

The Christian Courier

January, 2006

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A Challenge To Young Christians: DARE

My thesaurus says "question, challenge, risk, brave" among other synonyms. It is in this context that I want to challenge all young Christians.

I propose six "challenges" that, if pursued, will help you to expand your knowledge, broaden your understanding, and clarify your goals.

By "challenge", I do not intend to suggest that you challenge eternal truths that we all read in holy scripture, but the teachings of men that are all around us today, often advanced by men as "true doctrine", "correct interpretation of scripture", etc.

"Bible teachers" coming to your door or with whom you meet in your everyday activities will propose myriads of pseudo-biblical schemes. It is to these that I address your attention.



Also, I am sorry to say, within the church, there are many teachers advancing teachings that are self-serving which should be challenged.

Some of the following will, perhaps, shock the sensibilities of some, but I doubt if there are many in the world above the kindergarten level that have not been exposed to at least a large portion of this material.

It all has its roots in the holy scriptures, so it should not be at all offensive to discuss. Also, our children are exposed to these subjects in school, and should be encouraged to study the scriptures to learn what God has to say about them.

Dare To Challenge The Teachings Of The World

Evolution

For the past 150 years we have been assailed by a barrage of pseudo-scientific theories, attempting to teach that all life on earth, both human and the lower animals, including reptiles and birds, descended from a common ancestor, probably a one-celled denizen of some ancient pond-scum.

If this seem crude to some, I invite one to pick up one of several National Geographic magazines dealing with the subject and you will see that this description is not far afield from what is being taught as "scientific fact".

We are told in the book of Genesis that the earth, the heavens, and all things that are therein were created by God. Read of all this in the first three chapters of Genesis.

Your challenge, young people, is to read both and ask yourselves, 'which makes more sense?' Does it make sense that such an intricate functioning universe, the closest thing to perfection that can be perceived of in the mind of men, could be the product of chance?

Much more could be said, but I'll leave it there for you to decide: do I believe man and his ever-changing, ever-contradicting theories, or do I believe the word of God?

Abortion

This is distasteful to write about. Indeed, a scant thirty years ago, we would scarcely think of it. However, this has been pushed to the fore-front by a segment of society bent upon re-defining the laws of morality and civil behavior, to say nothing of maintaining a decent respect for the word of God.

Your challenge is to take all the claims of the pro-abortionists concerning what it is that they are taking the life of and discarding in the waste bin, and see if they measure up to what God would have us believe.

When we couch the truth in misapplied terminologies in order to evade the force of logic, we defeat the reason for language.

Consider the pseudo-logic of the pro-abortionists when they tell us that abortion does not take the life of a living baby, merely a *fetus*. Never mind that the word *fetus* is a Latin word which primarily means, "a bringing forth, progeny". So, in reality, when one aborts (interrupts) the life of a *fetus*, it is a baby's life that is ending.

Go to God's word; ask yourselves if we can justify the taking of the life of an unborn child, while at the same time, we cannot justify taking the life of a fully born child. Is there a difference between ending the life of the two? Is one not violating the law of God, "thou shalt not kill" when this is done? By what law of reason and logic can we make a difference?

Homosexuality

In the short space of my lifetime, (76 years), this subject has changed from one never discussed in public, orally or in print, to arguably the most discussed subject of the present day.

But it is a subject dealt with in God's word. God certainly has not left us uninformed as to his position on the matter. When God created mankind, he created them man and woman. (Gen. 1:18-25). Woman was to be a wife, a help meet to man. (Gen. 1:18). This was God's plan. I have never found where God changed His mind on the matter.

Time passed and mankind began to deviate from the God-appointed man-woman union. We

read in Genesis 18 and 19 concerning the evil and corrupted lifestyles of the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah.

It is not difficult to understand the displeasure of God at the behavior of the Sodomites. Witness, then, their destruction and reason within yourselves: if these two cities are examples of a corrupted lifestyle (Jude 7), should not Christians avoid this behavior at all cost?

This type of conduct was not unknown in the early church, as witness, Rom. 1:18-32. Paul minced no words in describing the behavior of these corrupted individuals

Your challenge, young people, is to take the claims of all you see and read about in the media as well as that with which you come in contact in your everyday life, in school, etc, and compare it with God's revealed expectations.

Today, we hear much of "same-sex" marriage in the papers and on TV. It has confused many young (and old) people today, but there is no reason for confusion. God has clearly stated His plan for marriage in Gen. 1:23-24. "*...Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*" If God has changed His mind in the meanwhile, I have failed to notice.

So, compare God's plan with the lifestyles of men and women today, and then ask yourself. "Should I rather not obey God, than man?"

Dare To Challenge The False Teachings Within The Church

The scriptures teach us that, even in the apostles' age, there were *many* false teachers within the church. Paul, in his discourse to the elders of Ephesus, foretold this; "*...after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.*" (Acts 28:29). Not only from without, but also from within among the elders would men arise, speaking perverse things, subverting the members from the truth.

Beware Of False Prophets

We are warned by Peter that *false teachers, "among you...privily shall bring in damnable heresies,...*". Some would even,... "(deny) *the Lord that bought them*", Vs 1. As a result of their actions, "*...the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.*"

And what of the members over whom theses elders were the "shepherds"? "*...And with covetousness shall they make merchandise of you:...*" (items merely to be bought and sold).

Modern Day False Teachers

We should not believe that false teachers existed only in the apostles' times for we have had our own experience in this regard in the times of our lives.

We are even witnessing this sorry spectacle in one of our southern states of a "seasoned" preacher advocating and teaching that baptism for the remission of sins is not required to achieve salvation. This amounts to a total rejection of the words of the Savior and the apostles on this subject.

Many, today, embrace the class-teaching departure doctrine with its women-teachers, as a work of the church, despite the fact that the scriptures are totally silent on the matter, and teach an entirely different method of teaching. Also, Paul instructs us (I Cor. 14:34) "*Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak.*"

There are many more digressions from the truth today that have been written on in these pages; far too many to mention at this time. *INVESTIGATE!!*

Some Teach That There Are No Laws For Christians To Keep

Strange to say, this seems to be a thought that many entertain today. "The commands and examples of our Lord and his apostles are nothing more than a record of what they did and there is no necessity to consider these to be mandatory today."

Needless to say, this leaves us in a vacuum as to what is, and what is not a command. A brief look at the words of Paul (I Cor. 14:37) will quickly lay this notion to rest. "*If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.*"

Your challenge, young people, is to search about the holy scriptures to determine what the commands and examples of Jesus, the apostles, and the early church teach. Also, observe the "modern" forms of worship and compare with the original. In so doing, you will be able to determine what is true and what is not.

I have given you six items to investigate, some from without the church from contemporary society, but very much affecting Christians today, others, from within the church, vitally affecting the spiritual health of the body of Christ today.

Do as the "noble Bereans" (Acts 17:11), "*... (search) the scriptures daily, whether (these) things are so.*"

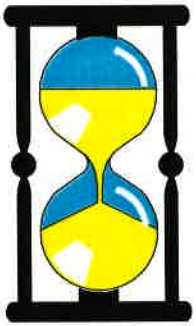
If you have difficulties, consult the help of older, more experienced, Christians who will help you to better understand the truth of God's word on these matters.

I leave you with one word which will always be of great help if pursued with diligence:

INVESTIGATE!!

Your brother in Christ,
JD Logan
4810 SW Hunter Road
Port Orchard, WA 98367-7711

Precious Memories



***It Is Written*, December, 1955.** Bro. Isaac Ferguson, Ontario, CA, announced they started a new congregation in that vicinity.

***It Is Written*, January, 1956.** Bro. L. M. Starnes, Springfield, OR, reported on their meeting with Bro. Howard McCay, during which one was added to the Lord's service. Sis. Howard Studer, Lorenzo, TX, wrote about the passing of Sis. White.

***The Christian Courier*, January, 1966.** Bro. Don Taylor, Loco, OK, reported on their meeting with Bro. Ken Baldwin. He also noted that Bro. Ken had suffered another heart attack shortly after their meeting. Bro. J. D. Johnson, Lakeside, CA, mentioned that Bro. Dan Greenway was meeting with them while stationed at San Diego with the Navy. He also

reported the baptism of Charles Louis. Bro. Earl Atchley, Westville, OK, reported on their shared meeting with the Pleasant View and Baron congregations with Bro. Ken Baldwin. There were six baptisms reported: Sharon Clinton, Trudy Brown, Jessie Walkingstick, Gerald Chastine, Denat Spence, and Glenda Cantrell. Bro. W. E. Daniels, Stilwell, OK, mentioned that Sis. Queen was in bed with heart ailment. Bro. Howard McCay, Yakima, WA, announced the baptism of Jim Colvin. He also said they planned on a meeting in June and another in November. Bro. Ira Brown, Waterford, CA, announced a meeting in June with Bro. Jerry McCay and Bro. Richard Johnston. Bro. Clyde Couchman, Carlsbad, NM, reported on their weekend meeting with Bro. McCluskey.

***The Christian Courier*, January, 1976.** Bro. Clif Brockman, Chico, CA, reported on their meeting with guest speakers. Bro. Howard McCay, Yakima, WA, announced a meeting in April with Bro. Sammy Boen. Bro. Mike McCay, Yakima, WA, announced the birth of Tara Lynn to Bro. Dan & Sis. Alyce Ross on November 20th.

***The Christian Courier*, December, 1985.** Bro. George B. Morris, Stilwell, OK, announced the baptism of Jim Buckner on October 13th. Bro. James Brown, Baron, OK, announced their meeting in June with Bro. Al Way. Bro. Troy Morse, Waterford, CA, announced the passing of Sis. Rosa Brown on November 15th.

***The Christian Courier*, January, 1986.** Bro. Billy Richardson, Furnish Canyon, OK, announced the birth of Jessica Dawn to Bro. Matt & Sis. Tonnie Wiggins on November 8th. Bro. Gerald Buckner, Stilwell, OK, wrote about the passing of Bro. Hays Morris on November 19th. Bro. Bill McCay, Yakima, WA, mentioned that Bro. Richard & Sis. Monica Johnston's daughter, Jessica, received a concussion from a recent car accident.

***The Christian Courier*, December, 1995.** Bro. Gene McKinney, Selah, WA, announced three recent births: Olivia to Erica & Dan Smith; Samantha Jo to Shawna & Troy Solomon; and Tyler Lee to Christina & Paul Kostzy. Bro. Mel Daniels, Bohanna Mt., AR, wrote of the passing of Aaron Senn, 11. He also announced the wedding of Amanda Casey and Larry Lawson on September 2nd. The Sea-Tac, WA, congregation wrote that Bro. Howard McCay had been having dizzy spells when walking.

***The Christian Courier*, January, 1996.** The Aloha, OR, congregation reported on their meeting in August with Bro. Mark Perigen. Also announced was the passing of Lana Slease and the baptism of Jessica Silva on November 29th. Bro. Lloyd Usrey, Sacramento, CA, announced the baptisms of Dave Fredrickson in June and Roy Bush in November. The Yuma, AZ, congregation wrote that Sis. Willie Davis had quadruple bypass surgery, announced the birth of Alyssa Valrie to Jessica & Sean on September 24th and mentioned three baptisms in Show Low, AZ, on December 5th: Bonny Lou Hagerty, Theresa Rose Hagerty, and Rae Lynn Hagerty.

Cards and Letters

Gleed, WA

Dear Brother's & Sister's in Christ,

We here at the Gleed Church of Christ have lost two loved ones from our congregation: Evelyn Lamb and Dorothy Sage. They will be missed greatly and remembered always.

Also, Melinda Carbenaire the mother of Blake & Stephanie McKinney passed away from a sudden onset of Leukemia. Melinda died at age 34. Blake and Stephanie are now living in Yakima with their family and attending the Gleed Church of Christ. Jim and Alyce Smith are now meeting at the Gleed Church of Christ. Alyce has come forward and asked for

Church of Christ

120 Donelson Lane Yakima, Washington 98908



Gleed Church of Christ Meets Sunday Morning at 10:30 am Night services start at 6:00 pm
Basket Dinner is the third Sunday of each month. The fourth Sunday evening is fellowship night, all are welcome
Youth Group for Teens every Thursday starting at 7:00 pm Any Questions Call Felica & Mike Geho 972-2022

All activities are subject to change

2006

forgiveness and for the prayers of the church. Please keep her in your prayers, as we all sinned and come short of the glory of God. Rich & Melissa Lamb and Jason & Katie Christianson have all been blessed with the news that they will be starting families of there own. Please keep them and the babies in your prayers.

Five new souls have been added to the body of Christ. Crystal Cantril, Tom Thrush, Ilene Thrush, Rita Clinton & Marjorie Brookshire. The congregation is growing fast. We here at the Gleed Church of Christ are all truly blessed. There are approximately 70 people now meeting on Sundays. The Lord has blessed us with a building, and the members are filling up the pews (With more room to grow). Mike Geho has finally retired from the Air Force after 20 years of service. Mike, Felica, Michael & Sam Geho are happy to be back home.

It sure is nice to have more young men participating in the services.

Mike and Felica's mailing address is 15085 Cottonwood Canyon Yakima, Washington 98908

Home Phone# (509) 972-2022

This summer the church held a Vacation Bible School the last week in July. It was a lot of fun and the kids learned about the Birth, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We had about 27 children from the ages of 1 to 18 years old. It was very successful and we are planning to have it again next summer. Look for the date in the courier for next years V.B.S.

Mike and Felica have started a Teens Youth Group at the church on Thursday nights.

There are approx. 10 teens that attend.

The Gleed Church of Christ welcomes all visitors. We meet Sunday mornings at 10:30 am & Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm. Basket Dinner is the Third Sunday of each month, and singing that evening for services. The fourth Sunday evening is fellowship night. There is always lots of food and fun.

In Christian Love,
Threasa King

Glenwood, WA

Greetings from Glenwood, Washington.

I'm late this month: it seems that many things have come up to delay writing. Nevertheless, here we are. We have enjoyed bright sunshine for several days (although cold) but the rain started yesterday, so maybe we can catch up on our December rain; we're far behind this month.

Our little congregation is doing well, except for two of our members. Sis. Patricia Bergman is suffering from a frozen shoulder, which is extremely painful, and may undergo surgery in January to correct the condition. Bro. Bill Taylor came out of his surgery in good time, according to the word I got just this afternoon. He is resting in the hospital at present.

It was with heavy hearts that we heard of the passing of Bro. Steve Perigen, young son of Bro. and Sis. Mark Perigen. There are always questions that will be left unanswered in cases like this, but the Lord knows best; His suffering is over. Our thoughts and prayers are with his entire extended families, the Perigens and Ways. May they be comforted as only the Lord can do.

Let's all remember the meeting in Yuma, AZ in March. All who can, should go and enjoy the good fellowship.

Come, visit with us in Glenwood. We'll welcome you as good brethren should be greeted.

From Glenwood, WA, by J D Logan.

Oakdale, CA

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

The church at Oakdale, California sends it's love to the brotherhood. It's been quite awhile since we have written. We moved from Stockton over to Oakdale, which is where our three families live.

Time certainly marches on as we look around us and see our young children now growing up into young adults. It just reinforces the old teaching of always being prepared. All our lives are busy and time flies by, but no matter what, the most important thing is living for the Lord.

We have all been saddened at the return of the cancer in Steve Perigen. After being in remission for a year it returned back into his leg and also in his lung. Steve is now on the Hoxsey treatment, going down to the Bio Medical Center in Mexico for treatment. We certainly put our faith and trust in the Lord and pray for his healing hand on Steve.

Steve is not having a easy time of it, as he has to take 50 pills a day, as well as take the tonic and other medicine required for his treatment. It is really a testament to see the faith and dedication in this young man. His courage and faith and trust in God gives all of us strength.

We ask for the prayers of the saints on Steve's behalf. It truly is in the hands of God. When modern medicine can't heal we know there is one who can. Thy will be done. Please also pray for Mark and Tammy and Steve's sisters so they can stay strong.

In Christian Love,
Gerald Brockman
13249 Horseshoe Road
Oakdale, CA 95361

Oakdale, CA

December 18, 2005

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

This is to inform you of the passing of our son, Stephen on December 12, 2005. As most of you know, Steve had battled a stubborn cancer for a little over two years and finally succumbed this past Monday night. We can't say enough about the dignity and strength of this young man. Not once during this long journey did he ever question God's judgments, lash out at those around him, or utter any words of anger even during periods of extreme pain and emotional distress. He was an inspiration to all of us who were close to him.

Tammy and I want to extend our gratitude to all of you who kept him continually before you in prayer. For all the cards, the phone calls, the financial help, we can't thank you enough. We are so proud to be part of Gods body of believers. Truly, the love of Christ was shown to our family during these trying times.

On a happier note, we were able to enjoy many good times with Steve between the end of his first go around with the disease and when he finally passed after being re-diagnosed. Some notable times were a trip to his favorite fishing spot for a week of camping with his cousins and grandparents, a trip to Washington DC with two other church families, Disneyland, and through Make-a-Wish Foundation, a trip to Homer, Alaska, the "Halibut Capital of the World". Steve caught his big one, and many more and the whole family thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We were given a gift from God, in having over a year of relief between battling the disease. We loved, laughed, and completely lived life.

Better than all of this, Steve was baptized into our Lords body a few weeks prior to his death.

He had talked about it months before but wanted to wait until the pain abated so he could fully concentrate on the moment. That moment came. A one day respite from the persistent pain gave Steve the opportunity to accept the Lord on His terms. He remarked that night, "Dad, I have zero pain and feel so peaceful". That was weeks ago, but I know he feels that same peace now. Upon his death in our arms, we prayed as did his namesake, Stephen of the bible, "Lord Jesus, receive his spirit." Our boy was saved and we knew exactly where he was. We do not grieve as those who have no hope but only that our short stay here on Earth will be lonelier without him. But we will see him again when our Lord returns. I believe this with all that is in me. Can't wait!!

Thank you again for all you have done over these past two years! We love you.

The Perigen Family

Sea-Tac, WA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings and love from the Pacific Northwest.

This has been a very busy holiday period for us. The Forsman's had spent the last three months converting Bro. Ellis' old shop (13x30) into living quarters for Sis. Nell McCay. So much for Bro. Ellis Forsman's retirement! This is also why *The Courier* is late; we'll try to do better. Although it is not 100% completed, they moved Nell into her new "digs" just before Christmas. Bro. Terry Warford faithfully helped many Saturdays to speed the project and Bro. Jerry & Sis. Wynetta McCay came up from Texas to help with the move. All their efforts were greatly appreciated! There's still a lot of sorting to do. Lord willing, Bro. Ellis hopes to build his new shop next summer. Meanwhile, most of his shop tools are in storage.

In November, Sis. Lynell Forsman and Bro. Terry Warford were able to attend the 3-day meeting at Broken Bow, OK, held by Bro. Jerry McCay. Both said it was so spiritually uplifting to be there.

Once again, we enjoyed having loved ones home for the Christmas holiday: Bro. Eric & Sis. Lori Harper & family and Bro. Matt & Sis. Kelly Shepherd and family. During the Thanksgiving holiday, the Forsman and Shepherd families met with the Harper's in Foresthill, CA.

We are happy to report that Sis. Odessa Honorable's niece, Lynn Washington, was baptized on Nov. 20th. Lynn had been meeting with the Sea-Tac congregation for a few weeks. We are so very happy for her. Then on Dec. 10th, Lynn and Jose' Rivera were married.

We were so very sorry to hear of the loss of Bro. Stephen Perigen after a long battle with cancer. There have been a lot of prayers going up for him and his family, and these prayers continue on the families' behalf.

We received late news of the passing of Sis. Lectie Denny of the Baron, OK, congregation on January 2, 2006. She was laid to rest on January 5th. Sis. Denny had attended the meeting last summer at Beaver's Bend with Bro. Doyle & Sis. Sue Wilson. She was truly a beautiful Christian lady, and will be greatly missed!

We also received recent news of two baptisms at the Yakima, WA, congregation on December 28th: Katherine McCay and Mike McCay, Jr.

If any of the congregations plan to have meetings this year, please get the information into *The Courier* as soon as possible so that others can complete their travel plans.

With love,

The Sea-Tac congregation

Yuma, AZ

Dear brothers and sisters,

A message from the church in Yuma with hopes and prayers that with God's blessings all are well or healing. Most here are doing well at this time. Sis. Ruth Duncan spent several days in the hospital here, undergoing tests, then had two or so stints installed. The doctor that attended her was guilt-concerned in that her open heart surgery was ruled out, and one of the blockages was extremely difficult to do. With much prayer, her determination, and the skill of the doctor, all went well. She is now home and doing well.

Our weather has made its change; the humidity has cleared and the extremes of 100°+ have dropped to the 90° highs.

Bro. Dennis, Sisters Susie and Willie are home. We are sure glad to have them back. This is a good example of how important each member is to the body.

A reminder that March 19th through the 26th is our meeting dates. It is guest speakers once again. We have been fortunate for several years to have enough guests to do all the speaking, which I think is great. This gives all in attendance an opportunity to hear speakers from many congregations.

It was good to hear from so many congregations in the October news letter. We all look forward to these letters each month. Somehow, these letters seem more satisfying than other means of communication.

This is about all the news I can think of this time. Everyone take good care for yourselves and for God's business.

Bye for now,

The church in Yuma, AZ



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BULLETIN BOARD

Meetings

March 19-26, 2006	Yuma, AZ	Guest Speakers
July 15-24, 2006	Beaver's Bend, OK	Guest Speakers
August 6-13, 2006	Yakima, WA	Jerry McCay

Baptisms

Rita Clinton	Gleed, WA	
Marjorie Brookshire	Gleed, WA	
Stephen Perigen	Oakdale, CA	November, 2005
Lynn Washington	Sea-Tac, WA	November 20, 2005
Katherine McCay	Yakima, WA	December 28, 2005
Mike McCay, Jr.	Yakima, WA	December 28, 2005

Weddings

Jose' Rivera & Lynn Washington	Sea-Tac, WA	December 10, 2005

Passings

Stephen Perigen	Oakdale, CA	December 12, 2005
Lectie Denny	Baron, OK	January 2, 2006

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Duane Bixler	Aztec, NM	Alzheimer's disease
Synda Swaim	Bellflower, CA	Arthritis pain
Brenda Treat	Broken Bow, OK	Health problems
Edwin Crowell	Broken Bow, OK	Fighting cancer
Floyd Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Heart attack
Ray Queen	Broken Bow, OK	Health problems
Robert Farley	Gleed, WA	Severe Pain
Patricia Bergman	Glenwood, WA	Needs shoulder surgery
Jeanne Boroff	Sea-Tac, WA	Severe hip pain & weakness
Jeannean McSwane	Sea-Tac, WA	Knee replacement, infection, & arthritis
Mike Boroff	Sea-Tac, WA	Fighting cancer
Odessa Honorable	Sea-Tac, WA	Arthritis pain
Barbara Paseman	Springfield, OR	Fighting cancer
Vivian Baker	Waterford, CA	Fighting cancer
Kaye Guyer	Waterford, CA	Not doing good
Alice Davis	Yuma, AZ	Ill health
Jean Orendorff	Yuma, AZ	Ill for some time
Ruth Duncan	Yuma, AZ	Heart surgery