



GOING ANYWHERE IN 1989?

By MARGARET KEERY

Each one of us has a train of thought on which we ride alone and the quality of our lives depend on the direction in which that train is going, the baggage it carries and the scenery through which it travels.

At the beginning of yet another New Year, we tend to reflect on where we've been and where we're going in life's journey. Failures and successes come under the mental spotlight for evaluation and usually we feel the need to alter our life style for a more effective performance.

So often we tend to imagine that it is only the big things which count when frequently the opposite is true. It is said that Napoleon lost the battle of Leipzig because he ate an unripe peach! Certainly valuable lessons can be learned from noting the small things.

The tongue is a little member — The apostle James was obviously a keen observer of human nature when he said "the tongue is a little member and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!" The tongue can certainly be an unruly member and without the grace of God can do untold damage, yet yielded fully to God's control, it can be a powerful weapon in winning souls for Him.

A little sleep — (Proverbs 6:10). Here Solomon reminds us of a man who enjoys his bed and wants to sleep longer than he should. He enjoys sleep so much, that he is reduced to poverty. At first it was really pleasurable but it had dire consequences. Sin is just like that, it too seems pleasant and innocent enough at first, but in the end it brings disaster. Sin is a terrible scourge, the

wages of which is death. "Awake thou that sleepest." (Ephesians 5:14).

Little foxes, that spoil the vines. (Song of Solomon 2:15). So often a potentially fruitful life is spoiled by the little foxes of pride, envy, self-importance and greed. Let us ever be prayerful that the "little foxes" in our lives may be exterminated.

A little stone (1 Samuel 17:40). Let us picture the boy David as he selects five little stones from the brook. He possibly didn't fully realise that on one of those little stones depended the destiny of the Nation. One blow from it and the battle was over and victory won for the Israelites — all because of a little stone that God used.

In Matthew 27:60 we read of "a great stone" but it was rolled away to reveal the greatest of all victories — the risen Lord. David defeated Goliath and by His sacrificial death and resurrection, the Lord Jesus defeated Satan. He became our Substitute and once we confess our sin to Him it is forgiven through the Blood of His cross.

A little Servant (2 Kings 5:2). The example of this unnamed girl should be an inspiration to all. She patiently and diligently played a subordinate role in life, yet she quietly waited for an opportunity to confess her Lord. Her master was seriously ill, yet her faith rose above every difficulty and because of her little word of testimony the miracle happened and her master was saved.

A little spider (Proverbs 30:28). The spider is one of the four little things which "are exceeding wise." Like Robert the Bruce, we can learn so much from observing their industry and tenacity. Solomon makes a special note of her activities — "The spider taketh hold with her hands." She fastens and secures her web — no putting off or waiting until tomorrow with her! Have you been procrastinating over such an important issue as your soul's salvation?

As we start this New Year, let us get rid of the excess baggage. "Let

us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." (Hebrews 12:1).

Check your ticket for 1989. Destination? Luggage? Routing? Little Things? With all these intact and Christ in control, it will truly be a Happy New Year.

NEWTOWNABBEY FREE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Announcing The 8th Annual Soul Winners Convention

Friday 31st March to
Sunday 2nd April

Friday 7.30 p.m.

Preacher:

Dr. Frank McClelland
(Canada)

Testimony: Mr. Lyle Boyd

Singer: Mrs. Shirley Herron
Offering for Newtownabbey
Independent Christian School

Tea will be served

Saturday 7.30 p.m.

Preachers:

Dr. Ian Paisley M.P.
Dr. Rod Bell (U.S.A.)

Slide presentation about the
work of the Whitefield College
of the Bible

Offering for Whitefield College
of the Bible

Tea will be served

Lord's Day

Morning Service 11.30 a.m.

Preacher:

Rev. Stephen Hamilton
(Scotland)

Gospel Service 7 p.m.

Preacher:

Dr. Frank McClelland (Canada)

Singers: Jim and Joe

ALL WELCOME

Jesus said, "Follow me and I will make
you fishers of men"

MATT 4:19

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