

The Christian Courier

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Almost A Christian (A Non-Conversion)

In Acts 26:19-29 we have the record of a non-conversion. What does it mean to be "almost" a Christian? Is it possible for a person to be a believer in Christ and not be a Christian? When the Apostle Paul was addressing King Agrippa, he declared in verse 27, "*...I know that thou believest.*" The king responded in verse 28, "*...Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.*" Was King Agrippa a believer? Was he a Christian?

Was King Agrippa a believer?

When Paul said in verse 27, "*King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets?*", he simply was saying, "Do you believe in Jesus Christ as foretold by the prophets?". There is no doubt about it! In verses 22 through 24 of this text, Paul certifies the prophets and Moses as proclaimers of four things:

- Of Christ's coming.
- His death on the cross.
- His resurrection from the dead.
- And His glorious gospel of salvation.

Then he specifically and pointedly asked in that 27th verse, "*…believest thou the prophets?*" Which was to say, "Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? Do you believe that He died for your sins? Do you believe in His resurrection from the dead?" There can be no doubt about the answer! The Bible records Paul's own conclusion in these words, "*...I know that thou believest.*" Really, was King Agrippa a believer? Yes! Was he a Christian? No! There is no doubt that King Agrippa was a believer. From his firm declaration of Jesus Christ, His crucifixion and resurrection, as foretold by the "*prophets and Moses*", Paul was convinced that the king was a believer. In fact, when he asked King Agrippa, "*…believest thou the prophets?*", he was evidently sure of the answer. Then, with the next stroke of the pen, Luke records Paul's own affirmative answer, "*...I know that thou believest.*"

Faith and obedience.

From this record of non-conversion we see the necessity of faith expressing itself in action — in obedience to God's will. There is a theory, taught by many religious people today, that there is nothing a man can do to be saved — that salvation in Christ is by faith alone — that all you need to do to be saved is just believe on the Lord — right then and there, the very moment you believe, without any further acts of obedience — your salvation is guaranteed. But, my friends, what a fatal delusion is being spread throughout the religious world! King Agrippa knew that theory of salvation was false. The Apostle Paul knew that such a presumptuous conclusion was false. He knew that King Agrippa was a believer, and he also knew that he was not a Christian. Paul was attempting to persuade the king to be a Christian, just as he was a Christian. Paul told of his own conversion to King Agrippa earlier in this same chapter. Although Luke (who wrote the book of Acts) does not reveal all of the details of Paul's conversion in this particular account, one can be sure that the Apostle Paul left nothing out as to how he became a Christian. In verse 25, Paul declared that he spoke forth "*...words of truth and soberness.*" Luke gave a more detailed account of Paul's conversion in the 9th and 22nd chapters of the book of Acts.

One thing one must not forget, Saul (as Paul was called before his conversion) was informed by Jesus that he would be told what he must do to be saved (Acts 9:6). Jesus told Saul to go to Ananias and he would tell him what he must do to be saved. And he was not told to believe only. If believing was all that was necessary, Paul already did that when he stood before Christ and acknowledged Him. Paul was told by Ananias in Acts 22:16, "*And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*" If Paul related the case of his own conversion to King Agrippa in his effort to persuade the king to become a Christian — and he did, as I already pointed out — did he not speak the "*truth*" to the king about his conversion to Christ? The Bible says he did in verse 25. Therefore, did he not inform the king that he (Paul) was a penitent believer who was baptized into Christ to wash away his sins, as Ananias, the gospel preacher, had commanded him? Jesus, our Lord, gave those imperatives, so Paul would not have left any of it out. You can read Luke's full account of Paul's conversion in Acts 22:3-16.

We do not know for certain just what part of Saul's conversion was a "stumbling block" to King Agrippa. We do know that he was a believer. The Bible says so; Paul knew he believed. We know that King Agrippa was not baptized into Christ to wash away his sins, like Paul had done. Paul said in verse 29 of the 26th chapter of Acts, "*...I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.*" Paul wanted the king to follow his example. He wanted the king to do something that he had not yet done. Who knows, perhaps the Lord's command to be baptized for remission of sins was the dividing line between King Agrippa's becoming a Christian and not becoming a Christian. It certainly has been the terminal point for many millions who refused to become Christians.

One fellow worker years ago told me after several days of discussion, "I know the Bible says you must be baptized to be saved, but I think the Lord will make an exception in my case." On what basis can one make such a statement? I hear so many religious people say that all we need to do is believe in Jesus, love God, love our fellow man, and then we will be saved; that "love fulfills the law" (Rom. 13:10). That scripture

does not mean that love is the end of the law, but that true love causes one to fulfill the rest of the law. Matt. 7:21, "*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.*" These were believers, but not doers of God's law. Luke 6:46, "*And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?*" They fail to understand the "*love fulfills the law*" scripture. We must not overlook the great, fundamental truth revealed by the inspired Apostle John in 1 John 5:3, "*For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.*"

My friends, how could any person say that he really loves the Lord and truly believes in Him, but refuses to do what He says? It would be well to remember the attitude of the Pharisees concerning the baptism of John the Baptist in Luke 7:30, "*But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.*" King Agrippa, who was a "believer", rejected the Lord as His Saviour by refusing to obey the Lord's command to be baptized — to "wash away" his sins — like Paul did. As far as we know, King Agrippa left this life unprepared to meet the King of kings when the Judgment Day comes. Almost a Christian is not a Christian!

There is a theory taught by many religious leaders that there just isn't anything a person can do to be saved. Nothing he can do! Just wait for the direct operation of the Holy Spirit, then his heart is sanctified, set apart from sin, and he becomes a Christian. No doubt, you have heard men on the radio say, "Just lay your hand on the radio; or, just hold up your hands in the audience; just believe on the Lord right now; accept Him as your personal Saviour; nothing else; nothing more; you are now saved; now you are converted to Christ; now you are a born-again Christian." My friends, do not be deceived! You will never read anything like that in the Bible in your lifetime. It just isn't there.

King Agrippa was no exception, and you may be sure that no one today is an exception, either. Although people may be sincere, such actions and reactions are non-conversions — just as much non-conversion as the case of King Agrippa. In such cases, I'm afraid that many people are "converted" to the preacher, not to Christ.

Shall we persuade God or men?

Men are to be persuaded to become Christians by the preaching of the gospel. Many think all they have to do is believe and then the Holy Spirit will enter the heart and cleanse it. Is that what Paul taught King Agrippa? Paul first taught King Agrippa, who then replied, "*...Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.*" The power of persuasion was through Paul, the preacher of the gospel; not by the Holy Spirit directly from heaven.

Paul had declared to the Romans in Rom. 1:16, "*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."*

There are those who try to persuade God to accept people as His children, whether or not they have been born again through obedience to the Lord's word. "Oh, God, save all those with their hands on the radio…" But Peter answered how men are born again in 1 Pet. 1:22-23: "*Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*" These are the people who listened, repented, and were baptized for the remission of their sins, as

revealed in Acts 2:38, 1 Pet. 1:1, and Acts 2:9-11.

Again, I remind you, that King Agrippa said the power affecting his heart came from the message of Paul (verse 27), not by direct intervention of the Holy Spirit. Yes, there are preachers who plead with God; beg God, "Save these people who wait before you!" But, my friends, you have never read anything like that in the Bible.

Was King Agrippa a Christian? No, he was not.

Almost a Christian is not a Christian. Paul was a believer and a Christian. King Agrippa was a believer and **not** a Christian. There can be no doubt that Paul was a Christian. And the Bible leaves no doubt that King Agrippa was **not** a Christ. The king himself said that he was not a Christian. "Almost" a Christian was the king's admission. Paul said he knew that King Agrippa was a believer. Also, he knew that he was not a Christian.

Dear friends, a person cannot be a Christian unless he is a believer, but every believer is not a Christian.

Was Paul a Christian?

The Apostle Paul attempted to persuade the king to become a Christian, just as he himself was a Christian. He concluded in Acts 26:29, "*...I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.*" Question to Paul: "What are you?" The answer is given in unmistakable terms, firmly and clearly, he said, "*I am a Christian!*". Remember, as a Christian, Paul was determined to wear and to honor no name but Christ's name. The apostle warned members of the church in Corinth about sectarian and party names; denominational names.

Hear the Apostle Paul in 1 Cor. 1:12-13, "*Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?*"

The conclusions from the inspired statements of the apostles are obvious. Christ, not Apollos, was crucified for you; you were baptized into the name of Christ, and not Paul's; Christ is not divided. Therefore, you should wear and honor the name of Christ only. Paul was an apostle; he was a <u>great</u> man of God, but no one should wear his name.

Peter was an apostle; one to whom the Lord had given the keys of the kingdom (Matt. 16:18-19), which were used on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2, when the first gospel sermon was preached by Peter. 3000 souls were baptized into Christ for the remission of sins.) Still, it would be wrong for them to honor the name of Peter.

Paul's God-directed conclusions were: Christ was crucified for you; therefore, wear the name of Christ only. People say, "What's in a name? The name is unimportant!" Paul indicated the name <u>was</u> important because Christ died for the church. He gave His blood to purchase the church. Acts 20:28, "*Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the <u>church</u> of God, which <u>he hath purchased with his own blood</u>.*"

Peter stated in Acts 4:10-12, "*Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*"

Those of you who were baptized were baptized in the name of Christ; therefore, wear the name of Christ, and not that of Peter, Paul, Apollos, Luther, anyone else, or method, or doctrine, or institution of human origin, but the name of Christ only. Christ is not divided; therefore, wear only His name. Paul was a Christian. He attempted to persuade King Agrippa to become a Christian, but he failed. King Agrippa said, "*...Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.*" Almost is but to fail; almost is but lost!

How significant are these divine words from 1 Pet. 4:16, "*Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.*"

In New Testament times, those truly converted to the Lord were called Christians. Acts 11:26, "*And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.*"

Are you a Christian? Or are you almost a Christian?

Written in Christian love, Ellis Forsman

Peace And Joy In God's Family

Psalms 16:11, "*Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forever more.*"

Psalms 30:5, "*For His anger endureth but a moment; in His favor is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.*"

Psalms 43:4, "*Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God.*"

Luke 1:44, "*For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy*."

John 15:11, "*These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.*"

Galatians 5:22, "*But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith*"

James 1:2-3, "*My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.*"

Numbers 6:26, "*The Lord lift His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.*"

Psalms 4:8, "*I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou Lord, only makest me dwell in safety.*"

Psalms 122:6-7, "*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces*"

Isaiah 26:3, "*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is staid on thee: because trusteth in thee.*"

Luke 2:14, "*Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.*"

John 16:33, "*These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world, ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*"

Romans 5:1, "*Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord, Jesus Christ.*"

Ephesians 2:14, "*For He is our peace, who hath made both one, and had broken down the middle wall of partition between us.*"

Philippians 4:7, "*And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*"

Hebrews 7:2, "*To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace.*"

If we knew what tomorrow held, we would not need our dreams, hopes and plans; but tomorrow is an unanswered question; a new challenge to face, and always a new adventure to face. When we think back to some of our best times, it is no surprise that so many of those moments were spent with family. There is a special closeness in a family gathering that is unlike any other feeling. It's a happiness filled with caring, strengthened by tradition, and most of all, it's a happiness built upon love. This is especially true within our church family. These are the ones with whom we plan to spend eternity.

Be kind to yourself, be gentle with your thoughts and feelings, for the more we can love ourselves, and the more honest we can be with our own emotions, the freer we are to love and bring joy to others. However, true joy and peace comes from our Lord and True Saviour, Jesus Christ, and someday, we have the assurance that we will be with Him and all our loved ones, if we and they will just do His will. This will be that great and final family gathering after this life is over. In Heaven, we will have final Joy and Peace forever more.

Written in love, Bro. Donald Johnston



Cards and Letters

Glenwood, WA

Hello from the Glenwood, WA, congregation:

Our little group is doing as well as possible for the present. Sis. Ellen McCay has had difficulty with problems of the heart and, as all of us in our late years, aching joints.

Bro. Greg Stacy underwent shoulder surgery some time back, after which he and his wife, Peggy attended the recent Yuma meeting. After returning home, he suffered a heart attack soon after Sunday services. Medical attention was quickly obtained and he is doing well. For this, we give thanks to God! Unfortunately, his mother, Bonnie Stacy is hospitalized with major problems. His father, Bob Stacy, is taking regular chemo treatments. Our prayers go out for all of them.

Sis. Fern Logan suffered a T I A in February, along with very high blood pressure. She is presently suffering from severe back and leg pains. After extensive tests, she will be receiving back pain injections to attempt to relieve the pain. We pray that it will be effective.

As some know, Bro. J D Logan underwent surgery to remove a melanoma (cancer) from his right eye, October 1st, followed by two reconstruction surgeries. He is doing fine.

Thank all of you for your prayers, cards, etc. for us during this hard time,

The Glenwood, WA, congregation

Gleed, WA

Wilfred Farley of the Gleed congregation was baptized on April 27th. Wilfred is 90 years old. Marguuerite Farley passed away on April 1st at the age of 91.

Submitted by Robert Farley of the Gleed, WA, congregation

Harlingen, TX (4-10)

Dear brethren in Christ,

I greet you cordially in the name of Christ hoping that when this letter arrives you may be enjoying good health along with your family and brothers in the church.



I inform to you that my health is better and thanks to the Lord during the month of March I had the opportunity of making edification work between some churches in northern Mexico.

Also, I comment that the evangelists in the other areas of Mexico and Guatemala inform me that continue the work of evangelization and the churches continue firm in the faith.

During March 25-28 in the city of Matamoros we gathered with some evangelists to continue studying the scriptures and prepared better for the work of the Lord.

During April 6-7 I traveled to Rio Verde to have some baptisms and to encourage to the church for work in the evangelization.



The doors to preach the truth are opened in California and New Mexico and, if the Lord permits me, I travel during April 12-28 to study with several people and maybe to establish new faithful churches.

Thanks for your important participation in this work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

As Paul says in 1 Cor. 3: 6,8,9, "*I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. ... Now he that planteth and he that*



watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building."

Again; thank you for your fellowship with me in this work.

Your brother in Christ, Otto Alvarez

Ps. I send photos of the meeting with evangelists and wires and also of Baptisms.

Harlingen, TX (5-8)

Dear brethren in Christ,

It is a pleasure for me to be able to write to you, hoping that all of you are in good health physically and spiritually.



San Rafael, CA — Bro. Eric & Sis. Lillian Smith of the Sacramento, CA, congregation is present in the back, center of this photo.

I comment that the trip to preach in California and New Mexico was a great benediction to God. From the day that the church was established in San Rafael, CA (near San Francisco), the brothers continue to be very animated and already they are evangelizing among their families, and we have the hope that some will obey the truth very soon. The church at San Rafael has 7 members and some visitors.

According to our plans we traveled to Roswell, NM, and visited the faithful brothers in that city and we had the opportunity to study with some new people. The church there continues to grow in number and faith.

Also, we are visiting and studying with a family (relatives of 3 brothers that live in Guatemala) in Carlsbad, NM, and a new congregation was established there. We have hope that this congregation will continue to grow.

All of this work and the fruit that the Lord is demonstrating is the result of your participation in this work of the Lord.

Thank you very much for your fellowship and it helps in the work of the Lord in Mexico, Guatemala, and USA.



Carlsbad, NM

I send photos of the new congregations in San Rafael, CA, and Carlsbad, NM.

Your brother in Christ, Otto Alvarez

Lorenzo, TX

Greetings to all from the Lorenzo, TX, congregation,

Just a short note to bring everyone up to date.

We were blessed to have a visit from Bro. Jack & Sis. Darlene Warford in April. Bro. Jack spoke on the Sunday morning he was here. Bro. Jack said it had been many years since he was last at Lorenzo.

Bro. Ellis Forsman was away for a few days to work on some electrical changes at the Cypress Lake Campgrounds. Bro. Jerry McCay was

away for a few days to share in the speaking at the meeting in Stilwell, OK. He was joined on the trip by his wife, Sis. Wynetta and Sis. Lynell Forsman.

The following is an update on various members of the Lorenzo congregation: Sis. Jaetta Loftis is still having some problems with higher than normal temperatures after her shoulder operation and therapy. She also recently suffered sunburn on her face near the mouth that is painful. Bro. Jimmy Loftis is recovering nicely after his accidental fall in his back yard. His face looked pretty bad at the first, the skin having been scraped over much of his face. Noah McCay, 10-year old grandson of Bro. Jerry & Sis. Wynetta McCay, is still receiving doses of chemotherapy to reduce and kill the cancer in his small body. He and his family need lots of prayers. Sis. Olene Howe is currently recovering from cataract surgery in one of her eyes.

Remember our meeting this summer with Bro. Kurt Harper of the Waterford, CA, congregation and Bro. Kevin Lamb of the Gleed, WA, congregation. All are invited to attend.

In Christian love,

The Lorenzo, TX, congregation

Yakima, WA

Dear Brethren:

Since this is our first communication since the Yuma meeting, we want to say what a great time we had while there. Veda and I were blessed that we had Al and Charlotte to drive us from Modesto to Yuma and back to Modesto. We would not have been able to make the whole 2600 miles on our own and thus would have missed all the love and fellowship in which we participated. We heard some great lessons, enjoyed the singing, and the food was also great. We thank the Yuma brethren for all their work in having this meeting and also the participation from Citrus City.

It was really wonderful to get to be with all the saints there. There were some that we hadn't seen for many years, and probably would have never seen again in this life except for the gathering there. We also met some for the first time. I know that Veda Mae Davis was just as shocked as Veda Mae McCay to meet someone with the same first two names.

There have been several deaths this past two months that have impacted our congregation, but I won't try to name them all.

Hopefully, someone will contact the editors with their names.

We do have good news though; Wilfred Farley, Bob Farley's father, was baptized at Gleed last Monday. Wilfred and I worked together for many years at Weyerhaeuser Co. and it was great joy to hear that news.

Also, Heather Heckart was married to Mike Smith last Saturday.

I know that a lot more has happened in the last two months, but I don't remember so good any more.

We invite you all again to attend any or all of the meetings here in the North West. We have found in our travels over the last 50 years that there is no better way to get acquainted with our brothers and sisters in Christ and make life-long friends.

Please keep us in your prayers as we do you.

Yours in Christ,

Bill McCay, Sr.

Yuma, AZ (5-11)

Brothers and Sisters,

It is about in the middle of May now and Susie and I are on our circuit of meetings now and already a little road weary. We stopped in Alpine for a day after we left Yuma and then came on in to Stilwell, OK, on Friday of last week. The weather here has been a little cold for us desert rats but that is more pleasurable than the hot weather that was coming to Yuma. We have been treated to some very good lessons from Bro. Jerry McCay and are looking forward to hearing from Bro. Stanley Goodwin for the second half of the meeting here. The weather here this time of year is a little different than is usual for Susie and I. There were tornado watches last night and I have to say that the wind blowing as hard as it was kind of kept me pretty tense overnight as our trailer swayed back and forth. I kept waiting for it to fall off its blocks and hit the ground but it managed to stay upright. It has certainly been enjoyable for us though, we have set our trailer up at Bro. Russell and Sis. Reba Morris' home. We certainly appreciate their hospitality as they have done everything in their power to entertain and to see to our needs. They are wonderful people. All in all up to now our trip has been problem free. We will be leaving for the Cypress Lake meeting in a while, God willing, and are looking forward to being with them as well. Bro. John McKinney called and said that they were planning on being there in Broken Bow for that meeting as well.

I called and spoke to my Uncle Harry Davis back in Yuma and he said that everything was pretty much the same as when we left, though my Aunt Ruth Duncan was not feeling well this past Sunday, we hope she gets to feeling better soon. My mother-in-law, Florence Fuller has been feeling a little under the weather. She certainly has some aches and pains with her knee and hip joints. Please keep her and my Aunt Ruth in your prayers. Keep Susie and I in your prayers as well. There are a lot of things that can go wrong on these long trips. We will get to visit with many of you as we make our circle this summer and again we are looking forward to seeing you again. We miss all of you back in Yuma. Love you all.

Denny and Susie Davis
for the Yuma Congregation

Precious Memories

***The Christian Courier*, May, 1970.** Bro. J. D. Logan, Modesto, CA, encouraged all that could to come to the Far West Camp Meeting in Booneville, CA, in June. Sis. Verle Baldwin, Cedaredge, CO, invited all to attend the Delta Family Camp Meeting in Colorado in August. Bro. Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, wrote that Sis. Clements was in a nursing home, but doing better. The Stilwell, OK, congregation announced a meeting in June with Bro. Harry Dye. The Springfield, OR, congregation announced the birth of Julie Lynn to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jeanne Orendorff on December 19th. They also mentioned that Sandy Greenway was operated on and her cast was removed. Bro. Hayse Morris of Stilwell, OK, asked for prayers on behalf of his wife who was to have an eye operation. Bro. W. A. Nelson, Somerton, AZ, reported on their meeting with Bro. Ken Harper during which they had

three baptisms. The Yuma, AZ, congregation reported the passing of Sis. Nora Prinke's father and that Sis. Hughes had broken her pelvic bones and would be in a convalescent hospital for some time. The Modesto, CA, congregation wrote that Bro. Kenneth Perry's back was broken in two places after two welding tanks fell on him.

***The Christian Courier*, May, 1980.** Bro. Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, wrote of the passing of Sis. Rollins of Burkburnett, TX. Bro. Earl Atchley, for Colter, OK, and Elk City, OK, listed the following problems: Bro. Claude Allison had been sick for some time and was now in a nursing home; Bro. Glen Peterson had eye surgery; Sis. Blanche Rennels who had been in a nursing home for some time was very sick and was being taken to a hospital; and Sis. Emma Spurlin had passed away. Bro. Jerry Perigen, Bellflower, CA, said they were preparing for their meeting in June with Bro. Bill McCay, Sr. Bro. Jerry McCay, Yakima, WA, wrote of the 50th anniversary celebration they had for Bro. Eulon and Sis. Belle Taylor. Also mentioned: Two births at the Yakima, WA, congregation – Travis Christopher to Bro. Bobby and Sis. Teri Lamb on April 17th and Aaron Don to Bro. Larry and Sis. Polly Roark on April 26th.

***The Christian Courier*, May, 1990.** Bro. Paul Andrews, Goshen, AR, announced a meeting in June with Bro. Audley Barnes. The Yuma, AZ, congregation wrote that Bro. Ken Baldwin's back had been injured and he was receiving treatment; Sis. Mary Long had suffered several recent strokes and wasn't doing well; Sis. Ruth Duncan was in pain much of the time with a permanent back injury; and Sis. Valerie Davis was battling cancer in a number of areas in her body. Bro. Marion Serrano, La Habra, CA, wrote that Bro. Gabe Auslam was fighting liver cancer; Sis. Jane Ferguson was having migraine headaches; Bro. Mike and Sis. Christine Burkhart had a baby girl, Linay Yolanda, on March 23rd. The Oklahoma City, OK, congregation reported on the passing of Sis. Oneeda Johnson. Bro. Al Way, Bellflower, CA, reported that Sis. Betty Perigen was recovering from surgery and Sis. Myrtle Clouse was having several bad days.

***The Christian Courier*, May, 2000.** Sis. Verle Baldwin, Cedaredge, CO, thanks everyone for their prayers when she was in the hospital for surgery. Bro. Larry Pollan, Ringold, TX, announced the baptism of his daughter Valerie Pollan on April 2nd. Bro. Otto Alvarez, Harlingen, TX, wrote of his evangelistic work in Mexico. The Yuma, AZ, congregation wrote that Sis. Jean Orendorff had fallen and broken her wrist; Sis. Ruth Duncan's husband was in the hospital and wasn't doing well; Stephanie Ross, 16, was baptized on March 12th; and they announced a meeting in April with guest speakers. The Glenwood, WA, congregation wrote of the passing of Sis. Sandi Nunley.

Editor's Note —

There are a number of gospel meetings around the country this year. Plan to attend any that you can. You will be glad you did.

We know of some graduations this year. I think the readers of *The Christian Courier* would love to hear of them. Let's recognize them by sending their names, locations, and level of graduation to this publication, either by phone, letter, or e-mail.

"In God's Care"
Bro. Melvin Daniels

Bro. Melvin Daniels, age 77, passed from this life on April 9, 2010.

Bro. Melvin was born on August 25, 1932 in Lake Arthur, New Mexico.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Sis. Rachel of the home; one son: Mark Daniels and Mark's wife Anaiya of Elkins, AR; three sisters: Ruby Lovney, Truth or Consequences, NM, Virginia Casey, Knoxville, AR, Flora Goldsmith, Fayetteville, AR; 2 brothers: Alvey Daniels (Melvin's twin), Wichita, KS, Edward Daniels, Sacramento, CA; and church family; many nieces & nephews; and many friends.

Bro. Melvin was preceded in death by his father, W. E. Daniels; his mother, Mary Daniels; 5 sisters and 4 brothers.

Bro. Melvin's greatest joy was in the church work and Bible studies; his second joy was watching his sons grow up and become members and workers in the church with teaching and leading.

He loved to hunt and fish wherever he was able.

Bro. Melvin had a very rough time the past 8 years, but now his work on earth is finished and his spirit rests in God's care. What else could a Christian ask for?

His wife, Sis. Rachel Daniels
896 Silverado Dr., # 104
Fayetteville, AR 72701
(Goshen congregation)

Gleed Church of Christ
Invites You to Attend
Our Gospel Meeting June 25-29, 2010

The Gleed, WA, congregation is happy to announce our gospel meeting this year is being held June 25-29. The meeting will be held at:

Gleed Church of Christ
120 Donelson Ln.
Gleed, WA 98908

Our guest speaker is Denny Davis of the Yuma, AZ, congregation
.
For information, call:
Bob Farley 509-945-3897
Gene McKinney 509-965-7864
John McKinney 509-865-4070 Libfishing@AOL.com

Ahtanum (Yakima) Church of Christ
Invites You to Attend
Our Gospel Meeting June 30 – July 4, 2010

The Ahtanum congregation in Yakima, WA, is happy to announce our gospel meeting this year is being held June 30 – July 4, 2010. Our guest speaker is Roger Walkingstick. The meeting will be held at:

Ahtanum Church of Christ
4309 Ahtanum Blvd
Yakima, WA 98903

For information, call:
Bill McCay, Sr. 509-966-9697 mccaysr@charter.net
Richard Johnston 509-697-4961
Bill McCay, Jr. 509-698-3119 mccayb@elltel.net

Glenwood Church of Christ
Invites You to Attend
Our Gospel Meeting July 6-11, 2010

The Glenwood, WA, congregation is happy to announce our gospel meeting this year is being held July 6-11. The meeting will be held at:

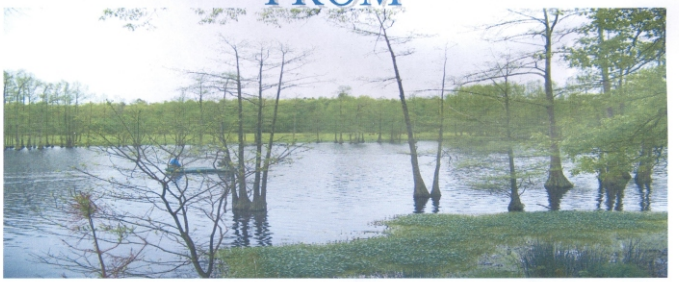
Glenwood Church of Christ
13944 Creekview Dr.
Port Orchard, WA 98367

Come and listen to some fine speaking from our guest speakers, Jason Christianson of the Gleed, WA, congregation and Levi Smith of the Sacramento, CA, congregation.

For information, call:
Bill Taylor 360-876-1460 watcity1@wavecable.com
J D Logan 360-874-8741 jd_fern@msn.com
Greg Stacey 253-884-9680

NEWS FLASH

FROM



Cypress Lake Campground

Broken Bow, Oklahoma

We would like ***everyone to participate*** *in a fun project we have planned for our summer Church Camp in June, 2010! We would like everyone to bring crafts which they have made, and to donate them for an auction! If possible* ***please*** *sign and date your crafts! We will auction these items off one afternoon. You will be able to bid on these crafts* ***made by your loved ones in Christ!***

The proceeds will go to help cover the camps' expenses!

Bring your crafts,
and money to buy your favorite craft!!!

See you at camp---June 13-20, 2010

YOU CAN HELP

To ALL our Brother and Sisters in Christ:

As we continue to work and improve "The Cypress Lake Camp" for ALL to enjoy we find there are things that you can HELP us with. Here are some things you may have or maybe could find at garage sales:

Hanging Racks for Clothes—Bath Stools—Bath Mats —-Towels—- Small Mirrors—-Mixing Bowls (all sizes)—-Box Fans or Stand Fans—-Rugs for Bed Side—-Paper Towel Holders—-Outdoor Furniture (any kind)—-Ceiling & Wall Light Fixtures—-Any Kind of Wall Hung Shelving—-Large Coffee Mugs—!!!!

We would like for YOU to bring any of these items with you to Church Camp, but if this is not possible PLEASE send them with someone who is going to be able to join us at camp.

See you ALL in June 13-20, 2009 at camp.

Lorenzo Church of Christ
Invites You to Attend
Our Gospel Meeting August 1-8, 2010

The Lorenzo, TX, congregation is happy to announce our gospel meeting this year is being held August 1-8. The meeting will be held at:

Lorenzo Church of Christ
Lorenzo, TX

Our guest speakers are Kurt Harper of the Waterford, CA, congregation and Kevin Lamb of the Gleed, WA, congregation..

For information, call:

Matt Matlock 806-778-0437
Larry Wood 806-778-7545
Ellis Forsman 806-771-9587 forsmanep@yahoo.com



Would like to invite you and yours to a weekend of
Christian fellowship --- Spiritual singing
and
Gospel preaching.

On September the 24th, 25th and 26th, 2010
We will hear some good gospel sermons from

Bro. Willie Howe of The Duncan, TX, Church of Christ
Bro. Larry Poland of The Ringold, TX, Church of Christ
Bro. Gene Boland of The Lorenzo, TX, Church of Christ
Bro. Ellis Forsman of The Lorenzo, TX, Church of Christ

Friday the 24th services at 7:00 PM -------- with fellowship, and snacks to follow!
Saturday the 25th services at 11:00 AM --- with fellowship & lunch to follow!
Saturday the 25th services at 4:00 PM ----- with Sandwiches, & Ice cream to follow!
Sunday the 26th services at 10:30 AM ----- with fellowship, lunch & singing to follow!

We will make arrangements for places to stay –
PLEASE let us know when you can be with us.

Contacts:

Stanley & Judy Goodwin	**home 940-521-0259**	**cell 940-550-5619**
Steve & Darla Fikes	**home 940-564-3267**	
Wade & Edwana Fikes	**home 940-564-5095**	
Desley & Sherry Altmiller	**home 940-564-5901**	

In Christian love,
The members of --- "The Newcastle, Texas - Church of Christ"

BULLETIN BOARD

Meetings

June 13-20, 2010	Cypress Lake Campground	Guest speakers
June 25-29, 2010	Gleed, WA	Denny Davis
June 30-July 4, 2010	Yakima, WA	Roger Walkingstick
July 6-11, 2010	Glenwood, WA	Jason Christianson & Levi Smith
Aug. 1-8, 2010	Lorenzo, TX	Kurt Harper & Kevin Lamb
Sept. 24-26, 2010	Newcastle, TX	Willie Howe, Larry Pollan, Gene Boling, & Ellis Forsman

Baptisms

Wilfred Farley	Gleed, WA	April 27, 2010

Weddings

Mike Smith & Heather Heckart	Yakima, WA	May 1, 2010

Passings

Marguuerite Farley	Gleed, WA	April 1, 2010
Melvin Daniels	Goshen, AR	April 9, 2010

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Jackie Brown	Baron, OK	Serious lung problems
Tyland Hollan (age 3)	Baron, OK	Fighting cancer
Louise Brister	Citrus City, AZ	Health issues
Lou Dye	Citrus Ciry, AZ	Health issues
Tony Schell	Cedaredge, CO	Heart irregularities
Noah McCay (age 10)	Farmington, NM	Fighting cancer
Carol Bauer	Gleed, WA	Fighting cancer
Robert Farley	Gleed, WA	Severe pain
Wilma Farley	Gleed, WA	Extreme back pain
Gene McKinney	Gleed, WA	Heart, & gall bladder problems
Fern Logan	Glenwood, WA	Severe back & leg pains
Ellen McCay	Glenwood, WA	Heart problems & aching joints
Jeannean McSwane	Glenwood, WA	Severe infections
Bonnie Stacy	Glenwood, WA	Major problems
Bob Stacy	Glenwood, WA	Fighting cancer
Otto Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travel
Mariella Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travel & spinal problems
Olene Howe	Lorenzo, TX	Cataract surgery
Jaetta Loftis	Lorenzo, TX	High temperatures
Bonnie Bryant	Oakdale, CA	Fighting cancer
Reba Morris	Pleasant View, OK	Lupus
Lawanda Durham	Tiner, OK	Serious health issues
Florence Fuller	Yuma, AZ	Fighting throat cancer