GOSPEL NEWS COURIER

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ARE WE CHRISTIANS?

We have to live and associate with imperfect people just like ourselves. In the course of time it is easy to feel that someone has wronged us. This may be true, and it may be nothing more than a figment of the imagination. Even though it is true, we should not seek retribution, but rather leave it with the Lord to handle at the proper time in his own way. God has said, "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord", Romans 12:19.

Hasty words create strife; so we are commanded "Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath" (Jas. 1:19). This verse reminds us of the common adage: "Think twice before you speak." Gossip and tale-bearing excite strife. "A whisperer separateth chief friends." (Prov. 16:28). "Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out, so where there is no tale-bearer, the strife ceaseth." (Prov. 26:20). Harsh words are to be avoided. Let us remember: "A soft answer turneth away wrath; but grievious words stir up anger." (Prov. 15:1). Clamor is to be put away, (Eph. 4:31). This is outcry, vociferation, uproar, or violent expression of discontent. It not only characterizes the mob, but occasionally describes church meetings. The wrong word is spoken at a delicate time and the whole assembly is inflamed. Railing is forbidden, (I Tim. 6:4-5) This means to insult; revile, vituperate, and scoff. It is not Christ-like. Meekness is not weakness, but strength harnessed for service. Let us serve Christ.

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GOD'S PLAN
Reprint From "IT IS WRITTEN", Aug. 1954

Since God's plan is divine, then the word of God must be our sole guide, Phil. 3:16. First, the Church of Christ is a divine church not made by man, Matt. 16:18; Eph. 3:10-11. To have more than one church is sin, I Cor. 1:10. The church is composed of those who obey what He has said for us to do, Heb. 5:8.

The things we must do first, we find in Acts 3:22-23. If we do not do what He tells us, we will be destroyed, Verse 23.

Second, we must believe, Heb. 11:6. Next, we must repent of our sins, Acts 3:19. Next, we must confess, Matt. 10:32. Next, we must we must be baptized, Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; Rom. 6:4; I Pet. 3:21.

Now, God's plan has us in the church. Let us study the plan more and see how we must live in the church. First, we must let our light shine, Matt. 5:16. We are to study God's plan and we are to live according so that there is no fault about us in the way of sin. Next, we must live after the Spirit, Rom. 8:4. Next, we should not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, Heb. 10:25. Next, God's plan for worship in the church, is that we must meet on the first day of the week, Acts 20:7; I Cor. 11:23-24. Next, we must lay by in store, I Cor. 16:2. We should pray, I Thes. 5:18. We should sing, Eph. 5:19. We should teach, 2 Tim. 2:15.

Last of all, we must not add to God's plan nor take any from his plan, Rev. 22:16, 19. Now, friends, this is God's plan. Any other is not His plan if anything not written in His Word is added. So, let us stay with God's plan, that will take us to heaven.

Written in love for the truth.

Willie Doan, Route 2, Box 129,
Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Some men will be surprised some day to find that God knows more than they do and that He says what He means and means what He says.

Confess your faults one to another, not one about another. (James 5:16)

We are sorry to report the passing away of two of our number at Yuma, Ariz., Bro. Long and Bro. Ellis. We express our sympathy to loved ones of the family and their friends.

Bro. Geo. S. Long, 81, a long time resident of Yuma Valley Arizona, passed away Apr. 27, 1961. He had been a member of the Church of Christ the greater part of his life. Bro. Tom Broadway of Lakewood, California, preached the funeral service. Bro. Long is survived by his life-long companion in matrimony, Sister Long, a daughter, Mrs. Eunice Wright of Los Angeles, a son, Lamon Long who lives in Texas, and another son, Donnie Long of Yuma Valley. Interment was in the Yuma Cemetery.

Bro. Wade Ellis 76, of Yuma, Arizona, passed away May 6, 1961 at the Yuma County Indigent Nursing Home. Funeral services were held in the Johnson Mortuary in Yuma May 9, with Bro. Horace Orendorff of the Church of Christ preaching the funeral sermon. Interment was in the Desert Lawn Memorial Park, Yuma.

He was born in Salem, Oregon, Sept. 22, 1874. Surviving are four daughters, Edith Ford of Hamlin, Texas, Ila Barbee of Grants Pass, Ore., Velma Dunaway and Mary Hand, both of Eugene, Ore. He had lived in Somerton and Yuma for the past 10 years.

AN EXPRESSION OF THANKS

To the people of the Yuma, Arizona area:

Our deepest thanks for a very enjoyable week during the weeks meeting ending May 7. We enjoyed visiting in the homes of the brethren there. We had nice crowds, good singing, and a pleasant association with you and memories of that very short week will be remembered for a long, long time. Again, we say "Thank you".

THE BROADWAYS of Bellflower, California.

The W. A. Nelsons of Somerton, Ariz. writes;--Our meeting is rapidly coming to a close and we have heard some good preaching. Bro. J. D. Logan has really done a swell job. We are glad to know there is one so young who is as capable in the Master's work.

As we go to press with this issue of the paoer, Bro Paul Ferguson, 6392 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, Calif. will be in a meeting for the East Side Chruch of Christ, Ringgold, Texas, closing june 2nd. He is to go from Ringgold to Lorenzo, Texas to begin a singing school and gospel meeting June 4, for the West Side Church of Christ, and to run through to June I8. Sister Ferguson will accompany him in these meetings.

Bro. W. A. Nelson, Somerton, Arizona, will assist the brethren in a meeting at Furnace Canyon, just out of Kenton, Okla., starting Aug. 6, I96I, running through to the morning service, Lord's Day Aug.I3. From there to Springfield, Colo. to begin another meeting that same Lord's Day at night, Aug. I3, closing the following Lord's Day Aug.20. Sister Nelson will accompany him on these trips. They intend to make stopovers at Delta, Colo. and Aztec, N. M.

We are glad to report the return to our midst, the Ray Shea family. They returned here during April from Hawaii where they have spent the last three years. We welcome you home Ray, Joan, Janice Rae and Darla. Many will remember Mrs. Shea as the youngest daughter of Bro. and Sister Paul Ferguson of Buena Park, Calif.

-La Habra, Calif., Church of Christ.-

Following is some excerpts from some of the letters received in regard to publishing a church newspaper:

Dear Bro. Snoderly:--Received your letter and was glad to know you are going to put out a paper. I am sending you an article. I teach each Lord's Day at the morning worship at the Broken Bow, Okla. Church of Christ, and Bro. Loyd Treat at the evening services.

--Willie Doan--

I received your good letter today and am glad you brethren are starting a paper. Will try to help out all I can. There are only three of us in regular attendance in the church here. We are all old and not able to do much. Here is wishing you all luck with the paper. --R. H. Peel, Crosbyton, Texas---

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Note:--The three who meet at Crosbyton are, one is 80, and the two others are each 76. Pray for them and the church at Crosbyton.

We are all glad that the churches there are trying to get a regular church paper established. The brethren here were glad to receive this news at Yakima, and are glad to hear of congregations and how they are doing. We are happy when any of the brethren can come and visit us. Our prayers are for the paper and that much good can be accomplished through this work.

---Howard McCay---

I was glad to hear of the plans to start a paper for the brotherhood. You may count on me to co-operate in any way that I can. I preach one Sunday in each month at each of these churches; Seymour, Ringgold, Abilene, and occassionally at Crosbyton and Lorenzo, Texas, and at Loco and Lugert, Oklahoma. We wish you the best of luck with your efforts.

--J. W. Bedingfield, Olney Tex.

P. S:-Give all our love to all the brethren there.

We would really enjoy a good paper, and would subscribe or give to the support of a paper if it is what we think it should be.

-Bro. & Sister Howard Studer, Lorenzo, Tex.

We don't go to church at this named place any more on account of certain conditions that exist in the church as I am getting old and cannot take the lead in church work. Our leader, Bro. Atchley, has moved to Oklahoma and goes to church at Stillwell and left George Vanderpool in charge of the church. Most of the members are old and have no way to get to church as there is no one who can take them.

We received one of your papers today sent by my brother-in-law of La Habra, Calif. We would like to be put on the mailing list of the Gospel News Courier. Wife and I have church in our home each L. Day morning.

-Albert Harrison, Hindsville, Arkansas--

CHOOSE YE THIS DAY WHOM YE WILL SERVE
Josh. 24:15

Many years ago, Nov. 1931, in an article written in THE TRUTH, Bro. E. H. Cavin, now deceased, wrote these words at the end of his thoughts concerning the LORD'S SUPPER:

Paul warns us that some shall depart from the faith. They will not endure sound doctrine after our Lord Jesus Christ. They will turn away their ears from the truth.

And by this the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. (2 Tim. 4:3; I Pet. 2:21). These times are upon us. It is lawlessness in the world and lawlessness in the church.

Christ always pleased the Father. Some profess to follow Him, but they do as they please about His Father's will. They are building on the sand. Christ has left us an example in Matt. 7th. chapter. Are we following in His steps? Are we "doers of the word", and not hearers only?

IF THE LORD BE GOD, SERVE HIM, IF BAAL, THEN SERVE HIM. Submitted in the love of Christ the Lord.

--E. H. Cavin, Lorenzo, Texas.

Time sure hasn't changed much has it? For today we have the same old problems with church members as then. Always wanting to change the word of God to suit themselves or their folks. Don't be a changer, just a real good DOER of God's commandments, and you will please Him more and more each day as you grow in His grace. Then His reward for you, the faithful, will be a home, a crown, and white robes for eternity with CHRIST THE SAVIOUR in heaven. --Editor--

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Late news from Somerton, Ariz., states that Mrs. Chas. Baldwin and sons from Delta, Colo., have arrived there by plane just recently for a visit with her parents and her family, the D. C. Phipps of the Gila Valley, and also to visit the W. A. Nelsons, W. B. Nelsons and Harold Smiths, relatives of Mr. Baldwins.

TO The Brotherhood;

We are much encouraged so far, by your expressions of interest in and promises of support and co-operation for the GOSPEL NEWS COURIER. Brethren have written us promises of support and co-operation in every way they can to help us establish a regular church newspaper. We think this indicates a strong desire of the brotherhood for a publication by which they can keep in touch with the activities of the congregations and their work in general. We will put all on our mailing list who let us know that they want the paper. Send us names and addresses of those who you know may like to receive the paper. We are depending on the co-operation of the brotherhood and private donations from individuals for the financial support of the paper. It costs about $40.00 for material and postage to print 1000 copies and mail them to you. We want to make the GOSPEL NEWS COURIER mostly a church newspaper. Will you please write us each month any news happenings concerning the congregation and its membership where you worship.

We would also welcome articles on gospel subjects but for lack of space at present, we will have to limit articles to not more than 400 words per article.

Give us an idea what you would like to have published in the COURIER, and if it is something we can print without causing vain contentions and strife in churches, we will be glad to be your servants in the Lord. ---The Editor and Publishers-----

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ABOUT CARNAL WARFARE

As we read our newspapers and listen to news broadcasts each day, it seems that the nations of the world are bent on destroying themselves and all others. We are reprinting on page 8, of this issue of the paper, an article or articles of belief of those who believe that warfare is against the teaching of God's word. if you are a young man of the age which requires you to participate in training of this nature, or you will soon be of that age, you can state your position on this subject by signing your name on the bottom of the page 8, and send to us--GOSPEL NEWS COURIER--

MY POSITION ON CARNAL WARFARE

I cannot participate in military service of any form, directly or indirectly, in combatant or noncombatant service, because:

I. My duty and obligation to my God is superior to all other obligations (Matt. 22:37; Matt. 6:33; Acts 5:29).

2. My God in the Bible forbids that I engage in carnal warfare in the following references:

"Put up thy sword." "For all that take the sword shall perish with the sword" (Matt. 26:52)---Jesus.

"My kingdom is not of this world" (John I8:36).

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal" (2 Cor. I0:3, 4).

"Love your enemies" (Matt. 5:44; "Turn the other cheek" (Matt. 5:39).

"Recompense to no man evil for evil" (Romans I2:I7)

3. To enter any military branch or service, combatant or noncombatant, I would be compelled to "swear" (take an oath), but the Bible forbids that I do so ("swear not at all"--Jesus, Matt. 5:34).

4. To enter any Military service I would be compelled to be yoked with unbelievers, which is forbidden---"Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Cor. 6:I4)

5. To be in any branch of military service in any way, I would be a part of the organization and would therefore have fellowship in the service, but such is prohibited; thus: "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:II).

6. To serve in any way in the military service, I would be deprived of obeying the command to assemble on Lord's Day to worship God in the Bible way, at least part of the time, hence would disobey God (Heb. I0:25; Acts 20:7; I Cor. I6:I-2).

Therefore, I cannot conscientiously engage in carnal war in any form or branch, and for the above reasons, I authorize my name to be listed in support of the above principles.