

# We Are Drifting!

by Wayne Goff

J.D. Tant (1861-1941) was not impressive by the standards of many. He was not a large man. He stood 5'7" and never weighed more than 160 pounds. He was not eloquent. Fanning Yater Tant acknowledged, "Tant was no orator. The rolling periods, the fine alliterative phraseology and the great swelling crescendos of the professional speakers of his day were foreign to his nature as they were unknown to his intellect" (*J.D. Tant – Texas Preacher, p. 30*).

The following is continued from last week's bulletin. We did not have space to include all of bro. Tant's quotations.

**Gospel Advocate, June 11, 1903:** "Often in life's walk I have almost become discouraged by seeing life's failures and hearing evil speaking, lies, false representations among brethren, discord and hate. Even when life's pathway would seem to be crossed by dark clouds and storms of persecution gather, when vivid lightnings of jealousy would flash, and the deep-toned thunder of falsehood could be heard, I have often stopped to ask myself the question: 'Is this the reward that I am to get from those who should be my friends for life? Is it not better to let them alone and never try to save them?' But through the midst and fog and gloom, I could think of a home, and remember that there is always the lamp of love, and welcome burning brightly for me there, and that anxious ones are looking for My coming. Then I knew it was all worthwhile" (*ibid, p. 263*).

**QUESTIONS:** Why keep preaching? Why not give up when life is unkind? Consider **1 Timothy 4:16**, "Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you." **Hebrews 12:1:** "Therefore... since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."



