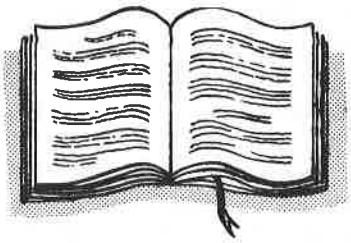
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"LORD, BY THIS TIME HE STINKETH"

(continued from August 1989 issue.)

Fellowship means; 'association or partaking with them', but in our life we like what we were doing in dressing and looking like others. So why change? Nothing wrong with what I do. But he said in verse 4, [Eph 5:14] "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead and Christ shall give the light." (the old ways of life and dress) [Eph 4:22] "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;" Why put off the old man? Because he stinks. If we raise him from the dead, after we have buried him, he will have seen corruption, and still stinks. But the God of this world is still popular with people that claim to be christians. WHY?

Another part of the old man is coldness toward others. If you and I don't agree on a subject, one or both will get cold toward the other. I have been accused of teaching things which I don't teach and I and my wife was treated so cold, that a young man said to me and my wife, "I have never seen anyone treated so cold." Is this the new creature, the new man, that those people were supposed to be? Or was it the god of this world; (the old man) that had been raised from the dead? (and stinks) [Eph 5:9] "For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) Was this the way Christ said to do? [Eph 5:20] Can we give thanks to God for this kind of treatment? In the name or by the approval of Christ? (I think the old man stinks) especially when we raise him up after he is buried. [Gal 5:15] "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another." This is part of the works of the flesh. [Gal 5:19] "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultry, fornication, uncleaness, laciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkeness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

There is a lot more on this subject, of which space will not permit but this is written in love of your souls, to help free us from the old man of sin. (He stinketh)

In Christian Love
Lloyd Treat

Dear Brethren:

While reading some of our father's sermons, written years ago, we read this one and found it to be apt, comforting and edifying to us and we want to share it. We hope you will publish it.

We sincerly thank you.

Your sisters in Christ
Lurana McCluskey
Dorothy Sage

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"MORE AND MORE"

[1 Thes 2:1-2] "Further more then we beseech you, brethren, and exort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus."

From the above scriptures we get the following;

1. We learned from the apostles how we ought to walk and to please God.
2. We know his commandments that they gave us by the Lord Jesus.
3. So we should abound more and more.

From number 1, we learn that how we ought to walk and to please God is given by the apostles. From number 2 we learn that the commandments given by the apostles are to be obeyed. From number 3, we learn that we should (ye would) "abound more and more." That is, we ought to grow. That is in a walk of faith. [2 Cor 5:7] and faith comes by hearing the Word of God. [Rom 10;17]

But in our growth, "abounding more and more", we all realize that we do not seem teem to the full perfection; We all sin. [Eccl 7:20] [1 John 1:8] And yet, how often we do judge our brethren or set at nought our brother; [Rom 14:10]. Thus meeting out to him a measure we do not come up to ourselves, for we are all guilty of sin, and we thereby bring on ourselves 'self condemnation'. See [Matt 7:1-5] and [Rom 2:1-3] It is indeed pitiful that we cannot ever learn that we must all "abound more and more", grow as long as we live, and then we reach perfection in the world to come. If we would only think and do as the angel Michael, and say; "The Lord rebuke thee." Surley we can do that by quoting what God has said in His Holy Word, and not be guilty of judging contrary to God's Word. Peter shows we grow by desiring the sincere milk of the Word; [1 Pet 2;2] Paul shows we grow by the use of both "milk" and "meat". [Heb 5:11-14] We should abound more and more, we grow as long as we live. It is easy sometimes to condem our brother for not learning the things we are trying to teach him in just a short time; and perhaps we have been a lifetime learning that point or some other just as simple.

that point or some other just as simple. Don't forget we are to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Saviour Jesus Christ. [2 Peter 3:18] that is, we are to abound more and more. Malachi shows we shall "Grow as calves in the stall." [Mal 4;2] We all know calves are not born full grown, no more than people are; and they do not get their growth suddenly no more than people do; but it is a gradual growth and development. So it is with the christian; we abound more and more, along life's journey. We aquire this knowledge , by which we grow, by studying God's Word. [2 Tim 2:15] By meditating on the things spoken by the apostles, and by continuing in them. [1 Tim 4:15-16] For the inspired Scriptures make us perfect, thourghly furnished unto all good works. [2 Tim 3:16-17] [2 Thess 1:3] shows that our faith groweth exceedingly. (abounds more and more) and that is effected by "increasing in the knowledge of God." [Col 1:10] and [Rom 10:17].
[Eph 4:14-16] "...that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive." Get that? The condition we are in before baptism. (the coming up remedy). Next verse, it is a bad condition to be in, yet as we read we will see that is exactly our condition with our growth. "abounding more and more". verse 15 (analyzed) "But speaking the truth in love..." What are we to speak in love? Get it, brother: "The Truth". But what would be the result? Get the next thought: "may grow up unto Him in all things." But who is this person that we, speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things? Get the next thought: "..which is the head, even Christ." Sure we must all grow and "abound more and more", and yes, Christ is the head of the body; Verse 16 and 12. Now get the first thought in verse 16. [Eph 4] It is from Jesus; "from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth...." Hence, we see all the unity of the body is from Jesus. No wonder we are told in [John 1:17] "Grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." Get the rest of verse 16; "according to the effectual working in the measure of every part maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." But this is growth, "abounding more and more" continuing all through life. We never get to old to learn. We might think we are to smart to learn. When we do we are in the same danger as the church of the Laodiceans in [Rev 3:17]. But when we, with all our frailties, require 100% perfection of a brother, we have meeted out a measure we will have to meet out in judgement. [Matt 7:1-3] Not one of us can ever stand the acid test of 100%.

[Thess 4:9] Paul writes; "...as touching brotherly love, ye need not that I write unto you, for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another." But in verse 10; "...but we beseech you brethren, that ye increase more and more." This love is to be to the extent we would lay down our lives for the brethren. [1 John 3:16] If this type of

love exists, we would spare no opportunity for scripturally teachig or pleasing our brother and thereby saving him. Too often we hear the idea; 'Well I never thought there was anything to old Joe anyway, and I just will not waste any time on him.' Is that attitude in keeping with the love that we should have when we will lay down our lives for the bretheren? Let us never forget; "with what measure ye meet, it will be measusred to you again." [Matt 7:2]

[1 Thess 3:12] "..and the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men..." Notice the love was to increase; and abound one toward another; and toward all men. Hence love grows and abounds. [Phil 1:9] "..and this I pray that your love might abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgement. Notice that their love was to abound more and more. It was to grow, but in what was it to do this growth? In knowledge and in all judgement. Love, if you please, must increase our knowledge and judgement. Why? True love makes you want ot know God and His Will. And don't forget this requisite: [Eph 4;2] "With all lowiness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love.." Brother we must have those requisites in order to perform the requirements of love. We cannot leave off Eph 4:2 in dealings about love and demandings of our brother's 100% and we go unpunished. [Matt 7:2] In [2 Cor 6:11] Paul tells the Corinthians; "...our heart is enlarged." This statement was made in respect to his attitude toward them. In verse 13 he tells them to be also enlarged. This enlargement or growth has to do with every place where the heart of man is involved. Have the same attitude toward one another and toward all the brethren. That includes our help in learnig, and doing all our duties toward one another, and our God. In meeting this measure to our brethren, we must be sure we can meet it ourselves, in the judgement or we may be closing the door of mercy against ourselves. [Rom 8:8] Paul says; "Now if any man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of his." Jesus had the spirit of obedience to the Word of God. [John 12:49-50] He also was meek and lowly, and longsuffering toward us in all things. And we too must have the same spirit toward one another. For Paul says; [Rom 15:5] "Now the God of patience and consolations grant you to be likeminded toward one another according to Christ Jesus." This is too plain to call for comment. We must have the same mind one toward another as Jesus had toward us. Then in verse 6, he expresses a reason; "That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God even the father of our Lord Jesus Christ." Isn't that plain? Then he adds; (verse 7) Conclusion: "Wherefore receive ye one another as Christ also receive us, to the glory of God. Our ignorance of God's Will and our shortcomings and disobedience to the same, is known by all. Then we are willing to obey that command. Are we willing to be

as longsuffering, forbearing one another in love, as Jesus was toward us and as Paul commanded? [Eph 4:2] Let us get the fruit of the Spirit we are supposed to have and demonstrate; [Gal 5:22-23] "but the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temprence, against such there is no law." Do we truly bear the fruit of the Spirit one toward another? We must, if we expect to receive the same at the hands of God. Don't forget we are to "abound more and more.", in all the fruit of the Spirit we produce, and we are to show the same mercy to our brethren as we expect from God. "Matt 7:1-5]. [Gal 5:25], "If we live in the spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." A walk necessitates steps, and teaching others to do same. These things mentioned here are some of the "steps" in that truth that we are earnestly asked (beseech) that we must do as well as some of the other things mentioned therein. Of course, when we first obey the gospel, we are short in all these points, but we must grow. "abound more and more." [1 Thess 4:12]

When we look into God's Holy Word and the prophetic events to come in this world in the last days, we are made to realize it is far later than we think. Even ten thousand years more, yet we know that our time is short here. Will we do our part? Rising in the power of God, to be one? (unity) - - "That the world may believe". [John 17;21] Division is an awful sin. Put on the whole armour of God; fight the good fight of faith; all of it. Do not meet out the front line to your brother alone. Together lets grow more and more in Christ.

Written years ago by J.S. BEDINGFIELD

Copied by his daughters:

Lurana McCluskey
Indian Springs congregation
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Selah, Wa. congregation
3904 Knoble
Yakima, Wa. 98902

DID YOU KNOW?

There was a Colorado Camp Meeting? * There was 127 who came and enjoyed it? * There were daily activities? * There was round-table questions and answers? * There was group singing? There was young men's services? * THERE WAS FIVE BAPTIZED? * There were seventeen (17) who came for prayers? * The oldest attending was (74) seventy four? * The youngest attending was (5) five weeks old? * Did you know we missed you? * Did you know the date for the next one? [JUNE 30 through JULY 8th, 1990]

DO YOU KNOW WHERE IT IS GOING TO BE IN 1990?

It will be held in Cedaredge, Colorado at Big Spruce Camp.
(p.s. It is real easy to find.)

Proverbs 25:25
"AS COLD WATERS TO A THIRSTY SOUL SO IS GOOD NEWS FROM A FAR COUNTRY"

DUNCANVILLE, TEXAS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Just a note to tell of our good news. As many of you know, our son Brandon was baptized at the Delta Camp Meeting. We are really proud of him and truly happy to have help with our services. We are small in number, here in Duncanville, and really enjoy getting the Christian Courier. Will try harder in the future to send articles or letters.

In Christian Love
Willie Howe

BROKENBOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The meeting here at Broken Bow was a good meeting, although it was not like we wanted it to be because there was not much outside interest shown. We did have some that came, for which we are thankful. We had visitors from Duncanville, Texas; Randlet, Ok.; Stilwell, Ok. and from the Tiner congregation. Brother Wayne and Margie Queen; Buddy Queen and wife; Brother and sister Robert Roberson; Sammy Boen and wife from Ft. Smith, Arkansas. Brother George Manis and wife from Stilwell, Ok.; Brother Gerald Buckner and wife from Stilwell, Ok.; Brother Leroy Mullins and wife from Randlet. Jack Scott and wife from Scurry, Texas and if there are others, outside of the church at Tiner, I can't remember. Sorry if I missed anyone.

We appreciate all of you and want you to come and be with us at any time. There was Brother Jay Durham and wife, almost missed them. Thanks for helping us out. We love you for it.

For the church at Brokenbow,
Lloyd Treat

From the Editor:

Bonnie and I received a nice personal letter from Brother Dan Teague. He sent in the information for the Church Directory, and also sent in a generous donation to the Courier. We sure did appreciate Brother Teague and His labor of love at the Bellflower meeting. We sure did wish we could have stayed for the whole meeting and heard his wonderful sermons. Thank you Brother Teague for holding the meeting and thank you Brother Willie Howe for your letter. Lord willing we will be able to meet again. We send our love to all the brethren.

Editor

BAPTISMS

BROTHER BRANDON HOWE, from Duncanville, Texas. He was baptized at the Big Spruce camp meeting in Cedaredge, Colorado.

Welcome to the family of God, Brother Brandon

GOSPEL MEETINGS

CITRUS CITY, ARIZONA	Novermber 19-26, 1989	Bro. REX MICKEY
YUMA, ARIZONA	Dec. 24-31, 1989	GUEST SPEAKERS

Temptation Is Not Sin

THE BUYING OF IT IS!

Now that you have become a Christian you are much more sensitive to the struggle with temptation. Part of this battle is misunderstanding what temptation actually is. Through prayer and study of God's Word you will recognize scriptural insights that will help you to live an overcoming life.

Temptation is in one way an enticement, an appeal to the old way of living. In another sense it is a solicitation to do evil and a testing of your commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ. It can appear in the form of an influence, bribe, inducement, attraction, seduction, persuasion or allurement. Temptation is many things, but it is not sin. These two are often confused and consequently difficulties arise.

Temptation is like a "sales pitch," while sin is the actual purchase. The product does not have to be bought no matter how tempting it may appear. With God's help attention can be given to only those things which will draw us closer to Him.