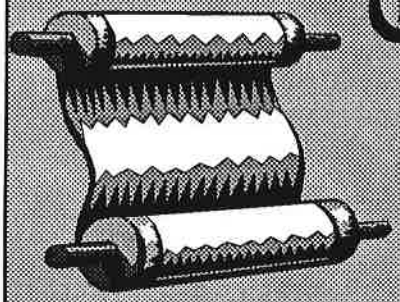


The Christian Courier



April, 1997

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

Respect of Persons

In James 2:1, we read the command. *"My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons."*

Let's study this concept in some detail.

First of all, we read that God does not favor any one people more than another, and neither should we. The descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel were once God's chosen people, but did not live up to that calling. So through Christ all people, Jew or Gentile, can be saved.

Peter came to this realization in Acts 10. In verses 10-16 he was in a trance, and saw a vision of all manner of beasts. He was told to kill and eat. He refused, saying he had never eaten anything common or unclean. The answer was, verse 15. *"And the voice spoke unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed that call thou not common."* Then Peter was asked to go to the house of the Gentile, Cornelius. Cornelius told him of his vision of God recognizing his prayer and alms, and to send for him. Then Peter realized his vision was not about animals, but people. Verses 34-35. *"Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respector of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him."*

God no longer respects the Jew over the Gentile. Eph. 2:12-13. *"That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ."* If God has no respect of persons neither should we.

Neither can we respect one person over another because of wealth, position or power. This is what James was instructing us. James 2:1-4. *"My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say unto the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: Are ye not then become partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?"* Verse 9. *"But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors."*

Respect of persons can lead us to doing things we should not, (peer pressure) as happened in John 12:42-43. People wanted to follow Jesus, but they had more respect unto the Pharisees. *"Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God."*

There should be no respect of persons in leadership. Prov. 24:23. *"These things also belong to the wise. It is not good to have respect of persons in judgment."* One of the qualifications of a bishop in Titus 1:8 is to be just.

Last, we shouldn't put ourselves on a pedestal above everyone else. Rom. 12:3. *"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."* Phil. 2:3. *"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."* Luke 18:14. *"...for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."*

In summary, we should not have respect of persons, neither because of how one was born, nor on basis of wealth, position or power. Because respect of persons is

sin, and leads to peer pressure, which leads to more sin. Leaders especially cannot have any respect of persons. And we cannot respect ourselves more than others.

James 3:17. *"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."*

With love,
Bro. Terry Warford
22023 29th Avenue South
Des Moines, WA 98198

Precious Memories

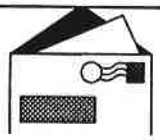
***It Is Written*, April, 1957.** Brother Curtis Forbis, San Pablo, CA, wrote that they had purchased a building at Market & 15th St., but it needed a lot of work before they could use it for services. Brother J. W. Bedingfield, Carlsbad, NM, reported on his trips to Yuma and Somerton, AZ, La Puente and Bellflower, CA, then back to La Puente. He indicated that he had planned on going on to Modesto, CA, to hold a meeting. A note from Eunice, NM, said one man was baptized and several women had gone forward during their meeting.

***The Christian Courier*, April, 1966.** No file copy exists.

***The Christian Courier*, April, 1976.** Brother Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, wrote that one of his sons was not recovering from his surgery as well as he should; that his wife's mother (nearly 90) had passed away; that Brother Jack White of Munday, TX, was in the hospital; and that the brethren at Baron, OK, were busy remodeling their church building. The Happy Hollow Church of Christ, Cedaredge, CO, advertised their upcoming camp meeting. The congregation at Indian Springs, CA, reported that they had been meeting in an old, remodeled schoolhouse, and that James Anderson, 12, was recently baptized. Brother Larry and Sister Bonnie Fulkerson, Yakima, WA, expressed their thanks for all the prayers that went out on behalf of his recent surgery. The Glenwood, WA, congregation reported that they had recent visits from Vandra and Amy Howe, from Lorenzo, TX; that Sister Maggie Forsman was away visiting in Texas and Oklahoma; that Sister Phoebe McCay just celebrated her 89th birthday; that Becky Feeley and Shannon Campbell were recently baptized; and that they planned to have a meeting in June with Brother Sammy Boen. Brother Howard Taylor, Loco, OK, thanked those who gave prayers for him concerning his recent surgery; and announced their meeting in July with Brother Claude Perigen. The Lorenzo, TX, congregation reported that Brother R. H. Peel and Sister Maude Scott (both 92) were now living in the Ralls Convalescent Home; that Brother Willie Howe had moved south of Lorenzo; that Brother Bill Jared had moved there from Indiana; and that Brother Jack White was in the hospital. Brother Dayton Clouse, Bellflower, CA, announced their meeting in July with Brother J. D. Logan.

***The Christian Courier*, April, 1987.** The Happy Hollow Church of Christ, Cedaredge, CO, advertised their upcoming camp meeting. A birth announcement: Jeremy D. Houchin, born to Carol and David Houchin of Longmont, CO, on February 14, 1987. Grandparents are Brother J. L. and Sister Eunice Jared of Salem, OR.

Cards and Letters





Cedaredge, CO

Dear ones everywhere,

We have been having beautiful Spring weather here in Cedaredge, CO. There is still lots of snow in the mountains, so fishing should be good this summer, and beautiful wild flowers.

Our congregation here in Happy Hollow is pretty much back to normal, as far as colds, flu, etc. Brother Lis Severson's father passed away recently. Let us all remember Brother Lis and family in our prayers.

Brother Eddie Wilkerson officiated in the services for Brother Lis' dad. Brother George and Sister Barbara Cowger have bought a place here in Cedaredge, and will be moving from Montrose, CO, soon. We are happy to have them closer to us.

Spring is here! And our annual Delta-Cedaredge Camp Meeting is almost here (June 28 to July 7). It is only a few months away. We are planning on seeing you here. Are you planning to be here with us? "It's free!" Everyone is welcome. We have full hook-ups for R.V.'s, etc. R.V. spaces, rooms, and dormitories are available. To reserve yours, call Verlie (970-856-7481), or write (PO Box 663, Cedaredge, CO 81413).

We also have dress codes at the church camp.

All clothing for men, women, and children must be to the knee, or below (NO EXCEPTIONS), then we do not offend anyone.

Dress appropriately for all church services.

Do not hand out literature without approval.

Use the King James Version Bible in the services.

We will try to get out brochures soon for everyone.

Remember, we do appreciate donations for the food, rent, etc. Your donations would be appreciated to help us.

Love and prayers from the Happy Hollow congregation, Cedaredge, CO

Baron, OK

Greetings from the Baron church,

We are doing pretty well here with attendance at church good.

We are looking forward to our meeting in June with Brother and Sister Bryant; and we want to invite all others who can to come and be with us.

Our son, Brett, is home from the army. His four years has expired, so you will not need to send a Courier to his army address any longer. We are glad to have him home.

The church here is in the process of having our pews re-done, and some more workout there, so we had a working last Saturday, and plan to work again next Saturday, if weather permits. We all worked, visited, and enjoyed it very much. We have Bible study on Wednesday nights, also. Our meeting time will be 7:30 p.m.; evening meals at 6:00 p.m. in June.

With Christian love,

Baron Church of Christ

Newcastle, TX

Dear ones in Christ,

We send our love and prayers to one and all. We pray the Lord's blessings on all who are sick.

Our Brother and Sister Horace & Lydia Pounds are in the rest home in Graham, Texas – ages 90 & 93.

We ask for your prayers for all of us at the Newcastle Church of Christ.

Also, we are having a weekend meeting June 20-22. Brother Bob Eldridge from Baron, OK, will be our speaker. We invite all who can to come and be with us.

Ed & Frances Tate
501 N. Ave. O
Olney, Texas 76374

P.S. We enjoy the *Christian Courier*, and the ones who labor in getting the paper out. Thanks. We are sending a donation to help with the expense.

Bohanna Mt., AR

From Bohanna Mt.,

Good morning. It is a wonderful morning with all of God's beauty around us. We have had some really spring-like weather — warm sunny days, warm rain showers, a lot of spring flowers are in bloom.

Brother James Vanderpool is home now, feeling much better. He had a lot of complications after his heart surgery. He went home, but he had to return for several days. He developed an infection in the lining of his heart, but as of this past week, he is much improved. He felt like attending services last Sunday.

Also, Sister Laney of our congregation underwent surgery to one artery on February 13th. She is home doing fair. Her age isn't her best friend. She will be 86 on her next birthday. Some days she just doesn't feel good.

My parents, Brother Robert and Sister Carrie Roberson, of the Tinner congregation near Broken Bow, are both in need of our prayers. She fell and broke her hip in February. She spent over two weeks in the hospital. She is now in rehabilitation, several weeks before she will go to the skilled wing of the nursing home. Mom had taken care of my Dad for some time after he developed Alzheimer's. My sister and I placed him in the same home that my mom will go into when she leaves rehabilitation. It is really a sad day to see your family at this point.

There are so many that need our prayers – the sick and hurt, and those like me – I get so depressed as things just don't seem to want to let up.

For some better news, Melvin is really feeling good. I'm having a hard time keeping him from doing things he isn't up to yet.

With Christian love,

Sister Rachel, for the Bohanna Mt. Congregation.

PS. Please, you can remove Melvin's name from the prayer list. Thank you, everyone, very much.

Bellflower, CA

Dear Friends,

We want to express our thanks to each of you who supported us with your calls, cards, flowers, food, and love when our mother passed from this life to be with the Lord. She was six days short of 99 years.

Your love and comfort has eased the pain of our loss. Our loss is, of course, her gain – how wonderful it must be to be free of the cares of this life and the constant attack from Satan's forces.

We love you,

The Way family

BULLETIN BOARD

Meetings

May 2-4, 1997	Randlett, OK	Guest speakers
June 8-15, 1997	Baron, OK	Homer Bryant
June 20-22, 1997	Newcastle, TX	Bob Eldridge
June 28-July6, 1997	Delta, CO	Camp Meeting
July 6-13, 1997	Yakima, WA	Roger Walkingstick & J.W. Bedingfield
July 27 - Aug. 3, 1997	Lorenzo, TX	Gene McKinney

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Erelene Chessman	Bellflower, CA	Fighting cancer
Debbie Wilkerson	Cedaredge, CO	Heart attack recovery
Ernest Buchannon	Goshen, AR	Fighting cancer
Maysel Buchannon	Goshen, AR	Fighting cancer
Letha Ferguson	Goshen, AR	Fighting cancer
Lauren Guthrie	Pleasantview, OK	Epileptic seizures
Luke Carpenter	Sacramento, CA	Cystic Fibrosis
Jessica Carpenter	Sacramento, CA	Cystic Fibrosis
Howard McCay	Sea-Tac, WA	Fighting cancer
Garold Morris	Sea-Tac, WA	Fighting cancer
Ashley Larson (8 1/2)	Sea-Tac, WA	Fighting cancer
Carrie Roberson	Tinner, OK	Broken hip
Zelma Broadway	Yuma, AZ	In a rest home
Horace Orendorff	Yuma, AZ	Very ill

Passings

Lula JaneWay	Bellflower, CA	March 5, 1997

Help! We could use more letters and articles. We haven't heard from some of you in awhile. Let us know what is going on — news, meetings, baptisms, weddings, etc. We hear from you that you like to hear about what other Christians are doing; they would like to hear from you, as well.

— The editors