The Christian
COURIER

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THE WORD OF GOD AND THE SPIRIT.
Do they operate together or seperately?

John 6:63 Jesus says,"It is the spirit that quickenet; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

1Cor. 12:1-3 The different Spiritual gifts were given by the Spirit, verse 8,"For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;" verse 9 "---to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit." We notice that one of these gifts was faith, but later we learn that faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God. Rom. 10:17. This was after (that which is perfect is come 1Cor. 13:10.)And James tells us that whosoever looketh into the PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY, and continueth therein,he being not a forgetful hearer,but a doer of the word, this man shall be blessed in his deeds. Psa. 119:105 The commandment of the Lord is pure,enlightening the eyes. The Law of the Lord is perfect converting the soul. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." verse 130,"The entrance of thy words giveth light it giveth understanding unto the simple."

Before the New Testament was fully revealed and written these spiritual gifts were given to guide the Apostles in revealing the PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY, after which we are guided by the words revealed by the Apostles, as Paul has stated in Eph.3:4-5Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) Which in other ages was made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;" John14: 26 Christ speaking to the Apostles,"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name,he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remeberance, whatsoever I have said unto you." 2Cor.3:6 , Paul referring to the authority given the Apostles,Who hath made us able ministers of the New Testament: Then bore them witness with signs and wonders and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to His own will. Heb.2:1-4--And Paul tells that these spiritual gifts were the signs of an apostle,2Cor12:12.

Now let us examine different things said of,and done by the Word and the Spirit. Leads--"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." We are taught the Word,then come to God. John 6:44,"No man man can come to me,except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."

John 15:3, The word cleanses,"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." Eph. 5:25 It sancifies and cleanses, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it:" verse 26,"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word," verse 27,"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." John 17:17,"Sanctify them through thy truth:thy word is truth;" The truth, which the Spirit revealed through the apostles will make us free from sin. John 8:32"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Thy word is truth. Now ye are clean through the word spoken to you. Rom. 6:17 "God be thanked,that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you." In verse 18,"Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness."(That form of doctrine, the death, burial and resurrection of Christ) By being buried with Him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we also should walk in newness of life Rom 6:3--5

Begotten and born of the Word, the seed of the Kingsom Jas. 1:18,"Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures," 1Cor.4:15,"-----I have begotten you through the gospel." 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:" verse 23,"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

It quickens, MAKES ALIVE. Psa. 119:50, "This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me." Eph. 2:1"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;" Col. 2:13"And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses. The Spirit giveth Life. John 6:63,"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

THE TRUTH PURIFIES AND WE ARE BORN OF IT. THE WORD OF GOD.

LPeter1:22-23,"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; Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

Saves: James 1:21 "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls." Acts 11:14, the angel instructing Corneleius to send for Peter, "Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved." 2Tim. 3:15,"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

Converts the soul: The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul. Man lives by God's word: Luke 4:4 "--- It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." 2Pet. 3:18, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever."

Makes Sons and Daughters of us: John 1:11, "He (verse 1) came unto his own, and his own received him not." (Verse 12), "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" 2Cor. 6:18,Sons and Daughters. Rom.8:14,"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." IJohn 3:1, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be:---"

John 6:68, after Jesus impressed upon His disciples the necessity of eating His flesh and drinking His blood in order to have life,"Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink His blood, ye have no life in you. Many of His disciples did not understand how this could be done and forsook Him. He then said to the twelve, "Will ye also go away?" Then Peter answered Him, "to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life."

Col. 3:16, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.". Heb. 4:12, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Rom. 1:16, "For I am not ashamed 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." (verse 17)"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is

written,The just shall live by faith." Tit.2:11,"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." Verse 12,"Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly,righteously, and godly, in this present world;;" The Grace of God teaches us: In the Gospel of Christ is revealed the righteousness of God. Therefore, let us study to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2Tim.2:15.

We find in the above scriptures that the Spirit, the Word, the Truth, the Gospel of Christ, and the Grace of God, will teach, give life, will enlighten,give light and understanding, lead us, cleanse us and sanctify us, make us free from sin, give us faith, begets us, then we are born again, not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible, By the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.Quickened, made alive(Spiritually alive), makes us wise unto salvation, converts the soul, saves us, that man lives and grows by it, makes sons and daughters of us, that Christ hath the words of eternal life, that the Word of God is quick and powerful, that the worlds were framed by the word of God, and also held in store,John 1:1-3,"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." But all these facts will not benefit us in the ways spoken unless we are obedient to His Word.

In Rom.6:17-18, the Romans were made free from sin by obedience to that form of doctrine, by believing the Gospel, repenting of their sins and confessing their faith in Christ, then being planted in the likeness of His death in baptism, for the remission of sins,then raised in the likeness of His resurrection to walk in newness of Life. Rom.6:3-6.

Seeing we are encompassed about with so great cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of God, angels, principalities, and powers made subject to Him.

J.H.Lackey

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IN MEMORY

James Horace Lackey: Brother Lackey passed away on May 5, 1971,in the Southeast Colorado Hospital,Springfield,Colo.

Brother Lackey was born on December 20,1890 in Grear County,Oklahoma,near Mangum. The son of N.H. and Theodocia Lackey.

He leaves his wife,Sister Lola Lackey of Springfield, Colo.; two daughters,Inez Vaughn of Denver,Colo. and Waun-

eta Hooker of Chico,Calif.; 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Services for Brother Lackey were held May 8, 1971at the Rich Funeral Home in Springfield, by Brother Kenneth Baldwin of Delta,Colorado. Interment at Springfield Cemetery,Springfield,Colorado.

The article at the beginning of this issue, is just one of many we have of Brother Lackey's and will publish more of them from time to time. He was very faithful in the work of the Lord and in sending out these articles to a great number of people. We are sure they will be missed in the future. But the ones he did send in the past will long be remembered and studied by us all from time to time.

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THE LAW-OLD AND NEW

"For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." John 1:17

"Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law?..." John 7:19

"Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying,'Ye must be circumcised', and'Keep the law': to whom we gave no such commandment:" Acts 15:24

"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;" Romans 3:20-21

"Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." Romans 3:27-28

"For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith." Romans 4:13

"Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. But now we are delivered from the law,..." Romans 7:4-6

"And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death." Romans 7:10

"For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh." Romans 8:3

"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." Romans 10:4

"Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? And if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? ICorinthians 6:2

"Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophesies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." ICorinthians 13:8-10

"There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification." ICorinthians 14:10

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also did receive, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:" ICorinthians 15:3-4

"And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: in whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;" Colossians 2:10-14

"Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been the law. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ," Galatians 3:21-27

"For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace." Romans 6:14

"I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness came by the law, then Christ is dead in vain." Galatians 2:21

"No man also seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment: else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the rent is made worse. And no man putteth new wine into old bottles: else the new wine doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred: but new wine must be put into new bottles." St. Mark 2:21-22

So says the great Book of Truth.

David W. Brassine
339 May Ave.
Yuma, Arizona 85364

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PROPER TEACHING OF PURE RELIGION

"Teaching...one another..." Colossians 3:16

We hear so much teaching today on religion that sometimes we wonder if it really means anything at all to the people of today. The religion I want to notice is pure religion. James 1:27 This religion is pure because it is from a pure God; and this religion is a working religion, which embraces teaching one's children in the ways of God. Ephesians 6:4

God has taught not to forsake the assembly. Hebrews 10:25 Although this is important, this is not all God has taught. He commands in Titus 2:3-5 that the aged women teach the young women to love and care for their children and husbands, and be keepers of the home. He also commands the father to admonish the children in the ways of the Lord, which includes teaching them not to put away their wives. Matthew 5:32 Why? Because they and their wives are to be one flesh; they are to love their wives as Christ loves the church. Ephesians 5:25 People cannot do as commanded and still put their wives away. Can we find where Christ divorced the church? Ephesians 5:27 Christ loved it and gave his life for it, and when one of it's members strays away, he is willing to take them back. But, how many times do we find people not living according to this example with their husbands or wives? Yet, at the same time, still expecting the Lord to treat them in this same forgiving way. In Romans 7:4 we see that we are married to Christ. If Jesus were to treat us as some people treat their husbands or wives, how many of us would be saved?

But we are to teach our children that pure religion.

"What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."(or divorce) Matthew 19:6 If this is taught properly in the church, there will be no occasion for divorce. The mothers must teach their daughters how to love and obey their husbands, Titus 2:3-5, and the fathers must teach their sons on the matter of loving their wives. Ephesians 6:4, 5:28-29,and Proverbs, chapter 5. We are to keep in mind the things that happened back in old times, lest we should fall after the same example of unbelief. Hebrews 3:8-13 and ICorinthians 10:1-11

Now, let us consider the sixth chapter of Genesis. Here we find the sons of God took daughters of men as wives, and this caused such wickedness in the earth that God said he would completely destroy man off the face of the earth. Boys and girls today, be careful who you marry. If you are a church member, you could do as those people of old. Remember Lot's wife. Genesis 19:26

If we would only teach and live pure religion before the children of the church, we would have much less dissatisfaction among the young, and the old as well. We are commanded in Ephesians 4:3 to endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace; and how can we who are married teach unity of the Spirit or oneness of the flesh while being separated, divorced or remarried? We are commanded to be examples both to the believer and unbeliever. ITimothy 4:16 and 3:15, and IITimothy 2:22-25. So, if we would so live and behave before the world--especially before our children--as those who expect to be judged by the law of Christ, Revelation 20:11-15 and James 3:18, there would not be so much divorce in the church of today.

"Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17

In Christian Love,
Lloyd Treat and wife
13 N. Bock
Broken Bow, Oklahoma 74728

QUESTION:
Remembering a Christian is a keeper of God's word, John 14:15, can a man and wife both be Christians and transgress God's law by divorce? Matthew 19:6

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THE HUSBAND'S LEADERSHIP

The wife should never follow her judgment in preference to that of her husband, for if her husband desires to do right, but errs in judgment, the Lord will bless her in endeavoring to carry out his counsels; for God has placed him at the head and, though he may err in judgment, yet God will not justify the wife in disregarding his instruc-

tions and counsels, for greater is the sin of rebellion than the reeors which arise from want of judgment; therefore, she would be condemnedfor suffering her will to a-. rise against his.

Be obedient and God will cause all things to work for good, and He will correct the errors of the husband in due time.

A wife will lose the spirit of God in refusing to o-bey the counsel of her husband.

--Orson Pratt

*Used by permission.

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CHRISTIANS vs.CHURCH-GOERS
(A reprint of a past article in IT IS WRITTEN)

Many people of today term themselves "Christian" without the faintest comprehension of exactly what a Christian is.

A Christian is a follower of Christ, one who endeavors to live a Christ-like existence. On the other hand, a Church-Goer is one who attends church regularly without intending or trying to carry out any semblence of Christianity. The dictionary states that a Christian is one who "...shows a gentle, humble, helpful spirit."

So we find that while one is an active member of Christ's body, one who practices Christ's teachings, the other is merely present at church on Sunday. Why then does the Church-Goer bother to attend the services if he is not willing to act or pattern his life after the things he has learned in his Sunday excursion? He often attempts to assume the name "Christian" whenever possible. But, why?

The answers, of course, are as varied as there are people in this category, but they can pretty well be summed up thusly: They attend church because (1) It is about the only thing one can do on a Sunday morning--everything else is closed. (2) It looks good to others. (3) For business purposes--many big sales are consummated because the customer has seen the salesman in church. (4) Many are fooling themselves and others into thinking that they are Christians, and they get great self-satisfaction out of this belief.

Which are you--Christian or Church-Goer? This had better be answered truthfully, for the day is coming soon when it will be answered for us whether we wish it to be or not. Just because we are baptized into Christ and at-

tend church regularly and accurately keep the Lord's supper does not mean we are being Christians in the true sense of the word. What, then, must we do if all this does not make us Christians? What else is there?

The only way to find the answer to this problem is to know what is expected of us, to know what God wants us to do, and the only way to find this is to consult the Bible itself.

(To be continued next month)

--B. B. Hunt

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IT IS NOT MINE TO QUESTION

It is not mine to question
God's way of life for me.
It is but mine to follow
Each day more faithfully.
Though rough may be my pathway,
So rugged and so steep,
When trusting Him completely,
The Lord my soul will keep.

It is not mine to question,
When days are dark and drear,
And I can find no reason,
For shadows that appear;
Still far above each stormcloud,
I'll find a rainbow there;
And just above the rainbow
Is God with love to share.

It is not mine to question
My Lord from day to day,
But clasp His hand more tightly,
Then trust him and obey.
Someday God's books will open,
With answers all made plain.
No more I'll need to question,
When God has called my name.

Written in Love,
Sister in Christ,
Nora Loveland

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BARON, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren,

Only a line to announce our gospel meeting. It will start July 4,1971, with Bro. J.D. Johnson speaking for us.

Also we hope this writing finds all the brethren in

better health and working for the Lord.

For the Church at Baron,
Marion Warford

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren,

I will write of the news here at Broken Bow once again since I haven't written in some time.

We are still pressing on and trying to teach others the way.

We have had quite a few visitors in the last few weeks; Bro. Morrisand Bro. Buckner from Stilwell, Okla., Bro. Howard Studer from Lorenzo, Tex., Bro. Paul Anslam and Bro. Paul Ferguson from Goshen, Ark., and Bro. Vanderpool from Bohannon Mt., Ark. It was good to have all the above, and to have some of them speak for us. If there are any others I have overlooked, please excuse me for forgetting.

Our discussion here turned out fine, and members of the church have stated that they have grown more and more steadfast than ever before, and more sure that we are serving right according to the scriptures.

I am still persuing the cause, trying to get the members of the other congregation to study with us. There has been no change-over so far, but a lot of atudy. I hope that there will be a lot more good to come from our effort here.

Yours in Christ,
Lloyd Treat
For the Church at Broken Bow

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STILWELL, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren,

We haven't received the Courier for the Stilwell Church in some time. Bro. Daniels has moved nearer his children, so if he hasn't already notified you, would you send the Stilwell paper to me or one of the other brethren at Stilwell.

I would like to mention in the Courier that in the past few months, eight have been baptized that go to the Stilwell Church. They are: Jerry Barker, a young man back from Viet Nam, Patti Islam, age 15 who is a sister-in-law to Jerry, Jim Bryant, who works with me and lives near Sallisaw, Okla., his wife, Connie, his son, Sam, age 15, his daughters, Debbie and Cindy, ages 13 and 14 respectively, and a friend of the family, Jim Benge, age 16.

We have also done some work on our church building. We've enlarged it twelve feet and paneled it.

I am sending a donation from the church. We enjoy the Courier and everyone has been missing and asking for it.

Christian Love,
Sammy Boen

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BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers in Christ,

Just a small note to send our love, and to say you're doing a wonderful job with the Courier. We enjoy the paper so much, and look forward to reading it each month. It's a bright light in a world of darkness.

If you would, please send us a copy of the Paul Nichols-John Logan debate on breaking bread when you have it.

We've had some flu in our family this year, but thank God for our good health and many blessings. Most of all, we're thankful that we're Christians, and have a hope of that eternal life in heaven.

Our love to you, and all there at Modesto. God bless you in your Christian work.

In Christian Love,
Your Brother and Sister
in Christ,
Al and Okja Way
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92647

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CHRISTIAN COURIER FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance on hand as of Jan.1,1971		328.72
Expenses		
Printing Supplies (Paper, staples, envelopes)	128.79	
Service of typewriter & mimeograph machine	43.66	
Postage	56.00	
	228.45	
Deposits		43.00
		371.72
Balance on hand as of June 1,1971		143.27

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WANTED!! More material is needed if there is to be a July edition of the CHRISTIAN COURIER. Won't you please help?