The Christian
COURIER

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A GOOD PLACE TO BE.

Gen. 2:8,"And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden: and there he put the man whom he had formed." Gen. 2:15, "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it." God had made man and had put him in a good place to be. In this garden there was everything that the man would need, the man was in the best place he could be in. We have found that the man was to care for the garden, so there was a little work to be done in the garden. What happened after the man was cast out of the garden? Reading from Gen. 3:18,"Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;" After the man was cast out of the garden there was more work to be done, than there was while he was in the garden. We have seen in the last reading, that now, the man had to contend with thorns and thistles. Also we know that because of the rebellious act against God, that man lost his right to live forever.

I like to compare the Garden of Eden with the Church of Christ. As the garden was the best place for Adam to be, so is the Church of Christ the best place for us to be. Everything that pertains to life and godliness is to be found in the gospel and we know the gospel teaches us to be in the body where salvation is. The church is a safe place to be, if we are not in the church we have no hope at all.

Just as Adam had a little work to do, those of us in the church have a little work to do. James 2:14 says, "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?" James is asking us a question, do we know the answer? Why not read a little more while we are already in the book of James. Please look to the 17th verse of the same chapter:"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead,

being alone." I would like to point out here, that if we are cast out what will happen. Reading from Matt.13: 41:42,"The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." It is plain to see that as Adam was cast out, we can be too, only there will be more to contend with than thorns and thistles. I hope and pray that we will not be like Adam, lets cash in on God's promise's.

In Christian Love,
Bro.Marion(Jackie) Warford
Gen. Del.
Westville,Oklahoma 74965

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CAN A MAN SCRIPTURALLY COMMUNE TOGETHER ALONE?

First are they one christian or are they two? If they are only one, only one of them need partake of the emblems. It would be the same as an unmarried person partaking of them twice, for each to partake. Another thing, if my brethren say they both have to be there to be a whole body, then a christian that has lost a leg r arm couldn't partake, he wouldn't be a whole body.My Brother says if we are together in the same house we cannot come together. At a meal do we or don't we come together around the table in the dinning room? We at our home usually do and ask a blessing before we partake of the meal.

Going a little farther along that line, if two or three families of christians lived under the same roof they couldn't come together to partake of the Lord's supper. You would have to have a christian from some other household that lived under another roof.

Our Brother says, "now we know if we join a club or faternity we become a part of it. A man or wife joined together becomes a part of each other." Using my Brothers' reasoning, when we become members of Christs' body we become members of Christs' body we become one, so we can't come together and all we would need if we could would be for one part of the body to partake for the whole.

In his quote of 1Cor. 10:17, "For we being many are one bread, and one body:" We are the body of which Christ is the head. The head governs the body. Thus man is the head of the wife. Is my Brother telling me that I can partake for my wife? It seems the question is and I would like it answered. Can my wife and I gather into the living room before we go to bed at night and have prayer or can we gather around the supper table in the

evening or if I want my family in the yard can I gather them together out there? If I can, can I gather them together in my house? Are my wife and I just one Christian?

In Love of the Truth,
Your Brother in Christ,
Robert & Ellen McCay
22A Greekview Drive
Port Orchard, Washington 98366

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Dear Brethren in Christ:

In regards to an article in the Courier, in which the statement was made, "now as for the ladies writing to the paper I am one that can't find where she is commanded not to, as long as she follows Titus 2nd chapter and does not use authority over the man."

Brethren let us study the Scriptures upon this Subject. 2Tim.2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

To begin with the writer of the article is asking those of us who do not believe that any authority is given by the New Testament Scriptures for a woman to write an article of teaching or admonition to the churches of Christ, in a paper at least partly supported by Churches of Christ, to prove a negative, rather than for they themselves to prove an affirmative, either by direct statement of fact, direct command or approved example, of the practive which they advocate. Of course we cannot find a scripture stating, "no woman shall write a letter of teaching or admonition to the Churches of Christ in a Church paper," neither can we find a scripture that reads, "Thou shalt not have multiple cups, or a piano in your worship.

But we believe we can find scriptures teaching against them. Rom. 14:23, "...for whatsoever is not of faith is sin." Rom. 10:17, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

I cannot find in the New Testament scriptures any statement of, example of, or command for a woman to write letters teaching to the churches, nor where any of the churches authorized to support public teaching of the Gospel by a woman. On the other hand we have authority by the scriptures, for the support by the churches of the teaching of the Gospel by men. Also we have examples of letters of teaching and admonition being written to the Churches of Christ, (Peter, Paul, John, James, etc.) 1Tim. 2:12, "But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to

ursurp authority over the man, but to be in silence."

Now Brethren, if this practice isn't usurping authority over the man, it would certainly seem to me that it would be usurping the authority given unto man by the scriptures as the men have the authority, and the women do not.

Brethren, we who claim to be members of the true Church of Christ have always insisted on those trying to bring in any inovation, showing us scriptural authority for those practices which they advocate. I believe that we should be just as careful in what we teach and practice, that we can find the authority in the scriptures.

I am not writing this letter to stir up a controversy over this subject. But I do believe that it is a serious matter, not only unto the women writing the articles, but unto all the Churches helping to support them, unless we can find some scriptural authority for this pratice.

In Christian Love,
Roy E. McCay
Rt. 4 Box 204
Eugene, Oregon

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MEETING DATE: Stilwell, Oklahoma (Pleasant View Church)
SPEAKER: Brother Robert Morris

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There have been a lot of good Gospel Meetings recently. Please may we have a report from each of them. Remember with out news or articles this paper cannot be published. Paper is getting more expensive and postage higher, so please notify us if you move or do not wish to recieve this paper. We must send it third class, as first class is too expensive, especially when the envelope contains 15 or 20 issues. Our mailing list is a large one and we pray it will continue and grow. Please help us in every way, especially with your letters and articles.

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ELK CITY, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

My wife and I returned home from Colorado, where I conducted a weeks meeting at the Cedaredge Church of Christ, which is near Delta. We had a wonderful meeting. Did not have any visiable results, but I feel all were made a little stronger in the Lord. I know I was.It was a wonderful experience for me, working with the Brethren.

We had good co-operation with the local Brethren,as well as Aztec,New Mexico. Several were there the first Sunday, and later on in hte week there were several more car loads up for the balance of the meeting. This

gave us a full house. I want to speak for myself, and I believe it will be the voice of the whole congregation, that we really appreciated the attendance and the help those visiting brethren gave us. I would like to thank the Brethren for the wonderful love and fellowship shown my wife and I while we were there. It was a wonderful week for us. One we will not soon forget.

Our little group here at Elk City is about as usual. Some of our members have moved away, for which we are sorry, but we are also happy that Sister Oneda Johnson and her husband have moved back to Elk City.

We were at Colter Church June 23rd, as it was my regular Sunday to speak for them, being the fourth Sunday. All were well.

Written for the Church of Christ
Elk City, Oklahoma
L.E.(Earl) Atchley
921 W. 2nd. St.
Elk City,Oklahoma 73644

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FORT COBB, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

Sorry I haven't written for so long a time, but I really do enjoy reading the paper and knowing what some of the Brethren are doing.

Last month my family took a vacation to eastern Oklahoma. While we were there we met with the Stilwell congregation. We really enjoyed being with the Brethern there. We also visited with Bro.& Sis. Bowen in their home which we enjoyed also, they are great host.

Since I last wrote you we have moved to Ft. Cobb. My wife and I teach in this area. We now meet with the Lugert congregation most of the time, but usually go back to Loco once a month, somtimes more. We live about 60 miles from Lugert and about 90 miles from Loco.

May God bless the Brethren there for the effort being put forth to spread the Gospel and also pass on information from different congregations throughout the country.

With Christian Love,
Don Taylor
Rt. 2 Box 78 A
Ft. Cobb, Oklahoma73038

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WHY NOT START PLANING FOR A GOSPEL MEETING NOW AND THEN SEND US THE DATE, SO AS TO GET IT ANNOUNCED. MANY TIMES THERE IS NOT ENOUGH NEWS OR ARTICLES TO PRINT THE PAPER EVERY MONTH, SO THE MEETING IS NOT ADVERTIZED MUCH.

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

We have been blessed, in Modesto with visitors the last several weeks: Bro & Sis. Jerry Perigen & children of Bellflower, also Bro & Sis. Jimmie Loftis & children of Lorenzo,Texas, Bro. & Sis. Bill McCay Sr. & children of Yakima, Washington were present on the weekend of the marriage of Sister Connie Burtis to Ken Williams,June 22nd. Brother McCay brought two lessons on Lord's Day which were thoroughly enjoyed. Bro. & Sis. Larry Roark and baby, Brothe Bobby Lamb, of Yakima also were present.

On August 4th, Bro. & Sis. Dan Ross of Yakima were with us. Bro.Ross brought us two fine lessons, which were edifying for all.

My wife & I have been busy this summer going out of town and trying to support the efforts in various places. June 9th we were with the Chico congregation, along with our daughter Sis. Patricia Foundation & her children. June 30th we were in Bellflower for the beginning of their meeting with Bro. Bill McCay Sr.,speaking. He did a very fine job.

Later, on July 21st our daughter and babies were back in Chico for the closing of their meeting with Bro. Claud Perigen of Bellflower, speaking. We understand one was baptized during the meeting. Congratualations!

In the meantime Fern & I were honored to have in our home as christian visitors Bro. Tom Broadway, of Grants Pass, Oregon and Bro. & Sis. Earl Broadway of Yuma,Ariz.

I'm sure there were others visiting in Modesto,that I have overlooked, with us being gone so much. But we are always proud to have visitors in our midst and invite anyone at anytime to be with us.

We pan to journey to Port Orchard, Washington for the final weekend of their Gospel meeting Aug. 18th with Bro. Ken Baldwin, of Delta, Colorado speaking. Then take a while in the Northwest, with our beloved Christian friends Bro. & Sis. Howard McCay, ending on Aug. 31st in Yakima at the wedding of Brother Bobby Lamb and Sister Teri McCay.

We have tried to fill all of the time possible helping in the Lord's work wherever we can.

Sisters Baxley, Stark, & Johnson, who are elderly and residing in convalscent hospitals are very poorly at this time and pray for them. Sister Stephens is at home living alone, but not well at this time.

Brother Dean Guyer has been down with a very bad back problem, but was able to be back at worship last Lord's Day. Brother Don Weakley too, has been down & in the hospital some with his back and neck. This is a very painful thing and pray they will soon be well.

We pray for the success of each effort to do the Lord's Will in every place. May God bless all the Brotherhood.

Our meeting times are 10:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M. each Lord's Day. Meeting place is at the corner of Glenn & Dallas Streets in Modesto,California. Come and be with us.

Brotherly Love,
J.D.Logan for the Modesto congregation.

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SOME GOOD THOUGHTS BY A BROTHER IN CHRIST

Gal 5: 19 speaks of the works of the flesh, and in verse 21, that "--they which do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God." Also mentioned is idolotry as one of the works of the flesh.

We read in 1 Cor 10: 5 that "--with many of them that came with Moses from Egypt, God was not well pleased for they were overthrown in the wilderness." In verse 7, that "--some of them were idoloters, as it is written, the people sat down to eat and to drink; and rose up to play." They were "--lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God." 2 Tim 3: 4

An idol is something that takes your heart away from God. Col 3: 5 says, "And covetousness which is idolotry." Also in 1 Cor 6: 10 that "--the covetous shall not inherit the Kingdom of God."

In Mark 10: 17, one asked Jesus, "Good master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" Jesus said unto him in verse 19, "Thou knowest the commandments, do not commit adultery, do not kill, do not steal, do not bear false witness, defraud not, honor thy father." And he answered, "Master all these have I observed from from my youth." Jesus then said to him, "One thing thou lackest; go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shall have treasure in heaven." "And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved; for he had great possissions."

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And Jesus looked round about him and said, (He brings it out two ways) "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God." and in verse 24, "Children, how hard it is for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God; it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God."

In 1 Tim 6: 17-19 Paul advises Timothy, "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy, that they do good, that they be rich in good works; ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."

Jeaus said in Matt 6: 19-21, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

He adds in verse 24, "Ye cannot serve God and Mammon." (He is speaking of the mammon of unrighteousness)

In Mark 10: 21, Jesus said unto the rich young man, "Go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shall have treasure in heaven." Jesus also tells us (Luke 16: 9) "Make friends with the Mammon of unrighteousness. (This money, jingling in our pockets, with these earthly riches that we possess)

In verse 10, Jesus said, "He that is unjust in the least, is unjust also in much." That sounds like we will be weighed in the balances in the last judgement. And what if we were found wanting?

Jesus warns in verse 11, that if we do not as he said with the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to you the true riches; and in verse 12, "And if you have not been faithful in that which is another man's (The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof) who shall give you that which is your own?" (Eternal life that God has promised to them that love him)

We read in 1 Tim 6: 6-8 "But godliness with contentment is great gain--"

Heimo Stolnake, Yakima, Washington