The Christian
COURIER

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THE PRECIOUS PROMISE
(All this and heaven too.)

The Bible is a precious book because God is its author. It is a revelation of his thoughts toward us. David said "How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand:..." Psa. 139:17-18. And through the prophet Jeremiah, God said: "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." Jeremiah 29:11.

I like to think of these "precious thoughts" of God as the promises of God. All the Bible from the first words, "In the beginning God" Gen. 1:1 to the final promise "Christ be with you all. Amen." Rev. 22:21, is a mine of truth, and the promises found on almost every page are like rare gems shinning in their beauty.

They are like delicious fruit so good to look at, but so much better when eaten. So the precious promises of God when claimed by faith, not only appeal to the soul but give health and strength to the spiritual life. They are life, for they are God's word. "And the word of God is quick and powerful." Heb. 4:12.

The promises of God are heaven's. Anything that he promised can be obtained. It will be given gladly. God counts it an honor to him when his children ask largely. "Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do. That the Father may be glorified in the Son." John 14:13.

When God gave Jesus to the world, he gave with him also the treasure of the universe. Moses says: "The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure" Deut 28:12. Paul exclaimed "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" Rom. 8:32.

With a new eagerness and carefulness we ought to

search the word to really know more of the extent of our possessions in Christ. Paul said in Eph. 1:3 that all spiritual blessings was in Christ Jesus. So now since we are told all spiritual blessings are in Christ Jesus, we must get in Christ in order to enjoy the blessings promised. The only way we get in Christ is through faith, repentance, confession, and baptism; These steps are necessary in having our sins forgiven and our names written in the Lambs book of life. Rev. 21:27.

Written in love of the Spirit,
From a Bro.& Sis. in Christ,
Bro.& Sis. E.J.Loveland
1203 Iler Lane
Yakima, Washington 98901

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FAITH

The Bible tells us that there is ONE FAITH. Eph.4:5

We read in Gal.3:11,"The just shall live by Faith." Jesus said in Matt. 4:4, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." And he said in John 6:63,"...The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

In Mark 9:23,"...All things are possible to him that believeth." James1:5 on says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and upbraided not; and it shall be given him.In verse 6 "But let him ask in Faith..." Then in 1Jno.3:22, "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him,because, we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." (We notice from these 2 verses that to,"ask in Faith," includes to "keep his commandments, and to do those things that are pleasing in his sight,"also.)

In Luke chapter 17, the Apostles said unto Jesus, "Increase our Faith." and in verse 10,"So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do." 1Jno. 2:4 says, "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."(What are his commandments?) Jesus said in Matt.28:19-20,"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...---...teachings them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:.." (So to keep his commandments is to observe all things whatsoever Jesus has commanded the Apostles to teach.) "All his commandments are righteousness."Psa.119:172

We read in Romans 10:16,"But they have not all obey-

ed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?" (This verse brings out that they had not believed, when they had not obeyed.) Christ is the "suthor of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." Heb.5:9. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God." 2Tim. 3:16.

James 2:17 reads, "Even so Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." and in verse 21,"Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Issac his son upon the altar? Verse 22, "Seest thou how Faith wrought with his works, and by works was Faith made perfect."

In Romans 6:16-18, Paul speaks of obedience unto righteousness,(being obedient unto righteousness),saying, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness.""But 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, Being then made free form sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." Paul says in Rom. 4:20 on, that Abraham "was strong in Faith, Amd being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able to perform, and therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness." Verse 24, "it shall be imputed, " unto us also,"if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification." Peter tells us that Paul in his wisdom given him, is sometimes hard to understnad, 2Peter 3:16. (These verses in Romans the 4th chapter, contain more than it reads.)

Now if a Man can be saved by Faith alone, why then does the same Paul say in Rom. 6:17-18,"...That ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you, being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." (They were not made free from sin, before they obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered unto them.) 1Pet. 1:22 says, "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth,"etc. "without Faith it is impossible to please God." Heb. 11:6. Faith is the beginning, and the pillar of righteousness, but James 2:17 on says that Faith being alone is dead. That by works was Faith made perfect. Having obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine, being then made free from son,etc. as we read in Romans 6:17-18.

Paul says in 1 Cor. 13:2,"...And though I have all Faith, so I could move mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing." (So Faith without works is dead.)"They

profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient..." Titus 1:16.

Heb. 11:7 tells us, "By Fatih Noah, being warned of God, of things not seen as yet, (no flood in sight), moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by Faith." (Rom. 6:16-18 speaks of obedience unto righteousness.) Noah was moved with fear, he prepared an ark, he worked out his salvation with fear, and became Heir of the righteousness which is by Fatih. Noah did not stagger in unbelief when God said, "Make thee an ark," etc.

"For by grace are ye saved through Faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:8-9.(Not of our works). Col. 2:12 speaks of the operation of God.(work of God,) (We will come to it later.)

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness;" Rom. 10:10. The righteousness of God is revealed unto us in the Gospel. Rom. 1:17. We read in Romans 3:22-25"Even the righteousness of God which is by Faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned,..." "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God had set forth to be a propitiation through Fatih in his blood, to declare his rightwousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God:"

We read in Rom. 4:20 on, that Abraham was strong in Fatih, that he was fully persuaded, that what God had promised, he was able also to perform; and therefore it was imputed unto him for righteouness." Verse 24 states that it shall be imputed unto us also, "if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead." And in in Rom. 10:9, "That if thou shall confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shall be saved."

Col. 2:12-13,"Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the Faith of the operation of God, who had raised him from the dead, and you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumsision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;"(all past sins.) (So we must believe that God had raised Jesus from the dead.) And as we have been buried with him in baptism, we must believe that God has also quickened us together with him,(that we are risen ith him), God having forgiven us all trespasses. 1Pet.3:21 says Its"(not the putting away of the filth of the flesh,

but the answer of a good conscience toward God.)" (we have done his Will). The scripture says in Rom. 5:8, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Verse 9,"Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him." We read in Heb. 9:22, "And without shedding of Blood is no remission." And in Acts 2:38, they were commanded to be baptized for the remission of sins.(So the remission of sins takes place in baptism.) Now we read in Gal. 3:27, that they were baptized into Christ. Romans 6:3 explains, "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized into his death?" Verse 4,"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death." (dead with him, buried with him by baptism into death, that the body of sin might be destroyed,as it says in verse 6. (They that have been baptized by sprinkling, how has their body of sin been destroyed?) In verse 7, "For he that is dead is freed from sin." (his sins have been remitted. So the remission of sins takes place in baptism.) All past sins have been forgiven. Verse 8,"Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:" (So if we be dead with Christ, as it explains in these verses, we are freed from sin and being freed from sin, we have been justified by his blood.)

Rom. 10:10 said, "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (And we notice from Acts 8:35 on, that this confession unto salvation was made at the time of baptism.) The Eunuch confessed with his mouth, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." And Philip baptized him.

"God in these last days has spoken unto us by his Son." Heb. 1:2. Jesus said in John 7:16-17,"My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me, if any man will do his will, he shalt know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." (So the New Testament, which is the doctrine of Christ, also spoken as the Gospel of Christ, is God's Will.) Jesus confirms it by saying, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Mark 13:31.

Paul says in 1 Tim. 6:3-4, "If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, an to the doctrine which is according to godliness; he is proud, knowing nothing,but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, and perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, etc."

For the Truth, Brother H. Stolnake, 1208 So.9th St.
Yakima, Washington 98901

MEETING DATES

June 3-10-Bro.Ken Baldwin-Baron, Oklahoma

June 10-17- Bro. Al Way-Yakima, Washington

June 17-24- Bro. Jack Morris-Broken Bow, Oklahoma

June 17-24- Bro. Sammy Boen- Modesto, California

June 24-30- Bro. Earl Howe- Port Orchard, Washington

July 1-8- Camp Meeting-Various speakers-Port Orchard,Wash.

July 1-8- Bro. Donald Dabbs- Waterford, California

July 8-15-Bro. Howard McCay-Bellflower, California

July 8-15- Various speakers- Stilwell, Oklahoma

July 15-22- Bro. J.D. Logan-Springfield, Oregon

July 22-29- Bro. Tom Broadway-Furnish Canyon,(Kenton,Okla)

July 29-Aug.5-Camp Meeting-Various Speakers-Cedaredge,Colo.
(Delta,Colorado)

Aug. 5-12- Bro. Jim Brown-Elk City, Oklahoma

(Is your congregation having a meeting this summer or fall? If so, do we have your date listed above? If you don't have a meeting planned,why not plan now and then send us the date so we may help get more to attend. Also a lot of folks would like to hear form different congregations when your meeting is over as to the results and any other news of interest to the brotherhood. Remember, we are a family and should be interested in our brothers and sisters everywhere. Let us hear from you soon.)

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CHURCH NEWS

CEDAREDGE, COLORADO

We wish to announce again that the annual Camp Meeting will be held July 29th thru August 5th. We plan to have guest speakers each night and both Sundays

Monday thru Sat. services will be at 8 P.M. Sunday 10:30 A.M. Sunday night 8 P.M.

Camping facilities are available at the Camp grounds in Cedaredge and Delta with showers, etc, or

camp on the Grand Mesa in the pines with over 300 lakes, or go wherever you wish.

Motels are also available in Cedaredge and near by. Our homes are open to as many as we can take care of. (bring your sleeping bags and we can fill our back yards) We especially want to invite the widows and widowers into our homes. Let us know as soon as possible what your plans are, so we can plan accordingly.

All you preachers let us know when you plan to be here so we can make up our schedule and get you on the list to speak, then we can get our meeting printed up and get them in the mail to people before the day of the meeting.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the Camp Meeting. Hope you are looking forward to coming in July. Remember the date: July 29th through August 5th.

Brother and Sister Bud Wilkerson have two new grand children. Little Windi Marie, is the new daughter at Bobby & Vernie Wilkerson's home and of course Bobby Wade welcomes his little sister. Little Michael Todd's parents are Terry and Debbie Wilerson, all of Cedaredge.

Plans are being made to purchase some land for the camp grounds and for the camp meeting. One piece of land joins the land south of the Church, with the stream that runs by the Church, running thru the land that would be bought for the camp grounds. Any one wishing to contribute to the camp ground fund, or wishing to know more about it, please write or call Brother Bud Wilkerson, Rt. 1- Cedaredge, Colorado. Phone 1-303-856-3703 or any of the brethren at Happy Hollow Church of Christ.

See you July 29th through August 5th.
The congregation at Happy Hollow, Cedaredge, Colo.

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BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren:

We would like to announce our meeting here at the Bellflower congregation, starting July 8th through July 15th. Brother Howard McCay of Yakima, Washington has agreed to work with us during that week, and we know we'll have good lessons, for he is a very able and interesting speaker. We invite any one that could, to come be with us, and enjoy some good gospel preaching.

All is well with us except Brother Meadows who is

still not able to attend services.

May the 6th we had all day services with basket lunch, singing in the afternoon, Brother Walter Furguson of Fontana, California congregation, was the evenings speaker.

Thanks to all our visitors and please come and be with us again.
We meet at 9914 Arkansas Ave. Bellflower,California My phone number is 866-0656

With Christian Love,
Claud Perigen.

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STILWELL, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:
We here at Stilwell are doing O.K. We miss Brother and Sister Atchley very much, they have moved to ElkCity.

The Pleasant View Church here at Stilwell is planing a meeting beginning July 8th. This will be a meeting with a different speaker each night. If anyone is going to be in the area, they could contact myself or Brother Hayse Morris as soon as possible. We would like to have any and all that can speak for us to come and do so.

For the past several weeks I have been holding services on Friday evening at 7 O'clock in the Piny Community building east of Stilwell. If anyone is through here, would be glad to have them drop by. Brother Morris and Brother Bob Eldrige have been a great help there. Bro. Morris has preached and led singing, Brother Eldrige has conducted the singing.

Please don't forget our meeting at Silwell.

With Christian Love,
Bro. Gerald Buckner

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KENTON, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:
We always look forward to receiving the paper.

The Furnish Canyon group is doing fairly well. We've had lots of snow and bad weather this winter, but surely spring is about here.

Brother Tom Broadway of Grants Pass, Oregon will

be woth us for a meeting July 22nd to July 29th We're always glad to have anyone come by.

In Christian Love,
Furnish Canyon Church of Chriat.

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ELK CITY, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

We are now living in Elk City. Having moved back here this last February. We attend church here at 818 North Washington. Howeverr we go to the Colter church once a month(4th Sunday) and help out there. Both congregations are small in number, but the few that we are, are faithful.

The wife and I have also visited other congregations near here(Lugart, Oklahoma City, and Reydon)all are few in number and need help from the preaching brethren.If any one is passing this way we at Elk City will welcome your stop over for a visit and worship or both. I'msure the other congregations I've mentioned would also enjoy a stop over with them.

Not much news here except plenty of rain and a few storma. None right here but several not too far.

If it be the Lord's Will, we will begin a meeting here August 5th and run through August 12th. Brother Jim Brown, of Westville, Oklahoma(Baron Congregation), will be the speaker. Hope we may see many visitors. Bro. Jim is a good and able preacher.

With Christian Love
L.E.(Earl) Atchley
for the Church of Christ at
Elk City, Oklahoma

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

It is time that we reported in and give the news here. All the Church here is O.K. except Brother Wilson, which lives at Antlers, Oklahoma and drives here for services. He is young in the faith, he and his family, are also young in years. Now at 34, he has had a bad heart attack in January. Went in January 22 and stayed in the hospital about 60 days and is now in Oklahoma City taking more treatments. He is the son-in-law of Sue, my wife. He and his family that are old enough,are in the Church and we need the prayers of all of you and

financial aid that you can give. He is signed up for Social Security, but will be July before he receives his check, so all that can and will help, can send here to us and we will see he receives it.

Other bad news from Tiner Church, east of town: Sister Walden, the mother of Francis Queen, passed this life and was laid to rest beside her husband in Cane Creek Cemetary near Dequeen, Arkansas. Those that are left behind need your prayers. The remainder here are up and doing very well.

We here at Broken Bow think you all are doing fine with the paper and want you to keep up the good work.

Our meeting starts here at Broken Bow the 17th of June for one week, with Brother Jack Morris of Chandler, Arizona doing the speaking. All come be with us that can.

I expect to start a meeting at Randlett, Oklahoma after our meeting here, but the date is not set as yet.

I agree with Brother Howard McCay of Yakima, that more Christ like living should be preached and pass on from the first principles, as we have already done that; So now we need to know how we ought to live to please God: and save our selves in the time to come.

Also in the last issue Brother J.D. Logan had a good article of which we could use a lot more of. Keep up the good printing J.D.

So in closing, any one passing this way come by and see us. We want visitors and if any hasn't made plans for a meeting, think about it and come if you can to ours.

For the Church at 210 N. Park Dr.
Broken Bow, Oklahoma
Brother and Sister Lloyd Treat

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brethren;

News rom the Modesto Congregation is improving a little. At the present time everything is a bit brighter. Brother and Sister Weakley are greatly improved and were able to be at worship again last Lord's Day. Sister Jo Williams is recovering very nicely since having surgery on May 11th.

We have had some visitors recently and thanks for

being with us and do come again real soon, especially for our meeting, which is very close. We extend a very cordial invitation to come and be with us in it and in our homes. Our meeting begins June 17 through June 24, each evening at 7:30 P.M. Sundays at 10:30 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. Sunday evenings, with Dinner after the morning services both Sundays and singing the 17th after dinner. Brother Sammy Boen of Muldrow, Oklahoma will be our guest speaker and is a able speaker. Please come be with us.

The Congregation which meets at the corner of Glenn and Dallas Streets, Modesto, California.

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LATE ARTICLE
&
LATE NEWS

A CONFESSION TO THE ENTIRE BROTHERHOOD.

Dear Brethren:

I was baptized in the Sunday School Church of Christ at Kim, Colorado in 1948 and never had repented or did anything. My wife was baptized into the Carl Ketcherside Church of Christ in 1940. We were both in the same boat. Our houses were built on the sand, we did it ignorantly. Acts 3:17 & 17-23 & 30, shows God dosn't wink or ignore ignorance today. I was trying to save others standing on quicksand. I am thankful that I never baptized any one.

But thanks be to God I was able to do something about it. In Brother V.E. Staggs article on "Baptized into one body" in the March Courier, showed me in error. I took a bus to Yuma, Arizona and was baptized into the One Body we read of in the Bible. I baptized my wife, Carmen, last Lord's Day, April 29,1973. I amy very thankful I can now truly say, in Christian Love and Love of the Truth.

Brother Clyde L. Couchman
211 W. Cherry Ave. Space 22
Amarillo, Texas 79108

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Brethren her is in part a letter from Brother Couchman received at the same time as the above:

Dear Brothern:

I was so very thankful to receive the March Courier. The enclosed confession will explain why. I am not much of a speaker or writer. I hunt and peck on the typewriter, That causes more mistakes, it takes more time also. I will try to write more articles in the future. I am 68

years old and still learning more about the Bible all the time.

We would be glad to learn of any members here. We would be so happy and glad to have any one meet with us. Three are meeting in our mobile home. May our God's rich blessings be on the Church.

In Christian Love and Love of the Truth.

Clyde L. Couchman
211 W. Cherry Ave. Space 22
Amarillo, Texas 79108
Phone 1-806-383-2370

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STRONG WINE IN THE COMMUNION OR LORD"S SUPPER

Brethren, there is far too much division over this and other parts of our Lords Day worship. There is Prayer, Singing, Teaching, Giving and Breaking of Bread in the Lords Supper. Each is of equal importance. Satan knows he has us in his power, if we disobey or add to parts of the worship. Some add cups or wine: Some break to eat. None are taught in the Bible. Rev.22:18-19, additions and subtractions are condemned.

Is. 65:8,"Thus saith the Lord, As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, Destroy it not;for a blessing is in it:so will I do for my servants' sake, that I may not destroy them all."(Please read the Chap.) Here is a prophesy about the calling of the Gentiles and Christs' church or New Jerusalem. What could be more fresh and pure than grape juice right from the cluster? Some claim nothing is added,that God didn't add. Strong Wine has to be fermented some time, then alcohol would be added. It would be changed. Would you use moldy bread on the Lords' table? Nothing is added, that God didn't add.

The prophesy was fulfilled in the Lords Supper,1Cor. 10:16,"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? Matt26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:18-20; & 1Cor.11: 25; it is called "fruit of the vine or cup". It is never called "strong wine. My Thompsons Chain Bible says new wine for fruit of the vine. Margin.

Some claim 1Cor.11-21 shows we would be damned if we made a drunken feast of the Lords Holy Supper. It would be wrong to use strong wine in the communion.

I always stand ready to be corrected by the Bible.

Brother Clyde L. Couchman.

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PLEASE HELP

We need more articles and news from the congregations. We know there are many able writers in our readers. So why don't you write one article every month or even every other month. News is always appreciated as it keeps the brotherhood in contact witheach other. Ed.