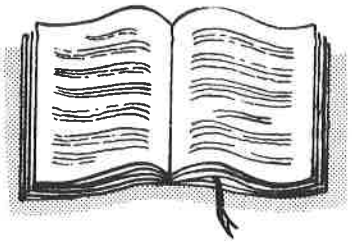
The Christian Courier



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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

THINGS TO DO:

ZECHARIAH 8:16

"These are the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbor; execute the judgement of truth and peace in your gates; And let none of you imagine evil in your hearts against his neighbour; and love no false oath; for all these are things that I hate, saith the Lord." [Proverbs 6: 12-19] "A naughty person, a wicked man, walketh with a fro ward mouth. He winketh with his eyes, he speaketh with his feet, he teacheth with his fingers; frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord. Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy. These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren."

Here, we find something taught to do, and also some things not to do. In the scripture used [Zech 8:16] God was teaching things that we as christians must do if we expect to please God and live with him above. [Romans 12:1-2] We are commanded to not be like the world but be "transformed by the renewing of our minds." Or as Solomon said in Proverbs 6:20; "My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother:" So, to go and do the things in Proverbs 6:12-16 is to disobey God. [verse 23] for the commandment is a lamp and the law is light and reproof of instruction are the

way of life, as Paul said to Timothy in 2 Tim. 4:2; "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they will shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."

We are told to execute true judgements (Zech 6:9). Now we read in 1 Tim 2:9; "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel..." Then they go and try to tell us what modest is. One preacher told me, one time, that modest was anything that was a custom of the country. Paul did not leave modest, without further explanation, for he goes on in verse 10; "But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works." And we ask, does a bathing suit, shorts, hot pants, sunsuits, tight pants, and mens' clothing, becomming to a Godly woman? If men and women are wearing those things when they come into the church and they are commanded to transform their way of thinking [Rom 12:2] So they can prove the good and acceptable will of God, if they continue to walk and do as they did then, have they changed their mind? Did they kill that old man of sin, (Rom or did we walk in sin when we were in the world as in Deut. 22:5. When we walked in lasciviousness, lust, 1 Pet. 4:3, also Eph 2:2-3. When we walked according to the course of this world; according to the prince of the power of the air, or did Paul not tell the truth when he said we did: Do we present ourselves a living sacrifice, acceptable to god; [Rom 12:1-2] What will God accept seeing He hates the things of the flesh; or the things we once did; So we ask is the custom of the country modest? Will God accept the way you were? If so, why did Christ die? Prov. 8:12; "I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions" So if we are going to serve God acceptably, with reverance and Godly fear, we will have to hate the evil things that we once did. [Proverbs 8:13] "The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate." In 2 Cor 6:16-17, we are commanded to come out from among them and be separate saith the Lord. Separate and apart from the things of the world. [John 2: 15-16] [James 4:4] [James 1:21-22] We either make the tree good and the fruit good, or it is corrupt. [Matt 12;33] for the tree is known by its fruit. (or we are known by the way we do and say.)

So think on these things.

Yours in Christ

Lloyd Treat; 13 N Bock
Broken Bow, Oklahoma 74728

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Phil. 1:27; "..let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ."

YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

OUR HOUSE:

A friend once asked John Quincy Adams, how he was when he was 80 years old. He answered, "John Quincy Adams is very well, but the house he lives in is sadly dilapidated . It is tottering on its foundations, the walls are shattered and the roof is worn. The building trembles with every wind, and I think I will have to move out before long. But John Quincy Adams is very well" This should cause us to really stop and think.

[2 Cor 5;1] "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were disolved we have a building of God, a house not made with hands eternal in the heavens." [1 John 3:2] "Beloved now are we the sons of God and it doth not yet appear what we shall be but we know that when he shall appear we shall be like him."

It appears to me that too often we spend to much time worring about our house (body) and not enough worring about the inner man which is most important. Because, as John Quincy Adams, we will lose this house but we will live (somewhere) eternally. I have seen brothers and sisters spending much more time and money fixing up the house (outer man) and very little toward the inner man. They buy fancy clothing and jewelry and hairdos', etc...fixing up and painting the house (make-up) and it may be decaying inside. If the Lord came today, would He tell us as he told the scribes and Pharisees which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but are within, full of dead mens bones and all uncleaness. Appearing outwardly to be rightous but full of hypocrisy and iniquity. It is important to keep the house neat and clean but always remember that God looks at the heart of an individual.

Written with brotherly love.

Howard McCay
Rt. 3 Box 657
Yakima, Wa. 98901

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STILWELL, OKLAHOMA

USING THE OLD TESTAMENT:

It is obvious that the Old Testament scriptures must be used with caution, for much was changed, [Matt 5:17-48]. Yet it is also obvious that we cannot ignore it because the apostles and early teachers used it often. Further, we need to understand what all is back there in the Old Testament scriptures. This is the focus of this study.

The Old Law was abolished, nailed to the cross, [Eph 2:15] [Col 2:14]. But there is a whole lot back there that is not part of the law. The Law is found in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. So there must be more back there, seeing as there are more books back there. We'll study these other things shortly, but first lets understand that even the Law shouldn't be ignored completely. The third chapter of Gal. explains the relationship of the Law to Chirst and us. In it, Paul brings us to the conclusion that the Law was our school master to bring us to Christ. This is an excellent comparison. Just as I am not required to absolutely obey my school teacher today but am able to function because of the teacher, we are not bound by the law but it can help us understand the function un er the New Testament. Lets notice why.

1. Some of the Law was brought over as commandment in the New Testament. We find that nine of the 10 commandments were: [Exod 20:1-17] Verses 2-6___Gal 5:19-21; [Idolatry] Verse 7____2 Tim 2:16; 2 Peter 2:20-21: Verse 8-11___[Sabbath day not brought over] See Romans 14:5-6. Verse 12____Eph 6:1-3: Verses 13-17___Rom 13:9:

2. Many things that were imperfect under the law were changed and made perfect under the New Testament. (This is similar to us reading the Bible today instead of the "Run Spot Run" stories our schoolmasters started us on. But if we didn't understand "Run Spot Run" we surely couldn't understand the Bible. In a like manner, understanding some of those imperfect things can help us understand the perfect things they were changed to.) Lets look at a few examples of this.

Our first example is how the sacrifices the high priest made once a year for the sins of the people were replaced with Christ's perfect sacrifice. To understand how this was accomplished please read the 9th chapter of Hebrews and also the first 18 verses of the tenth chapter. Another example we find in [Matt 5:43-44]. "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Verses 45-48 explain why.

We find that the commandment to give tithes was replaced with the cheerful giving collection for the saints. In Num. 18:20-24, we find the tithes, (one tenth), of Israel were given to the priests, the Levites, for an inheritance. [Rev 1:6] [1 Pet 2:9] ...indicate that we are all priests, hence the collection for the saints. [1 Cor 16:1-2] Why was the commandment to give one tenth replaced with cheerful giving? Lets notice [11 Cor 9:6-7]. "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Lets compare that to what [Gal 3:11-12] says about the law and apply it to this question. " But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. And the law is not of faith: but, The man ;that doeth them shall live in them." Giving a mandatory ten percent accordig to the command of the law shows no faith. It is of necessity. Cheerfully giving bountifully shows a lot of faith. The widow who cast in her all, [Mark 12: 41-44] showed this faith. On the other hand, if we give grudgingly or sparingly, we need to increase our faith.

Let me give one final example of something imperfect. The fleshly circumcision was replace with spiritual circumcision. The commandment of the fleshly circumcision was first given to Abraham in [Gen 17:10], and was made part of the law. [Exod 12-48] But Paul said [Gal 5:6] [Gal 6:15] that in Christ neither circumcision nor uncircumcision availeth anything. It was replaced with spiritual circumcision. [Acts 7:51] Stephen accused those who would later stone him of being "uncircumcised of heart and ears." Paul explains this. [Col 3:11-12] "In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." In other words, not only washing away those sins in baptism, but also putting off those sins; not doing them any more.

I hope that explains about not ignoring the law, but using it to better understand the New Testament. We will now look at some other things in the Old Testament scriptures.

We want to notice that besides the law there are a lot of stories we can learn from back there. It is certain that the apostles and early teachers used these Old Testament stories to illustrate New Testament priciples because the 11th chapter of Hebrews is full of those stories. There is a lot of information in these stories to use as examples for our lives. In just one story, the story of Gideon, I have two lessons. One on God's answer to Gideon's doubts, [Judges 6:13-14] and one on points from the battle itself. [Judges 7] I mised completely the points on courage that Bro. Logan brought out in an excellent article. Besides these three, this story is one of the most dramatic stories of spiritual growth in the Bible. And all this from just one story. If studying the Bible seems boring to anyone, I would advise going to the 11th chapter of Hebrews, looking up all those stories in the Old Teatament, and studying them. You'll enjoy a lot of exciting reading, learn a lot, and the Bible will probably become to you the facinating book that God meant for it to be.

Another thing in the Old Testament we can learn a lot from is the prophecies that are back there. The apostles and other early teachers used prophecies all the time to prove that Jesus was the Messiah.

Peter used David's prophesy [Psm 16-8-11] on the day of Pentecost [Acts 2nd chapter]. Phillip used Isaiah's prophesy as the beginning point in his teaching of the eunuch. [Acts 8:26-40] [Acts 18:27-28] speaking of Apollos, reads: "And when he was disposed to pass to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace: For he mightilly convinced the Jews, and that publicly , shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was the Christ." We can see tnat those teachers used the prophecies of the Old Testament. Likewise it can help us today. Some of our most vital doctrine questions can be answered through the help of these prophecies. For example, lets look at the bread question. There are a couple of prophecies in Zechariah that help us understand that the bread should be broken as we break it. First, [Zech. 11;10]. "And I took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people." By reading through verse 13, we know this is a prophesy of Christ's death, to break that covenant, or the law. [Heb 10:9] "He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second." [Heb 9:15-17] confirms this. [1 Cor 11:25] says the cup is this New Testament. If we don't break the bread to shew that broken staff, Jesus Christ, how can the cup be the New Teatament that the broken staff established? The second point from Zecharaiah is found in the 12th chapter, verse 10; "...and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced,..." We find this fulfilled in [John 19:30-37]. Notice this piercing brought forth blood and water. From [1 Cor 11:25] we know that the contents of the cup are his blood. If we don't break the bread, shewing the broken body that brought forth the blood, how can the contents be the blood? One other thing prophecies did for me is this. I used to think that God set up the law, then just suddenly changed it with Jesus. This seems to contradict [Heb 13:8] which says; "Jeusu Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." But when we realize that Moses prophecied of Christ, [Duet 18:15-19] and so did Abraham, and even [Gen 3:15] might be considered a prophesy of Christ fulfilled in [Rev 12:11], this combined with [Gal 3:16-19] makes us realize that it was all part of the same eternal plan. So, there is a lot we can learn from prophesy.

The final thing we want to look at in the Old Testament scriptures is the wisdom that is back there. [1 Kings 4:29].."And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even the sand that is on the sea shore." Verse 32; "And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five." We can learn today from all this wisdom recorded in the books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. One of the best lessons I ever heard was Bro. Jim Brown, who spoke on the four exceeding wise things in [Prov. 30:24-28]. Lets study these and increase our understaning.

So we can see that there is a whole lot back there; more than just the law. If I've overlooked something, or made any other type of mistake, please write and let me know. I don't resent correction, I value it.

Lets close with this thought, realizing that at the time Christ said it there were no New Testament scriptures. [John 5:39] "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me."

In Christian Love:

Terry Warford
409 S. First St.
Stilwell, Oklahoma 74960

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"AS COLD WATERS TO A THIRSTY SOUL, SO IS GOOD NEWS FROM A FAR COUNTRY"

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

The church here is about as usual, except Brother Stepps brother died in Oregon and he has gone out there. We have also had Bro. Terry Warford from Stilwell with us one Sunday. We also had Bro. Gregg Algood last Sunday.

We appreciate their help and invite anyone who can come and be with us to do so.

For the Church at 210 N. Park Drive:
Broken Bow, Okalhoma.
Lloyd Treat

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AZTEC, NEW MEXICO

Dear Brothes and Sisters in Christ:

Just a note to say we are all well and so very happy. On May 25th, Brother Dallas Mickey baptized a young mother, Celia Kimball, into Christ. Five baptisms in two weeks has set us all aglow.

The new young Brothers are beginning to take part in the song leading.

May God's blessings be upon us all.

Your Brother in Christ
Rex Mickey

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Just a few words from the church here, we are small in number but large in faith.

Bro. Kelly, and Sister Kathy McCay and children, from Yakima, Wa. and Sister Kathy's sister of Los Angeles were visiting with us on June 8th. Bro. Kelly had a very good lesson for us. We sure enjoyed their fellowship. Bro Keven Harper meets with us most of the time now since he lives close to Sacramento.

All visitors are welcome to meet with us. We are located at 840 Bell Ave. If you can't locate us, call us at [916] 922-5729.

Enclosed is a donation to help with the paper.

Yours in Christ — Bro. John & Sister Inez (Franklin) Usrey
Sacramento Church of Christ.

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MOORE, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Just a few lines from the Oklahoma City congregation. It has been a long time since news has come from here to the Courier.

We have had the pleasure of meeting many or our brothers and sisters in Christ in the last couple of years. Some were renewal of old aquaintances, and others were brothers and sisters that we had not previously met. We are a small church here in Oklahoma City, but we welcome all visitors. I have recently heard from Ken and Verlie Baldwin and our prayers are with them during Ken's recovery. I also apologize for not writing sooner. I think often of the Christians we have met and fail to keep in close contact. Sometimes just taking a few minutes seems so hard to do, but I know how we should. We are encloseing a small donation and will strive to write and regularly support the Courier in the future.

In brotherly love: — Oklahoma City congregation.

P.S. My address has been changed in the past year. My new address is: Roger Walkingstick - 700 S.E. 38th - Moore, Oklahoma 73160

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[Proverbs 23:26]

"MY SON, GIVE ME THINE HEART, AND LET THINE EYES OBSERVE MY WAYS"

Please Note: I had recieved the following, and I had failed to get it in the last issue. Please forgive me Bro. Lawrence for this error.

WATERFORD, CALIFORNIA

Looking for good in our brothers:

The first three chapters of Revelation tells us the condition of the seven churches of Asia. Out of the seven, only two were without fault. Of the things they were charged with, none were charged with failing to correct the mistakes of the other churches. I agree with Bro. Bedingfield that we should settle our problems in our own congregation and not spread them throughout the churches. (as stated in the April Courier). Also in the same issue, I want to commed Bro. Dan Ross on a very fine article. If we would all look as hard at ourselves to find fault, as we do at our brothers, we might not like what we see. Lets turn that around and start looking for our own faults and for the good in our brothers. If we will do this then we can have harmony in the Body of Christ.

We must do this if we are true Christians. [James 4:11] "Speak not evil one of another, brethren."

L.E. Arnett

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SAN PABLO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The small congregation here is doing well and there has been no serious illness, and we are certainly thankful for that.

We are saddened to report that we will not be able to get the Rollingwood Recreation Hall for our meeting this year. The owners say that their insurance has gone so high that they won't be letting the hall out until they find cheaper insurance. As of this date we have not found any place else to hold the meeting. So we will be canceling our meeting for this year.

We will miss having all the brethren there. We were so looking forward to hosting our short meeting. Lord willing we will find a place soon so we can continue on with it each year. Remember all those who are traveling to other meetings, and pray for those who have the responsibility of teaching the Word of God. Pray that the Word taught will cause some to turn and obey the Gospel before it is to late. Pray for the Church everywhere, that they will continue to be strong and to follow after sound doctrine. For we all want to greet each other in heaven, do we not?

San Pablo Congregation

WATERFORD, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ:

The Waterford Church of Christ has just completed our meeting with Brother Bill McCay Jr. His lessons were very uplifting and easy to follow as he used outlines on the chalk board. Bill and his family were a joy to have with us, a fine christian family. He is an excelent speaker appealing to all ages. Those of you planning for meetings, should keep him in mind.

We want to thank all the visitors that took the time to come and meet with us and support our meeting. Yakima and Port Orchard, Wash; Humble, Texas; Loco, Oklahoma: San Pablo, Ca.; Chico, Ca.; Bellflower, Ca.; congregations were represented at our meeting. We all had dinner together before evening services and enjoyed all the fellowship the extra time together allowed.

Sister Mary McKinzie was able to attend services with a new knee in place but will require another surgery as this knee isn't right. Sister Velma Hillier broke her foot and was unable to attend.

A special thanks to the women who prepared all the delicious meals and saw to the needs of our guests, for they are almost always the backbone of a successull meeting. Thanks girls! We were also blessed with cooler weather than usual. I must share with you with great joy of Paul and Lola Lucas coming forward for the prayers of the church a few weeks before our meeting. May God richly bless them, for it is in Christ that our salvation lies. I want to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to anyone passing our way, to come and worship with us.

May Christ's peace be with you always.

Ken Williams

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"Jesus cried and said"

"He that believeth on Me, believeth not on Me, but on Him that sent me. And he that seeth Me, seeth Him that sent me."

"I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on Me, should not abide in darkenss."

We all are thankful for Brother and Sister Paul and Lola Lucas who have forsaken the darkness and have come into that glorious light of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. For you have come unto the Father also.

EDITORIAL STATEMENT:

This issue will be the 25th publication since the Christian Courier has come to be my responsibility. The Christian Courier was started many years ago with the intention of bringing forth the Word of God, so those who would read it could be taught by the Word, and those Christians who read it could be edified buy it. That goal is still the same today. Those of us who participate in this endeavor by writing articles, news letters, and who report the news of baptisms and of new Babies being born, and young people getting married, and so on, still want this work to continue. My commitment to this work was one that I meant to keep as long as I am worthy to be used of our Lord for this work. I feel that it is a very important work, or I would not be doing it.

It has to be governed by the Church of Christ though. And by that I mean that no certain person, or group of person can be in control of what causes this paper to exist. And that is, of course, the teaching of the Word of God. THE WHOLE WORD. Whether or not I like what is being taught or not, is not the question. Is it scriptural or is it mans teachings? If it is scriptural, then I have to accept it as such. If it is man's teachings, then I have to reject it. Otherwise it becomes unworthy of our efforts.

If it is the desire of the congregations of the Chruch of Christ, that it continue, then it will be continued. If it is the desire of the congregations of the Church of Christ that it be stopped, then so be it. Either way, it is YOUR responsibility. Not mine alone, just because I want to sit here night after night and get it out, but because the effort is worth it and we all are pitching in to make it worthy of our Lord's approval. You and I have to continue to do our part to keep the whole Word of God going out so others can learn about the pitfalls of life along with the blessings that our God allows us to enjoy. After-all is not the effort worth it? Is our life's work for the Lord, worthy of heaven? God says it is, if it truly <u>is</u> the work of the Lord, and not in vain.

So, come, go along with us as we do our best to teach the whole Word of God. Take an active part in putting your teaching and instruction down on paper so others may learn from your understanding of the Scriptures. Let us excercise our minds and RENEW our minds with the Good, Acceptable, and Perfect will of God. "For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet our inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen: for the things which are seen are temporal: but the things which are not seen are eternal." [2 Cor 4:16-18]

Editor

GOSPEL MEETING CALANDER

BARON, OKLAHOMA	June 22 - 29	Al Way
GOSHEN, ARKANSAS	June 30 - July 6	Al Way
DELTA, COLORADO	July 5 - 14	CAMP
BELLFLOWER, Ca.	July 20 - 27	Tom Broadway
PORT ORCHARD, WA.	July 27 - Aug 3	Rex Mickey
YAKIMA, WA.	Aug 3 - 10	R. Walkingstick
YAKIMA, WA.	To-be-announced	Lloyd Allgood
LOCO, OKLAHOMA	Aug 3 - 10	Gerald Perigen
SAN PABLO, CA.	CANCELED	CANCELED
FURNISH CANYON, OK.	July 6 - 13	Tom Broadway

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BAPTISMS

Sister Celia Kimball May 25, 1986 Aztec, New Mexico

We too are all aglow, as we learn of [5] five baptisms in two weeks in Aztec, New Mexico. We rejoice with you Sister Celia Kimball. And we welcome you and the others who were baptized on May 11, 1986. Brother Tim; Brother Ken; Brother Jeff; Sister Tonya; We pray that the good work that is taking place there in Aztec, will continue so more will come to the Lord.

We also send our love and greetings to Sister Angie Ross who was baptized April 20, 1986 in Baron, Ok. and to Brother Gerald Warner, baptized April 28, 1986 in Selah, Washington. Thank you, Our Heavenly Father for these new babes in Christ.

In Jesus precious name we pray. AMEN

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DEATHS

We have a report that the brother of Brother Stepp of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, has passed away in Oregon. Brother Stepp has gone there to make final arrangements. It was not reported, and I don't know if Bro. Stepp's brother was a Christian or not. Never-the-less the Church of Christ offers up prayers to God for this loved one who has gone on, and for the ones that he has left behind. We pray that God will comfort these loved ones, and that He will instill in us all how important it is that we all live for God, and that we all give honor, praise, and glory to His name, and that we should draw closer to God because when we do, He will draw closer to us.

May you accept this our prayer for all who need thy tender love and goodness. In Jesus' dear name. Amen