The Christian Courier

March, 1995

Send correspondence to: 1034 S. 140th St., Seattle, WA 98168
Writers are responsible for their own articles.

All Things Are Lawful

I Cor. 6:12: *"All things are lawful unto me, ..."*
I Cor. 10:23: *"All things are lawful for me, ..."*

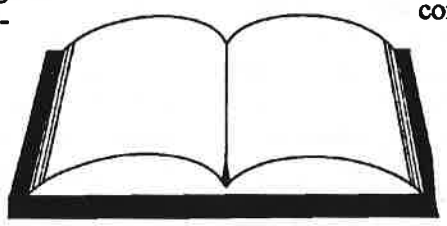
Three words are vital to the meaning of these two passages.

- ***3956***-All - pas: "all, any, every, the whole, all (manner of)."
- ***18***-Things - agathos, "good (in any sense, often as noun): benefit, good (-s,things), well."
- ***1832***-Lawful - exesti also exon, " 'it is right' (through the fig. idea of being out in public): be lawful, let may (est)."

Superficially, one might think that the Apostle was informing the Corinthian church that anything they wished to do or indulge themselves in was lawful.

We must question, however, if this is the true meaning Paul is trying to convey. I believe a close examination will prove this to be erroneous. Let us look closer.

Please note the word "things" (agathos). The definition, as already noted, is "good (in any sense, often as noun), benefit, good (-s, things, well)." The obvious thought expressed here is, "all things (good, well, or benefit) are lawful." If "lawful" things are those which are good, well, etc., it follows that there are things which are not lawful.



This is born out forcefully in both passages. In I Cor. 6:13; *"...the body is not for fornication."* (Is it not possible that the man referred to in chapter 5 who had committed the unspeakable act of fornication, actually in this case, incest, believed that "all things" were lawful?")

I Cor. 6: 9-10; *"...neither fornicators* (including incest) *idolaters, adulterers, effeminate, thieves, revilers, extortioners..."*

I Cor. 10:20; *"...not have fellowship with devils."*

Verse 21; *"...cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of devils: ...cannot be partakers of the Lord's table and the table of devils."*

These are certainly "things" in every meaning of the word, but cannot be referred to as "lawful".

AN ALTERNATE VIEW

Many scholars of the original language of the New Testament (Greek) felt, due to the sentence construction involved in these two passages, that they are, in reality, the arguments advanced by those who were opposed to the restrictions of law and here quoted by Paul as such. They reasoned that, as they had been freed form the Law, they were at liberty to do as they chose. The Apostle goes to some lengths to disabuse them of this notion.

In five translations of the scriptures we find these passages in quotation marks, which indicates that Paul was, in all probability, referring to a commonly held position that man is not bound by laws, but only love.

Therefore, each man is bound only by his own conscience, and is free to do as he pleases.

The five translations are as follows: Today's English Version, New International Version, Jerusalem Bible (Rom. Cath. Version), Revised Standard Version, and New English Bible.

Augustine, who in reality, was little more than a nominal Christian, enunciated this thought clearly when he wrote, "...love God and do as you like." It is no wonder that the believers of old went off into so many pagan lifestyles and into many strange worship practices. This idea falls far short of true Christian doctrine.

Paul attacks this position by asserting *"...all things are not expedient"; "I will not be brought under the power of any".*

This may well be the background of these two passages. But whether we incline to this conclusion or not does not really matter for we know that "all things" refers to all things good, well, of benefit, etc. These are the "things" that are lawful. These passages are not "blank checks" to do or participate in what ever we desire.

We should avoid misusing those passages of Paul's writings which are "hard to understand" for in so doing we may be "wresting" them to our own destruction.

For a better understanding of the scriptures.

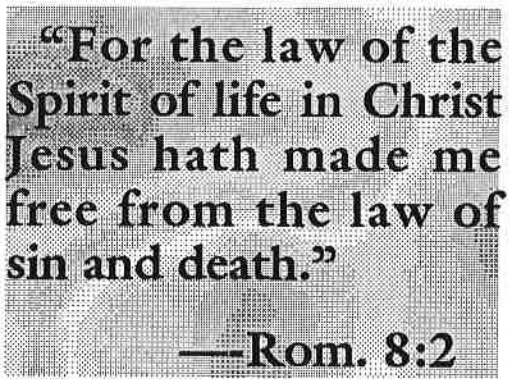
John D. Logan
3708 Mission Rd.
Stockton, CA 95204

How Many Laws Are There?

We have had many brothers that have written on the law, and have stated that we are not under the law but under grace, and use James 1:25 to prove that we are not under the law. James says. *"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work,* (law) *this man shall be blessed in his deed."* But since we are not under the law but under grace, how can we be doers of the law and not be governed by the law?

Then notice Rom. 8:2. *"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."* But how could it if we are not under the law?

(Question) What is the law of sin and death? Moses Law? No. Rom. 7:12-13. *"Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid."* Yet brethren even today still preach that the law (the Ten Commandment law) is the law of sin and death when stated by Paul that it is not. (I am asking someone to answer this for me, and give the scriptures.)



Rom. 12:1 *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."* We are not under the law, but under grace (Rom. 6:14). What is grace? Since we are not under the law, which law? Answer: the law of the flesh. Rom. 8:13. *"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die..."* So the law of the flesh is, Rom. 8:8, the law of sin, and to live that law is death: which is disobedience. Rom. 8:4-6. *"That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."* So we have the law of sin, Rom. 6:23, which is death, I John 3:4, which is disobedience. James 4:17. *"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."*

So we have the law of sin and death, but what is the law of the Spirit or liberty, which is the perfect law?

The law of the Spirit, Rom. 8:2, is the word, John 6:63. Rev. 22:18-19. *"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."*

Now we have the perfect law of liberty which so many use to prove we are not under the law but under grace. So we have already shown that the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death, Rom. 8:2. Rom. 6:18. *"Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness."* (Liberty)

(So what is grace?) Titus 2:11. *"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,"*. John 1:17. *"For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."* Grace is God's favor to man which came by Jesus Christ. For he was God's gift and is the savior of man that God gave to save him, Acts 4:12, and if anyone is saved it is by him, Titus 2:11-12, through the commands of God that God gave for that purpose. The word that Christ gave is Spirit and life, so we have the law of the Spirit of Christ which is life. So where did it get started that we are not under the law but under grace? So grace is the law of the Spirit, Eph. 2:5, for that is what saves us, Eph. 2:8-9. Not of any kind of work that we might do, lest we should boast, but by his mercies he saved

us. And anyone that says we are not under the law should rightly divide the word of truth, and should know that they will die because they have spoken where the Lord has not commanded, Deut. 18:20, Rev. 22:18-19.

Heb. 2:1-4. *"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?"*

There is a lot more to be said on this subject but for now I will close. I hope that all will study this subject, and so many will quit speaking on this subject lest they speak wrongfully and will come short of eternal life.

Yours for the one faith,
Lloyd Treat
13 North Bock
Broken Bow, OK 74728

P.S. I have a new grandbaby, born Feb. 1, 1995. Weight 7 lb 5 oz. Name Amber Juanita Treat.

Blessings of Knowledge

The Bible records many different ways that knowledge of God's word blesses and enriches our lives. Let's look at a few of them. One thing to emphasize as we go through this study is that these are just a few of the many ways knowledge blesses us. So when finished, why not take some time, and see what else you can find on your own?

1. Grace and Peace. II Pet. 1:2. *"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,"*. We all want more grace and peace in our lives. We've read many good articles and heard many good lessons on how important peace is. This is how we obtain it. Through knowledge. And notice, grace and peace are not just added to our lives but MULTIPLIED through knowledge.

2. All things that pertain unto life and godliness. II Pet. 1:3. *"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:"*.



3. Rest. Matt. 11:28-30. *"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and LEARN OF ME; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find REST unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."* This invitation is from Jesus himself.

4. Guidance for zeal. Rom. 10:1-4. *"Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."* This is obviously a negative example, but one that is important for us to should learn from. Zeal that is improperly guided will be worthless on the day of judgment. Knowledge, according to the above scripture, is what will guide our zeal properly.

5. Not being destroyed. Hos. 4:6. *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou has rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."* Why were they destroyed? For lack of knowledge.

6. Treasures in heaven. In Matt. 6:19-21 Jesus tells us. *"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."* Prov. 24:3-4 tells us that knowledge helps add these treasures. *"Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches."*

7. Strength. Prov. 24:5. *"A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge INCREASETH STRENGTH."*

8. Deliverance. Prov. 2:10-12. *"When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and KNOWLEDGE is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things;"*.

In closing there are many blessings of knowledge of God's word described in Psa. 19:7-9. At the top of the next page, can you match the blessing with the description and attribute of God's word?

In Christian love,
Terry Warford
22023 29th Avenue South
Des Moines, WA 98198

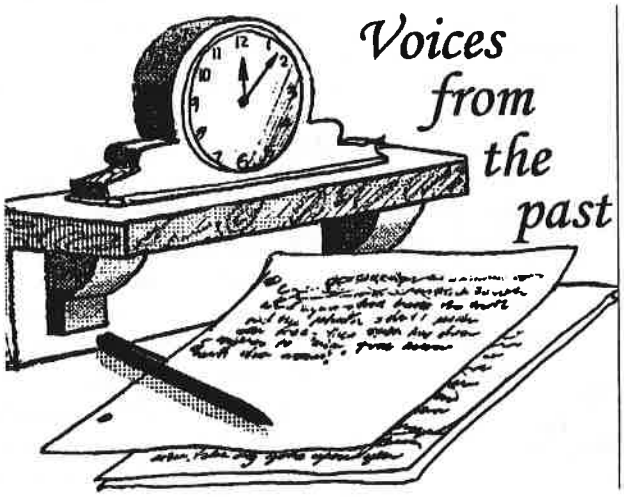
BLESSINGS OF GOD'S WORD

(Write letter of Description and letter of Blessing next to the Attribute that they match according to Psa. 19:7-9)

Attribute			Description	Blessing
1. Law	___	___	A. Sure	a. Rejoicing the heart
2. Testimony	___	___	B. Right	b. Enlightening the eyes
3. Statutes	___	___	C. Pure	c. Enduring for ever
4. Commandment	___	___	D. Clean	d. Converting the soul
5. Fear	___	___	E. Perfect	e. Making wise the simple
6. Judgments	___	___	F. True and righteous altogether	

(Note: There are one more Attribute and Description than Blessing.)

YOUR TREASURE



Matt. 6:19-21 *"Lay not yourselves treasure upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."*

Pro. 27:24, *"For riches are not for ever."*

Matt. 19:21 *"Jesus said unto him, "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasures in heaven: and come and follow me."*

Brethren, let us lay up our treasures in heaven where no thief can take them from us.

Pro. 22:1. *"A good name is rather to be chosen than a great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold."*

Job 8:13 tells us that riches cause people to forget God.

1 Tim. 6:9, *"But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition."*

1 Tim. 6:8, *"... and having food and raiment let us be therewith content."*

1 Tim. 6:10, *"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."*

Phil. 4:11, *"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."*

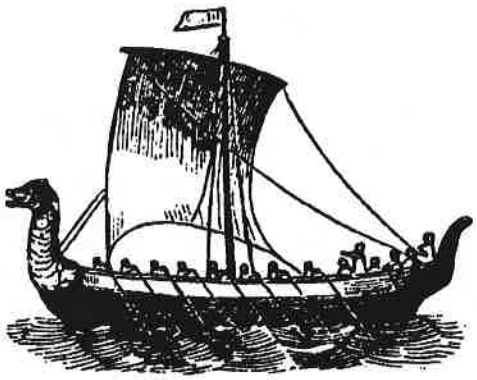
Rom. 8:35, *"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"*

This is written by your brother in Christ and may God bless you all.

S.S. Brown (Bro. Ves)

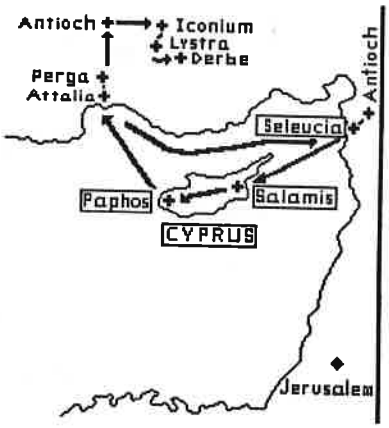
From ***The Christian Courier, March 1971***

TREASURES IN HEAVEN ARE LIKE A BIRTHRIGHT - THEY ARE FOREVER. TREASURES ON EARTH ARE LIKE POTTAGE - THEY ONLY SATISFY TEMPORARY HUNGER. WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE?



THE TRAVELS OF PAUL — FIRST JOURNEY

Paphos to Antioch in Pisidia



Paul and his company, having completed their mission of preaching throughout Cyprus, ending with the conversion of its governor, Sergius Paulus, then set sail for Perga (Acts 13:13). Perga was the chief city of Pamphylia in Asia Minor, sitting about eight miles in from it's ports on the coast, a situation common in the eastern Mediterranean because of pirates.

Upon arriving at Perga, John Mark decided to return to Jerusalem. There has been much speculation as to why he quit the journey (homesick, unwilling to devote the energies that Paul had in his plans to preach to the whole world, discouraged by the hardships of missionary life). Whatever his reasons, it caused a rift between Paul and John Mark (Acts 15:38-39). It is important to note that although Paul's confidence in him was initially shaken, the division between them was later healed (Col. 4:10-11; Phile. 1:23-24).

There is no mention of the Word being taught at Perga, only that they passed through on their journey to a mountainous city, Antioch of Pisidia (vs. 14). This work was performed, however, on their return trip (Acts 14:24-25).

On the Sabbath day, they went into the Jewish synagogue and heard the reading of the law and of the prophets. The rulers of the synagogue sent unto them saying, *"...Brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on."* (Acts 13:15). Paul was not bashful. They didn't have to ask him twice. He stood up, beckoned with his hand for them to gather around, and listen to what he had to say (vs. 16).

Paul told them a brief history of the Israelites from their bondage in Egypt until David was King (vs. 18-22). Then he told them, *"Of this man's seed, according to promise brought unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus."* (vs. 23). "The Son of David" was a term recognized by all of Israel as a designation of the promised Messiah. Paul now identified Jesus as that person. He quoted John The Baptist, of whom the Jews thought very much, *"...there cometh one after me the shoes of whose feet I am not worthy to unloose."* (vs. 24-25). This man Jesus, whom the Jews had slain on the cross, was the Messiah. He told them of the events concerning the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus (vs. 26-39).

The people were very much interested, and wanted to hear more (vs. 42-43). As Paul's words spread among the people during the week, interest gathered momentum. *"And the next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God."* (vs. 44). Although it is unknown how many people this was, it is believed this was Paul's largest audience to date.

The Jewish leaders were very jealous of the audience that came to hear Paul, and began to say things against them openly before the people (vs. 45). Paul and Barnabas spoke boldly, *"It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles."* (vs. 46).

The Gentiles were glad when they heard this, and many believed and accepted this new Christian religion (vs. 48-49). As they learned, they taught others in the region, so that God's Word spread rapidly. The Jews, who were upset by this sudden attention by the Gentiles, took Paul and Barnabas to their border and cast them out (vs. 50). This did not deter Paul and Barnabas. They shook the dust off their feet before them, and headed toward Iconium. This they did as they were commanded by Jesus, *"And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them."* (Luke 9:5).

Next article: Iconium.

Written in love of the truth,
Ellis Forsman
1034 So. 140th St.
Seattle, WA 98168

"Brethren, if YE have any word of exhortation for the people, SAY ON." Acts 13:15

Cards and Letters



Aloha, OR

Greetings to all the brotherhood in Christ Jesus,

It has been some time since we have written in to let you all know how we have been; at this time we are all doing very good. As of recent we all seem to have had a bit of the stomach flu and being few in number, we all seem to share it; all are well now.

We had the pleasure of having Brother Chuck and Bill Jared come out to visit us in December. Brother Chuck preached a very eloquent lesson on the Christian Vocation and church responsibility. He is a very fine speaker and a very sincere gospel preacher. Any that may have the opportunity to hear him, I do strongly encourage it. We all enjoyed the fellowship with both Brother Chuck and Brother Bill Jared, and look forward to seeing them both very soon, and thank you for your efforts and labors to come out and visit with us.

In January we had the pleasure of having Brother and Sister Tom Broadway, from Rouge River, come up to visit and to share some fine preaching. Brother Tom has a wonderful way of reaching the younger members and the non-members. We thank them both for their visits. We sure enjoyed it.

In late January, we had a visit from Sister Dorothy Calhoun, from Phoenix, Arizona. We all enjoyed having her here with us. Her visits seem to be all too short; but, Lord willing, we will get to keep her for a longer time here soon.

God has again added to our number here: Brother and Sister Matthew Shepherd have found employment in our area. They have two beautiful little girls, and we welcome them here. I believe we will be sharing them with the Sea-Tac congregation.

We ask that all the faithful congregations pray for us, and that we may keep the faith and unity in our Lord Jesus Christ, as we will keep you all in our prayers. May the power of our Lord Jesus be with you all.

From the Aloha congregation,
Chuck Garner

Bellflower, Ca

Dear Loved Ones.

This month is almost a repeat of our last news update. Sister Chessman continues on the sick list fighting cancer. Brother Vincent Johnson comes to church when he is able. Our rainy weather during January prevented him from getting out most of the month. Please keep these in your prayers. Okja has been sick with a recurring chest cold for several weeks, and is feeling little better at this writing. She also needs your prayers.

Our visitors since my last in the January issue have been Brother Vernon Bentz from Chico, Ca., Brother and Sister Gerald and Natalie Brockman and sweet daughters Monica and Heather from Oakdale, Ca., Joan Shea from La Habra, Ca., and the faithful ones who support us almost every Sunday night, Darla and Danielle also from La Habra. If we missed anyone please forgive me. We welcome visitors and appreciate these people taking time to stop and visit.

I received sad news today (2/13) that my brother in Vancouver, Wash.. had passed away. He has been very ill for over three weeks. We need to wake up to the fact we won't be here forever (Thank God), and get ready to meet our Lord.

Are you ready for the Masters call?

We love you, keep us in your prayers.

Bro. Al Way.

North San Juan, CA

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

The church in North San Juan is doing as good as can be expected. We do have a couple of newsworthy items that need mentioning. A widow member of our congregation, Cleo Sump, is having internal problems and is going in for a biopsy to determine if a liver transplant is warranted. She needs the prayers of the church.

Also we had a baptism last Lord's day (Jan. 22 — Ed). Steven Sechrist was baptized in a freezing rain, in a creek swollen with runoff from snow. There are people out there who are seeking the truth. It's up to the church to find them.

Otherwise, all is well, yours in Christ,
North San Juan
Church of Christ

Ps — We also had a baptism last Lord's Day , Elisha Barger. (Feb. 5 — Ed)

Pleasant View, OK

Hi,

Just a note to thank you for all the effort it takes to keep putting out The Courier.

It's hard for most to just write a letter every month. I really appreciate everyone's hard work.

We're all well, the only brother that is home bound is Brother Ralph Rhodes, please keep him in your prayers.

Give everyone there our best.

Take Care and God Bless,

George and Retha Morris

Sea-Tac, WA

Dear loved ones in Christ,

The wet weather we received last month has continue into this month. As I write, many northwest rivers are overflowing their banks. We had a few days when the temperature dropped below freezing, surprising many of our plants.

The earthquake near Seattle was centered very close to us (6-7 miles). We received two very quick jolts, while those farther away experienced the ground rolling. Thankfully, the quake was light (5.0), and there was no damage.

Wind has been somewhat of a problem this year. During one storm a tree fell, hit, and damaged part of the Wayne Orendorff residence. The past few days Wayne had a crew of people falling around 150 trees, and removing the timber from his property. It sure looks different now.

Matt and Kelly Shepherd have found a home in Vancouver, Wash., — just north of the Columbia River near Portland, Ore. We helped them move the first weekend in February. That Sunday we met with the brethren at Aloha, Ore. We are looking forward to spending more time with these brethren.

Howard and Nell McCay plan to be back home soon. They have been wintering in Yuma, Arizona.

Recent visitors were Richard and Monica Johnston, of Yakima, Wash., and Leon and Paula Edmonton, of Selah, Wash.

We are planning another meeting this year, from Aug 6th to the 13th, with Brother Jim Brown, of Baron, OK, as our speaker. All are welcome to join us in much fellowship and singing.

Our love and prayers to all,

The Sea-Tac Church of Christ

In Loving Memory

Paul Ray Bruce

On January 23, 1995, our dear Brother Paul Ray Bruce, 80, passed from this life at Ft. Bayard, New Mexico. He was born September 26, 1914, in Artesia, New Mexico, to Robert and Pauline Bruce.

He was laid to rest at the Carlsbad Cemetery. Brother Jimmy Loftis, of Lorenzo, Texas, officiated; Brother Evart Forsman, led prayer; Brother Evart Forsman and Sisters Jaetta Loftis and Becky Forsman, all of Lorenzo, Texas, sang.

Brother Paul was baptized in 1956, by John Bedingfield, and started work in the church right away. His work for the Lord was stedfast until the Sunday before he had to go to the nursing home.

He had spent a considerable portion of his working life as an electrician, mostly in mines. When the mines were on strike in 1962, Paul moved around, doing other kinds of work.

Paul is survived by his wife, Eunice Bruce; his children: Jeanelle Wolf, CA; Charles Bruce, Carlsbad, NM; and Toni Woodrum, Craig, CO; four granddaughters, and one great-grandson.

May all those of us who remain ever look to the example Paul has given us in this life. Paul, may you rest in eternal peace.

Ralph Rhodes

After receiving the letter from the Pleasant View congregation, we received a phone call reporting that Bro. Ralph had passed away. He went on to rest to await Christ's return Monday, February 20, 1995, with his funeral to be held Thursday, February 23rd at the Pleasant View church building.

One of the sermons I remember most from my boyhood was by Bro. Ralph, as he explained that much of what the seven churches in Asia were lacking were the character traits that Peter reminded us to add to our faith in the first chapter of II Peter.

Ralph is survived by his four children, Gary, Tina Dale, Russel, and Dale and 7 grandchildren. He was preceded in death several years ago by his wife Bonnie Morris Rhodes

He will be missed by the many who love him, but we are so thankful there is a new home awaiting, where we will all be reunited at that great day.

Bulletin Board

Meetings

Apr. 16-23	Yuma, AZ	Guest Speakers
May 26-28	Baron, OK	TBA
Jun. 18-25	Lorenzo, TX	Paul Auslum, Jr.
July 1-9	Cedaredge, CO	Camp Meeting
Aug. 6-13	Sea-Tac, WA	Jim Brown
Aug. 18-20	Yakima, WA	Eric Harper
Aug. 20-27	Aloha, OR	Mark Perigen

Baptisms

Steven Sechrist	North San Juan, CA	Jan. 22, 1995
Elisha Barger	North San Juan, CA	Feb. 5, 1995

Births

Amber Juanita Treat	Broken Bow, OK	Feb., 1995

Prayer of faith shall save the sick

Erelene Chessman	Bellflower, CA	Fighting cancer
Okja Way	Bellflower, CA	Recurring chest cold
Vincent Johnson	Bellflower, CA	Bound to wheelchair
Lloyd Treat	Broken Bow, OK	Back Trouble
Jo Williams	Comanche, OK	Battling cancer
Gerald Warner	Eugene, OR	Heart trouble
Olene Howe	Lorenzo, TX	Back & knee troubles
Reba White	Lorenzo, TX	Bronchitis recovery
Sharon Moore	Lorenzo, TX	Knee surgery recovery
Cleo Sump	North San Juan, CA	Internal problems
Robert McCay	Port Orchard, WA	Fighting bone cancer
Jack Cooper	San Pablo, CA	Injured shoulder
Jerry Barker	Stilwell, OK	Leukemia
Barbara Bumgardner	Yakima, WA	Fractured vertebrate
Phil Bumgardner	Yuma, AZ	Severe lung problems

Passings

Paul Ray Bruce	Carlsbad, NM	Jan. 23, 1995
Ralph Rhodes	Pleasant View, OK	Feb. 20, 1995

Precious Memories

It Is Written, March 1955 _ Bro. R.C.. Clements thanked all the brethren for their nice letters, contributions and interest shown in the paper. We echo those sentiments today. _ Bro. Clements reported that Bro. Earl Broadway had given him a list of six new people for the mailing list. Some in Illinois, Arkansas and Arizona. *"Brethren if all the churches would work as Brother Broadway has been the devil would be worried."*

The Christian Courier, March 1975 _ The editors noted that the stencils were no longer of good quality and some letters were blurred. They had the typewriter set as lightly as they could plus touched the keys very light-lightly and it still cut the stencils. We have different technology today that eliminates this problem (computers and laser printers). But what is important is still the same. That is God's word and it will never change. _ Bro. Homer Bryant encourages us this way. *"So let us never stop praying for one another, and never stop praying for those who know not God. Especially for those who are close to us, or for someone of our family who is living in sin. Sin, to us, is a cancer and if God can heal the cancer in our body, through prayer, why will he not heal the cancer of sin, through prayer? And while we are at it, let us not forget our young people, for these will have to take over for us one of these days. Let us continue in the faith and please don't forget to pray for those who are preaching the Word in the meetings coming up. And don't forget to be at those meetings whenever and wherever you can."* _ The Modesto congregation reported the baptism of Edith Brown by her father, Bro. Elmo Brown.

The Christian Courier, March 1985 _ The editor, Bro. Homer Bryant, reminded us that there are three distinguishing characteristics of God's children according to Mal. 3:16 (1) They fear the Lord. (2) They speak to one another. (3) They think on his name.