

The Christian Courier

Volume 58, Issue 10
October 2023

Time Change

Fall is on its way. The days of autumn will soon be upon us, with all the beautiful color changes to the trees, the leaves falling and winter time will soon be here. The hot summer days are over and the cool days are headed our way finally. This is one of my favorite times of the year, I can wear my hoodies everywhere I go and feel the cool of autumn on my face.

One of the other things that's coming, and comes this time every year, is the time change. It's time for all of us to roll our clocks back.

Did you know that the Bible also records a time change, but not in the way that we do today. It wasn't twice a year every year, it was once between the Old Testament and the New Testament. Let's take a look at scripture and see when and where this was.

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Gen 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

Gen 1:3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

Gen 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Gen 1:5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Notice in the end of verse 5 that God proclaims that the **evening and the morning** were the first day. It wasn't like it is today where we have a morning and then evening, it was exact opposite, it was the evening and the morning were the first day. Every single day of the creation account was this way, the evening and the morning were the 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th and 6th day.

This was the way that the Jews had their days until Christ died and then the time changed.

Let's look at what the scripture says.

John 20:1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

Luke 24:1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

Mark 16:1 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint

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him.

Mark 16:2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

Mat 28:1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

So we can tell by these four verses that at the dawning of day is when the first day of the week starts, according to the scriptures, not at the evening.

Let's collaborate another verse along with these four.

John 20:19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

This is John the 20th chapter, the same chapter that we used in one of the four accounts that said the morning was the first day of the week. This verse says "the same day at evening being the first day of the week". Now brothers and sisters I don't know how it can be any plainer than that. When God created the world and all the things in it the **evening and the morning** were the days but now according to the New Testament the **morning and the evening** are a day; the exact opposite of what it was under the Old Testament.

Now where did I learn this one might ask. Hebrews 11:4 says the dead yet speak. So go look at the "Voices from the Past" to see where I learned this.

Your Brother in Christ
Paul Warford

Brothers **Ellis Forsman** and **Jerry McCay** and their families have moved from Lorenzo to Lubbock in Texas, about a half hour away, to be closer to health care providers. Their phone numbers remain the same, and their new address is:

3814 64th Drive
Lubbock, TX 79413



Gospel Meeting

Contact:
Dennis Davis
(928) 503-3709
March 10-17, 2024

A Great-Big Shout-Out!

To our contributors this month!
Thank you very much!

Lorenzo, TX
Tiner Congregation
Roy Wright - Aztec, NM

Pls remember the other congregations would love to hear how you're doing! Write in and tell us about it!

Notes & Letters

Enclosed is a check for the church paper and postage. Thank you all for all everyone does.

Tiner Church of Christ
Broken Bow, OK

Great news from the Aztec, NM congregation! Jaden Locke from San Antonio, TX was baptized into The Lord's Church Sept 23, 2023 –Ed

Good morning from Colorado, we were blessed with another baptism this past weekend the 17th of September. Chrislin Willden (my granddaughter) has become a sister in Christ, it was a great day! We are praying for all the Christians throughout the world and especially the young Christians, this world is after them especially.

In Christian love, Tony Schell
Montrose congregation



Thought for the Month

Most of us are blessed this time of year with families, friends, and tables of love and wonderful food. Then, after the seasonal celebrations are all over, we start on a campaign, or pilgrimage of sorts, to lose the inches around our waists that we've gained the past few weeks.

In Matt. 15:11, we are told it isn't what we put in our mouths that defile us, but what comes out of them.

But that's our physical self. What of our spiritual self? You'd be correct in saying our total outward appearance to others is a reflection of the state of our inner spiritual self. But what about those things that go in the mouth of our spiritual being? I am certain those things can defile us, as what comes from our physical mouth is, again, a reflection of what's been taken in by our inner spirit.

An old saying goes, "Garbage in, garbage out", and I believe it! When we fill our senses with the lust and desires of this world, it becomes so much more difficult, sometimes impossible, to maintain our spiritual sanity. And you'd better believe the world can tell!

So fill your spirit with the good food of the Gospel, show the world your inner light, get spiritually fat and happy, and celebrate like only God is watching. And then have yourself a nap! =)

Love & blessings
Bro. Jesse Warford



Voices from the Past

Division is Sin

Bro. J S Bedingfield

(This is an excerpt from a letter mailed by the author to other brethren)

Now to the things on which we are about to divide; Viz. (meaning 'which is', or 'as follows' -Ed) The assembling of the Saints, and the eating of the Lord's supper. We are commanded to **ASSEMBLE**; Heb. 10:25. And this is backed up by an example in Acts 20:7; together with statements to that effect in 1 Cor. 11:18, 20, 33.

The time of the **ASSEMBLING** is, "The first day of the week"; Acts 20:7.

We next learn from the Bible, what is meant by the expression, "The first day of the week." In Gen. Chapter 1, and 2:1-3, we see the creation **WEEK**; and it was a week of seven days, each containing an **EVENING** (the dark), and **MORNING** (the light). Gen. 1:5 says, ". . . and the evening and the morning were the first day." I ask, "The first day of what? The answer is, "The first day of the week"; the week of creation.

Lev. 23:5 says, "In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the Lord's Passover", it was killed. "At the going down of the sun"; Deut 16:6. Therefore the **EVENING** began at the going down of the sun." But they ate it at night; Exod. 12:8. Hence, the evening was the night. Hence, we see at the creation, "The first day of the week" consisted of an **EVENING** (dark or night) and a **MORNING** (the daylight); a period of twenty-four hours. "IF" the evening did precede the morning at the creation; we must admit it consisted of an **EVENING** (night) and a **MORNING** (daylight); a twenty-four hour period, "The first day of the week."

Yes, I know some good brethren use Gen. 1:5; and Jno. 11:9; where the word "**DAY**" is used in counter distinction to night to try to prove that the expression, "The first day of the week" contained only twelve hours. But where, o Where, is the expression "The first day of the week" used to definitely mean a twelve hour day? Echo, where? Brethren, it is not there. We now go to the New Testament.

In Jno. 20:1-3, on "The first day of the week", Jesus rose from the dead. See Luke 24:1-3; Mark 16:1-6; Matthew 28:1-6. We learn from these that on "the first day of the week", about sun up, Jesus rose from the dead.

In Jno. 20:3-18, we see the activities of the Apostles during the first part of the "First day of the week." But verse 19 begins by saying, "Then the same day . . ."; this shows that something happened, "**THE SAME DAY**" that Jesus rose. But get the next phrase, "**AT EVENING**". But we have shown that "**EVENING**" was **NIGHT.** Hence, we see that the **EVENING** (night) following the **MORNING (DAYLIGHT)**, was a part and a portion of "**THE SAME DAY.**" Get it brother. And get this also; the next statement of the same verse; "**BEING THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK.**" Hence, we see the daylight plus the **EVENING** (night) following it, is what the New Testament calls, "**THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK.**" Read and re-read that 19th verse, Brother, you can make nothing else out of it.

Bro. J S Bedingfield

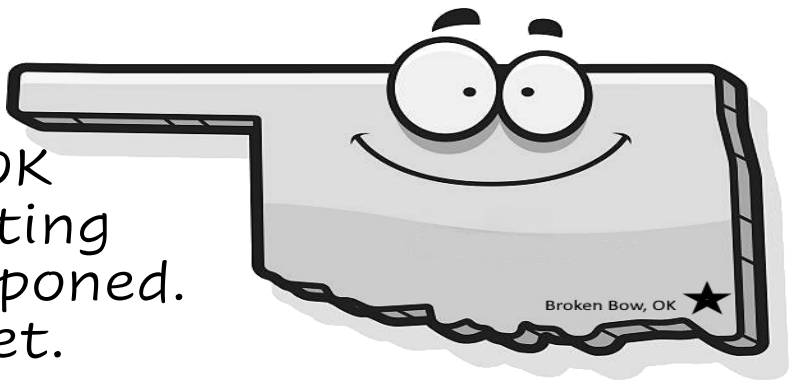
Donations and requests for information may be sent to:

Church of Christ
Africa Mission
3814 64th Drive
Lubbock, TX 79413

Donations and requests for information may be sent to:

Church of Christ
Mexico Mission
3814 64th Drive
Lubbock, TX 79413

Broken Bow, OK
Weekend Meeting
has been postponed.
No date set yet.





Milk of the Word

A Christian is like a Jack-O-Lantern

October in Oklahoma brings to mind cooler temperatures, hot cocoa, football, hunting and pumpkins. Pumpkins are everywhere. They are loved by all ages. Once while scrolling the internet, I saw a comparison between a Christian and a pumpkin being carved into a jack-o-lantern. Of all things, how in the world can we be like a jack-o-lantern?

1. God picks us. He loves us from the very beginning. The bible tells us in Jeremiah 1:1 that God knew us before we were even in our mother's stomach. God picks us from the patch of people, brings us in, and washes all the dirt off of us that we may have gotten from sin. A pumpkin must be picked from a patch before it can become a jack-o-lantern. A pumpkin has an inside and out just like we do. People can see the outside of a pumpkin but not what is on the inside. We are the same way. People can see our outside but they do not know how we really feel and what is inside us. Our inside is our heart. A pumpkin that is left too long on the vine will rot and die. It has to be picked.

2. Once the pumpkin is picked from the patch, the next step is to carve eyes and a mouth on it. As the eyes and a mouth are carved out of a pumpkin you can see that the inside of the pumpkin is full of yucky stuff. Yucky stuff is what it looks like to others when our heart has not been changed for God. The Bible tells us in Ecclesiastes 9:3 that the heart of the sons of men are full of evil.

3. The next step is to open the top of the pumpkin. When you carve an opening in the top of the pumpkin for your hand to go through, it is like letting something in. Revelation 3:20 tells us that Christ stands at the door and knocks. He is just waiting to be asked in.

4. Once the top is open, the next step to carving a jack-o-lantern is to put your hand in the pumpkin and pull out all the insides. God does that for us. He scoops out all the yucky stuff inside of us. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, and greed. Removing the yucky stuff from a pumpkin is messy. Guess what? Jesus went through messy stuff for us already. Jesus died on the cross for us to save us from our sins. John 3:16

5. If the pumpkin is just left with the insides taken out, then it is hollow. It has nothing there. It needs a light to shine inside it to make it a jack-o-lantern! We also need to have a light inside of us that will truly make us alive! John 8:12 tells us that Jesus is the light

of the world. Whoever follows him will never walk in darkness. When Jesus lives inside of us, we can glow! You will want to live for him and follow his will.

So how is a Christian like a jack-o-lantern? God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off you. Then he scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. Then puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see.

Just like making a jack-o-lantern has steps, there are steps to follow when becoming a Christian: If you would like to become a member of Christ's church you need to follow steps:

- First you must Hear Romans 10:14.
- Then you must have Faith Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17
- Then you must Repent of your sins. Acts 2:38; Acts 11:18
- The next step is to Confess Christ before men. Romans 10:9-10
- Then you are to be Baptized. Mark 16:15-16; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:4

Contributed by Robert and Cristina Fuson

Congregation of the Month

Aztec (Park Ave) Church of Christ



416 S. Park Ave.
Aztec, NM 87410
GPS: 36.81818, -107.99799

Sunday Worship: 10am

Contact: Charlie Johnson
(505) 436-6267

Visitors are always welcome! Please feel free to call and come by! We'd love to visit!

News from Abroad

Dear loved ones

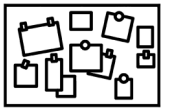
We greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It has been a busy August full of ups and downs. But we thank Him for His mercy and love that He has bestowed on us as we survive and continue to work in His field. The congregations in Tanzania would like to send our love to all loyal brothers and sisters in Christ.

As members in His body, everyone has been involving in doing evangelism and knocking doors. Teaching people in the community about Christ and His Church. Some of us has been hiring motorcycle and go out of town to visit those that the seeds were planted. We met with a person who has been raised in a Catholic background then left and went to Assemblies of God, then became a Muslim. According to him, he was searching for a right church that is doing things according to what God wants. We are scheduled to meet him once a week to teach him. The first day when we meet him, we started to help him know the Blueprint for Christ's church. He asked us to go slowly with him because he sometimes was confused.

We have been told that the Congo brethren are doing good with evangelism work. They have one baptism today. **Prayers are needed for the African Mission because there is a lot of places that we go sometimes not safe**.

Thank you all who prayed for me when I was sick may God bless you abundantly. I'm doing good and I'm on my feet.

In Him we give glory.
Alex Sadat
Katoro Church of Christ



Bulletin Board

Those in need of our prayers

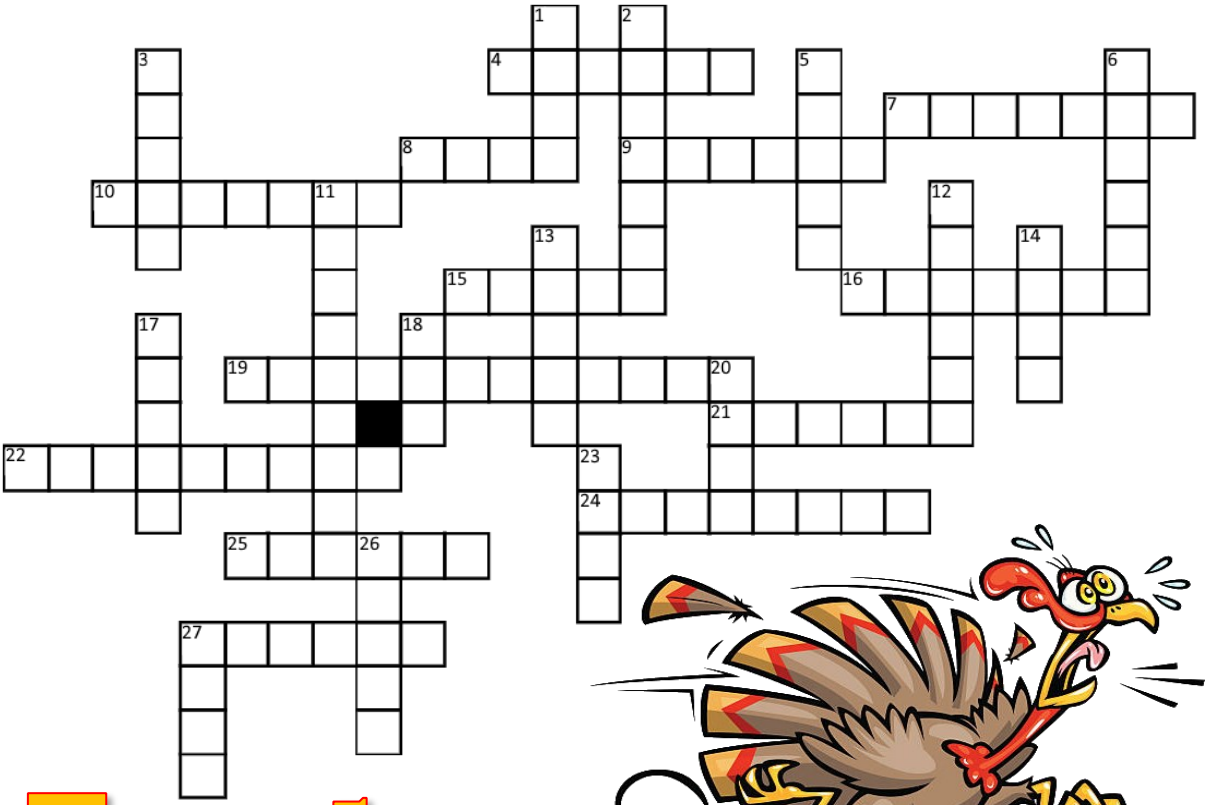
Jon Rawlins	Ottawa, Canada	Needs heart transplant
John Kombo	Nakuru, Kenya	Diabetes, heart issues
Wilkister Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Malaria
Agrippina Silvester	Gaita, Tanzania	Severe back problems
Linda Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Vicki Camp Perrin	Broken Bow, OK	Cancer
Carolyn Queen	Broken Bow, OK	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
Jessica Chastain	Stilwell, OK	Health issues
Reba Morris	Stilwell, OK	Lupus, recent loss of husband
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
Tom Core	Gleed, WA	Recovering from heart surgery
Jason Christianson	Gleed, WA	Healing from surgery
Hailey Christianson	Gleed, WA	Shoulder surgery Aug 10th

Baptisms

Chrislin Willden	Sept 17, 2023	Montrose, CO
Jaden Locke	Sept 23, 2023	San Antonio, TX

Gospel Meetings

Weekend Meeting	Broken Bow, OK	Postponed	TBA
Yuma Meeting	Yuma, AZ	Mar 10-17 '24	Assorted



Foods of the Bible

Across:

4. Deuteronomy 8:8
7. Matthew 13:31
8. Genesis 14:18
9. Judges 15:5
10. Numbers 11:5
15. Numbers 11:5
16. 1 Samuel 30:12
19. Numbers 13:23
21. Song of Solomon 2:5
22. Exodus 16:31
24. Genesis 25:34
25. Matthew 14:17
27. Numbers 11:5

Down:

1. 2 Samuel 6:19
2. Genesis 43:11
3. Exodus 9:32
5. Exodus 29:2
6. Numbers 13:23
11. Numbers 11:5
12. Numbers 11:5
13. 2 Samuel 17:28
14. 1 Samuel 25:18
17. Numbers 11:31-32
18. Luke 11:12
20. Leviticus 2:13
23. Proverbs 31:13
26. Exodus 16:31
27. Exodus 33:3

