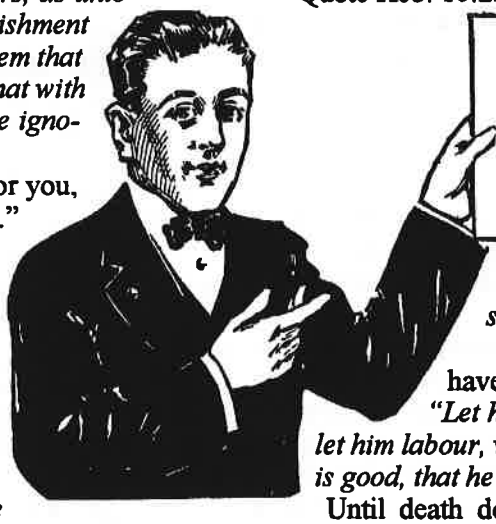
The Christian Courier

December, 1995

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

Man's Sayings and Spiritual Quotes

"Think not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." Quote Rom. 12:18, *"If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."* 1 Pet. 2:13-15, *"Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:"*



"Think not what Christ can do for you, but what you can do for Christ." Quote 1 Thess. 5:9-10, *"For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him."* Rom. 14:7-9, *"For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living."* Matt. 5:16, *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."* 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."*

"You had not the right to do that; I'll get even with you!" Quote 1 Pet. 3:8-9, *"Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing."*

"No one will miss you at church; come along with us and enjoy a weekend of camping, boating, and fishing." Quote Heb. 10:25-26, *"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,"*

"Go ahead and take it! With all they have, they won't miss it." Quote Eph. 4:28, *"Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth."*

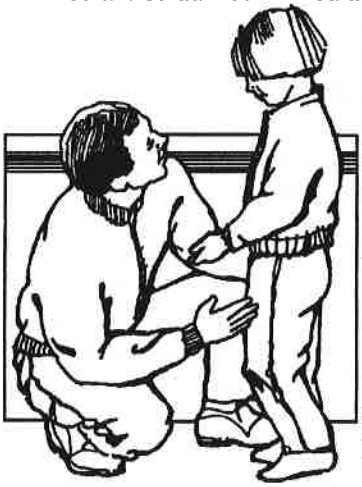
Until death do us part (an oath or words without meaning). "I'll be glad when you die so I'll be free!" "Why did I marry you in the first place? I can't stand you!" "Wait until the children are grown, and I'll get a divorce." "Why wait, get a divorce, and get that new mate." Quote (A man of God lost his head when he preached against a man having his brother's wife) Matt. 14:4, *"For John said unto him, It is not lawful for thee to have her."* Matt. 14:10, *"And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison."*

"The earth wasn't completely covered with water." Quote Gen. 7:19, *"And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered."*

"I heard a good joke the other day." Quote Eph. 4:29, *"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."*

"The winds pushed the water back from the shore at a high place in the sea, and the children of Israel walked on dry land." "The drought lasted for a long time and the sea was low, and then heavy rains came and caused the sea to rise is why the Egyptian army drowned in the Red Sea." Quote Exo. 14:22, *"And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left."*

"You are so dumb!" "You are stupid!" "You can't do anything right!" "You are an embarrassment to me." Quote Eph. 6:4, *"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."*



"I want that, and can't wait until I get it." "I want it so bad I can taste it!" "Take it now and pay me later." "I will help you get your wants." "Take it, it doesn't cost much!" "So and so has one, why not you?" Quote Prov. 22:7, *"The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender."* Prov. 22:26, *"Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts."*

"Find happiness, joy, wealth, marriage, and what the future holds; call or visit the psychic, palm reader, soothsayer, magician, divination for the interpretation of dreams, exorcist, or read the horoscope in the daily paper." Quote Acts 19:13-16, *"Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded."* Acts 19:19, *"Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: ..."* 1 Sam. 28:7, *"Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor."* 1 Sam. 28:16, *"Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?"*

"I doubt that to be true. No one can walk on water!" Quote Matt. 14:29-31, *"And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"* Rom. 3:3-4, *"For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; ..."* There is a small reptile in the tropics that can run on water by its two hind legs, and people will doubt that Peter walked on water before he lost his faith.

"Go ahead and have an abortion; you don't want a baby, and besides, it is nothing but a hunk of flesh until it breathes in oxygen after exiting the womb." Quote Job 3:11, *"Why died I not from the womb? why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly?"* (John, while still in his mother Elizabeth's womb, lept for joy when they heard the salutation of Mary, the soon-to-be-mother of Jesus, when she arrived. (Luke 1:39-44) Was this just a hunk of flesh? — Editor).



"Find happiness with a person of your own sex; enjoy their company; those heterosexual people don't know what love is." Quote Rom. 1:25-28, *"Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;"*

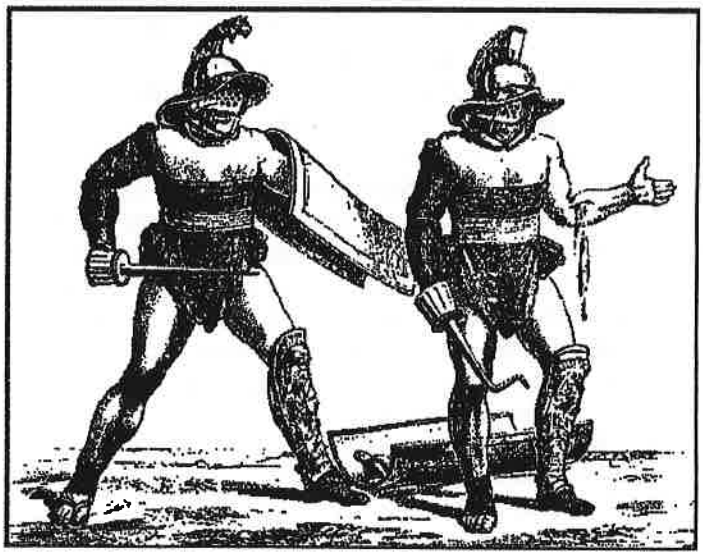
"He/she is a disgusting boss. Let us cause them trouble so they will get fired." Quote Rom. 1:29-30, *"Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,"*

"I feel as guilty as sin." Quote John 8:34, *"Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin."* John 15:22, *"If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin."* Rom. 6:1-2, *"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"*

"Have a drink. It won't hurt you if you don't get drunk, or don't get caught." Quote 1 Tim. 5:23, *"Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities."* (medicinal). Rom. 14:21, *"It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak."*

"I would like to go to bed with that woman." Quote Matt. 5:28, *"But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."* What would it make a man be, if he continued to lust after women? An absentee lover or an adulterer.

"So, what else is new? Haven't we heard all these and many many more sayings from man, and true spiritual quotes from God? Or have we become immune to the spiritual quotes for healing a sick soul? There is no new sin unless we haven't heard of it. Satan will put a new twist to an old sin to fool us, and cause us to sin. This is what happens when Satan prevaricates the truth. Satan has been called a serpent, a dragon, and can be compared to a weasel. A weasel will hunt to find an opening in the chicken house, and when finding one, will not only kill to eat, but will continue to kill for the pleasure of killing, unless stopped. Satan knows our weakness; and if we don't keep the shield of faith (spirit) and the whole armour (word of God) around us, will cause us to fall. The fall of one can cause the fall of many unless stopped.



God's Eternal Word

For feelings come and feelings go,
And feelings are deceiving;

My warrant is the Word of God
Naught else is worth believing.

I'll trust in God's unchanging Word
Till soul and body sever;

For, though all things shall pass away,
His Word shall stand forever.

— Author unknown

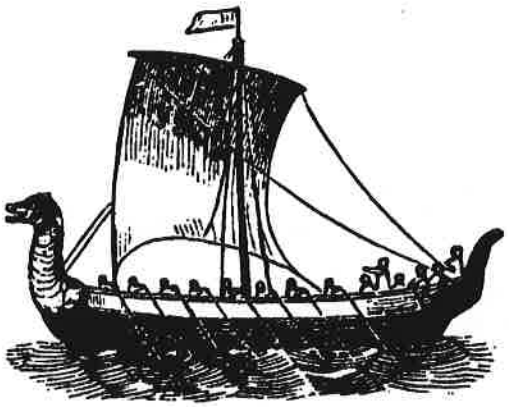
Christ warned us of the trials and tribulations that would come upon us. Rom 8:35, *"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"* When we look through the eyes of Christ, we are looking at life by his Spirit (John 4:24), and we can bring the flesh into subjection. When we use the eyes of Christ, we see the pitfalls and warnings against accepting the deceitfulness of Satan. As close as the apostles were to Christ, they were not patted on the back (no record indicates), and told what a good job they were doing, but were corrected when they relied upon their own knowledge and thoughts without the Spirit of Christ. Matt. 16:23, *"But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men."* Then he warned them of the persecution to follow. A blessing we have received in this life is having the Spirit of Christ within us. 1 John 4:4, *"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."*

I'm sure we would not want to go through the suffering that the early Christians had to go through, so we must let our light shine brightly, or the time could come when we might/could suffer as they did.

Your brother in Christ,
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The Travels of Paul

Second Journey — Athens





As Paul waited in Athens for Silas and Timothy to arrive from Berea, he looked the city over and saw that this pagan metropolis was full of idols (Acts 17:16). History tells us that Athens was "one great altar to the gods," having a pagan god for every occasion. This was one of the most beautiful cities in the world when it was in its prime. Over the centuries millions have gone there to observe its splendor. Although much of it is in ruins today, enough of the structures remain standing so that many travelers still flock there to view its grandeur, and rave about it. This was not the vision Paul had. He was full of disgust when he saw how much energy was put toward the worshipping of pagan gods.

Besides its art and architecture, Athens was also noted for being the center of philosophy. Located here were the most prominent universities in the Greek world where philosophy was the principal subject studied, primarily Epicurean and Stoic. (*Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible*, "Athens," p.230). There was the Academy of Plato, the Lyceum of Aristotle, the Porch of Zeno, and the Garden of Epicurus. The Epicureans believed that the pursuit of pleasure was the main purpose of human existence, and the Stoics believed in the pursuit of virtue, human reason, and self sufficiency.

At some point after Silas and Timothy arrived, it was decided that Timothy should go back to Thessalonica and finish the work there in establishing the Christians, after having to leave so abruptly (1 Thess. 3:1-10). Silas was sent into another part of Macedonia, possibly Berea, to finish the work there (Acts 18:5). Paul remained in Athens where he commenced preaching the gospel.

Paul reasoned with the Jews in the Synagogue and with the Greeks in the marketplace every day (Acts 17:17). When some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers heard him, they called him a "babbler." They thought he was trying to set forth a new god, since he was preaching about Jesus and the resurrection (vs. 18).

Paul was taken to the Areopagus (a civic body responsible for the religious and moral life of Athens located at Mars Hill), where he was asked to explain this new teaching (vs. 19). There was no animosity in their voice, for they all enjoyed spending their time in either telling or hearing of something new (vs. 20-21).

Paul stood up in the middle of them and said, *"... Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you."* (vs. 22-23). What an attention-getter for an opening statement! Some translations say "too superstitious" or "very superstitious," others say "very religious." The true meaning is a combination of both of these words.

Paul explained to them that the one true God does not dwell in temples made with hands (vs. 24). He continued to explain that the Godhead was not made *of "... gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and device of man."* (vs. 29). Their craftsmen surely were not pleased to hear that.

These "educated" men never realized what a great oration Paul was giving them. They probably were offended when Paul referred to this practice as *"ignorance that God once winked at; but now commandeth men that they should all everywhere repent."* (vs. 30).

When Paul spoke on the resurrection of the dead, some of them mocked him, while others wanted to hear more (vs. 31-33). There were a few that did believe (vs 34), and although these numbers appear small, history says that the followers of Christ in Athens in the second and third centuries were of the strongest anywhere.

Next article: Corinth.

Written in love of the truth,

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Grudge Not One Against Another

"Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door." (James 5:9). This is an important link in the chain of Christian conduct. It is given in the form of a negative command ("Thou shalt not..."), and is incumbent on all members of Christ's body to observe at all times.

I fear that in many ways we have failed to note this, and in failing to do so we have, at times, grievously harmed the unity of the body of Christ.

What does this expression mean, and how can we avoid the consequences of neglect?

The word "grudge" is from "*stenazo*" (*4727*), which is defined as "grief," and also "murmur" (Rev. Vers. - Vine).

In our text the meaning is clearly to "grumble," "murmur," "complain," etc.



The Living Bible says, "Don't grumble about one another," whereas Phillips says, "Don't make complaints against each other ..." One interesting translation (New English Bible) renders it, "My brothers, do not blame your troubles on one another ..."

Whichever one prefers to use, the meaning is clear. We must not complain, murmur, grumble, or blame our difficulties on each other. (Although we find it hard to accept, most of our problems are of our own making.)

One of the consequences of this conduct is the effect it has on others.

In Heb. 13:17 it is written, *"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."* (same word as "grudge," James 5:9).

The meaning is to obey our Christian leaders (elders, bishops), because they are concerned for our spiritual welfare, and must give account of their service to God. If we do this without murmuring, it will be a joyous labour on their part, and not "grief." (sadness, sorrow, burdensome).

Why should we want to put a burden on those who "labour among us" that is unnecessary, and apt to bring sorrow? When we grumble and complain among ourselves we are doing just that — **against each other!**

We have seen that we are to submit ourselves to those who have the rule over us. However, the scriptures do not stop there. We are commanded to "..all of you be subject one to another ..." (1 Pet. 5:5).

If we are to submit ourselves to those who have the authority in the congregations, without grumbling or complaining, surely if we must be subject one to another we must also do this without complaint.

Paul showed us the way: *"Do all things without murmurings and disputings:"* (Phil. 2:14).

"Murmurings"

One of the thoughts embodied in this word is the sense of "secret" debate among people, displeasure, or complaining (more privately than in public). (Vine)

If one is searching for a way to destroy the harmony of a congregation, he could hardly find a better way than to encourage "murmurings" (low-key, behind the scenes) among the members. The very sound of the word "murmur" is low-key, under the breath.

Jesus was faced with this problem as recorded in John 6:40-43. He had been teaching that he was the "bread of heaven," but the Jews present murmured against his words (vs. 41). Replying to their grumblings, he said "... Murmur not among yourselves." (vs. 43).

We sometimes hear murmurings against Christ's words today.

I have been told, when quoting the words of Christ, "Oh, that was said before Christ was crucified," or "This was spoken before Christ was glorified." Usually, this line of reasoning is used when someone faces the words of Christ in opposition to his own private interpretation of the scriptures.

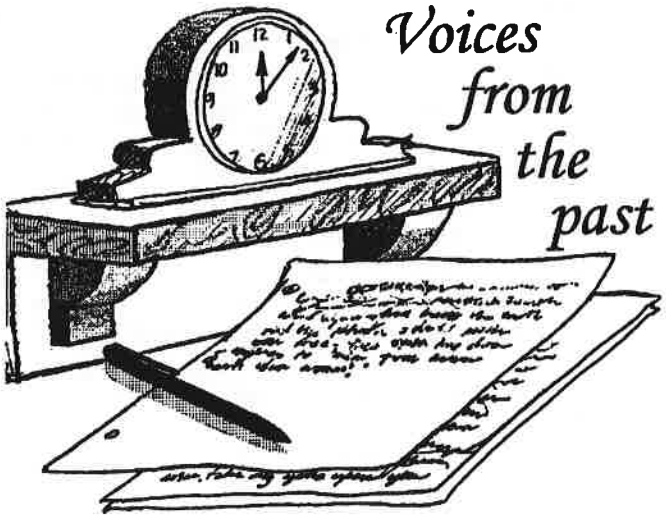
We would ask of such, "What difference does this make? Is the truth any less the truth because of when it was pronounced? Or are we to disallow the entire lexicon of our Lord's teachings merely because they were spoken during his earthly advent? To do this would be to "murmur" against Christ as surely as did the Jews of old, as recorded in John 6:40-43.

Brethren, let us never be guilty of murmuring amongst ourselves, against Christ, or against our brethren.

"Grudge not one against another, brethren ..."

Yours in Christ,
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Preparing for Heaven



Jesus said in John 14:23, *"... If a man love me, he will keep my words ..."* Can we keep what we don't know? We often speak of heaven and all its glories: the flowers that never fade, the lion and the lamb that feed together, no more crying, the street of pure gold, and the mansions with their jeweled foundations. It is good to dwell on these realities so that they become a part of our plans. The redeemed will pour out their songs of gratitude and praise to Him whom they loved and worshipped while here upon the earth. Those of us who are excitedly making plans for the trip to heaven will already be talking with God while here upon the earth. In all of our plans we will inquire: What will the Lord have me to do? How can I best show Him how much He means to me? We will ask Christ to live within us, and be the center of our affections. We will abhor our sins and want to live a life of happiness for others, and not just for our own selfish desires. If we really love the Lord, let us keep His word and walk with Him daily, as did Enoch of old.

James 1:16 says, *"Do not err, my beloved brethren."* James 1:22 says, *"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."* 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."* James 2:15-16, *"If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?"* James 4:17 says, *"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."* 1 Peter 2:1-2, *"Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:"* We know that nobody ever outgrows the scriptures: the book widens and deepens with our years.

People can be divided into three groups: (1) Those who make things happen. (2) Those who watch things happen. (3) Those who wonder what happened. Which one are we?

— Farrell Wilson

(reprinted from "The Christian Courier," December, 1977)

Where is God?

1. **The Lord is before His people (Micah 2:13; John 10:4).**
2. **The Lord is behind His people (Psalms 139:5).**
3. **The Lord is above His people (Deut. 33:12; Psalms 63:7; 91:1).**
4. **The Lord is beneath His people (Deut. 32:11; Isa. 40:11; 46:4).**
5. **The Lord is around His people (Psalms 125:2; 139:3).**
6. **The Lord is with His people (Num. 23:21; Matt. 1:23; 28:20).**
7. **The Lord is in the midst of His people (Isa. 12:6; Zeph. 3:17).**

Cities of Refuge (Read Joshua 20:1-9)

The Lord God told Joshua to speak to the children of Israel saying, *"Appoint out for you cities of refuge..."* (Jos. 20:1-2). The purpose of these cities of refuge was that if a person killed another person by accident, he could flee to one of these cities to avoid retribution by the family of the one slain. The refugee had to declare his case before the elders of that city, to prove that it was an accident (vs. 3-6).

These cities that were appointed for refuge were scattered afar to be made available to Israelites that were distant from Jerusalem. The cities chosen were: Kedesh in Galilee in Mount Naphtali; Shechem in Mount Ephraim; Hebron (Kirjatharba) in the mountain of Judah; Bezer, east of Jericho; Ramoth in Gilead; and Golan in Bashan.

There is a resemblance between the cities of refuge and the church of Jesus Christ. The writer of Hebrews evidently had these cities in mind when he penned the lines in Heb. 6:18, *"That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:"* Just as the person who killed his neighbor unawares was sure of safety if he gained entrance into a city of refuge, likewise the person who is in Christ (the church) has refuge from sin and condemnation, made possible by the blood of Christ.

The names of these cities have meanings which can also be likened to the church of our Lord Jesus Christ:

"Kedesh" means "holy." 1 Peter 2:9 suggests the idea of "holy" as being "set apart:" *"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;"* Although Christians live in the world, their desires should not be of the world. *"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."* (Rom. 12:2).

"Shechem" means "shoulder." What do you think of when you think of shoulder? "Support." Many a shoulder has supported the grief of a fellow human being; certainly this is the case among Christians. There is also another use of the shoulder. You may have heard the expression, "Put your shoulder to the wheel." The church is the support of the truth. *"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."* (1 Tim. 3:15). (*"pillar and support"* — Strong's).

"Hebron" means "alliance, league, or company." All of these definitions convey the idea of fellowship or partnership. This is used in the Bible in three senses: joint-participation, association, and contribution. *"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;"* (Phil. 1:3-5). *"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."* (Acts 2:42). *"Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia; how that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints."* (2 Cor. 8:1-4).

"Bezer" means "strong or fortress." The church is a strong fortress, a fortification against the powers of evil. In Christ and His church we have refuge from the ravages of the tempter. The fiery darts of the devil to can't penetrate us, or the combined forces of evil can't injure us if we abide in His word and wear the complete armor that He has supplied us (Eph. 6:13-17).

"Ramoth" means "height or elevation." The church of Jesus Christ occupies a high and exalted position. *"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid."* (Matt. 5:14). There is no institution on earth so elevated in God's estimation as the church. It has the exalted favor and affection of God.

"Golan" means "circle." A circle expresses completion, and in Christ we are complete. *"And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:"* (Col. 2:10). You have everything in Christ to equip you as a Christian. *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."* (2 Tim. 3:16-17). *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:"* (Eph. 1:3).

The one who desired to enter into one of the cities of refuge could not be saved from the pursuer until he got within the gates of the city. Unless one forsakes the world and is added to the church he also cannot be saved. Satan says, "Some other time." Jesus says, *"Today; hear my voice."* (Heb. 4:7). *"...Now is the accepted time ... now is the day of salvation."* (2 Cor. 6:2).

Written in love of the truth,

Ellis Forsman
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Cards and Letters



Randlett, OK

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Just a note to let all know that everyone at the Randlett congregation has been doing fairly well.

Sister Darlene Mullens had surgery on her knee and was on crutches for about a week, but is doing much better now. Brother Herman Rollins had some trouble with high blood pressure, but seems to have it back under control.

We are holding steady as for the number of members. We extend an invitation to any and all who may be in the area to stop by and visit/worship with us. Sunday worship times are 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

In the love of Christ and God,

Andy Barnes

Selah, WA

Dear Brethren,

The Selah congregation has had three blessed events. Olivia Sierra was born in July to Erica and Dan Smith. Then Samantha Jo was born to Shawna and Troy Solomon. Tyler Lee showed up in September, too, and the proud parents are Christina and Paul Kostzy.

We have had many visitors the past few months. Fern and J.D. Logan came and stayed with us for awhile. We had a singing/ice cream party and plenty of talking. We all had a great time visiting. We had Felica and Mike Geho and family for a fast trip. It was nice seeing them. Terry and Susie Warford and family came one Sunday, and Brother Terry brought us a real good lesson. We always enjoy any of our visitors.

Carl and Betty Carlson are here with us for the winter. Sister Betty was in the hospital for awhile as she wasn't feeling well. The doctors haven't released her to travel back to Arizona.

Anyone passing through this area, we invite you to come and worship with us.

In Christian love,

Gene McKinney,

Selah congregation

Bohannan Mt., AR

Hello,

A few lines from Bohannan Mt. church. We have settled in for the winter. Brother and Sister James Vanderpool did a lot of traveling to meetings this summer. I know they enjoyed it. We did traveled some and left our little bunch short, but we really enjoyed seeing everyone at the camp meeting in Colorado, then we went on to Sacramento, California. We got to meet with the Sacramento congregation one Sunday. It was nice to see Brother John Usrey, and that he was doing so well.

We have just returned from Broken Bow where we buried Rachel's cousin, Dale Cravens. His mother is Sister Mary Cravens. Rogers, his father, preceded Dale in death eight years ago.

We all want to remember the Senn family in their loss of their son, Aaron, the first week of September. They need our prayers. Aaron was only eleven years old. This should be a warning to the teens that they can never count on tomorrow, so they should get in there and work for the Lord today. Aaron loved to go to church, to sing, to lead songs, and most of all, to smile and shake your hand. As young as he was, he always made everyone welcome.

Brother Vanderpool's nephew, Sloan Vanderpool, had a 4-wheeler wreck about the 10th of September. It broke his back, but luckily for him his vertebrate broke vertically. He was fitted with a turtle shell before he went home. He is back in school and at church. He will have his shell for four to six months, the doctor said.

Now on the happier side of things. Amanda Casey and Larry Lawson of Springdale, Arkansas, were married on September 2nd. Amanda has attended Bohannan Mt. congregation all her life. We want to welcome the new couple, and wish them all God's blessings as they continue their life together.

In Christian love,

Brother & Sister Melvin Daniels

170 O'Neal Lane

Elkins, AR 72727

501-643-3615

p.s. I would like to say that I may have known Brother Lloyd Treat longer than anyone else. I knew him when he lived at Ozone, AR, long before he became well known. I was about twelve when he moved there and started meeting with my family, Brother Will Daniels. So I knew him a long time. To his children I would like to say that their dad was a long-time friend and brother in Christ to me.

Brother Melvin Daniels

Sea-Tac, WA

Greetings to all of our Brothers and Sisters,

If you have been hearing about our local flooding in the news, we are all sufficiently high and dry. We are very thankful for this, but we're very aware that thousands of people here and in other countries are not adequately warm, dry, fed, and loved as we are. We want to remember these folks in our prayers as well.

We are also very thankful for the safe arrival of Mileah Jenice Angel, who was born November 25, 1995, and weighed in at 6 lbs, 2 oz. We just love having all these little ones in our midst, for *"of such is the kingdom of heaven."*

Brother Garold Morris continues to be with his aged mother in West Virginia. We really miss his presence here, especially as we are few in number.

Brother Howard McCay continues to slowly improve after his fall in Sacramento. He is walking with a cane away from the house because the dizzy spells still are a part of his life from time to time.

Brother Ellis and Sister Lynell Forsman left to go south last week. They picked up Brother Matthew and Sister Kelly Shepherd and their three girls in Vancouver, WA; then they met Brother Steve and Sister Nancy Silva and their three girls in Oregon. All of them caravaned together until Corning, CA, where the Silva's headed to the San Francisco Bay area to be with family. The Forsman's and the Shepherd's spent the Thanksgiving weekend with Brother Eric and Sister Lori Harper and their three children. The three families went to Chico, CA, for worship on Sunday. They rejoined the Silva's for the journey home, but it was so wonderful to be with our Christian family at Chico.

Our Seattle blue skies are back, at least for a time, and most of us are up and well except for minor colds and flu. We carry on as best as we can. Remember us as we do also remember you in our prayers.

Also please send materials for printing in *The Courier* — articles, letters, news, etc. There was a shortage this month, which makes the editor's job more difficult.

Our love to all, brethren at Sea-Tac

Indian Springs, CA:

We rejoice with them in the recent baptisms of two fine young men:
Garrett Smith was added to the Lord's body on November 12th.
Levi Smith chose to obey his Lord's command on November 19th.
We all rejoice with the angels in heaven as their names are entered into the Lamb's book of life.

Our love to you all from Indian Springs, CA

Gossiptown

Have you ever heard of Gossiptown
On the shore of Falsehood Bay,
Where Old Dame Rumor with rustling gown
Is going the livelong day?

It isn't far to Gossiptown
For people who want to go;
The idleness train will take you down
In just an hour or so.

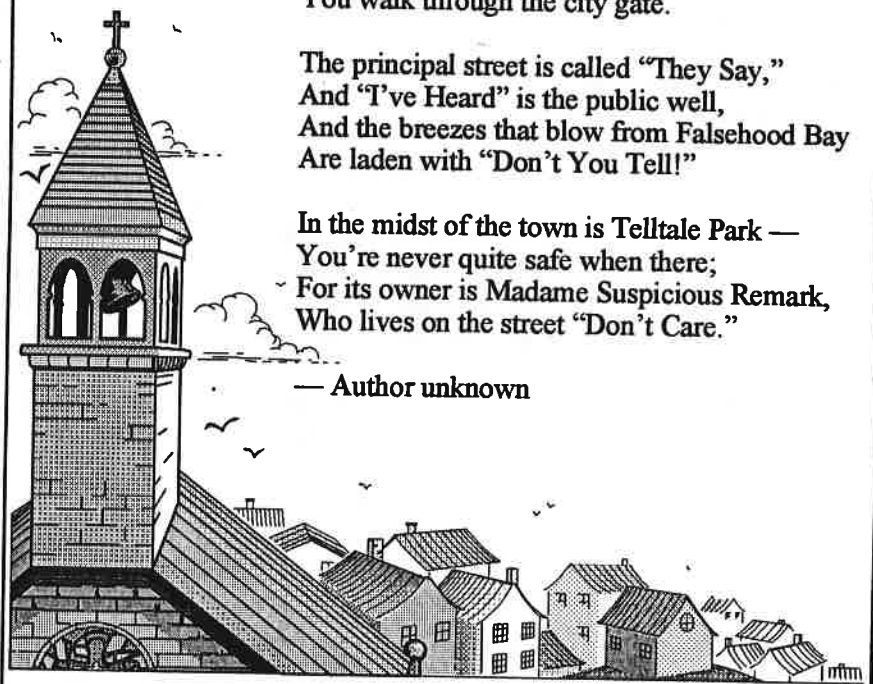
The thoughtless road is crowded, you'll find,
For most folks start that way;
But it's all downhill and, if you don't mind,
You'll land in Falsehood Bay.

You glide through the valley of Wicked Talk,
And into the tunnel of Hate;
Then, crossing the Bitterness Bridge,
You walk through the city gate.

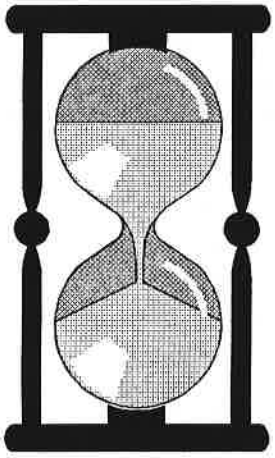
The principal street is called "They Say,"
And "I've Heard" is the public well,
And the breezes that blow from Falsehood Bay
Are laden with "Don't You Tell!"

In the midst of the town is Telltale Park —
You're never quite safe when there;
For its owner is Madame Suspicious Remark,
Who lives on the street "Don't Care."

— Author unknown



Precious Memories



***It Is Written*, December, 1955.** Brother Harry Dye, Yuma, AZ, reported that they had a very good meeting with Brother Bedingfield. Brother Howard McCay, Yakima, WA, reported three immersions recently (no names given), and prayed for the success of the paper, and reminded the editors that the paper was also going into the hands of outsiders, that bickering and controversy should not be going on in it. Brother W. R. Farrar, Carter, OK, wrote that they had two very enjoyable services with Brother W. E. Daniels of Broken Bow, OK. Brother Leonard Starnes, Springfield, OR, wrote that he enjoyed reading the paper, but they should stick to printing gospel subjects, and not have the kind of articles that were recently published. Brother B. O. Weakley, Modesto, CA, wrote that our theories, pet peeves, and ideologies should be left out of the church paper. Sister Bruce, Carlsbad, NM, admonished that the truth should be presented in a humble Christian manner. Brother Roy Dabbs, Aztec, NM, reported the church needed financial assistance after they finished construction on a new building, and then some of the families moved away, leaving a heavy burden on the rest. Brother J. W. Bedingfield, Carlsbad, NM, invited others to come there and worship with them. Brother Isaac Ferguson, Ontario, CA, reported that the church there was now meeting in nearby Bloomington, CA.

***Gospel News Courier*, December, 1965.** (No file copy).

***The Christian Courier*, December, 1975.** (No file copy).

***The Christian Courier*, December, 1985.** Brother Ellis Forsman, Sea-Tac,WA, reported that Sister Kelly Forsman was attending college in Yakima, WA; and that Brother Wayne and Sister Amy Orendorff had just returned from Encinitas, CA, after the tragic death of Wayne's parents. Brother George Morris, Stilwell, OK, thanked the editors for printing The Courier; reported the baptism of Jim Buckner at the Pleasantview congregation; and reported that Brother Hayse Morris was in his 8th week in the hospital. Brother James F. Brown, Baron, OK, announced that Brother Al Way, Bellflower, CA, would be holding their meeting in June of 1986. He also reported that Brother Paul Andrews held a weekend meeting in September. Brother Paul Andrews, Hindsville, AR, reported on his meeting at Stilwell, OK, in October; that Janice Sanford was baptized; and that Sister Patty Campbell had cataract surgery. Brother Marion Serrano, La Habra, CA, reported that some of their members had moved away. Brother Troy Morse, Waterford, CA, reported that there had been several illnesses: Brother Ira Brown had been unable to attend services for quite some time; Sister Dosia Arnett had an operation on her leg; Sister Lollie Shaw had fallen and hurt herself; and others with normal illnesses. He also reported on the passing of Sister Rosa Brown, 84.

A Little More

We recall the kind old grocer
When the sugar he would pour,
How he'd tip the scales to balance,
Then he'd add a little more.

And his business, how it prospered,
Folks were always in his store,
For he gave an honest measure
And he'd add a little more.

So it is with life, my brother,
We will write a better score
When we've done what is expected —
If we'll add a little more.

— Author unknown

My Daily Guide

Though the cover is worn
And the pages are torn,
Though places bear traces of tears,
Yet more precious than gold
Is this Book worn and old
That can shatter and scatter my fears.

This old Book is my guide;
It's a friend by my side;
It will lighten and brighten my way;
And each promise I find
Soothes and gladdens my mind
As I read it and heed it each day.

— Author unknown

BULLETIN BOARD

Meetings

June 29-July 8, 1996	Cedaredge, CO	Camp Meeting

Births

Olivia Sierra	Selah, WA	July, 1995
Mileah Jenice Angel	Sea-Tac, WA	Nov. 25, 1995

Baptisms

Garrett Smith	Penn Valley, CA	Nov. 12, 1995
Levi Smith	Penn Valley, CA	Nov. 19, 1995

Marriages

Larry Lawson & Amanda Casey,	Springdale, AR	Sept. 2, 1995

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Scottie Gardenhire	Baron, OK	Shot in eye
Sloan Vanderpool	Bohannan Mt., AR	Broken back
Erelene Chessman	Bellflower, CA	Fighting cancer
Vincent Johnson	Bellflower, CA	Confined to wheelchair
Larissa Smith	Comanche, OK	Heart problems & age
Jack Wood	Hornbeck, LA	Severe heart attack
Oren Johnston	Mt. Vernon, WA	Needing heart surgery
Lee Joe Pollan	Ringgold, TX	Prostate surgery
Jack Cooper	San Pablo, CA	Severe eye problems
Kathern Ann	San Pablo, CA	Diabetes
Betty Carlson	Selah, WA	Open heart surgery
Jerry Barker	Stilwell, OK	Leukemia
Ruth Duncan	Yuma, AZ	Back pain

Our ongoing and continual prayers are also for those of you who we are not aware of by name, but have needs of various kinds. We would entreat the Lord's blessings on each of you as well.

Passings

Aaron Senn	Goshen, AR	11 Years, Sept., 1995
Dale Cravens	Broken Bow, AR	

WORD SEARCH: DECEMBER

L S K G S S B Z R R S N T Q P A E F

M L W H R U W E X K E A C D D H V G

M D Z P X U P O Z K N A L O G E L A

E R B G A A D E R E L C R I C W D W

H I P W R G S G R D R P J C S E O N

C S N E H T A D E S A L V A T I O N

E J N S R Q L N O I T I N O M D A N

H T H M B I M B E M R I N N E Y D E

S Z E F H E L P X E E H T O E H K K

E L B C D H I F F B L T X I K Z E Q

R F R N C C O U R T E O U S O A D X

U S O O U R G K N Y V M M S V U E B

T C N R T E P K P Z A A O A O C S H

R E E R Y H T O M I T R C P R A H P

U A E M A C E D O N I A D M P E G J

N S E I T I C F B Y O C I O T S A B

S W O D I W V E Y B N H L C P F J J

ADMONITION
ATHENS
BEZER
CHILDREN
CIRCLE
CITIES
COMPASSION
CONDEMNED
COURTEOUS
CREATURE
ELEVATION
ENOCH
EPICUREAN
FORTRESS
GOLAN
GRUDGE
HEBRON
KEDESH
MACEDONIA
MURMUR
NURTURE
PAGAN
PARENTS
PERIL
PROVOKE
RAMOTH
REFUGE
SALVATION
SHECHEM
SHOULDER
SILAS
STOIC
SUPERSTITIOUS
SWORD
TIMOTHY
WIDOWS