FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS QUICK, AND POWERFUL,
AND SHARPER THAN ANY TWOEDGED SWORD...

THE CHRISTIAN COURIER

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DON'T BE IGNORANT OF SATAN'S PLAN

If you could see yourself today on a dying bed with the doctor standing over your pale form with his hand on your pulse, with no hope written on his countenance, and if you could hear him in the hallway saying, "He'll not live through the night," and if you could see yourself at eleven o'clock as the death dew begins to break out on your brow, as your heart freezes, and your feet grow cold. You hear the chorus singing "Lead Kindly Light" and "Nearer My God to Thee", no one would have to try to get you to do what you ought to do.

The devil lets men hear the Gospel and even encourages them to listen to it. But he tells them that they had better not be too quick, and that they might regret it if they take a stand. He tells people they wouldn't hold out and they can't be sure they are right. Don't harden your hearts.

We have all heard the old legend that tells of a conference held in hell, with the devil presiding. He was about to send his agents to and fro throughout the earth and is asking them what their message will be to the people. One said, "I will tell the people that the Bible is not true." Satan did not send him on his mission because the Bible is its own strong proof. Another said, "I will tell the people that Christ is not divine." But Satan said , "What folly!" His prophecies telling of His coming were all fulfilled (His gracious life, preaching, parables, divine power, death, and resurrection). These all tell and prove He is divine." So Satan did not send that messenger. A third said," I will tell the people to do their best and leave the rest to God. He is always merciful." Satan replied, "How useless. Every man will know that his best does not satisfy God's judgement,

and everyone you speak to will know their best is so faulty that it could never stand in the presence of a just God." Satan did not send that messenger. Finally, one said, "I shall go and tell the people that the Bible is true, that Christ is Divine, the way to be saved is through obedience to the Gospel of the Lord. But I will tell them to wait and think it over,and to look forward toward a more convenient time." Satan sent him on his mission, which he seems to be fulfilling even today.

Bro. Farrell Wilson
Antlers, Oklahoma

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The congregation in Yuma is doing very well. All have heard now, we have lost a very dear brother, Bro. W. A. Nelson. He will be missed by all. He has helped many younger brothers in their studies, helping with lessons and so on.

We have four new members for which we are very thankful: my sister and brother-in-law, Sister Gray's husband, Ladron (we have hopes he will be much help to the Church here), and Lois Hurtado, Sister Fanning's daughter. These four were baptized into the Lord's body since Brother Nelson's death.

Brother Dye was down yesterday, gave us a wonderful lesson. Anyone passing this way, please stop and be with us. We always enjoy visitors.

In Christian Love.
Robert Morris
For the Church at Yuma

Dear fellow brothers and sisters in Christ,

May the peace that passes all understanding dwell in your hearts today in its own special way.

There have been many occurances that have taken place since the writing in the last Courier from here. We have been fairly persistant in trying to detect the working of the hand of God in these matters. The help of other brethren is well appreciated.

In late August, the congregation here experienced a difficult time when a few members separated themselves from the assembly in search for a ministry elsewhere among a few other reasons. This action was at first very difficult for those of us here that have never experienced such a separation, but glory be to God that we became more dependent on one another through it, and some good things came forth. We miss the people that left very much, and hope that their time of searching will be temporary. We still need to make them feel as welcome as possible for the time being; the faithful prayers of all will be very helpful.

Sister Ellen McCay has had heart trouble these past few weeks; let us all be concerned about her complete recovery.

Bro. Greg and Sis. Kathy Staley from Port Angeles, Wa. are down in the Seattle area attending college. We all are most pleased to have them

this close to us every day of the week. The congregation here has received much encouragement from this brother and sister because of their labor for the Lord in a happy manner. We understand that this is a quality that is so precious in young people.

The Sunday evening of Sept. 26th, the congregation here was blessed by hearing a lesson being spoken by Randy Orendorff, age 12, on a big meaning for such a small word--'if'. This was Randy's first effort in speaking before the congregation in a service, and that work brought forth much fruit toward edification. We all can be happy for this.

Lately, Mrs. Judy Campbell took steps to become a Christian and was baptized Oct. 10th after morning services. The congregation here is exceedingly joyful over this new addition into the family. Sister Campbell has three children: Jeff, 13; Shannon, 10; and Kevin, 8.

Some of us from here are forseeing to attend at least part of the Chico meeting in November, the Lord willing. Much preparation is yet to come, but we expect that the time spent with one another there will be worth it.

May blessings fall upon the saints in the abundant way through Christ; we are relieved to know of your concern for one another.

Written in the love of Christ,
The Church of Christ at
Glenwood, Washington

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We at Seymour have just concluded a weekend meeting. There were three guest speakers. They were: Saturday night, Bro. N.E. Berstrom from the congregation at Gardendale, Texas; Sunday morning, Bro. Thomas Clements of the Lorenzo, Texas, congregation; and Bro. Ed Tate of the Newcastle, Texas, congregation, brought our lesson on Sunday afternoon. During this meeting, three souls were restored back into the faith.

There were six different visiting congregations represented at Seymour, with approximately 70 attending Sunday afternoon. The congregations were: Lorenzo, Texas; Gardendale, Texas; Newcastle, Texas; Randlett, Oklahoma; Reydon, Oklahoma; Loco, Oklahoma. The noon meal Sunday was served at the Seymour City Park. We appreciate all who attended and their efforts in coming.

This fellowship, we feel, will increase our love for the brotherhood and help us grow closer to God and Christ. In Malachi 3:16-18: "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his mane. And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not. Also read Acts 2:44,46; 4:32; 5:42.

There are several congregations in this area of Texas and Oklahoma

who have decided to have a weekend meeting of this type the first weekend of each month. Anyone wishing to attend any of these meetings should get in touch with Brother Earl Howe, Box 155, Ralls, Texas, 79357, or phone 806-253-2193. The congregations who will be hosting these meetings have plenty of room for campers, tents, cots, or beds in the homes. Come and be with us and you will be assured of plenty to eat and a great spiritual uplifting.

Our dear Brother Ben Dixon passed away in May, leaving a vacant place in the church and in our hearts.

Gary Edwards, the 15-year old son of Brother and Sister J.R. Edwards was seriously injured in a shooting accident in July. He is currently in the Houston Institute of Research and Rehabilitation. Hopefully he will be coming home in about two months. Your cards, letters, and prayers will be appreciated. Send them to: Gary Edwards c/o Olivia Wall TIRR 13333 Moursund Ave., Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas, 77030

We always welcome visitors. Anyone wishing to meet with us get in touch with Jack White, Rt. 2, Box 154, Munday, Texas, 76371, or phone 817-422-4674. Our services are held each Lord's Day morning at 10:00 A.M. Remember us in your prayers.

Jack White
For the congregation at Seymour,Tex.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We the members of the Church of Christ of Peoria, Arizona (8027 W. Northern Ave.) wish to announce a 5 day meeting beginning Dec. 1 thru Dec. 5. Our guest speaker will be Brother Harry Dye of Parker, Arizona. We hop to see as many members as possible and as always all are welcome.

Sister Brenda Kelly has been ill in the hospital, but is now home and feeling much better.

Sister Marilyn (Laboto) Williams just gave birth to a bouncing baby boy on Nov. 14. That's all the news from Peoria. God bless all.

The Church of Christ
Peoria, Arizona

Dear Brethren,

We are well into another school year but look back on the three meetings we were permitted to attend with much enjoyment. We look forward to next summer, more meetings and more fellowship with the brethren.

The congregation at Jugart is doing fine. We have had some visitors and would like to invite others to visit and worship with us. Brother Howard and Sister Leola Taylor from Comanche spent the weekend with us and brought us a good lesson.

My son, Mark, brought us a good lesson two weeks ago, I'm proud of his efforts.

We visited at the Loco congregation last week. They had good attendance and are doing fine.

Give our love to the brotherhood. Pray for us that we may be strengthened. Our prayers are for the brotherhood. In Christian Love, Don Taylor

Brethren,

The brethren of Happy Hallow Church asked me to write an account of the finances of the camp meeting at Delta this year. They sent me photo stats of money received and paid out. It is much too large to put it all in the Courier so I'll just say they were around $300.00 short of the expenses. About $200.00 of this was for food which was probably my fault as I was in charge of the menues and as the bills didn't come in till after the finances were collected, I can only say I misjudged the cost of groceries. Also, to clear up any misunderstandings there has never been any money collected at Delta meetings to give to any preacher. Any time the amount collected has been more that the expenses of the camp the brethren put it in a separate account. This was to use for shortages, such as there was this year or to help the expenses of brethren who wouldn't be able to come to the camp meeting otherwise.

The Delta camp will cost the same next year as this,$1.50 per day for those over 7 years of age. For those who want to know ahead of time the total cost: if I prepare the menu which I have been asked to do if I am there, cost for food will be $1.75 per day for 8 years and up. I am sure we can have the same type of meals as this year for this price.

But we would not wish any to miss the meeting for lack of money. The money will be raised and the benefit derived from the camp meeting can not be measured by money. Let us all who can, go to the camp meetings this coming year and enjoy the great benefit of fellowshipping with brothers and sisters and the wonderful services to the Lord.

See you there if possible.
Your brother in Christ
Howard McCay
Yakima, Washington

Dear Brethren,

The congregation that meets at Loco, Okla. sends their love and would like you to know how much we enjoy the Christian Courier. All members here are well and able to attend services each Lord's day. We would like to invite anyone passing this way to meet with us or visit with us in our homes. We meet at 10:30 A.M. each Lord's day.

Howard C. Taylor
Rt. 2
Comanche, Oklahoma
Ph. 405-439-2728

Dear Christian Friends,

The church in Yakima has been a busy happy bunch this fall. We have been blessed with good health (barring minor colds, etc.) and a lot of togetherness. We're really looking forward to having you all in the summer of 1977 for our meeting.

The younger men went up in the mountains and brought down poles and

have made some heavy, sturdy playground equipment for all to enjoy. They helped tear down a college building for the bricks and have constructed a barbeque, with benches and table, all monies coming from private donations. We've had a new heating and cooling system installed which has been badly needed, and the ladies and guys have spent several hours cleaning and getting things back in order.

As to spiritual growth we have a singing practice every other Wednesday night with the one taking the lead teaching at least one and usually two or three new songs. The other two Wednesdays are a discussion on a choosen subject posted two weeks early for a study period. There's a speaker first, then the men speak one at a time with questions and answers. We have a pot luck dinner the first Sunday of the month with a song practice in the afternoon. The ladies have been meeting in different homes for a study and quilting bee.

Veda has been down with pneumonia for several days, is improving slowly, also my mother, Sister Phebe McCay, has been in the hospital, but is better.

Our weather is cold, but nice sunny days. All those who attended the Chico meeting from here have returned safely for which we give God thanks. Our love from

The Church in Yakima
Bill McCay Sr.

Dear Brethren,

Will try to get this off. I know I am 6 months behind. We had a good meeting with Lloyd Treat. We enjoyed it very much. We also had a weekend meeting which we enjoyed. Some of our members were gone but my wife and I were here.

It has been cold, snowy and rainy, so it slowed getting the crops in. We had snow yesterday and very cold.

The church here at Gardendale wishes to invite any this way to stop and worship with us.

In Christian Love,
N.E. and Alice Bergstrom

Dear Brethren,

Brother Ken Baldwin of Delta, Colo. held our meeting the first week of November. Three came foreward for the prayers and one came back into the church. We had a very good turnout each night. A lot of visitors from denominational churches, also the Baron church supported us.

We are now meeting each Sunday morning at 10:30, Sunday night at 6:00, Wednesday night at 7:00, Saturday night at 7:00 for singing. Everyone is welcome to come worship with us.

Bro. Gerald Buckner
Church of Christ
Stilwell, Oklahoma

Sister Goldie Buckner has moved back to Stilwell and is now meeting with us.

What Money Can't Buy

It's good to have money and the things that money can buy. But it's good, too, to check up once in a while and make sure you haven't lost the things that money can't buy.

Three Kinds

There are three kinds of friendships which are advantageous, and three which are injurious. Friendship with the upright, friendship with the sincere, and friendship with the man of much information-these are advantageous. Friendship with a man of specious airs, friendship with the insinuatingly soft, friendship with the glibtongued-these are injurious.

Forget

Its better to forget the things that hurt us,
And to live each day and take whatever comes
with the hope that by tommorrow
There will come a balm for sorrow
and help to master life's important sums!

There's a strength comes to us every time we suffer,
and our will grows stronger every time we fight,
Let us then be doubly grateful
For the things that disappoint us;
They only come to lead us to the light.

THANK YOU

Oh, my Lord I want to thank you...For the dawn You bring each day...
And the snow, the rain and sunshine...In our daily work and play...
And I too am always grateful...For the lovely stars at night...
And the blueness of the heaven...When the moon is shining bright...
And I also want to thank You...For the friends whom I have found...
As each year throughout the seasons...I have traveled all around...
And for all the precious loved ones...Whom I hold so very dear...
I am ever deeply grateful...As the end of day draws near...
Oh, my Lord, I want to thank You...For each moment that I live...
And the thousand little blessings...That to each of us You give.

by John C. Metcalfe

BAPTISMS

Steve and Debbie Nelson-son and daughter-in-law of Brother and Sister Bill Nelson-of the Yuma, Arizona congregation

Larry Ethridge-husband of Sister Jeanie Ethridge-of the Yuma, Arizona congregation

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CAMP MEETINGS-1977

Waterford, Calif. - June 12-19 - Guest speakers

Yakima, Wash. - June 25-July 6 - Guest speakers

Delta, Colo. - July 18-25 - Guest speakers

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The Acts of the Apostles, to judge from the opening sentence, was written by (The Acts 1:1; Luke 1:3)

a. Matthew
b. Mark
c. Luke
d. John

According to The Acts, Jesus appeared to the apostles, after His resurrection, for (The Acts 1:3)

a. three days
b. twenty days
c. thirty-five days
d. forty days

As the disciples were looking on, Jesus was taken up out of their sight by a (The Acts 1:9)

a. lightning flash
b. cloud
c. rain storm
d. darkening of the heavens

Peter and John were arrested because the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees were grieved by their (The Acts 4:1-3)

a. healing without a license
b. preaching in Solomon's portico
c. preaching through Jesus the resurrection from the dead
d. speaking in foreign tongues

Peter and John were

a. both learned
b. both unlearned
c. learned (Peter) and unlearned (John)
d. unlearned (Peter) and learned (John)

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Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

Psalms 133:1