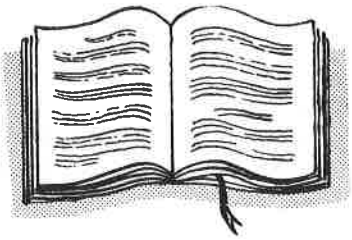
The Christian Courier



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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS????

I guess no one has any questions. If no . . is shown, this part of the Courier will be dropped. It's up to you!

BAPTISM

Baptism Requires:

Water; [Matt 3:11].."I indeed baptize you with water.."

Much Water: [John 3:23]...."And John was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there." "Much water" is not necessary for sprinkling.

Go to water: [Acts 8:36]...."And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doeth hinder me to be baptized?" In sprinkling they usually bring the water---don't go to it.

Go into water: [Acts 8:38]..."And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Phillip and the eunuch; and he baptized him." In sprinkling they do not go "down into the water".

Burial: [Col 2:12]...."Buried with him in baptism." In sprinkling there is not a "burial."

Raised: [Rom 6:4]...."Therefore we are buried with him in baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." No being "raised" where sprinkling is practiced.

Come out of water: [Acts 8:39]....."And when they were come out of the water." Such is not the case where sprinkling is practiced.

Administrator handles the subject: [Matt 28:19]...."Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them." Where people have water sprinkled on them the administrator handles the element, not the subject.

QUESTION? Have you been baptized? Don't you believe God when He says that you should be? Have you been baptized according to these scriptures?

Selected

"WHO CARES WHAT GOD SAYS?"

[1 Cor 11:4-16]

I know there are many who will disagree with this title and also the scriptures which I give, saying, as they have said in the past, 'it doesn't mean that'. But when I read [Matt 4:4] I see that we live by every Word of God. Then I find in [Acts 9;1-15], that Paul was a chozen man of God. And I am persuaded to believe and live what Paul wrote. So when anyone else goes contrary to what is written on the hair, [1 Cor 11:14-15] then the title applies to that person which says with their actions; (who cares what God says?) [Luke 18:18-22] Here a man asked what he was to do to inherit eternal life and was told to keep the commandments and go and sell what he had and give to the poor. His actions says (who cares what God says?) Just as written in [1 Cor 14:33-35]. But they go ahead and do what it says not to do. So again, actions say; (who cares what God says?) [1 Cor 1:10] We are commanded to speak the same thing and be perfectly joined together, in the same mind and judgement, but our actions keep saying; (who cares what God says?) [1 Cor 6: 1-9] Here we see that God said brother go to law with brother (verse 6 & 7) before the unbeliers but what do we do? When a brother does us wrong, we take him to court. WE SUE HIM. Again, when a man and wife sep rate, what do they do? GET A DIVORCE. (Go to law, get a divorce before the unbelievers. So again, our actions say, (who cares what God says?) [11 Cor 6: 14]..."Be ye not uneaqually yoked together with unbelievers; for what hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what hath light with darkness? Does this describe your actions? (who cares what God says?" So we go ahead and tie up with unbelievers. [11 Cor 6:17]...."Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." But our answer? (But I love him or her) So again we follow the pattern of [Jude 11,12] And say that we will convert them. (who cares what God says) [1 Tim 2:9-10] We are commanded to wear apparel which becometh people professing Godliness; but we like to wear the least amount we can get by with, for there is no shame unless we are totaly naked. Again, actions. (Who cares what God says) [Titus 2:1-8] The aged women are to be in behaviour as becometh holiness, so they can teach the young women how to live Godly lives. (but what do we see?) Aged women also following after the pattern of the world. Actions saying (who cares what God says?) Rom 12:1-2] [Titus 1:6,9] The command given to choose the rulers of the church; (& 2:2) says

they are to be aged men, sound in the faith but ignore this and choose young men to lead and teach us; (notice 2:2) said sound in the faith: How many times have we had young men preaching, leading, and instructing older men what to do, and then in a little while they leave and quit the church. Is this sound in the faith? Again, actions say (who cares what God says?) [Heb 12:1-2]..."Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." The older woman sitting there in church with short hair, when she is to be an example to the young, teaching them. How does she look, when she is wearing tight pants, and the older man sitting by and letting this go on, not saying anything about it to them. And a lot of them going down the street in shorts, yet they are to be examples, teachers of good things. Again, actions saying (who cares what God says?) And there are some who have babies out of wedlock, because they were not taught what is right.

WHY???? (I care what God says.)

Sincerely, and for better morals in the family of God.

Lloyd Treat

WHO IS OUR FAMILY?

All christians know what the Bible teaches on the attitude that husbands and wives should have for each other. Also how they should treat their children and how the children should treat their parents, but we must not go too far and consider them as someone who is sacred, that can do no wrong. We are not to put them on a high level and seemingly worship them instead of God. Only God, Christ and the Word are sacred and they only should be held in such high esteem. Since we ALL sinned and come short of the glory of God; [Rom 3:23] Let us not think more highly of ourselves (and others) than we ought to think. The point is, our family is not above doing wrong and we can't twist the scriptures to try and condon their wrong doings. There are some who have fought against divorce all their lives, then change when it happens in their family. Others have fought against alcohol and other drugs, then their own selves become adicted. Others are strong on obeying the laws of the land, until they get arrested for speeding or running a stop sign. The list goes on and on as do the excuses as to why this happened to

me or my family. There must be other circumstances to cause these things to happen for we are christians. Some boast all my family are members of the church, but how much better if we could say, they are all christians. None of the Holy writers boasted of their families. Sometimes they mentioned other brethrens' families but not their own. In fact, as far as we know, Paul put all of his family behind and served Christ. Christ told the young man (who wanted to bury his father before serving Christ) Let the dead bury the dead, you come serve ME. Christ should be first in our lives.

Christ only mentioned his mother once, then only to ask John to look after her. Jesus tells us: [Matt 12:48 50] Who is my mother? And who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hands toward his deciples and said; Behold, my mother and my brethren. For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in Heaven, the same is my brother and sister, and mother. So the family which should be sacred to us is the Family of God. Our brothers and sisters in Christ.

[1 Tim 5:1-2] ...."Rebuke not an elder but entreat him as a father, and the young men as brethren, The elder women as mothers and the younger as sisters. Now we see the family that is sacred to us. Of course we will try to encourage our fleshly families to be christians, to lead, (not drive) them to Christ, by our deeds and words. Paul writing [Col 3:21]...."Fathers provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged. Not only is this true in our fleshly family but also in the family of God. We who are older in the faith have to be very careful not to discourage the younger by our deeds and actions. Let us be sure to remove the beam out of our own eyes first so we can help instead of hinder. Brethren which is the most important to us? The fleshly or the Spiritual family? Written in love.

Howard McCay - 3904 Knobel Ave - #8 - Yakima, Wa. 98902
(509) 965-3721

We have just received the news that our dear Brother, Buddy Baker has passed away. I have just received the phone call from Brother Dean Guyer, as I was typing on the Courier. I took this space to report the news. We are saddened and all of us offer up our prayers for Bro. Baker's loved ones. We knew and loved him for many years. I had the occasion to know and work with Bro. Baker when he was County Fire Marshal in Modesto. The services will be at Franklin and Downs Funeral Home at 12th & G st. at 3:30 Pm, Wednesday, June 1, 1988. I have been asked to officiate. Pray for us and for all those who need our prayers at this time.

Homer Bryant Editor

PROVERBS 25:25

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

LORENZO, TEXAS

It has been quite a while since we have sent any news, so let me see if I can update everyone on whats been happening.

Larry and Vandra Wood have a new addition to their family. A girl named BETHANY LARANDA. Born March 18, 1988. She joins their other children, Javan and Cedra. Mother and daughter are doing fine.

We have had two weekend meetings since last writing. The first was with Terry Warford of the Baron Oklahoma congregation. We had many good lessons and a whole lot of good fellowship. It is really uplifting having these weekend meetings. It is a long time from one summer to another. The mass of meetings in the summer is fine, we can plan our vacations around them, and meet with other brothers and sisters in Christ. But what about the rest of the year? There are times when we need uplifting and strengthening. These weekend meetings really get us through those times. Brother Terry wasn't able to bring anyone with him when he came, but that was OK, we feel as if he is one of our family and dearly love to hear him speak. Brother Audley was able to bring his wife, Teresa and daughter Kristal. They too are like family like Terry, we love to listen to him. While Audley and family were here, they told us of all the damage they have had from the storms in Oklahoma. Some have had their homes flooded, while almost all at the Loco congregation have suffered hail and rain damage. We have had several rounds of colds and flu. When one or two got over being sick, others take their place. Nobody really seems to get over it before it hits them again.

We have two weeklong meetings planned this year. The first is from July 17 to 24th. Jerry and Mark Perigen will be splitting this one. The other will be Dec. 25 to Jan. 1, 1989. Ellis Forsman will be holding it for us. All who wish to come are welcomed.

Yours in christian love; Errol Forsman for the Lorenzo congregation. WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Thank you brother Homer for your letter of encouragement and for the good comments. We want to thank all the brethren everywhere for the prayers offered for my wife. I am so thankful for them, and keep praying for us. We all need it. And it is a command of God for us to pray for men everywhere. She is a little better, thanks to God for His love and also for the prayers of the church.

We are having some dry weather here, which is hard on our gardens. Keep up the good work.

Your brother in Christ. Lloyd Treat.

BARON, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We have more very happy news to report from Baron. Recently Bro. Fred and Sister Goldie Brown returned to the Church. We are very happy to have them back among us, and zealously doing the work of the Lord. Just a few weeks after returning to the fold, Brother Fred began preaching, and he is doing a great job. We have also had two more baptisms in April. Our new Sisters are; Sister KIM BARRETT, and Sister SHANNON MANNON. We are very excited and ask for your prayers for them and all of us, as together we press towards heaven. March was a good month for guest speakers. Besides hearing Bro. Fred for the first time, we had two guest speakers: Bro. Brian Ross, who has moved to Oklahoma City to go to school, who came Sunday morning and spoke on "GLORIFYING GOD". Bro. Paul Andrews came from Goshen one Sunday evening and spoke for us on the subject of "The Day of Pentecost." We appreciate their time and study very much.

We hope, with God's help, to report more good news soon.

We love all of you.

In Christian love:

For the Baron congregation, Terry Warford - 5709 71st Street Pl. #512 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136

Note: New address.

SELAH, WASHINGTON

Hello Everyone:

This is my first time to write, and I think more of us younger christians should be getting more active because one day we are not going to be the young ones. We are going to be the ones in charge of making sure that the Gospel is carried on. Thats why I am writing to all the "teens" and "young adults," to remind you that there is a very special thing happening this summer. Its the Delta Camp Meeting, and I hope to see you ALL there. Maybe you can invite and bring a friend to share this experience of family, fun excitement, and to hear the Gospel. The Gospel that the young will someday be carring on.

I am planning to go and bring a friend. Last year was the first time I ever attended Delta and it was a lot of fun. The best part is that you get to hear different speakers from different congregations and you see people that you haven't seen in a long time

or even get to meet people that you have never met before. I'm getting real excited about Delta, and I hope that you are too. Lets plan on going and getting to know each other. If we can't get along here on earth, how can we get along in heaven?

In Chrisian love:

Threasa M. McKinney, 911 south 11th Ave. Yakima, Wa. 98902 (Selah)

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Chirst:

The church here in Phoenix is doing quite well & request the prayers of all the brethren everywhere. Only a few meet here but are faithful and are carying out the work of the church. Brother Abe Laboto is doing a fine job in building up the church and invites all who come this way to stop and worship with them. Keep them in your prayers, and remember us also. See you at Cedaredge camp meeting Lord willing.

Ken and Verlie Baldwin

The address in Phoenix is; ABE LABOTO, 8027 W. Northern Ave. Glendale Arizona. 85303.

SELAH, WASHINGTON

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Just a reminder that the Delta camp meeting is getting near. Betty and I plan to go. Threasa and Shawna will also be going. Johnny has to work but Mike and Felica and Michael will be driving with us. We look forward to the fellowship, Bible studies and messages from God's Word each day. We here at Selah have had our bout with the flu and colds, but nothing serious. We have had two baptized into the body of Christ. My daughter, Threasa was re-baptized. She felt she was to young the first time and didn't fully understand what it was to be a Christian. So, at 19, she commited her life. Melinda Wren, 17, who found her way to Christ through the youth group that is active with the young people in and out of the church.

We are still meeting at the Selah Civic Center, 10:30 A.M. Sundays, and 6:00 P.M. Sundays. If you are planning on coming by, please plan to worship with us. If we know ahead of time, we'll plan a picnic at "Farley's Park". Yes, we have our own park, thanks to Bob Farley. We have a pond too, for baptizing. We love our Farley Park, you will too.

In Christian love;

John McKinney

Note: Malinda Wren was baptized April 24th At Selah, Wa. also.)

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Dear Brothers and Sisters In Christ:

We here in Seattle extend our apologies in not wri ting more often. A lot has happened since you've heard from us. The disputed boundry on the church property still has not been resolved after almost two years. Settlement is close enough that we have started remodeling one building to use temporarly for worship services. We hope to begin meeting in the temporary building this summer. Our small group is increasing, for which we are very thankful. Recently we were overjoyed to learn that Brother Roy, Sister Rhonda Dabbs, and children are now living in the Seattle area. Last winter we rejoiced with Brother Wayne, Sister Amy Orendorff, and their three children at the arrival of their baby girl, Hanna Marobbye. Recently a new christin family was created with the marriage of Brother Matt Shepherd of Payson, Arizona and Sister Kelly Forsman of Seattle, Washington. This young christian couple met last summer at Delta camp meeting. We would like to say that going to church camp takes effort and sacrifice, but, these two young people from different parts of the country would gladly testify that meeting a christian partner makes that effort and sacrifice worthwhile. Our group has also been blessed by various local visitors as well as visitors from several other congregations. In addition we would like to extend a special thanks to John Shepherd family from Arizona and to the Jerry McCay family from Texas, along with many others from Oregon and Washington that came to share in our wedding happiness. We are thankful for them all.

Several members of our congregation are planning to go to Delta this year and any other meetings that we can. We hope to see as many as possible this summer at meetings.

Our Love to All;
Seatac Church of Christ.

CEDAREDGE, COLORADO

Dear Ones in Christ:

We are excited about the upcoming Camp Meeting, in that we will be able to see old friends and to make new aquaintances too. We think that there will be more people this year than last. So come and be with us and enjoy the lovely camp site. You will be blessed by all the preaching, singing, Bible study, and so on. We will be able to open the camp at 12:00 on Saturday, July 2, 1988. So come early if you like and if you need a cabin, please let us know so we can reserve one. All donations are appreciated too.

Yours in Christ
Eddie Wilkerson

WHEN THEY COME TO YOUR DOOR

Jesus warned his deciples not to speculate about the time of his return. [Acts 1:7]..."And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power." Nor to believe another Gospel: [Gal 1:6-7]..."I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel; Which is not another, but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ." for such a different gospel would lead away from God. To be blessed one had to believe a witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. [Acts 1:8 & Rom 10: 8-15]...."But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be a witness unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

In spite of these clear statements, Charles T. Russell set out in 1876 to preach ANOTHER gospel. With it he speculated about the future and set 1914 as the date for the end of the world. He developed new doctrinal statements: (ie) No trintiy; No diety of Christ; and in the place of hope, ARMAGEDDON doom. Three times in 90 years, J.W.'s (as his followers are called) have had to change their "gospel".They preach a tale of woe.

Going from door to door, they will be coming to see you very soon. This is their way of worship---selling books and perpetuataing a protected notion. In their endeavor to sell you their books, they are sincere---but I must add, sincerely wrong!

When you see the J.W.'s or when they confront you, remember a few of very important DON'TS.

1. Don't argue religion with the "Witness", for his doctrines are built upon a misuse of the Bible. Texts and passages taken out of the Bible are used like building blocks to back up false conclusions.
2. Don't engage in a conversation about present events with the J.W.'s.
3. Don't buy any literature (or take any that is free).

With these don'ts etched in your mind, rejoice. Because you have now embarked upon getting them to realize that you know your Bible, and they have just become a whole wide field to you. And you now may have a chance to teach them about the Bible.

To be courteous to the J.W., let them continue their presentation without interuption on your part. But also, as the 'Witness', from time to time asks you leading questions, do not answer them.

These probes are to discover whether you are a person who has fear about the troubled world, or whether you are a person who is lonely: or whether you are a person who has gripes against governments, etc... If you so much as give a hint of such attitiudes, you are immediately categorized by the JW, and he will latch on to you and you will NOT be able to do him any good.

Wait the JW out, therefore, without allowing him to categorize or classify you. Finally, he is through. Promptly forget whatever he has said. Begin with something on your own. Tell him what the Lord Jesus means to you; give him your "testimony", but make it short and say it with enthusiasm.

Then ask for his testimony. This will "nonplus" him---- he cannot speak of the Grace of God in Christ Jesus. PRESS ON by saying "Surely you must have experienced common grace, for God does let his sun shine over the just and the unjust."

Should you succeed in getting the JW to give a testimony, you have gotten him off the track - and things are looking up.

Walk into this opportunity by sitting down with him and reading two chapters of the Gospel according to John. If you are able to do this, invite him back for further readings.

However, most JW's won't speak of the Grace of Jesus Christ and will leave. Do not be dismayed, and as he leaves, pray for that lost soul, and pray that the Holy Ghost will work on him, instilling in him a desire to learn of the truth. Then, if he comes back for more Bible, then praise God, and go get your Bible, sit down and study with him. Then ask him for the first passage, look it up and read it and the surrounding verses that pertain to it. Show how that changes the meaning he has come to understand it to mean. Ask for a second and a third and so on, and treat them all in the like manner. This may be all that you will get. But in this way you have used the Word of God as it is.

Our two most effective weopons are the testimony of Jesus Christ and the Word of God. Use them in this way and you can't lose.

Remember: GIVE GOD ALL THE PRAISE, GLORY AND HONOR!

Editor

GOSPEL MEETINGS

GOSHEN, ARK.	June 12 - 19	MARK PERIGEN
BARON/STILWELL	June 26 - July 3	BILL McCAY JR.
WATERFORD, CA.	June 19 - 26	ROGER WALKINGSTICK
CEDAREDGE, CO.	July 3 - 10	CAMP
GLENWOOD	July 24 - 31	J.D.JOHNSON
LOCO, OK.	July 24 - 31	AL WAY
YAKIMA, WA.	July 31 - Aug 7	JIM BROWN/SAMMY BOWEN
BELLFLOWER, CA.	Aug 14 - 21	BROTHER OLIVER
YUMA, AZ.	Oct 23 - 30	TERRY WARFORD
LORENZO, TX.	Dec 25 - Jan 1, 1989	ELLIS FORSMAN

BAPTISMS

SISTER THREASA MCKINNEY	APRIL 1988	SELAH, WA.
SISTER MELINDA WREN	APRIL 24, 1988	SELAY, WA.

OKLAWAHA, FLORIDA

A few weeks ago, Brother Eric Harper went on a vacation to Florida and while he was there, he worshiped with Brother Marlon Pack. He gave me the address so we could write to them and so they could receive the Courier. So let us contact them and let them know were we meet and get aquainted.

Brother Marlon Pack - P.O. Box 3 - Oklawaha, Florida
(904) 288-6865

Editor

PSALM 119: 33-40

"Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight. Incline my heart into thy testimonies, and not to covetousness. Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way. Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who is devoted to thy fear. Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgements are good. Behold I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness."

HE