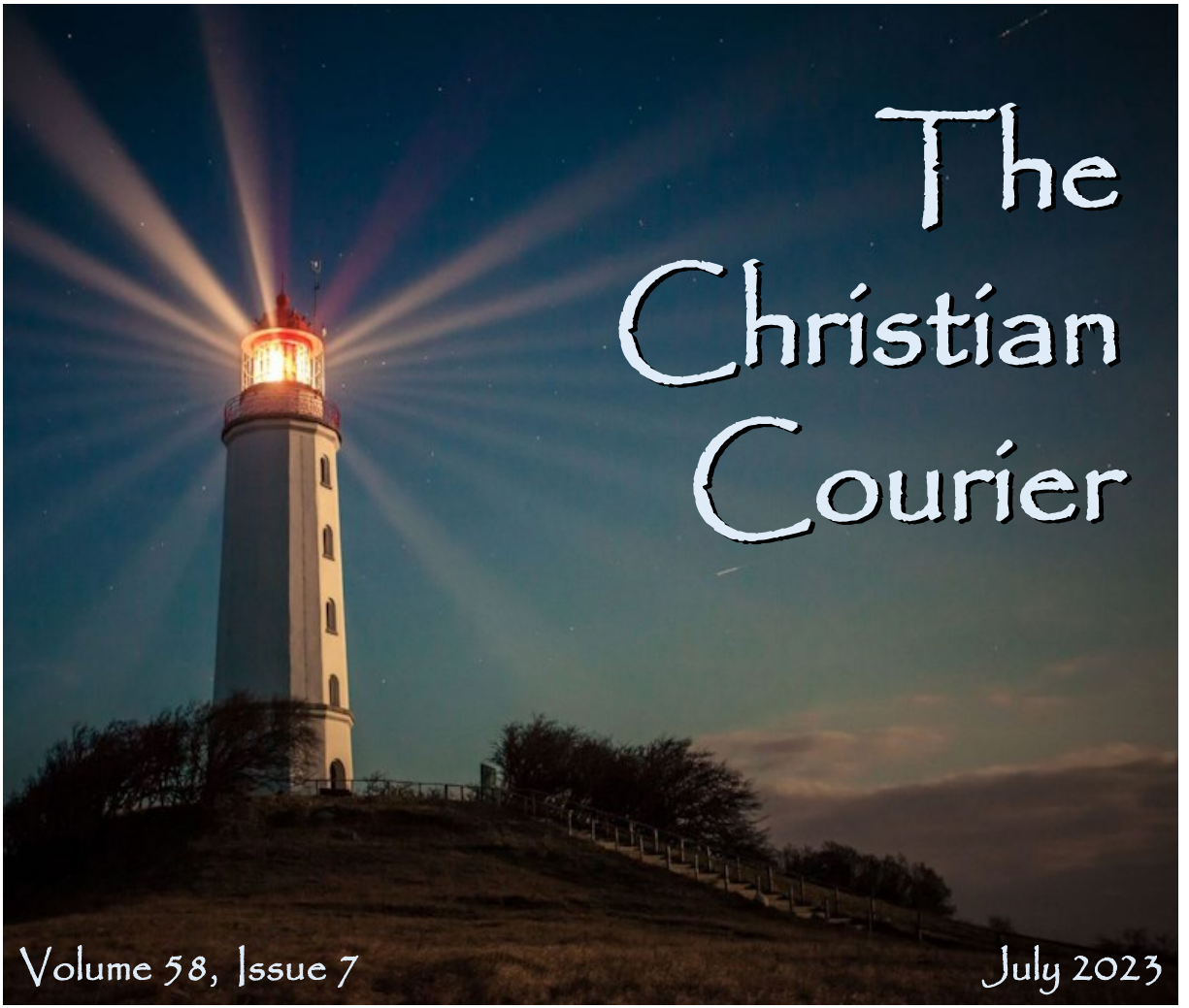


On the Resurrection Morning

Part 5 of 5

The Victory

I want you to think about the acorn. The shell around the seed is representative of the body of man. The nut or fruit inside is representative of the spirit of man. When we die the shell goes into the ground and the fruit or the spirit of man goes back to God that gave it. When God comes back he's gonna bring the spirit back with him. He's kept that spirit protected in a place called paradise waiting for the last day and it's gonna receive a glorious body just like his. Just like the fruit of this acorn will produce a glorious tree.

So God is bringing us back, he's bringing our spirit back so we can have our immortal body, one that is suited for heaven, one that's made for the Kingdom of heaven.

1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

You see whenever God does come back, then the dead, the people that's passed away for all these years are gonna go meet him first. Then the Christians that are alive still, at that point, are gonna be changed and given their glorious body. their souls are already here, their spirits are already here, but they'll be given their glorious body. This robe of flesh will drop, this dust bag and then they'll rise to meet Jesus in the air.

1Co 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

We will all be changed we will all be given a glorious body.

A body that will live eternal in heaven.

1Th 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

These are some of the most beautiful words in the Bible. The hope of a glorious resurrection, the hope of Jesus coming back to take us home forever where we can be with all the people that we loved that were Christians. It's why we're here. It's why we devote our lives to the God that created us.

1Co 15:55 O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

1Co 15:56 The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law.

1Co 15:57 But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

And that's what the apostle Paul did for the rest of his life. At a much later, older age in life he makes this statement:

2Ti 4:6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

2Ti 4:7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:

2Ti 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

In Christian Love,

Bro. Paul Warford, Stilwell, OK

Pleasant View Church of Christ

Dear friends and loved ones in Christ,

There was once a time when there were so many submissions to the Christian Courier that they couldn't all be published. When we accepted this great and wonderful responsibility, the huge archive of all the past issues was also included. We, as well as anyone reading this upon request, can read any of the back issues more than ten or fifteen years old, and they are stocked full of letters and articles from many different Christians. Sadly, today there is only a very small handful of regular contributors, including ourselves and a few from our congregation. Five months ago I started the five-issue front page series, On The Resurrection Morning. The last installment in the series is above in this issue. Since the first issue was published, we've had a few "Howdy!" letters come in, but not a single contribution that could be classified as more than that. Not a single one! (until the camp meeting update in this issue) So what does this mean? Two things: First, it means that we must write all the articles and associated content ourselves, which we don't mind, as it is a labor of love, but the Courier is lacking in the diversity of content that comes from multiple authors. Second, it means those in the Church that read this publication are missing <u>your</u> views, <u>your</u> insights, <u>your</u> experiences, <u>your</u> wisdom and knowledge, <u>your</u> love, <u>your</u> diversity. **<u>It means we're all missing YOU!</u>** We've pleaded for help in almost every issue we've published. We don't like including these 'Ads', as we call them, but there's just no other way to reach all the congregations. So please help out by sending in one of your favorite lessons, or news of conversions and baptisms, or pictures of your church house. Anything will be most welcome. If we get so many that we can't print them all in the next issue, rest assured that if you send it, we will publish it, <u>controversial issues excluded</u>. Let's make the Courier great again! Thank you all for taking the time to enjoy our work of love. –Ed

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

Send correspondence to:

The Christian Courier
83985 S. 4737 Rd., Stilwell, OK 74960

Email: ChristianCourier1Cup@gmail.com
Web: 1CupHistory.church —and— ChurchOfChristOneCup.org

My Brother Left Today

My brother left today, and forgot to say goodbye
This left me to wonder, what was his hurry, and why?

The home where he lived, was a simple, but beautiful place
He was surrounded by friends and family; so, why his haste?

Looking out his window, he had a beautiful view, with flowers galore
Tell me my friend, who could ask for anything more?

Those who were there, when they saw him leave,
Said he didn't even take any cash, and that I can't believe

He didn't take any pictures of family or friend
Didn't leave an address for us, his treasures to send

Those who cried as they saw him go, said he had a smile on his face
He said he wouldn't miss a thing, because he was going to a better place

When I considered his carefree attitude, it made me sad
The more I thought and pondered it, well, it left me somewhat mad

So, I questioned those who saw him go away
They said he had been storing up his treasure, where it would not decay

When I saw him last, his possessions were few and he didn't have much to speak of
But, he was always willing to share and give those in need, showing to all, his love

They said he'd gone to a place with a street of pure gold
With a King so mighty, righteous and loving, that's what I was told

It's a place where no one dies, there's no sorrows or tears
The King reigns eternal, there are no wars and to fears

I understand now, why he left with a smile
He left, what in comparison, was decaying and vile

I know now why he left and went away
And I plan to go there myself some day

So, I'll also get ready to leave my home here
I'll store up there my treasure, for my departure may be near

I'll see my brother someday soon, in that city so fair
I too, will live forever in that city, over there

-Anonymous

Notes & Letters

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We here at the congregation at Pleasant View are very blessed. We are growing in number, so much so that we found ourselves in need of a new kitchen to accommodate all of us. With lots of effort we have begun the process of building on the north side of the church building. When it is finished we will have more room and it will be easier to access. We are in hopes that we will be able to use it by our Labor Day meeting.



Our Labor Day meeting will be September 1-3 and will be held by Brother Randy Queen from the Broken Bow congregation. We will be having dinner on Friday and Saturday nights at 6pm followed by services at 7pm. Sunday morning service will be at 10 am followed by lunch. If you can make it we would certainly love to have you. If you can't visit then, come any time you can. All are welcome!

Gerald Buckner

Good morning from the Montrose church! We had another baptism. My son-in-law Norman Harwood was baptized June 18th. It was a great day!! Hoping and praying to see a lot of you up at the camp meeting!



In Christian love

Tony Schell
The Church of Christ
Montrose, CO.

On a visit to the local Wal-Mart store, Paul and I happened to meet up with Rick Walkingstick of the Pine Mtn congregation at Natural Dam, AR, for a quick visit. Rick sends his love and best wishes to all the Church of Christ congregations.

-Jesse Warford

Hello!

The Broken Bow congregation would like to send our love to all our brothers and sisters in Christ! July has been an exciting month with the baptism of Heath Berryhill on July 6, 2023. Heath's decision to obey the gospel of Christ has been a blessing to all of us! He is a wonderful husband and father, who has chosen to become a Christian and lead his family as a godly man. Our hearts are full, and we rejoice in his decision!



Work on the (new to us) donated building continues with the men working Saturdays to hopefully complete the building by the fall meeting scheduled for November 10, 11, 12. Insulation has been added to the ceiling and wiring in place. We hope to have the walls framed in the coming weeks and begin the wall insulation process next.

Those attending the Big Spruce camp have returned, excited to share God's word with the congregation, community, and beyond. If you are in the Broken Bow area, please let us know. The congregation at Broken Bow meets at 508/509 North Costilow in Broken Bow, OK. We would love to visit with you and enjoy having you attend services with us. Our meeting times are as follows: Sunday morning worship 10:30 am, Wednesday Bible study at 6:30 pm, Bible study for busy mom's Tuesdays at 10:30 am (time may change in fall), and individual Bible study upon request.

Our prayer continues to be for congregations to grow in the knowledge of God's Word and will for each of our lives and for churches belonging to Christ all around the world to grow in number.

Yours in Him,
The Broken Bow Congregation

A great-big Shout-Out!

To our contributors this month!
Thank you very much!

Roy Wright
Aztec, NM – Pine Mtn. (AR)

We still have some left-over lesson booklets, "3 Questions From Matt. 24", from our last 3 day weekend meeting. Pls email your request to

ChristianCourier1Cup@gmail.com

and we will be happy to mail you one!

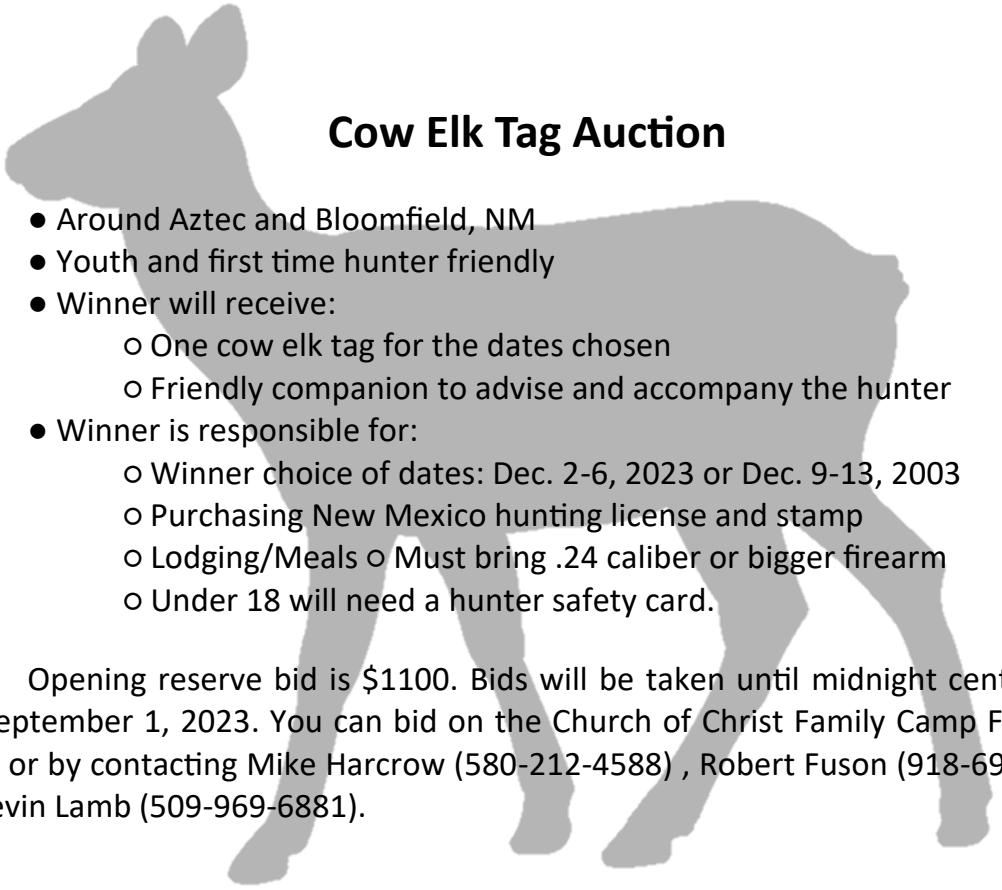
Donations and requests for information may be sent to:

Church of Christ
Mexico Mission
309 Monroe Ave.
Lorenzo, TX 79343

Donations and requests for information may be sent to:

Church of Christ
Africa Mission
309 Monroe Ave.
Lorenzo, TX 79343

Family Camp Auction!



Cow Elk Tag Auction

- Around Aztec and Bloomfield, NM
- Youth and first time hunter friendly
- Winner will receive:
  - One cow elk tag for the dates chosen
  - Friendly companion to advise and accompany the hunter
- Winner is responsible for:
  - Winner choice of dates: Dec. 2-6, 2023 or Dec. 9-13, 2003
  - Purchasing New Mexico hunting license and stamp
  - Lodging/Meals ○ Must bring .24 caliber or bigger firearm
  - Under 18 will need a hunter safety card.

Opening reserve bid is $1100. Bids will be taken until midnight central time on September 1, 2023. You can bid on the Church of Christ Family Camp Facebook page or by contacting Mike Harcrow (580-212-4588) , Robert Fuson (918-696-3944), or Kevin Lamb (509-969-6881).

News from Abroad

Dear brethren,

We left Geita on July 10, to Congo border where we met with brethren who came the next day to meet us. It took them five hours to cross the lake Tanganyika. We talked about many things, one of them is having a visit both of us. Coming from Congo to here is very hard for them because they must have a yellow fever card which is $35, permission letter which allows them to cross the border which is $10, fare to and fro $20, temporary visa $50, COVID test card $10. This is $145 which is expensive for them. They cannot afford crossing the border twice for three months and so they requested that if I can manage to cross the border to Congo it will be better.

They were happy to receive the Bibles which we received from brother Gerald. But we had to buy two different copies because not all of them that speaks Swahili. We had to buy the French copies because most of them speaks French. They also have the problem in getting the fruit the vine because they don't stock it in most stores. We plan of going back this August. Lord willing we will have meeting with the people in those areas.

Last Sunday after service we had a discussion with Seventh day Adventist. This two men claimed that Saturday was the day which was designated for worship. And I asked them when did the Lord died, he said Friday and the third day He was not in the tomb. I asked them when is the third day? And we counted days with them and it falls on Sunday. And so the Lord's day is Sunday not Saturday. Lord willing they will be immersed sooner. We ask for your prayers for the work in Africa.

Your fellow brother in Christ

Sadat.



Greetings in the Name of our Crucified One.

Am happy for this privilege give you the update on our progress.

On 26th April, we went door-to-door evangelism, we preached and managed to welcome friends to our church.

On 30th April 2023, to God's glory, we baptize 3 people and were added to the body of Christ.

Dear Kelly, we request you share with us teaching materials please.

Thank you for being a friend to this congregation.

We give God all the glory.

In Him, Wilson

(Kelly Shepherd is a member of the International Missions Committee -Ed)

Congregation of the Month

Happy Hollow Church of Christ
Cedaredge, CO



(Front view)



(View from the street)

Happy Hollow Church of Christ
15973 Happy Hollow Rd
Cedaredge, CO 81413

GPS: 38.884995, -107.952281

Contacts:

———

Keith Wilkerson
970-778-5282

Terry Wilkerson
970-210-3660



Thought for the Month

It wasn't until I read the Voices from the Past article that I found inspiration for this months thought: What was your first thought after you ascended from the watery rebirth of your baptism? There is no right or wrong answer, but some may be: "I start my new life today", "I'd better learn to behave a little better", "I wonder if I'm on a different spiritual radar now", "There goes my Saturday nights with my friends" and so on. I'll let you in on a little secret: When we left my baptism site, I curled up in the floorboard of the car and thought to myself, "I am right now, at this point in time, a perfect spiritual creature." No thoughts of the future, or of how to serve Him, just basking in His Love and Glory. Which may have been a little egotistical, but don't we all need that warmth and reassurance from time to time?

Love and blessings – Jesse Warford

Voices from the Past

KLALATH FALLS,OREGON

Dear Brethren;

A few lines to bring you up to date on the latest news. I am no longer meeting with the Baron Oklahoma congregation. I moved to Klamath Falls and am meeting with the Bryant family. Any visitors are more than welcome in our homes and to worship with us.

There have been two baptized recently, they are: Jesse Warford and Edith Dwyer.

In answer to your question about the Courier, just remember the prophet who believed there were no righteous people left. What did God tell him? He said,there were a remnant who still worshiped him. I believe there are a remnant left who still want to hear Gods' word. Even though the going gets rough stay in there and publish Gods' word and church news.

One brother told me he had written three lessons to the Courier but none of them were published. I don't know if they lost in the mail or what happened to them,but there are some trying to send lessons to the Courier.

For the Church at Klamath Falls.
Bro. Marion Warford.

(From the November 1973 Christian Courier)



Broken Bow, OK Weekend Meeting November 10 - 12, 2023 Speaker(s) to be announced

CAMPMEETING Follow-up

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It has been a busy, but exciting and uplifting week at the 2023 Big Spruce Camp Meeting in Cedaredge, Colorado! Attendance was strong, with members coming from Washington, California, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Texas, and Oklahoma. Many young people, along with their families attended. This was truly uplifting and encouraged us to begin planning for 2024. Our 2024 camp meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 2024 at Big Spruce. However, we are still actively looking for an affordable, centrally located camp at a lower elevation, with level terrain. Please let us know if you locate a camp facility and we will check it out.

Bible studies included a history of the churches of Christ from Pentecost to today, and Inventions of Man, focusing on the inventions and deviations men have brought into the churches of Christ. If you would like a copy of either of these studies, please message or email Paul Warford at christiancourier1cup@gmail.com or Mike Harcrow at mlharcrow@gmail.com. Kevin and Hayley Lamb did a wonderful job working with the camp's youth to motivate and encourage them to be seed planters for Christ's kingdom in all they do throughout the year. It was a blessing to see our young people grow in God's Word. Campers also enjoyed an outing to Box Canyon and an afternoon in Ouray, Colorado.

The lessons brought to camp this year were scripturally sound and well presented. Lessons were as follows:



(Young Men's Service participants - 2023)

Sunday morning, "A Number of Threes" by Kevin Lamb;
Sunday evening, "Gift of God" by Jim Lamb;
Monday evening, "Letting Go of Your Ego" by Alan Ritchie;
Tuesday evening "The Gospel in Five Seconds" by Robert Fuson;
Wed afternoon's young men's service, "Temple Cleaning" by Nate Harper;
Thursday evening, "You are Worthy of His Love" by Jason Christiansen;
Friday evening, "Rock of Offense/Confess/NO Excuse" by Duane Bixler;
Saturday evening, "Whose Church?" by Mike Harcrow;
Sunday morning, "When I Worship God" by Paul Warford.
Lessons are on the camp's facebook page at Church of Christ Family Camp.

We would like to thank all who donated their time, knowledge, love, and funding to make this camp possible and a great success! Words do not adequately express the gratitude we feel for the support and encouragement given to make camp a reality for so many! We pray the efforts of those who participated will be fruitful in the work of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ!

1 Corinthians 3:6-11 "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watered; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

In Christian Love, Robert and Christina Fuson,
Mike and Melissa Harcrow, Kevin and Hayley Lamb



(Camp Youth - 2023)



Milk of the Word

Do you ever feel defeated by the things going on in your life? Maybe you just can't get the grade you want in class, or the person that you want to be friends with does not want to be friends with you. Maybe you feel like everything going on in your life is not how you want your life to be going. It may feel like the whole world is on your shoulders. That is how the devil wants you to feel. The devil is waging a war on our spirit. But, we have armor against the devil and spiritual battles. Each piece of armor has a distinct purpose and means of defense against temptation and evil. We can find our armor in Ephesians 6:11-18.

11 *Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

When a soldier goes out for battle, he protects himself and is ready to fight. Would it be a good idea for him to leave something unprotected? If he did, that is where the enemy would strike first.

12 *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*

Our war is not in person. Our war is a spiritual war that we have to be ready for every day. There are all kinds of temptations out there and we must fight against them.

13 *Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

No matter what we must withstand what the world throws at us. As Christians it can be even harder to do the right thing because the devil goes at us where we are weak.

14 *Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;*

A long time ago, men would wear long robes that would get in the way of work or fighting, so they would wrap up

the long, draping material. This is what it means when it says girding up one's loins.

The Lord knew our loins needed to be wrapped in truth. Regardless of our culture or time, the Lord has seen all our paths and how they have hurt and caused us to stray from him. He knows we need truth.

Righteousness means being made right. The enemy tempts us with all kinds of sinful things, but righteousness protects our hearts.

15 *And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;*

One of the easiest ways for the enemy to succeed in shaking us loose from standing firm is to tempt us with anxiousness and worry. When we carry those things with us, we are robbed of peace. But the gospel of peace keeps our feet anchored and standing firm.

16 *Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.*

When Paul wrote this passage, Roman soldiers carried shields that were covered with heavy animal hide. Before a battle, they would dip their shields into the water so that when fiery darts hit them, the wet hide would extinguish the darts.

Similarly, a Christian's shield of faith needs to be regularly dipped in the water of God's word to be able to quench the fiery darts of the devil.

17 *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:*

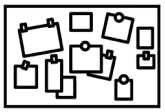
Our minds are where spiritual battles are fought. The Lord works His freeing truth into our minds while the enemy fights for strongholds to bind us. We must have the helmet of salvation.

The explanation of the sword of the spirit is right there in the verse – it is the word of God.

18 *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;*

Prayer is a great defense! It is an important part of our armor. We can always go to our Father in prayer for strength to withstand our armor in the face of any storm!

So when you feel the whole



Bulletin Board

Those in need of our prayers

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
Dorr Family	Yakima, WA	Death of 12 y/o daughter

Baptisms

Norman Harwood	June 18, 2023	Montrose, CO
Heath Berryhill	July 6, 2023	Broken Bow, OK
Bobby Wilkerson (70 years old)	June 2023	Grand Junction, CO

Gospel Meetings

Labor Day Meeting	Stilwell, OK	Sept 1-3	Randy Queen
Weekend Meeting	Broken Bow, OK	Nov 10-12	TBA



B W G G P I N E M T N G O S H E N C W S
A W E L C H I C O C R E S W E L L A G I
R A O E N O R T H W E S T W M E B N C L
O T R N R W E M O N T R O S E B F T H T
N E G W T P L E A S A N T V I E W O E S
E R E O F U R N I S H C A N Y O N N S T
W F T O L O W E R A H T A N U M W S T A
C O O D U N C A N D U R H A M D R A E R
A R W X T H G A R D E N D A L E O C R V
S D N J W E S T V I L L E V E F S R T A
T L O R E N Z O G L E E D Y Y H W A O L
L B E L L F L O W E R X S E B I E M N L
E Y U M A D O U G L A S S V I L L E C E
D D O U G L A S V I L L E L F L L N L Y
R A N D L E T T O A K D A L E S T T I R
T S A N R A F A E L A Z T E C B O O Z E
I X N P H A P P Y H O L L O W O N J Z Y
N D O U G L A S S V I L L E J R C D E D
E A S T D U B L I N Z S E Y M O U R L O
R M O O R E A V E B R O K E N B O W A N



Congregations:

Aztec
Baron
Bellflower
Broken Bow
Canton
Chesterton
Chico
Creswell
Douglassville
Douglasville
Duncan
Durham
East Dublin
Furnish Canyon
Gardendale
Georgetown
Gleed
Glenwood
Goshen
Happy Hollow
Hillsboro
Lizzela
Lorenzo
Lower Ahtanum
Montrose
Moore Ave
Newcastle
Northwest
Oakdale
Pine Mtn
Pleasant View
Randlett
Reydon
Roswell
Sacramento
San Rafael
Seymour
Silt
Star Valley
Tiner
Waterford
Wellton
Westville
Yuma