of famine. It spread far and wide. Canaan, Jacob's residence and home felt it. The brothers felt it. Through the entreaties of the father, who had heard, there was plenty of food in Egypt. Joseph's brothers went down to Egypt to buy grain. Joseph knew them, but he did not let them know it. He played a few artless tricks upon them. The second time he made himself known to their great confusion. Joseph sent them back with some food and carriages to bring down his and their father Jacob. It was a joyful meeting. They clasped each other round the neck and wept a long time. God assisted Joseph to interpret the dreams and to lay up food to save the great nations of Egyptians alive and Jacob's large family of seventy-five persons also. And Joseph, the prisoner, the son of Jacob did it all.

For there is no restraint, no limit to the Lord to save by many or by few.

And the Lord said unto Joshua Jericho I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valor. And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days. And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns; and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. And when they shall make a long blast with the rams' horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend upon every man straight before him.

And Joshua, and the priests, and the men of war did as they were commanded and here we have the results as recorded by Joshua.

So the people shouted, when the priests blew with the trumpet; and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet and they shouted with a great shout that the wall fell down flat so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city; and utterly destroyed all that was in the city. Thus God destroyed the city of Jericho by the hand of Joshua with a few priests.

For there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few. We can not place any limit to the power of the Lord.

So Joshua by a stratagem of placing five thousand men in ambush easily took the city of Ai. For he set the battle in array opposite the five thousand men, so when the king of the city marshalled his hosts and came out of the city and attacked Joshua and his men they fled before them, while the king and his warriors or soldiers pursued them in great haste and left their city. Then the ambush of five thousand men came up and took the city and burned it up and destroyed it. For there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few. When God directs, if his directions are followed success is absolutely certain. There can be no failure.

The Bible relates the wondrous success of Joshua in the twelfth chapter of his book in subduing the kings of Canaan and ends the chapter with these remarkable words: The king of Heshbon, one of the kings thirty and one.

Thus Joshua by Divine aid in his short life subdued and conquered thirty one kings, who possessed the Holy Land.

Soon after the death of Joshua the children of Israel fell into grievous idolatry and angered the Lord greatly; wherefore he holds them into the hands of the king of Mesopotamia, who afflicted them with many and deep burdens. And when they had served him eight years God raised up for them Othniel, the son of Kenaz, Baleb's younger brother. For they cried unto the Lord and he repented of their idolatry. God poured his spirit on Othniel and he went out to war and

fought against the king and delivered God's people out of his hands. And Israel had, forty years rest and peace throughout all her borders. And Othniel, the son of Kenaz died.

And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the Lord; and the Lord strengthened Eglon, the king of Moab against Israel, because they had done evil in the sight of the Lord. And he gathered unto him the children of Ammon and Amalek, and went and smote Israel and possessed the city of palm trees. So the children of Israel served Eglon, the king of Moab eighteen years. But when they cried unto the Lord, the Lord raised them up a deliverer, Ehud, the son of Gera, a Benjaminite, who carried a large present to the king of Moab from the hands of the children of Israel. Eglon the king was resting in his summer house. Ehud says I have a secret message unto thee O king. The king ordered all to depart from his palace.

Then Ehud stepped forward to give him the great present the king arising. Ehud drew a large sharp dagger and struck it into the king's abdomen and he fell down dead. Ehud locked the doors after him and Eglon's waiters came to the doors and found them locked. They said the king is resting and so they let him alone for several hours.

During these hours Ehud escaped, and it came to pass when he was come that he blew the trumpet in the mountain of Ephraim; and the children of Israel went down with him from the mount and he before them. And he said unto them: Follow me: for the Lord hath delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand. And they went down after him and took their fords of Jordan toward Moab, and suffered not a man to passover. And they slew of Moab at that time about ten thousand men all lusty and all men of valor; and there escaped not a man. So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest four-score years. For there is no restraint or limit to the Lord to save by many or by few. His hands and arms are almighty.

And after him was Shamgar, the son of Anath, who slew of the Philistines six hundred men with an ox goad, and he also delivered Israel.

For there is no restraint or limit to the Lord to save by many or by few.

And the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord, when Ehud was dead. And the Lord sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan, that resided in Hazor, the captain of whose host was Sisero which dwelt in Arsotheth of the Gathites. And the children of Israel cried unto the Lord; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron; and twenty years he mightily oppressed the children of Israel.

And God directed Barak the son of Abinoam to take ten thousand men of the children of Naphtali and of the children of Zebulun and ascend mount Tabor.

And they showed Sisero that Barak the son of Abinoam was gone up to mount Tabor. And Sisero gathered together all his chariots, even nine hundred chariots of iron and all the people, that were with him from Harosheth of the Gathites unto the river of Hishon.

And the Lord discomfited Sisero and all his chariots and all his host with the edge of the sword before Barak. So that Sisero lighted down off his chariot and fled away on his feet. But Barak pursued after the chariots and after the host unto Harosheth of the Gathites; and all the host of Sisero fell upon the edge of the sword; and there was not a man left.

For there is no restraint, or limitation of power to the Lord to save by many or by few. How can one chase a thousand and two put ten thousand to flight.

Deborah the prophetess composed a victorious song recorded in the fifth chapter of Judges which she and Barak sang with great delight praising God for the great deliverance he had given his people the children of Israel. And it is probable it became a triumphal song for the nation to sing in after years.

And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord; and the Lord delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years. And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel; and because of the Midianites, the children of Israel made them the dens, which are in the mountains and caves and strong holds.

The Midianites and the Amalekites came up with their cattle, and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers

for multitude: for both they and their camels were without number. And they entered into the land to destroy it.

And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the Lord, because of the Midianites; that the Lord sent them a prophet who rehearsed God's dealings to them from the time they suffered so much in Egypt; how God delivered them from cruel bondage, parted for them the Red sea, and the river Jordan, and brought them safe into the Holy Land. He had spoken to them by Moses and Joshua, but they had not hearkened to his voice. Therefore God had permitted their old enemies to enter the land with unnumbered hosts to destroy every green thing, grasses and grains; thus to perish them for their sins.

Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites, and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over and pitched in the valley of Jezreel. But the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him. And he soon gathered an army of thirty-two thousand. God said to him Israel will vaunt themselves of their might should they conquer their unnumbered enemies. Therefore make proclamation that various classes of the soldiers may go home and not go to battle. Gideon did so. And twenty-two thousand men went home. What an army of cowards! Twenty thousand men turned their backs on their inveterate foes and fled home! Now there were left ten thousand men ready for battle. God tells Gideon there are too many now. They will boast when they get the victory. Gideon reduced them to three hundred. Now God was ready to give them the victory.

Gideon divided them into three companies of one hundred men in each company; gave each a trumpet, a pitcher and a lamp; ordered them to cry the sword of the Lord and of Gideon. Their lamps being lighted and inside their pitcher as they started to attack the army at the fourth watch in the night, they came upon them suddenly when their enemies were sleeping. Gideon broke his pitcher, when suddenly the three hundred did the same, and shouted the sword of the Lord and of Gideon; when the Midianites the Amalekites and the innumerable hosts of the east fled in dismay fighting and killing each other, till nearly all were destroyed. Thus God gave Gideon and his three hundred men a triumphant victory. For there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few.

Thus My Dear Hearers, you see how the Holy Bible illustrates my text. And I have by no means exhausted the Bible examples where God has given a glorious victory to a few. O may we be encouraged by such examples to study the Bible and serve God faithfully for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen and Amen.

**ELD. Wm. BRYANT'S APPOINTMENTS.**  
FOR FEBRUARY 1886.  
Grimsley's, Monday 1st.  
Sts. D. light, Tuesday 2nd.  
Little Creek, Wednesday 3rd.  
Bethany, Thursday 4th.  
Reedy Branch, Friday 5th.  
Piny Grove, Saturday 6th.  
Mays Chapel, Sunday 7th.  
Monday 8th, at Marlboro.  
Tuesday 9th, at Fries Island.  
Wednesday 10th, at Howell Swamp.  
Thursday 11th, at Watery Branch.  
Tuesday 16th, at Saratoga.  
Wednesday 17th, at Pleasant Hill.  
Thursday 18th, at Webb's School House.

Friday 19th, at Coneto Creek.  
Sunday 21st, at Gum Swamp.  
Monday 22nd, at Black Jack.  
Tuesday 23rd, at Bear Creek.  
Wednesday 24th, at Union Chapel.  
Thursday 25th, at Blunts' Creek.  
Friday 26th, at White Hill.  
Saturday 27th, at Dublin Grove.  
Sunday 28th, at St. J. Chapel.

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