The Christian
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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH ABOUT BEING A CHRISTIAN ?

To love is the bases of being a Christian. It takes love to know Christ. To love as in respect to our husbands, wives, children or parents, is the love we know, thereby knowing what love is. So if we can feel for these people, to have Christian love, is to have this feeling for everyone: not deisregarding the people that don't love us, for we are to love all.

We find in Luke 6:27-31, "But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloak forbid not to take thy coat also. Give to every man that asketh of thee and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." We have a great many duties and it would take too long to bring them all out: these next chapters and verses will help to bring out some main points of being a Christian.

We are to walk as Christ. Being fleshly men, we know we'll never have the strength Christ had, but He gave us a pattern to walk as close as we possibly can.

We are to be humble. Matt.23:12, "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." To be meek is to be gentle kind, not easily provoked, ready to yield, rather than cause trouble. We can find in Matt. 11:28-29 Christ speaking, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Also we find in 1Peter3:4, "But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and

quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price." In Col.3:12-14, "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any:even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. ..nd above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness." We all know charity is LOVE.

We also know that we are not to judge one another, because there is only One that has the right and authority to do so. As in Rom. 14:13, "Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way." An example of a stumblingblock is found in Ezek. 3:20, "Again, when a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand."

We're also to study 1Tim.4:11 And that you study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and work with your own hands, as we command you; that you may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing. 2Tim.2:15, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needrth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Verse 16 says to shun vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.

These are just a few of the so many things we as Christians have to do and not do. That is why Christ died, so we would have a plan to go by, that would tell us our duties, and we can study it and know the truth. We also have been taught, we will always suffer persecution as it says in 2Tim.3:12."Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." Just remember that God does not put more on us than we can stand. So keep in the Faith and Study daily.

In Christian Love,
Retha Morris
Baron,Oklahoma.

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"THE LORDS SUPPER"

(The following is the conclusion of an article started in October issue, page 12.)

By participating in the communion service, the

child of God is not only teaching the fact of the Saviours death for the sins of men, but he is also publicly confessing his firm belief in this fact. Surely this is a confession that all faithful Christians take unspeakable joy in making, even as they do in verbally acknowledging that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

The Lord's Supper is prospectivein that it proclaims the fact that Jesus is coming again:....Ye proclaim the Lords death till he come.The second coming of Christ is a cardinal doctrine of the New Testament. See John 5:28-29;Acts 10:11; 14:1-3; 1Thess.4:13-18; 2Thess.1:7-9; 2Pet.3:4-10. The Lords Supper is a constant reminder to the Christian that the Lord has promised to return and that he therefore should so live that he will be prepared to meet him at any time. See Matt.24:42-44.

Fifth:(A symbol of unity) The cup of Blessing which we bless is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, being many, are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread. (I Cor. 10:17). The one bread of the Lord"s Supper symbolizes the one body-the Church of Christ. See I Cor.12:18-20. The one bread is a perpetual reminder that the Lord established only one body, (Eph. 4:4), and this one body is his church. (Col. 1:18, Matt. 16:18). Jesus prayed for unity, (John 17:20-21), and his inspired apostles taught in favor of unity and against division. (Rom. 15:5-6, 16: 17). When faithful, loyal Christians rightly partake of the communion feast-eating the bread and drinking the fruit of the vine-they are declaring the oneness of the body of Christ and the Church, and are making an ardent plea to all men guilty of practicing relious division to depart from this sin and, by loyalty to God's Word, to give diligence to keeping the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. (Eph. 4:3).

Sixth:(Manner of partaking) "Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of th that bread, and drink of that cup." (ICor. 11:27-28). Unworthily is an adverb, not an adjective, and, therefore, designate a person's spiritual state or his qualifications to commune, but rather his attitude and manner of partaking. A man's manner of partaking, of course will be determined by his basic spiritual attitudes and activities, and cnnot produce a correct manner of determination. No man knows the heart of man

except God who gave it, and no man can determine his spiritual fitness but himself and his God.

Let the Christian approach the Lords Table with the realization that he is stuggling diligently to live like Christ. Let him feel a deep sense of pentinece for the sins he has committed, then let him partake of the bread and the cup with his entire mind concentrated in love and adoration upon that which is represented by these emblems, the body and blood of Christ. Let him understand that the communion that he is enjoying is of the blessings of the sacrifice of the Saviour. Let him feel in his heart deep life-abiding appreciation for the ight and joy that have come into his life through the forgivness afforded by Calvary. Surely, such an event, serious and lovingly partaking of the Lords Supper, can only be pleasing to God and spiritually uplifting to the participant.

"SHALL BE GUILTY OF THE BODY AND THE BLOOD OF THE LORD"

To treat profanely the Bread, the emblem of the Lords body, broken is to treat profanely the body itself,(for the Lord took bread and he blessed it and break it, and gave to His disciples,saying, Take eat, this is my body which is broken for you: this do in rememberance of me, likewise the cup after supper, saying, this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you.)

These are the symbols of the Lord's body. Therefore to do them in like manner is to do as the Lord said, and any other way would be treating them profanely. When a Christian obeys this command in its intensity, he is united in the fullest intensity of the spirit with the Lord. He can in no wise be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord for he has partaken in a worthy manner.

But let a man prove himself and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. Before a man can partake of the Lord's Supper he must prove himself, or examine himself; (and no one can do that but the participant himself.)It is indeed a fearful thing to partake of the Lord's supper in an unworthy manner.

Therefore a person must be very careful and cannot be too careful in examining ones self to see if his motives are genuine and sincere, (2 Cor 13: 5) Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith: prove your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates. One must do this before he can reach that state of reverence and devotion as to be able to worthily eat of that bread and drink of that cup.

Written in Love, Bert Weakly

The following is the more of the article published in October Courier. The author is Brother Bill Robison

24---After this, comes the end when Christ, having abolished all other rule, authority and power; (here, no doubt is the judgement of the nations, the kings and all who have authority over the people.)

25---For all things must be subject unto him before he can turn or deliver all things back unto God the Father of all aughority and power.

26---The last enemy that is to be destroyed is death; (Satan brought in sin, and sin brought in death) so they shall be destroyed in the same order. Verse 5

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

It is sin that gives death his power to sting and destroy. (For the wages of sin is death. Rom 6: 23)

The strength or power of sin is the law: the law broken is sin. When this law is consciously broken the conscience is wounded. When a moral law is broken moral death follows.

(Rev 20: 10-15 "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

And whosoever was not found written in the book of live was cast into the lake of fire.)

28---And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

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29---Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?

It is my opinion that this verse is referring to a custom about that time, of being baptized for the dead by proxy:(Johnson Comm: Seems to disagree on this, and he says that Paul would of rebuked it. I believe that Paul is doing that very thing here in this verse: The American Trans;--R.S.V.---Phillips,---and the New English Bible Trans. seems to all agree on the Proxy Baptism.

But what Paul is trying to get over to them is, there is definitely a resurrection:

30---And why stand we in jeopardy every hour?
We stand a good chance of being killed at any time, by being out here preaching that Christ died and that he was resurrected from the dead:

31---I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.
32---If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to-morrow we die.
Some seem to think that Paul here, had fought with wild beasts at Ephesus; wherein it was a term that was used by,(Hera-clitus of Ephesus) when he termed, or called his country-men "Wild Beasts" 400 years before, and Titus 1:12. The Cretians are alway liars, Evil Beasts; so therefore he had fought with men that resembled beasts; when we review Acts 19:23-41. We find where Paul was in jeopardy every move he made.
What then would he stand to gain if the dead rise not? All his preaching, all his sufferings were in vain: And as Paul said in the 19th verse, they would be of all men most miserable.
Let us enjoy the good things of life now; for it is sooon to end if there be no resurrection.

33---Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners
34---Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.

(Phillips Translation)
Don't let yourselves be deceived. Talking about things that are not true is bound to be reflected in practical conduct.
Come back to your senses, and don't dabble in sinful doubts.
Remember that there are men who have plenty to say, but have no knowledge of God.

You should be ashamed that I have to write like this at all.

35---But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?

These two questions have been asked, because of their unbelief in the resurrection; but if they had just stopped to consider, or think, they might of understood how foolish they were:

36---Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:
37---And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:
38---But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.
39---All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.

Gen1:11-12---We find here that God at the beginning of creation gave to each of the seed; or to every seed, a body of its own, and God saw that it was good.

We can see why it was so hard for those there at Corinth to believe in the resurrection, when it was hard for even the Disciples to believe.

Although Jesus had repeatedly, and plainly told them that on the third day that he would rise again: Matt.16:21--17:9,23--20:19--26:32--27:63--Mk.8:31--9:31--Lk.18:33--24:7.

John 20:8-9---We find John was the only one that believed when he looked into the empty tomb, And he saw, and believed.

For as yet they knew not the scriptures, that he must rise again from the dead.(They-the Others).

Luke 24:10-11---We find that when Mary Magdalene,and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the Apostles. And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.

Mk.16:12--Lk.24:13---(Read Jno.20:24-25-Doubt'n Thomas) We find here that when Jesus appeared unto the two from Emmaus, and they told the eleven they had seen and talked with him; Neither believed they them.

And then we find here in Mk.16:14, That Jesus appeared unto the Eleven, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen....

We can see by this how hard it was for Paul to preach the resurrection from the dead unto those that have not the kowledge of God(verse 34).

We find here that tose that preached, or proclaimed the story of Jesus' resurrection wre themselves totally unprepared to believe it, and determined not to believe it, and finally came to believe it in spite of themselves.
(Halley) This renders untenalble any possibility that the story was born of an excited and expectant imagination There is no conceivable way to account for theorgin of the story, except that it was an ACTUAL FACT. We, too,one day, by His Grace, shall RISE.

(DeWette) "Although a mystery which cannot be dissipated rest on the manner of the ressurection, the fact of the resurrection can no more be brought into doubt by historic evidence, than the assassination of Caesar."

(Edersheim) "The Resurrection of Christ may unhesitatingly be pronounced the Best Established Fact in History".

(Ewald) "Nothing is more historically certain than that Jesus Rose From the Dead and Appeared again to His followers."

(John A. Broadus) "If we do not know that Jesus of Nazareth Rose from the Dead, we do not know anything historical whatever."

Here are men that did not hear the gospel of Jesus Christ, they never saw Christ, nor heard the Apostles proclaim the resurrection; They have had no evidence whatsoever to believe like the Apostles, and those there at that time, they disbelieved after seeing Christ after the Resurrection. These Historians believed by the Facts of History, by the unseen evidence, and by those that First Published the story that Jesus had risen from the dead;

And it is also by these same Facts that help us believe in the resurrection that our fleshly body will be buried; "We will be resurrected; we will be given a new body as it pleaseth the Lord(verse38).

(Due to lack of space to publish this lengthy and very interesting article, we will continue it in the next issue be sure to watch for it.)

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Sister Clements, wife of the late Bro.Roy Clements,passed from this life on the night of August 27,1971. She was a member of the Church of Christ and met with the congregation at Broken Bow,Okla. whenever she was able.

Hear and Do.

"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therin he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." Jas.1:25

"Blessed are they that do his commandments,that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Rev.22:14

"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." Matt.7:21.

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Jas. 1:27.

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip."Heb.2:1.

"Moreover brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, 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: And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve." 1Cor. 15:1-5.

"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;" Heb. 1:.1-2.

"While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." Matt. 17:5.

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily,verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him,How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?
Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee,

Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Jno.3:3-5.

"Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. 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." 1Pet.1:21-23.

"Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God." Luke 8:11.

"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." Gal.3:26-27.

Lloyd Treat
Broken Bow Oklahoma

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GRASSVALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren:

Brother Lawernce C. Starnes, of Grassvalley, fell asleep in Christ October 26,1971, at the age of 62 yrs. He was at church on Lords day; and that Tuesday he was dead, of a heart attack. I was called to speak words of comfort at his funeral. His Brother, Leonard survives at Grassvalley; also a Brother, Lewis in Arizona and neices and nephews.

Brother Lawrence obeyed the Gospel when a young man and the church at Indian Springs will miss this faithful, humble, charitable-hearted Brother. But, "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord from henceforth. Yea, saith the Lord, they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

Your Brother in Christ,
Curtis C. McCluskey.

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PEORIA, ARIZONA

Christian Courier:

Hello from Peoria Congregation. We had a weeks meeting, October 17-24, 1971. Brother Lloyd Treat of Oklahoma spoke.

John Shepherd
Peoria, Arizona.

Ed. Note:

This was received too late for October issue so we hope to hear the result from this endeavor soon, for printing in the next issue.

Brethren, soon we will begin a new year. Why not make your New Years resolutions now and make one of them be more news and articles for the paper.

BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Brethren:

We here at Bellflower are all doing fine at the present- had a very good meeting in August. Brother Tom Broadway did the preaching and did a very good job too. We want to thank him and all the many visitors who came from both near and far, to help us make our meeting a success. We had a full house every night and though there was no visible results I'm sure everyone was edified by the fine lessons from the scriptures and also the fellowship with one another.

We would like to invite anyone passing through to stop in and meet with us. We're always glad to have visitors.

Jerry Peigen.

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SPRINGFIELD, OREGON

Brethren:

We at Springfield are as common, some have been ailing though. Sister Aualea Roberts had surgery, but but isn't as well as we would like for her to be, however she attends services each Lords Day; for which we are very thankful.

The Elder Sister McCay,(Phoebe) met with us today, was so nice to see her again. Her home now is in Yakima Washington.Also Sister Lula Way and her Daughter and her husband, Mr.& Mrs. Gray, was with us too. Little Sandi Greenway is progressing well in school. Brother Ronald Johnston is home with strep-throat. Brother Dale Roberts gave a very good lesson today.

In Christian Love, a member of Springfield Congregation.

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

It is news time again and I am late as usual, but will not offer any excuse. We here at Broken Bow are still trying and we hope all out there are fine.

We had Bro. Allgood with us Sunday before last. He delivered a good lesson. We appreciate having visitors as it does us good. I will be holding a meeting in Phoenix, Ariz. beginning the 17th of Oct., it it be the Lords Will and then one in Washington beginning the 30th of Oct., if it be the Lords Will.

We hope to have Brother Harry Dye of Yuma,Arizona in our meeting next year sometime around the first of June if possible.

We have had a lot of visitors from Stilwell and other places this year and appreciate what effort has been put forth to help us out here.

Yours in Christ,
Lloyd Treat & wife

STILWELL, OKLAHOMA

To the Gospel Courier:

After being away from the Brothers and Sister in Arizona and California almost 4 years. But having a great desire to once again see them and maybe preach for them once more, while still able to go.

In early August my wife, Evie and myself, left Okla. and went to Kingman, Ariz. to our daughters where we met with her and her family the first Lords Day. We stayed a week with them as she was recuperating from an operation.

Then we went on to Coolidge, to see our son Jack. We met with the Church in Phoenix, the second Lords Day. I preached for them in the worship service. Then we had a nice dinner with Bro.& Sis. Bob Shepherd. We stayed a week with Jack.

Then back to Kingman. Labor Day week-end we went to Lakeside, Calif., from Friday to Tuesday. I preached 3 times there. It was a pleasure to see Bro. &Sis. Dick Taylor and Baby, also met Bro. Bill Taylor and his wife Debbie, whom we have known for a few years. Saw also her sister. These are Brother Don Dabbs' girls. We saw also Sister Gladys Stewart whom we love very much.

Then home after a month's absence. We were very sorry we didn't get to preach any in Yuma and see all our brothers and sisters there. Maybe some other time if they want me to and God is willing.

I will send a subject later on. For now, God bless our Brothers and Sisters everywhere.

Your Brother and Sister in Christ, Hayse and Evie Morris.

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SAN PABLO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren:

The Church here at San Pablo is going along about the same as usual. Every one is well enough to attend services each Lord's Day.

We have had several visitors since we wrote last: Brother and Sister McCluskey of Sacramento; Brother and Sister Gene McKinney and girls of Brentwook; and Brother and Sister Al Burtis and family of Modesto. We enjoyed each one very much and hope they will come back soon.

Our meeting time is 10:30 A M. Every one is welcome.

The San Pablo Church of Christ.