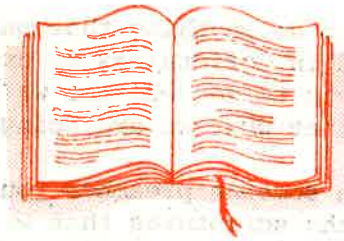
The Christian Courier



Send all correspondence to: 9914 Arkansas, Bellflower, California 90706

"Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold." Psa. 119:127

SEPTEMBER 1981

Luke 11:23 - "*He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth:* so said our Lord. So I ask - which way do we walk with him? I know we all think we gather with him and are not against him, but do we really know which way we are going? John 8:32 - *Ye shall know the truth* Jesus said and I ask, do we? Or do we think we do? Now II Cor. 5:7 says we walk by faith not be sight. Rom. 10:17 says faith comes by the word of God, so when we say I think this way or that we must be able to give scripture or it is not of faith; just our opinion. So, what is truth? It is all that the scriptures reveal on a subject: So do we (Matt. 4:4) know all that is revealed on a subject? or just so much of what is said?

I find two principles in the Churches of today. #1 - I believe it is okay to do this or that. #2 - I don't know just what the Bible said, but I believe it is okay, and then add a lot of what they think and give a few scriptures to try to back it up. Neither of these is by faith and cause trouble when pressed for an answer. Then there is a third but small reasoning like this: Everyone else is doing it, why not me? We forget that there are only two classes of people God looks at it - right and wrong. Luke 1:6 and Psalms 119:172 - the ones that God will except for doing his will, and the ones that he will not accept. Psalms 1:1-5, Romans 3:23 and 14:23 - Which one of these groups do we fit into? In Psalms 1:1 we find that to be right we will not stand in the way of a sinner, nor sit in the seat of the scornful, nor walk in the advice of the ungodly: To stand in the way of a sinner

is to do anything that makes a sinner say - They are just like me. Paul said in Corinthians to examine ourselves, in other words, look at ourselves to see whether we were in the faith or not. Are we afraid to look at what we are doing by the word of God?

When someone preaches you should not do that, do we get mad? Can we prove by the scriptures that we can do what we are doing? There are two great rulers in this world - CHRIST Matt. 28:18, I Cor. 15:23-25, and the God of this world, II Cor. 4:4, They are both powerful and rule well the people that serve them. Josh. 24:15, we are going to have to choose which one we serve. So if we serve Christ we will do the things commanded which are these: in Eph. 4:17 we are commanded to walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vainity of their mind that is: let us not do what other Gentiles do: having their understanding darkened being alliens from the life of God which is in Christ: But said some - everyone else does, so why can't I, I don't see anything wrong with it. Well, Eph. 5:7 said be not ye therefore partakers with them, (a direct command of God), and in the 8th verse gives a reason for ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light, walk as children of light: or as Paul said in I Cor. chapters 5 and 6, you once did those things, but now ye are clean. So in Eph. 5:17 Paul said - wherefore be not unwise but understand what the will of the Lord is: for we once walked in ignorance in Eph. 4:18. Lasciviousness, uncleaness, greediness, corrupt conversation, deceitfulness, lust (verse 25) lying, anger, wrath, bitterness, clamor, evil speaking, malice (Chap. 5:3) - fornication, coveteousness, filthiness, foolish talking, jesting, and such like. So in Eph. 5:7 - we are commanded to not prtake with them. (Chap. 5:11) - we are not to have fellowship with any of those things. There is not to be any of these things found in our life. We either make the tree good and fruit good, or make the tree bad and fruit bad. We cannot do both good and bad and be excepted with God. (Eph. 5:15) - See then that ye walk upright not as fools, but as wise. (Phil. 2:21) - For all seek their own not the things which are Jesus Christs. Also read Phil 3:15-18.

Written in love for the truth of
God and the saving of the soul,
Lloyd Treat

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

The Colter Church would like to take this means to show our appreciation fro the Courier. We are a small Church located sixteen miles Northeast of Elk City, Oklahoma. We meet at 10:30 Sunday morning and are always happy to see visitors. Bro. Earl Atchley from Elk City meets with us and gives us a good lesson every fourth Sunday. The rest of the weeks, each of the Brethren does his part, speaking only as the Bible speaks.

Yours in Christ,
A. J. Rennels

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We of the Gardendale Congregation are all well at this present time. We have lost two of our beloved Sisters in Christ in the past several months, which leaves our hearts heavy with sorrow, but happy we all had the pleasure of knowing and loving both sisters. Sis. Bessie Berkstresser and Sis. Lanie Chadwick. We miss them both so much. We would like to announce our first week-end meeting to be held October 3rd and 4th (Saturday night service at 7:30 p.m., Sunday morning 10:30 and Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m.) Guest speakers. Everyone is welcome and please come and help us have a wonderful week-end meeting of Gospel singing and preaching. Lunch Sunday will be served at the Gardendale Community Building. We will have plenty of beds and camping spaces.

In Christian Love,
The L. C. Barkers of the Gardendale Congregation

Dear Bro. & Sis.

Will try to write and let you know we are still here, has been quite some time since anyone from Stilwell has wrote to the Courier. Everyone here is doing just fine. One Sunday August 30, Saundra Joe Ross, was baptized into the Lord. Bro. George Morris baptized her at the City Park Lake. Her parents are Bro. and Sis. Bill Ross of the Stilwell Church. Anyone passing thru this way, would be glad if you would stop for a visit, or to attend Church with us.

Bro. Gerald Buckner
Stilwell, Oklahoma

Not much news from Yuma. There have been so many gone on vacations, and some still gone. When they are gone we miss them so much, the crowd seems to be smaller all the time.

We enjoy the paper so much, the news we hear from different Churches. It is good to know there are still a few still working for the Lord. Our Brothers and Sisters are to be commended for the efforts they put in the paper. Both the hard work and expense. Let's all get behind them and help any way we can.

We were saddened at the passing of our beloved Sister, she was so dear to all of us. Our prayers go out to Bro. Claud and Jerry and family. We will all miss her, but we also know she is in better hands. We love you all.

Bro. Robert Morris
Church at Yuma, Arizona

Dear Bro. and Sis. in Christ

I am writing for the Baron Congregation. We here are doing well. Sorry we are late about reporting our gospel meeting which was held in June by Bro. J. D. Logan. It was a wonderful meeting with real good sermons every night which gave each and every one great encouragement. There was two that came forward for prayers. We surely enjoyed J. D. and Fern in our midst, we had a wonderful time. We also had the good pleasure of having Bro. and Sis. Roark from Washington, also visitors from Goshen and Bahannon Mountain Congregation, also Bro & Sis. Atchley from Elk City, Okla. with us. Pleasant View Church of Christ also gave us their full support. Kathy Treat from Broken Bow, Okla. also visited.

We also regret to report the passing of Bro. Kennie Ross who passed away Friday morning, August 21. We will surely miss Bro. Kennie from our midst, he was a faithful attender. Brother Lloyd Treat and Bro. Edwin Crowels came down over the week-end to attend Bro. Kennies funeral and be with the family.

We attended the Delta Camp meeting and met a lot of good Christian people, some we knew and others we met for the first time, but we had a wonderful time and hope that we can go back again.

We would like to welcome any one who comes this way to stop and worship with us and visit in our homes. The Church house is located on highway 59, 10 miles north of Stilwell or 5 miles south of the intersection at Wesville.

Greetings from Goshen Church,

We are all fine back here. We were saddened by the news of Sis. Perigen passing away. We wish to extend a welcome to everyone coming back here or by here to worship with us at 10:30 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. each Lord's day. Our building is 7 miles east of Fayettville on Highway 45 near the Community of Goshen.

Bro. Melvin Daniels
Goshen Church

Dearest Believers in Christ,

We write to let you all know of our experience at the meeting at Port Orchard the first week of August:

We now have so many treasured happenings to remember in our life from what had passed in that week; God has confirmed in us that there is genuine charity in his Church and that his people can operate as a body. We saw a tremendous outpour of grace in the meeting - the facility preparations, the abundance of good food, the open communication all were provided with no feeling of loss or obligation. Somewhere we feelthat someone who could not make the meeting at least prayed that God would bless it. We're sorrowful that we cannot express to you adequately in this letter how happy everyone was; so be at peace, God answered your prayers. At no time did we see anyone left out, from the smallest of children to the eldest person. If anyone was weary, it was probably because the weather got hot at times.

Please listen to us report what dedication there was among our visitors:

Fourteen people traveled 1000 miles or more to be at the meeting. No one would make that type of committment without sowing a lot of hope. More than 40 people traveled 200 miles or more from their home to be here. God forbid that anyone whould dream his people don't care for one another. What may have seemed to many like a small Church meeting in a corner of the country actually was a dynamic experience for nearly 100 Christians - can you see what kind of effect that will have on those that come in touch with their lives in time to come? Be happy with us, the Father has shown us again the priceless gift of a Church in love with itself.

Written to all from the love in our hearts,
The Church at Seattle, Washington

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Here it is the last of August and I haven't sent any news of our meeting. Donald Dabbs brought us some very good lessons. Good for each and every one of us. We wish to thank all the ones that came, some from far and some from near. The last Sat. and Sun. morning we had around one hundred here. Our special thanks to Troy of the Waterford California Church, and Meg and Veda McCay from Yakima, also Kelly Forsman from Seattle. Troy and Kelly for their help with the young folks and Veda and Meg for their help around the kitchen.

We have had the hottest weather on record this summer which was during our meeting also one of the dryest years. The Church is doing well.

Sue Taylor from Yakima was baptized over here on the 18th of July. She attends Church in Yakima but visits us often. Wally and Laura Stewart were baptized August 23rd and will be meeting here with us.

Love to the Brotherhood,
Robert McCay
Glenwood Church of Christ

The Christian Courier:

Our Camp Meeting was very successful, we had a great time. All of us young folks really enjoyed the preaching, singing and fellowship. Playing volleyball, fishing, pitching horseshoes, just being together and getting to know each other was really great.

Saturday, people began to pull in. It was great getting to see everyone again and meeting new ones. Sunday, we had a big crowd at Big Spruce Camp Metting, which started the weeks camp meeting off. It was a big week for all of us. All through the week us young folks had a lot of fun fishing, playing volleyball, visiting and learning more about God's word. Thursday night we had a hay ride. We went from the camp to the Happy Hollow Church of Christ and roasted marshmellows, hot dogs and had fire works after services the 4th of July. We had games and singing every night after services. We really learned alot and had fun at our camp meeting, all you young folks plan to come next year June 26 to July 5, 1982. People were coming and going all through the week. Everyone enjoyed themselves very much, lots of pictures were taken. I hope to see you all next year and the year after for our 20 year camp meeting reunion.

God Bless you all
Jill Herbert / Happy Hollow Church

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We here in the Humble Church of Christ are all doing fine. No one is sick and all were at Church last Sunday.

Sister Betty Eldridge and children went with Sister Ruth and me to hold the meeting in Port Orchard, Weshington. We all had a good time and met a lot of the christians in Texas, New Mexico, Utah, and Washington. On the way to Washington we stopped at Gardendale, Texas for Sunday services. It was the first time we had the privilege to meet the Brothers and Sisters there. We enjoyed it very much. Then on the Aztec, N.M., there we picked up my mother, Sister Myra Dabbs, daughter, Sister Celesta Johnson, grandson, Marshall and niece, Lynn Bixler. Going on up through Provo, Utah we stopped and visited with the members of the Church there, Brother and Sister Wade Brackett. Then on to Port Orchard, Washington. There we stayed about ten days. We met new christians and reacquainted ourselves with old ones, some we had not seen in many years. I preached eight days. They had real good attendance and I thank them all for their love, hospitality and prayers. I was especially impressed by the works of the young christians there.

On the way back home we stopped at Springfield, Oregon for the night and called and talked to Sister Jones. We were saddened to hear about the death of Brother Jones. Ruth and I love them very much. We went on into California to see the big red wood trees enjoying the long trip home. We dropped off part of our traveling companions in Aztec, N.M., and spent the day. Then made our way on to Lorenzo, Tx. for Church Sunday Morning. It had been about sixteen or seventeen years since we had been there and it was nice seeing them agiin. Now finally we are home at last.

Once again thank you all for your love and hospitality. Our prayers are with you all. Pray for us.

Yours in Christ,
Donald Dabbs / Humble Tx.

Dear Bro. and Sis.,

The Church at Fontana has officially closed, and they are now meeting with us at La Habra. Their help was needed very badly. Bro. Serrano preached for us today. Sister Roxie Adams is in the hospital and unconcious, and Bro. Oren Millard is home but very poorly. Pray for us.

In Christian Love,
La Habra Church

A report for the Springfield, Oregon congregation. The good news, Tricia Greenway was baptized August 16th at Springfield. She is the daughter of Dan and Karen Greenway.

We are saddened by the loss of Bro. Earl Linville Jones. He was born May 23, 1885 in Dalton, Kansas and died July 31, 1981 in Springfield, Oregon. Service was conducted by Roy McCay of the Springfield, congregation. Bro. Jones had been a member of the Church of Christ all his adult life. Attended church regularly in Springfield. Bro. Jones was a wonderful person, never lost interest in life, he painted, wrote poems and songs and was so interesting to hear stories of the past. He drove his wife and himself to Church until shortly before his death. He is survived by his beloved wife, Sis. Jones, 4 daughters and many grandchildren. Our prayers go to his family in their loss.

Springfield, Oregon Congregation

Greetings from Yakima,

It's been awhile since we last wrote. We've had a busy summer, several have traveled a lot this summer to many meetings. Richard, Monica, Jessica and Veda went to Tiner, Oklahoma. Richard held a weeks meeting, and enjoyed very much meeting all the Christian people there. Then several attended the meeting in Glenwood, with Bro. Don Dabbs. We wish to take this opportunity to thank again the Brethern in San Pablo for their effort and the wonderful fellowship we all enjoyed. They are few in number but hard workers for the Lord.

We have lost in death several Christian workers this year and as one young Brother said "those of us left will have to work harder to fill their loss." We were saddened in Yakima to lose a dear friend, Bert Roberts, in August. Sis. Betty Roberts attends Church in Yakima and many of Berts family. We will miss him, he was a very thoughtful and helpful person.

We were happy to have Bro. and Sis. Dale Roberts visit us this past Sunday. We've been blessed with several visitors this summer. With all the miles different ones have traveled this summer, the Lord has seen us safely thru. Just one part of our reward for being Christians.

Bro. and Sis. John Bauer of Yakima have a new son born September 14, Darren William. He weighed 8 pounds 10 1/2 ounces.

In Christian Love,
Bill and Veda McCay

Dear Brethren:

Our love and God's grace to you from the Bellfoower Congregation.

We are very saddened at this writing by the loss of our dear Sis. in Christ Eunice Perigen. She has left a void in our lives that we can only fill with God's love, and the promise of her's and our home in heaven. Such a fine example of Christian living; a lifetime of good works, stability, and obedience to God's word. Christ was surely magnified by her life. Please pray for Claud.

Death will overtake us all sooner or later; we must be ready, but I'm aftaid so many of us are not. Most of us are well, and thank God for that.

Sister Doris Jared is now living in Long Beach, and meeting with us. We need her and welcome her.

Some of us made it to the San Pablo meeting. We enjoyed good lessons, good food, and wonderful Christian association. God bless the fine people there for the hard work they put out. Meetings like that are high points in our life.

If you are in our area please come and meet with us each Lord's day morning at 10:30, and in the evening at 6:00 at 9914 Arkansas. Also if you are here during the week please call us, you're welcome in our homes.

Al Way 714/842-1633
Jerry Perigen 714/842-1251
Claud Perigen 213/866-0656

Written in the Love of Christ,
Bro. Al Way
Bellflower, Calif. congregation

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I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our loved ones and friends of Sister Eunice Perigen who sent cards and letters of encouragement, before and after her passing on.

She had made the remark "I didu't realize I had so many friends"

Thank you for the nice flowers. There were so many, the room was full, and that told me something. Thanks to all who helped in her service and for your prayers. Your prayers are still needed.

Claud Perigen

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Forgiveness saves the expense of anger, the cost of hatred and the waste of energy.

EDITORS NOTE

We have had wonderful response this past month. Several good articles, many news letters, and excellent financial support. Please keep up the good work each and every month.

Thanks to all of you who have made our job here much easier.

Several people have asked if we would make space for Christian pen pal addresses. Many of our young people are getting to know each other across the nation. It will be our pleasure to assist them in any way we can, after all, who will continue with God's work when we are gone?

The Courier Staff

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"WE CAN'T BELEIVE OUR WAY TO HEAVEN"

Rom. 5:1 *"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

We can't be Christians without faith, but fiath alone will not save us. James 2:20. Trying to be saved by faith alone would be like a farmer that beleived he could raise a crop without working. He beleives he can prepare the ground, plant seed, water and cultivate it and reap a harvest. What if he doesn't prepare the ground for planting? The seed won't come up. What if he doesn't plant seed? Nothing happens. It doesn't matter how much faith he has if he doesn't do the work, there will not be a harvest.

Likewise, if we don't do the work our Lord instructed us to do, there won't be a harvest for us.

John 8:32 *"And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."*

We know we have the truth, but do we rely a little too heavily on this knowledge to save us? The only way we can be saved is by using our faith and knowledge and doing the will of our Heavenly Father.

My wife and I just returned from the San Pablo meeting and enjoyed some good preaching and singing not to mention the wonderful hospitality and fellowship of Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Sincerely with Love,
L. E. Arnett

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We all know right from wrong. What we need now is a way to tell opportunity from temptation.

READ THIS TWICE

Xvxn though this typxwitxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xxcxpt for onx of thx kxys. I'vx wishxd many timxs that it workxd pxrfxctly. Trux, thxrx arx forty-two functioning wxll xnough, but just onx kxy not working makxs tix diffxrxncx. Somxtimxs, it sxxms that thx church of our Lord is somxwhat likx this typxwritxr---not all thx kxy pxoplx arx working propxrly. You may say, "Wxll, I'm only onx pxrson; it won't makx much diffxrxncx." But you sxx, thx church, to bx xffxctivx, nxxds thx activx participation of xvxry pxrson. Thx nxxt timx you think your xfforts arxn't nxxdxd, rxmxmbxr this typxwritxr, and say to yoursxlf, "I am a kxy pxrson and nxxdxd vxry much."

Submitted by Bro. Dan Ross
Yakima congregation

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One advantage of traveling the straight and narrow is that no one is trying to pass you.

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BAPTIZED FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS

Welcome new Christians in Christ

Sue Taylor	Yakima, Washington	July 18
Tricia Greenway	Springfield, Oregon	August 16
Wally and Laura Stewart	Port Orchard, Washington	August 23
Saundra Joe Ross	Stilwell, Oklahoma	August 30
James Tucker	Yuma, Arizona	September 30

Eph. 6:10-11 - "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil:"

1981 MEETINGS

Gardendale, Texas	October 3 & 4	Guest Speakers

1982 MEETINGS

Yakima, Wahsington	June 6-13	Sammy Boen
Waterford, Californi	June 20-27	Camp
Delta, Colorado	June 27-July 4	Camp
Bellflower, California	July 4-11	Howard McCay
Grass Valley, CAlifornia	July 11-25	J. D. Logan
San Pablo, California	September 4,5 & 6	Camp

OBITUARYS

Sis. Florence Hunter	Texas	June 17
Bro. Earl Linville Jones	Springfield, Oregon	July 31
Sis. Bessie Berkstresser	Gardendale, Texas	Unknown
Sis. Lanie Chadwick	Gardendale, Texas	Unknown
Sis. Eunice Perigen	Bellflower, Calif.	August 21
Bro. Kennie Ross	Stilwell, Oklahoma	August 21
Bert Roberts (Husband of Sis. Betty Roberts)	Yakima, Washington	August

Our sincere love and deepest sympathy to all the bereaved.

BIRTHS

Bro. and Sis. John Bauer of Yakima, Washington have a new son born Sept. 14. Darren William 8 lbs., 10 1/2 oz.
Congratulations on your happy occasion.