

The Christian Courier

December, 1999

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How Does Your Garden Grow?

The above is asked in an old nursery rhyme, "Mary, Mary, quite contrary". While preparing some of our rocky Western Washington soil for planting, it occurred to me that a lesson is embodied here which can benefit all. What answers can we glean from God's word?

Soil Must Be Prepared

There are all kinds of soil in the world. All must be properly prepared for planting. If not, one cannot expect to harvest a crop.

Hosea tell Israel (who had committed grievous sins) *"... break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you."* (Hosea 10:12).

"Fallow ground" is unproductive land. Israel was unproductive because of their wickedness. Just so we. If we commit wickedness (sin) we cannot produce the *"fruit of the Spirit"*. (Gal. 5:9)

To *"break up"* means to plow. Plowing is the accepted method of soil preparation. Christ said we must all *"put our hands to the plow, but not to look back, else we are not worthy of the kingdom of God."* (Luke 9:62)

When we plow, we should do so in hope (1 Cor. 9:10). Our hope is for an abundant harvest (Luke 8:8). A hundredfold would be considered a good harvest!

So, then, soil reparation is an absolute necessity to a good harvest. But what if we do not prepare the soil as we should?

Wrong Way

One can neglect his soil in many ways. The results can be predictable.

"The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing." (Prov. 20:4) A predictable result!

Jesus taught us much concerning soil preparation. *"A sower went out to seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; ..."*(Luke 8:5).

"Wayside" soil is not plowed soil. Who would sow on the shoulder of the highway? It is no wonder that some of it was *"trodden down"* and the remainder eaten by the birds. The predictable result: no crop!

"... some fell upon a rock; ..." (vs. 6). We, in Western Washington, are familiar with rocky soil. One does not sow seed upon rocks with any expectation of a harvest. Thus sown, crops will wither away, being unnourished. Unplowed soil will not produce harvests!

"... some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it." (vs. 8)

Unprepared soil will have foul, worthless seeds, roots, etc. These are in direct competition with the sown seed and will deprive of the nourishment necessary to an abundant harvest. Crops would be choked!

Wrong Way to Plow

Some plowing, although it is vigorously pursued, is improperly done. The results are predictable.

Solomon teaches us, *"... The plowing of the wicked is sin."* (Pro. 21:4). When we indulge in sin the results are a foregone conclusion. *"The wages of sin is death."* (Rom. 6:23).

Hosea says of Israel, *"Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity: ... because thou didst trust in thy way."* (Hos. 10:13). The result is obvious; plow wickedness and reap iniquity. No harvestable crop!

Job tells us, *"... They that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same."* (Job 4:8). Not a good harvest!

Sowing Time

When soil is prepared, sowing time follows. Having prepared soil, it is necessary to put the seed in the ground. There are two ways that we can sow improperly.

Sow Nothing

To do nothing after preparing soil properly is foolhardy. It can result in a worse state than the former.

Jesus teaches us *"When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return into my house whence I came out. And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first."* (Luke 11:24-26).

The obvious problem here is that although the man in question had cleaned out the *"unclean spirit"*, he had not put anything in its place. Sonce nothing can exist in a vacuum, the result was a foregone conclusion. Substitute *"soil"* for *"man"* and *"seed"* for *"spirit"* and we clearly see that when we clear, plow and prepare soil for planting, we must sow promptly. Otherwise, the foul seed will spring up, choking out the good and deprive us of a good harvest.

Sow Bad Seed

Paul teaches us that *"... he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; ..."* (Gal. 6:8). Foolish is the man who will sow weeds and brambles in soil which was laboriously plowed and harrowed. To what end? The results should be obvious: *"... whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."* (Gal. 6:7).

We must avoid bad seed that mimics good seed. The Bible speaks to us of *"tares"*. A tare is a plant that is inedible to humans (some say it is toxic), but looks very much like wheat. If one should be deceived into sowing tares instead of wheat, he would be foolish indeed. What sort of crop could he expect to harvest? (see Matt. 13:37-42).

One more thought on improper sowing. We must sow sufficient seed to cover the ground thoroughly. If a crop is sown to sparingly, there is too much space bare and, as a result of this scrimpiness, weeds, tares, brambles, etc. spring up, spoiling the crop. (see 2 Cor. 9:6).

Sow Properly

Having prepared the soil properly and avoided all the faulty practices (bad seed, no seed, etc.), we must sow our seed properly in expectation of a good harvest.

Jesus teaches us that *"The seed is the word of God."* (Luke 8:11). He further teaches, *"... the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."* (John 6:63).

If we sow the words of the spirit, we *"shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."* (Gal. 6:8).

This seed may be small, but carries in its genes the potential of a great harvest. Jesus teaches us to have faith *"as a grain of mustard seed."* (Matt. 17:20). Also, that this seed is *"less than all the seeds that be in the earth."* (Mark 4:31). Yet it can (and often does) grow to very large size.

We must sow this seed abundantly. Paul teaches that *"... he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."* (2 Cor. 9:6).

Care for the Crop

It is necessary to tend our crops diligently. A wise farmer will spend much of his time in his fields seeing to the care of his crops. Often he must hoe out bad growth, irrigate, when rainfall is insufficient, and in all ways see to the condition of his crops.

It is not necessary to actively sow bad seed. Slothfulness (inactivity, laziness) will allow them to spring up and choke out the good seed. Good crops need attention!

Paul teaches us this lesson clearly. *"... let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."* (Gal. 6:9).

The word *"faint"* comes from the Greek word *"eklue"* which means to "relax". Thus, we see that when we have plowed, prepared, and sown in our soil, we are not to relax and ignore our crops, for many dangers exist that can ruin our harvest if we lazily ignore them!

Never Plant This Crop!

Finally, there is a crop that we should avoid at all cost. Jesus teaches: *"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.* (Matt. 7:15-20).

Brethren, how is our garden growing?

Written in love of the truth,

John Logan,
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The Old Paths



Jer. 6:16 tells us, "*Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.*"

God has always had one right way; or one right way for each time in history. God had a right way for Adam and Eve in the Garden; Adam and Eve went against God's way and He cast them out of the Garden. God also had His way, which was the right way, for the old patriarchs; most of the time they followed God's way, and God blessed them for it.

Then the Old Testament showed the right way for the Jews. At times they followed God's way, and God blessed them for it; at other times they went against God's way, and God caused them to have trouble until they came back to the path He had given them. Starting in Jer. 6:17, Jeremiah tells of the evil that God would bring on the people because they wouldn't go back to the old paths.

When Jesus came to the earth, the Jews were walking in many ways. The two main ways were the Pharisees and the Sadducees. They taught and practiced two different laws (or ways), and both claimed that they were the paths of God. To get back to the right way, the Jews had to read and do the will of God in the Old Testament. Isaiah in the 35th chapter, 8th verse, told the Jews that there was to come a new way which would be the way of holiness.

Coming down to the New Testament, we find Christ revealing the new way: John 14:6 Jesus tells Thomas, "... *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*" Jesus said there was one way; man says there are several hundred ways. Jesus revealed the new way, and it was confirmed by the apostles, who also tell us there is only one way.

Christ showed sinners what their duty was, and what they should do to enter the way of holiness. They had to first believe in that way, or have faith that it was the way to God; then they had to decide that was the way they wanted to go, or they had to repent of the fact that they were going to the wrong place. Then they were told that they had to confess Christ before His Father which was in heaven. Also Rom. 10:10, "... *and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*"

Then the sinner had one more duty. In Acts, the 2nd chapter, when the people realized they were sinners, they asked what they should do. In the 38th verse, Peter told them, "... *Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins* ...." Isaiah had said it would be the way of holiness; there could be no sin; the act of baptism remitted their sins so they could enter the way.

God, through the apostles, shows what the Christian's duty is, or how he can stay in that way. We can go to the letters of the apostles, and they warn us of the dangers of getting out of the way, and tell us how to stay in it, and grow in it. It is not enough to just have faith in it, but we must also work to move along this way. There is

something at the end of the way to which we wish to get, and we cannot reach it unless we move forward.

Today, men are walking in many ways. We cannot walk in two ways at the same time; either we have to walk in one of man's ways, or in God's one way. God's way is only found in the New Testament; that is the "good way." We only travel that way as we walk by faith. The New Testament tells us that, "*whatsoever is not of faith is sin.*" (Rom 14:23). Sin, again, cannot walk in that way.

Many souls are shipwrecked on the rocks of men's opinions. They may even start on the right way, but the trials and troubles of life are too much for them, and they are shipwrecked; they cannot reach the goal.

Today, are most people asking for the OLD PATHS, the one that was laid out close to two thousand years ago? I'm afraid there are very few that are really looking for it. They are more interested in the crowd or this world's goods, power, or something else of this world. Yet, the only place we can find rest for our souls is at the end of the ONE and ONLY PATH that Jesus has given us; and it is the oldest path given to Christians. Can we afford to leave it, even for an hour, when we don't know if we will be alive 30 minutes from now?

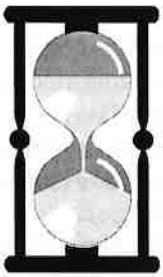
God will bless us if we don't leave it; God will condemn us if we die in our sins.

In brotherly love,

Bro. Robert E. McCay

(Reprinted from The Christian Courier, Feb., 1974)

Precious Memories



***The Christian Courier*, October 1969.** The Yuma, AZ, congregation wrote that they had a good meeting hosted by Bro. Sammy Boen. It was reported that everyone was strengthened and encouraged, and good fellowship was enjoyed. Bro. Kenneth Wilcher was reported to have been in the Riverside, CA hospital for several weeks. Bro. Harry Dye was improving from a sick spell in his home. Bro. Tom Broadway, Grants Pass, OR, reported a number of visitors coming through there. He also reported that the Mickeys had moved to Farmington, NM in June. Bro. W. A. Nelson of the Somerton AZ congregation reported the baptism of Laura Ferguson and that Claude Allen Nelson, oldest son of W.B. and Verda Nelson returned home Aug. 29th from Vietnam. Sister Nelson was having a sick spell with sinus infection. Bro. Claud and Sis. Eunice Perigen of Bellflower, CA, reported on holding a meeting at Furnish Canyon and an extended trip to Arkansas, Oklahoma, and the camp meeting at Delta, CO, and that Sis. Forrest Francis was in the hospital. It was later reported that Bro. Perigen was admitted to the Long Beach Community Hospital for surgery. He was operated on Sept. 17th. Bro. George Vanderpool, Huntsville, AR, reported they were planning a week long meeting with guest speakers. He also reported that the church was growing and gaining in membership. Bro. Charles Bruce of Carlsbad, NM, wrote that they were meeting at his grandmother's, Mrs. Laura Willis, home.

***The Christian Courier*, November 1969.** Bro. Gene McKinney, San Pablo, CA, reported that those visiting were Bro. & Sis. McCluskey from Sacramento and Bro. J.D. Logan and his family. Bro. W.A. Nelson, Somerton, AZ, wished Bro. Claud Perigen well; reported that Bro. Harry Dye was about over his sickness; also that two of Bro. Nelson's grandsons were in auto accidents, but were both unhurt. Bro. Claud Perigen, Bellflower, CA, sent a letter expressing great appreciation for all the cards and telephone calls he had received during his sickness. Bro. Hayse Morris, Baron, OK, reported holding a meeting with Bro. Lloyd Treet in Broken Bow and the switching of mid-week services to Wednesday night rather than Thursday night. The Bellflower, CA, congregation reported on their meeting with Bro. Bill McCay. Five were baptized and one restored to the Lord. Many visitors were reported. They also reported that during that week Sis. Debra Dabbs and Bro. Bill Taylor were united together in marriage. A few weeks later, Donna Dabbs was baptized. The Modesto, CA, congregation reported that Sis. Alice Weakly had been ill and unable to attend services for a while and that Bro. Homer Bryant had moved to Concord, CA. Bro. Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, reported attending the Delta Camp Meeting, and enjoyed the good singing and preaching, Bro. Ken Baldwin was sick part of the time. He also reported the passing of one of his grandsons. The Grass Valley, CA, congregation reported having a meeting August 17th-24th with Bro. W.A. Nelson of Somerton, AZ. Many visitors were present. The Cedaredge, CO, congregation reported Bro. & Sis. Wilkerson's grandson, Bobby Wade was in the the hospital sick. Bro. Charles Baldwin was injured and had back surgery. The Delta Camp Meeting was a success. Bro. Jack White, Munday, TX, sent an invitation for anyone passing through to meet with them..

***The Christian Courier*, October 1979.** Bro. Bob Farley, Selah, WA, encouraged people in the brotherhood to write pen pal letters. The Bellflower, CA, congregation reported on their meeting with Bro. Jerry Brockman. They also encourage people to keep in touch through the *Courier*, "it's our only way of reaching out and touching each other lives." The Waterford, CA, congregation wrote of growing not in number but in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Bro. Jerry McCay, Yakima, WA, reported that they had many visitors and that Ricky Stopp of Portland, OR, was baptized. Bro. Clif Brockman, Chico, CA, reported they will be holding a meeting Nov. 22-25.

***The Christian Courier*, December, 1969.** Bro. L. E. Atchley, Baron, OK, reported that he visited several congregations in Oklahoma, Texas, and Colorado. Bro. Charles Bruce, Carlsbad, NM, listed recent visitors and mentioned Bro. & Sis. Couchman were moving to Reydon, OK. The Somerton, AZ, congregation reported that Sis. Ruth Duncan had surgery for kidney stones; Sis. Mary Davis had not been well for some time; Bro. J. D. Johnson was bothered with arthritis; Bro. Jack Renick was in the hospital with heart trouble; Bro. W. A. Nelson was to go into the hospital for gall stones; and also listed several recent visitors. Bro. Claud Perigen, Bellflower, CA, announced the birth of Renee Michelle Taylor to Bro. Dick & Sis. Georgia Taylor. Bro. Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, wrote that Sis. Roberson had passed away; Sis. Clements was in the hospital with a collapsed lung and pneumonia; and that Bro. & Sis. Lloyd Camp had a baby girl. Bro. Jerry Perigen, Bellflower, CA, also announced the birth of

Renee Taylor. Bro. John Usrey, Sacramento, CA, announced the baptism of Ernest Bowen. Bro. George Vanderpool, Huntsville, AR, reported on their meeting with various speakers. The Yuma, AZ, congregation wrote that they had several recent visitors; that Bro. Orendorff's father had passed away; and that some of their members had been sick. The Modesto, CA, congregation listed several recent visitors and some of their members who had been sick. Bro. L. C. Barker, Midland, TX, reported on the state of their building fund. Bro. Gene McKinney, San Pablo, CA, wrote that Bro. & Sis. Homer Bryant had moved from Modesto, CA, to San Pablo and were meeting with them.

***The Christian Courier*, November 1979.** The Broken Bow, OK, congregation asked for prayers for all. The San Pablo, CA, congregation stated their appreciation of the support they had during their meeting held by Bro. Richard Johnston. Bro. Horace Orendorff, Yuma, AZ, reported that Sis. Nelson was doing about the same; that Bro Ralph Jones was confined at home; and that Bro. John Givens was hospitalized twice. The Chico, CA, congregation announced that they planned a Thanksgiving meeting. They also reported sadness at the passing of Sis. Clara Alta Mahan. There was rejoicing at the baptism of Martin Brockman. The Gardendale congregation reported the baptisms of Jeff Kreiger and Robert Biddy and thanked those who remembered Steven in prayer. Bro. Lloyd Treat asked for people to contribute funds to aid Ken Baldwin in his sickness. Bro. Jerry McCay, Yakima, WA, wrote of gatherings that worked on the church building, ate together and enjoyed good fellowship.

***The Christian Courier*, December, 1979.** Bro. J. D. Logan, Modesto, CA, reported on the Far West Camp Meeting at Fort Bragg, CA. Bro. Howard McCay, Yakima, WA, also reported on the Far West Camp Meeting. Bro. Jerry McCay, Yakima, WA, announced the baptisms of Wayne Markham and Felica McKinney. Also announced: the passing of Sis. Vea Morris.

***The Christian Courier*, October-November 1989.** The Bellflower, CA, congregation hosted a meeting with Bro. Dan O. Teague. Sis. Bonnie and others were deeply saddened over the loss of Bro. Henry Oliver. There were many traveling to various meetings and prayer for their safty during these summer months was requested: Bro. Mark & Sis. Tammy Perigen and Stephen, and Bro. Gerald & Sis. Natalie Brockman. Bro. Matton Serrano announced the passing of Ina Nunnally on August 8, 1989, at the age of 84. Bro. Howard McCay wrote that they went on a 10 week excursion and that they were able to attend 4 gospel meetings. The Randlett, OK, congregation thanked the many visitors that came recently. The Citrus City, AZ, congregation announced their meeting in November with Bro. Rex Mickey. The Yuma, AZ, congregation announced their meeting in December. Henry Oliver of Alamgordo, NM, passed away. Bro. Homer Bryant thanked the *Christian Courier* for the inspiration it provided.

***The Christian Courier*, December, 1989.** Bro. Audley Barnes, Loco, OK, reported on their meeting with Bro. Bro. Mark Perigen. Sis. Sandra Ross, Stilwell, OK, wrote that Bro. John & Sis. Viola Brown had been ill and in the hospital and that Bro. Mick Boen was in the hospital with an allergic reaction to some medication. Bro. Howard McCay, Selah, WA, announced the passing of Sis. Geneva Roark and the baptism of Tom Putz of Seattle while Tom was visiting in Arizona. The

Randlett, OK, congregation announced the marriage of Bro. Roy Mullens and Sis. Kim McCormick on Sept. 30th. The San Pablo, CA, congregation reported that Bro. & Sis. Cotton and Pauline Lowery had moved from Pittsburg, PA, and were meeting with them the past few Sundays; and that Bro. Gene McKinney had an operation on his hand to remove a bone fragment after an accident. Bro. Jerry Perigen, Bellflower, CA, wrote that Sis. Earlene Chessman recently had surgery; that Bro. Mark and Sis. Tammy Perigen announced that they were expecting a new baby in June; that Regina Dunn was baptized; and they also list several recent vistors.



Cards and Letters

Alamogordo, NM

Good morning all,

I just received the Courier and enjoyed reading the letters from the different congregations.

We are doing as well as can be expected here. I continue to homeschool the boys and Gary still works for B & H Construction. Gary may begin in a month or two to work for a local rancher/car dealer/CPA doing different tasks on each of the Cooper's six ranches. This will be a good position for Gary as he can work at his own pace. At my last writing, we thought he just had a pinched nerve. Although he has not been diagnosed at this point, we believe he has M.S. I researched the disease and I believe we have it at bay for a while with a very strict vitamin program. Please remember him in your prayers.

Please change our address in your address books. We are no longer using pruiett@zianet.

Thank you,

Gari Pruiett

Baron, OK

Greetings from The Baron Church of Christ,

We would like the editors of the Courier to know that we really appreciate the colorful format of the paper. We enjoy the paper very much and appreciate the hard work put into it.

We enjoyed having visitors, Sister Earlene, Matt, Kim, and family, from the Lorenzo congregation over Labor Day weekend. Matt gave a wonderful sermon.

We are striving to do the Lords' will and hope and pray the Church will grow and we will all be stronger in the Faith.

We have four speakers at the present; Brothers Jim Brown, David Brown, Robert Eldridge, and Doyle Wilson. We feel very fortunate to have these speakers.

Our Sister Lectie Denny has just had surgery to receive a pacemaker. At last report she was doing well. We pray for her speedy recovery.

We very much enjoy having Brother Paul Andrews and his mother Sister Margie with us when we have our monthly luncheon the second

Sunday of the month. Paul speaks for us at this time and we look forward to their presence.

We invite everyone to worship with us at anytime. Visitors are always welcome.

Sincerely,

Baron Church of Christ

Sea-Tac, WA

Our beloved brothers and sisters,

Here goes for the news from Seattle.

We were very privileged to have Bro. Matt and Sis. Kelly Shepherd and Bro. Eric and Sis. Lori Forsman, and their families here recently. They wanted to hear one of our young brethren give the lesson, and Bro. Scott Staley gave an excellent lesson on "Love". That same weekend, we were very happy to have Sis. Shaya Orendorff back with us from college in Arizona.

Sis. Sarah Suave from Yakima had some very rough times earlier. Complications from a flu infection were life-threatening to her. She made it through, and is back home. But she still needs to be remembered in all your prayers.

We're happy that Bro. Don & Sis. Heather Johnston moved back to this area.

Bro. Terry and Sis. Suzie Warford's oldest daughter, Teri Sue, was named Student of the Month for her second-grade class today. Everyone is delighted about that.

We thank you for your continued support for the *Courier*. We welcome (beg for) your articles and letters. How about turning your favorite lesson into an article or two? Or, we can even print them as an outline.

With all our love,

The Sea-Tac congregation

Selah, WA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We know that it has been a long time since you have heard from the Selah Congregation. It is not because we have died out. We are still a very active congregation and seem to be growing at a very steady rate.

As many of you know, we have been meeting in the Selah Civic Center for many many years.

Several weeks ago one of the sisters in our congregation happened on a old church building that had recently come up for sale.

As we are outgrowing our present location, we looked at this building very seriously. At the present time we have made, and they have accepted, our offer to purchase this building. We are now in the process of finding financing for our new building.

Many years ago, when we first moved to Selah, several congregations offered to help us purchase our own building. It has been so many years ago we have forgotten who they were and don't even know if these congregations would be able to help today. If your congregation is in a position to help, we would appreciate any amount of donation you could spare. Please remember to keep us in your prayers, as this is a big step for us.

May God bless you all as he has us!

Sincerely, For the Selah Congregation,

Robert Farley

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Yuma, AZ

Dear Brother, Sisters and Friends,

A few words to say hi, with hopes that all is well with everyone. We are doing much better here at this time. Sister Laveta Boling spent a night in the hospital to evaluate possible heart problems. She is home and seems to be doing okay.

Our weather has finally broken some from the high humidity and heat. The highs still reach the 100 degree some but with us that is peace of cake as long as the humidity stays low.

Sister Verda Nelson is home and back with us in church. We are glad she is back safe and we are looking for a few others to return soon.

We have news this time that we are happy to share with all. There is a new member of God's family and brother to announce. Ivan Spicer was baptized on Oct. 3, 1999. He is 17 years of age and has been attending services with five other young ladies and men. We are so pleased that these young ones choose to attend church, for most choose the ways of the world. The young ladies had obeyed the gospel some time ago. See what influence you young folks can have one with another!

We want to remind that a guest speaker meeting to begin Easter Sunday and continue through the week is still planned. It would be our pleasure if you can attend. Your being here would enhance and help make the meeting a success.

This is about all the news I can think of, let us all work together to continue the cause of Christ.

In Christian love, the congregation at Yuma.

Yuma, AZ

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Hi, and I hope all is well with all in the brotherhood.

We have had several with medical problems, but most are doing well, or are on the mend. Bro. Dean Heck had surgery on his back again; and his mother, Sis. Sybil Schrader, had complications. Both were attended to in Phoenix. Sis. Dorothy Williams had gall bladder surgery here in Yuma. Bro. Sonny Boling had surgery on one of his knees. All seem to be doing well. It seems our many prayers have been answered.

Sis. Willie Davis is back home now after time away this summer. Also, Bro. Carl & Sis. Betty Carlson are back home after visiting in Washington, Oregon, and California. It's good to have them back.

There has been one notable birthday and one in the near future here. My wife Alice and I celebrated Zelma Broadway's birthday with her. She is 80 old. It was good to be with her. My birthday is one day ahead of hers. Whenever she was able, we sometimes celebrated together. Betty Carlson's 99th birthday is coming up on October 7th, I think, and am looking forward to celebrating it with her.

This is about all the news I can think to write about for now. May the Lord bless and keep us, and let us all pray one for the other.

The Brothers & Sisters in Yuma, AZ

50th Wedding Anniversary

The children of Howard and Leola Taylor announce their parent's 50th wedding anniversary, Saturday December 18, 1999. We are celebrating this event with a reception at 2:00 in the afternoon at the Comanche Community Center, Comanche, OK. If any of you can make it to Oklahoma please come and share this time with Howard and Leola, their children Teresa, Karla, and Clif, grandchildren, family, and friends.

Howard and Leola actually will have been married 50 years on December 25, 1999. That's right, they married on Christmas Day. Mom says she always gets cheated out of one present or the other and advises everyone to think about that if they are considering Christmas Day as their wedding day.

Teresa Taylor Barnes
Karla Taylor Jones
Clif Taylor

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BULLETIN BOARD

Meetings

Apr. 23-30, 2000	Yuma, AZ	Guest speakers
June 30-July 9, 2000	Delta, CO	Delta Camp Meeting

Baptisms

Ivan Spicer	Yuma, AZ	Oct. 3, 1999

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Gary Pruiett	Alamagordo, NM	M. S.
Renee Cowherd	Aztec, NM	Seriously ill
Ken Bishop	Aztec, NM	Medical problems
Lectie Denny	Baron, OK	Surgery for pacemaker
Erelene Chessman	Bellflower, CA	Fighting cancer
Hazel Harville	Broken Bow, OK	Heart condition & diabetes
George Cowger	Cedaredge, CO	Damaged spinal cord
Myra Dabbs	Cedaredge, CO	Needs hip replacement
Kresta Fouch	Cedaredge, CO	Seriously ill
Sis. Craig	Cedaredge, CO	Broken hip & surgery
Sandy Nunely	Glenwood, WA	Fighting cancer
Maysel Buchannon	Goshen, AR	Fighting cancer, broken hip
Letha Ferguson	Goshen, AR	Fighting cancer
Mary Serrano	Goshen, AR	Emphysema, bronchitis, & asthma
Jean Sloan	Goshen, AR	Back problems
Reba White	Lorenzo, TX	Fighting cancer
Sarah Sauve	Yakima, WA	Fighting cancer in hip
Laveta Boling	Yuma, AZ	Heart problems
Sonny Boling	Yuma, AZ	Knee surgery
Betty Carlson	Yuma, AZ	Heart problems
Carl Carlson	Yuma, AZ	Heart problems
Ruth Duncan	Yuma, AZ	Heart attack
Ruth's husband	Yuma, AZ	Lung cancer
Dean & Billy Heck	Yuma, AZ	Extreme back problems
Sybil Schrader	Yuma, AZ	Complications