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SEPTEMBER OCTOBER

To the Church of Christ

I would like to take this opportunity to write a few lines concerning the Gospel News Courier. This paper, published here in Clifornia, has the backing and approval of myself and the churches of the West coast. Many of you from time to time have in the past expressed a desire for such a paper to be published each month and I also feel, as others do, that there is a great need for this means of keeping in touch with each other.

While reading the paper these last few issues, I have failed to see any mention or news of so many of the known congregations, that I begin to wonder if you really do want such a means of communication. It has been many issues since I have seen articles from you, the readers and preachers. Why, is the questions, for we know there is a great need for writings on several Bible subjects. I know each congregation is interested in reading good articles from those of you who are capable of writing, and we are interested in news from you regularly each month with happenings in your congregation.

Let each and everu one of us put our efforts behind this paper and not let it become a failure as so many have. In the past, many have failed only because of a lack of cooperation on the part of you, the brethren, for whom this effort is being made. Claude Perigen

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Brotherly Love

I wonder what the Lord thinks of us when we constantly pick at each other looking for flaws, ignoring sins of

our own? When we cherish and keep fresh in our memory, even repeating over and over to others, wrongs we have received from the brethren, I wonder. In view of the scriptures we have available to study, I am very much convinced we should not be guilty of these things. Of course, to contend for the truth is important, but the truth tells us to "Love our neighbors as ourselves," and if we love Christ we will keep his commandments. All things must be done in love, removing stumbling blocks rather than setting them in place.

Romans 15:1-7--"We then that are strong ought to bear . . the infirimities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let every one of us please his neighbor for his good edification. For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, the reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me. For whatsoever things were written afore time were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus. That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God."

We are still living in the flesh, we are still prone to sin, we still need forgiveness. Christ is still there to forgive us, but we must meet His terms. Just as we had to obey the Gospel to obtain remission for past sins, so we must from our heart forgive our brethre, if we are to continue to receive forgiveness of sins for ourselves.

Christ prayed for us to be one. Did he mean to only be one in the rituals of public worship? Or did he mean for us to so love our brethren that we would work together in peace and harmony? Abiding by the scriptures always of course, we must guard against any root of bitterness : springing up.

While we are on the subject, let us call to mind how the Bible condemns evil-speaking, back-biting, malice and the sowing of discord among the brethren. There is nothing more destructive or discouraging than these evils.

Ephesians 4:31, "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil-speaking, be put away from you with all malice." Have we put these things away from us when we repeat them, in confidence, to another brother in order to prove to him just how sinful the other fellow is? This is rank, destructive sin, and it spreads bitterness and creates discouragement. I think it causes more defeat to the cause of Christ than all the innovations in the world.

The Lord told us to love our neighbor as ourselves. Do we take every opportunity of telling others of the slips, mistakes, and short-comings of ourselves? Of course not! If we love our brother as ourself, we will

be just as lenient of his faults, and careful of his reputation as we are of our own. One of the seven things that are an abomination to the Lord is the "sowing of discord among the brethren."

The entire thirteenth chapter of I Corinthians tells us just what love is, and how utterly useless we are to the cause without it. Brethren, let us love our neighbor as ourselves. If the Lord could forgive our sins and remember them no more when they cost his Son untold suffering, shame, and even death, it is a small thing that He commands us to go and do likewise.

Curtis McCluskey

**********Sarah's Daughters**********

Jeremiah 6:16, "Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." I Peter 3"1-6, "Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husband that, if they obey not the Word, they also may without the Word be won by the conversation of the wives; while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: even as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him Lord; whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement."

There are almost as many paths as there are people today. But the Lord said for us to stand in these ways, look them over, considering their ends; then ask for the old paths and walk therein. Here, as in every step in life, God presents us with a choice--let us be prayful in this choice. If we choose to "obey God rather than men", people are going to call us old-fashioned. But the old paths would be old-fashioned, wouldn't they? It is certainly out of date in the world today for a woman to be obedient, or in subjection to her own husband. And most of all I find it is out of date for most women of my age today to "find rest for her soul." The Lord has promised that if we choose to walk in these paths, we "shall find rest for our souls." Also we will then be Sarah's daughters; this is the path she and the other "holy women of old who trusted in God" followed. Most important of all we find this is the way God has commanded us to live.

I Corinthians 7:3, "Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence likewise also the wife unto the husband." (Benevolence means kindness; conjugal duty; good will. And due means something owed; a debt.)

Ephesians 5:22-24 & 33, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is head of the church; and He is the Saviour of the body. Therefore, as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be subject to their own husbands in everything. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband." ("subject" and "submit" in these passages, have the same meaning--be under obedience; submit self unto. "reverence" means to be in awe of ; fear.)

Here we learn: (1) The husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is Head of the Church. (2) The wife is to be as subject to her husband as the Church is to Christ. All these things are lacking in many women today. It looks like the Lord knew what He was talking about.

Have you ever wondered why God ordered it this way? He explains why woman is subject to her husband; rather than marriage being a 50-50 proposition as so many young women loudly proclaim it must be or else. The church's relation with Christ is not a 50-50 proposition. The church must be absolutely subjected, so must a wife to her husband. The Bible says so, and it boils down to being very important to marry the right kind of man.

Cruden;s concordance says of the word, "woman": woman was created to be the companion and helper to man. She was equal to him in that authority and jurisdiction that God gave them over all other animals. But after the fall, God made her subject to the government of man. Genesis 3:16, "Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and they conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shalt be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."

I Timothy 2:11-15, "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. Adam was not deceived but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Not withstanding, she shall be saved in child bearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobreity."

So there are two reasons: Adam was first formed, then Eve; and enough reasons in God'r sight. So it must be good enough for us.

Proverbs 12:4, "A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband; but she that maketh ashamed is as rotteness to his bones."

Lurana McCluskey

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W. A. NELSON - Somerton, Arizona - Just a line to say we enjoyed the Delta Meeting, even though we were not able to attend all the services. We attended from Friday morning throughout the remaining service closing Lord's Day evening. No doubt some one will make a full

report on the meeting. Brother and Sister Ted Drysdale and their two sons, Teddy and Kevi, and one baby daughter, Cristie, stayed over until Tuesday so we could help Ken and Verlie with leaving the camp in order. We visited over the next Lord's Day at Delta. The following Lord's Day we met with the church at Aztec, New Mexico, and enjoyed our short stay with them. It was my pleasure to preach on Lord's Day morning, and to hear Brother Bixler at the evening service. There was one restored at the morning service in Aztec, New Mexico.

While we were on our visit this August, three families from the Somerton Church enjoyed a vacation in Oak Creek Canyon. They all worshiped with the church in Phoenix, Arizona. Brother and Sister Dabb's of Aztec, and their granddaughter, Darlene, and grandson, Wade, were there at the service. The three families from Somerton were Brother and Sister Robert Morris and son Kenny and daughter Brenda, and Brother and Sister Bud Davis and son Dennis, and Brother and Sister Willie Nelson and their two sons, Claude and Steven and their daughter, Vickie. There was rejoicing in Heaven, and among us also in that three confessed their faith in Christ and were baptised for the remission of their sins last Lord's Day. No doubt many of you know them. They are V. E. (Dutch) Staggs and his son Gary, who is attending college and daughter Peggy Gray.

The news is not always good. We were saddened at the passing of our beloved Sister Mary Blue on August 30. She was a member of the church many years. Services were conducted by the Somerton Church of Christ. Burial place was in the Desert Lawn Memorial Park, Yuma, Arizona. She is survived by two sons, James of Somerton, and Forrest of Tampa, Florida, and one daughter, Lura Myers of Weslaco, Texas. They were all here for the services. Also one grandson, Bobby Myers of Hollywood, California.

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ELMO BROWN - Waterford, California - Just a few line to let you know we started meeting in our new building at Waterford last Sunday, Sept. 5. As you remember, some of us who had been meeting at Modesto recently bought an old church building near Waterford with the help and support of the Modesto congregation. It is an old building, but is in good condition and in a very good location. It is close enough to the Modesto church for them to visit back and forth. Also it puts more of our young men to work, and gives us a better chance to expand and grow. Last Sunday about four or five families of us met here for the first time and were very happy to have several visitors, some of whom live near the church and said they plan to attend regularly. Brother John Ussrey and family of Sacramento were visiting here for the week-end and he brought us a very good lesson. We would enjoy having visitors from any congregation who are passing

through this area. The church is located twelve miles east of Modesto (one mile west of Waterford) on Hiway 132 so it is easy to find. Hoping to see you before too long.

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LAURA WILLIS - Carlsbad, New Mexico - I hope you and yours are well. Also all the members there. We are okay here.

We had the pleasure of having Brother and Sister Curtis Teague of Nacona, Texas, with us for worship last Lord's Day. They worshipped with the church at Ringold, Texas. Brother Teague gave us a good lesson Sunday. I want to say I still like the Courier!!

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ED TATE - New Castle, Texas - Enclosed you will find a check for $10.00 to help with the Gospel News Courier. We have four families meeting each Lord's Day. Continue sending us the paper. We have moved the California Creek Church into Newcastle, Texas. These are the directions to our new location: Turn off highway 24 at the Baptist Church, go two blocks south or turn off highway 24 at the Methodist Church and go one block east. We meet at 10 a.m. each Lord's Day morning. We welcome all visitors coming our way.

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R. H. PEEL - Crosbyton, Texas - I hope all is well with you. It has been some time since I have written. I am sending you some help on the paper now and hope to send a little more once in a while. We have lost all our members here by death and others have moved away leaving me here alone. I am going to Loranzo each Lord's Day morning for services, but I am unable to go to night services. I will close with brotherly love.

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FRANK AND PHYLLIS SHIRLEY - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma - You ask me to let you know about the church here in Oklahoma City and I am glad to be able to write good news.

I wasn't able to contact anyone by phone so I wrote Brother Francis in Mangum, Oklahoma. He contacted the church here, but they were unable to find us.

We set out on our own to find the church from the information you gave us of it being an S. E. 11th and we had no trouble at all. It is only 2 or 3 miles from us. We ask for Brother Earl Williams and were told that he had been killed in an automobile accident on July 2. Sister Williams meets with them but was not present on Sunday. She had gone to her father's at Mangum, they thought.

We were told that they used to get the paper a long time ago, but don't now. They guess their address has been lost. The services are conducted scripturally in every way. We had planned to attend services Sunday

night and went over there, but they do not meet of a night or during the week. We were very disappointed but spent the evening visiting with Brother and Sister Burgess, who live 2 blocks from the church. There were 28 present Sunday but only 8 or 9 are members. They expressed their need for members and asked Frank if he led singing or taught. We plan to go forward Sunday making our confession for being out of duty and to start living for God. Brother Burgess and Brother Woods are the leaders here.

I want to thank you Brother Roy for your help. If it were not for you, we would never have known of the church here. Thank you again. I had better close for now. God bless you and your work.

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HOWARD MCCAY - Yakima, Washington - Please forgive me for not writing sooner. We have been so busy since we have been home from Delta that my writing (which is poor at best) has stopped. We are trying to get our house far enough along in the remodeling so we don't freeze this winter. It is pretty slow as we can just work on it evenings and weekends.

Everyone whom I have talked to wishes to continue the meetings at Delta also wish to continue support of Gospel meetings as we can.

I would have liked to have been able to come to the Bellflower meeting, but time and money prohibited it. The church here is coming along about the same as usual except we rejoice in the baptism of Mrs. Deon Reed last Sunday evening, Sept. 12. We have had several visitors this summer and fall.

Everyone here is especially busy at this time of the year. Steve Bumgardner is staying here with us and going to school here this year. Veda is back in the cannery and Bill is working long hours at the plant. College has started so we are busy. There is an extra long enrollment this year. I haven't heard from any of the folks since I got back.

Brother Ken wasn't well at all when we left. I wish that we lived closer together so we could visit and talk once in awhile. This I miss more than anything else.

There is a lot I would like to discuss with you. Maybe, Lord willing, we will have time in the future. Well, I must close for now.

P. S. I feel that all the meetings I attended this summer (here, Modesto and Delta) were well attended by all and although we rejoice at the number who were added to the Lord, I feel that there was a very lot of good done among the brethren; much edification, love and good fellowship and upbuilding of the congregations and this is something which we all need. Also I would like to tell all we rejoice in the baptism of Mr. John

Brown, Sept. 19. Brother Brown is an elderly man who was raised a Catholic.

I hope that you and yours are all well. Our prayers are with you and the work.

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Bellflower, California - This has been a good year in many respects because of the many blessings we have received from God and the many blessings we have received through our association with other congregations and brethren we have visited. We enjoyed our visit and Christian fellowship with those of you who were at the Yakima meeting and our short visit in northern California where we spoke for the congregation at Sacramento. We were happy to have those of you who, while on your vacation visited and worshipped with us here at Bellflower.

Many times we have been sad of heart by the news of loved ones both those who have been sick and those who have passed from this life to await the coming day of judgment.

We have received news of the passing of Brother Earl Williams of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Sister Mary Blue of Somerton, Arizona. Also we heard that both Jack Renick and his Uncle Guy Renick have been in the hospital recently.

We thank all who have helped us in the past with the paper and ask for your support and prayers in the future. This month we thank the congregation at San Pablo, California, Yuma, Arizona, Somerton, Arizona, Yakima, California, and California Creek, Texas, for their part in this work.

We wish all of you well wherever you are and especially the new congregation at Waterford, California.

We had a good meeting here in August with Brother Harry Dye of Yuma, Arizona. There was one baptised, Nell Fulkerson, and we welcome her into the fold. Sister Lula Way came back into the fold confessing her faults and asking for the prayers of Christian brethern. Our prayers are for her and Sister Fulkerson that they may continue faithful in his service. We had good crowds and sermons with many visitors from the La Habra, Pomona, and Modesto congregations. We thank you for caring enough to come and help us make our meeting a success.

Brother Hunt has just finished a weeks meeting in Yuma, Arizona, although we have not heard from anyone we know that everyone was edified and uplifted. Many of our number visited Yuma and Somerton these past few weeks Brother and Sister Vern Broadway, Brother and Sister Olan Taylor and son Bill, also Ron Tibbs and Brother and Sister Claude Peregin.

We are starting to do some repair work on our building before winter rains come trying to keep it looking respectable and serviceable. Roy

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