The Christian COURIER

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"I NEVER KNEW YOU"

Jesus refers to the last Judgement in several places. In Matt 7: 21-23 he gives us an understanding what will happen to many in the last judgement. He said of many, how they begin to say, 'We have prophesied in thy name', and Jesus brings out how they had done many wonderful works helping others, etc, but he rejects them. Verse 21, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

GOD'S WILL

(Now even a man made will must be executed exactely as it is written.) The New Testament is God's will. It is written in the will of God, as Jesus said, they that worship God, must worship him in spirit and in truth.

PREACHED CHRIST---WORSHIPPED VAIN

Now these in Matt 7 began to say, Lord we have prophesied in thy name, (they had been preaching Jesus Christ), but Jesus says, "I never knew you". Never!! Imagine that--and they had been preaching Jesus Christ. Depart, etc--. Jesus said this will happen to many in the last judgement. Now, thay had been preaching Jesus Christ and had done many good works; so what wrong had they done? They were vain worshippers.

How do we know? Jesus said in Matt 18: 20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." But when he says to these, "I never knew you," he had not been in the midst of them, and they had been worshipping in vain. They had been mixing the wisdom of men into the gospel of Christ and preaching it as the truth, worshipping according to it. "That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." 1 Cor 2: 5

CONT'D ON PAGE 2

LEAVEN

Gal 5: 9--Now if a little bit of the Old Testament law leavens the whole lump,; "ye are fallen from grace"--what will a little bit of men's wisdom do? Jno 4: 24, "---they that worship him must worship him in spirit and truth." No matter how sincere our worship is; if it is according to traditions of men, it is not acceptable in heaven. Jesus has condemned it. "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Mark 7: 7. He warns if the blind lead the blind they both will fall in the ditch. "I never knew you." So! the word of God or the word of men?

COUNTED THE COST ?

Read Luke 14: 25-27 Hate here means to love less. Peter said in Mark 10: 28 "---Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee." (They had loved Christ more than anything.) Luke 14: 27 "--cannot be my disciple." Verse 28 "---counted the cost,--" Verse 33 "--forsaketh not all he hath, he cannot be my disciple." Have we counted the cost? God gave his Son--the Son gave his life--have we counted the cost?

1 First, we must be alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Rom 6: 11

2 We must present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy acceptable to God. Rom 12: 1

Are we willing to do this??

ALIVE TO GOD

How can we be alive unto God? It is through Jesus Christ our Lord. Rom 6: 11. We learn from Gal 3: 26-27 that we must put on Christ. Rom 6: 3 explains how it is done. Verse 13--condemned. Verse 16--members obey. The end--Verse 23.

James 4: 4 "---whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." 1 Jno 2: 15, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world--". This is an ordinance of God. Rom 13: 2, "Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation." Rom 12: 1-2, "Be not conformed to this world."

FRIEND OF GOD

James 2: 23, "And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

for righteousness: and he was called "the Friend of God." How can we be a friend of God, and how shluld we believe? Jesus said in John 15: 14, "Ye are my frienes, if ye do whatsoever I command you." James also tells us that the devils also believe and tremble, but their believing alone doesn't mean anything. They don't do as God said.

Brother Stolnake, Yakima, Wash.

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SAVINGS ACCOUNT OF A CHRISTIAN

A savings account is something that all of us are acquainted with. To begin with, we must first open an account with a savings institution. We sign some papers- this puts our name on their books. In this way they know we have an account with them.

BOOK OF LIFE

A person wanting to open an account with God must have his name in the book of life. Please read Rev 20: 12-15, "---and whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

HOW TO OPEN ACCOUNT

I'm sure noone wants to be cast into the lake of fire so let us see how to open an account. Heb 11: 6 says, "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Without a doubt, faith is a necessity in opening an account. Rom 10: 17, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." There is only one source whereby we can receive faith.

Reading from Acts 17: 30 we find, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent:" This is what God's word says. So, we can have faith in it and repent.

Rom 10: 10, "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." See how important confession is? It is another step to opening an account.

Gal 3: 27, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Easy to see at this point how a person becomes a member of Christ, thus a member of his body which is the church.

IN THE LORD--BLESSED

Let us go now to Rev 14: 13 and read. "And I heard

CONT'D ON PAGE 4

a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." The people who have obeyed the steps necessary to become Christians are blessed because they are parts of the Lord; they are in him.

JUDGED FROM THE BOOKS

Please remember that we will be judged out of the books, Rev 20: 12. The book of life is only one of them in which a Christian's name is found.

DEPOSITS IN ORDER

Now that an account has been opened, deposits are in order, which are good works.

1 Worship upon the first day of the week. In Acts 20: 7 we find, "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them---" Also in Heb 10: 25 we find, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another-"

2 Study God's Word. 2 Tim 2: 15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

3 Teach God's Word. 2 Tim 4: 1-2, "---preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reproove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

4 Love God and your brothers. Jno 14: 15, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." 1 Peter 3: 8, "--be of one mind, and love as brethren. Truly deposits of this should be made.

5 Help your brothers. James 2: 15-16--give brothers and sisters what they need. Another way a deposit can be made.

6 Be forgiving. Col 3: 13, "---even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye." Add this deposit to your account; the interest rates being paid are high.

7 Be a living sacrifice. Rom 12: 1, "---present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." This may seem like more than you can afford, but the withdrawal is so much more.

8 Bridle your tongue. The deposits you have worked so

CONT'D ON PAGE 5

hard to make; don't talk them away. James 1: 26

9 Add to your faith. 1 Peter 1: 1-11--by adding these to our account we will not be barren nor unfruitful. We should be striving to do this.

10 Be a doer of the word. James 1: 22-23, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deveiving your own selves---" I have heard it said, "if you need something done, ask a busy person to help you. A lazy person never has time to do anything."

Here are listed ten ways of adding deposits to your account. There are many others a person can make. Study and find out what they are. This is the most important thing we will do in our lifetime.

PROFIT

Turning to Mark 8: 36-37 we find the words of Christ, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Don't you agree that an account with God in heaven is worth more to you than an account in a bank?

Yours in Christ, Marion Warford,
Baron, Oklahoma

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A LYING PROPHET

Let us go into this lesson in view of eternity. Let us notice Prov 6: 16-19; here we find seven things that the God of heaven hates. Please study this with all sincerity toward God. Verse 19--"A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood." "A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren." Heb 6: 18 tells us it is impossible for God to lie. By this we can see why God hates a lying tongue.

YOUR FATHER--THE DEVIL

Now let us turn to John 8: 44. Here the Son of God is speaking to those who would not accept his word. "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. when he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Now, back to 1 Kings 13: 1, "And behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the Lord unto Bethel:" Let us note: this man was going by the word

CONT'D ON PAGE 6

or authority of God. What was the purpose of his coming? Verse 2, "And he cried against the altar in the word of the Lord---." According to the lesson, we find all went well as long as the man of God allowed himself to be guided by the word of God. But after his mission was over, while returning home, verse 11, tells us there was another old prophet who on hearing of the prophet of God, went after him with one purpose in mind and that was to tell him a lie. Verse 18-"He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art;---" Cannot we see so far that this old prophet had not lied for so he was a prophet. Let us read on, "and an angel spake unto me by the word of the Lord, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him." No wonder this city needed the Word of God, the only prophet it had was a lying prophet and the sad part of the lesson is that after the prophet of God had done all God had told him to do and was on his way home, he gave ear to a lying prophet and turned his back on God. By doing, was met by a lion in the way and the lion only wanted to destroy him that he could not reach home.

Let us turn to 1Pet. 5:8, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:" Brethren, if we only look about us, we can see those who whave fought a good fight. 2 Tim.4:7, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:" And on their way home, have been over taken by a lying prophet turned back and fell by the wayside. 2 Tim.4:10, "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia." Luke 9:35, "And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him." And his Son said in John 14:6, "---,I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Rom.1:16, "For I am not ahamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

I will close saying, let every man be a liar and God be true.

George Vanderpool.

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WHO IS JESUS?

Matt.16:13-16, "---Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?" This was asked by our Master and reply was, "---Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets." But then

Jesus said, "But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Whom do you say that he is? This could be answered very short and quickly, but we would not get the deep meaning of who he is.

Let us notice first that he is the Son of God. Mark 1:1, "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;" Matt. 27:54, "--- Truly this was the Son of God." What does this mean to you? To me, he is my Saviour. Matt. 1:21, "---he shall save his people from their sins." I could not do anything about my condition, which was brought on me because my forefathers disobeyed God, until I learned that, Jesus died, to save me from this condition. Then upon doing what he told me to do, then he would save me. So to me he is my Saviour.

He is the way and without Jesus I could not find the way to heaven. John 14:6, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." We cannot go to heaven without him. Not just me, but you or any one cannot go without him.

Since we cannot go without him, we must learn the directions he left us to follow. 1 Pet.1:21. The Bible is the directions or way, which is Christ. He is the light, to light my way. John 8:12, "Then spake Jesus again unto them saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." Without him we could not and cannot see the way for all that follow him shall not walk in darkness. So to me he is the light that gives me a path to walk by.

He is the truth. John 14:6, Allthat want to know the truth, must go by Jeus, for he is the way, the truth and life. Rom. 6:4, raised to walk in newness of life.

He is the Great Physicaian. Mark 2:17. Luke 5:31,"---they that are whole need not a physician but they that are sick." And when I found out I was sick (spiritually), who could I go to but the Great Physician. There is a remedy for every sin, if we will only go to the Doctor and receive the remedy and take the medicine.

Then he is that Prophet that Moses said would come. Heb.1:1. Who speaks to the people for God, then speaks to God for the people. Also, he is that Great High Priest who interceeds with God for our sins, so we can say that God is our helper. Heb. 13:6, "---The Lord is my helper and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

He is our captain of our salvation. Heb. 2:10. As a

CONT'D ON PAGE 8

captain he gives the orders and we must follow or be punished. 2Cor. 5:10, "For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." He was made perfect through suffering, so must we.

He is King of kings and Lord of lords. Rev. 17:14, "---for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings, and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful." This means that there is no other greater than he. Who is my brother, that wants to tell me whether I can or cannot meet some place.

He is also a wonderful Counsellor, Isa. 9:6,"---his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." This means to me, that he is the One. Who dosen't need this?

He is the good shepherd. John 10:14, "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine." We must follow where he leads, as sheep will follow their leader and no other.

THIS IS WHO HE IS!

Written in love for the truth,
Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow,Okla.

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SPRINGFIELD, COLORADO

Dear Christian Courier:

Brother Ken Baldwin is to begin a meeting for us the 5th of July.

Furnish Canyon ends their meeting the 4th of July. Brother Perigen doing the preaching.

Bro.& Sis. Brenton came by in their trailer house and met with us 4 weeks. We sure enjoyed their being with us and the many good lessons he gave. Gave me a rest from delivering lessons here.

We enjoy the articles and news in the Courier.

Yours in the one Faith,
J.H. Lackey

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KENTON, OKLAHOMA

We here at Furnish Canyon all look forward to receiving the Courier. Enjoy the articles and also news of other congregations and brethren.

Brother Jerry Perigen and family have agreed to come and hold us a meeting, June 28th thru July. 5th. Would be happy to have anyone passing through to stop, then or anytime.

In Christian Love, J.C. & Myrtle Whitley.

BARON, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

Spring is here and with it plans are being made or have already been made for summer activities in the church. Here at Baron, plans are calling for a gospel meeting to begin May 31, with Brother Lloyd Treat doing the teaching. We are expecting a good meeting. Invite and urge every one to attend.

Now that winter is past, colds and flu are beginning to be put behind us and are no longer a hinderance to our assembling ourselves together.

The church here is a little smaller due to some havin moved away during the winter, but seems to be holding its own now.

The paper is enjoyed here by everyone, we are sorry to hear about the staff not having enough material to print. I only hope we are sorry enough to do something about it. May God bless you in your efforts.

For the Church at Baron,
Marion Warford.

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Dear Brethren:

We at Baron are about as usual. There has been a lot of sickness this winter. Bro. Morris just got out of the hospital. Was there about ten days, but is feeling much better and not so much sickness.

Brother Lloyd Algood preached for us last night; gave a good lesson. The subject: "Search the Scriptures."

Our spring meeting will begin May 31 on through June 7. Brother Lloyd Treat from Broken Bow, Oklahoma will be doing the preaching. We would like to invite all who can to come be with us at this time.

We think you are doing a wonderful job with the paper. May the Lord bless you for your worthy efforts.

Written for the Baron Church of Christ
by L.E. Atchley.

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WATERFORD, CALIFORNIA

I heard recently that the church paper was getting low on funds and lower on news. We here at Waterford are still struggling along as always and this is not news; more like the same old story. We can help a little bit on the funds and hope some one else will write news for you.

We are thankful to be doing as well as we are. Hope and pray all congregations can do as well. Grow or at least hold their own. That seems quite a job, just to keep from losing members and sliding down hill.

With love,
Your Brother in Christ,
Elmo Brown

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Such a pleasure to hear from new writers, keep up the work Remember the deadline for following month is the 15th.

STILWELL, OKLAHOMA

The church here is doing fair, considering the age in which we are living. There has been quite a lot of sickness this past winter among the members, but it seems that most are about to ge straightened out now.

We enjoy the paper very much and we comend the staff for the job they are doing in putting out the paper. It gives us courage, to read what other churches are doing for the cause. We then know we are not fighting the battle alone.

I have been advised to announce our meeting, starting June 14 thru the 21 with Brother Harry Dye of Yuma, Arizona in charge of the preaching each evening. We extend a hearty welcome to all, who can come and be with us during these services. We will enjoy your presence and will do all we can to make you feel welcome and to enjoy being with us.

W.E. Daniels for the
Pleasant View Church of Christ.

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

Just a few lines to say we here are as usual and we enjoy the paper. Want you to keep up the good work.

We went to Stilwell, Oklahoma the second Sunday in April. All were doing well. Bro.& Sis. Daniels had their 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration, celebrated with a singing, was a little small but very good.

The meeting at Baron, Oklahoma starts on the 31st of May and to continue for one week. I will do my very best to preach the word and hope the Lord gives the increase. All that can, come be with us in the meeting.

Our meeting will start here sometine in July, the Lord willing. Although the date is not certain as yet, plan to be with us here. Brother Jim Brown of Stilwell is called to be the speaker, if the Lord be willing.

I would like to say that I appreciated Brother Weakley's article in the past issue of the paper, also Brother Jack Morris' article. Wish we all could and would let the Lord do the judging then there would be more unity in the faith.

Written in Love,
Lloyd Treat.

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CAMP MEETING

FAR WEST CAMP MEETING
Boonville, California-reached via Hwy 101 north to Cloverdale from San Francisco, then 22 mi. NW to the Rio Ranch-eria camp sign. June 14 thru 21st.

DELTA CAMP MEETING
Delta, Colorado-camping with your own facilities, no charge. Services at the Church building. Aug.2 thru 9th. Further information contact Ken Baldwin Box 188 Delta,Colo.81416

BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

We here at Bellflower have just finished a meeting held by Brother Kenneth Baldwin. He did an excellent job preaching this series of lessons and I'm sure everyone attending was very much edified. We had good attendance from our local members and quite a lot of visitors. Visitors included some from La Habra, Pomona, Somerton, San Diego and Yuma congregations. We wish to thank all for coming to help us out and Brother Baldwin for doing such a fine job. We enjoyed visiting with all these brothers and sisters in Christ and hope they will be back soon.

On the last Sunday of our meeting everyone was happy to help Brother & Sister Elmer Hunt celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary and to wish them many more to come.

A few weeks prior to our meeting Brother Duane Bixler and family from Phoenix, Arizona, were here for the weekend.

A week before our meeting we were happy to baptize a new Sister in Christ-Evelyn Hymes.

Jerry Perigen for the
Bellflower Congregation.

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

Church activity is progressing as usual at Modesto. We were happy to be present last Lord's day (24th) when Sister Shuwoy of Modesto came foreward, requesting the prayers of the church.

Brother Kenneth Perry, some weeks ago, suffered a broken back on the job. He is home now doing some better, although he must wear a steel brace. We pray for him, that his recovery will be complete and speedy.

Brother and Sister Weakley recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, May 27th. The congregation extends our warmest congratulations, and wishes for many more happy years together.

We are all looking foreward to another Far West Camp meeting at Boonville this year. Everyone come!

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BOONVILLE, CALIFORNIA.

We are all looking foreward to the 14th of June, when brethren from all points of the compass (except west) will assemble at Boonville for the annual Far West Camp meeting.

1969 was a good success, and we hope for an even better year in 1970. June 14th through 21st is the time. HOWEVER, THERE WILL BE AN EVENING MEAL SERVED ON SATURDAY 13TH FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE PRESENT. THE FACILITIES ARE OPEN, AND YOU MAY MOVE IN ON SATURDAY IF YOU WISH. Remember, bring WARM clothes, and plenty of bedding.

THE FOUNDATION

Every building must have a foundation, so when God determined to build the church, he layed the foundation in Jerusalem. Isa 28: 16-17, "Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

Matt 21: 42, "Jesus saith unto them, 'did you never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner?'".

History tells us when the temple was being built by Solomon there was one stone which was cut by the stonemasons that the ones who laid the stone couldn't find any place it would fit. They rolled it around and stumbled over it, refused it, rejected it, and tried to get rid of it. But when the walls were laid, they needed a corner stone to tie in, so they went and got the one they had rejected and it fit fine.

The stone cut out of the mountain without hands was Christ. (Dan 2: 31-45) This is the stone which was set at naught of you builders which is become the head of the corner. (Acts 4: 11)

Rom 9: 33, "As it is written, Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offence, and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. Eph 2: 19-31, "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreignors but fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom all the building fitley framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord.

1 Pet 2: 6-8 (Good news for modern man translation) "Come to the Lord, the living stone rejected as worthless by men, but chosen as viable by God. Come as living stones and let yourselves be used in building the spiritual temple where you will serve as holy priests to offer spiritual and acceptable sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ, for the scripture says I choose a viable stone which I now place as the cornerstone in Zion."

Jesus' parable of the house built upon the rock, Matt 7: 24-27, is concerning the church. It was built upon a rock. "Upon this rock I will build my Church." Matt 16: 18.

God laid the foundation for his church. Who laid the foundations for all these other several hundred? "For other foundation can no man lay, than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." God laid one foundation and built one church upon it. Man cannot lay another on it, for there is room on one foundation for only one building. This one was built upon a rock: what are the others built upon?

(This article, by Bro Hayse Morris, to be continued.)