FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS QUICK, AND POWERFUL,

AND SHARPER THAN ANY TWOEDGED SWORD...

THE CHRISTIAN COURIER

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Heb. 12: 1: *Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.*

Weight is sin - sin is weight.

Expression - The weight has been lifted from my shoulders.

Seed of sin - Sin is the thought waves of the devil. Eph. 6:13: ...*whole armour of God that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day.* Sin is like cancer. Cancer eats and starts to destroy the body without pain, or fear. Then one day a great change has showed itself. Pain and fear shows its hand, and the weight of death is upon us. If caught in time, the cancer can be removed. Think of the soul. When we neglect to read, study, talk, and live the plan of salvation of Jesus Christ, we have not the whole armour of God. The evil thought seed of the devil is planted within us and it will grow, and it will destroy the soul. Such things as anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of the mouth, and to lie one to another are some of the causes of cancer to the soul, and are the weight of sin.

Col. 3:9: ...*put off the old man with his (Satan's) deeds.*

Col. 3:10: ...*put on the new man (Christ Jesus) renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.* Then the weight of Sin has been removed from us. The pain and fear of death are gone. Many a child of God lives with pain and realize not the effects and why. Sleepless nights, discord with the family, losing the temper, misleading, afraid to give a definate answer, afraid to make a decision, not able to get along with the people at

work, and most shameful, not able to get along with the children of God. In Mat. 11:28 Jesus Christ said "*Come unto me and I will give you rest.*"

Note We don't have to prove the word of God. It proves itself. We just have to live it.

By faith, our prayers go to God through Jesus Christ by the spirit for all the children of God everywhere.

From th Brethren of Christ
11550 Folkstone Dr.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45240

Brethren,

The Lord has given us another beautiful summer in which to do our labor. At times, we may fear that it will be too cool or hot, or dry or wet for crops and various other activities, but we continue to give all praise to Him because we realize that He controls the seasons.

It has been uplifting this year to see so many congregations supporting gospel meetings. A meeting, no matter how large or small, takes planning from beginning to end; and although it may not be as successful as we may have anticipated, we remember that our labor is not in vain in the Lord (I Cor. 15:58).

The Lord has seen fit this year that I have had time to attend four meetings; I enjoyed every one of them. There were others which I would have liked to attend but their dates overlapped each other. With a little planning and foresight, it would be possible to schedule each meeting in a week by itself. To do this, however, each congregation must decide early and send the information to the Courier. It is not too soon to be planning now for next year.

Several congregations each year sponsor a "camp" meeting.

This type of meeting actually serves two purposes. Besides spreading the gospel to local people, the camp meeting draws together brothers and sisters in Christ from all areas of the

United States. It is probably the most popular type of gathering we have. A successful camp meeting, however, is preceded by a tremendous amount of planning, preparation, time, and money, and the good it produces far outweighs the effort.

Camp meetings, though, tend to compete with each other for attendance. A family can usually only attend one such meeting per year, and because the meetings are usually about the same time of year, the family is faced with the choice of one over the other. Long distance is another problem for many. There may be some families who have never attended a camp meeting because it is always held in the same area which is too far from their home. Can something be done to allow more people to attend the large camp meetings?

I would like to pass on to you a proposal I heard recently: In the continental U. S. we have several areas in which meet three to five small congregations. We then have approximately four or five geographic regions with large gatherings of members. It is at least physically possible for these areas to sponsor a camp meeting, but not every year. If each area could sponsor such a meeting every four or five years, then almost every family could give their support to a meeting at least once during that span of time. What a tremendous gathering it would be. We would not have to choose between two areas, possibly offending one of them. We would not have to burden one particular area by having a meeting there every year. We would not have to travel great distances every time we consider going to a camp meeting. The hosting area would have a chance to rest and possibly get some ideas by visiting other camp meetings before it was their turn to sponsor one again. Families would be able to visit brothers and sisters from all areas of our beautiful country, instead of just one or two. Just think of the many possibilities.

If you have a comment or question about this proposal please write to the Courier (it need not be printed if you desire). If you would like to support a camp meeting in your area, talk it over with the brethren in your area and send the Courier your decision. If this sounds like a good proposal to you, do something about it, rather than thinking the enthusiasm of others will accomplish it. It is only by all of us working together that we can make something this big work successfully.

Contributed in love,
Bro. Dan Ross
Yakima Congregation

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Well we have received another small Courier and I am willing to point my finger on one whose fault it is..ME! I'm sorry to see such little communication between the brethren.

You know Paul wrote a lot of letters back in his time. I know we have telephones, but to let all the brethren know where you are, and if you are well the Courier is a wonderful meeting place to hear from us all.

Broken Bow is still fighting for the Lord and trying to keep the commandments of God. We have become smaller lately. Bro. Alvin Alexander passed away on the 15th of June. We miss him dearly. He had been in a rest-home for quite some time. He is a brother we will all muss. Prayers for his wife and family are needed as we all know.

We all know how much prayer means. It is our only way to reach our heavenly Father through Jesus Christ. I am asking again for prayer for our congregation so that we can find our strength and continue to fight this battle.

The Lord said people would harden their hearts and their ears would wax cold. If you don't know the meaning, which I'm sure you do, it is a very destructive feeling for very young members who look to other Christians as a guide and they lose faith by the paths that we may walk and we may not realize what we've done to lose them.

In all congregations I know it happens and it is very heart-breaking to see it happen.

We had a wonderful meeting. We had visitors from Yuma congregation: Bro. & Sis. Larry Ethridge, and also from Stilwell congregation and down Texas way from Lorenzo and Munday. It was a very strengthening meeting for those who came. We had no new babes in Christ but we had a lot of renewing of the mind.

We also had visitors from Burkburnett, Texas; Bro. Leroy, Bro. Leroy Mullen's and his family. If I've missed anyone don't let anyone think its forgotten on purpose. It isn't.

Sis. Kathy Treat and son David are planning to attend the Delta camp meeting and we all wish them a safe journey. Hope to see many

brothers and sisters whom she has never been blessed to meet. I, for one, ask all to come visit our fair city and meet our brothers and sisters you have never met before. It is encouraging to meet others and to study God's word.

Remember II Tim 2:16: *Study to show thyself approved unto God; a workman needeth not be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth.*

In this I'll close and I'll pray for all of Christ's loved ones.

For the Broken Bow Congregation
Bro. Sis. Dan Treat

Greetings from the church here at Baron, to all the brotherhood,

We are very happy to report a very successful meeting with Bro. Orendorff and his dear wife whom we loved having visit with us in our homes so very much.

Bro. Orendorff baptized 13 and 5 came forward for prayer. Also Bro. Doug Fergurson from Broken Bow baptized one from Pleasant View. We had very good attendance every night. We were represented by Broken Bow congregation, by Goshen congregation also Bro. & Sis. Earl Broadway from Yuma, Ariz. congregation. Also we had full support from Pleasant View Church of Christ from Stilwell. This meeting reminds me of Isaiah 55:11: *So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the things where to I send it.*

With love from
the Baron Church of Christ,
James F. Brown

Dear Brethren,

We at the La Habra congregation are teaching and preaching only what we can read of God's word.

What we do on the Lord's day, the Lord's day worship services. First we have prayer, then we sing, then the teaching, then communion service, then the laying by in store the giving of our means. On Lord's day evening we have chapter study, one speaking at a time.

The church at La Habra is located at 431 W. Lambert Road. La Habra, Calif. 90631 Phone 1-213-694 1626. Everyone welcome.

Brotherly love,
Isaac Ferguson
515 S. Euclid St.
La Habra, Calif. 90631

Dear Brethren,

We here at the San Pablo congregation are all doing quite well. Brother & Sister McLeans have just returned from a vacation from back east. We are happy they had a wonderful time. Brother & Sister Michael Brockman gave birth to a little girl. Angela Michelle was born May 27, 1977, and weighed 8 lbs. 8 ozs.

The congregation here at San Pablo are looking forward to our weekend meeting Sept. 3rd & 4th. Brother C. M. Brockman Sr. from Chico will be the guest speaker.

We are planning a service at 2 p.m. Saturday afternoon and one at 7 p.m. Sat. evening with dinner in between. Sunday morning's service at 10:30 will be followed by lunch and singing, with the final service Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m.

Brother Brockman will bring us some wonderful lessons and we are really looking forward to this Labor Day Weekend. We are planning a wonder weekend, so come and be with us.

For information contact:

Homer Bryant	415-682-2600
Jack Cooper	415-233-3144
Mike Brockman	415-897-0952

See you Labor Day Lord willing.

In Christian Love,

The Church of Christ
San Pablo, Calif.

Brethren,

I was very glad to practice my two professions at Baron, Okla. We had very good attendance, good singing and a very attentive and acceptive audience. Thirteen were baptized four asked for the prayers of the church. Also one was baptized at Stilwell the last Sunday. We also learned that two had been baptized in Yuma while we were away.

The church at Baron was full thanks to the advertising and efforts of the congregation.

Thanks for the opportunity to help and the hospitality.

R. Horace Orendorff
1850 14 St.
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Brethren,

We wish to report that the camp meeting at Yakima was a big success. There was much Christian fellowship and teaching the word of God, singing praises and a good time for old & young alike. We had good attendance most services; 100 or more, the most being 142 the last Lords day morning. We won't take the time or space to mention all who came just to say 12 different congregations were represented and although most were from the coast states, there were some from Indiana, Oklahoma, Texas & New Mexico. Also we were very happy for the response and hope, Lord willing, to do this again in probably 4 years.

In the mean time, we would hope that other brethren throughout the country would endeavor to have this type of meeting periodically. If you have never gone to this type of meeting you can't realize what you have missed. Personally I try to go to at least one somewhere each year. As I receive a great benefit from them and I Know others do also because we see so many of the same Christians year after year. While this type of meeting is expensive, still half the cost we would have had in any meeting and most of the rest was contributed by the local brethren who stayed at the camp also. The expense was nothing compared to the fellowship we had, the one precious soul added to the Lord, and the prayers for many. So again thanks to those who supported the meeting. Also the prayers of those who were unable to come. For those who could have come but didn't, you cannot realize what you missed.

In Christian love,

Howard McCay
for the church at Yakima

Dear Brethren,

The church at La Habra is doing fairly well. Sis. Bernice Cavin broke two bones in her ankle and is in a cast.

Sis. Florence Millard is home from the hospital after surgery. Bro. Elmer Hunt's tests turned out ok.

Christian love,

Isaac Ferguson
515 S. Euclid St.
La Habra, Calif. 90631

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATHS: Alvin Alexander, June 15, 1977, Broken Bow congregation
Vestal McKinney, July 29, 1977, Yakima congregation

MEETINGS

San Pablo, Calif. - Sept. 3&4 - C. M. Brockman, Sr.

We regretfully note the passing of Sister Vestal McKinney, July 29, 1977. She is survived by her husband Jesse Merle McKinney, two daughters, Evelyn Lamb, and Shirley Jones, both of Yakima; three sons, Merle James McKinney and Gene McKinney both of Brentwood, Calif. and Johnny McKinney of Tieton, Wash. Eighteen grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Sister McKinney was a faithful member of the Yakima congregation from the time it first started meeting in the early 1950's.

The family of Sister Vestal McKinney would like to take this opportunity to thank our many friends and congregations for their material and spiritual help in the loss of our loved one. Your kindness is deeply appreciated.

"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."
I Corinthians 16: 57 & 58