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WHO IS LUSTING AFTER WHAT?

We hear many sermons preached, but hardly ever do we hear a preacher preach on the use of tobacco.

Is this because they are partial to the brothers and sisters who smoke?

I show no partiality in my preaching, and Paul told Timothy not to show any partiality in I Tim.5:21:

"I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality."

I have many brothers that I have known for years, and I know they understand that the Gospel has to be preached as it is. I have smoked for forty years but I have done away with the lust for tobacco. I have been a member of the church for seven or eight years, and I am learning these things by reading.

Eph.2:3:

"Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others."

I was in that condition at one time, but I have done away with the filth of tobacco. If there is some brother who is trying to quit the "habit", you have my sympathy because it is not easy. A little prayer along will help.

To the people who think it is good to smoke, who know that what is good cannot be bad, and that God approves of good things, why don't you preach it from the pulpit, and tell all the children that they are entitled to all good things, including smoking?

The body that we have belongs to God--"What! know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which

re God's." I Cor.6:19-20.

Are we glorifying God's body by smoking?

Mat. 15:19-20 says:

"For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murs, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, sphemies: These are the things which defile a man: to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man."

Some brothers believe this twentieth scripture has something to do with smoking.

The things that go into the belly entereth not the heart, but out of the heart proceedeth evil.

All these evil things (...lust of the flesh..., I John 2:16),come from within, and defile a man. Mark 7:23.

Over in Exodus 15:9, it says"...my lusts shall be satisfied." And in II Peter 3:3, it says,"Knowing this first; that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts."

Preachers who contend that smoking is good, are denying the Word of God for their own pleasure. And, these members need to be preached to again.

Heb. 5:12-13 says,"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe."

And, in Heb.3:13,"But exhort one another daily, while it is called To-day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."

I can't condemn any one for smoking. But I can truthfully say the bible does not teach it, that the bible says to depart from all filthiness. James 1:21 says,"Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness; and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls."

And, in James 4:8, it says,"Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded."

With Love of the Truth,
Bro. V. E. Dutch Staggs
Yuma, Arizona

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Fellow Preachers and Teachers:

I address this to you because of the realization that there is a great responsibility that rests upon every one who is a preacher of the Gospel.

In II Tim. 3:1, Paul warns that in the latter times conditions would be PERILOUS. No doubt those

conditions are upon us today. Every one needs to be watching himself and all others, that no unscriptural teaching or practice shall be accepted in the congregations of the Church of Christ. Both Paul and Peter warned that false teachers would exist among God's people. We dare not, if we hope for heaven, ignore these warnings and accept innovations into our worship, even though those innovations may be exeedingly popular or may make us popular among the brethren. Neither do we dare to close our eyes to these conditionsand, because we may not have been the ones to introduce the innovation, allow the innovation to remain among us without lifting our voice against it and warning the brethren against it.

Examine Webster's definition of the verb, "lie", editions published by Merriam in 1880, 1903, and 1906, and you will find," lie: to say or do that which deceives another, when he has a right to know the truth, or, when morality requires a just representation." On every subject that has to do with the worship, the brethren have a right to know ALL that the bible says.

On the communion question, as on all questions, you and I are not truthful unless we tell all that is taught in the book. All people teach that the fruit of the vine is the substance used in the container as the blood of the new covenant. But only a small percentage teach that it was in ONE container at the time Christ blessed it. The brethren have a moral right to know all on the subject and, if we purposely keep back a part of that truth as taught in the BOOK, Webster says we LIE. The Angel says we will go to the hot place. Rev.21:8.

We must "take heed unto ourselves and the doctrine, continue in them; in doing of which we may, or shall, save both ourselves and them that hear us".

Every innovation among us today is because some did not **CONTINUE** in bible doctrine. They are the result of heresy. Every religeous teaching or practice that cannot be found in the Word is heresy.

Neither you nor I have a right to choose what we will preach. God has chosen what HE wants us to preach--the Word. II Tim.4:2.

Young defines the Greek word from which we get "heresy" as "choice". If we preach what is not in the Word, we are heretics and true followers should reject us for their own good, Titus 3:10.

Brothers, we cannot afford to risk not going to heaven by not preaching the truth. We should consider the eternal welfare of every one who comes under our influence. If we do not warn them, we will have it against us in the day of judgement, Ez.33:8

(Feb.,1949) Written in Love of the Truth,
(Reprint by permission)G. Earl McCay, 234 W.K St.
Springfield, Oregon

...The voice of the Lord...

We read in Genesis, chapter 22, how Abraham was ly to offer up his son, Isaac, upon the altar, but Angel of the Lord stopped him. And, in verses 17 18, how the Lord said unto Abrahamm"Surely bless- I will bless thee; and multiply thee: because thou hast obeyed my voice." And James tells us that Abraham was called the friend of God. Jesus said in John 15:14, "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." And we read in Rev. 22:14, "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have a right to the tree of life."

Jesus said in John 18:37, "....Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice".(The Gospel of Christ is his voice). And he said in John 12:48, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."

We read in 1 Sam. 15th chapter, how the Lord commanded Saul to go and destroy Amelek . And in Num. 24:20, how Baalan prophesied against Amelek ,saying; "...Amalek was the first of the nations; but his latter end shall be that he perish for ever." (first of the Nations). Amelek was a powerful Nation. Just like Russia is powerful, (first of the Nations), in our day. We read in 1Sam.15:4, that King Saul took with him over 2,000,000 men, when he went to destroy Amelek .

We read in Exodus the 17th chapter, that when the children of Israel came up from Egypt, they camped at (Rephidim), and then in verse 8, "Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim". And in verse 13, that Joshua discomfited Amalek, and his people; with the edge of the sword. In verse 14, "And the Lord said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven." (because, they had done evil unto God's people).

Moses reminds the people in Duet.25:17-19, "Remember what Amalek did unto thee by the way, when ye were come forth out of Egypt; How he met thee by the way, and smote the hindermost of thee, even all that were feeble behind thee, when thou wast faint and weary; and he feared not God." "...that thou shalt blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven; thou shalt not forget it."

And we read in 1Sam. 15:7 on, that Saul went and smote the Amaleks, and utterly destroyed all the people; with the edge of the sword, and he took their King Agag a prisoner, and brought back the best of the sheep and oxen to sacrifice unto the Lord God.(Now this seems like a job pretty well done), but not before God. God had said, "Destroy utterly, spare not; slay both men and women, infant and suckling; ox and sheep, camel and ass."

The Lord had said unto Moses, "I will utterly put out the rememberance of Amalek from under heaven." Here read over 450 years later, how the Lord had commanded Saul to go and destroy the Amaleks,(after so many years) Peter says, that 1,000 years is as one day with the Lord. And that the Lord is not slack concerning his promises, that the day of the Lord will come, (just like it came to Amalek).

The Lord had promised, "I will utterly put out the rememberance of Amalek from under heaven,"(because,thwy had done evil unto God's people). Now we read in Matt. 25:41-46, what Jesus said, he will do to them who mistreat the children of God.(Jesus calls them the children of God, his brethren; note verse 40)....Jesus said to these in verse 42 on, "For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me."

(The Lord God had said, what he will do to Amalek). and now Jesus said , that these will go into everlasting punishment, prepared for the devil and his angels, (because they had not ministered unto his brethren).

When Jesus said unto the vain worshippers in Matt. 7:23,"And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."(they were not his brethren, although they had been preaching Jesus Christ, and did many good works.)

King Saul was to utterly destroy Amalek , but he brought back their king Agag a prisoner, and the best of the sheep and oxen to(sacrifice), unto the Lord God. We read in verse 22, how Samuel said unto Saul,"To obey, is better than to sacrifice." (God had not commanded Saul, to bring back any sacrifices). Neither has God commanded us to use man made musical instruments in Church worship, they that do so, they are doing in the Church, what God has not commanded. "To obey is better than to sacrifice."

The Lord Jesus said, how we MUST worship God. He said, "In spirit and in truth."(Is instrumental music truth?) The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Truth, and it does not teach to use man made musical instruments in Church worship. "So do, as they that shall be judged by the Law of liberty,"(Gospel), Jas.2:12,(so do is so worship also.)

Samuel said unto Saul in verse 23, "Because, thou has rejected the Word of the Lord, he also had rejected thee from being a King."(Saul had rejected the Word of the Lord,how had he done this?) He had added unto the

Word of the Lord, his own imaginations, his own ideas; and brought back King Agag a prisoner, and the best of the sheep and oxen; and the Lord had commanded him to, "destroy utterly, spare not;" (So like-wise, to use man made musical instruments in Chruch worship, is to ADD unto the Word of the Lord.) We read in Ezek.13:1-7, "...Woe unto the foolish prophets, that follow their own spirit, ..." "...The Lord saith it; albeit I have not spoken?" (The Lord has not spoken, that we should use instrumental music in the Chruch worship). In Rev. 22:18-19, warns, if any man shall Add or Leave Off, from the Words of the book of this prophecy, (which is the Word of the Lord), his name shall be taken out of the Book of Life.

Jesus said in Mark 9:47, "And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:" and in Luke 16:10, "...he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much." (as we notice in Matt. 7:21-23, and they had been preaching Jesus Christ, and done many good works.)

We read in 1Sam. 15:19, that Saul did not hearken unto the voice of the Lord. 1Chron. 10:13-14, speaks of Sauls death, "So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the Lord, even against the word of the Lord, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it; And enquired not of the Lord: therefore he slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse." (The Lord slew him!) (And we learn from Heb. 10thchapter, that there is a fearful looking for the Judgement, if we don't do as the Word of the Lord said). King Saul obeyed partly, and he was rejected!)

Jesus tells us in John 10: 7 on, to whom hw will give Eternal Life. He said, "...My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me: And I give them eternal life; and they shall never perish.(Unto them, that hear his voice, and follow him),neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." In verse 10,"...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (everlasting life. Thats why he came.) In verse 5,that his sheep know not the voice of a stranger.

It is written in the Gospel of Christ, "Buried with him in baptism," Col. 2:12. It is the voice of the Lord, it is not the voice of a stranger. Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice." Why? Did God bless Abraham? "Because, thou has obeyed my voice."

Heino Stolnake
1208 So. 9th St.
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Editor and the Staff wishes to thank the many who sent in news, articles and meeting dates. Response has been Great! Please continue. Thanks for contributions also.

...Pleasures of this Life...

We read Israel saying in Isaiah 58:3, "Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not?" and the Lord answers, "Behold,in the day of your fast ye find pleasure," etc. (So pleasure, was one of the reasons, why Israels prayers were unanswered). And the Lord warns them in verse 4, "...ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high."

And we read in verse 13, that they were also doing their own pleasures on the Sabbath Day. They were lovers of pleasure, more than lovers of God." 2Tim.3:4.

James 4:9 tells us what to do with pleasure," Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness." verse 10,"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

Jesus tells us who shall be saved, "He that doeth the will of my Father." Its written in the Will of God, in 2 Tim. 2:22, "Flee also youthful lusts:..." (So here is the question?), should I as a Christian engage in youthful lusts,(so called Sports?) The Word of the Lord has an answer in 1 Cor. 13:11, "When I became a man, I put away childish things." and we read in Col.3:1-3, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God."

Flee! We read in 1 Cor. 10:7, that some of them were Idolators. (What did they do?) "...The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." (They were lovers of pleasure, more than lovers of God.) And he warns in verses 11 & 12, that these are written for our admonition, "Wherefore, let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall." and then in verse 14, "Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry."

Jesus warns us to be ready, for we know not the day or the hour, when the Lord does come...and we do not know when our time is up, whether young or old..and we read in Heb. 9:27, "And as it is appointed unto a man once to die but after this the Judgement."

Flee! Now what if Jesus should come when I am engaged in youthful lusts, would I be ready to meet him? if so, why then does the scripture say, "Flee! also youthful lusts?"

"Ye shall not Fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high."

Heino Stolnake
1208 So. 9th St.
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Do you have a meeting planned? If so, please send us the dates as soon as you possibly can, so more may attend.

CHURCH NEWS

BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

Just a few lines this A.M., to say we received the paper and enjoyed it very much.

Our meeting starts June 4th with Brother Harry Dye, of Yuma, Arizona speaking, if the Lord be willing. All is welcome to be with us in our meeting.

All the church here is doing very well, some have had their round of colds, but most escaped the flu. With Spring here the gardens are growing, visitors are traveling, and fishers are fishing, and I just wish we could get people to Church, but the time has come when people have forgot the Lord, until some loved one passes away, then they want to call on Him.

Last month Brother Morris and family from Stillwel, Okla. was here. We enjoyed them and Brother Gerald Buckner very much.

Well the news is scarce, so will close. Don't forget our meeting.

Church of Christ,
Broken Bow, Oklahoma
(Lloyd & Sue Treat)

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AKIN, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren in Christ:

A few lines in regard to the Church here in Akin. Since I wrote last time, we have had three Baptisms and three confessions of faults. Last Lords Day night, I preached for them at Akin and three came forward for the prayers of the Church.

On Tuesday evening the 14th of March, 1972 I united Brother Bob Eldridge, son of Sister Connie Bryant and Sister Shirley Kay Ross, daughter of Brother and Sister Kenny Ross in Holy Matrimony, in the Church of Christ at Stilwell. We Wish them much happiness and many years together. They are wonderful christian kids. Brother Bob is a member of the congregation at Akin and Sister Shirley is a member of the congregation of the Pleasant View congregation at Stilwell.

In Christian Love,
Your Brother in Christ,
Hayse Morris.

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MALMATROM A.F.B. MONTANA

Dear Brethren:

I am writing about some Church of Christ congregations Do you have any locations of any loyal congregations in

Montana?

I am a young Brother fromthe Chruch of Christ in Stilwell, Oklahoma. I joined the Air Force, One of my Biggest Mistakes! The service is one of the most sinful places on earth. There are many temptations to a young brother here. My advice to anyone who thinks about joining the service is: DON'T. Wait for the draft.

Please remember me in your prayers.

Your Brother in Christ,
Rick Walkingstick

(Note from Editor: I personally know this young christian man, from meeting him in Stillwell, Oklahoma. He is the grandson of a very dear christian Sister at Stilwell, Sister Brown. Rick is also the nephew of Bro. & Sis. Sammy Boen of Fort Smith, Ark. who also attend the worship of the church at Stilwell along with Rick's Mother and brother. I believe that anyone who can write to this young brother a few words of encourgement and help should do so. Also try to help him find some loyal congregation to meet with while there. If anyone has this information, please send it to him at the following address: AMN Rick Walkingstick, PSC Box 2223 Malmstrom, A.F.B., Montana 59402.)

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VENTURA, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We now have a church in Ventura, California. There is about five families meeting there. We meet Sunday at 10:30 A.M. at 9998 Santa Ana Rd. Ventura.

We have no Sunday school and no instrumental music, One cup and we Break the bread.

If anyone knows of any Christians: relatives or friends that you would like us to visit in this area, please let us know. We baptized a young man several weeks ago, by the name of Brian Crouch.

Everyone here is well and we thank the Lord for this.

Ventura is about seventy miles north of Los Angeles, on the coast. Anybody passing by this way stop in and worship with us.

Write to Gene Edwards at 9998 Santa Ana Rd. Ventura, Calif. Phone 805-649-1073 or Donald Dabbs 15553 Eucalyptus Ave, Bellflower, Calif. Phone 213-867-6607.

In Christian Love,
Donald Dabbs.

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SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren:

I have not written in quite a while, so I am writing to let everyone know that we have moved to a new location. Coming into Sacramento on Freeway 80 turn west on Marconi

e, which will run into Arcade Blvd. stay on Arcade to
ysville Blvd. and then turn right to Los Robles Blvd
n left, go about 2 blocks turn left on High 1 block
Rivera Ave. at the bend there at High and Rivera is
Boy Scout Building(Troop 231) and this is where we
My Phone number is 927-1261. We meet at 10:30
each Lords Day morning.
Everyone here at Sacramento is doing quite well.
We do hope to have you visit us.

Yours in Christ,
Bro.& Sis. John Usrey.

(Ed. note: Sorry somehow in the delay in printing this, it just reach our desk. We understand this address became effective Jan 2,1972. Please forgive our slothfulness. They are very few in number at this location and anyone who is in the area and wishes to meet with them, I know will receive a very hearty welcome, as we surely have in the past.)

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YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

Brethren:

Finally after so many months, I'll try and get some news of Yakima in the paper. Does seem our reporters are asleep. Sure happy the paper staff is more on the ball.

We had a good meeting last fall with Brother Lloyd Treat and his wife, Sue, who we were happy to meet. Have had good attendance all winter, gained a few new members and several visitors who attend quite regularly. We've had two weddings in our midst. our son, Mike McCay and Paula Roark, daughter of Bro.& Sis. Vernon Roark. Steve Bumgardner and Barbara Shattuck. Two young engaged christian couples; Larry Roark and Polly Longmire and Roger Lamb and Sharon Belair with fall and winter weddings planned. These should all be happy homes, as they are are builded on christian couples.

We've had many visitors from other congregations this winter. We're always happy to visit with other Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

We have a meeting starting June 11th in Yakima with Brother J.D. Logan of Stockton, California, then he goes on to the New Glenwood congregation at Port Orchard,Wash. to begin the 18th of June. We want to extend a welcome to any and all who would like to take a vacation and come this way. Starting June the 18th my family and I will be in Bellflower, California(Lord Willing) to begin a Gospel Meeting there. Come be with us,if you can.

Lots of sickness has struck our congregation lately Brother Vernon Roark had a 3 weeks stay in the hospital, was very ill, but the Lord heard many prayers and was

gracious enough to spare his life. Bro. Vernon had to have surgery on his head an now home doing very well. Sister Vestal McKinney had a pace maker implanted for her heart and again the Lord was gracious. Brother Dan Ross had an appendectomy the same day Sister McKinney had surgery. The only nice thing was they were all in the same hospital. All are home now, doing fine. Dan & Alyce Ross have moved back to Yakima, welcome home.

Sister Pearl Mack celebrated her 81st birthday with a surprise party and money tree at the home of Bert & Betty Roberts. Sister Phobe McCay celebrated her 84th birthday with all seven of her sons and daughters and their spouses attending a no-host dinner at the Royal Fork resturant, Her oldest grand-daughter, Sister Barbara Paseman of Eugene, Oregon was here and all her grand-children and great-grandchildren at Yakima attended plus Bro.& Sis. Loveland and Sister Mack, 54 in all. In the evening an open house was held, cake was served and a hymn fest was had. The Lord has surely blessed these two faithful servants with a long and useful life. Sister McCay is now living in our home.

Brother Ted Loveland is having some stomach trouble. Brother Elza Loveland has his good and bad days, but both are at most of the Church assemblies.

Our young people are all fine. Most are working at this time, which makes for happiness.

Brother Jerry McCay just graduated from a Chef's class and is now a Chef, working at the Airport Resturant. Congratulations Jerry!

Well don't mean to bore you so will try not to let so much time lapse before the next writing.

In Christian Love,
Bill McCay.

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Swiftly we're turning lifes daily pages. Last report we announced our spring meeting, looking forward to it and preparing much for it to be a sucess. Now we report that it came to pass,much too quickly, but we are looking back on it a big sucess for the cause of Christ. Brother Howard McCay and his wife Nell,came visited and worked in our midst and a great deal was accomplished. Brother Howard preached for our congregation and visitors for one week, March 26th through April 2nd. We had dinner and singing the last Sunday. We are sorry to report that no one was baptized but one young sister came for the prayers of the Church and is meeting with us once again, our prayers go to help and

strengthen her. Due to the many visitors we cannot mention all the names here, as there were approximately seventy visitors during the week, coming from Bellflower, Grass Valley, Sacramento, Chico, San Pablo, Fremont, Ceres, Waterford, Manteca, Cottonwood, Hughson, Fontana, Hayfork, All towns in California, and we had visitors from Yakima Washington also. Very happy all could come and do come again anytime.

We are very sad to report once more of Sister Alice Weakley returning to the hospital for a little over a weeks duration. She certainly has had her share of the hospital over the past few years. We are happy to report that at the present she is doing much better. Sister Mae Johnson and Sister Adell Stark aren't able to attend services very often due to illness and they are both up in their 80's making the recovery take a longer while. We miss them very much and hope now that the weather is nicer they will be able to come more often.

Remember the congregation which meets at the corner of Glenn and Dallas Streets in Modesto, each Sunday at 10:30 A.M. and each Sunday evening at 6:30 P.M. invites anyone visiting here or passing through to stop and be with us in our homes and in our services whenever we meet. Everyone is Welcome!

The Church of Christ,
620 Glenn Ave.
Modesto, California

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MEETING DATES

BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA-June 4-June 10-Brother Harry Dye

YAKIMA, WASHINGTON-June11-June 17-Brother J.D. Logan

BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA-June 18-June 25-Brother Bill McCay

PORT ORCHARD, WASHINGTON-June 18-June 25-Brother.J.D.Logan

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Do not look fearfully to what may happen tomorrow. The same everlasting Father who looks after you today, will care for you tomorrow and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then. Put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations and say continually, "The Lord is my Strength and my Shield my heart hath trusted in Him and I am helped."

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

Psa. 121:1-2-