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

THE CHRISTIAN COURIER

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FOR WHAT SHOULD THE SINNER PRAY?

Not for God to love him:

John 3:16 - *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotton Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

Not for light, because:

Ps. 119:130 - *"The entrance of Thy word giveth light."*

Not for understanding, because:

Ps. 119:130 - *"The entrance of thy word giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple."*

Not for Spirit, because:

John 14:16-17 - *"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot recieve."*

Not for Christ to come unto him because:

Matt. 11:28 - *"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."*

Not for God to be reconciled to him, because:

II Cor. 5:20 - *"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."*

Not for Grace:

Titus 2:11 - *"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."*

Not for pardon:

Isa. 55:7 - "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord and he will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Not for conversion because:

Ps. 19:7 - "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul."

Not for faith because:

Rom. 10:17 - "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Not for salvation:

Acts 11:14 - "Who shall tell thee words whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved." Jas. 1:21 - "Wherefore laying aside all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness recieve with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls." Mk. 16:16 - "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved."

Not for the New Birth:

I Peter 1:22-23 - "Seeking ye have purified your soul in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently; being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which liveth and abideth forever."

Not for God to send saving power:

Rom. 1:16 - "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth."

Not for God to purify their hearts:

Acts 15:9 - "And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith."

Not for God to purify their souls:

I Peter 1:22 - "Being born again not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever."

Not for freedom from Sin:

Rom. 6:17 - "But God be thanked, that ye were servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you." John 8:32 - "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Not for religion because:

James 1:27 - "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Not for God to accept him:

Acts 10:35 - "But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh

righteousness is accepted with him."

Not for remission of sins, because:

Acts 2:38 - *"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every-one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins."*

Not to be made clean, because:

John 15:30- *"Now ye are clean through the word I have spoken unto you."*

Not for repentance, because:

Acts 17:30 - *"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent."*

Not for mercy:

Proverbs 28:13 - *"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper but who so confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."*

Not for God to be willing to save him, for:

II Peter 3:9 - *"God is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."* Ezk 18:32 - *"For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God, wherefore turn yourself and live ye."*

Not for sanctification:

John 17:17 - *"Sanctify them through thy truth, thy word is truth."*

IN FACT SHOULD HE PRAY AT ALL?

John 9:31 - *"Now we know that God heareth not sinners, but if any man be a worshiper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth."* Proverbs 1:24-28 *"Because I have called and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; but ye have set at naught all my councel and would none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity, I will mock when your fear cometh as a whirlwind, when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer."* Isa. 59:1-2 - *"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither is his ear heavy, that it cannot hear; but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."*

Dear Sinner: "Turn yourself and live....."

Homer Bryant
San Pablo, CA

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings to all from Yuma, Arizona. We are always happy to hear from other congregations through the Courier and hope all will take advantage of it to spread the gospel and news about our Bros. and Sis. Most of us here are well. Sister Childress is still in the Rest Home, she hasn't been able to meet with us for a long time. We miss her. Sis. Murle Tuckers' husband Jim has been very ill and in the hospital. Sis. Bernice Fanning has moved to Gravity, Iowa. We will miss her. We are glad to have Bro. and Sis. Earl and Zelma Broadway back with us. They went to Rogue River, Oregon and visited Bro. and Sis. Tom and Charlene Broadway there, Tom is their Son. They also visited at Grass Valley, CA with Bro. and Sis. Ken Harper and Family and Sister Lurana McCluskey and the Congregation there. They went to the Delta camp meeting for part of it. They reported they had a good crowd there, heard some good sermons and got to see lots of Bros. and Sis. They also visited their Grandson Steve and his wife, who just married in June. They really had a good trip but are glad to be home. They visited other places besides the ones mentioned, don't want to miss anyone.

Our sympathy to all those whose loved ones has passed on. Sis. Arzella Renicks' mother Dollie Harris passed away June 4 at the age of 87.

We wish to welcome anyone who can to come be with us anytime they can. If anyone needs information on how to find us, call (602) 726-4575. Robert Morris.

In Christian Love,
Yuma Church of Christ

The Courier:
Dear Brothers:

I am ashamed of myself and of my Bros. for not writing before now. As long as we have someone willing to devote the time and effort required to publish the paper the least we can do is to write once in awhile to show our appreciation. The paper is a valuable asset to the Church and its up to us to keep it going. It's the only communication we have with other churches. If we are to keep it going we can't sit back and let George do it, we must all do all we can in writing and also in financial needs.

The devil would like to stop this paper and he's doing all he can toward stopping it. We know the devil is doing all he can to discourage Christianity in any form. He would be very happy to see us sit back and let the paper die, and so it will if we don't support it. It's not necessary that we write a sermon or a lengthy letter if we are only able to write a note regarding the church it would be appreciated I'm sure. Some of our

members have been attending meetings and we have had some sickness, but otherwise attendance has been good at Waterford.

Lets all take a little time to write in and let the Courier staff know we want to keep it coming.

With Christian Love,
L. E. Arnett

Greetings to all Bro. and Sis. in Christ,

We recieved the Courier and enjoyed every word of it especially the news items which keeps all up to date on our good Christian folks. Wife and I and our daughter Edwana Fikes had the pleasure of meeting and visiting with Bro. and Sis. Donald Dabbs and son in Humble Texas on July 4th. We also met with the Church there the 5th. Enjoyed a good sermon from Bro. Dabbs. Also got to see the John Beddingfield family whom we have known for a long time. Our hearts rejoiced to hear that Bro. Beddingfield had been restored to the faith. We at the Calif. Creek Church of Christ in Newcastle are few in number but strong in Fatih.

Written in Christian Love,
Bro. Ed Tate for the Church of Christ
in Newcastle, Texas.

Dear Brethren,

We would like to report a very successful camp meeting in Yakima, Washington. We were very happy with the attendance, being so far up in the North Western corner of the U.S.A. we realize the distance for so many. However, we figured 76 visitors from Texas, Calif., Ore., and Wash. plus the 110 from our home congregation so we had a full house every night. Our weather could have been more co-operative, but didn't damper our spirits too much.

We're sorry to report Sis. Nell McCay fell on Fri. before our meeting and broke her hip, had surgery on Sat. morning to replace the ball. She did so well, was out of the hospital by Thursday and come to church that night. She attended the rest of the week. Bro. Kelly McCay injured his left thumb on Sunday, June 14th playing basketball, had surgery Tue. afternoon but was able to attend church that night. He will wear a cast 4 weeks. Other casualties of the week were Sis. Melody Williams who received a concussion at work and was hospitalized, also Sis. Jamina Jones, who has staph infection below her knee and was in the hospital several days, both are home and doing well.

We had some good sermons from some promising young preachers as well as some older ones. Those speaking were Bro. Bill Taylor and Jon

Powless of the Glenwood, congregation. Bro. Gene McKinney, Troy Morse and J.D. Logan of Waterford, California. Bro. Jim Chadwick of Odessa, Texas. Bro. Larry Wood, Lorenzo, Texas. Bro. Ken Harper of Grass Valley, California and Bro. Ellls Forsman of the Seattle, congregation

The singing, lessons, and fellowship were great. We truely enjoyed all the young people. Their help and co-operation thru the week was excellent.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who made this meeting so truely wonderful. We are especially happy to see such a fine bunch of young Christians coming along in the way of the Lord.

Yours In Christ
Bill McCay
Yakima congregation

To the Church,

Well our meeting here at Yakima is over now. We would like to take this opportunity to say Thank You. We enjoyed so much meeting the Bros. and Sis. who were able to attend, as well as seeing old friends again.

The lessons were all very good, and uplifting. Many new thoughts were brought out.

We were not able to be there during the daytime very much, and we would especially like to thank all the mothers and others who kept an eye out for our children so that they were able to particiaate even though we weren't there. Thank you.

We would also like to give a special thanks to Terry Lamb and Cindy McCay and all those who helped.them for providing entertainment for the children. They all had a great time. Thank you Ladies.

May God Bless and Keep All of You,
Larry and Bonnie Fulkerson

Greetings to all the congregations. We send our prayers to all the Brethren everywhere.

Everyone here in San Pablo, is doing fine and we pray that it continues that way. We are working on the Church house little by little in preparing for our meeting on Labor Day weekend. We take this opportunity to invite everyone to come and be with us at this meeting.

There will be a few changes this year. I have heard of some requests that we extend the meeting from Saturday to Monday. We are pleased to report that this is well with us and we will do so. So bring your camper, bedroll, or what have you and plan to spend 3 days with us worshiping God and spreading His word. In the past we have had just one speaker. Due to

some requests, this will be changed also. We will be having guest speakers, so come prepared to bring us a sermon.

We thank God that some of the brethren have spoken up and told us what they would like changed. I know this will be a meeting where the word will be preached and that word will go out and accomplish much fruit for the Lord.

Let us all work together to get the word out. Let us all communicate with each other and let each other know our desires. How else will we know what the other one thinks. And what better way can we keep in touch with each other than the Christian Courier? We have some brethren willing to work and get it out, why can't we keep them filled and running over, with articles, and news? I will tell you why I haven't sent anything to them. I have let the world take up too much of my time. I haven't sat down and, if nothing else, just sent one of my old lessons. That only takes almost no effort, just put it in an envelope and put a stamp on it and mail it. But I haven't done that. I pray for forgiveness for my lack of interest. I am reminded of II Tim. 3:4 - *"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them."* Come let us go to the house of God.

In Christian Love,
Homer Bryant
San Pablo Congregation

We, at the Church at La Habra, are not doing so well at this time. We are few in number and have alot of sickness. Bro. Oren Millard is in the hospital at this time, but is some better.

Sis. Roxie Adams is home from the hospital, but was not able to be at Church.

Our place of meeting is at 431 W. Lambert Rd., La Habra, Calif. 90631 P.O. Box 284. We meet at 10:30 and 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Isaac Ferguson

Dear Brothers and Sis.,

I am writing for the Waterford congregation - A little late, and I would like to apologize to the Courier staff, and also the brethren at Waterford for neglecting to be on time for the last edition of the paper. We are all doing fairly well. Sis. Annis Brown has been ill, but is getting better, she has been ill for some time, and all of our prayers are with her.

Bro. and Sis. Ray and Norma Fargo and Sis. Mamie Peikert are meeting with us once again, we are very happy to have them with us again. We've had visitors from Oregon, Sister Bumgardner and her daughter and husband and also Sis. Lonie Lindly. We were happy to have them and would like all who are passing by to stop and meet with us.

May 28, Garett Eric Smith was born to Bro. and Sis. Eric and Lillian Smith we wish to congradulate them, that the Lord has blessed them with a son. They are also meeting with us now, we are happy to have them. Also May 26 Bro. Aaron Thornton and Sis. Elizabeth Stork became husband and wife, we would also like to congradulate them and all our prayers for happiness are with them.

We had our meeting a few months back, April 12-19. Brother Howard McCay did the preaching, he did a wonderful job and we would like to thank him. We had visitors from Oregon, Southern California, Washington and others. We would like to thank all those who took the time to be with us. Sis. Wonda Morse was baptized during the meeting, all of our love and prayers are with her.

In Christian Love,
Troy Morse for the Waterford
congregation

Greetings to all our Christian friends everywhere. We love and think of you real often. We here at Bellflower are doing very well for a change. Sis. Meadows, Sis. Kellogg and Sis Lewis are able to be at Church. We have been working down at Church trying to prepare the building for our weeks meeting. We invite anyone who can possibly be with us to come join us. Bro. Howard Taylor will be our preacher, and we are looking forward to hearing him.

Brother Troy Morse has been visiting here and helping Jerry Perigen in his work while they were at Furnish Canyon in their meeting. Troy and Sis. Way left for home this A.M.

Brother Gerald Brockman has been working on Jerry Perigen's rental-remodeling it to sell.

Some of our dear ones here attended some of Deltas meeting. Tammy Way and her Grandmother, Sis. Way went, also Jerry, Betty, Lori and Mark Perigen. Gerald and Marty Brockman also attended. Then Jerry Perigen's family went on to their meeting in Furnish Canyon.

We had Bill and Eulon Taylor and Evie, Eulons sister, and the Dick Taylor family and Burdette Taylor here at Bellflower Sunday morning. They were here for Oscar Taylor's funeral. He was Eulons and Evies brother. Our sympathy to them.

In Christian Love,
Claud Perigen
For the Bellflower congregation

Just a thought from Donald Dabbs:
"If we didn't carry such big chips on our shoulders our load wouldn't be so heavy."

Just a thought from Donald Dabbs:
"NEW OPPORTUNITIES." Bring someone to church and receive a blessing."

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This is the first time I have attempted to write an article for the paper. I have this lesson in Yuma last Lords Day, and some thought it would be a good article for the paper.

In 133 Psm. we read how good and pleasant is unity. Now Brothers and Sisters, that is something that is lacking amongst the Brotherhood today. Is it because we don't have the proper love and understanding for God's word, and for each other? It is easy for me to tell my brothers and sisters I love them, but down deep in my heart, do I really and truely love them? our love should show by the things we do and the understanding we have for each other, and above all, for God's inspired word. Most of things that is causing problems today are petty things. Now we should not have this unity at the sacrifice of God's word, or the truth. When we start withdrawing fellowship from each other over some of these little things, It causes divisions in the Church. You know if we can't get along here, are we all going to the same place? We might think about it. Mark 3:24-25 - *"If a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom can not stand and if a house be divided against itself that house cannot stand."* Yes Bro. and Sis. if it can't stand then it will fall. I Cor. 3:3 - *"For ye are not carnal, for where as there is among you, envying and strife and divisions are ye not carnal and walk as men."* Yes not according to God's word. Rom 16:17-18 - *"Now I beseech you brethern mark them, which cause divisions and offences, contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned and avoid them, For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ. But their own belly and by good words and fair speeches decieve the hearts of the simple."* Yes Bros. and Sis. It is the cause of unbelief, and certainly not in harmony with God's teaching. John 17:20-21 *"That they all may be one, as thou Father art in me and I in thee. And they also maybe one in us, and that the world may believe that thou hast*

sent me," Then on down in the 23rd verse, That they may be perfect in one. That is another cause of unbelief. Jesus said so himself. James 3:16 "For where envying and strife is, There is confussion and every evil work" Yes Bros and Sis. Jesus prayed for unity just before he died on the cross. I Cor 1:10 - Now I beseech you brethern by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same things, and there be no divisions among you, But that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgement." Also, in the 11th verse he said there was contentions among them. THe apostle Paul was pleading and begging the Cor. to speak the same things, be of the same mind, be perfectly joined together. Heb. 12:14 - "Follow peace with all men, and holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." Matt 5:9 -"Blessed are the peace makers for they shall be called the children of God." Yes, unity is very necessary. Without it we will not see the Lord, remember Jesus prayed for unity. THe apostle Paul pleaded for unity.

Just what should our unity be based on?

Matt 15:8-9 - "This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth and honoureth me with their lips, But their hearts are far from me. But in vain they do worship me teaching for doctrines the commandments fo men." Yes, we can certainly see not ideas and theories and doctrines of man because it is a vain worship. Col. 2:8 - "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosphey and vain deciet after the traditions of men, after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ." Yes, let's not follow after man teaching and doctrines and practices of man. But stay strictly within the teaching of God's Hold Word. Mark 7:9-13 - "And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandments of God, that ye may keep your own traditions, For Moses said honour thy Father and thy Mother and whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:" In the 15th verse makeing the word of God of none affect though your traditions which ye have delivered and many such things do ye. Let's not base our unity on our own ideas and man's doctrines. In Mark we find our unity should be based on the love of God. Mark 12:28-31 - "And one of the scribes came and having heard them reasoning together ask him, which is the first commandment of all. And Jesus answered him, the first of all commandments is hear O Israel, The Lord our God, Is one Lord. And thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy strenghth, This is the first commandment. And the second is like namely this, thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself, there is none greater than these." Yes, if we would only do this, there would be unity among the brotherhood today. I John 5:3 - "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments, and his commandments are not grievous." JOhn 8:30-32 - "As he spake these words,

Many believed on him, Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Yes, by staying within the teaching of God's word not falling short nor going beyond, then it will make us free from Sin. I Thess. 4:9 - *"But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another."* Yes, and without this love for each other, There certainly can't be unity. Phil. 3:16 - *"Nevertheless whereinto we have already attained let us walk by the same rule. Let us mind the same things."* Brethren be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an example. For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and tell you even weeping that they are the enemies of the Cross of Christ. Yes, in the next verse it tells us, whose end is destruction. Yes, again the aspostle Paul, warning and pleading to the Phil. walk by the same rule, mind the same things. Be followers together of me. Also in II Tim. 3:16-17 - *"All scripture is given the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."* Yes, Bros. and Sis. this is the only Perfect Plan for unity, God's inspired word. I Peter 4:11 - *"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."* Yes, the things we do and say, should be by God's authority, not authorized by man. II John 9 - *"Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son."* Yes, that is the bases of unity. In having love for God and for Christ, and also for each other. Remember Jesus said, if ye love me you will keep my commandments. In Eph 4:4-6 - *"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."* Also in Eph 4:2-3 - *"With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* Yes Bro. and Sis. unity is something we must have if we are going to please God. Just as the parable of the grain field, leave the tares until harvest time, then the tores will be taken out or else you'll tear up the whole field. Also in the day of Judgement, He said he would gather out of his

Kingdom, all things that offend. He didn't leave that up to us.

In Christian Love,
Robert Morris - Yuma, Arizona

1981 MEETINGS

Aug. 2-9	Port Orchard, Wa.	Don W. Dabbs
Aug. 2-9	Bellflower, Calif.	Howard Taylor
Sept. 5-7	San Pablo, Calif.	Guest Speakers

BIRTHS

Lillian and Eric Smith was blessed with a healthy baby son named Garett Eric Smith born on May 28, 1981.

OBITUARIES

Mina Lois Bagwell died July 5, 1981 at the age of 88. She was born August 18, 1892 in Springville, California. She moved to Chico, Calif. in 1926 where she has attended the church in Chico ever since.

Sis. Nancy Syrenia Roberson passed away July 20, 1981 at the San Bernadino hospital at the age of 83. She was born April 16, 1898 in Oble, Oklahoma. She was a member of the Fontana, Calif. church and attended church for 68 years. She is survived by her son Howard Lee Roberson and her two sisters.

EDITORS NOTE

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one for your much needed support of the Courier. Thank you for your checks, news, and articles. Keep the news letters coming in. Give us a call or drop a card in the mail. Let's keep in touch.

If you have suggestions on ways to improve the Courier - let us know. The Courier will have a new look next month, hope it meets with your approval.

In Christian Love,
The Courier Staff