The Christian
COURIER

Post Office Box 1342
Modesto, California 95353

Published Monthly, by Brethren of the Church of Christ

NOVEMBER 1973

THE NAME OF THE FATHER

The personal name of God the Father according to the Hebrew tetragram (tetragrammatos-having 4 letters) is Yhwh or Jhwh. The confusion is due to the ancient look-a-likes of Y and J. The word is written only with consonants because the Hebrews did not use vowels to write their words. When the vowel points were finally added to the consonants, the word became Yahweh. According to Biblical scholars, the word was uttered "Yahweh".

However, due to the blundering of some 13th century A.D. Christian Hebraists (a specialist in Hebrew studies), the word was erroneously written as Jehovah and pronounced as such. Scholars claim that never during the history of the Hebrews, Israelites, and Christians, did these people call their god Jehovah, but rather Yahweh.

The Most intersting part is still to come: The Jews took very seriously the Ten Commandments, especially the third "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." (Exo.20:7).In order to refrain from speaking His name carelessly, around 300 B.C. they decided not to pronounce it at all. Whenever in reading ancient transcripts they came to it they spoke the word "adhonai" which means Lord. In the King James Version of the Bible the word appears as Lord, while in other versions it is erroneously written Jehovah.

God's personal name is taken from the infinitive verb "to be", implying eternal existance. The Lord told Moses, "I am that I am." (Exo.3:14)

To bring this to current times, I have this to ask, and for you, my brethren, to think about: What right do people claiming to be followers of the Lord, fearing his wrath, and respecting his power, have to call their heavenly Father by his personal, proper name? I do not

call my earthly father by his first name; I never have. It is not respectful to do so. Do I then have the right to call a much more important F ther by His personal name?

We see many seemingly religious men today calling upon the name of Jehovah, being a witness of Jehovah, peaking with Jehovah. All of this is fine, but do they have the right and do we have the right to call our Heavenly Father by his personal name, whether it be Yahweh or Jehovah?

In Christian Love,
Bro. Dan Ross
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STRONG WINE IN THE COMMUNION
OR LORDS SUPPER.

There is far too much division over this. Satan knows he has us in his power if we disobey or add to the Lords Day Worship. Strong Wine is an addition and condemned (Rev. 22:18-19).

Isa. 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' sakes, that I may not destroy them all." (Please read the chapter.) Here is a prophesy about calling of the Gentiles and Christs' church or New Jerusalem. What could be more pure and fresh than grape juice right from the cluster. Some clain nothing is added that God did not add. Strong wine has to be fermented some time & alcohol would be added. Fermentation takes nothing away. The grape juice would be changed. Would you use moldy bread on the Lords' table? Nothing is added that God did not add.

This 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?" Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Lu. 22:18-20; & 1Cor.11:25., Ir is called fruit of the vine or cup. It is never called strong wine or wine. My Thompsons Bible(Margin) says new wine for fruit of the vine.Gen. 40:9-11, shows fruit of the vine was grape juice.Jno. 2:8-11, was a marriage feast where Christ did his first miracle. He changed the water into wine. It has no bearing on the Lords Supper. This was a feast. This was condemned in 1Cor.11:19-22 & 34. Wilsons Greek Diagloott gives a truer meaning of Verse 21. For each

one takes first his own supper at the meal; and one, indeed is hungry; and another is satisfied. Should we make a drunken feast of the Lords Supper?

Keep in mind in studying this subject that the wines of 2000 years ago were considerably lower in alcoholic content. So much so that our understanding of the various statements may be hindered without realization. Isa.5:11; Acts 2:15; and other passages imply that this wine was comparatively weak and that it was necessary to drink for a long time to be drunken. See Eph.5:18; 1Pet.4:3.

My Smith Peloubet Bible dictionary on page 747 says that Bible wine would run 4 or 5% alcohol and sometimes then they would dilute it with water. Where could we buy that kind of wine today? The grape juice I buy(with no sugar added) does not say on the bottle that it is pasturized. It is never called anything in the connection with the communion. N.T. but fruit of the vine or cup. Wine & strong drink are condemned in both testaments.

In Christian Love of the Truth,
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FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY A KING, A PRINCE, A SAVIOUR
A LORD
-KING-

Matt. 2:2 The wise men came from the east to Jerusalem and inquired,"Where is he that is born king of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him." They learned by further inquiry that he was to be born in Bethlehem where they found him, and gave him gifts and worshipped him. Luke 2:8-16 Angels appeared to shepherds watching their flocks by night and announced,(verse 10),"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Jno.18:37, The Jews accused Christ before Pilate, that he claimed to be a king. Pilate asked him,"Art thou then a king?" Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world," Chapter 19:19,"And Pilate wrote a title and put on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZERETH THE KING OF THE JEWS." Then they crucified him. When did he become king?

After his crucifiction and resurrection, just before he ascended to heaven. He appeared to his disciples,and Matt.28:18 Jesus came unto them and said unto them,"All

power is given unto me in heaven, and in earth," Eph. 1:19,"And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe acording to the working of his mightly power.(20) Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in heavenly pleces,(21) Far above all principality, and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come.(22) And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church, (23) Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." Col.1:18,"And he is the head of the body, the church; who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence"

Col.1:13-15 those who are converted to him, are delivered from the power of darkness, and are transplanted into the Kingdom of God's dear Son. In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins, Heb.1:8,"But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever:" a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Rev. 17:14,"These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them; for he is Lord of lords and King of kings:..."

-A PRINCE-

Rev.1:5,"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood." Acts 5:30, "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.(31) Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins." Acts3:14, Peter speaking to the Jews who crucified Christ, "And ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted to you; (15) And killed the Prince of life,whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we(apostles)are witnesses."

-A LORD-

Acts2:36 Peter speaking to those who crucified Christ "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, who ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. 2Pet.1:2,"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, 2Pet.3:17,"Ye therefore, beloved,seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away by the error of the wicked fall from your own steadfastness.(18) But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen."

(article to be continued next issue)

-UNITY-

I wish to apologize to the publishers of the Courier for putting off writing for so long. But it is easy to put off what we should do, easing our conscience by saying we write as often as others. The Bible teaches that we shall be rewarded for what we do, not what others don't do. 2Cor.10:12 tells us if we compare (or judge) ourselves by others, we are not wise. It is a shame of the many preachers who will not hesitate to bring lessons from God's word, or who will go and hold protracted meetings when called, but never write these same lessons for the paper that many more people might be edified. We have many able preachers whose names never appear in the Courier unless they are reported by others. For Shame Brethren!

I believe one of the most important teachings of the Bible is unity or oneness. It is spoken of many times in the New Testament and prayed for by our Lord in the 17th chapter of John. We are warned or admonished by Paul and the other apostles against disunity, yet so often it is disregarded by the brethern today. It seems to me that the cause of disunity is very simple. The fact is we fail to heed Pauls admonition to, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2Tim.2:15).

We sometimes fail to study to see if what we teach is custom or law. An example is that in some congregations all the members kneel for prayer. I myself almost always do but this is a custom not a law. I believe it is a good custom yet if I try to make my brethren do as I do, I am wrong. Paul tells us circumsision is nothing, yet in Acts 16:3 he circumcised Timothy because of the custom of the people whom they were teaching. Yet he refused to have Titus forced to be circumcised, Gal.2:3-4. So we must be careful to rightly divide custom or law!

Another question we need to consider is to whom are the teachings directed toward, congregations or individuals? Some make a bad error here. For example, Paul's wring to the Church at Cornith, 1Cor.16:1, tells us,"... as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye." The letters were to the congregations, yet the instructions were to individuals, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." It was not a congregational matter but an individual. Let's consider who we mean when we are referring to man. We all understand the meaning wife, husband, father, mother, woman, etc., yet sometimes the masculine gender is used to denote male, and sometimes all. Again 1Cor. 16:2,"...lay by him in store,

as God hath prospered him,..." Does this mena only the men have to give to support the Church? Of coruse not! Again in Acts 17:30, God commandeth all men to repent, only men? No! Sometimes the word child or children is used to denote young in years, sometimes to denote a Christian, "children of God." So here again, who is it written too?

Is the teaching facts or principle? We must be careful because some are obvious, some are not. 1Pet. 3:3 tells us that the adorning of women is not to be the putting on of apparel. Does this mean they are to run around naked, cothed in meekness and quietness, or as Paul told Timothy, clothed in good works? Of course not, he is teaching a principle as to how they are to live and conduct themselves. Again lets rightly divide fact or principle. We could go on and on but this is enough to shaow the need of careful study that we might come into a unity of the gospel.

Give up custom, ideas, traditions, teachings of men no matter how wise, for it is only in the Gospel of Christ that truth is found. Brethern let us search the scriptures not man's teachings and come to the "UNITY OF THE SPIRIT IN THE BONDS OF PEACE".

Written in Love of the Truth.
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SHARPENING YOUR BIBLE
VOCABULARY
by Bro. Dan Ross, Yakima, Washington

SACRILEGE- to rob temples Rom.2:22

SANHEDRIN -the highest Jewish tribunal during the Greek and Roman periods Acts 9:2, 22:5

SCAPEGOAT- the second of two goats for which lots were cast on the day of Atonement. The first was sacrificed as a sin offering, but the second had the people's sins transferred to it by prayer and was then taken into the wilderness and released. Lev. 16:8

TABERNACLE - a portable tent used as a place of worship for the Israelites. Ex.25:8

TACKLING- furniture of a ship Acts 27:19

UNCTION - the act of anointing 1John 2:20

USURY - charging interest on loaned money Ex. 22:25
Matt. 25:27

VAGABOND- someone who wanders(vagabond Jew) Acts19:13

VESTURE- garments Heb. 1:12

WAFERS- thin cakes Ex. 16:31, 29:2

WHELP - a young dog or beast of prey, a cub. Gen 49:9

YOKEFELLOW- those who are united by close bonds as in marriage or labor. Phil.4:3

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TRUTH
(is our only hope)

Since the only thing God can not do, is tell a lie. (Titus 1:2) It therefore is demanded of christians to have the truth, in order to become justified in his sight. Truth is what the young in Christ must LEARN and what the older must CONTINUE therein. We dare not place any hope in anything that cannot be read in the New Testament, for this is what Christ our Lord died for, and made this 2nd covenant available to usfor our salvation.(For mankind has nothing else).

Just what is truth? How do we acquire it? "...grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." John 1:17 In Matt.4:4, we are told to live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. Truth is a living reality and is separate and apart from anything else. Truth exists in the New Testament scriptures soley because it is Gods will.

Truth, is a rival to anything else, as it is Gods Spirit in Perfection, and was promised to be made known to mankind on this earth, for we read in Gen.6:3"...my spirit shall not always strive with man,..." Today, we can read the New Testament, and follow it, and walk in perfect harmony with our creator. We are not any longer as all those in Noahs' time, outside of the Ark of Safety, but rather as those who believed, obeyed, and were thereby allowed to remain within the Ark of Safety. As then, so also now, TRUTH STANDS ALONE, and anytine manmixes anything with it, he no longer has the truth. It seems hard for Christians to realize that by far, the majority of people on earth are not only void of truth but fear and hate it, because it clashes with their very nature. It is shunned by the digressive clergy and feared by the unjust leaders of the nation, unwanted by the vast majority of people in the ordinary lower walk of life. It will nevertheless, reign and remain forever a one hundred per cent rule on the other side of the GREAT JUDGEMENT DAY.

TRUTH AND ITS ADVISARY

The very first encounter of truth and error found,

in our Bible, is recorded in Ezek. 28:15-17 Here we read of one of the finest and mightest Angels in heaven was corrupted, by failure in obedience to God, and followed his own brightness(reasoning) and wisdom and here is the very blue print, and pattern set that all religious error rest upon. Those that also, of the Angels,who followed after him, were over thrown, and cast out of heaven(perhaps) about the time of the garden of Eden was in the making. He was found in there also. Ezek. 28:13 "Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God;..." By following one's own reasoning and feelings, we see how serious a matter it is, when we read again of the same Angel in Rev. 12:9. He is revealed by the truth for what he is, and is called Satan.

It is not what one thinks that counts with God, but what one reads in the New Testament. If, the mightiest Angel in heaven couldn't get by on his feeling's, was unable to please God, how about us doen here, walking on the lowly ground of sin and sorrow?

TRUTH AND ERROR

David, in Psa. 19:13 says to presume, that what we think is alright, and believe it will be fine with God also, is PRESUMPTION:THE GREAT TRANSGRESSION. Now isn't this the very same thing, that happened to him who is called Satan? This is the very same spirit of error that David prayed saying,"Keep back thy servan also from presumptous sins; let them not have dominion over me:then shall I be upright and I shall be innocent from the GREAT TRANSGRESSION." Whenever we compare today, with what is written in the Gospel, to that which is practiced and believed to be just fine with God, there isn't hardly a so called religious person that is even worshipping close to what the New Testament teaches.

Here is just a quick example concerning truth and error. Many are trying to save people by teaching them to just ask ' Will you accept the Lord? Will you make the decision today,' etc; They answer yes and feel saved. For anyone to presume, that they are right in doing the very opposite of what Gods' Word teaches, is beyond my understanding. The question, is NOT will you accept Christ, but, will Christ accept you? His acceptance of anyone rest solely, if they have first obeyed him. The lessor is always subject to obeying the greater."Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46)

Even undr the 1st covenant that God gave unto man, learning God's will, and obedience was the acceptable way. Listen to Daniel, chapter 10 and verse 12,"Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel:for from the first day thou didst set thine heart to understand,(whose way?)

and to chasten theyself before thy God, thy words were heard,..." By this we see that understanding and obeying brings GREAT FAVOR.

There is a movement I've been reading about and comparing with the Word of God, concerning prayer. It seems that the theory onprayer and power is based on the number of people you can get together and all pray for the same thing, then God may hear. My Bible teaches me, just the opposite. The closer one walks to the truth in Gods word the more effective are their prayers, for John 9:31 says, "God hearth not sinners." James 5:16, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man...and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again and the heaven gave rain,..." The point is this prayer by one man affected the whole earth. Their theory of power by simply many praying, without seeing first if they have the truth or not, is based on presumption. The higher influence one has with God up there, is obtained by how humbly and close we stay with his word down here.

Truth and error are revealed as to what they truly are, by examination of the foundation upon which they stand. God expects us to study and show ourselves approved unto him. 2Tim.2:15. "A workman that needeth not to be ashamed,..." When we reason with his word this is the results, "...though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isa. 1:18.

Submitted With Christian Charity,
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WHAT IS CHRIST's
BODY ?

ARE YOU A PART OF CHRIST'S BODY?.....

Christ is the HEAD of the CHURCH Which is HIS BODY. Col.1:18; 1:24; Eph.1:22&23.

How do you become a PART of HIS BODY? by hearing the truth, confessing your sins and being baptized for the remission of your sins, then God ADDS YOU to HIS CHURCH and you become a part of HIS (Christs) BODY (the Church). Mk. 16:16; Col. 2:12; 1Pet.3:21; Gal. 3:27. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Now you are in Christ and are a part of His SPIRITUAL BODY(the Church). Being part of this body we should never do anything to cause the body to suffer.

If we whould cut off a finger or a hand, think how

much our physical body would suffer. How seriously do we think of what happens to the Spiritual body(the Church) when one or more of us goes off on a pleasure trip and forsakes the assembling of ourselves together on the first day of the week? Is not Christs body wounded? Please read Heb. 10:25; 1Chr. 28:9. We must not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, God commanded the Israelites, Christ commands us to "Keep My Commandments." If we love father, mother, brother, sister, or anyone more than Christ then we are not worthy of him. If a part of our physical body is hurt, we work hard to restore it; If our spiritual body is being hurt by some ones failure to do his or her duty, every effort should be made to right the wrong and get the body working perfectly again before it is too late.

GOD HELP US ALL TO THINK SERIOUSLY.....

(name of the author of the above article sent upon request. Ed.)

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The following is an article that we found in our files clipped from some magazine, which we fail to note when it was clipped. Thought it to be of some benifit to a few:

QUESTION: I must confess that as a teenager I am bored. My parents have always given me everything I need, however, to go to church just bores me. I hate to hurt their feelings because they have been so good. What can I do?

NSWER: You go to church! It will not hurt you to be a little bored. Try to exercise your mental capacities while you are there. Our brains are extremely lazy. There are moments in any sermon that will thrill and challenge you if you exercise your mental accumen to its full capacity. Remember, your parents love you ith an unselfish love. This is true of no one else in this world. They want the very best for you. Obey them and do what they tell you to do until you get a home of your own. When you begin to have little children in our home, you will realize what a tremendous advantage ou had in having parents who required that you attend church with them.

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CHURCH NEWS
AMARILLO, TEXAS

Dear Brethern:

My wife, Carmen had an operation on her stomach Oct. 16,1973. Doctors found a mass of fiberous,fatty tissues. It was not malignant. We thank God and pray daily for his wonderful care. She hopes to be home Oct. 22nd or 23rd.

We both have Medicare, so no gifts please. She could not be called a poor saint or widow over 60 yrs. old. But we would surely appreciate your prayers,letters & cards.

May God's rich blessings be on the church and to those in need.

Clye L. Couchman
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KLALATH FALLS,OREGON

Dear Brethren;

A few lines to bring you up to date on the latest news. I am no longer meeting with the Baron Oklahoma congregation. I moved to Klamath Falls and am meeting with the Bryant family. Any visitors are more than welcome in our homes and to worship with us.

There have been two baptized recently, they are: Jesse Warford and Edith Dwyer.

In answer to your question about the Courier, just remember the prophet who believed there were no righteous people left. What did God tell him? He said,there were a remnant who still worshiped him. I believe there are a remnant left who still want to hear Gods' word. Even though the going gets rough stay in there and publish Gods' word and church news.

One brother told me he had written three lessons to the Courier but none of them were published. I don't know if they lost in the mail or what happened to them,but there are some trying to send lessons to the Courier.

For the Church at Klamath Falls.
Bro. Marion Warford.

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(Ed. Note: Thanks for the words of encouragement and the others we received. Do pray that the sudden influx of mail and support in many ways continue for we were at the very bottom of our mail bag for the past few months. This is intended to be a paper for the uplifting of the Christians and their friends and therefore we need that type of articles and letters. Any type of letters and articles are edited very carefully, so as not to publish offending, argumentive material. If you disagree with an article, please send the disagreement to the person writing the article, or to us here at the Courier to be forward on.)

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SAN PABLO,CALIF.

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The brethren here are still small in number, and we are happy to report the return of one which had fallen away. Last Lord's day, Sister Cleda Cooper came forward confessing that she had failed to continue in the work of Christians by not attending worship. Sister Cooper is the daughter-in-law of Bro.& Sis. Jack Cooper. We only hope and pray that Sis. Cleda's husband will return again before it is too late.

The young members of the congregation are doing well

in the services. Sometimes we all feel we are not doing our part, but let us remember what our Saviour has done for us and keep our commitment to God, and most assuradly He will keep His commitment to us. We ask the prayers of all the children of God, as we also pray for those that know not God. Let us all contend for the faith which is in Jesus Christ our Saviour, and let us be seperated from the world.

Yours in Christ,
Homer Bryant

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GRANTS PASS, OREGON

Brethren:

The Reed Thompson's have returned from a visit in Hays, Kansas. Bro.& Sis. Harry Wegley are visiting the Rex Mickeys in Aztec,N.Mex. this week. Brother Dallas Mickey and family were up from San Deigo recently for a short visit.

Colds and flu have hit a few of us. Attendance is about as usual.

The year appears to be speeding swiftly to close. A lot of fruitful work was done by various congregations this past summer. If it be the Lord's will for us to see another summer we should be formulating plans to do battle against the enemy/enemies of Christ.

Are you having a meeting next summer? Do you want a meeting next summer? Have you spoken to others in your congregation about having a meeting next summer? Or sooner? Scheduling should be done as early as possible to allow people to plan their vacation at a time permitting them to attend if they so desire.

Bro. Tom Broadway

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SHORT ITEMS

COTTAGE GROVE,OREGON

Brother harris is greatly improved,gained 10 lbs. He is 80 years young. Sister Harris too is feeing much better but has had a bad toe infection which may lead to surgery soon.

YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

Cheryl Roby is getting along nicely after a very nasty automoblile accident. Very happy to report that Brother Bob Lamb has come back into the church for which we are all very thankful.(understand that there were one or two deaths in the midst of the congregation,but did not recieve names in time for publication.)

MUNDAY, TEXAS

The congregation is"very" small now and some are young and need much help. It is 25 miles to go to Seymour to church, but they do sometimes. If you are in the area contact Bro.Jack White, Rt.2 Box 137 Munday,Tex.76371

MODESTO,CALIFORNIA

Sister Mae Johnson is in Casa Bonita Conval.Hosp. doing very nicely.