The Christian
COURIER

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ONCE IN GRACE ALWAYS IN GRACE?

Once an Heir, Always an Heir? Galatians 3:26, "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." Verse 27-29 sys: "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise."
Rev.2:10, ".....be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."
Rev. 3:11,"Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." (The crown of life cannot be taken from one who dosen't have it!Can it?)
Rev. 2:5, "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent."

Paul addressed the Letter to the Ephesians, chapter 1, verse 1, ".....to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:"
Now they are warned to repent, and remember from whence thou art fallen;
Heb. 6:4, "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakersof the Holy Ghost." verse 5, " And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come." verse 6, "If they shall fall away to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame."

Rev. 3:5, "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels."
Exo.32:33, ".....Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book."
2 Pet. 2:20, "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled there-

in, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning." verse 21, "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them."

Peter tells in 2 Pet. 1:10, the things necessary to add to our faith; "Wherfore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:" In verses 5 through 10 he tells us to:".....giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue, knowledge; And to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and patience, godliness; And to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that you shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the kowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."

Luke 11:24,"When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry paces, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out." verse25 &26 says, "And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished, Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first."

Heb. 10:38, "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him." verse 39, "But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."

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."

To the church at Laodicea, write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would that thou were cold or hot, So then because thou art neither cold or hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

1Tim. 1:18, "This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare;" verse 19, "Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away, concerning faith have made shipwreck."

1 Tim. 4:1, " Now the Spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils."

2 Tim. 4:3-4," For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

Heb. 3:12, "Take heed, brethren, lest there be any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God." Can a person depart from where he is not? There are a number of other exhortations concerning falling away from Grace. So let us do the things necessary to keep from falling.

Refer again to the things mentioned in 2 Pet.1:5-11. That if we do these things we shall never fall.

Rev.2:10, Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of Life. Tit.19, Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and convince the gainsayer. 2Tim.2:2, Thou then my son, be strong in the Grace that is in Christ Jesus, and the things that thou hast learned of me among many witnesses, the same commit to faithful men, who may be able to teach others also.1Pet. 2:1-2, "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:"

2Peter 3:17-18, "Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

Written by Brother J.H.Lackey
(Deceased)

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

"The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea; who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:10-11) Those people were described as noble because they were eager to know the truth. How many today read the truth and preach it the way they read it??

Here is something we don't hear preached much in the Church of Christ(Acts14:23) says,"And when they had ordained elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed." What happened to those churches?

Titus 1:5, "For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:" Is there somethings that is wanting today? According to the scriptures it is! Some say no one is qualified to be ordained, I say that is a poor excuse for the Chruch of Christ, and God will not accept it.(Acts 16:4-5) "And as they went through the cities,

they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem. And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily." No where in the Bible does it say the apostles and elders gave these decrees to any one that was not appointed or ordained.

Some say that any body can get into the pulpit of Christ'sChurch, but the Bible does not say that. Ordained means to be appointed or chosen, this is for brothers that carry on the duties of worship in the services of the Lord. 1Tim. 5:17, "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine." That scripture is talking about a chosen man. Here is the scripture that many use for the use of any teacher; 1Tim.5:18,"For the Scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The laborer is worthy of his reward." But the next two verses tells of the ox that you can set down. Verses 19-20, "Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses. Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear."

There are many qualifications for the ox in the pulpit, in 1Tim.4:12, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." And in 1Tim.3:2,"A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach." Paul didn't tell Timothy when, why or how; he told him one wife, the same as he told Titus in Titus 1:6. "If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly." Titus 2:15 says, "These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee." Paul told Titus to teach the things he told him and he told Timothy to teach the things he told him,about ordained speakers.

In 1Tim. 4:11 Paul says,"These things command and teach." How many teachers are there that are preaching these commands? Paul says do nothing by partiality.1Tim. 6:3 says, "If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctine which is according to godliness."

1Tim.4:6 says, "If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained."

Can you deny the word of God? 1Cor.9:14 says,"Even so hath the Lord ordained that they whcih preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

With Love of the Trith,

Bro. V.E."Dutch" Staggs
Rt. 1 Box 861A
Yuma, Arizona 85364

MEETING DATES

Yuma, Arizona-April 23-April 30-Bro. Roger Bixler

Yakima, Washington-June 4-June 10-Bro. J.D. Logan

Port Orchard, Washington-Junell-June 18-Bro.J.D.Logan

ATTENTION!

Please send in your meeting dates now. The summer will be here soon and many will be traveling many places, let us print the dates so they may attend your meeting.

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We recently heard about an editor who explained away mistakes that crept into his publication with the following notice: "If you find errors, please consider that they appear for the benefit of those readers who always look for them. We try to print something for everybody."

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CHURCH NEWS

SAN PABLO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Thought I had better try to write a few words to let you know that the congregation here in San Pablo is doing fairly well except some illness due to the flu virus that has kept a few away. My mother, Sister Mariet Bryant was in the hospital for four days with a very bad case of the flu and some problem with her diabetic condition. She is very well now but still weak.

We are very happy and thankful to the Lord, to report that Brother and Sister Amos Beaver, of San Pablo came back to the church after being out for some time. Every one here was so very thankful and happy for them. We need Bro. Beaver's help in the services and we know he is very able speaker. Brother and Sister Curtis Mc Cluskey from Sacramento, was with us on that glad occasion. Bro. McCluskey brought a wonderful sermon and rejoiced with us all. We all enjoyed a wonderful dinner at the church too.

Brother and Sister John McKinney from Grass Valley was with us that day also. Bro.& Sis. McKinney also had their relatives with them.

On Feb.6th we had the friends of Brother and Sister Jack Cooper with us. They were Mr.Pete and Janet Essex.

This was their first visit with us and we all sure enjoyed having them. We are looking forward to seeing them in our midst again.

We also were honored on the 6th to have Brother and Sister Robert and Joyce Morris and family from Somerton, Arizona congregation with us. I wish they could move to San Pablo. We need more good singers like him.

The little congregation here at San Pablo is very thankful indeed to the Heavenly Father for those that meet here and for all the visitors that we have had.

Brother and Sister Ken Baldwin from Delta, Colorado is supposed to be in the Bay area next Lords day. We certainly pray that they can meet with us.

As always, our prayers are with each and every one of the brethren and Sisters in Christ, but let each and every one continue to pray for those that are out of the ark of safety, that each and every day, they may have the opportunity to come and obey the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

My son Richard Bryant, age 15, is taking part in the service, which I am greatful to God. Richard is now leading in song, and is doing just fine. Please pray for him.

Written in Love of the Gospel,
Homer Bryant
San Pablo Congregation.

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AKIN, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

Thought I would write a few lines regarding the church which meets at Akin, although it is quite new. Only about 3 months old, is growing wonderfully. We have already had 3 additions and 2 confessions of faults. Good prospects for more.

I preached down there at both services yesterday, (2-27-) and a young girl obeyed the gospel. My subject for the morning was, "True Worship." Last night I spoke on the subject, "The Holy Spirit."

Any one looking for a place to worship, where there is lots of hospitality and love will find it at this little church. We meet at the Community Building at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on each Lord's Day. Everyone is welcome.

Brother Ralph Rhodes will be the speaker the 5th of March. Bro. Lloyd Algood the 12th, Bro. Gerald Buckner

the 19th, Bro. George Morris Jr. the 26th, Bro. Danny Moore April 2nd. Bro. Earl Atchley, Bro. Jim Brown and Bro. Sam Bowen take their turns also. There were 27 present yesterday.

Hope everyone your way are well.

Your Brother in Christ,
Hayse Morris and Church
at Akin, Oklahoma.

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

The congregation here at Glenn & Dallas streets is doing fairly well. Some illness still, which we are very sorry to have amongst us. Sister Lula Way has been in the hospital, but is home now, although she isn't doing very well yet. She is not able to attend services at this time. Brother Lloyd Coleman underwent surgery about 3 weeks ago, but is up and able to be back with us at worship.

We have had several visitors since we last reported: Sister Laney from Arkansas; Carolyn Oakden & children from San Jose, California; Lorene Darbison from Manteca, California; Melva & Sandra Logan from Hayfork, California; Mae Morse and Lawrence Arnett from nearby Waterford congregation; Homer & Marietta Bryant from San Pablo, California; Mike Kevvitt & Lynn Lewis from Modesto and Robert & Olive Aston from Dexter, New Mexico. We are very glad to have had all of them and invite them to come again.

Our young men are working very hard now, in many parts of the worship, which is very encouraging. Hope and pray they will continue.

Our meeting commences March 26th through April 2nd with Brother Howard McCay of Yakima, Washington speaking. If it be the Lord's will we will have a report in the next issue.

Come be with us in our worship any time possible. We meet each Lord's Day at 10:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.

The Church of Christ,
Glenn & Dallas Streets
Modesto, California

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"THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

The Church of Christ was not made for the preachers, but the preachers of Christ were made for the world and the Church. The Church of Christ does not belong to the preachers of Christ--it is not their property--but they belong to it--are its property. The Church is not

the servant of the preachers, but the preachers of Christ are servants of the Churches. The Church of Christ is not called and sent by preachers, but preachers are called and sent by the Church.

Preachers in the Kingdom of Christ are no more dignitaries, kings and priests, than any other member. They are the Lord's instruments, put forth through the Church to do his work, and mighty instruments, too, while the Lord is with them, but the poorest, most useless and miserable creatures on this earth when forsaken of God. Or in other words, when they are doing the Lord's work, with an eye single to his glory, there are no such instruments for good among men; but when they become selfish, engage simply in their own work, or that which they can turn to their own personal aggrandizement, their usefulness ceases, and they are dead weights upon the cause.

Benjamin Franklin

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THE GUIDING HAND

Take not Thy hand from mine
Through all the years,
But help me, Lord, to face the world
And all its fears.

Without Thy hand, O Lord,
The shadows grow.
Oh, let Thy presence light the way
That I must go.

And then at last, Thy hand
Shall lead the way,
Across that dark and lonely vale
To endless day.

by M.M. Duncan

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I will love thee, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

The sorrows of death compassed me, and the floods of ungodly men made me afraid.

The sorrows of hell compassed me about: the snares of death prevented me. In my distress I called upon the Lord, And cried unto my God: Psalms 18:1-6.