GOSPEL NEWS COURIER
P. O. BOX 97
LA HABRA, CALIF. 90631
Return Postage Guaranteed

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
La Habra, Calif.
Permit No. 72

Mr. Howard E. McCay
1615, 27th Ave.
Yakima, Wash.

Gospel News Courier

VOL. 3, NO. I) LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA 90601. JUNE 1964

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

I Tim. 6:I2. By J. C. SPURLIN.

The above scripture is invigorating and encouraging, especially when we think of so much that needs to be done in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and his cause. I sometimes wonder if we truly realize that we are in the midst of a spiritual war. Then too, I am made to wonder how many of us are rendering a service most acceptable to our King, Christ the Lord. Let us remember that we are called as Paul told Timothy, to fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto we are called and hath confessed a good confession among many witnesses. Let us then remember that we who have had our training, and have learned our duty, and have come to face to face with our responsibilities, are no longer to be excused from our work to waste or sleep away precious time while our enemy the devil is accomplishing great strides in his work of destruction. As Peter has said, "Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. (I Pet. 5:8) Then let us arise in the strength of our salvation, Jesus Christ, and charge the enemy with all our forces, strength and vigor. Hear ye the battle cry and press forward and upward toward the Christian goal, salvation and life eternal through Jesus Christ.

Annanias wouldn't attract attention today in this age of specialized prevarication.

Another thing the modern child learns at his mother's knee is to watch out for hot ashes.

CALENDER OF MEETINGS

Bro. J. C. Spurlin of Reydon, Oklahoma has ended his meetings in Carlsbad, N. Mexico, and Bro. Elmer H. Hunt of Corona, California has ended his meeting in Yuma, Arizona. We hope to have their reports in the next issue.

By the time you receive this copy, Bro. Paul Ferguson of La Habra, California will be in his meeting at Furnish Canyon, Colorado, June 7 through 14. From there he will go to New Castle, Texas to the California Creek congregation to begin a meeting June 17 through June 28. From there he plans to go to Texas City, Texas and visit there a few days before starting a meeting at the Ogden Church of Christ at Seymour, Texas, date to be announced later.

Bro Tom Broadway of Tustin, California will begin a meeting June 13 through 22 at Modesto, California, at the Glenn and Dallas Street congregation. Everyone is invited to attend, especially over the 20, 21, and 22. During these three days there will be a guest speaker at each service, with three services on Saturday and three services on Lord's Day. Lunch will be served each noon and evening Saturday and Lords Day. Everyone who can do so, come and be with us, and bring some one with you.

Bro. J. D. Logan will begin a meeting June 28, running through July 5 at Bellflower, California. Their place of worship is located at 9914 Arkansas Street. Everyone come who possibly can and be with them. Bro. Claude Perigen of this congregation has recently purchased and moved to a home located at 10107 Maple Street, Bellflower, California and can be contacted by calling CODE 213 - 86- 6-0656.

Let's all remember our camp-meeting at the Happy Hollow Church of Christ, Delta, Colorado August 8 through the 16th. Everybody come.

GEORGE VANDERPOOL, Rt. I, Hindsville, Ark. - Just a word to let you know that we are still in the land of the living. There has been quite a lot sickness here this winter, and it seems that Bro. Steve Laney has had more than his share. Some of his family has been in the hospital off and on all winter. The church here on Bohannon Mountain is still holding to the faith once for all delivered to the saints. Bro. Earl and Sister Atchley were with us Lord's day. His sermon was, "Did You Know". I have known him for years, but what I did not know, was that he could preach as he did Lord's day. Sister W. E. Daniels is in the hospital at this writing. We will miss them the Fourth Lord's day. We enjoy the paper which we just received. But like Bro. Spurlin says, the brethren in general are laying down on the job. I hope your meeting was a success. We think a lot of Bro. Paul Auslam here at Bohannon Mountain. ----Yours in Christ.

ESTABLISHING NEW CONGREGATIONS.

Last month I wrote you of an effort by the La Habra and Bellflower congregations to help establish new churches and to help in meetings in areas where congregations are financially unable to call an evangelist to hold a meeting. This is a reminder to you to consider this as a worthy effort, and to pledge your assistance as the need for finances shall arise from time to time.

Much work can be done for the Lord and many souls can be saved if only we as a church work together in unity. Not one of us can do it by ourselves, but we must have the help of all. We have talked of doing this for a year and as yet nothing has been done. Let's act now.

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest? behold I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth." (Jno. 4:35-37)

Send all inquiries and replies to, Roy L. Snoderly, P. O Box 97, La Habra, Califronia 90631. Let's work together.

----EDITOR.

J. C. & MYRTLE WHITTLEY, Kenton, Oklahoma, Apr. 29-64.

Just a line from the group at Furnish Canyon. We all enjoy the paper a lot. If nothing happens, we plan to have a meeting June 7 through 14. Bro. Paul Ferguson will bring the lessons. Also in August 16 through 23, Bro. Nelson will be with us. We would enjoy having any of the brethren with us then or any other time.

We are sending this little contribution from the church here to help with the paper. -----Sincerely.

PAUL AUSLAM & FAMILY, Rt. I, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701. May 7, 1964. - I am sorry I have waited so long to write you. I want to thank everyone for everything during our meeting with you. I want to say it was indeed a pleasure to meet with everyone there once again. We enjoyed our stay with you very much. We hope some will come to visit us here. Each and everyone is just as welcome as can be.

The congregation at home is just about as usual. We made the trip to Broken Bow, Oklahoma last week end and helped the brethren there. We enjoyed meeting all the Christians there very much. We plan, if the Lord wills, to go down again the 2nd Saturday night and Sunday of June. We have services there Saturday night 7:30, and Sunday 10:30 A. M. and 2:30 P. M. That's at Broken Bow.

---In Christian love.

HOWARD & ARVIE STUDER, Box 718, Lorenzo, Texas. -- Our Sister Gregory handed us this donation Sunday and says she enjoys the paper very much. We really enjoy it. We are not well. Mrs. Studer's doctor tells her not to exercise enough to walk into the yard, but she is impro-

G O S P E L N E W S C O U R I E R
P. O. Box 97 La Habra, California 90631.
Published Monthly Roy L. Smoderly, Editor.

Each writer is responsible for his own article only.

(Continued from page 3)
ving. Our little congregation is going along as usual with eight regular members. We need the prayers of all the faithful.

THE FALL OF GOD'S CREATION

In the book of God we read that God created man in his likeness and image; placed him in a garden and gave him every tree therein for food except one, and if he ate of it he would die. So man chose to die, Genesis chapters I through chapter 3. Here we see that man can and will choose what he will do. This makes him a being that has the power to obey or disobey; and as such, can sin or not sin. So it was with Cain and Abel. The one chose to obey God as he directed, the other as he saw fit, and because of disobedience, sin was committed. (Heb. II:4). In Exodus I5 the seed of Jacob was delivered from bondage; then in the I6th chapter they committed sin and was displeasing to God. See Also I Cor. I0:I-I5, and Heb. 4. Then in Numbers, 25, God's children mixed with the children of men and committed sin, (the doctrine of Balaam, Rev. 2:I4). Joshua 7 also tells of how one man took some small things in disobedience to God's commands and was slain because of it. Then we have in Isaiah I0:I, "Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness which they have prescribed; to turn away the needy from judgment and to take away the right from the poor of my people." So today, we still have people that write things and prescribe different ways to serve God contrary to God's law, and take away the right from the people of God. Also we have people that think they can disobey God, and teach that it does not make any difference, or we can't see, or don't believe that this applies to us. But Jesus said in Matt. I8:3,".... Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.." People in the church today don't practice Matt. I8:I2. If a sheep goes astraytoday what does the church do about it? In most cases they forget about it. But does this follow the teaching? If you ask why they don't, you get a lot of ezcuses. In Acts 5"I, Annanias and his wife lied to God and was put to death, but today most people think nothing of giving an excuse to cover up their neglect, just like the world. But Rom. I2:I-2 said be not like the world. The word "conformed" is used, We are to be "transformed", have our mind renewed. Gal. I:4, people turned aside having loved this present evil world; but we are to keep ourselves unspotted from the world. James I:27, we are not to love the world, neither the things of the world, (I Jno. 2:I5), if we expect the love of God to dwell in us; for if we love the world, the love of the Father is not in us.

If we have been wronged by some one, most of the time we want to also do them wrong; but in I Cor. 6:7 the question is asked, 'Why do you not rather take wrong?' So we ask, can we as the church of God, be guilty of any of those things', and still be a light to the world? I commend you to God and the

word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you a place among all them that are saved.

Yours in Christ. ---LOYD TREAT

WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT THE CUP.

We find in I Thess. 5:2I Paul says, "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good", ---the gospel. I Thess. 5:22, we are to abstain from all appearance of evil.

I Cor. I:I0, "Now I beseech you , brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all SPEAK THE SAME THING and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." To do this we must stay withinthe word of God. So you see what we must do.

Matt. 26:27, "And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave IT to them, saying, 'Drink ye all of it.' Now the object spoken of, is the cup. Notice the word"IT" refers to the cup. Matt. 26:28, "For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.' Mark I4:23 says, "And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave IT to them: and they all drank of IT"; the cup that Christ took. There we have fellowship one with another.

Luke 22:20 says, "Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, 'Thsi cup is the New Tesrament in my blood, which is shed for you.' Mark explains how they performed the partaking of the cup. Luke tells us when it was performed. So we shouldn't have too much trouble finding what God would have us to do. Now we have brethren who think we can use two or more cups. Then we have those who think we can bless it in one cup, then pour it into as many as we desire. Of course this is man and not God.

I Cor. II:25, "After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, 'This cup is the New Testament in my blood: this do ye as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me'. I Cor. I0:I6, "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?

Communion means many things; Fellowship, To unite or agree. When the blood is divided, we have no fellowship one with another. We can not agree because it is not the word of God. Man has added to God's word.

Rev. 20:I2 says, "And I saw the dead,,small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works." To get a cleare picture of those who do not the words of the Lord, is the following recorded in Revelation: Rev. 22:I8-I9, "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the Holy City, and from the things which are written in this book".

I Cor. II:26-30 says; "For as often as ye eat this

bread and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." "Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eatheth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you and many sleep."

We have brethren who say the container does not mean anything. Now, Mark 14:24-25 says, "And he said unto them, This is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many. Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Now the fruit of the vine represents his blood which is liquid because we drink it. I would like to see it passed to a congregation without a container or CUP which we find in God's word.

K. M. BALDWIN

P. O. Box 188, Delta, Colorado 81416.

J. H. LACKEY, Rt. I, Box 6, Springfield, Colo. 81073.--May 12, 1964.- Am hoping that I am announcing our meeting date in time for publication in the Courier. Date to begin is 19 of June through the 28. Evangelist Jack White will do the preaching. SErvices at 7:30 each evening, Services on Lord's days at 10:30 A. M., 2:30 P. M. and 7:30 P. M. All are invited to come. --Yours for the growth of the Kingdom.

MRS. LAURA E. WILLIS, 205½ S. Olive, Carlsbad, N. Mexico. Apr. 18, 1964.-- I hope you and family are well, also the church members. We are all pretty well here. My copy of the Courier came and I enjoyed it as usual. Our attendance at Lord's day services have fallen off some, but we hope it will pick up again soon. ------Sincerely.

K. M. BALDWIN, P. O. Box 188, Delta, Colo. 81416. -May 8, 1964. - Again I would like to say many, many thanks to each and everyone of you from all the congregations for your thoughts, your letters and cards and your prayers while I was in the hospital and since I have been home.

I am feeling some better and able to be up and around some now. The doctors tell me it will be some time before I will be able to go back to work. Its gets pretty depressing not being able to do things I once did. But I will have lots of time for studying and helping in the Lord's vineyard, in any way I can. Hope your meeting was a great success and many were edified by it. Most everyone here are well and working and studying. The young brethren are taking their turn in bringing good lessons each Lord's day. Each lesson gets better. We are looking forward to having some good preachers out of our boys some day. Bro. Wilkerson with Sister Wilkerson with Sister Wilkerson's help, poured our sidewalks at the church. We are all real proud of them. Bro. and Sister Frank Shirley also helped. They also have lawn ready to plant. We have had more letters about our camp-meeting and lots of brothers and sisters saying they plan to attend. If you haven't written us, now about your letter? Some dear Christian friends asked me to write two articles for the Courier. Am sending one with this letter. Will send the other articlefor next issue. ---Yours in Christ

THE INTERMEDIATE STATE OF THE DEAD

I contend that the dead are asleep, and that they that are asleep, are dead as Christ so clearly stated inJohn II:II. When he said Lazarus sleepeth in John II:I4 he st- ted Lazarus was dead. I contend that they know nothing, for we find in Eccl. 9:5 the living know that they shall die, but the dead know not anything. Webster's Dictionary of the English language gives sleep as a state of slumber or dormant. So in sound sleep a dead one is wholly lost t consciousness. So we see in Job I4:I2, "So man lieth down and riseth not: till the heqvens be no more, they shall n awake, nor be raised out of their sleep.," or death.

We find in Job I4:2I, "His sons came to honour, and he knoweth it not; and they are brought low, but he perceiveth it not of them." Now we find in Psalms I46:4, "His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish." For in the beginning in Gen. 2: the Lord formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathe the breath of life in him, and he became a living soul. So we see here his breathor spirit goes back to God and the body back to earth, Eccl. I2:&.

We find in Luke 23:43 Jesus said to the thief, "Verily verily, I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in Paradise." They both would die and their spirits would go back to God, and they would be together in Paradise, or a place of happiness. For their thoughts are gone or they don't know anything. Eccl. 9:5-6. Their love, their hatred and their envy perished. So we find in Job 3:I7, "There the wicked cease from troubling, and there the weary be at rest." So we see in Psalms 6:5, "For in death there is no remembrance." Now we find in Isaiah 26:I9 tells us when we will awake out of our sleep.; ".....arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in the dust; for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead." We find David in Psalms said he would be satisfied when "I awake with thy likeness". We turn to Phil. 3:20-2I: ".....we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Chfist: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body." In I Cor. I5:5I-52 Paul says "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

This will be when they awake out of their sleep, or are brought forth from death which will fulfill Phil. 3:20-2I. In I Thess. 4:I6 it says, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first." We find in Acts 2:3I the picture of Chrsit being faised from the dead by the power of God.

Now, in closing, I say that the spirit of man goes back to God to await the voice of the archangel, and the sounding of the trumpet to awake them out of their sleep, or death, or slumber. I say Paradise is a place where the spirit of man goes. It is a place where there is no pain or knowledge of the past or the future, for they are asleep, or dead. I say the spirit of man is neither in heaven

nor Hell, but is asleep to await the judgment, Acts 2:34. We find in Eccl. 9:10 the following statement, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave whither thou goest".

When they are judged on that great day of judgment, then they will go to one of two places, HEAVEN, or HELL.

----With Christian love,

WILLIE DOAN.

Rt. 2, Box I29, Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * **** * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By, J. D. Logan

300 Glenn Avenue, Modesto, California.

* *

(No questions received this month)

LOYD TREAT, Broken Bow, Oklahoma.- The churches here are as usual. Spring is with us, and things are looking like another hot summer is waiting for us ahead. Hope all is well with you and the churches there.

Yours in the Lord, THE TREATS.

LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA CHURCH NEWS: - The church here is moving along about as usual. Bro. Paul Ferguson will be absent for quite some time this summer in meetings. We will of course miss him very much during his absence. Also Bro. Elmer Hunt will be missed while away preaching the gospel in other parts. Bro. Burleigh Hunt just recently was confined to the hospital for a few days, but seems to be doing alright now. Also his two daughters, Melody and Donna some time back underwent Tonsillectomy and are doing fine.

Bro. and Sister Ray Shea and daughters, Janis and Darla, as we go to press are planning to leave about June the Ist. to visit his mother and other relatives at Miller, S. Dakota, and to attend the wedding of his sister.

NOTICE - Brethren, please let us know at once if you move or make a change in your mailing address in any way. We do not want you to miss a copy of the paper, but we cannot assure you that you will receive every copy if you fail to notify us when you change your address. If the Post Office sends us notice of your change of address, it costs us I0 cents for each such notice. That is their charge if they should have to notify us of the change of your address.

----THE COURIER.

Always begin somewhere. You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do.

No man can be made a fool of unless he possesses suitable material for the job.

Some people who say "Our Father" on Sunday go around the rest of the week acting like orphans.