The Christian
COURIER

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MAY, 1969

Brethren:

1Cor. 11:31 tells us that "for if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged." I feel that it is high time we awake out of sleep and judge our selves. Another year has gone by, have we each sat down and given thought to how much we did for the work of the Lord this past year and how much we intend to do for him this coming year?Have we a better home? A better car? Nicer furniture? A larger bank-account than a year ago? Matt. 6:21 "Where your treasure is there will your heart be also." Are we laying up treasures on earth or in heaven?

"For what is a man profited tho he should gain the whole world and lose his own soul."

Then as each of us judgeth ourselves, what about the congregations? Have we sat down in a business meeting and analyzed what we did last year and was it enough? Have we more money in the treasure this year than last or have we used all the income available to spread the Gospel to a lost and dying world? I'm sure that money in the treasure will not be pleasing unto the Lord when he comes. It is souls he wants!

Brethren, lets put forth more effort to spread the Gospel and save souls for the time has grown short! Let us judge ourselves while we can, that we might not be judged.

In Brotherly Love,
Howard McCay
Yakima, Washington

P.S. Everyone who can, come and be with us June 6 through 13th. when Brother Sammy Boen from Fort Smith, Arkansas will speak for us. Also if Lord willing we intend to have a meeting Nov. 23 through 30th. with Brother Horace Orendorff of Yuma, Arizona as our speaker. We will have room for any who can come and be with us, either meeting.

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If you know you've done your best, Never worry about the rest; God never ceases to care for you. He will always see you through.

BLESSED OF THE LORD

Rev 22: 14, "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Here we see that we have a right to the tree of life, IF we keep his commandments. His commandments are not hard for man to keep, but there is a lot of people that think nothing of violating Heb 10: 25 "Not forsaking the assembly of yourselves together as the manner of some is--".

If they have friends to come or if mom and dad is sick, we think it alright to be with them. Just go to church when there is no company or when we feel good, etc. We never stop to think what it means to keep the commandments. The Bible says "IF" we keep the commandments! It makes me wonder and sad to think about people that never give any serious thought to what the Bible commands.

Heb 2: 1-3, "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. For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;" 'If we neglect the great salvation' it did not say to forsake or not keep it, but said, 'neglect the great salvation'. This simply means we could have done it, but didn't!

James 1: 22-25, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass; For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." How can we be a doer and stay home? Jesus said, "IF ye love me, keep my commandments." Jno 14: 15

Matt 7: 21-22, Jesus said, "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. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?"

So, in closing, we see that we must keep his commandments by being a doer and not a hearer only. We can't do these things and stay home!

Yours, in Christ, Lloyd Treat
Broken Bow, Oklahoma

THE SPIRIT OF MAN

"What is man, that thou art mindful of him? Psa 8: 4. We learn from Genesis 2: 7 that the body of man was formed from the dust of the ground and, from Rom 8: 11, that the body of man is mortal. Luke 24: 39, "the body has flesh and bones".

We read in Genesis 1: 27 that man was created in the image and likeness of God. God is a Spirit, Jno 4: 24. Jesus said that a Spirit has not flesh and bones. So the body of man cannot be in the image and likeness of God. What, then, did God create in his image and call a man? We learn from 1 Tim 6: 16, that our heavenly Father only had immortality. (Immortality is his nature; in other words, unending existence)

We read in Heb 12: 9, "Furthermore, we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?" This verse speaks of fleshly fathers and of the Father of Spirits. As we know, children partake of the nature of their fathers; so we have received from our fleshly fathers our fleshly bodies, but from God, our heavenly Father, our spirits. We are his offspring, Acts 17: 29. So, we partake of the immortal nature of our heavenly Father, the immortal nature that we have in his image. The spirit is the immortal part of man.

In Christian Love,
Heino Stolnaka,
1208 So 9th St
Yakima, Washington 98901

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"REASONABLE SERVICE"

We are commanded by the Apostle Paul to present our "bodies a living sacrifice", Rom 12: 1. Somehow, in the light of modern day practice, these words seem to mock us and our feeble attempts to serve the living God. Perhaps it would be expedient for each of us to examine himself inwardly and see how we measure up to the expectations of God.

What is a sacrifice? It would be easy to quote a dictionary, or perhaps a lexicon on the meaning of the word, but perhaps a definition an old friend gave me one time would be better. He was not too literate, formal education almost non-existant, but what he had to say

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made sense then, and it still does. This is how he defined sacrifice. "If you have 100 dollars and you give a friend 1 dollar, that is no sacrifice. But if you have 1 dollar and you give him 1 dollar, that is a sacrifice. You have to hurt a little to sacrifice." This may be crudely put, but it makes sense.

Now, I'm not talking about money. I'm talking about our lives, the use of our bodies and our time. What is to be the proper attitude for a Christian to take concerning his time and abilities?

Today we live in an age and country of plenty. We have grown fat and quite lazy in our opulence. Perhaps we don't feel the necessity of more work for the Lord, or perhaps we feel the Lord will see to it without our help. Peter said that this treasure (Gospel) was placed "in earthen vessels". This means you and me, just ordinary human mortals. If we are not energetic about the Lord's work, who will be.

We all remember the words of the young twelve year old Lord, Jesus, when questioned by his mother about his absence, that he must "be about my Father's business". Perhaps we would do well to be shamed by this youthful example of devotion to the work of the Lord. So many of us do so much less.

Today, so many of those who preach the Gospel are willing to go when called, PROVIDED it is convenient for us to do so. I even know of cases where brethren have travelled across country on vacations and pass within a few miles of faithful congregations at service-time, and don't bother to take time to attend. IT IS JUST TOO MUCH BOTHER!! If there is a sin for this age which is above all other sins, I would have to cast my vote for the sin of INDEFFERENCE to the commandments of God.

We at Modesto, have just concluded a one week series of meetings with Brother Tom Broadway doing the preaching. The preaching was very good, and was upbuilding to all who attended. I would like to take this opportunity to express the appreciation of the Modesto congregation for the effort put forth by Brother Tom to do this work. We know that it was done at considerable expense to himself and his family, whom we all love very much. How many of us would be willing to give up our rest and our ease to travel several hundred miles away from their families and stay for one or two weeks at a time? Also, there were brethren who travelled from the southern end of the state, over 300 miles away, and

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some from southern Washington, some 725 miles away to attend some of the services as well as some from long distances within the Central Valley. These brethren made a SACRIFICE, and yet there were brethren living very near at hand who made no effort to attend more than once or twice. Brethren, I tell you, we will all have to give account to God for the indifference we show to the Lord and His requirements of us.

We who attempt to preach the word are to "be instant in season, out of season". To labor and strive incessantly in the service of the Lord is a commendable work, but to shirk when the necessity is placed upon us is disgraceful.

It is told of the older generation of Gospel Preachers who are now gone on to their rewards how that they constantly sacrificed of their time and services to go on the Lord's business. Brother "Bob" Musgrave was constantly on the go at great sacrifice to himself. Brother G Earl McCay labored long and hard under many difficulties, and sometimes for little or no earthly reward for his work. These men, and many others, gave so much and asked so little. But, sad to say, today it is different.

"If it is convenient to me", one can almost hear many say, "and if there is some other reason to go" (friends to visit, or vacation to enjoy) "I might go and preach for someone, provided, of course, they set their time to accomodate me." How different what we read of Jeremiah who left the plow standing to heed the call of the Lord. Or the sons of Zebedee who left their nets to follow the Lord at his call.

Today, we have too much to divert our attention from our obligation to God. What is it, Brethren? Do we hate to break away from the TV set, or our weekly session with our close friends? (Who should be closer than our brethren?) The work of the Lord at home and away should be first ALWAYS in our minds.

All of you younger preaching brethren: Take a lesson from the examples of the older ones who have contributed so much to the church and its work. Do not shun to go when called, for the Lord expects it of you. But, go farther than that. Do not stop with doing what the Lord expects us to do. Jesus said that if we only did what it was our duty to do, and nothing more, we were unprofitable servants. The Lord expects more, and he has a right to. Which one of you arrives at work only at the last possible minute and leaves at

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the exact stroke of the clock? Which of you lacks initiative to seek out more to do than you are told to do? Without a doubt, that person will be the first to be replaced with a better employee. Is not the Lord deserving of better treatment than we give our earthly employers? Let us seek out opportunities to serve and fill them. Let us seek out a need among our brethren and fill it. If there are brethren in need of help of any kind anywhere, let us offer our services. It is only with service of this type that our Lord will be satisfied.

"The harvest is indeed white, and the laborers are so few". These words are so applicable today! Which one of us would want to take responsibility for the souls lost when we possibly could have helped them, and would not?

Yours for the one faith,
J D Logan,
130 W Acacia St.,
Stockton, Calif.

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LETTERS FROM THE CHURCHES

The Modesto Meeting

Since the last edition of the Courier, we at Modesto have been priveledged to hear a series of lessons ably presented by Brother Tom Broadway. This is our annual Easter Vacation spring meeting. The lessons could not have been better. We enjoyed having Brother Broadway in our homes; our discussions are always envigourating.

We were blessed with many visitors throughout the meeting, and we appreciated them all. The following is a list of visitors which attended during the meeting.

Bro and Sis Claude Perigen, Brother and Sis Jerry Perigen and Family, Bro and Sis Olan Tay or and son Bill. All from Bellflower Congregation.

Myra Cavin from La Habra Congregation.

Bro and Sis Cliff Brockman and Children from Chico Congregation.

Bro and Sis Gene Mckinney, and Children, Bro and Sis Amos Beven and Children from San Pablo Congregation.

Bro and Sis Howard Mc ay, Bro and Sis Ellis Forsman and Children, Mike McCay, Lynette Mink, Judy Penuel, Carol Lamb. All from Yakima, Washington.

Penny Butzler rom Cupertino, California.

Also, our thanks to most of the Waterford, Calif Congregation for their attendance during the week.

We consider the meeting a success, and are looking foreward to our meeting this coming August 24 to 31 with Brother W A Nelson, of Somerton, Arizona doing the speaking. COME AND BE WITH US.

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On April 21 the J D Logan family and Ellen Jean McCay visited the congregation at Chico, Calif. All were doing well, execpting Sister Noe, who has been ill for some time, and still unable to attend services. We missed seeing her again.

Brother J H Smith of Ceres, California, who meets with the Congregation at Waterford, underwent surgery last week and is now home resting. We are glad to see him up and around again.

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COMANCHE, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brothers:

We here at the Loco Congregation are always glad to get the paper. We enjoy reading the news, letters, and lessons.

Sister Leala Taylor had major surgery March 17 in an Oklahoma City hospital, but has returned home now and is doing fine. Sister Hartman has not been at all well this winter. Bro J O Taylor has been ill but is feeling better now.

Brother and Sister H C Taylor have announced the engagement of their daughter Teresa to Brother Audley Barnes. The wedding is to be June 1, 1969. Plans have been made for Sister Kathy (Howe) Burt of Lorenzo, Texas to sing at the wedding.

We send our love to all the congregations.

With Christian Love,
Don Taylor.

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DON'T FORGET TO MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND ONE OR BOTH OF THE CAMP MEETINGS THIS SUMMER: EITHER DELTA, COLORADO, OR BOONVILLE, CALIFORNIA.

YOU WON'T BE SORRY IF YOU GO. MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW!

VALLEY CENTER, KANSAS

From the Wichita church:

We are fine back here, and glad to hear of the new camp meeting in California.

Brother A J Daniels is back with us after being in California since in January. Nice to have him back with us.

We meet at 10:30 Sunday mornings at the corner of West Central and North Ridge Roads in Wichita. Anyone coming our way, keep this in mind. We meet in the De-Londo Community building.

Brother Melvin Daniels,
Rte 1,
Valley Center, Kansas 67147

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SOMERTON, ARIZONA

Brethren:

We received the paper today; we enjoy it so much. Brother and Sister Ken Harper and four small sons of Grass Valley, California have been visiting in this area and with them Sis Harper's Neice, Laura McClusky of Sacramento, Calif.

Brother Harper gave us three very good sermons. This young man has really applied himself to be able to deliver lessons like he brought us here. Keep up the good work, Ken, and all of you come back real soon.

Sis Carrie Long was admitted to the hospital last night. She has been ill for some time. We hope she will soon be much better.

Ben Smith and Barbara Ware exchanged wedding vows March 26, 1969. Brother W A Nelson performed the ceremony for his grandson and Bargara at the Somerton Church of Christ.

Brother W A Nelson
For the Somerton Church.

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

We received your letter yesterday in regards to our meeting. I'm sending the information you asked for, but I'm afraid it is too late to get it in the next paper,

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since our meeting will be a little early this year.

Brother Kenneth Baldwin, of Delta, Colorado, will begin our meeting April 13, continuing for a week. The location is 210 No. Park Dr on the Beavers Bend Hwy. An invitation is extended to all to come hear Brother Baldwin.

The Church here in Broken Bow is doing very well. Brother Lloyd Treat is usually our preacher.

All here enjoy the Christian Courier and look foreward to it.

Your Brother in Christ,
Claud Watson for the Church of Christ,
210 North Park Drive,
Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

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We received a late news letter from Broken Bow by Brother Lloyd Treat. Since both letters contained essentially the same news, we are printing Bro Watson's letter, and Brother Treats article.

Thanks and keep writing!

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WESTVILLE, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

Just a note of praise for the wonderful job you are doing in publishing a Christian paper for the brethren. We here at the Baron Church of Christ enjoy it all and look foreward to the next issue.

It has been some time since I've written directly to the staff of the paper and we have a lot of GOOD news and rejoicing back this way. Since last report in the paper, we have been made happy over the confession and baptism of three young men and a young lady: Eddie Spence, David Brown, Larry Clinton, and Cheryl Rhodes. I'm sure I reported the baptism of another young man, Glenn Rich, before. There has also been quite a number of the Brothers and Sisters that have come up for the prayers of the Church.

We are blessed with a number of good speakers and are having good crowds. Several families have moved here and are now meeting with us, for which we are most thankful. They are: Bro and Sis Ralph Rhodes and Children, Bro and Sis Bill Rhodes and Children, and Bro and Sis George Morris and Children.

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We are having good attendance and much interest is shown in our Thursday night meetings for the development of our younger brethren. There are now five young brethren from Baron and four from Stilwell. The four who were baptized about two weeks ago haven't had a chance to show their ability at giving a lesson, but I'm sure they will take their turn along with the others. We are very proud of our young brethren and pray that they will continue in the Lord's work as they have started.

Would like to attend the West Coast Camp meeting but can't make it this year.

Keep up the good work.

With Christian Love,
L.E.Atchley for the Baron
Church of Christ.

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POMPANO BEACH, FLORDIA

Dear Brethren:

Just a note to let you know that everyone here in Flordia is doing fine. With all the illness going around, seems everyone has forgotten to be happy once in a while. You can look in the past issues of the Courier and see that most of the letters sent in are ones about illness, death, or some other trouble. Yes, that is what the Courier is for-to tell the news. But newspapers do have happy things written in them, too. I'll admit there has been a lot of sickness and deaths lately, but we must have faith, for God is with us. Reading 2Thess. 3:1-3 proves if we have faith, the Lord will keep us!

Now for my good news of this letter. When my mother and I were having services, in our home in Augusta, Ga., we felt pretty much alone, being so far away from another congregation. Now, my older sister, Darlene Austin and her husband Nathan, have joined us in our services. They are living with us until they find a house.

My older brother, Wade Brackett, came back to New Mexico, on leave from overseas, when my Grand-dad (Bro. Roy Dabbs) died. He was baptized. Staff, would you please send the Courier to him at this address: Sp/4 Wade Brackett R A 15284930 4 H C 2nd. S&T Br. 2nd. Inf. Div. c/o A P O San Francisco,Calif. 96224. Anyone who would like to write him or send him lessons, please do. I know he would like them and needs them.

I pray all will get better. Brother Ron Berry

P.S. We are moving this week-end. Send new address later. My sister Darlene & Nathan will remain here in this house.

Brother Calvin Roy Dabbs was born in Eastland, Tex. Mar. 8,1905. At the age of 17 was baptized into the Church of Christ. Roy & Myra(Smith) were married in1923 at Las Crusces, New Mex. Unto them were born six children, twenty-three grand-children, & five great-grand-children. Bro. Roy Dabbs departed this life Feb. 13,1969 from a heart-attack. Funeral services were conducted by Bro.Jack Morris in Farmington, N.M. on Feb. 16.

A letter received from Sis. Dabbs by one of the members in Modesto and they wish to share it in part with each of you, as it included 'All the Brotherhood'.

"Want to thank you for the support you have given me. No one ever knows just how hard things like this hits until it happens to them. We have always tried to stand on our own and really is hard to accept.

I want everyone to know how much we loved you there and how many times we thought of you. Roys plans were to visit you and other true congregations this summer, but this wasn't in God's Great Plan, so will accept it at this. I want to see you dear people there again someday, if the good Lord willing.

There is a lot of sickness everywhere. Mother(Armesa Smith) has been awfully sick about four days. She is a lot better this evening. She did not attend church this morning, which she rarely misses. But she is pretty crippled, uses a 4-legged walker.

Here is a poem our daughter, Carolyn, wrote about her daddy. She never writes poetry, but she said she had been asleep and woke with this on her mind the day before her daddy's 64th. birthday,the 8th. of Mar. I wondered if it could be possible to have it printed in the Courier? Would be very much appreciated if it could be.

Our grandson Wade Brackett was baptized the 26th. of Feb., just before he had to go back to Korea.

As soon as I can, would like to help some on the Courier. We enjoy it so much, and have done so little.Seems at the present I'm at such a loss to know just what to do.

Yes, Roy and I had 45 yrs. of very happy married life the 29th. of Sept. & all our children baptized in the True Church and several of our grand-children and in-laws, besides friends. Our baby girl's husband,Roger Bixler, gives us some good talks and our grand-daughter's husband, Duane Bixler, is an excellent speaker. Theseboys are brothers, Duane is the younger.

Want to thank you again and tell ALL hello for us. We would love to come to the coast meeting, but don't know how."

In Christian Love,
Sisters Myra Dabbs & Armesa Smith.

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEAR DADDY (Roy Dabbs)
Written by Carolyn (Dabbs) Bedingfield.

Tho you have gone away from us,
You still are in our hearts.
Because, when we read the Bible,-
Its little bits and parts,
We can hear you talking and
Altho it brings us pain,
We find ourselves reading it, over and over again.

He taught his children right from wrong,
And now he has left us on our own
To choose each day what we should do.
To get to heaven, he left one clue;
Study the Bible every day
Because we know there's just one way.

Our Father which is in Heaven,
You've called our Daddy home.
He's left this world of sorrow,
And joined you around the throne.
So when our time comes, its our Prayer
That we'll join our Daddy with You there.

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MEETING DATES

Grants Pass, Oregon May 4-May 11-Bro. Curtis McClusky

Yakima,Washington June 6-June 13-Bro. Sammy Boen

Waterford, California June22-June 29-Bro. Carrel Gray

Far West Camp, Boonville,Cal.-June15-June22

Lorenzo, Texas July 5-July 12--Bro. J D Logan

Bellflower, California July 13-July 20-Bro Bill McCay

Stillwell, Oklahoma July 13-20--Bro J D Logan

Furnish Canyon, Colorado--July 20-July 27-Bro W A Nelson

Colorado Camp Meeting, Delta, Colorado-July 27-Aug 3

Grass Valley, Calif., Aug 17-Aug 24-Bro W A Nelson

Modesto, California, Aug 24 (Eve)-Aug 31-Bro W A Nelson

Yakima, Washington, Nov 23-Nov 30--Bro Horace Orendorff

These are the meeting dates we have received thus far. If we are in error, or have omitted any, please correct us.