The Christian
COURIER

Post Office Box 1342
Modesto, California 95353

Published Monthly, by Brethren of the Church of Christ

APRIL, 1971

GOD'S MEASURING ROD

God has but one rule
By which to measure man.
It is revealed in His
Glorious Gospel Plan.
Never changing thru the years,
So down thru history.
It's the same as always today,
And forever more will be.
No matter where you wander,
How old you live to be,
God's word is the measure
That'll decide your destiny.

****

While digging thru our file, we came upon this little clipping, gleaned from a bulletin a few years ago. Thinking how vacant some of our congregations are at times of young people and that perhaps many of them have been in this teenager's shoes at one time or the other, we do hope it will be of some benefit in some way.
Please read it and think!!

Question: "I must confess that as a teenager I am bored. My parents have always given me everything I need, however, to go to church just bores me. I hate to hurt their feelings because they have been so good. What can I do?"

Answer: You go to church: It will not hurt you to be bored a little. Try to exercise your mental capacities while you are there. Our brains are extremely lazy. There are moments in any sermon that will thrill and challenge you if you exercise your mental accumen to it's full capacity. Remember, your parents love you with an unselfish love. This is true of no one else in the world. They want the very best for you. Obey them and do what they tell you to do until you get a home of your own. When you begin to have children of your own, you will realize what a tremendous advantage you had in having parents who required that you attend church with them.

****

"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

THE TRUTH

Jno.10:6 Jesus says, I am the way, the truth and the life. The truth, the word of God & the Gospel are synonamus terms, or words, and things said of one, may be used by the other, as ye shall know the truth, and the truth sahll make you free Jno.8:32. --The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, hath made me free from the law of sin and death Rom. 8:2. But God be thanked ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine, which was delivered unto you(the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ) (which is the Gospel) being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. Rom.6:17. ---Christ is the truth, and if the Son shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. From the above we learn that the truth can set us free--Free from sin. Jno. 8:36.

Source of Truth: Jno.1:17. The law was given by Moses, but Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. Jno.1:14 The word(Christ)was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the Glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of Grace & Truth. Jer.10:10 The Lord He is the God of truth. Jno. 18:37 Jesus being tried before Pilate then asked,What is truth? The answer Jno.17: 17. Thy word is truth. We can be sanctified by the truth. Jno.17:17 Jesus praying for His disciples-Sanctify them through thy truth, Thy word is truth. And we learn from IThess.4:3 This is the will of God, even your sancitfication. IIThess. 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks to God, for you brethren, beloved of the Lord, because He hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation, through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth.

The Truth will purify our souls when we obey it. 1Pet.1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth, through unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently, Being born again, not of corruptible seed,but of incorruptible, by the word of God which liveth & abideth forever. Not only are we purified by obedience to the truth, but at the same time we are born again by the Word of God--ThyWord is truth.--Also fulfilling the requirements which Christ announced to Nicodemus Jno.3:5 Except a man be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. Jno. 6:63 It is the Spirit that quickeneth, the words that I speak unto you, they are Spirit and they are life-- Psa.119:50 For thy word hath quickened me.

The Truth, the word, the Gospel, the Spirit and the Word being the see of the kingdom will beget, we will be born again, purify,cleanse, sanctify, make free from sin, and save us if we ill render obedience to it.Jas.1:18 Of His own will begat He us with the word of truth.Paul in ICor.4:15 For in Christ Jesus have I begotten you through the Gospel. After the begettal a birth mention-

ed above IPet.1:23 Being born again not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, by theWord of God, which liveth & abideth forever.

Now being born again, We are, as new born babes to desire the sincere milk of the word that we may grow thereby IPet. 2:2. Peter also tells us to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

In Eph.5:25,26 &27 we learn, that Christ loved the church and gave himself for it, that He might sanctify and clean it by the washing of water, by the woed, that He might present it to Himself,a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.

By the Spiritual birth we become God's children and heirs, For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ, If ye then be Christ's then ye are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise Gal.3:26-27. And this is the promise that He has promised us even eternal life. IJno.2:25.

Paul admonished us, Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, IITim.2:15. Also Eph.6:11-18 Stand therefore, having your loins girth, about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness, and your feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace; above all the firey darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God:praying always with all prayer and supplication for all saints.

Preach the word, be instant in season and out of season, rebuke and exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine, IITim.4:2 Let us now read Jno.6:45 It is written in the prophets, And they all shall be taught of God, Every man therefore, that hath heard and hath learned of the Father,cometh to me. ---Let us preach the Word-the Truth, the Gospel and so fulfill the will of God.

J.H. Lackey
Springfield, Colorado

****

UNDERSTANDING

Understanding is a gift. A person who understands feelings of others has a better chance to help oneself. A Christian should always have understandirg, for if you take time for other people it will help your light shine brighter.

To forget is very hard if you have been hurt and persecuted by ones dear to you. The thought of making them pay for what they have done sounds very good, but in no way, we can't think that way. We are taught in God's Word,"Forgetting those things which are behind,and reaching forth unto those things which are before." (Phil. 3:13)

If we could be as young children forgiving and forgetting things, in just a few breaths. We would be doing good. But as human beings, fleshly, we are

weak, but we should always strive to be better. Leave the past behind and make the present a better life. Keep yourself looking toward God and His home He's prepared. (God helps us for we are weak and lowly. Strengthen my heart with love that I may understand, be able to forget and forgive, Amen.)

This is to all my beloved Brothers & Sisters in Christ.

Retha Morris
Baron, Oklahoma

****

ONE SOLITARY LIFE

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village. He worked as a carpenter until he was thirty, and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He never went to college He never put his foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials, but Himself.

While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth while He was dying and that was His coat. When He was dead, He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone, and today He is the centerpiece of the human race and the leader of the column of progress.

It is far within the mark to say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that ONE SOLITARY LIFE.

****

THE SURE FOUNDATION

Isa.28:16 "Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste"

Now it would require too much space to go into all of this. How God said The hail would sweep away the refuge of lies. Please read.

Every building has a foundation: One foundation, One building: to have a sure one is to dig deep and find a soild rock. Jesus said, "Therefore whoever heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them I will liken him unto a wise man which built his house upon a rock, the rain decended and the floods came and beat upon that house and it fell not for it was founded upon a rock." So the wise Master Builder layed One foundation on the surest thing in the world and built One church on it. Jesus told Peter on this rock I will build my church. Matt.16:15&16.

ICor.3:11 Paul said,For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.So the other several must be built on sand He that heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them not shall be likened unto a foolish man which built his house upon the sand and the rains descended and the floods came and the winds blew and beat upon that house and it fell.

Eph.2:20,"And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;"

It is said in the building of the temple by Solomon, there was one stone which the builders coulfn"t find a place it would fit. They stumbled over it and rolled it around out of the way, until the walls were laid up and almost finished, but they needed one stone to tie it all together. They went and got the one they had tried to get rid of and it fit perfectly.

In Matt.21:42, "Jesus saith unto them,Did ye never read in the Scriptures,The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner:this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?"

IPeter 2:6-7,"Wherefore also it is contained in the Scripture,Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious:and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the sone which the builders disallowed,the same is made the head of the corner. And in verse 8,"And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense, even to them which stumble at the word,being disobedient:whereunto also they were appointed." Today people who stumble at the word build churches and name them after men and the preachers preach the doctrine of men because they refuse to believe the Word of God and be obedient to its teaching.

Therefore Paul says in 2Thess.1:7-9,"And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;" Now we go again to 1Cor.3:12,"Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones wood, hay, stubble;" If we build on Christ with gold, silver,precious stones, the building will stand in tribulations,trials, persecutims and all firey darts of the Devil. Let us be careful and know what foundation we build on and with what materials we build with. The Lord God said, 'a sure foundation in Zion.' Isa. 28:16

Your Brother in Christ,
With love of the Truth.
Hayse Morris
Rt. 2 Stillwell,Okla.

****

THREE ROUNDS WITH THE DEVIL

ROUND 1

Matt.4:1-4,"Then was Jesus

led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward a-hungered. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said,It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." The devil knew that Jesus was the Son of God, but finding Jesus in a weaken condition he was doing his best to cause Jesus to error.

John1:14,"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,(and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."Jesus said we must live by every word that proceeds from God. Jno.1:14 tells us that the Word was made flesh and lived on the earth. If we are to live by every word that proceeds from God then we are going to have to live according to what the Word said when it lived here on earth. If we are going to win round 1 with the devil as Jesus did we need to be able to shy as Jesus did, It is Written!

ROUND 2

Matt.4:5-7 ,"Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God." At a time inthe life of Jesus when it would have been easier to have strayed, he still remained steadfast. Have other people done the same? Let us check on some other people and find out.

ICor.10:9 says,"Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents." The people it is talking about here were the people of God, please start at the first of the chapter and read it. Yes brethren, we can be destroyed. Matt.10: 28 says,"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." Brethren, let us fear God and Christ Don't tempt them and be destroyed!

ROUND 3

Matt.4:8-11,"Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showing him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee,if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him,"

Jesus could have became the most powerful man on earth and the most wealthy rather he chose to remain true to God. Jesus tells us in Matt.6:20-21,"But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth

nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." James 4: 7 tells us to Submit your self to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. This is what Jesus did and in so doing won the battle.

Yours in Christ,
Marion Warford
Box 238
Westville,Okla.

****

DELTA CAMP MEETING.....

June 27 through July 5 Delta, Colorado. We do not have all the particulars on this at the time of this printing. Be sure to look in next issue, or contact Brother Ken Baldwin P.O.Box 188 Delta,Colo. 81416 Phone (303) 874-4581.

****

OBITUARY

Renzo Stephens was born April 20,1888, in Arbuckle Island, Ark. He was the son of the late John & Jane Stephens,both originally from Tenn. In 1945, he moved to California,where he made his home in the Modesto area, and resided there for the past 26 yrs. He attended worship at the Glen & Dallas congregation in Modesto.On Mar. 26,1971, he departed theis life at the age of 82 yrs,11mos. & 6 days. He was the Husband of Sis. Minnie Stephens of Modesto the Father of Hershel Stephens of pleasant Hill,Calif.;Virgil Stephens of Phoenix,Arizona; & Zelma Willingham of Hughson, (which is near Modesto); also the Grandfather of 7 Grandchildren and 10 Great-Grandchildren. Bro.J.D. Logan officated,burial was at Lakewood Memorial. Our deepest sympathy goes to all the loved ones.

****

PLEASE SEND MORE ARTICLES....

WESLEY,ARKANSAS

Dear Brethren:

Since the departure ofthis life of my beloved wife. I will make my residence here near my daughter & son-in-law and also near a son.

And I will say thanks to everyone very much for everything.

W.E.Daniels
Star Route
Wesley,Ark.72773

****

BARON,OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren;

The church here at Baron is doing good, no illness as I know of. We were greived at the passing away of Sister Mary Daniels,she was 74 years old. She was a member of the church at Stilwell. The good news is that there were 3 recently baptized from the Stillwell congregation. We wish them well on a new road of life.

We hope the marriage of Sis. Lovetta is a happy one,we do not know Bro. Bolin but are looking forward to meeting him.

The church at Baron had services all day long on Easter Sunday.

For the Church at Baron, Marion Warford.

****

HUMBLE, TEXAS

The church here is doing just fine. We are still meeting in my home in Humble.

Enclosed is a donation from the church here and we

enjoy the paper so much.
Thank you,
Mrs.J.W.Bedingfield
Box T
Humble, Texas 77338

****

LORENZO,TEXAS

Thank you for sending us the Courier in Colorado Springs Evart will be discharged from the Army April 17,1971.We are planning to live here in Lorenzo, so we will be able to recieve the Courier in the same envelope that you already send here.

Thank you again,
Evart & Becky Forsman
Box 578
Lorenzo,Texas.

****

BURKBURNETT, TEXAS

Dear Brethren:

I enjoy the Courier very much and believe if other of the Brethren would be more ready to help, there would be more unity.

A Sister in Christ,
Mrs.Leroy Mullens
P.O.Box 572
Burkburnett,Texas 76354

****

BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Greetings to the Brotherhood:

Most everyone here are all well at the present time. The attendance here has been good. Members are circulating throughout the various congregations, helping whenever there is need.

Sis. Alice Dodson is here with her son Bro. Al Dodson, We are enjoying having her with us. Bro.Jerry Perigen is getting things ready for a trip to Yakima, Wash. for the meeting he plans to hold there April 11th thru 18th, Sis. Betty too plans to go with him. The three children Sharilyn, Mark & Lori will stay with their grandparents, the senior Perigens and attend their school.

We are looking forward to having Bro.Tom Broadway and his family from Grants Pass, Ore. with us in a meeting Aug.22nd thru 29th Come hear Bro. Broadway. Everyone welcome to attend.

Bro. Claud Perigen of Bellflower will be in a meeting at Furnish Canyon (Kenton,Okla.) this summer. Date pending as yet.

Visitors: From the La Habra congregation: Roy Snoderly,Sis.Bernice Cavin, Sis.Roxie Adams,Sis.Kathy Campbell & Latishia,Bro.& Sis.Dayton Clouse,The Marion Serrano family, Sis. Edna Ferguson,Bro.L.C.England. Reydon,Okla.:Bro.& Sis. Clyde Couchman. Modesto, California: J.D.&Fern Logan, Gene McKinney family,Sis. Lula Way,& Sis.Jewell Cadwell. The Don Dabbs youngsters bring their little friends to Church also.

Christian Love from the Bellflower congregation
9914 Arkansas Street.
Bellflower,California.

****

GRANTS PASS, OREGON

We enjoy the paper-the news-the good articles-and we appreciate the effort it takes to publish the Courier-Keep up the good work!

Different ones have had to contend with the "virus bug' at one time or another, but all seem to be better at present. Bro. Fay Kellems appears to be steadily improving after a double operation in November and

two months in the hospital.

We are happy to announce a new sister in Christ.Loretta Janes(pronounced Jaynes) was baptized Sat.Mar.27th. She is 81 years young.

We are also happy to announce that Chris Wegley, the daughter of Bro.& Sis. Harry Wegley, is now Mrs. Gary Smith. Congratulations!

The Church of Christ at
Grants Pass,Oregon.

****

EUGENE, OREGON

Am sending a small amount for the Courier, wish we could send more.

Not much to report; only colds,aches & pains. Hope all ailing ones down your way will soon be feeling better, as it begins to act like spring.

Love to you all,
Earl L. Jones
For the Church at Eugene
395 Centenial & Kelly Streets

****

PORT ORCHARD,WASHINGTON

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

I should have written before, but have a habit of putting things off.

Bro. Wes Orendorff had a back operation about the middle of March. We went to see him last Sunday. He is in a hospital in Seattle. As I understand it, the doctors put a plastic disk in the lower part of his back. I called Robbie last night,she said Wes is expected to come home any day now.

Bro. Ellis Forsman and his family have moved from Yakima to Tacoma. So they meet here with us now,which will be a big help.

With God's help we will have our building started here the last of this week. It will only be 24x48 ft.,but should seat about 75 or 80 people. I have made arrangements for the money so I can go ahead and have it built.

We have had a real wet spring here.

There isn't much news from here. We are all about as well as could be expected. Ellen has been having a little trouble with her back lately. We are still both working though.

We really enjoy the articles and news in the paper.

Love to all our Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Robert & Ellen McCay
Glenwood Chruch of Christ.

****

MODESTO,CALIFORNIA

The congregation at Modesto is progressing along,which we are very thankful to our heavenly Father.

We are sorry to report the passing of Brother Renzo Stephens, after a lengthy illness. Sister Stephens isn't in very good health, but is able to attend worship occasionally with her daughter, Sister Zelma Willingham.

There has been some illness among us, but none too serious at the present. Bro.& Sis. J.D. Logan and Bro. & Sis. Gene McKinney and girls journeyed to Los Angeles in March to see Bro. J.D.'s brother which was injured very seriously in an auto accident Feb.16th. He is in the hospital still,but improving some. While in the area the McKinney's and the Logan's visited with the church at Bellflower.

We have had some visitors, which we are always happy to have with us. Bro.&Sis. N.E.Bergstrom from Stanton, Texas. Bro.&Sis.Ken Baldwin from Delta,Colo. Sister

Lynette Meek & friend Kirk from Sacramento, Bro.& Sis. Paul Lucas & family, their son Dean,his wife & baby all from Fremont,Calif.; Bro. & Sis. Bill McCay Sr. & family, Bro.& Sis. Bill McCay Jr. & Little Billy all from Yakima Wash. Possibly other visitors whom we may not of mentioned.

Bro. Harry Dye of Yuma, Arizona held us a weeks meeting, during the Easter vacation, our crowd was fairly good during it, with a number of visitors. We especially wish to thank those who came from a long way off to be with us & help out. It was greatly appreciated-also we want to thank nearby Waterford congregation for their attendance & support. Too we wish to express our appreciation for the outside interest shown. All of you come back and be with us anytime. Visitors: Yakima,Wash:Bro. & Sis. Howard McCay & daughter Jackie,Steve Bumgardner,Carol & Jimmy Lamb,Sis.Doris Berry & Children: Bellflower,Calif. Bro.& Sis. Olin Taylor, Sis. Minnie Willingham,Bro.&Sis. Donald Dabbs & family: Lakeside,Calif: Bro.& Sis. J.D. Johnson;Chico,Calif: Bro.& Sis.Clif Brockman & family; Glendora,Calif: Bro.&Sis. J.R.Kellems; Sunnyvale, Calif. Pennie Butzler & son Mark; Some from near Modesto:Velmo Brown, Effie & Dale Howard, Pat Guyer & children,Gary & Kim. This is all we can think of at present, if we overlooked anyone we are truly sorry.

A little note of saddness for us and for the ones that have attended the West Coast camp meeting at Boonville,Ca. We are unable to get it this year, but keep in mind the camp meeting at Delta,Colo. June 27th to July 5- If it be the Lord's Will there will be the West Coast Camp next year if all the plans materialize.

With Christian Love to all from the Church of Christ at Modesto,Calif. Corner of Glenn & Dallas St. Anyone passing this way welcome, please call Al Burtis523-6387 Modesto or J.D.Logan 464-4961 Stockton.

****

MEETING DATES: REMEMBER! Support the meetings in your area whenever possible.

Waterford,Calif. July 4 - 11th with Bro. Donald Dabbs of Bellflower,Calif. doing the speaking.

Bellflower,Calif. Aug. 22-29 with Bro. Tom Broadway of Grants Pass, Oregon doing the speaking.

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN THE DATE OF YOUR MEETING AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE SO PEOPLE CAN PLAN TO TRAVEL TO ATTEND ALL POSSIBLE.

****

Howerer weary may appear,
the daily path we trod,
There is no thinking justified
to turn away from God-

Our God is our existence,
And our first & final hope.
The very last candlelight
Wherever we may Grope-

Our trials and our sorrows are
the ones that He imposes-
As life on earth was never
meant to be a bed of roses.

However desperate we feel,
Whatever time or place,
Let us remember that all life,
is by His Loving Grace.

And as we strive to perservere
with faith and courage true,
God will always be at our side
To see our struggle through

GOD'S PEOPLE

What manner of people ought they to be?

Rom 12:12 "Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;"

1Thess 5:17-18 "Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

Jude 1:3 "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

1Peter 2:9 "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:"

Eph.4:1-6 "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

1Peter 1:22 "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:"

1John 3:14"We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death."

2Cor. 4:1-6"Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully: but, by manifestation of the truth, commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus'sake. For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ"

2Tim. 4:2 "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine."

Rom.1:15"So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also."

Matt.24:44"Therefore be ye

also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

Brethren, let us work together for the Lord and be waiting when he comes again.

Written in Love of the Brotherhood,
Bro. George Brightie Morris
Baron, Oklahoma

****

ALBANY, OREGON

Dear Bros.& Sis. in Christ,
I get the paper from you and enjoy it very much, as I am a new child in Christ and need all the help I can get to make me grow from a child into a full-grown man in Christ. I met Bro.& Sis. Hunt of Garden Grove recently at the Springfield congregation, and I now receive his LLL regularly. I am a single man and have lots of time to read God's word, but I don't understand it as well as I should. However, I find the more I read it the more I understand it.

I am sending a small gift. I pray it will be of some help. Keep the good work up and I pray the day will come when all will be children of God.

Your's in Christ,
Robert L. Gray
845 W. 18th St.
Albany, Oregon 97321

****

DEPARTED

As we are putting the final words in the paper, we recieved a letter in the mail from Bro. & Sis. Ken Baldwin, stating that they arrived home safely after their trip out to Calif. but a note of sadness :Bro Ken was to preach Bro J.L. Lacey's funeral,Sat. May 8 in Colorado

Saints And Sinners

"When some fellow yields to temptation,
And breakds a conventional law,
We look for no good in his makeup,
But,Lord,how we look for the flaw.
No one asks,"Who did the tempting?"
Nor allows for the battles he's fought.
His name becomes food for the jackals,
The saints who have never been caught.
I'm a sinner,O Lord, and I know it.
I am weak, and I blunder and fail.
I am tossed on life's stormy ocean
Like a ship that is caught in a gale.
I am willing to trust in thy mercy,
To keep the commandments thou'st taught,
But deliver me, Lord, from the judgment
Of the saints who have never been caught."

Ancnymous.

****

PSALM 37:1-6

Fret not thyself because of evil-doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass,and wither as the green herb. Trust in the Lord,and do good;so shalt thou dwell in the land,and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lod; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as [illegible] thy judgment as the noonday