The Christian
COURIER

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WHY DO YOU WAIT ??

"And now Lord, what wait I for? My hope is in thee."

Are you waiting for saving power: In Romans 1:16, we read, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth."

Can we believe the doctrines or the I-think-so's of man. No, we must believe the gospel of Christ, for it, and only it, has real saving power.

Ask yourself-am I waiting for converting power?Turning to Psa. 19:7, we read, "The Law of the Lord is perfect converting the soul."

Is it sanctifying power for which we wait? The New Testament was written by the inspiration of God, and this is perfect. Even so, we as humans tend to set ourselves up higher than God and take it upon ourselves to change his word to suit our own think-so's. But, if we are truly searching for the truth and read the New Testament, we will find it is the perfect law of liberty-it is truth. "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth." John 17:17. Can we say all the things we have heard man teach is truth? No. We are told, by reading the Bible, to beware of false prophets and teachers; that only those men teaching God's word teach the truth, for only God's word is truth. We must seek out the <u>true</u> church if we want sanctifying power.

Are you waiting for perfecting power? II Tim. 3:16-17 "All scriptures is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." The New Testament is God's plan of salvation, and we must accept it as it is written if we are to be saved. In studying it, we can use it, as was stated in II Tim., for doc-

trine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. If someone asks us what he must do to be saved, we must go to the Bible and let it explain; If we want to correct someone on the Bible and show it to him; most of all, we must read it for instruction in living a righteous life.

Many people out in the world today wait for faith simply to come to them or be placed upon them. But reading in Romans 10:17, we find, "So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God." We see then that these people will never be saved unless they change their way of thinking.

Reading also in Heb. 11:1, we find what faith is, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

We read the Bible and if we believe it to be true, then we place our faith in it. It is deceptive for you to wait for a certain kind of feeling. For in James 1:22 he tells us, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

Why do you wait? Are you waiting for the church to get better. A good many people in the world say, 'well, I'll not go to that church because so and so goes there, I just can't stand him or her.' But if we take the Bible and read it, we will find in Romans 14:10, "But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ."

We all know that it is dangerous to wait for a more convenient time. We are told in the Bible that today is the day of salvation. James then tells more, the 4 th. chapter and 14th. verse says, "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

In closing I leave with you this scripture: Rev.3:3 "Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a theif, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee."

In Christian Faith,
Gene McKinney

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"Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12

"PREACH"

The preaching of the Gospel that you and I are governed by, began very early in the life of Christ. His parents, while going home from Jerusalem, discovered he was not with them. Returning, they found him in the temple, talking with the doctors. Luke 2:41-47. Then in the 48th & 49th verses, his parents ask why he had stayed behind. He asks them why they had sought him; Didn't they know that he should be about his Father's business? Yes, this occurred when Jesus was only a boy twelve years old.

Acts 1:1-2, "The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach. Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:" Yes, Jesus continued his preaching until his death on the cross. No doubt he had you and I in mind when he instructed his twelve apostles "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15.

Since that time, preaching his word, or the gospel, has increased. Some may wonder who whould preach the gospel today. Christ authorised the apostles to teach. The writers of the New Testament scriptures were inspired of God to write those things which govern you and I today.

Paul, in writing to Timothy, gave him some instructions to pass on to you and me. II Tim. 2:1-2, "Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." So all faithful men, who of course have a knowledge of God's Word, are qualified to teach, or preach. Should it be that we don't have the knowledge, then we should take the advice of Paul, when he said, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Tim. 2:15.

It seems to me that it should be the desire of all faithful brethren to have the knowledge and be able to teach God's Word, that there might be lost souls saved. Rom. 10:15, "And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Brethren, the time is ripe. Yes, there is a greater need today for true gospel preachers than ever before. There is so much strife, turmoil, and sin in this old

world today, that we need to join ourselves together in a great revival, that our nation might be saved and accept Christ. We might say a good old "revival" for "survival". Surely it is going to take the combined help and co-operation, as well as a lot of sound preaching, for this to be accomplished.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if the people today were as interested in their soul salvation, as they were on the day of Pentecost, when Peter preached to seventeen different nationalities? There were three-thousand souls who responded to Peter's preaching, and accepted Christ and were added to the Church?

What should the preachers of today preach? Since there will never be any changes in God's Holy Word, Matt. 5:18. Then surely we, as gospel preachers today, should preach the same as those preachers did that we read about in the Holy Word. What was good and would save those people back there, is still good and will save us today; that is, if we will only accept and obey it.

When Paul was preaching to the jailor, he was told to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Acts 16:30-31. When Philip was sent to the assistance of the eunuch, the scriptures say, he preached unto him Jesus. Just what does that statement include? Surely it included Faith, Repentance, Confession, and Baptism, for that is exactly what took place, immediately after Phillips' preaching. Acts 8:25-39. Let us study the 39th verse. "And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing." Yes, the eunuch had something to rejoice for, didn't he? Before the enuch had been taught the word, and obeyed it he was a sinner, in a lost condition. When he had obeyed the commands and came forth from the water, his sins were forgiven; he was a changed man. He came out freed of all past sins and a child of God. He was ready to start a new life; a life in Christ. This friends is the BEST LIFE a person can live.

For more of what those bible preachers taught please read: I Cor. 2:1-2; Acts 5:42; II Tim. 4:1-2:

Why should we preach the gospel? Paul tells us in Rom. 1:15-16, "So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are in Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God u to salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

There is a great admonition to each of us who preach the gospel recorded in I Cor. 9:14, "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." If we expect to gain the confidence of the world, then we must preach the gospel in it's purity, and then live it in our lives.

Written in the hope that more of our brethren will turn to preaching the gospel. It is a great field of labor for all. I Cor. 15:58, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

L.E. (Earl) Atchley
Rt. 2 Box 144
Westville, Oklahoma.

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The following is a two part poem sent in by Brother Geo. Vanderpool of Bohannon Mountain Church of Christ.

WHAT THEN ?
John 3:36

(To the believers)
After the Christian's tears,
After his fights and fears,
After his weary cross,
All things below but loss,
WHAT THEN?

Oh, then a holy calm,
Resting on Jesus arm.
Oh, then a deeper love,
For the pure home above.
After this holy calm,
This rest on Jesus arm.
After this deepened love
For the pure home above.
WHAT THEN?

Oh, then work for Him.
Perishing souls to win,
Then Jesus presence near,
Death's darkest hour to cheer.
And when the work is done,
When the last soul is won.
When Jesus' love and power
Brings the expected hour.
WHAT THEN?

Oh, then the crown is given.
Oh, then the rest in heaven.

Endless life in endless day,
Sin and sorrow passed away.

(To the unbelievers)
After the joys of earth,
After its songs of mirth,
After its hours of light,
After its dreams so bright.
WHAT THEN?

Only an empty name,
Only a weary flame,
Only a conscience smart.
Only an aching Heart.
After this empty name,
After this weary flame,
After this conscience smart.
After this aching heart.
WHAT THEN ?

Only a sad farewell,
To a world loved TOO well,
Only a silent bed,
With the forgotten dead.
After this sad farewell,
To a world loved TOO well;
After this silent bed,
With the forgotten dead,
WHAT THEN ?

Ah, then the JUDGEMENT throne,
Oh, then the last hope gone,
Then all the woes that dwell,
In an ETERNAL HELL!

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YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

We are happy to report there has been a new addition to the Church here. Kathy Taylor, daughter of John & Judy Taylor, Grand-daughter of Eulan & Bell Taylor, was recently baptized.

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every one that helped brighten my days with cards, letters, flowers, and visits while I was in the hospital. May God bless every one of you.

Sister Alice Weakley.

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Psa.119:127, "Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold."

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bro. & Sis. Charlie Burt of Lorenzo, Texas have a new addition at their home. Stacey Zuriel arrived Jan. 21, 1970 at 2:37 A.M. weighted 4 lbs. 13 oz. The mother, as most of you know, is the former Kathy Howe, daughter of Earl & Olene Howe of Rall, Texas, Grand-daughter of Bro. Howard Studer of Lorenzo, Texas.

Bro. & Sis. Donald Foundation of Stockton, California have a new addition to their family. Christina Michelle arrived Feb. 6, 1970 at 2:23 P.M. and weighed 7 lbs. 2 oz. The mother is the former Patricia Logan, daughter of J.D. & Fern Logan, Grand-daughter of Sis. Lucy Conder & Bro. F.H. Logan all of Stockton, California.

CONGRATULATIONS to each of you!

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GRANTS PASS, OREGON

Dear Ones All:

We are sorry to be so negligent in writing to you and slow with the contribution for the Christian Courier. We want to tell you agai how very much good is derived from reading the Christian Courier. The article "The Manner of Breaking The Loaf" in the October 1969 issue, by Bro. J.D. Logan was very interesting and clearly written, according to the Scriptures.

Our congregation in Grants Pass is gradually getting smaller, as some members have moved from the area. We are meeting in a more desirable building now, as of last Sunday, and we hope for it to be a permanment place for us to worship.

It is so nice to see the sun this morning, as we have had so very much rain the past two weeks. We have had more fog than usual this winter, but it has been a very mild season, so no complaints.

We hope all is well with everyone and that the Lord will bless you always.

With Love,
Fay and Myrtle Kellems

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Reminder and Thanks: We wish to thank the congregations and individuals that have sent in donations of money to help in the printing of the Courier, also the articles and letters from the different ones are greatly appreciated. Without them we could not carry on. This is your paper, we print what you send in if it is news or uplifting, constructive articles. Please send in all the articles you can, if we don't have room that issue, we will print them in the next one. At the present we are very short on articles. Hope to hear from more of you very soon. THE STAFF OF THE CHRISTIAN COURIER.

HUMBLE, TEXAS

Dear Brethren:

Will write this A.M. to let everyone know that there is a church now in the Houston area. We are meeting in my mobil home. Brother Stanley Goodwin, wife Judy, and baby girl Mary Beth, Sister Pauline Lowry (Bedingfield), and two children, my four boys and myself. If anyone is out this way, come worship with us. 10:30 A.M. at 1716 Wilson Rd. Humble, Texas. Phone: 446-3969.

Sunday Dec. 28,1969, Bro. & Sis. Toodler Goodwin & Brother Howard Studer met with us. Bro. Studer brought us a good lesson. It was so nice to see him again.

We enjoy the Courier so much.

Remember us in your prayers.

In Christian Love,
For the Church in Humble,Texas
(Sister J.W. Bedingfield Jr)

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STILWELL, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

Owing to poor health, I have not reported any news of the Pleasant View Church of Christ for some time. I hope you will excuse me.

First I will say I am improving, for which I am so thankful. We of the Church here are thankful that things are as well with us as they are. There is not too much sickness, and no serious cases. Attendance is fair considering the weather. At this writing it is cold and a five inch snow on the ground.

At various times we have had some visiting brethren and a little outside interest. We are all happy to receive the Courier and we commend the staff for the fine job they are doing. We hope the brethren everywhere are well and enjoying a prosperous spiritual life.

We invite any passing through these parts to stop and worship and visit with us.

With Christian love we remain, your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Pleasant View Church of Christ,
by W.E. Daniels.

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HUNTSVILLE, ARKANSAS

Dear Brethren:

There is not much news to report except that we had quite a large crowd at services last Lord's Day.

There is not much illness to report either, except that I am still feeling poorly and must see the doctor from time to time. Even so, I am thankful to be able to be up and about some.

We were happy to receive the Courier and glad to hear from the brethren and churches at different places Even though I have not had the priviledge of meeting with some of the brethren, it is my prayer we can all

strive with one purpose in mind-to hold up the true gospel light-in 1970.

Remember us in your prayers and we will do the same.

Yours in Christ,
George Vanderpool
for the Bohannon Mt. Church
of Christ.

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AZTEC, NE MEXICO

Dearest Ones:

We wish to thank the congregations in Pomona and La Habra, California for sending our brother Donald Dabbs to hold a week-long meeting here in Aztec from Dec. 14 to Dec 21. We appreciate it ever so much and feel that much good will come from his being up here. We had a good crowd all the time with a lot of outsiders present. We also want to thank Bro. J.D.Johnson and Lewis Johnson of Lakeside, California; and Bro. Abe Labato & Bro. Coleman Sheppard, Jr. of Phoenix, Arizona for their support in attending the meeting. Also to anyone else who visited with us, thank you.

We would also like to invite anyone passing by this way to come, visit, and be with us at church services. You can locate us by calling any of these numbers: Duane Bixler; 334-2913; Roger Bixler, 334-2421; or Sis.Dabbs, 334-6657.

May God bless you all.

In Christian Love,
Bro. Roger Bixler for the
Aztec congregation.

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SOMERTON, ARIZONA

The Somerton meeting was a real good one-largest crowds out to this meeting that we have seen in a long time. Bro. Curtis McCluskey's oldest sister and her husband came from Oklahoma. They are old friends of the Renick family. Much interest was shown and a lot of private Bible reading and learning.

Some attending were: Brothers J.D.& Charles Johnson of Lakeside,California, Bro. & Sis. Don Dabbs & children of Bellflower, California on their way to Aztec, N. Mex. to hold a weeks meeting. The Gene Edwards family & two nephews were here, also Bro. & Sis. Elmer Hunt. It was very nice to have all the visitors. We appreciate the efforts of all put forth and especially Bro. & Sis. Mc Cluskey. Like some they are not physically too well,but he held us a real good meeting.

Brother Charles Baldwin and his family arrived here Dec. 23rd visiting relatives and friends. They both grew up here but now live in Delta, Colorado. His sister, Alyce, and family from Brawley joined the rest of the family here Saturday night. There were tw enty-two in all, and all went to Bro. Nelson's to help him celebrate

his birthday, January 3rd.

Many here have been real sick with the flu. Sister Hester Renick has been in the El Centro Community Hospital, taking cobalt treatments. She is under the care of her doctor here. She is to come home this week. We hope the very best for her.

Brother Ken Baldwin and his wife, Sister Verlie, called from Delta, Colo. Sat. night and we had a very good visit.

Brother W.A. Nelson
Somerton, Arizona.

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BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

The brethren here are doing fine. Church attendance is holding up well.

Dec. 26 through 28 another short meeting was held, with speakers: Gordon Evans, Isaac Ferguson, Roy Snoderly, and Paul Auslam. We thank them for working with us. Of course we want to thank the members of the Pomona & La Habra congregations for their support.

Some of our members have been away traveling on various occasions such as: Bro. & Sis. Bill Taylor at San Deigo, Bro. & Sis. Elmer Hunt at Sacramento, Bro.& Sis. Al Way at La Habra, Bro. & Sis. Olan Taylor at San Diego, Bro. Don Dabbs, daughters Donna, Celeste, Armesa, and son Calvin Roy at Aztec, N.M. and Bro. & Sis. Claud Perigen at Pomona congregation.

We are happy to have Beother Jack Morris & family from Phoenix, Arizona with us. Also Bro. James Vanderpool from Arkansas.

This covers about all of the Church activities. We invite all to be with us as they can, when the Church assembles at 10:30 A.M. Sunday, 6:00 P.M. Sunday and 7:00 P.M. Thursday. Address is: 9914 Arkansas St. Bellflower.

Yours in Christ,
Bro. Jerry Perigeh.

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren:

Sister Alice Weakley, who has been ill for some time, is again able to attend the services of the Church.

Due to illnesses, Bro. and Sis. Renzo Stephens are still unable to attend services. Their presence is greatly missed and we sincerely hope they will be with us again very soon.

Sister Doshia Arnett, who fell New Years's Eve and injured her back is improving at this time. She is able to attend services but must wear a brace.

The remainder of the congregation is having its share of the flu.

We are very pleased to have Bro. & Sis. Gene Mc Kinney meeting at Modesto. Bro. Gene is a capable speak-

er and help in the services, which is greatly appreciated.

In Brotherly Love,
Lloyd Logan for the Modesto
Congregation.

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BARON, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

About time the Church here at Baron be brought up to date. Nothing much has happened since last report. We are still striving to further the cause of Christ.

Our attendance hasn't been too good this winter. However the weather, as well as sickness has been the main hindering factors. This has been one of the worst winters in a long time. The latter part of December and all of January has been snow with near zero to six degrees below. Some places have recorded twelve below zero.

Next Sunday will be our regular second Sunday singing, which will be held at Stilwell.

Bro. & Sis. Daniels of the Stilwell congregation have both been on the sick list. Believe they are improving now.

Anyone passing this way please plan ahead to stop and worship with us. The Church building is located just south of the Baron Fork Creek on Okla. Hwy. 59. (between Westville & Stilwell).

This message from the Baron Church.
L.E. (Earl) Atchley

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YAKIMA, WAHINGTON

Late Report:

Brother Horace Orendorf of Yuma, Arizona held a weeks meeting during the Thanksgiving week. He brought many good lessons that were profitable to all. Three services a day were held Fri. & Sat. with guest speakers The speakers were: Robert McCay, Al Burtis, Tom Broadway, and Bill McCay Jr. A dinner was held in a hall on Sat. We had many visitors and good fellowship from other congregations. Some visitors were: Tom Broadway & family, Grants Pass, Oregon, Robert McCay & family, Maggie and Becky Forsman, Wes Orendorf & family all of Port Orchard, Washington. Ron, Don & Ada Johnston of Redmond, Wash., Al Burtis & family Jewell Cadwell, Ellen McCay and Lloyd Logan of Modesto congregation. Dan Greenway & family of Eugene, Oregon. Thanks to all of you for your support.

The Bill McCay fam.with Cindy & Lynette Meek spent four days over the New Year Holidays in the home of Al Burtis family and enjoyed very much the love and fellowship of several of the Modesto congregation. But we were sorry to find Sister Weakley so ill in the hospital but improving when we were ready to leave for home.

Christian Love,
Bill McCay and the Yakima
congregation.

FAR WEST CAMP MEETING

We hope to have news by the next issue of the Courier concerning the 1970 FAR WEST CAMP MEETING at Booneville, California.

We feel that 1969 was a successful meeting, especially so inasmuch as it was our first. We hope to have this year's meeting equally as good.

To those of you who were unable to attend last year, we hope you will make an effort to do so in 1970.

As in 1969, it will take place for one week in June, the exact date will be announced later, along with the particulars.

Also, don't forget, those of you who are able, to plan to attend the Delta Camp Meeting, in Colorado. This is an annual affair and is enjoyed by many. We urge you to attend one of these camp meetings if at all possible. You will be benefitted in many ways if you do.

So, keep in touch and we will inform you in future issues on the particulars of both meetings.

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A RELIGIOUS DISCUSSION

We would like to announce an upcoming religious discussion in Modesto, California, tentatively scheduled to take place on April 9-10.

The subject to be discussed will be the manner of breaking the loaf in the Lord's Supper. The principals will be Brethren Paul Nichols and John Logan.

The propositions are as follows:
"RESOLVED: that the scriptures teach that when a congregation comes together for the communion, that the breaking of the bread is an act performed by the servant at the table for the benefit of the congregation.

Aff. J D Logan
Den. Paul Nichols

Resolved:
That the scriptures teach that when a congregation comes together for the communion that the breaking of the bread is an act performed by each communicant.

Aff. Paul Nichols
Den. J D Logan.

If there is a change of dates, we will let you know.