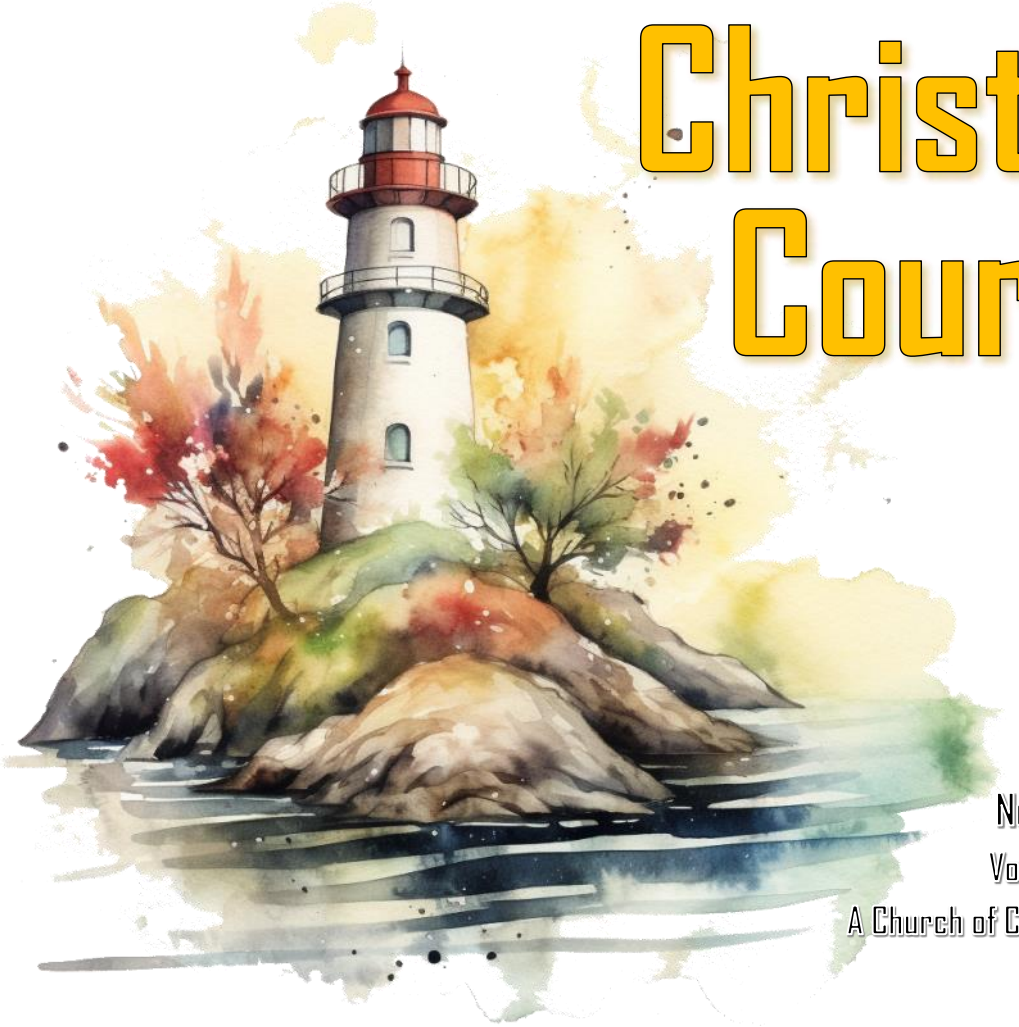


Christian Courier

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A Church of Christ Publication

Why Did God Choose Job?

Bro. Alex Sadat, Tanzania Africa

A study of the book of Job is one that will leave the reader better than he was before. In that book, Job demonstrates a great deal of endurance during a difficult span in his life. His example is one that will help modern man learn how to handle hardships. In the New Testament, James referenced Job when he wrote, "*Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.*" (Jam. 5:11). With that being stated, let us now direct our attention to a specific query. Out of all of the men on the Earth at the time, why did God choose Job?

From the outset, Job is identified in very specific ways. "*There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.*" (Job 1:1). These characteristics are the answer to our question. When Satan came before God, the LORD used Job as an example to show Satan that although mankind had fallen into sin, there was still a man that was faithful to God. "*And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil.*" (Job 1:8). After the death of Job's children, the LORD still spoke highly of Job due to the fact that "*In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.*" (Job 1:22). "*And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.*" (Job 2:3). After being afflicted with "...sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown", Job's wife question why Job refused to turn against the LORD (Job 2:7). "*Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.*" (Job 2:8). The response that Job gave her further demonstrates why God would choose Job. "*But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.*" (Job 2:10). With such admirable qualities, Job is certainly a man that God could trust!

Let us now look a little deeper at the words that God used to describe Job. First of all, the LORD indicated "...*that there is none like him in the eart*h..." (Job 1:8). What a compliment! Job lived his life in such a way that separated him from the rest of men. If a similar situation were to happen today, would God be able to say such about us? Are our lives different from the those of the world, or are we so similar to the world that we blend? We should know that Paul wrote, "*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.*" (Rom. 12:2).

The LORD also indicated that Job was "...*a perfect and an upright man*..." (Job 1:8; 2:3). We should not take the English word "perfect" to mean that Job never sinned (Rom. 3:10-11, 23). Instead, we should look at him as being a "complete" man of God. That is the idea that Paul had when he wrote, "*That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*" (2 Tim. 3:17). One becomes such by obeying the Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16-17). To be known as "an upright man" means

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The Christian Courier
83985 S. 4737 Rd., Stilwell, OK 74960
Email: ChristianCourier1Cup@gmail.com
Web: 1CupHistory.church —and— ChurchOfChristOneCup.org

Notes & Letters

October 29, 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We sure hope you are all doing well! We had a great meeting in September with Brother Duane Bixler. We appreciate everyone that came out to support the meeting. We hope you will make plans to join us for our meeting next year, August 29-31, 2025.

We welcome you to worship with us anytime you are able. We meet on Sunday mornings at 10 followed by dinner. We also meet on Wednesday nights at 6. We alternate between bible study and singing with the last Wednesday being game night with snacks. We have to keep up on Train so we will be ready for church camp.

I was in the hospital for 8 days in September for fluid build-up. While I was there, they found a mass in my colon. After several tests, it was determined that, if it grows, it will have to come out. I will be doing more tests from time to time to monitor it. They do not believe it is cancerous. Thank you for the many prayers for me and please continue to pray for me and others in this congregation.

Our new kitchen is now complete and we are grateful for everyone who donated time and money to make it happen. We sure enjoy using it!

In Christian Love, Gerald Buckner

Church of Christ at Pleasant View
Stilwell, OK

Why Did God Choose Job? continued...

that Job lived a righteous life. This further shows that Job took obeying God's Word very seriously. The Psalmist wrote, "*My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness.*" (Psm. 119:172).

It is also recorded that Job "feared God" (Job 1:8; 2:3). This fear should not be equated with cowardly fear. Instead, Job reverenced God and exalted God. This is part of "...*the whole duty of man.*" (Eccl. 12:13). In the book of Proverbs we find, "*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction*" (Prov. 1:7). Likewise, "*The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.*" (Prov. 8:13). As can be seen from these verses, we learn why Job was labeled as a one who "...*escheweth evil*" (Job 1:8; 2:3). Job turned from those things that were wicked. He wanted to obey God.

It is apparent why the LORD chose Job. He knew Job, and understood that Job served God faithfully and honestly. May we all strive to live lives that are similar in character.

Yours in Christ, Sadat.
God bless you all.



Milk of the Word

Doubting Thomas

The next apostle we will study about is Thomas. Thomas is included in the list of apostles in Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; and Luke 6:15. Thomas is also known by his Greek name, Didymus, which means "twin." The Bible does not mention him having a twin, but historians believe that he did have one.



Thomas was also called "Doubting Thomas". This originates from an incident where Thomas doubted the resurrection of Jesus. After Jesus' death, the other disciples told Thomas they had seen the resurrected Jesus, but Thomas said he would not believe unless he could see and touch the wounds from the crucifixion.

A week later, Jesus appeared again and invited Thomas to do just that, at which point Thomas pro-claimed, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus then commended those who believe without seeing. John 20:24-29.Despite his initial doubts, Thomas demonstrated a strong desire to follow Jesus.

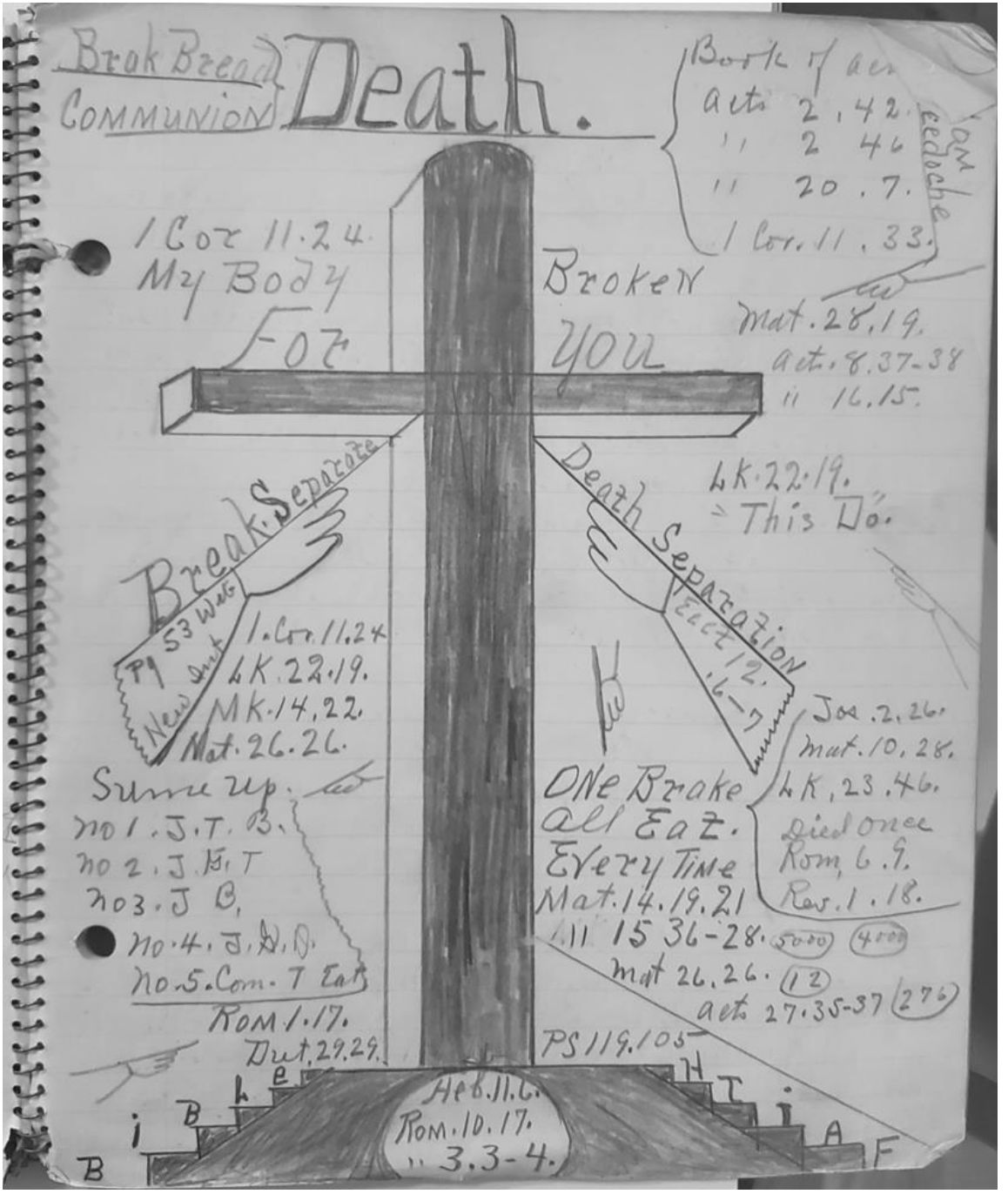
When the disciples were hesitant to return to Judea, where many wanted Jesus dead, Thomas encouraged them to go with Jesus, even if it meant risking their lives. John 11:16. Later, when Jesus spoke of preparing a place for the disciples in heaven, Thomas asked for clarification, leading Jesus to declare, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:5-6. John 11:16-44 we find that Thomas was with Jesus when he raised Lazarus from the dead.

Thomas's doubts did not indicate a lack of sincerity in his faith. Rather, he sought evidence and understanding, much like many believers today. Jesus did not fault Thomas for his questions, but answered them in a way that strengthened Thomas's faith. Like Thomas, we can approach Jesus with our own doubts and questions, trusting that He will provide what we need to follow Him faithfully.

Presented by
the Robert Fuson Sr. Family

Voices from the Past

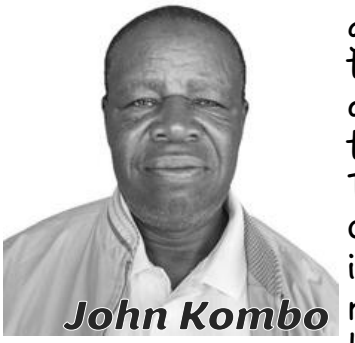
From the archives of Bob Musgrave



News from Abroad

Kenya Mission Update

I am happy to write to you in order to update about the Lord's work at this end. So far so good! We continue to serve our Lord, as Apostle Paul said, "I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For me to live is Christ and to die is gain. (Philippians 1:20-21).


John Kombo

I received some Bibles from The Bible Society of Kenya. Brother Gerald Brockman sent money to the Bible society to pay for them. Therefore, I have been so busy during the month of October to November to distribute Bibles to those member congregation who share with us the same doctrine – "One Cup Churches of Christ".

On Sunday November 10th, 2024, I my son Charles, Peter Koech, Robert Keiyo, Dominic Korir and Rob Simon visited Ewati Church of Christ congregation. We had been invited for a gospel meeting. After the meeting I did distribute Bible to those who attended. The following are the congregations who were invited to the gospel meeting. Lemotit C.O.C, Kilon C.O.C, Kapchorwa C.O.C and Chemamu C.O.C. There were about 180 persons in the meeting.

Attached are some pictures that I took during the meeting. (On the back page...)

Bro. John Kombo

Donations and requests for information may be sent to:

Church of Christ
Africa Mission
3814 64th Drive
Lubbock, TX 79413

Harlingen, TX 11-11-2024

Brothers in Christ,

I greet you cordially in the name of the Christ Jesus hoping that you may be enjoying good health along with your family and brothers in the church. Your participation and collaboration in the work of the Lord is important.

We inform that we continually in evangelization in different areas of Mexico, Guatemala, Colombia.

I inform that during this month we work with the new church in San Benito make work of evangelization and have new visits during the meeting.

Also studies with some peoples (Pentecost's) on of Holy Spirit, and some persons have interest and have plans for continue studies.

Also visit and studies with group (church catholic) in Padilla city and some persons have interest in continuing studying the scriptures and is possible 1 or 2 persons obeyed the Gospel.

The brothers of Guatemala (Coatepeque) inform that some persons religious have interest for studies of different topics of the Bible and I have plans for visit Guatemala during December or January.

I comment that during one week I was sick of gastric problems but thanks to the Lord I am more good of my health.

Brethren, please pray for this plans in the preacher of the Gospel.. I hope GOD will continue to bless you in everything..

Your brother in Christ -
Otto & Mariela

For more information:



Otto Alvarez
PO Box 532514
Harlingen, TX
78550

(pics on back pg.)

Tanzania Mission Update

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

It is our hope that all are doing well in Christ's body. Though Satan tries to weakens the work of the Lord but he will not win.

Good news for the great work which has been done last month, through the teaching and follow up, knocking doors; we were able to baptize two people. Gerald John and Grace were baptized into Christ. They are couples and they came from Seventh Day Adventist background.



We have established new places that we have started to visit. In some villages it is hard to approach a Muslim with the gospel because it is not their religion which they were brought in. While going around we face objections and sometimes we become discouraged but because God promised to be with us and that he will not leave us alone, we press on.

Thank you for the donations and support you have been contributing for the work of God. This helps us to go and tell the world of sinner to change. Most of the time a human being think that he is clever than his Creator. He says in Isa. 55:8-9, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." God's ways are beyond imaginations. You do good when you remember the work brother Ellis came to establish, we embrace and cherish it. It hurts us that our tutor and a brother in Christ is growing old and can't travel to see us and the work he established anymore. He is a man of God indeed.

We ask for your prayers for this work so that we should not grow weary but continue to proclaim his name.

Pray for the husband and wife who were baptized so that they may grow in the ways that pleases God. (Pictures of the orphanage on back pg)

Your brother in Christ,
Sadat.

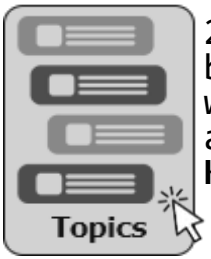
1CupHistory.Church Website Tutorial

Our Church History website continues grow as more articles and lessons are sent in, converted and posted to the site. This is tutorial #3 which guides you to yet a different video, using yet a different method. To find the video you're looking for, let's begin...

In this tutorial, we will guide you to the video sermon "Love One Another" by Robert Fuson, Sr. that you may have heard about and want to watch. Here are the steps to find it by searching for him in the list of Topics.

1. Open a web browser and go to our Church of Christ website, https://1CupHistory.Church. Click 

in the menu.



2. Next, click the **Topics** button. All the topic icons will be displayed. Then find and click the **Love/Charity/ Kindness** icon.



3. Scroll down to Robert Fuson Sr.'s section and click the **Love One Another** icon. Since there are two of them, pick the one you want to watch, or watch them both :) The video will open from Youtube.com in a separate browser tab. Our contact information can be found in the description of all posted videos. Please enjoy!



We have acquired **Bro. Ellis Foresman's** Study of Revelation and have reproduced it in book form. **Besides the full sized Large Print original, we now print smaller Booklet Sized editions.** Please let us know if you'd like one. We will be happy to mail you one! Both editions are also on **1CupHistory.Church** as PDF's and Word Doc's! (Search for **Revelation**)

ChristianCourier1Cup@gmail.com

Guess Who???

The answer is below the Bulletin Board

Do you recognize this couple?
(*Hint: Their daughter worships in Montrose, Colorado)



Studying Revelation

A look at Revelation 2:1-2

Bro. Paul Warford

To the Church in Ephesus

Rev 2:1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write

The first thing I want you to notice in this verse is that the letter was not written to the church, it was written to the Angel of the church. Of course, we found out in the last chapter that the word Angel actually means messenger. Whether it's an angelic being from heaven or whether it's a human being from earth this message was written to the Angel to give to the church.

Ephesus was a great city during its glory days. Most of its wealth and prosperity came from the fact that the temple of the goddess Diana was located there at Ephesus, and like the city, had been since the date of the Amazons, the international standard Bible encyclopedia tells us. It had a great harbor that would accommodate the largest ships of the time and multiple highways leading into it that allowed commerce not only from sea but also from land to be able to travel into it.

All early church tradition declares that John from about A. D. 70 made this city his home until his death. – B.W. Johnson

These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

The Bible self-explained itself in the first chapter that the seven stars were seven angels and we understand that they being in his right hand means that they were part of the righteous, or the church. We also understand that Christ walks in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks which are the church: or the complete whole perfect church. What a beautiful, beautiful thought that Christ was amongst them and he's amongst us today walking and caring for his bride.

Rev 2:2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

I know thy works

There are a couple of things to look at in this small segment of scriptures. The first thing is, is that Jesus knows. Not only can God be omnipresent but Jesus here tells us that he is omnipresent also.

The second thing to consider is that there are so many denominations out there that teach that works are not important to salvation. If that were so why in all seven letters does Jesus mention that he knows their works and then goes to point out their works whether they're good or bad.

and thy labour

Now Christ starts listing some of the works that they did and he starts with the good works. He commends them for putting actual physical work into a Kingdom that's spiritual. Without the labor of the congregations the outlook for the church would not be very good.

and thy patience

I think a lot of humanity likes to joke about their patience and their lack thereof. I'm probably no different than anyone else on that case. Can you imagine having Christ bragging about how good your patience is. I don't know of anybody that's ever bragged on how good my patience is much less Christ who knows all, sees all.

and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

Here the Church of Ephesus is highly praised for putting in the time and the effort of qualifying those that say that they're apostles and are not.

Act 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

According to Paul it's a very good thing for a church to try those who say they're apostles because he said the wolves were on their way.

In some ways this is why so many man-made inventions entered into the church. It's because of lack of trying them, the teachers, to see if they preach the truth. Because of this Sunday school, individual cups and individual bread breaking, all entered into the church.

In Christian Love,
Bro. Paul Warford

Fundraiser for Shiloh Boling

Scan this QR Code with your phone camera to see how you can help with his medical expenses while he recovers from cancer surgery and treatments. Your participation is appreciated!

A Treasure

If you had an ancient map that promised great and valuable treasure, but you had to follow the map exactly.

But your friends said to you; you do not have to be exact, you can get there in many different ways, even though the map says you cannot.

Also your mentors say to you; the map is a fantasy there is no such thing as the treasure, nor is there such a person who made the map, put your trust in us; we know everything.

What would you do?

Would you believe them or would you study the map to see if the conditions of the map were reasonable and if the land marks were there.

The ancient map is the word of God; the treasure is eternal life, the way is clear, but must be followed exactly.

Your friends are those close to you, that want you to do as they desire.

Your mentors are teachers and governments that teach you worldly things, without foundation or proof. (in other words they teach the fantasies of heir minds as scientific fact).

Since eternal life is so precious, will you study the word of God without prejudice, to see if these things are so; or will you blindly believe your mentors and throw away the opportunity to have eternal life.

We would love to help you find this treasure, so come and meet with us and learn of the Lord.

- Jim Bryant

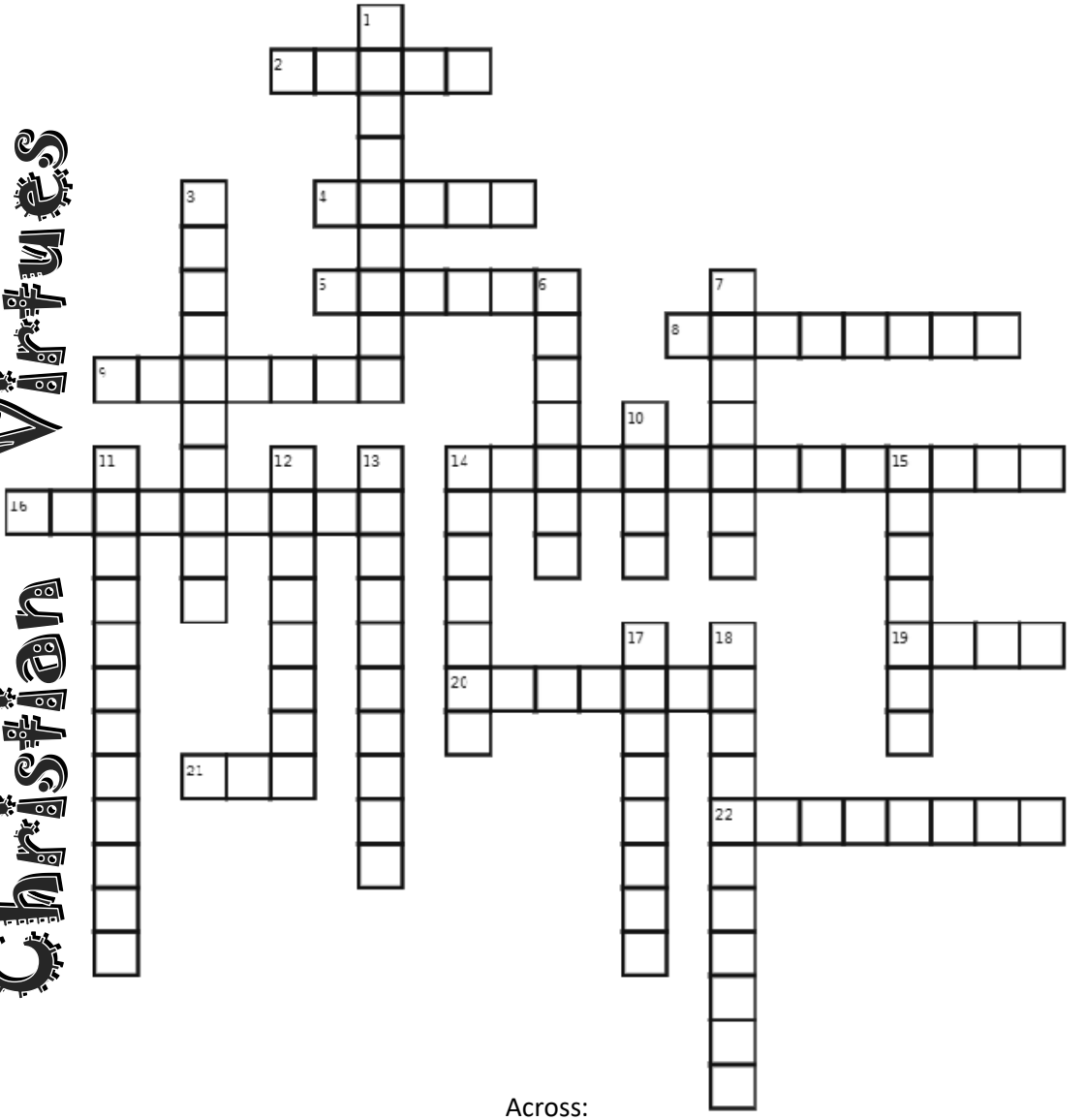


Thought for the Month

Often, we pray for the things that we want: mobility, connectivity, good friends, security, health, and so on… We may even pray for those things that build our stature; strength, patience, obedience, understanding, wisdom, etc. But do we pray for knowledge of His will for us? And the power ***and willingness*** to carry it out? How about the things we should be doing for Him day to day? Are we 'still' enough and our minds quiet enough that we can see and hear the answers when they come? Do we listen for God to speak to us through others? Do we do our part and endeavor to clear away the wreckage that's in the way, and prepare for His blessings to manifest into our lives and being? We probably should…

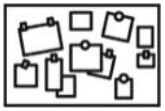
Love & Blessings
Bro. Jesse Warford

Crossword Puzzle
Christian Virtues



Down:
1. honesty in intention or in communicating
3. strong desire to alleviate another's suffering
6. regard for decency of dress, behavior
7. freedom from deceit or fraud
10. feeling that what is wanted can be had
11. lasting loyalty and trustworthiness
12. modest opinion of one's self
13. kindly; amiable
14. a sense of the worth of excellence of a person
15. faithfulness to commitments or obligations
17. quiet, steady perseverance
18. restraint of oneself or one's actions, feelings, etc

Across:
2. belief that is not based on proof
4. a state of tranquility or serenity
5. having experience, knowledge and good judgement
8. moral excellence
9. generous actions or donations to aid people
14. accountable for something within one's power
16. feeling of being thankful
19. enables a person to face difficulty, danger, pain, etc.
21. emotion of great delight or happiness
22. excellence of manners or social conduct



Bulletin Board

Those in need of our prayers

Bro. Deusi	Katoro, Africa	Malaria (and his family too)
Jon Rawlins	Ottawa, Canada	Needs heart transplant
John Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Diabetes, heart issues
Agrippina Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Severe back problems
Linda Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Vicki Camp Perrin	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Rylan Perrin	Broken Bow, OK	Carney Complex - nerve tumors
Debbie Wilkerson	Cedaredge, CO	Fighting cancer
Billy Martin	Citrus City, AZ	Fighting cancer
Pauline Holloway	Gleed, WA	Uterine & cervical cancer
Otto Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travels, 2 angioplasties
Mariela Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travels, thyroid issues
Jessica Chastain	Stilwell, OK	Health issues
Retha Morris	Stilwell, OK	Battling Parkinson's
Darletta Spencer	Stilwell, OK	Cancer
Bruce Cumming	Yuma, AZ	Heart Issues
Fred Cummings	Yuma, AZ	Congestive heart failure
Dennis Davis	Yuma, AZ	Back & leg issues - Kidney trouble
Kathy Lamb	Gleed, WA	Cancer surgery

Gospel Meetings

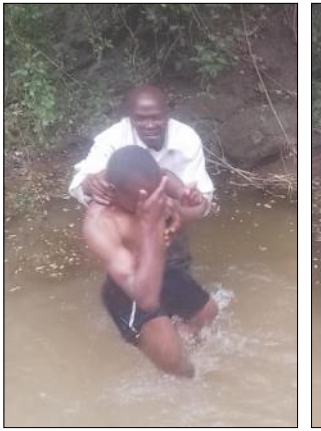
Yuma Gospel Meeting	Yuma, AZ	March 9-16, 2025	Guest Speakers
Family Camp Meeting	Cedaredge, CO	July 12-20, 2025	Guest Speakers

Brothers, Sisters & Friends,

Due to the increasing costs of production (including printing and postage) and a decline in contributions, we've had to make the tough decision to reduce the use of color in the Courier. The cost savings from this month compared to last month will enable us to produce three extra issues each year at no additional cost. We truly appreciate your understanding and support.

Guess Who??? Answer: Jim & Connie Bryant of Klamath Falls, Oregon

Kenya Mission


Kenya Orphanage





Mexico + Central/South America Ministry