# The Christian COURIER

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(The following letter was sent to us recently by Brother Bill McCay of Yakima, Washington. It was written by the late Brother G. Earl McCay, one of the early pioneers in the Lords work in the Pacific Northwest. We feel it to be of unusually high merit and worthy of the consideration of all young (and old) Christians. It was written shortly before Brother McCay passed on to his eternal reward.

## MY LAST MESSAGE TO MY CHILDREN, GRAND-CHILDREN, AND GREAT-GRAND-CHILDREN

Realizing that no one can do any good after he leaves this world and desiring to do what good I can for my closest friends, which good may be with them after I am gone, I want to leave this last message. While much of the advice that one gives to younger people may seem at the time that it is given to be too strict it may do more good later. As Heb 12: 11 says, "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." If what I write may help you when you have time to carefully consider it I will feel that I have done some good.

One of the greatest dangers to persons may be the liability to drift with the crowd. That probably is the reason Heb 2: 1-2 was written. "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. (The R. V. says lest we Drift away from them.) For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation; which at first began to be spoken by the Lord and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to his will?" Association has a great influence on every body. 1 Cor 15:33 "Be not deceived: evil

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communications corrupt good manners." So a person needs to be a leader and not only a follower so as to Lead the other ones.

But Paul would apply the principle to the work and worship of the church. 2 Cor 11: 3 "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtility, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ," (subtlety: cunning) The forces of evil in the church are cunning, and because they are not really anxious to see people saved; but desire to make a showing by getting as large a crowd as possible they will use all their cunning to change people from the simplicity in Christ to the errors of their religion. That probably was the reason for James 5: 19-20 "Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins."

While it is better not to err from the truth and to take off with a form of worship that is not taught in the Book; If a person has so erred it is better to quit that form of worship and come back to the "Old paths", Jer 6: 16, where all are safe. We must be careful not to say as Jeremiah said some will say,"WE WILL NOT WALK THEREIN".

Popularity has a natural appeal to people. It is always pleasant to be with the large crowd; but when the Saviour was giving advice to his followers he told them that only a few would be saved while the great crowd would be lost. Never be ashamed to be with the small congregation if it is the one that is following God's word. Even if there are only two members in a community that are willing to worship as the scriptures teach, if they do so worship they have Christ's assurance that he will be there with them. You know that if we wish to be with him eternally we want to make sure that we are with him here. If we are careful to walk in the light of God's word in everything we do we have his assurance that we are having Christian fellowship. 1 John 1: 7

But those who claim to have fellowship with God and do not walk in the light John says they are Liars, Verse 6, and it is certain that they will go to the wrong place, Rev 21:8. If we want God with us in our life as well as our worship we must be careful not to go "Beyond the teachings of Christ" 2 John verse 9, and we must not encourage those who do go beyond His teachings or we are as bad as they, verse 10 of same chapt. You know that if we wish to make sure of heaven we must be very careful of our life.

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I can not realize how awful it would be to spend eternity in Hell. But it certainly would be folly for any one not to put forth every effort to escape it. The rich man did not want any of his brothers to come where he was, Luke 16: 27. He should have used his influence while living to help his brothers to go to the right place. So each of us must use our influence to help each other. It will be great if each one helping the other ones can help to bring All safely through the trials of this life and so enjoy the great reunion over there. I have confidence that you each will do that and win the Judge's approval. Will you try to meet me there? "Have faith in God." And never have a "Heart of unbelief in turning back into the world" as the children of Israel did.

God Bless you All. G. Earl McCay

(It takes very little effort to understand that the above letter was the product of a lifetime of sincere service to the Living God. We submit this for your consideration)

## WORK FOR THE LORD

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer for Israel is that they might be saved, for I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's Righteousness and going about to establish their own righteousness have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. Rom 10: 1-3.

Here we see that the people of Israel had not submitted to God's commandments and were going about to establish their own commandments, or way, and it is plain that God will not be pleased with them or anyone else that tries to build their own way or doctrine. Yet we see this happening all the time although God has warned in Revelations 22: 18-19 that any who add to or take from God's Word will surely lose their part in that home above.

I plead with all to be more careful what we teach and give the word for it for we will be judged by the Word of God and how we have lived it, Rev 20: 11-15 and 2 Cor 5: 10. It is not enough to be a member of the body of Christ; we must keep the commands of God (Jno 14: 15) and endure afflictions and temptations for the cause of Christ in order to receive the crown of life. Jas 1: 12 We must be steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as we know that our labor is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Cor 15: 58

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So my brethren, let us all work for the Lord and let us write in to the paper and let our desire be known and what we are doing. It will encourage others.

Yours in Christ,

Lloyd Treat,
13 North Bock,
Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

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## FAR WEST CAMP MEETING

The time for vacations is rapidly approaching. We are happy to announce that we have acquired the use of "Rio Rancheria" camping facilities for one week, June 15 to 22. We of the West Coast have long desired to do a work of this sort, so, when the opportunity presented itself, we took advantage of it, and we can now present it to all of our brethren.

The camp is located 22 miles northwest of Cloverdale, California in Mendocino County. The nearest town is Boonville, Calif., about four miles away. The roads are good the year round. It is located on State Hwy. 128. From the north it may be necessary to come down Interstate 5 Highway to Williams, then west over State Hwy 20 to Ukiah, then south on Hwy 253 to the camp. From the south you should proceed north up U S 101 to Cloverdale, then left on Hwy 128. For those from out of state, all California road maps will show Boonville, a short distance north of San Francisco.

The facilities available for the camp meeting include cabins and camping sites where trailers and campers can be parked if desired. There is a large dining hall with cooking facilities provided that will seat approximately 100. Sanitary facilities and showers with hot and cold running water are provided. Also, there will be facilities for washing clothes.

In addition, there are many points of interest near the camp site for those who care to go and see. It is only a short thirty-five miles to a very beautiful beach site at "Navarro by the Sea". There are numerous redwood groves along the scenic Navarro River. Not far up the coast is the old town of Fort Bragg. These, and many more are accessible to the camp within an hour's drive or less. The altitude is low; about five hundred feet elevation.

The cost will be 2.00 perday per person, with special consideration for families with small children.

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This will include food and the facilities. Insurance will be provided. There are lights in the cabins and power available for tents and trailers if desired. You will have to bring your own bedding. The climate is mild, not at all too hot in the daytime, and cool at night. For those of you who like to fish, bring your tackle along.

We are striving to make this camp meeting a permanent yearly thing. With the help of all the brethren this can be accomplished. We wish to urge all of the brethren who are interested to plan their vacations accordingly, pack up the old tin lizzie, load up the kids, and point your noses west to California for the first FAR WEST CAMP MEETING at Boonville, California.

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## LETTERS FROM THE CHURCHES

(Parts of the following letters were deleted. They were written before the news arrived of the sudden passing of Brother Roy Dabbs. We are certain the writers will approve--the staff.)

### BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren and staff of the Courier:

Just a few lines to say we here at Broken Bow are as usual and trying to keep on the right way we must all travel. We had a few visitors, who we appreciated, at our services Sunday.

Some of our regular members have moved away and we sure can tell it, for we are few in number. We wish we could find more interested in God's Word. Why people can't read Romans 1: 16 and see that it is God's will that will save them and not what they might think. But the word alone will not save anyone unless they do what is written therein.

We hope that all out there are doing fine and that there is much good done for the cause of Christ this year. I hope to be able to come out that way sometime this year, as it has been so long since I have been out there, but it will have to be the Lord's will, as we never know what tomorrow may bring.

I see where the brethren are trying to establish a camp meeting out there some place. I hope you can, so we may have two places to promote the fellowship of brethren, as it is needed so badly.

I wish that more of the congregations would write

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in and let us know what they are doing. We need to keep in touch with each other and work more for the Master each day. We can do so much more when we work together.

Yours for the one faith,

Lloyd Treat

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SOMERTON, ARIZONA

Brethren:

Mrs Hester Renick, Bro Jack Renick's aunt is much better. Sister Carrie Long has been sick for some time. She is up and down, but not able to be out to Church.

Brother Ralph Jones was not able to be out to church last Sunday. Brother and Sister Earl Broadway have returned home following the death of her father.

Sister Ruth Duncan has been in the hospital over two weeks. She is improving after very serious gall-bladder surgery. She is the sister of Brother Bud Davis and Verda Mae Nelson, all of whom attend church at Somerton Chngregation.

We have about all had the flu. Sister Hunter was missing from services Sunday. Sister Liddie Edwards was sick a week ago Sunday. Do hope Brother Logan, Sr. and Patricia are both improving steadily from their troubles.

W A Nelson,
Somerton, Arizona.

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SAN PABLO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren:

The congregation here at San Pablo seems to be back to normal. Everyone has had their share of illness this winter.

We have had Brother A J Daniels of Wichita, Kansas, worshipping with us for a short time, and have enjoyed hearing him preach. His address is: A J Daniels, 906 East 43rd, Wichita, Kansas 67216. Phone JA4-4440.

We are happy to hear of a summer camp on the West Coast, so close to us, and are looking foreward to the meeting there.

In Christian Love, Gene McKinney.

PAMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA

Dear Staff:

I would like you to send the Courier to us at our new address. We are leaving here, (Augusta, Georgia), the First of February.

If there is anyone that knows of any members in this part of Florida, please inform us, or let them know we have services in our home. The address is: 220 N W 38th Place, Pampano Beach, Florida, and all are welcome.

Brother Ron Berry

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YUMA, ARIZONA

Dear Brethren:

Thanks for the newspaper. It was very interesting.

We are glad to have Brother and Sister V E Staggs back with us after a bout with the flu. Sister Virgie Childress has been back in the hospital but is out now. Brother and Sister Lloyd Parker have been meeting with us this winter. It is nice to have them. Brother and Sister Harry Dye went to Lakeside, Calif. over the New Year's weekend. Brother Orendorff went to Oceanside, Calif. to see his father in a nursing home and met in Lakeside on Jan 12th. He brought us a good lesson in Yuma the following Sunday.

We hope this finds everyone will, or improving,

in Christian Love,
The Church at Yuma, Arizona.

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GOSHEN, ARKANSAS

Brethren:

Seems like first one thing and another has kept me from writing sooner, but now I'm in bed with the mumps and don't have an excuse for not writing. Everyone here is alright, except Bro James Vanderpool and myself, and Lord willing, we will be over the mumps and back on our feet in a couple of weeks.

We started meeting at this location last spring, so anyone passing through will be more than welcome to stop and worship with us. Our meeting house is about ½ mile east of Goshen on Highway 45. Bro Paul Ferguson, Paul

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Auslam, James Vanderpool, and myself live near Goshen, although our mailing address is Fayetville. Anyome wishing to find us can inquire at Goshen.

Brother Jack Wofford from Baron, Oklahoma was over last Lord's Day and my family said he brought a good lesson, which they enjoyed. We hope he can come back again.

Sister Lucy Harrison is in a rest home in Huntsville, Arkansas and I know she would enjoy hearing from anyone that has time to write. I think her address is: Meadow View Lodge, Huntsville, Arkansas.

My family and I really enjoyed our trip to the camp meeting at Delta this past year. Everyone was so wonderful, and they have given us many pleasant memories that will not be forgotten.

Brother Marvin Daniels.

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GRANT"S PASS, OREGON

Dear Brethren:

We enjoyed having Brother Robert McCay of Vancouver, Washington speak for us on Feb 9th. Bro McCay and family were on their way to Modesto to take their daughter, Ellen Jean, who had a job waiting for her. She recently attended a University in Washington D. C. where she majored in Biology, I believe.

The roads here were bad for a couple of weeks and some were unable to come to church for this time, the latter part of January. But the snow is gone now and the grass is greening up.

We are glad to have Susan Thompson back with us again. Susan is the grand-daughter of Bro Reed Thompson. She had been elsewhere for a while.

Our hearts were saddened to learn that Bro Roy Dabbs of Aztec, New Mexico and Bro Alvis Walker of Modesto, California have passed on. They have been relieved of their labors and we that remain have that much more of a load to bear to carry on.

The Church in Grant's Pass
Brother Tom Broadway.

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We intend to publish a complete financial report in the April issue of the Courier.

The Staff.

## BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

To the Brotherhood:

Sunday, January 19th, the congregation here had a dinner for Brother Donald Dabbs and his family. His family, since then, has gone back to Phoenix, Arizona and made arrangements for a move to Southern California. This will be a much needed addition to the congregation. We are happy to have them with us.

Sunday, February 2, we were glad to have Brother Elmer Hunt back with us after a three week illness.

Visitors this past month were: Bro Geo Meadows' grand-daughter, Linda and son, the Dick Taylors, Nina Johnson, Rex Barnes, and Bro Halo Serrano.

The Bellflower congregation
Brother Jerry Perigen

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## SMILES

We hear so much today about the world's troubles, that it sometimes seems it isn't worth the effort to try to be happy anymore. What with the Vietnamese mess monopolizing the news, along with riots in our cities, trouble on our campuses, and so forth, one seldom hears of the small good deeds done by small ordinary people.

We as Christians are commanded to lead "quiet, sober lives" and to refrain from associating with those who "count it joy to riot in the daytime". We are to "obey those who have the rule over us" and to give no offense to any that the "way of truth be not evil spoken of".

It is not the purpose of the writer to delve too deeply into the affairs of the world about us, but I sometimes wonder what would happen if all the troubled ones in the world would suddenly decide to stop, look about them and smile. To some it would perhaps be frightening, but think of the effect! Can you concieve of rioters on the streets of Chicago confronting the police, with smiling, contented countenances? Well, we all know there is trouble in the world, but what of the Church?

For too long there have been too many scowls, too much ill-feeling, too much envy, too much strife in the Lords Body. I can't help feeling that much of the trouble could be averted in congregations if there were more brothers and sisters with love in their hearts,

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and smiles on their faces. It's hard to argue with a person who will not argue, but rather smiles back at you. What a glorious church the Lord's Body would be if we would all heed the Apostle's admonition, "Be ye kind, tender-hearted, forgiving one another--"! That we are not all of this attitude, indicates just how far we have drifted from that "mind which was also in Christ."

We received a small poem from Brother Marvin Daniels of Goshen, Arkansas which says so well what we should all try to put into effect in our everyday lives:

SMILES MULTIPLY

Someone gave me a smile today,
I tried my best to give it away,
To every one I chanced to meet,
As I walked down the street.
But every one that I could see,
Gave my smile right back to me,
When I got home besides my smile,
I had enough to reach a mile.

We are told it takes sixty-six muscles to frown, but only sixteen to smile. You don't even have to work hard to do it!

Let us each in his own walks of life endeavour to "walk worthy of the vocation with which we were called", and to live "quiet and peaceable lives", and above all, "do good unto all men, especially those of the household of faith".

Yours, in Christ,
Name withheld.

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

Brethren:

The church at Modesto is progressing as well as can be expected, in view of the fact there has been quite a lot of flu and other sicknesses. We have had the pleasure of having Brother A J Daniels, of Wichita, Kansas with us. He brought us a good lesson some weeks back.

We have planned our summer activities, and would like to invite all who are near, and can, to come, be with us in our summer meetings. We will hold a one week meeting beginning March 30 continuing through April 6. Brother Tom Broadway of Grant's Pass, Oregon will do the speaking.

Later in the summer we plan to have Bro W A Nelson

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of Somerton, Arizona with us for an additional week. It will be either in late August or early September. We will announce the date for the second meeting at a later date.

We were saddened by the passing of one of our beloved brothers, Brother Alvis Walker. He was accidentely killed during a violent windstorm earlier in February. He leaves his widow, Maggie, two sons, and two neices which he raised, one of which is still at home. He was highly thought of in the community and the brotherhood. He will be missed throughout the congregations.

We of Modesto, wish to urge everyone to consider the Camp meeting at Boonville. It should be an enjoyable experience for all, and spiritually profitable.

We invite all who can to come worship with us. Sunday morning services are at 10:30; Sunday evening services at 6: 30. We meet at the corner of Glenn and Dallas Streets, South Modesto.

Yours, in Christ,
J D Logan.

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## THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH

Many of our brethren who contend for strong wine in the Lord's Supper, not being able to find anything in the New Testament to sustain their theory, quickly turn to 1 Cor 11: 21, "-one is hungry and another is drunken". Drunken, they say, denotes intoxication; therefore they must have been drinking strong wine. On the surface this looks pretty, but a more candid investigation causes some questions to arise in our minds.

First, if they used one cup, how could any one person get enough wine to become intoxicated? Does not verse 22 teach that what they were eating and drinking should have been done at home? Does not verse 23 teach that they were eating their own supper? Does not verse 20 in fact teach that they did not meet to eat the Lord's Supper?

"Drunken" does not necessarily mean intoxication. Wilson, Page 503 translates "Methuein" as satisfied. Verse 21 is a clear-cut contrast: notice, some had houses to eat and drink in and some had none. One was hungry and the other was full. The fact of the case is that when this congregation came together it was not to eat the Lord's Supper, (verse 22), but that each might eat his own supper, (verse 22)

What did Paul think of this? He would not praise them, verse 22. This is a poor example for anyone to try to follow in their worship.

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When these brethren come forth with some facts to proove their position, they will have found more than is in 1 Cor 11: 22.

(Selected from the files of IT IS WRITTEN)

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FROM WHENCE CAME CONFUSION, STRIFE, AND DIVISION IN THE CHURCH?

Since the above conditions have existed from the early existance of the church and are at the present disturbing the peace and unity, we shall notice a few scriptures pertaining to those items. First, the doctrine of circumcision, Acts 15: 1-2. This demanded the attention of the elders and Apostles. Paul teaches us that in Christ circumcision availeth nothing, nor uncircumcism, but faith that worketh with love. Let us look at some prophesys by the Apostles that are being fulfilled today.

Acts 20: 29-30: Paul warns us that grievous wolves would enter in. Now the purpose of the wolves is to destroy the flock, or Church. They are in the Church; they are the ones who were obedient to the first principles and then turned away from them. Verse 30, Paul says that they will rise up among us and will speak perverse things.

Is it not a fact that this condition exists today? and has for years? Again the Apostle Peter writes that there would be false teachers among us, who prively bring in damnable heresies, and many would follow their pernicious ways.

Now, all confusion, strife, and division that ever has molested the Church has had its origin within the Church. The denominations as they are known never have caused any trouble in the Church of Christ. Nor has the world, because the world does not care how or what we do. They show no interest in the Church whatever. So Paul told Timothy, (1 Tim 4: 1-2), that some would depart from the truth and would speak lies; that means they will teach things that they cannot read in the New Testament. Also, that they would not endure sound doctrine, but would turn away from the truth, and be turned unto fables.

We should beware of who we support and follow. As the Apostle tells us: Try every spirit and also that if we receive them and they bring not the true doctrine, not to bid them god-speed, for then we would be partakers of their evil deeds. All things that have troubled the church such as the Class-system of teaching, the plurality of cups, wine theory, etc, all were started within the Church, and cannot be read in the New Testament.

(SELECTED FROM FILES OF "IT IS WRITTEN")