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

THE CHRISTIAN COURIER

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WHO HAS THE KEY?

A zealous locksmith died of late,
And did arrive at heaven's gate,
He stood without and would not knock,
Because he meant to pick the lock.

This is an epitaph from a tombstone of 1637. This may have been a humorous gesture by the deceased or by a friend. If they were serious, however, they will be very dissappointed. Rev. 3:7 states, ...*These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;*

The doors are open to all who accept Christ as their lord and saviour and are baptized into his body, and who strive to do his will. If a person reaches heaven's gate without having done these things, there is no way that he is going to be able to enter in through that gate.

So let us not fear; there will be no undeserving soul entering in through the gate, regardless of what his intentions may have been. But let us fear and work hard brothers and sisters that we may be worthy to enter in on that great day.

In Christian love,
Bro. Dan Ross, Yakima Corg.

THE CHURCH

(Continued from the January issue)

But some one says, "Are we not all going to heaven, but traveling different ways?" Let us appeal to God's will. John 14:5,6 *Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?" Jesus saith unto him, "I am the Way of Truth and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."*

The writer wishes that all mankind would be saved; but believing the Bible is God's revelation to man I dare not teach differently from what it teaches on any Bible subject.

How may persons today know which is the right church? If you were looking for an individual of whom you had perfect description and knew his name, how would you know when you had found him? You certainly would not accept a person as the proper one who did not have the right name and was not exactly like the description. The Bible descrives the Church of Christ perfectly. It gives its organization. It gives its name. It tells everything it taught and practiced. When you have found a church that has the same organization the New Testament Church had, and teaches and practices as the New Testament church taught and practiced, that church is the Church of Christ.

Any church that does not meet these requirements has no right to claim it is the Church of Christ.

The early church had only two sets of officers: bishops and deacons. The evangelist was not an officer but was a general preacher who had charge of a congregation until officers were chosen.

Excerp from STOP! LOOK! REASON!
by G. E. McCay
(to be continued)

"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country."
Prov. 25:25

Dear Christian friends,

I recently attended the church meeting at Chico, California. This was my first meeting in a church of this size. I think it was a wonderful experience for all who attended and that everyone should make an effort to attend these meetings to exchange thoughts and ideas with the other brethren in search of the truth for one person or group could very easily overlook a viewpoint from the other side.

The statement was made in one of the lessons heard there, that "The world is not looking for a definition of Christianity, but for an example." We should keep this in mind each day and ask ourselves "Are we good examples?" This seems like a small part to most of us, but if you have ever attended a child's play, then you will understand that it doesn't make much sense unless all the parts are there. A good Christian is a play that is all there.

What is a good example of a Christian? A good Christian is not necessarily a person who does not sin and who knows the Bible, though these are important. A good Christian is a person who, by his attitudes towards other people,can influence them to want to be like him.

Above all, a Christian should never allow himself to become a pessimist because most people, for one reason or another, search out happiness and good will. But if we are optimists, then eventually we will influence everyone to become better people, and that is what we are here for.

In Christian love,
Steve Spurlin

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

The congregation in Yuma is doing very well at present except for colds and minor ailments. Brother and Sister Ken Baldwin from Delta, Colorado have been visiting here the past few days. We were glad to have them in our midst. We welcome them back any time they can be with us as we do all visitors. We appreciate the help the young brothers are giving us here in taking part in the services, as they will be the preachers of tomorrow. Brother and sister Harry Dye were down from Parker, Arizona yesterday, the 16th of January. Brother Dye gave a good lesson on love, which we enjoyed very much. We were glad to see his health improved. He plans to return to work early in February. So anyone passing this way, please visit and worship with us. Sunday morning at 10:30, Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m., and Wednesday evening at 8:00 p.m.

In Christian Love,
Earl Broadway
For the church at Yuma

Dear Brethren,

I will write again the news here from Broken Bow. We are having some bad weather this year which has affected the attendance at church, but looks a little better now. Brother Wilson has not been feeling too well, but by your prayers to God for him, we have hopes.

We plan to have our meeting start the fifth of June with Brother

Jack White of Mundy, Texas. We invite all to be with us at our meeting. My health is not much improved, but I am able to go and preach, for which I give thanks to the Lord. If any need a meeting, let me know. I will do my best for the cause of Christ. The churches in western Oklahoma and parts of Texas are having week-end meetings the first of each month at different congregations. They are doing a lot of good in fellowship and growth. Keep up the good work. Come by and see us when you can.

For the congregation at Broken Bow,
Lloyd Treat

Dear Brethren,

I will write a few lines concerning Yakima's meeting in June. The response from the brethren has been real good, and we are looking forward to a good meeting with lots of visiting brethren. The members here are all working hard towards this as the time passes so swiftly. We wish to urge the preaching brethren who intend to come and wish to speak to let us know ahead of time, if possible. If you can't be here for the full time, let us know when you will be here, so we can tentatively make up a schedule. We are requesting that you do not speak on a subject that is controversial amongst the congregations, as we are striving for a "unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

If you have a subject you would like to have a roundtable discussion on, please let us know and we will try to schedule it in the afternoon, at the convenience of the brethren. These discussions will be overseen by the elders of the Yakima congregation, and will be conducted decently and orderly. If you wish something on this order, please let us know so we can arrange it. We want this to be a sucessful meeting for the good of all who can attend. A number of excursions, picnics, and activities are also planned for the enjoyment of all. If you have any suggestions or comments, please write to us.

In Christian love,
Howard McCay, Yakima congregation
810 S. 15th Ave., Yakima, Wa. 98902

BAPTISMS John and Debbie Randolph, Yakima congregation

MEETINGS Broken Bow--June 5--Jack White
Waterford, Ca.--June 12-19--Guest speakers
Port Orchard, Wa.--June 12-19--Sammy Boen
Yakima, Wa.--June 25-July 6--Guest speakers
Baron, Okla.--July3-10--Horace Orendorff
Delta, Colo.--July 18-25--July 18-25--Guest speakers
Lorenzo, Texas--Aug. 21-28--Kelly McCay and Greg Staley