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

THE CHRISTIAN COURIER

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WHERE HAVE ALL THE CHRISTIANS GONE?

1978 has passed, and what a successful year it was for the Church. Many were baptized, new congregations were started, old ones have grown, gospel meetings were held all over the land and Christians gave more time and money to the Lord than ever before!

If you're wondering how you missed all this wonderful activity, don't worry; you didn't, it didn't happen. It's just wishful thinking of the way things could have been.

Where have all the Christians gone? No where that's where! We're stuck in the mud of this world. We've fallen into a rut in the road of life. Remember how you started up that hill called Christianity so that you could place your light so that all could see it? What happened? Why have you stopped?

By the way, where is your light? Oh, yes, I see it now, there it is under the bushel.

Now don't start looking around at the other person, I'm speaking to you, yes you brother, and you sister, and yes, even you Al Way.

"Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men pleasers, but in singleness of heart,

fearing God, and whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." Col. 3:22-23.

Most of us do this. We work at our jobs heartily. We want that next raise. We really put in a lot of effort and time to please our earthly masters, but what about our first love, Jesus Christ?

If we would just put as much effort and time into being a Christian our light would be at the top of the hill.

Col. 3:24 tells us,"*Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance, for ye serve the Lord Christ.*" Do we?

Not too many years ago people got out and went to church. Christian association was the top of the list. Working for Christ always came firt. Gospel meetings were two weeks long and then they ended too soon. Today we can go to a movie or sit in front of our televisions for hours, and never think a thing of it, but come Sunday morning if the speaker talks for an hour everyone is moving around like they are sitting on tacks. And Sunday night? Many congregations don't even have Sunday night services. Is this doing it heartily?

How many congregations didn't even have one gospel meeting in 1978? Almost, if not all, have vacations each year. But where have all the Christians gone? You never see them at camp meetings, or even at local gospel meetings.

Right here in the Los Angeles area we have four very small congregations. There is need for only one. By staying apart we keep our children apart. They grow up arart, many do not become Christians, and many that do, do not marry Christians.

Upon the first day of the week, we are told to lay by in store. Do we? How much? are we giving as we should, or are we giving Christ the crumbs off our tables? Most of us have more, yes much more than the needful things of this life. Are we giving part of it back to the Lord, or just laying up in store for ourselves?

When we come to our meeting places to assemble together, Jesus is there with us. How do you think he feels about being in a build- that needs paint, and walking through weeds to get to the front door? How do you think He feels when in the middle of our service to His Father we get up and go to the bathroom, or fall asleep or let our minds wander back into the world?

Yes, we will receive our reward, but what will it be? Will we at some future time be in a place of eternal torment wondering "Where have all the Christians gone?"

Written in love of my dear brothers
& sisters in Christ
Al Way

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

Dear Brethren,

I will write the news here again. We are doing very well. The Church is still trying, although we have had our part of sickness this winter. So far, Farrell Wilson's youngest daughter had emergency surgery a while back for appendix trouble but is doing very well now.

We hope everyone everywhere are doing allright and that the blessings of God rest upon all. We want to thank all for their help that the congregations sent to Doug Ferguson and Phyllis in their time of grief and trouble when they had the wreck and one of their children lost her life in it. Phyllis is improving now, thanks to the Lord for His mercies through the prayers of those that remembered to pray. Also, thanks to the brothers and sisters who came and helped out at the funeral.

Brother Claud Watson is still in bed and it looks like he will be no better, but we look for the best for him and his family.

The winter here has finally set in and it looks like we are going to have a pretty rough time of it. We are planning a camp meeting here at Broken Bow for the first week of July. We are waiting for the final approval of the camp which will come the 15th of February. We are looking forward to seeing you there and having a successful meeting. We will let everyone know for sure just as soon as the camp is confirmed, so plan to be with us.

Lloyd Treat,
For the Church at Broken Bow

MEETING NEWS

The Cedaredge congregation will host a camp meeting this year at Delta, Colorado. The meeting is set for June 24-July 1. If any further information is needed, contact:

Bud Wilkerson
Rt. 2, Box 216
Cedaredge, Col. 81413
303-855-3703

Ken Baldwin
Box 188
Delta, Col. 81416
303-874-4581

Due to circumstances beyond control, Bro. J.D. Logan will be unable to co-speak at Yakima's April meeting. The meeting, however, will take place as scheduled.

OBITUARY

Sister Marietta Bryant, of the San Pablo congregation, passed from this life on December 19, 1978, at a Concord, California convelescent home. Sister Bryant had been suffering from a long term illness. She was buried Dec. 22 at Modesto, California, with Brother Cliff Brockman, Chico congregation, officiating.

MEETINGS

DATE	HOST	LOCATION	SPEAKERS
April 8-16	Yakima, Wa.	Yakima	
June 24-July 1	Cedaredge, Co.	Delta	Camp
June 30-July 8	Broken Bow, Okla.	Beaver Bend State Park	Camp
July 1-8	Bellflower, Ca.	Bellflower	Cliff Brockman Gerald Brockman
July 7-16	Modesto, Ca.	Mendocino Woodlands	Camp
1980	Yakima, Wa.	Yakima	Camp

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

1. She lost her crown because she refused to come in to the king's guests. (Esther 1:10-12)
2. She was bribed with money to betray her lover. (Judges 16:4,5,18)
3. Her first child was born after she was ninety years of age.(Gen.17:17
4. She was thrown from a window, trampled underfoot, and devoured by dogs. (2Kings 9:30-37)
5. She was Timothy's grandmother. (Timothy 1:2-5)
6. She was the reward for fourteen years' labor. (Genesis 29:20-28)
7. Her bath on a roof had an unusual ending. (2Samuel 11:2-5,27)
8. She told her daughter to ask Herod for the head of John the Baptist. (Mark 6:22-24)