

On the Resurrection Morning

Part 1 of 5

Resurrection Proven

Ever since I was in my early 40s I've had a fascination with the resurrection. I had a lot of questions about it, of things I didn't understand things that I wanted to put together in the form that the Bible would represent.

So for the last 10 to 15 years I've studied, I've contemplated, I've thought about the last day. The glorious day when Christ comes back and takes us home.

I wanna know what happens to this body, I wanna know what happens when he comes back. So today I want to share my thoughts with you.

The apostle Paul had a problem that he had to correct here at the church in Corinth. Apparently they had either converted some Sadducees or the Sadducees were trying to bring their views into the Christian Church. Because the Sadducees didn't believe in a resurrection,

and that's what made them sad you see. That's a preacher joke.

1Co 15:12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

1Co 15:13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:

1Co 15:14 And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain.

1Co 15:15 Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not.

1Co 15:16 For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised:

1Co 15:17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith *is* vain; ye are yet in your sins.

1Co 15:18 Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.

1Co 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

1Co 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept.

1Co 15:21 For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead.

1Co 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1Co 15:23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

1Co 15:24 Then *cometh* the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

1Co 15:25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

1Co 15:26 The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death.

So here the apostle Paul proves beyond a shadow of a doubt through their own very faith that there is a resurrection.

Acts the 24th chapter and verse 15 tells us it'll be of the just and the unjust both, it'll be everybody, but what I wanna look at is what happens to us, the christians, at the resurrection.

Your Brother in Christ

Paul Warford

Published by the Pleasant View Church of Christ in Stilwell, OK

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Notes & Letters

Sacramento, CA

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The church family in Sacramento is gathering every Sunday for worship and communion.

Our oldest members, Ken & Neen Harper, are in their 90's and are still able to make it to church every Lord's Day.

We have been blessed with plenty of rain and snow recently, and are looking forward to the sunshine of Spring and Summer.

If you are around the Sacramento area, we would love to see you.

In Christian Love, The Sacramento Church of Christ

Eric & Lori Harper 530-367-5194
Kevin & Janine Harper 916-424-4845
Eric & Lillian Smith 916-991-2668

ps. Enclosed is a check to help with the courier expenses. Thank you for all you are doing to keep the church family connected.

Also, we only need 8 printed copies, as our church is small. Thank you!

...And if you have figured out expenses for running the Courier, could you share? Some were asking so we would know for how to help in the future, Lord Willing.

Randlett, OK

Enclosed is a check to pay for the paper copies of The Christian Courier for our members and the postage associated with them. Please use any overage towards the other expenses of The Christian Courier.

May God bless, Andy Barnes
Randlett congregation in Oklahoma

Tiner Church of Christ

Enclosed is a donation to help with the Christian Courier.

Thank you all very much.
The Tiner congregation
(East of Broken Bow, OK)

Oakdale, CA

Thank you for your work and efforts in taking up the torch of The Christian Courier. From experience, I know it is a lot of work, but truly a great work. As you mentioned it has helped keep the church united over the years. God bless you and the efforts put forth from the group there.

I remember fondly the time spent putting out The Courier when I lived in Southern California and went to church at Bellflower. A lot of work, but a lot of fun with the group putting it all together.

Gerald Brockman
Oakdale Church of Christ

Now that we've published four issues, we're able to calculate materials, equipment, printing and mailing at an *average* of about $1.25 per copy. -Ed

Waterford, CA

The congregation at Waterford, CA sends greetings to our brothers and sisters in Christ. We have many blessings to be thankful for. A series of storms have filled our reservoirs witth water and our mountains with a huge snow-pack. We have a small, dependable group of believers that meet every Sunday, and despite our rather small size we have a rotation of 5 speakers.

Along with the blessings we enjoy we have had some losses we need to report. Our sister Karen Kent passed away unexpectantly, in February. She had been a faithful member for many years and many of us will remember her when we sing her favorite hymn, "Face to Face."

Another passing is that of Vivian Wright (Baker), who lived into her ninth decade. Many of the brothers and sisters who used to come to the Waterford meetings will remember her as the nice lady with the big swimming pool who would graciously open it up for the use of the young people to enjoy - it was also the iste of many baptisms.

All of us are very grateful for the years of work Brother Ellis Forsman worked on The Courier, and we are now praying for the new editor's success in taking up the reins. We look forward to any visitors who can make it to Waterford. We meet every Sunday at 10:30.

Enclosed please find a check to help with the Courier.

Kurt Harper

Waterford, CA congregation



Thought for the Month

Is Our Anchor Dry?

Hebrews 6, "[17] *...he confirmed it with an oath.* [18] *God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged.* [19] ***We have this hope as an anchor*** *for the soul, firm and secure..."*

God has given us this anchor to hold on to for encouragement during desperate and trying times. But do we use this life raft to its full advantage? An anchor that's raised up out of the water does us no more good than one laying lost in the bottom sand cut away from its vessel.

This **hope of eternal life in heaven** is a wonderful gift to keep us stable and secure. But it's not going to help us if we don't use it. Are we holding on to it for dear life, to keep us from being tossed in life's storms? Or are we leaving it dry?

Love & blessings... Jesse Warford

Congregation of the Month

Sacramento
Church of Christ

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Rio Linda, C A 95673

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38.691502, -121.455669

Eric & Lori Harper
(530) 367-5194

Kevin & Janine Harper
(916) 424-4845

Eric & Lillian Smith
(916) 991-2668



Please stop by and visit with us for a while!
We'd love to see you on the Lord's Day!

Worship: 10:30 A M Sunday

Lorenzo Meeting - **June 11-18, 2023**
407 4th St, Lorenzo, TX 79343
Speakers: **Mike Harcrow & Duane Bixler**

Contact: **Jerry McCay**
(806) 549-0355

News from Abroad

WHY DID GOD CHOOSE JOB?

A study of the book of Job is one that will leave the reader better than he was before. In that book, Job demonstrates a great deal of endurance during a difficult span in his life. His example is one that will help modern man learn how to handle hardships. In the New Testament, James referenced Job when he wrote, "*Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy." (Jam. 5:11). With that being stated, let us now direct our attention to a specific query. Out of all of the men on the Earth at the time, why did God choose Job?*

From the outset, Job is identified in very specific ways. "*There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil." (Job 1:1). These characteristics are the answer to our question. When Satan came before God, the LORD used Job as an example to show Satan that although mankind had fallen into sin, there was still a man that was faithful to God. "And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil." (Job 1:8). After the death of Job's children, the LORD still spoke highly of Job due to the fact that "In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly." (Job 1:22). "And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause." (Job 2:3). After being afflicted with "...sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown", Job's wife question why Job refused to turn against the LORD (Job 2:7). "Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die." (Job 2:8). The response that Job gave her further demonstrates why God would choose Job. "But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips." (Job 2:10). With such admirable qualities, Job is certainly a man that God could trust!*

Let us now look a little deeper at the words that God used to describe Job. First of all, the LORD indicated "...*that there is none like him in the earth...*" *(Job 1:8). What a compliment! Job lived his life in such a way that separated him from the rest of men. If a similar situation were to happen today, would God be able to say such about us? Are our lives different from the those of the world, or are we so similar to the world that we blend? We should know that Paul wrote, "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). The LORD also indicated that Job was "*...a perfect and an upright man..." (Job 1:8; 2:3). We should not take the English word "perfect" to mean that Job never sinned (Rom. 3:10-11, 23). Instead, we should look at him as being a "complete" man of God. That is the idea that Paul had when he wrote, "That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Tim. 3:17). One becomes such by obeying the Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16-17). To be known as "an upright man" means that Job lived a righteous life. This further shows that Job took obeying God's Word very seriously. The Psalmist wrote, "My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness." (Psm. 119:172).*

It is also recorded that Job "feared God" (Job 1:8; 2:3). This fear should not be equated with cowardly fear. Instead, Job reverenced God and exalted God. This is part of *"...the whole duty of man." (Eccl. 12:13). In the book of Proverbs we find, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Prov. 1:7). Likewise, "The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate." (Prov. 8:13). As can be seen from these verses, we learn why Job was labeled as a one who "...escheweth evil" (Job 1:8; 2:3). Job turned from those things that were wicked. He wanted to obey God.*

It is apparent why the LORD chose Job. He knew Job, and understood that Job served God faithfully and honestly. May we all strive to live lives that are similar in character.

Yours in Christ, Sadat.
(From our Africa mission)

A big SHOUT-OUT to our contributors this month!

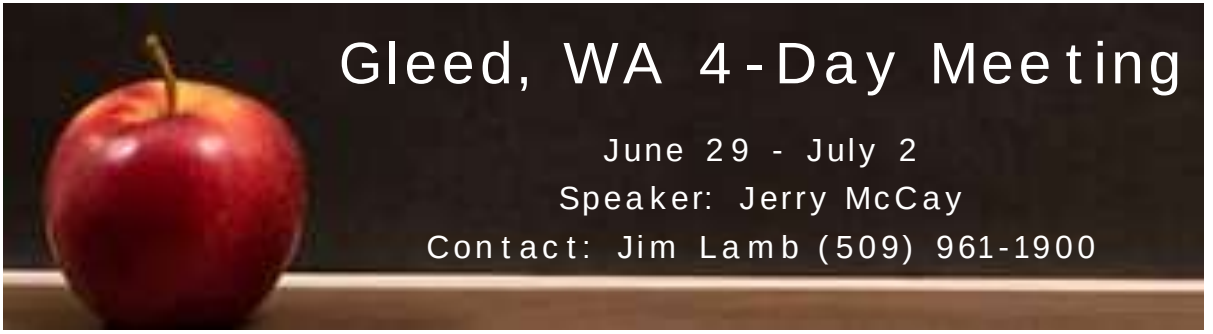
Waterford Church - Modesto, CA
Tiner Church - Broken Bow, OK
Sacramento, CA Congregation
Roy Wright
Randlett, OK Congregation
Aztec, NM Congregation

Thank You All Very Much!

HELP!

Please remember those in our missions in foreign countries need our continued financial support! Please continue to help! -Thx!

ChristianCourier1Cup@gmail.com



Old Testament Book Search

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Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi



Voices from the Past

From "It is Written" - Feb 1957

AT REST Another of our beloved fellow servants has finished the course, and departed this life to be with the Lord.

Sister Bessie Dye of Somerton, Arizona passed away in the Yuma hospital on Dec. 28, 1956. She is survived by a faithful husband, Brother Nate Dye of Somerton, a son, Brother Harry Dye of Yuma, four daughters, Sister Marshall Spence of Eunice, N. M.; Mrs. Warren Richards of Somerton, Sister J. D. Johnson of Lakeside, Calif., and Sister Earnest Wise-hart of Bloomington, Calif., 17 grandchildren, two brothers and one sister.

Funeral services were held at Yuma on Dec. 31, where this writer tried to speak words of tribute to the memory of this noble Sister, mother, and wife. Pall-bearers were from the Yuma and Somerton congregations. Sister Dye was well known among the Brotherhood, as both she and Brother Dye had been members of the Church for some 36 years. Had she lived five more days, she would have been 59 years old.

No words can be found to ex-press how greatly this Sister will be missed by all who knew her, as she was one whose life was devoted to others. I have visited in the home of Brother and Sister Dye many times, and her cheerful good nature and kind hospitality was always a source of encouragement and inspiration to me, as it was to others also.

At times like this, when we are all sorrowing over the loss of such a beloved Sister, it makes us realize more fully what an important and vital part that our faithful Christian women play in

God's plan for the ages. It is good for us, at such times, to look back to the Bible and consider the faithful women of old, and the noble deeds that they are credited with. Even in the beginning, God saw that it was not good for the man to be alone, so He creat-ed him a help mate, and down through all ages man has had these faithful companions, these loyal help mates, and even today, we are made to realize that with-out the noble work that our sis-ters do, man would indeed be a feeble creature. Sister Dye and her good works will be greatly missed by all who knew her, as was Dorcas of old, but her work, and her faith, and her hopes are finished, and are left behind, and now abides perfect love, and we are persuaded that the perfect love of God and the Savior Jesus Christ will wipe away all tears and make all things new, where all the faithful of all ages will be reunited in the land beyond. J.W.B.





Bulletin Board

Those in need of our prayers

Troy Mooney	Broken Bow, OK	Knee replacement
John Rawlins	Ottawa, Canada	Needs heart transplant
John Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Diabetes, heart issues
Wilkister Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Malaria
Agrippina Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Severe back problems
Linda Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Vicki Camp Perrin	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Carolyn Queen	Broken Bow, OK	Back pain
Debbie Wilkerson	Cedaredge, CO	Fighting cancer
Billy Martin	Citrus City, AZ	Fighting cancer
Pauline Holloway	Gleed, WA	Uterine & cervical cancer
Ilene Thrush	Gleed, WA	Several strokes & heart issues
Otto Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travels, 2 angioplasties
Mariela Alvarez	Harlingen, TX	Dangerous travels, thyroid issues
Jackie McCay Via	Lorenzo, TX	Recovering from surgery
Jessica Chastain	Stilwell, OK	Health issues
Reba Morris	Stilwell, OK	Lupus, recent loss of husband
George Morris	Stilwell, OK	Recovering from surgery
Retha Morris	Stilwell, OK	Parkinson's disease
Darletta Spencer	Stilwell, OK	Cancer
Fred Cummings	Yuma, AZ	Congestive heart failure
Dennis Davis	Yuma, AZ	Back & leg issues

Gospel Meetings

Pleasant View Meeting	Stilwell, OK	April 14-16	Paul Warford
Lorenzo Meeting	Lorenzo, TX	June 11-18	Mike Harcrow / Duane Bixler
Gleed, WA Meeting	Gleed, WA	Jun 29-Jul 2	Jerry McCay
Family Camp	Cedaredge, CO	July 8-16	Guest speakers
Labor Day Meeting	Stilwell, OK	Sept 1-3	To be announced



In Loving Memory

Clifford Gene Boling

Clifford Gene Boling 94, of Ralls, Texas passed away Wednesday, March 1, 2023. He was born January 17, 1929 in Spur, Texas to Lucien Burgess and Laura Miller Boling.

Gene was raised in Roaring Springs, Texas. At the age of 24 he enlisted in the US Army and was stationed in Europe up until June, 1955. He graduated from Texas Tech University in 1959 and then married Joan Bedingfield on July 17, 1959 in Lubbock, Texas. He then moved to Las Cruces in 1965-1989. Gene worked at WSMR for 20 years and then moved to Georgia 1989-1996. After leaving Georgia he settled in Ralls, Texas.

Gene was an outdoor's man and enjoyed camping, hiking, and hunting in his younger years. He was also involved in Sportsman's Club and an Archery Club in Las Cruces for many years. In his later years he bought a motor home and travelled the country with his wife and her siblings. As he got older he became more involved with church and most of his social life was around his grandkids and chaperoning them to their competitive events. Gene will be missed dearly by his friends and loved ones.

Those left to cherish his memories are his daughter Angela D'Ann Boling of Ralls; his son Clifford Paul Boling of Ralls; his grand children, Sheena (Austin) Escalon, Shiloh (Peggy) Boling, Reas (Dina) Axtell; his great-grandchildren, Sydney Ramirez, Haley Ramirez, Drake Axtell, Kyra Axtell, Kaeden Axtell, Daxton Axtell, Jasper Axtell, Daphne Escalon, Ryker Escalon, Kree Escalon, Charley Boling, Stevie Jo Boling, Sahana Kanagaratnam, Chloe Canales; one great great granddaughter, Anai Meadow Martinez; and one sister-in-law, Charlotte Boling.

He is preceded in death by his parents, wife Joan, son, Brent Layne Boling; brothers, M.L. (Bea) Boling, Orval (Helen) Boling, Bob (Jane) Boling and Wayne (Polly) Boling; sisters, Cletah Russel, Veta (Jerry) Lowe, Lorene (Forrest) Lemley, and Wilda (Glen) McDaniels.



In Loving Memory

Russell Mirt Morris, Sr.

Russell Mirt Morris Sr., of Stilwell, Oklahoma was born on September 24, 1946, to Hayse and Evie Jewell Isaacs-Morris in Mt. Vernon, Ky., and left this world to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday February 24, 2023 at the age of 76 years and five months.

Russell was a Christian who loved the Lord with all his heart. He was proud to be a veteran of the U.S. Army and a survivor of the Vietnam War.

In 1969 he met the love of his life who he would eventually marry for the rest of his days, Reba Cooper, when her brother Smiley brought his new friend home. The two would make a home, in the community of Spade Mountain, where his momma is buried; having sworn to never leave her. He fulfilled that promise by remaining in the area for the remainder of his time on Earth.

Russell was a man who made friends wherever he went. He was quite handy and also a mechanic who loved to tinker with cars though he collected them far more than he ever had time to fix them. He also had the greenest thumb and was known to take the plants people had killed and bring them back to life. The only water Russell ever liked was the kind with coffee in it.

For a career Russell chose to be a truck driver and had travelled to nearly every state in the U.S. He also guided many others into the profession, coaching them along the way, including a son and grandson; as well as many nephews. He had to retire due to the effects of being exposed to Agent Orange while fighting in the war, but truckers never truly retire because when he was able to travel, he and Reba did.

Russell and Reba were lovers of church camps within the Church of Christ and travelled to too many to count over the course of their marriage. He also loved to spend time with his children anytime he could and loved having many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Russell was preceded in death by his parents, George Hayse and Evie Jewell Morris, and five siblings, Jearl Dean Morris, Bonnie Rhodes, Jack Morris, Betty Rhodes, Bernice Cromer, his twin sister Nettie Rose (Rosie) Vandenburgh, and an infant son, Christopher H. Morris.

He is survived by his wife Reba Morris, of Stilwell and many, many family members, friends and acquaintances.