The Christian Courier



Send all correspondence to 17103 Bixby Avenue, Bellflower, CA 90706

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

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"O SEND OUT THY LIGHT AND THY TRUTH: LET THEM LEAD ME; LET THEM BRING ME UNTO THY HOLY HILL, AND TO THY TABERNACLES." (Psalm 43:3)

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KNOWLEDGE (Know, Discern, Understand)

Hosea 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will reject thee." How terrible it will be to be rejected by God (I Cor. 15:34) "Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame." It is a lack of knowledge that causes people to go astray from God's word and sin. They allow men to guide them and not God's word. Knowledge is one of the seven christian graces and is very important. We are told to give all diligence in adding this to our lives, it is mentioned over 170 times in the Bible. Wisdom and knowledge go together all throughout the Bible. Those who are devoid of knowledge are not wise (Phil. 1:9) "This I pray that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgement. All judgement must be guided by a knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. All through the

history of God's people they were destroyed because of a lack of knowledge, they followed blindly false priests and rulers of the people. Paul prayed for Israel, Rom. 10:1, that they might be saved, they had a great zeal, but it was not directed by knowledge. If the people had a knowledge of the prophesies, they would not have crucified Christ, but they followed the leaders and false teachers. In the last 150 years, the church of our Lord, which he purchased with his blood has been decimated by factions coming in and for whatever reason causing disunity and divisions in the Body of Christ. This could not have happened if the members as a whole had studied to show themselves approved unto God. If they had gained a knowledge of God's will, then the false teachers could not have come in and caused divisions, there would be no instrumental music, individual cups, classes, women teachers, missionary societies, not breaking the bread, etc. If there had been a knowledge of God's word and they had all been of the same mind and the same judgement these things could not have come into the church.

While it hurts to see so many who have gone astray after the Doctrines of men, it is still their choice if they do not wish to come to the knowledge of the truth, and allow truth which is God's word to guide them, instead of men. A lot of these brethren, even as Israel have a <u>great zeal</u>, but evidently not the knowledge so unless there is a change, as Hosea says, they will be destroyed, when the Lord comes and takes out of <u>His</u> kingdom "all <u>things</u> that offend (Him) and they that do iniquity. The <u>things</u> are the innovations that have come into the worship. Those that do iniquity are those who go along with these innovations, also the innovations in our personal lives which the Lord does not sanction. Again do we <u>know</u> how the Lord wishes us to conduct <u>our lives</u> or are we allowing false teachers to guide us as to how we should live. We must have a knowledge of worldliness and how to avoid it or we will be destroyed even as Israel, brethren, please don't follow man's teaching, but God's. God tells us we who were baptized were liberated from sin (past) but we are not to "sin any longer".

One of the sins which we must fight against now is worldliness which is causing divisions in Christ's body and is causing people to be lost unless they change. I John 2:15 "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."
Dearly beloved, let us study to gain the knowledge of what God

considers worldliness to be, lest we be destroyed. Let us all strive for the knowledge of God in all things and when necessary submit change before it is everlastingly too late.

Written in love of God's word,
Howard McCay
3904 Knobel Ave. #8
Yakima, WA 98902

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IN RESPONSE TO THE YOUNG CHRISTIAN WHO WANTS TO KNOW

First of all, I am very thankful for the older brethren that I had to look up to when I was a young person, because, like you, I was full of questions about how I was to live my christian life. The thing is though, when I was young, both in age and in the church, all of these things which you speak of, were taught on a regular basis from the pulpit. What has happened is it was preached so much that pretty soon, all felt that everyone understood and was dealing with the pressures of these issues. So preachers stopped preaching on these things so hard and in time new generations grew up in the church, not hearing these things taught. And are now faced with these decisions.

Just as we seek out a wife and we are faithful to her, even so we, as christians, are married to Christ. (Please read Rom. 7:4-24). So we see, abstinence is the best thing to do. When a person finds a woman he wants to marry, he remain faithful to her after the marriage. And we see how this applies to us as christians. We are married to Christ, and must abstain from outside pressures, whether peer pressures or "well, everyone else is doing it", or whatever it is that is pulling us away from Christ (Rom. 7:4-6) "Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter."

We are all told, young and old alike, one thing; "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Tim. 2:15) also (Proverbs 13:15) "Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard." If we succumb to these pressures, what will happen to us? (Isa. 3:11) "Woe unto the wicked! It shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him." But you say: "They will laugh at me and make fun of me." But what does God say? (Luke 6:25) "Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep." (Heb. 2:1) "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have learned, lest at any time we should let them slip." (2 Sam. 22:21) "The Lord rewarded me according to my righteousness: according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me." (2 Tim. 2:15) "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Do we want to lose our reward in heaven, just for a season of sin? "Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive full reward." (2 John 8). (1 Tim. 5:18) "The labourer is worthy of his reward." "And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are the blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you." (2 Peter 2:13). How can we be a peculiar people if we are conforming to the world's standards. Remember the world was once destroyed because of the way they were living. James tells us to keep ourselves unspotted from the world. (James 1:27) "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this; to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." (Jer. 31:16) "Thus saith the Lord; refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears; for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord..."

In talking about liberalism and how it is sweeping the country; you must realize that you are talking about worldly laws that say 'yes, you can do this or that'. But remember that when you were baptized into Christ, you put away worldly things. (I Cor. 13:11) "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." We are to obey the laws of the land in as much as it does not interfere with us living our

christian life. If the law said you could not worship on Sunday, the Lord's day, what would you do? Are we to fear when man or Satan could do to us? No. (Rev. 2:10) "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer; behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days. Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Read on in that chapter and you will learn that we are to hear what the Spirit says unto the churches." Not what man is saying. And that we are to overcome. We cannot overcome if we are out getting drunk. (Rom. 13:12-14) "The night is far spent, the day is at hand; let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provisions for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts therefore." (Eph. 5:11) "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." And how can we let our light shine as the Bible tells us we must, if the world cannot distinguish me from the rest of the world?

Using Christ as an example, look at what he was doing at a very early age. (Luke 2:49) "And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wish ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" Just because we are young, does not give us freedom not to be about our Father's business. Isn't our Lord Jesus Christ talking to us now through his word, just as he spoke back in his time. (Luke 5:11) "And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all and followed him." (Col. 2:20-22) "Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances, (touch not, taste not, handle not, which all are to perish with the using), after the commandments and doctrines of men?" Christ is calling to all young christians to forsake the world and follow after him. (James 4:7-8) "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw night to you. Cleanse your hands ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."

(Col. 1:1-3) "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ, in God."

WHATSOEVER IS NOT OF FAITH IS SIN! (Rom. 14:23). (From an older brother who has been through it).

In Christian faith,
Bro. Gene McKinney

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DELIVERANCE TO THE CAPTIVES (Luke 4:10)

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath appointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance unto the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Thus, our Lord set forth His purpose in coming to earth.

Those in captivity yearn to be free. Bondage (captivity) is an oppressive thing; it is "bruising" to use the words of Jesus. Think of those is our lifetimes who were forcibly in bondage to men. Probably the most glaring example is that of the Nazi death camps of Poland and Germany during World War II. Think of the joy when those oppressed ones realized that they were to be liberated! So it is with those who are bruised by Satan.

It is well to recall the condition of humanity prior to our Lord's coming.

Of the Gentiles it is written:

(1) "--were far off--" (from the covenants of promise) - Eph. 2:13

(2) "--having no hope--" Eph. 2:12

(3) "--without God in the world--" - Eph. 2:12.

Of the Jews it is written:

(1) "--honoreth me with their lips -- heart is far from me - Luke 7:6

(2) "--not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God--" Rom. 10:3

(3) "--eyes blinded - hearts hardened--" John 12:40

Of all men it is written:

(1) "--all under sin--" Rom. 3:9

(2) "--reprove the world of sin--" (the Spirit's mission) John 16:18

(3) "--cast the first stone--" (all were sinners) John 8:7

(4) "--all have sinned and come short of the glory of God--" Rom. 3:23

Of the Law (of Moses) it is written:

(1) "--motions of sin - by the law--" Rom. 7:5
(2) "--commandment - unto death--" Rom. 7:10
(3) "--law of sin and death--" Rom. 8:2
(4) "--by the law is the knowledge of sin--" Rom. 3:30

Our deliverance (liberty): Of his mission, Jesus said, "The people which sat in darkness saw a great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up." (Matt. 4:16).

Zacharias, the father of John the baptist, prophesied of our Lord's mission when he said, "-to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death-" (Luke 1:79).

John speaks eloquently of this "light" in John 1:4-9, "-the true light - lighteth every man that cometh into the world."

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world--" (John 8:12).

We therefore conclude that we are set at "liberty" (delivered) from blindness and darkness.

Paul teaches us that "-the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." (Rom. 8:2) "- we are become dead to the law by the body of Christ." (Rom. 7:4).

Paul makes it clear that the law held all under it imprisoned. (Rom. 7:6) "But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held (prisoners)-" He further teaches allegorically that the (covenant) of Sinai "gendereth to bondage." (Born into slavery) (Gal. 4:24).

Paul further reasons that when we are "free" from that bondage we should "stand fast" in this liberty and not reenslave ourselves by being "entangled again with the yoke of bondage." (Gal. 5:1). For complete understanding of this "liberty" spoken of by Paul, read the entire 4th chapter of Galatians.

We therefore conclude that all under the law were set at liberty by Christ from this "yoke of bondage".

We are held in captivity under sin. "But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members." (Rom. 7:23).

Paul teaches us that Christ (through his doctrine) frees us from sin. "-ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, (liberated) ye became the servants of righteousness." (Rom. 6:17-18).

Our Lord teaches us that his truth makes us free. "-ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32).

Christ further clarifies from what the truth frees us when he says (replying to his critics), "Verily, verily, I say unto you, whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. --if the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." (John 8:34-36).

We conclude therefore that we are set at liberty from sin by Christ and his truth.

We have seen how that Christ has set men free from darkness and blindness, from the law of Moses and its requirements, penalties, etc. and from sin and its condemnation.

Having achieved these glorious liberties, where do we stand regarding God and his laws? Are we free from all law as some claimed in the infancy of the church?

I will write further in following issues in which I will deal with these questions and others.

In brotherly love,
J.D. Logan
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Stockton, CA 95204
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OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD JUDGMENT DAY

In examining the scriptures, we find an interesting comparison between the attitudes of Christians and sinners toward Judgment Day. Let us look at these scriptures, and examine ourselves. What is our attitude?

First, the world. We read that when the angels sound that trumpet and Christ comes back, the world will mourn. Matt. 24:30-31 "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other." Also notice Rev. 1:7 "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all

kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen."

What a contrast this is to John's attitude. Look to Rev. 22:20 "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Rather than dreading Christ's return and judgment, John was looking forward to it. So was Paul. Are we? II Tim. 4:6-8 "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

Which attitude do we have? Do we love his appearing or do we dread his appearing? I remember the trains coming through in the middle of the night, blaring their horns. It sounded like a great trumpet. I remember with shame waking up startled and scared, praying, "Not yet, Lord; I'm not ready."

What about when the real thing comes? Will we wail with the world? Or will we rejoice with the Christians?

Are we fighting a good fight? I Tim. 6:12 "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses."

Are we finishing our course? Phil. 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

Are we keeping the faith? I Cor. 16:13 "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

Are we, like Paul and John, ready for judgment day? For this is the key to looking forward to Christ's return, being ready for Him. II Peter 3:10-12 "But the day of the Lord will come as thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?" Verse 14 "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless."

We need to always be ready, and not let the world hold us back, according to Jesus in Rev. 3:11 "Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." II John 8 affirms this. "Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward."

Be ready. Because judgment is surely coming. I Peter 4:7 "But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer." We don't know when it's coming. We just know it's coming. Mark 13:32-33 "But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is."

So let us keep working. Let us always be ready. Let us look forward to Judgment Day and rejoice when it arrives.

Jesus tells us in Mark 13:37 "And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch."

In Christian love,
Bro. Terry Warford

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

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SAN PABLO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Greetings to all from San Pablo congregation. Here we are another month gone by and many meetings are over. We pray that all is well with you and that you were able to attend some of the meetings.

Homer and Bonnie Bryant and Gene and Pat McKinney were able to attend the latter part of Bellflower meeting. We had not had the opportunity to hear Bro. Jim Brown before and were blessed by the word of God he brought.

Bonnie Bryant went into surgery Thursday (7-11-91) for gall bladder operation. All went well and no complications so far. She came home today (7-16-91) but spent a restless night. We

thank you each and every one for your prayers. God has answered and blessed her, and we thank him for answered prayers. We do need the prayers for Bro. Jack Cooper - he is going to have prostrate operation on Tuesday (7-23-91). He needs our prayers as does Sister Mable Cooper, and all of us too.

Let us all pray and strive for unity in the Body of Christ. If we just apply ourselves and using God's love, we will all come together, working with the same mind and purpose. We know God answers prayers. Let us remember to pray earnestly for unity.

In Christian love,
San Pablo congregation

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SAN PABLO, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Greetings to al the beloved of Christ. Our prayer is that all is well with you, and that you continue in the truth.

We continue our love for you all and we wish to report that the San Pablo congregation has had some illness. Bonnie Bryant had gall bladder surgery, or rather "surgerys". She had a total of 3 operations. The first two operations went well, but the third, she had complications. She had a liver-duct tube that, when the doctor took it out, it ruptured and she acquired Paratenditus. That is, she had the bile come out the hole where the tube was, and she then had to have a third operation to repair that. This left her system poisioned and damaged. I am happy to report that she is gaining her strength back and is able to keep her food down. Praise God for His healing power through prayers of the saints. (James 5:15) "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." Also, Brother Jack Cooper had prostrate problems, and he also went through a small operation, and is recovering also. He can do light work, but he won't be able to ride his horse for a while yet. He and his family wished to thank each and every one for their prayers also. The Lord has answered his need also, and has blessed him in so many ways. Thank God for answered prayers in his behalf.

We have had some visitors come by. Sister Monica Johnston and her daughters, Jessica and Suzie spent one Lord's day worship with us. It was sure good to see them again. We also had Bro. J.D. and Fern Logan with us one Lord's day also. We went to Bro. Jack and Mable Cooper's house after services for lunch and fellowship in the Lord. It is good for brothers and sisters to keep company among themselves. We are to prefer one another.

We would like to send out our prayers for Bro. Merl McKinney in Yakima, WA. He has had some heart problems, and I understand, he is back home again. May God heal him and raise him up to enjoy normal health again. Let us all give God the praise, honor, and glory, world without end.

Again, Bonnie Bryant and her family wish to thank each and every one for the prayers, and concerns, and for all the many cards that she has received while she was in the hospital. Please remember all those who need the healing from God. Because it is very important that those prayers go out for those in need. If I missed anyone, please forgive because it is not our intent to leave anyone out.

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray for one another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16.

In Christian love to all,
Homer Bryant

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LORENZO, TEXAS

The Lorenzo congregation had a wonderfully uplifting meeting with Brother Bob Eldridge from Baron, OK in June. We were blessed with many visitors. They came from Las Cruces, New Mexico, Randlett, Oklahoma, Broken Bow, Oklahoma, Loco, Oklahoma, Duncanville, Texas, and Reydon, Oklahoma. We sure appreciated all the effort so many made to come be with us. It was especially exciting as there were 6 baptisms during the meeting and one a week later. The names of these new members to Christ's family are Drew, Ginger and Cory Hatter, Javan Wood, Jetta Barker, and Bo Forsman, all of Lorenzo and Roger Ross of Randlett, Oklahoma. Our prayers are for strength and unity of all the faithful.

GOSHEN, ARKANSAS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Again, I have been putting off writing the paper and it has been a long time again.

We have some very sad news and some very good news to report. We will get the sad news out of the way first. On July 7, Sister Kathy Campbell passed away. She had been sick most of her life, but there is still an empty spot in the lives of her family and loved ones. It is also kind of sad to report that Bro. Marion and Sis. Mary Serrano are moving back to California. The congregation here will miss them but I am sure the La Habra congregation will be glad to have them back.

Now for the happy news, we had a gospel meeting July 21-28 with Bro. Jerry and Bro. Mark Perigen doing the speaking. We feel it was one of the best meetings we have ever had and had the best attendance ever. We want to thank all of the many people from various parts of the country coming and supporting us. We counted about 85 in attendance the last Sunday. The smallest crowd was about 49. There were too many visitors to try to mention all the names. There were about 4 states and 7 congregations besides Goshen represented. The congregations were Bohannon Mountain, Arkansas; Baron, Oklahoma; Stilwell, Oklahoma, Broken Bow and Loco, Oklahoma; Lorenzo, Texas; La Habra, California; and Bellflower, California. We thank all that came. We want to thank Bro. Jerry and Bro. Mark and their families for coming and for the 10 good lessons. We were all made stronger by them.

We are also glad to report 2 baptisms during the meeting. John and Carlene Blair are the new christians. They will be meeting with the La Habra, California congregation. Also a couple of weeks before the meeting Subir Sen was baptized. We are pleased to have the new brother in our congregation. Everone who can, come visit us anytime.

In christian love,
Paul Andrews

PAYSON, ARIZONA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We wanted everyone to know that we are well and doing fine. We have had a busy summer. Sister Verda Nelson and Brother Buddy and Sister Willy Davis have been meeting with us. Brother Buddy gave us a very good lesson last Sunday.

If any of you are planning to come our way, we would love to have you meet with us.

Love to all,
Payson congregation

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LOCO, OKLAHOMA

Brothers and Sisters:

Another year has rolled by and our week's meeting is history. Brother Tom Broadway gave us ten very good lessons from the word of God. Brother Tom is very knowledgable on God's word. We want to thank him and Sister Charlene for all their time and support during that week.

We had a lot of visitors again this year. Some stayed the whole week with us and they will never know how much we appreciated it. So, to all those that were here, whether for one night, or every night, a heartfelt thank you. You helped make our meeting a success. If I have counted correctly there were eleven different congregations represented during the week.

We are few in number here, but hopefully are taking steps to help us to grow stronger in faith and maybe in number soon, too. As always, we need the prayers of the faithful.

Audley Barnes
Loco, OK congregation

RINGGOLD, TEXAS

The Ringgold congregation would like to thank everyone who attended our meeting in July. Being the first meeting in our new building really made it special. Brother Dan Teague became ill the first evening. However, we were blessed with Brother Bob Eldridge making a special trip from his home in Stilwell, Oklahoma to speak for us. Both preached fine sermons that were nothing but the commandments of God. Three came forward asking for the prayers of the Church. We also had much wonderful singing that was truly encouraging to everyone. Again thanks to everyone who travelled far and near to be with us and please come back and be with us whenever possible. May the Lord bless and keep you all.

In christian love,
Larry Pollan

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BARON, OKLAHOMA

Greetings to all from Baron:

We enjoyed our stay in California and the wonderful christian fellowship with the Bellflower congregation and the other congregations represented there. We had the good pleasure of meeting christians we had never met before and also a lot we had met before.

At this time we are looking forward to our trip to Selah, Washington to be with the church there for a week.

Our congregation is well here, with good attendance on Sunday morning but it drops to a small number on Sunday evenings. We are looking forward to our week-end meeting here Aug. 30, 31 and Sept. 1st with 4 different speakers.

With christian love,
James Brown
Route 2, Box 101
Westville, OK 74965

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BARON, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

HOT! HOT! HOT! If you haven't guessed by now, it is very hot here in Oklahoma. Temperatures have reached as high as 105 degrees, and the heat index has been even higher. It makes it difficult to get out and do some of things we would like, but I guess that is just part of summer. We have had some rain but could use more.

Brother Jim Brown and I have just returned from our meeting in Selah, Washington. It was very productive, especially for me. I had the opportunity to meet new brothers and sisters, and got to see old friends. I am very thankful to the brethren for giving me the opportunity.

The brothers and sisters at Baron are doing great, and we would like to invite you to visit anytime. We are very happy to hear of all the good news going on in the church, and encourage its perpetuation. God bless you all.

In Christian love,
Brian J. Ross

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BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

Dear Brethren:

I have been travelling through the churches since the first of February. I have been to several churches and all need strengthening and encouragement to keep pressing on. I have been to several meetings and just returned from the Delta camp meeting. I sure did enjoy it and met a lot of new people and also a lot of old friends. There were 2 baptized there and a lot of good fellowship and singing. You that were not there missed a lot of good worship to God in his service. I just called Sister Scott of Scurry, Texas and she is having eye trouble and they need our prayers and love. We are hoping for a good week-end meeting here at Broken Bow Aug. 1-4 with Jerry McCay from Lorenzo. He is a good speaker. Bro. Earl Howe of Ralls, Texas is much improved. Thanks for all the prayers and

faith in God for him and his. My wife is not any better so please pray for her. As I intend to keep travelling and working among the churches with the help of the Lord and need your prayers for me. If anyone would like for me to visit their congregation or hold a meeting, just write me at 13 N. Bock, Broken Bow, Oklahoma 74728 or call me at (405) 584-2649 and let me know. Although I may not be at home but will be in and out, the Lord willing, until it gets too cold to travel. A lot of good was done at Lorenzo, Texas. Several were baptized and one came forward for the prayers. Remember to pray for each other.

The church here is about at usual but we hope for a lot of good to come from our meeting here.

Sincerely in the love of Christ,
Bro. Lloyd Treat

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DUNCAN, OKLAHOMA

The Lord willing we will have a week-end meeting October 4, 5, and 6th. Bro. Jim Brown of the Baron, Oklahoma congregation has agreed to do the speaking. We plan to have services at 7:30 both Friday and Saturday nights. Sunday morning service will be at 10:30. We plan to have lunch at the church and have singing afterward. Afternoon service will be at 2:30.

We of the Duncan congregation have good news to share. My son, Mike Lewis, was baptized July 4, 1991 at the Delta camp meeting. We are all very happy for Mike. We are also happy to announce that Brother and Sister Joe Taylor are meeting with us full-time now. Bro. Joe has been in the church a long, long time. He was baptized 79 years ago. He doesn't hear so good anymore. He doesn't see near as well as he once did, but he is a big help and inspiration to all of us.

More good news. We have a new addition to our congregation. Kayla Jean was born to Kevin and Jamie Williams on August 1, 1991. She weighed 8 pounds 13 ounces. I have been told she has a terrific set of lungs. Maybe the church as gained another good singer.

Don't forget our upcoming meeting. I am sure Bro. Brown will give some very uplifting sermons. We would love to have you attend all or part of our meeting. If you are not familiar with

the area and need help locating the church, call (405) 255-7278 or (405) 252-5850.

Don Lewis for the
Valley View Church of Christ

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BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We had a really good meeting this summer with Bro. Jim Brown doing the speaking. We felt that Jim did a wonderful job and many, if not all, benefited from the lessons that Bro. Jim brought us from the word of God. We also really enjoyed visiting with Bro. Jim and his wonderful wife, Ruby and invite them back anytime.

We were very pleased with the attendance during the meeting and number of congregations represented. Attending the meeting were: Beverly, Brian, and Angie Ross, and Angie's boyfriend, Eddie, from Baron, Oklahoma; Keith, Joanne, Brad, Kris, Mindy and Owen Bentz from Chico, California; J.L. and Eunic Jared and their granddaughter, Sheila, from Salem, Oregon; Errol, Earlene, Kim and Chris Forsman from Lorenzo, Texas; David, Sheila, Britni and Shawna McCay from Lorenzo, Texas; Evert, Becky, Erica, Skip, Bo and Kami Forsman from Lorenzo, Texas; Jerry McCay and Brent McCay from Lorenzo, Texas; Tom and Charlene Broadway from Rouge River, Oregon; Earl and Zelma Broadway from Yuma, Arizona; Gene and Pat McKinney from San Pablo, California; Homer and Bonnie Bryant from San Pablo, California; Joan Shea, her daughter Darla, and granddaughter Danielle from La Habra, California; Dorothy Auslam and her daughter and two granddaughters from La Habra, California; Lynell Forsman and Shea Orendorff from Seattle, Washington; Brett Harper and Peggy Harper from Penn Valley, California; Eric and Lori Harper from Sacramento, California; Clif and Wanda Brockman, Angela Brockman, and Larry Brockman from Chico, California; Eunice Bentz and Vernon Bentz from Chico, California; and Lillian, Garrett, Levi and Alisha Smith from Yuba City, California.

We hope we haven't overlooked anyone. We want to thank everyone who made the effort to come. It was so wonderful to see everyone again.

Unfortunately, we are small in number and are back to our normal crowd. We were spoiled during our week's meeting with more than a full building. A lot of the members of our congregation have been traveling this summer. My family and I and my parents, Jerry and Betty Perigen, left shortly after our meeting to Goshen, Arkansas. We were thankful we had a safe trip there and back.

My in-laws, Al, Okja and Alfred Way, went to Salem, Oregon to visit Al's mother and Alfred went on from there to spend a week at the Port Orchard, Washington meeting. After coming home from Washington, Alfred visited the Penn Valley congregation one Sunday. We are very thankful all of them are back with us safe and sound.

Gerald, Natalie and Monica Brockman were gone three Sundays visiting the Chico, California congregation.

Martin, Tayna, Jeffrey and Kindra Brockman were gone another Sunday to Chico, California. We are very happy that all of us are back home again after being scattered all over.

Sister Myrtle Lee Clouse was not able to attend services one Sunday due to a bad reaction to some medication. She was hospitalized but is home and now back to church. We thank the Lord very much for making her feel better.

That is about all the news for now. We pray that the brotherhood prosper both spiritually and physically.

In christian love,
Mark Perigen

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YUMA, ARIZONA

Hello to all from the Church of Christ at Yuma. Our hopes and prayers that all are well both spiritually and physically. We are doing well here with the exception of Sis. Ruth Duncan who is scheduled for surgery at Mayo Hospital in Scottsdale, Arizona next week. Your prayers for her and Sister Mary Long will be comforting.

Some of our good news this writing is that Tabatha Wardel was baptized on July 28th. She is the daughter of Joe and Shawna Wardel. On Aug. 11th, we had another young lady, ChiAnn Klempke, that was baptized. She has been attending services with Jessica and Iris Davis for some time. We are all very happy to have both join with us in God's service. We have quite

a large group of young christian ladies in our congregation. It is good to see the young ones in our midst.

On July 27th at our Saturday evening singing and gathering, there was a surprise birthday party and house warming. We helped Salley Holmes celebrate her eighty-first birthday. We had a house warming party for Robert, Jessica and Iris Davis. Robert's family moved into their new home in late June. Both thought the occasion was for the other and it was a surprise for both. We all had a great time.

This past Sunday, Aug. 4th, Tony Brister and family from Citrus City was with us. Tony had a good lesson for us and after services was had dinner at the kitchen. We had a good dinner and lots of visiting after.

This about concludes our news this month. We send our love and good wishes to all. May God bless and keep us all.

From the brothers and sisters at Yuma,
By the Harry Davis family

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GOSPEL MEETINGS

Duncan, Oklahoma	October 4-6	Jim Brown
Randlett, Oklahoma	November 1-3	Guest Speakers
New Castle, Texas	November 8-10	Guest Speakers
Lorenzo, Texas	November 15-17	Guest Speakers
Duncan, Oklahoma	November 22-24	Guest Speakers
Broken Bow, Oklahoma	November 29-Dec. 1	Guest Speakers
Delta, Colorado	July 4-12, 1992	Camp

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EDITOR'S NOTE

We want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one who have sent the much needed contributions. It was a success and we see no problems with printing the Courier every month for the next few months. Thank you everyone!

We also have become aware that some in the brotherhood have been offended by the articles authored by women. We regret having been the source of any offence and apologize to those who feel that this was inappropriate. We have not found this practice contrary to scripture but will respect those who have. Our apologies to the women who have so much to say and share. This affects articles only in a "teaching" manner; we still encourage newsletters. We hope this new practice does not offend but we must strive for unity.