GOSPEL NEWS COURIER

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ON "SPOOKS" AND "HAUNTS"

Replying to James S. L. Morse in Obion-News-Evangel, of October, 1963.

BY, J. D. LOGAN.

I am in receipt of a series of periodicals from the pen, or rather the typewriter of the above named correspondent, in which were written some rude statements which, to be sure, are most revolting to the brotherhood. In the past, I have had the distinct pleasure of corresponding with several brethren with whom I disagree, but never before have I waded through such a dismal swamp of rediculous writings as I found in this "rag'"

Particularly offensive to me personally, and I am sure to other brethren, was the statement on bottom of page seven as follows in part: ".....(too) to bad you preachers of today have to rely on the spooks to obtain crutches for your "miserable Grandpappies' Traditions." Poor modern time fellows, can't defend their OWN doctrine. The dear old loyal (?) congregations sure are in a bad shape, and in dire need of preachers; what a shame; tut-tut, boo-hoo hoooo hooooooo. Heart-rending isn't it? Poor folks, wouldn't be surprised to find you calling on the sects for preaching assistance."

My first urge upon regaining my composure (who could read this sort of tripe without becoming nauseated?) was to relegate these writings to the same end as all the rest of my junk mail. However, on second thought, it occured to me that someone, somewhere, might accidentally read this, so I take pen in hand to answer this scurrilous attack.

First, let me make one thing plain. I have every right in the world to write this article. The gentlemen was kind enough to identify the "Courier" in his writing. I am a correspondent of the "Courier" and am happy to be associated with the fine brethren who produce it. They are of the highest character and Christian gentlemen to say the least. To typify them as supporters of "miserable Grandpappies Traditions" is especially offensive to me. I am a preacher of God's word myself, and refer to myself as loyal in doctrine and practice. I deny categorically

teaching "miserable Grandpappies Traditions."

Also,please note on page seven he refers to Bro. J. S. Bedingfield as, and I quote, "The rankest, and most radical Anti that ever attempted to defend your untenable doctrine". Now, I have disagreed with Bro. Bedingfield in the past on a few little things, (before his passing) but never in my life did I refer to him in such terms. I would like to ask the gentlemen, where were you before Bro. Bedingfield passed away? I don't recall ever hearing your name mentioned prior to this date. Now you "bravely" venture forth on the field to do battle with a man who can no longer defend himself!!! Is this your method of doing battle with your enemies???

Now I'll tell you something Bro. Morse. If you are anxious to do battle, come out of the "cemetery" and get away from the "hants" (your words) and do battle with someone who can, and will gladly answer you.

You seem to feel you are something of a Goliath on the matters of the "cups" and "classes", so would you please permit a little "David" to join you on the field to do battle? I have a few "stones" which I would like to heave and perhaps it would be good to begin with the "Philistines" since there are so many of them.

Please take note of your statement on page seven with respect to calling on the "sects for preaching assistance." Now, maybe you can't see the transparency of such a statement, but there are some who can. We may (although I strongly doubt) be forced to appeal to others for assistance, but YOU, dear brother, are guilty of flagrantly adopting two sectarian practices in your worship. Both the use of a plurality of cups in the Lord's Supper, and classes in the teaching service, are now, and always have been adaptations of denominational practices. Maybe you are aware that Adolph Hitler stated something to this effect; "If you yell something loud enough, long enough about your enemies' intentions, others will not notice your own misconduct." Should the "pot" call the "kettle" black??

Now sir, I am going to close with one last reminder. There are a few of us "Antis" left who are not afraid of the "Big, bad Wolf." If you are really interested in doing battle, and feel you have something to offer, stop being nasty and start being constructive. Send some propositions on the "cups" question affirming the scriptures teach the use of a plurality of cups in the Lord's Supper, and I will send you some affirming the use of one in the same. Also,send some on the Sunday School stating your position clearly and lucidly. If you are spoiling for a fight, we know how to accomodate you correctly, and we will not faint to do so.

So let us know how you feel on the matter. I really want to find out so I can plan my future activities accordingly.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain,

Your brother in Christ,

300 Glenn Avenue, Modesto, California. J. D. LOGAN.

BILL & VEDA McCAY & FAMILY, 719 East Viola, Yakima, Washington. Oct. 14, 1963. - I am happy to report at this time that a number of our young people have taken the steps which put them into Christ. On September Ist. I had the priviledge of baptizing our son Mike, Paula and Larry Roark, (daughter and son of Bro. & Sister Vernon Roark), Bobby Lamb, (son of Bro. and Sister Bob Lamb, and grandson of Bro. and Sister Merle McKinney), and Cheryl Roby, (daughter of Bro. & Sister Earl Roby and our niece) It seems to me that this would refute the claim of our Sunday School brethren that it takes special classes at different age levels to teach these young people what their duty is. Why can't people take the Word of God as it is, without adding to,or taking from it?

On September 8th., Verba Newberry came forward and made that good confession, and was buried with Christ in baptism; and on Oct. 6th. the same steps were taken by Janice Johnson the fiancee of Bro. Don Loveland.

We hope all is well with you at this time, and will continue to be in the future. Enclosed is a check to help in the work of the Lord from the church here. At this late date I would like to say that all in our party enjoyed very much the association we had at the 5th. Sunday meeting there at La Habra. We feel that we benefited greatly from being there, and would like to say that anyone who had a chance to go but didn't, surely missed a great opportunity. If the Lord wills, we certainly hope to attend at least one of the meetings again next year. We do so much appreciate the hospitality and love shown us while we were with you. Hoping to see you all again before too long, we ask your prayers for us that we might be strengthened in doing the Lord's will, and assure you that our prayers go up to the Father for you and all the brethren, that we might all be together in the hereafter. We think and speak of you all very often, and feel that you are near to us even though this distance separates us. Give our love to the brethren at La Habra, and Bellflower. ---- In Christian love.

I. E. ATCHLEY, Rt. 2, Westville, Oklahoma. Oct. 28, 1963. Just a few lines to thank you for publishing my letter concerning the building of a new church building here. I would like to say that several churches and two individuals have responded with donations to help us finance the building. We are grateful to each and everyone for their help. We just closed a wonderful meeting at Stillwell last night with

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Bro. Paul Ferguson doing the preaching. We didn't have any additions, however we did have good attendance and interest and I'm sure there was much good done. We as members were strengthened by the wonderful lessons Bro. Ferguson presented from God's divine word. May the Lord help him that he may continue to preach the word. Bro. Snoderly you sent a bundle of papers to me last month. There is no need to send them to me until we are located in the new building. Bro. Daniels gets a bundle and we all get a copy at Stilwell. We enjoy reading the Gospel News Courier. Keep up the good work, and may the Lord bless you in the wonderful work you are doing.

Your brother in Christ.

DONALD DABBS, 3637 West Ruth Ave., Phoenix, Arizona, Nov. 2, I963. Phone 939-290I.-- Our meeting here in Phoenix has been over fro some time now. We had a nice turnout. Our brethren seem to think it was a successful one.

Sunday morning Oct. 6 there were 3I present. Bro. Allen Nelson of Somerton, Arizona was to give the lesson, but unfortunately, Sister Nelson became very ill, and after calling a doctor and a little rest, they had to return home. Bro. Elmer Hunt of Corona, Calif. helped us out, giving a wonderful lesson. Sunday Evening, Bro. Jack Morris of Phoenix, gave a very good lesson. There were 29 present. Monday evening the 7th, there were 20 present and Bro. Hunt spoke to us again, bringing forth another wonderful message. Tuesday morning Oct. 8th. Bro. Hunt, Bro. Hayse Morris and myself, spent the day doing personal work. We feel that this work did some good and we enjoyed going with Bro. Hunt very much. We also feel he is an excellent personal worker. Tuesday evening Bro. Hayse Morris was to give the lesson but was unable on account of sickness. Bro. Jack Morris filled in and did a wonderful job. There were 29 present, and Bro. and Sister Fred Shirley, and Bro. Russell Morris were restored.

October 9th. even though several brethren were absent, even myself on account of various reasons, Bro. Ralph Rhodes of Phoenix, gave the lesson. They say he did a very good job. Bro. and Sister Claude Perigen of Bellflower, Calif. came in Thursday afternoon. Bro. Perigen brought forth a wonderful sermon that evening. They spent a day or so with us and with some of their friends. We wish they could have stayed longer. Friday evening there were 23 present and Bro. Jack Morris talked for us. That same evening, as we returned home, we had a very pleasant surprise. My dad and mother, Bro.

and Sister Roy Dabbs; my grandmother Armesa Smith, and my sister Flora Bixler, and her three children, all of Aztec, N. Mexico were all at our home when we drove in. Likewise, Bro. and Sister Jack morris had a pleasant surprise at their house, Bro. and Sister Harry Dye of Yuma, Ariz. were there.

Saturday morning some very dear friends of ours from Delta, Colorado, Bro. and Sister Kenneth Baldwin came in. We were very happy to see them. Bro. and Sister Paul Ferguson, and Bro. and Sister Clouse of La Habra, California also arrived some time Friday or Saturday. We were also very happy that they could come; and we do wish they could have stayed longer. Bro. Ferguson gave us a very good sermon Saturday evening. There were 29 present. Lord's Day morning there were to the best of my knowledge, 54 present. Bro. Roy Dabbs talked for us that morning, bringing us a message we enjoyed very much. Bro. Ferguson waited on the table, and the other brother took part in one thing or another. After services lunch was served on the grounds. Shortly afterward we gathered again and Bro. Harry Dye spoke. The children as well as the grownups enjoyed the lesson very much. At the 8 P. M. services, Bro. Baldwin brought us a wonderful message. This ended our week of meeting, and we want to express our thanks and appreciation to each and everyone for their help. If I have failed to mention anyone for their help or presence, please accept my apoligy. - -----In Christ's name.

We are very sorry that through an error in printing, Bro. Shirley's name was omitted in Bro. Hunt's report in the November Courier of the Phoenix meeting.

JOHN D. USREY, 840 Bell Ave., Sacramento, Calif. 95838, Nov. 5, 1963 - We sure do enjoy your paper that we receive each month, to hear the news from far and near. The church is about as usual up here. We have four steady visitors that have been attending regular so far.

We are sorry to announce that SISTER ETHEL BEDINGFIELD passed away, beloved wife of the late Brother J. S. Bedingfield. The family of Sister Bedingfield wish to thank Bro. J. D. Logan of Modesto, for speaking words of comfort to the family, relatives and friends. We wish to thank the brothers and sisters of the Morris Avenue church for coming and taking the lead in the songs that were sung. The singing was wonderful. And thanks to all that sent the beautiful flowers. Bro. F. H. Logan of Modesto, attended the services and it was nice to see him once more.

Bro. Ronnie Tibbs, formerly of Bellflower, now living in North Sacramento, is meeting with us and gives us some

interesting lessons. Bro. Coleman of Modesto, comes up once a month and gives us good lessons. We enjoy having him with us. Anyone passing through this part is more than welcome to stop and worship with us. ------With Christian Love.

LAURA E. WILLIS, 205½ S. Olive, Carlsbad, N. Mex.,88220, Nov. 5, 1963. - I received the October issue of the Gospel News Courier and read its contents with the usual interest. I want to thank you for writing the article in the September issue of the Courier stating our situation here, especially since it has brought results. I have been made happy by the arrival of Bro. and Sister Clyde Couchman, of Springfield, Colorado. They are here at least until next summer. He has taken the oversight of the church, and we all want to work together to try with God's help to build up here. Bro. and Sister Rex Mickey of Cave Junction, Oregon, wrote that they had been thinking of selling out and moving here to help us. but would have to have work. I had to tell them that the work situation was very bad here. I want to thank eveyone who offered prayers for us, for I believe our prayers have been heard. God bless everyone of you. I do hope Bro. and Sister Couchman will be happy here with us.

Enclosed is my contribution to the Courier. Please send the Gospel News Courier to Mrs. Frank Wolf, 2201 B. W. Juniper Street, Roswell, N. Mexico. The above mentioned is my granddaughter Jeanette Bruce. She was married November 1, to Frank Bruce. --------Sincerely yours in Christ.-

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By J. D. Logan 300 Glenn Ave., Modesto, Calif.

(Many, if not all of our readers, no doubt have one or more questions which they would like to ask, on some Bible subject, so don't hesitate to send them in to be answered through this column. We'll be glad to receive them , and to answer them to the best of our ability)

NEWS AND NOTES.

Bro. Hayse Morris of Phoenix, Arizona, has been in and out of the hospital twice recently, but we understnad that he is doing much better lately.

Bro. and Sister Shirley formerly of Phoenix, Arizona, are now living at Delta, Colorado where they have accepted employment in a dairy there.

Bro. F. H. Logan of Modesto, Calif., met with the La Habra, Calif. church three Lord's days and preached one

Lord's day morning for them.

Bro. Donald Dabbs and Bro. Abram Labato of the Phoenix, Arizona congregation met with the La Habra, Calif. church on November 15 in their regular Friday night church service.

La Habra, and Bellflower, California congregations exchanged speakers part of November as they usually do each month. Bro. Jerry Perigen preached Lord's day morning at La Habra Nov. 17, with a fine and interesting sermon.

CURTIS TEAGUE, Rt. 2, Box 16, Nocona, Texas, November 10, 1963. - We are returning the list as you requested. We are pleased that you are going to mail the Courier to each reader, and we appreciate the effort you are putting forth to get the paper to the readers on time. --Yours in Christ.

For, Ringgold, Texas church.

CLYDE & CARMEN COUCHMAN, El Rio Court, Space #4, Carlsbad, N. Mexico, - Hope all are well on the West Coast. Wife and I decided to move to Carlsbad to help the church here. We hated to leave the brethren at Springfield, Colorado, but hope to do more for the Lord here. There is so much to do, and we think the brethren should scatter abroad more. I was hoping that a brother with more ability than I would move to Carlsbad. Sister Willis and Sister Wheelan are fine. We meet in Sister Willis's home at 205½ S. Olive St. If you know of anyone in this area that we could contact, please write us. If anyone comes this way, please stop and worship with us. We ask the faithful to pray for us as we start this work of the Lord. ---In Christian love.

W. E. DANIELS, Rt. 2, Stilwell, Oklahoma, Nov. 11, 1963. Here is a little sketch of our meeting which closed Oct. 27; together with the names and addresses of those to receive the Courier. In regards to our meeting, I will say Bro. Paul Ferguson did some real honest to goodness gospel preaching. Our crowds were better than expected, and we certainly did enjoy the visiting brethren from Bohannan Mountain congregation. They were much help in the meeting! There were no additions, but I am sure much good was done in what outside attendance we had. They heard the gospel pure and simple. The church was very much edified, and we hope the seed sown will in time produce fruit unto our Lord and Saviour Jesus Chfist.. ---A brother in the one faith.

We are sorry to hear of Sister J. L. Jared's recent illness. We pray for her safe and speedy recovery, and for Bro. Jared and their children in this time of distress.

EDITOR.

SPECIAL REQUEST.

Many times in the past, people have asked me for information concerning congregations in different sections of the country. Just recently, I received such a request of this nature concerning the location of a faithful congregation in the immediate area of West Palm Beach, Florida. If anyone should know of someone worshiping in this area, please send all information to me, Roy L. Snoderly, P. O. Box 97, La Habra, California 90631. Also if you know of any congregations East of the Mississippi River, please send this information for our records. --- EDITOR.

We are pleased so far with the response to our letters in which we asked for lists of names to whom we can mail the Courier. Some have not yet complied, probaly due to lack of time to get up the list. Please send us the list as soon as convenient so we can start mailing them with the January issue. We want to thank you for your co-operation in this matter. ----EDITOR.

J. C. SPURLIN, Reydon, Oklahoma, Nov. 13, 1963. --- This to comply with your request asking for a list of names. This list comprises names besides the Reydon congregation, to who we would like to have you send the paper. I am glad to say we think the paper is being improved upon. For that reason we are interested in helping enlarge its circulation. I would like to see more articles on the first principles of the gospel. If I can keep my health, and the Lord willing, we hope to increase our support to the paper. Then too, we have other articles to offer, but do not wish to monopolize the space. I would like to see articles by the more able brethren. I believe their writings would be more to the point, and thereby more interesting.

Your brother in Christ.

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