

# Zion's Advocate

"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and power of the Holy Ghost."—I Nephi 3:187.

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## *Helping Others*

Never mind about the triumphs,  
Never worry over fame.  
Do not grieve about succeeding.  
Let the Lord make great your name.

All the best in life are God's things;  
They will last when life is gone.  
Just be glad that you know Jesus;  
And keep helping someone on.

Let the worldlings have the blossoms;  
Let them wear the earthly crown.  
Never pine for worldly glamor,  
Nor great places in your town.

You will live when they're forgotten;  
And be glad with youth and dawn.  
Roll your cares upon the Savior;  
And keep helping someone on.

There is plenty of sorrow 'round you,  
Lonely souls and many tears.  
Let no one guess your heartaches,  
As you go on through the years.

All the world is needing cheering,  
More than all the swords we've drawn.  
It needs triumphant Christians,  
Who'll keep helping others on.

—M. M. B.

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## ZION'S ADVOCATE

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## EDITORIAL

Mankind must be continually making decisions. There are always two sides or two ways and the decision is up to each individual as to just which way he will go or which side he will take. He will make a decision that is either wise or unwise. He will find himself on the side of either truth or untruth.

An unwise person may talk much and say little. He may bring all conversation around to where he is talking of himself. He may know very little about more than one subject and in many instances know very little about it. He becomes a bore and people will shun him. He may eventually get to thinking that he has no friends left and wonder what has gone wrong with life. If we can let persons and personalities take second place in our conversation and let principles take first place we will find that our conversation will cause less offense.

Untruth is cheap; anyone can manufacture it and it does not even require any raw material to begin with. A person who can keep up a continual line of talk may find himself telling things that are untrue. An untruth may not only be a lie but may also be disloyal. A lie and disloyalty are related and may be found in the same person.

Scandal may have a great deal of untruth that it is wound around. We never tell scandal on ourselves but it is usually about one who should be a fellow man, and in some cases it is about one who at one time was close to us but for some unexplainable reason we have drifted apart. Perhaps this person has been successful along some line and we have allowed ourselves to become jealous or envious. If we will keep ourselves busy at the task that God has given into our hands we will never find time to carry scandal. If, on the other hand, we find ourselves carrying scandal we better make a self-examination to see if we are putting full time in on the work we should be doing.

A wise person may talk little and say much. Wisdom can only come from God. We may think we are wise in our own mind but the so-called wisdom of man is foolishness to God. The stumbling block for so many is not their great education in the schools of to-

day, but is the fact that they rely on their great knowledge rather than on the things that are wise in the eyes of God. They may think it foolish to ask God for wisdom after having spent so many years in study and learning from the textbooks of man.

The Apostle Paul was a learned man but he took God into his life and used this learning for the benefit of mankind. Nephi was a learned man and he, as well, put his learning to use of man. Mormon was also a learned man as we have the testimony of in the Book of Mormon.

Truth is the greatest and the dearest product we can buy. It can not be purchased with money but must be searched for. It comes from God and from no other source, therefore in our search for truth we must go to the proper source.

We must examine all information that comes to us to be sure that it is not a mass of untruth sugar-coated with a layer of truth to make it pleasing to taste. Christ gave us an example.

He said, "Many shall come in my name saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many." He knew that many churches would be built up in the latter days and many of them would use the name of Christ. Their Representatives would declare that Jesus who was born in Bethlehem was the Christ. Many of the people would read the Bible. In it they would find this same truth. And because this preacher, coming in the name of Christ, would declare this truth they would be deceived by other untruths.

Christ also gave us an example for examining one who declares he is representing Christ but it is like all truth; we must search it out. The Jews were claiming one day that they were heirs of Abraham. Jesus replied to them: "If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham." Then a little later on He made this statement: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also. . ."

We will notice that Christ said the deceivers who would come in His name would be "saying". He did not say testifying. A representative of Christ must not only say but must also do. And the things he must do are the works of Christ. The works will bear testimony where words will fail.

When John the Baptist sent his disciples to ask Jesus if He was the one that should come, Jesus did not say, "yes I am he," but rather He told these men to "Go and shew John again those things which you do hear and see: The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them."

Christ also set up a guide for us in our day: "In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

The fulness of the gospel consists of: The word, the authority, the gifts, and the power from God. This has been restored for over one hundred years. Many,

many have heard it and have seen the works that have gone along with it. Some have made their decision and have united themselves to it; some have made their decision that it is true but have remained away; many have heard and decided not to believe.

Some day we will stand before the judgement bar of God and the decision rendered there will be final. We all hope for life eternal.

A. F. B.

### HERE AND THERE

After two months of silence, this month we have a round-up of news from some of the localities.

A "round-up" should start in the west. So we can start in Walden, Colorado with Les and Barbara Burgin. (April 24). "I'll bet it was pretty down at Ava. I would like to go back but Les can't get away so that is out. He has about 400 head of cows to feed and they are calving so we stay home most of the time. Yesterday he said he had 90 some calves and more to come. I went out with him one day when he brought a cow and calf in. Cathy and I had the calf in the jeep. (pick-up). When we got to the barn I didn't have any calf. We brought one in last Friday that was sure mean. She went after Les. He jumped up on the corral fence and she was going to take him anyway, then she kicked the horse. Les couldn't get down to do anything with her. She finally jumped over a gate and broke the top pole, then jumped the fence and broke the top pole on it. The other night she had Les between the barn and the fence and I guess she held him there for a while.

It snowed last night but it is gone now. The snow doesn't amount to much now, it doesn't stay on long. We have a lot of wind here and sometimes it is really strong. One day it was blowing and I went out to the barn to call Les; when I started back I thought I was going to have to call for help. I grabbed the screen door for support; it was really strong. It blew Cathy against the screen door the other day when she tried to get out. Cathy is pouring milk on the floor for the cat. She makes more mess than three her size."

Then on to the north to get the news from River Falls, Wisconsin. (March 14). Glen Gill writes, "We have had two visits from Brothers Jordan and Sheldon within a relatively short space of time. Brother Jordan and Brother Sheldon were here together during the first week in March and meetings were held Thursday evening and Sunday morning, afternoon and evening. We have a twenty-five mile drive to Minneapolis and live on a dairy farm so we did most of the day's chores early in the morning and were all (the whole family) present at the three Sunday meetings. (I missed the Thursday one because I was in River Falls and didn't know about it). We ate dinner with the Wentworth girls and their father who was visiting from Bemidji between the morning and afternoon meetings and then went home between the afternoon and evening meetings to feed the animals and milk the cows. We took Lovita and her father along and Lovita prepared supper while we did the work outside so we could make the evening meeting on time—which we did not do. But we didn't miss Brother Sheldon's talk because they all sang songs to pass the

time till we returned. At any rate that was a spiritually and physically full day. You'll see the details of that meeting in John's column in the Advocate. We used Lucinda Scott's original article in our class and our Sunday evening gathering yesterday. It fit nicely since we have just had study of the apostasy and restoration. That coupled with some parts of Brother Flint's tract "What About Israel?" kept up going for about three hours in all. We have had meetings of the young people on Sunday evening for the past few weeks and find in them an excellent opportunity to speed up the learning process and discuss the topic of the day much more fully. I have mostly music courses again this quarter, along with one in geology and two in education but none in my major field (biology). I'll finish my biology courses in summer session and do my practice teaching next fall."

Then on March 30th, "This has been a positively beautiful day. Temperatures up into the 50s have melted away most all of our snow. The sound of chimes from one of the ten local churches and organ music fill the air with a beautiful medley of lenten hymns as I write this. This has been a regular Wednesday night feature since the beginning of the lenten season. One church taking up when the other stops, giving a long continuous concert of church music on chimes, organ and sometimes both together. I wish they would consider it always lent. The college concert band took a 600-mile concert tour Monday and yesterday. We played a concert at Watertown and stayed there overnight. We played yesterday afternoon at Roshalt, and evening at Thorp, getting back to River Falls about 1 o'clock this morning. Now we have to get busy and learn a whole new repertoire of music for our spring concert here at the college May 4. In our young people's class we have been studying archaeological supports for the Book of Mormon. In the process I came across two volumes which have some very interesting material along these lines. They are "Incidents of Travel in Central America, Chiapas, and Yucatan" by Stephens, a man who believes in the Israelite origin of the American Indians (or the Toltec tribe of Central America) and gives some good descriptions of the ruins at Capan, Palenque, Quirigua and Uxmal as he saw them in 1840."

And still in the north area we hear from Lovita Wentworth in Bemidji, Minnesota. (Easter Sunday). "I'm back at home now. Took a month's leave of absence and then a transfer to the telephone company up here. So I guess I'll be starting to work the first of May. I bought a car Saturday so I can live at home and drive back and forth. We had a shower for Vivian and Stanley last Tuesday night before I came home. Is it ever nice here. The temperatures have been up in the 70s and just beautiful. It has been ever since I got home. And I sure hope it stays this way. I'm sorry I could not get to the conference this year but I just couldn't. I sure would have liked to have been there. Tell every one "Hi!" for me. We had a very nice crowd at church today. I suppose it being Easter Sunday and so nice had something to do with it."

And still with the round up in Minnesota, we hear from Lovita's sister, Vivian Olson in Minneapolis. "Since I last wrote I've had my share of excitement. I've become engaged, been married and am on two

weeks vacation. Tomorrow is my father-in-law's funeral too. April has gone down in history as the month of decisions and major events. For me as well as the nation. I've been married one week to the hour and already we are separated. Stan is a truck driver between Minneapolis and the West Coast. He should be on his way back from Seattle now. We were married on Monday night and he left Thursday night. From now on I'll see him only two to five days at a time and he will be gone from five to ten days, depending on where he hauls to. I rode with him on one trip when he went to load at Austin, Minnesota (about 100 miles south). We left here at 7 p. m. and got back at 4 in the morning but it was fun. I hope to ride to the coast if possible sometime. How was Conference this year? Did Fernando get up here? I heard he was going to try to come. Will you tell everyone hello for me."

Then towards the East and Flint, Michigan. (May 2). Wanda Adams writes, "I guess I didn't quite get down to conference this year. I did enjoy myself last year. . . ."

It's wonderful out today. I guess it's about 70 degrees. It feels a lot warmer. I suppose it's really warm down there.

I'm the editor of our paper now, as much as I didn't want to. I don't know a thing about being an editor. We have a lot of fun. We have hectographing material that we use to put the paper out with. I guess there are about ten of us kids. Sometimes we have visitors which we are always glad to have. I wish you could come and visit us sometime and anybody you might want to bring. I'd like to see everybody I could."

Still with the Michigan part of the round up, Jeri Mallory sent news from Maple City. (April 27). "We are having pretty good weather up here now, but the wind is really blowing today. Yesterday, my cousin, Leeta, and I went to Traverse City, which is just sixteen miles from Maple City, to visit a friend who goes to our church. She does not belong, but comes to every meeting. There is a family of Lamanites who have been coming to every meeting. They had to move back to Shobby Town where their home town is, for they were renting a place in Maple City. They are a nice family. The grandfather has a peg leg. His name is Brother Raefield. He believes very strong in the gospel."

And Vivian Heath wrote from Muskegon (March 24). The weather here has been quite changeable lately. Tuesday was a blizzard, then Wednesday seemed like spring again. They say we're going to have another blizzard tomorrow. We're still having our church meetings in spite of the many drawbacks. Flint is holding an all day meeting two weeks from this coming Sunday. I hope to be able to attend. The week-end before that my brother, Glen, and I may go to visit with Nona and Jo Adams and the rest of our group there."

She also sent this poem which she wrote in March.

#### The Love That Lasts

The moon was big and round  
The stars were brightly twinkling

The world seemed filled with light  
But still in darkness lay.  
The light of this world  
Will not last,  
Soon it must fade away.  
The hearts of men who love the worldly light  
Can have no lasting love;  
For the only love that lasts  
Is for the one who gave us hope  
Of a greater life hereafter.

Then last, south to St. Louis, Missouri, we continue with Cecile Davis' letter in our round up. (March 10). "I will not get to church this Sunday as I work from 7:00 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. We received our caps Thursday night, February 17, and were really proud to get them. It was a candlelight ceremony with the entire student body, instructors, and head nurses taking part. We had open-house that night also, and the visitors had a chance to see our rooms and the rest of the school. They also got to see our new student lounge. They gave us Thursday night, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday off last week. It was sure a nice vacation. We are starting all new classes now; some of which are very interesting. Medical and surgical nursing will be very interesting. We also have doctor's lectures now which I also like.

It is really a beautiful day today. Right before class we went for a long walk, Joyce Baran and I. The park is just across from the hospital so that is where we went. The lake sure looked pretty today. It's horrible to see that beautiful water and still not be able to go swimming. I will really be glad when summer gets here."

"Round-up" was probably a western word to begin with, but now it has spread over the country until now it is almost the American way of saying "gathering together". This was a round-up of news, but what of our own round-up? "And the Spirit and Bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will let him take the water of life freely." (Rev. 22:17).

Ella Engle

## NEWS FROM LOCALS

### Independence Diary

The morning service of April 24 was occupied by Brother Archie Bell. His text was taken from Proverbs 25:2, "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing; but the honor of kings is to search out a matter." He told us of the many things that have been discovered for the benefit of man. These are actually wonders of God that have been hid from the beginning and man does not give the Lord the credit. God is good, never evil; evil was necessary to try man. We need not fear the judgments to come upon the evil if we have faith, hope and charity. The duty of kings is to search out these things. Let us all be kings in this way.

Brother Arthur Smith gave the evening sermon of April 24. Reading from Daniel 2, he explained the

dream of King Nebuchadnezzar and the interpretation of it. He used a chart showing the vision of the Kingdoms and their downfalls. Have we treated lightly the responsibility we have in the kingdom that Daniel saw would be set up? The work of God must go on. If we are to be a part of this, we must take our job as members of the Church of Christ seriously and make it a full-time job, instead of just a Sunday job.

Sacrament service was held in the morning service of May 1. Remarks concerning "the bread which cometh down from heaven" were made by Brother Joseph Yates.

The text read by Bro. Clarence Wheaton in the evening service of May 1 was in St. Matthew 11:27: "All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father: neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him." He told us of many of his early experiences in the Gospel of Christ, and how he has progressed in the Gospel work. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." St. Matthew 11:28. We should all heed this and resolve to do better. Let Christ dominate your life.

In the morning service of May 8, Brother William Sheldon likened obedience of the child to the mother, to the obedience of the people of Christ to Him. We are not His true sons unless we believe in him and harken to His word. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." St. John 1:12. Would we give up all that we might become sons of God? May God bless us; may His spirit be in our hearts and souls that others might give him glory that we might endure and become his sons.

"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." St. John 6:35. In the evening service of May 8, Brother Nicholas Denham read this Scripture, commenting that God refuses none, but invites all to come to Him. Are we worthy to come to Him? We should remember our unworthiness, and strive to overcome it. In this, we can demonstrate the love of God.

Enid Bell, Reporter

### St. Louis, Missouri

On the first Sunday of the month we had sacrament.

On this beautiful Easter morning, Brother Lawrence Nichols was our speaker. We had a nice crowd. We had a lot of visitors. He spoke about people believing in Christ as their Savior, for he died to save us from sin. He spoke of the betrayal and how they came for Jesus. He also spoke of Peter and the disciples and how they were imprisoned for teaching of Christ. He spoke of Jesus being crucified. He read from John 18 and 19. He also spoke of Christ's resurrection.

On Sunday, April 17, Brother and Sister Jordan were here from Canada. He was our speaker of the morning. He was asked to speak again tonight. His text was: "There is a way that seemeth right unto man

but the end thereof are the ways of death." Brother Jordan told us, "what we have, we hold." He quoted from Deuteronomy 28, verses 27-36; also 8-14. His theme was faithfulness. He also said we should live by the ways of the Lord and not by the ways of the world. If we keep our faith in him and do his will, he will do many great things for us in many ways.

Brother Jordan was the speaker at the evening service. He spoke of the Prophet Samuel and the many things he said to Saul. He quoted from the book of Isaiah 55, verses 1-9. He told us that the law of the Lord is perfect, "but whoso looketh unto the law, that man shall be blessed in his deed." He spoke of the true vine of the Lord, also how important it is to stay connected with this vine.

Brother Alton Shankle was the speaker of the morning on the last Sunday of the month. His text was on Repentance. He quoted from many books. He spoke of John the Baptist and what he told the people. He also told the parable of the Prodigal Son. Brother Shankle said, "That none is so perfect that they cannot do wrong." He also spoke of Peter and his denials and his repentance. He referred back to Brother Jordan's sermon about the true vine. Brother Shankle told us, "That without the Lord we can do nothing." He pointed this out as being important, "Take heed to yourselves; If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him, and if he repent, forgive him."

Your Reporter,

Edith Frey

### Ava Visiting, Aloha

We have been having Sunday School and church nearly every Sunday. May 1 we had our Sacrament Service then we all went on a picnic dinner down on the creek.

A lot of the kids were home for Mother's Day. They were, Leslie and Irene Case and their two boys, Jimmy and Donnie; Marvin and Edith Case and their two boys, Johnny and Gerald; Jim and Caroline Hedrick, Cliff and Ella Engle, Enid and Delores Bell. We had Sunday School and church, then all went to Harvey Bell's for dinner. The visitors all left Sunday afternoon for Independence.

Brother and Sister Arthur Smith are back in Ava and were at church Sunday.

We are getting a light rain that started May 10 and this is the 12th. The forecast is for more showers and we are still hoping.

Jack Bell

### Flint, Michigan

We are having wonderfully warm weather here in Michigan. \* \* \*

Some of us in this branch gathered at Wayland in the home of Brother William Postma and came away refreshed and at peace. All were of one heart and mind, and love emanated from each, ruling out evil forces.

Brother Lewis Welch was visiting there and we "stole" him away with us when we returned to Flint. God seems to be with us and I know that He sees our struggle against contrasting forces. Please pray for us that we may do the things which are good and tried and true.

In these trying times, Satan is working urgently to destroy the remnant of the church. He either wants us to go the way of the world or to stay in the same static rut, digging ourselves deeper with the pride and prejudice and dogma of the world. \*He doesn't care what we do as long as we do not make a recognized stand for the true principles of Christ.

This is a time to watch and to search out and to prove man, doctrine, and spirits, for the time is drawing near. Let us prepare that we may be ready for instruction. May the peace of the Lord be upon His troubled people.

Winona Adams, Reporter

## Original Articles

### THE CHURCH FOUNDED ON REVELATION, MUST BE GOVERNED BY REVELATION

L. V. Aldrich

"Upon this rock (revelation, LVA) I will build my church." Matt. 16:18.

By this, we mean that as Christ told Peter he would build His church upon the revelation God had given him that this Jesus was indeed the Son of God; therefore, God through revelation, set in the church the officers to administer the laws and covenants given to the church.

Christ called out twelve men and ordained them Apostles as the very first officers in His church. Paul wrote to the Corinthian and Ephesian saints that,

"God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers." I Cor. 12:28.

In Eph. 4:11, we read that Christ gave gifts to man; to some He gave apostles; some prophets; some evangelists; some pastors and teachers. From other scriptures we learn of the ordination of Elders, Acts 14:23; the office of Bishop and deacons, I Tim. chapter 3. By reading Acts 6, we learn that Deacons were set in the church very soon after Christ went back to His Father. Each of these officers served in a particular manner in the church, and it was not within the mind of man to devise nor create these officers; but the God of Heaven called them forth, and since we read,

Ecclesiastes 3:14, "Whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever; nothing can be put to it, nor anything taken from it, and God doeth it, that men should fear before him."

We must conclude that as long as His church is on the earth, no other officers will be recognized except those whom God called forth unless God is an experimenting God.

We learn from reading Acts, chapter 15 that the Apostles not only directed the missionary work of the church, but had the oversight of the church. The question of whether or not the Gentile converts should be circumcized was taken by Paul and Barnabas to the apostles and elders of the church in Jerusalem; verse 2 states, "they determined that Paul and Barnabas should go to the apostles and elders in Jerusalem with the matter; verse 4 states that they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders. After much discussion, Paul and Barnabas spoke: following which James, who appeared to be the leader in the quorum of apostles, spoke and summed the matter up by saying it was his sentence (or conclusion) that these Gentile converts should not be troubled further in this matter and that they write them to this effect. In verse 22, we read that, it pleased the apostles and elders, with the whole church, and they wrote the letter and selected men to accompany Paul and Barnabas with greetings from this council.

We wish to emphasize the fact that it was the apostles who took the lead in this matter; there being no higher source to whom Paul and Barnabas elected to go with this question. Had there been any officers higher than apostles, this would have surely been the time when they would have been heard. Not only do we find the apostles the highest officers in the church in Palestine, but in the Church of Christ in Ancient America we find no officers higher than the twelve whom Christ called from among the disciples and ordained them, telling them they should function as His apostles in Palestine; and in the next chapter (Moroni 3), we read who the other officers were in the church; elders, priests and teachers. Paul in discussing the office of High Priest in the letter to the Hebrews, clearly sets forth in the Christian church, no man is qualified to assume the role of mediator between man and God except Christ, who offered (not as the high priest in the Jewish church offered the blood of animals as a sacrifice for their sins) himself as the supreme sacrifice for sin, and in Hebrews, chapter 7, we read, "We have such an High Priest who is set on the right hand of the throne of the majesty in the heavens", while in chapter 10, we read, verse 11, "and every priest standeth daily ministering and offering often times the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; but this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God; from henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool, for by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified." Unless and until this offering for sin by Christ our great High Priest fails there is no place for any other high priest.

History records the complete apostacy of the church; and in this, all of the God-called officers were rejected and cast out of the church. In their stead, man chose whom he wished to serve in his church; and this condition existed throughout the 1,260 years of darkness until God revealed in 1828 that he proposed to "Restore my church as it was taught by my disciples of old." If the church, restored in 1830, had been different in any respect from the Church of Christ in Pales-

tine or Ancient America, it surely could have made no claim to being other than another church of men. However, God made good His promise and in June, 1830, a short time after the church was organized on April 6, revealed the officers to be maintained in His church, together with the duties to be performed. For this, we read in chapter 24, Book of Commandments, verse 32-40, the officers to be set therein were the same as in His church in ancient times. Viz; Apostles, Elders, Priests, Teachers, and Deacons. This is also found in Doctrine and Covenants (Reorganized Church), Sec. 17, pars. 8-11.

History records that about one year after the church was restored, man elected to set up other offices in the church. We read that in June, 1831, a conference was called and Joseph Smith, Jr. called out certain men from among the elders and ordained them High Priests. A short time afterward he was elected President over these High Priests; while a little later we find him acclaimed President over the whole church. In 1834, he called a council to change the name of the church from the name given of God. Viz.; the Church of Christ to a name had of men; Viz.: Church of Latter Days Saints, (R.L.D.S. Hist. page 453). It can easily be seen that, now, the church was different from "The Church which was taught by my disciples in the days of old." Book of Commandments, chapter 4:5.

Since these innovations came into the church, which were not set forth in the revelations printed in the Book of Commandments and the church paper in Independence, Mo., in 1832-33, it was necessary to re-write the revelations and publish an entirely different book, so as to make these new officers appear as having been directed of God. This was done not by the church, but by the High Council appointing a committee to re-write the revelations for the new book, the Doctrine and Covenants of the Church of Latter-Day Saints. This is the title of the 1935 edition. The title of the Book of Commandments, together with the preface was given by God to Joseph to be printed in the Book of Commandments for the government of the Church of Christ, organized according to law on the 6th day of April, 1830. Zion: Published by W. W. Phelps & Co., 1833. (See Book of Commandments, chapter 1, verse 2).

There have been found more than 1,000 changes in the revelations given to the Church of Christ until September 1831, which were published in the Book of Commandments. Verses 16 and 17, in Sec. 17 of the Reorganized Doctrine and Covenants is an example; these two verses were added, and in these, provision was made for the new officers set in the church by the will of man after the church was restored, ". . . as taught by my disciples in the days of old."

God revealed to Joseph Smith, Jr. in March, 1829, that he proposed to restore "My Church, like unto the church which was taught by my disciples in the days of old." This restored church would have the very same officers as the church of old, with the Apostles as the highest officers in the church.

There were in central Illinois several local churches organized by the early missionaries while enroute from Kirtland, Ohio to Missouri to preach to the Lamamites.

These saints remained for the most part free of these entanglements which brought the church into disfavor with God. True, there was a time during which they acquiesced in the man-given name for the church; but in 1860, we learn they returned to the original name, the Church of Christ. These people proved themselves a remnant of the original church as organized in 1830. God honored them by revealing to them the time to return to Missouri. This they did in February, 1867, in the face of a denunciation by the leaders of the new organization, who wrote that "when God is ready for the saints to return he will speak through the prophet: for any who return now they may expect the judgments of God to fall on them." (True L.D.S. Herald, August 15, 1864). The church returned: no judgments of God fell on them; just as God had promised, the hearts of the people in Missouri had softened toward the saints.

While it took several years for the church to free itself of all the entanglements brought on by the early leaders of the restoration, we are happy to tell you that today, the church stands solidly with the Church of 1830; the highest officers now, as then, being Apostles. The church purchased the ground on which Joseph Smith, Jr., pointed out and dedicated, in 1831, as the spot for the Temple. It owns this land today and looks forward to the time when God in His wisdom may cause the honest in heart of all believers in the restoration to unite under the Church of 1830 and build the Temple to which Christ can come when He returns to earth.

May we extend to you, dear reader, an invitation to join in this great and glorious task.

### SERMON

Delivered by Nicholas F. Denham  
December 5, 1954  
Church of Christ (Temple Lot)

Scripture Reading: III Nephi chapter 7, verses 1-11.

"And now it came to pass that when Jesus had ended these saying, he cast his eyes round about on the multitude, and said unto them, Behold, ye have heard the things which I have taught before I ascended to my Father;

"Therefore whoso remembereth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, him will I raise up at the last day.

"And it came to pass that when Jesus had said these words, he perceived that there were some among them who marveled, and wondered what he would concerning the law of Moses; for they understood not the saying, that old things had passed away, and that all things had become new.

"And he said unto them, Marvel not that I said unto you, That old things had passed away, and that all things had become new.

"Behold I say unto you, that the law is fulfilled that was given unto Moses.

"Behold, I am he that gave the law, and I am he who covenanted with my people Israel; therefore, the law in me is fulfilled, for I have come to fulfill the law; therefore, it hath an end.

"Behold, I do not destroy the prophets, for as many as have not been fulfilled in me, verily, I say unto you, shall all be fulfilled.

"And because I said unto you, that old things hath passed away, I do not destroy that which hath been spoken concerning things which are to come.

"For behold, the covenant which I have made with my people, is not all fulfilled; but the law which was given unto Moses, hath an end in me.

"Behold, I am the law, and the light; look unto me, and endure to the end, and ye shall live, for unto him that endureth to the end will I give eternal life.

"Behold, I have given unto you the commandments; therefore keep my commandments."

Brothers and sisters, I am glad to be with you, and I want to solicit your prayers in my behalf that I might be able to bring something that would be of the nature of sustenance to us. Jesus commissioned his servants when he was here to feed the sheep. I have no other desire than that I might be able to do this. What is the meaning of that word sustenance? It is that which sustains. We might partake at the table of physical food for the purpose of sustaining our physical life, which we are all aware we must do. And if we would continue to have spiritual life, that too must be sustained by spiritual food. It is my hope and desire, that I might bring to you, and while I bring it to you, I bring it to myself, that which will sustain us spiritually. For the spiritual is more important than the physical. Before we can have something sustained, we must have that thing. Before we can sustain physical life, we must have physical life. Before we can sustain spiritual life, we must have spiritual life. We should all be aware of how we obtain that spiritual life. Jesus said in the scripture reading, "Behold, I have given you the commandments; therefore keep my commandments."

On a number of other occasions Jesus told His people how that they might come by that spiritual life. You know, having heard it many times, and having read it for yourselves, that we must first have faith. After we have had faith, then it is necessary that we repent of those things which we have done, which have been contrary to the nature of God, these which the lusts of the flesh lead us into. After we have repented, we must enter in by that strait gate, baptism. I would like to call attention to the wording that was given concerning that strait gate. "Jesus said wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction and many there be which go in thereat." (Matt. 7:13).

Let us consider the reason why many enter destruction. By reading on in the 14th verse, "Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Many would enter into the broad way and the wide-gate because the other way was strait. What does the word "strait" mean? It means narrow or a narrow passage. If we look at a map of the world, we'll notice a narrow passageway at the southern end of South America between many little islands, the Strait of Megellan. Most school boys and school girls are acquainted with it. It is a

narrow way and hard to get through. One had to follow a prescribed course, because to weave to one side or to the other, means shipwreck.

After we get in the strait gate, we find a narrow way which continues to be narrow—it never is broad—and must follow to the end. And we must follow down the line; and we can, but not of our own strength. We do it through obedience to the commandments which Christ gave and he said, "Behold I have given you the commandments, therefore keep my commandments." He said "Behold I am the law, and the light, look unto me, and endure to the end." That means keep right on going. Do not give up, do not veer to the left nor to the right, but endure right on down the line. "For unto him that endureth to the end, will I give eternal life."

Now we hear some say, "All you have to do is enter. Christ did the rest of it for us and there is nothing you can do that is going to break or make you." But these are not the words of Jesus; they are the words of men.

We find in Matthew 10:22, Jesus said the same thing to the people who were at Jerusalem, as he said to the Nephites. "But he that endureth to the end shall be saved."

So after we enter in through this straight gate, this gate that is not wide and follow down the narrow way, all the way to the end of our days, which may be short or may be lengthened, we shall then be saved.

It would take a long time to list the various things that Jesus gave us to do. But I want to call one thing to our attention, that will help us a long way. After we come into the kingdom, through baptism, making covenant with Him according to His commandments, and we have been cleansed by the power of the Holy Ghost, we then have spiritual life. And it is necessary that after we obtain that spiritual life, and we have tasted of the wonders of His grace which thrill the soul, that we maintain or keep it by keeping all His commandments.

I would like to read another instruction which Jesus gave to His people, found in the 8th chapter of the third book of Nephi, verses 46-47, "Therefore blessed are ye if ye shall keep my commandments which the Father hath given me that I should give unto you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye must watch and pray always, lest ye be tempted by the devil, and ye are led away captive by him." "Ye must watch and pray always." I want to stop right there, and see what Jesus meant when he said, "pray always". That is pray every day. Every day of our lives. Some one says, "no, that is not what it means. It means pray every hour." Jesus says, "Pray without ceasing." Yes, that is what he says, "pray without ceasing." Do you, my brothers and sisters, pray without ceasing? Or, do you do sometimes, like I have done, forget? Then comes one who says, "How can I pray without ceasing? I have a job; I have to go to work. I can not spend all my time upon my knees in prayer and supplication to God." No, you cannot, and neither can I. Jesus did not do it, and He did not command His disciples and people to do it. Yet, He told them to pray with ceasing. How can you and I pray without ceasing? A song of the heart, we are told, is a prayer



unto God. Do you have a song in your heart as you go about your work? I asked the junior class in Sunday School, a while back, "What do you sing? Do you sing when you go about your activities?" A certain one of our little sisters said, "Well, I sing certain popular songs of the day." Do you? Do I? Yes, most of us do, I will have to include myself in that category.

Something struck me very forcibly at the time, and here was the question, "What kind of a prayer was I offering to God?" The song of the heart is a prayer unto God. When I said that, several of them caught their breath and exclaimed, "Why I had not thought of that." Had you thought of it? Well, I had not thought of it either, as forcibly as I did then.

Brothers and Sisters, it should make us stop and think. This command which Christ gave was not an empty thing. It had meaning to it. Pray without ceasing. He did not stop there. He went on and said more; let us get the rest of it. "Ye must watch and pray always, lest ye be tempted by the devil."

The devil, that being who rebelled in the beginning against our God. Because of that rebellion, he was cast out into the earth for a period of time, but it was not to be forever. For the time is coming when he is to be cast, with all of his followers into the lake of fire and brimstone. He knows that; he is aware of it; yes, he is far more aware of it than you and I are. He knows that his time is growing short, and because of it, he desires the same misery for you and me. Yet, all the while, do we find ourselves slumbering and sleeping, or are we awake to the danger?

"Watch and pray always lest ye be tempted by the devil and ye be led away captive by him." Satan desires to sift you as wheat. He desires to have you as his own. He values your soul very highly. He wants it on his side that he might drag it down to the misery like unto himself, but the Lord also wants it. But he will not force you, where Satan will, if he possibly can. It is a thing that you and I must each decide for himself. Not once, not twice, but every moment of our lives, and we each must make that decision. Are we going to stand by that covenant which we have made, are we going to endure to the end, or are we going to get part way and then give up? Are we going to say that the goal which is ahead, and the reward that is sure, is not worth the trouble?

This life is short; it is only but a moment. When I was a child I could not understand people saying that. When I was a child listening like some of these children listening to me, tonight, and I heard people say that life was short and soon gone, it did not seem so to me; and now I presume that I am half and perhaps more than half way through it. I can begin to get a lot better view of it than I had when I was a child. You who are older, understand it even more than I understand it, because we learn it as we go. This life is short. The trials that we bear at the time seems hard. Sometimes we are tempted to give up. Give up what? What are we going to gain if we give up? Where is there any place to stop? There is nothing to gain but there is everything to lose. It is a battle that does not have a question, the only question is whether we will

follow that one little instruction that Jesus gave us. Endure to the end and hold fast.

I would like to turn to the Galatian letter, and read a few things, which enduring, which praying without ceasing or praying always, as Jesus said on that occasion, will do for us. It will bring us the fruits of the spirit, it will help us to overcome those things which will destroy not the body only, but the soul as well.

It is that spiritual life that lasts without end. We can not conceive of eternity. Let us take an example, everything about you, everything about me. The things we see, the things we hear, the things we feel, the things we taste, the things we are aware of because of the sense of the body, have a beginning, and they have an end. They have a boundary. The conception in my mind about everything has a boundary, we can not conceive of that which does not have a boundary. We have astronomers who have discovered stars that are far away. They have discovered that the bright stars we see in the evening, in the summertime, are so far away from us, that as fast as light travels, as fast as the electricity travels through the wires, which is 186,000 miles in one second, that it requires years for their light to reach us. We cannot conceive of such great distance. According to our scientists and astronomers who have at their command, mathematics that are beyond the use of most of us, they have determined that the light from one of those stars, that I particularly think of right now, requires 200 years to pass through space at the exceedingly great rate of speed to reach here. We cannot conceive of distance that far, and yet that is boundary, or a definite distance.

We cannot conceive of endless space, space without any boundary. As a result we cannot understand eternity. We live in a bounded world, we live in a world that is measured by time. We cannot understand eternity because it is so great. Is not keeping the commandments of God, that we might have eternal life, worthwhile? Is not the price we have to pay, enduring to the end, worth eternal life? For those who have not eternal life have eternal death. Separation from God, and as a result, misery. It is up to us to make the choice. God did not force Adam to do as He commanded, but He set before Him the way of life and the way of death, and he said, Adam, do what I told you, but over here is something you shall not do for the day you eat thereof you shall surely die, and God must have kept His word. If it had not been kept, God would not have been just. But God is a just God, and a merciful God also. For He has provided a way by which that justice might be softened, if I might put it that way, through obedience to the gospel of Christ, through the blood of Christ that was shed upon the tree.

Let us read the fifth chapter of the Galatian letter and see what we find. "This I say then, walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

"For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would." Our natural will is to sing the popular song, is it not. It is rather fun, but does not make much sense; rather silly, but fun. What did the Lord say or what do the scriptures say? If you are happy sing songs. What are songs? Praises to God. Oh, I am

not going to condemn you, because I might hear you sing a popular song, if I did I would be condemning myself. I have done it too. But I did not give the law. You do not have to answer to me. You and I must answer to our Heavenly Father. He is the judge, not I.

Continuing the reading in the 17th verse, ". . . so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law."

What law did God lay down when Adam disobeyed? Death. If you are led by the Spirit, you are not under that law.

Continuing in the 19th verse:

"Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornications, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry. . . ."

"Why, we don't worship idols! Those things are worshipped in China, in India? Some say. Are they?"

I guess you see what I have here. A piece of silver. It is a small one. A lot of people worship this little piece of silver. That is an idol and a big one today. Some people put more time, thought and energy into accumulating those little pieces of silver, than they put in accumulating treasure where moth nor rust doth not corrupt, and thieves break not through and steal, and the reward, is eternal.

In opposition to that blessed reward is damnation, that misery that Satan knows awaits him at the end of this world. We are told in Isaiah 14:15-16, "Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee and consider thee, saying, is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms." He will not be great then. He will have lost His power, and the way he is going to lose His power is through the righteousness of saints. It is up to you and me. When we cease to submit ourselves to the direction and influence of the satanic majesty, he is bound. He is bound because he has not anything to work with. He will lose his power, and then will he have to realize, which he already does, that he cannot stand against God. He will bring shame upon himself, and if we submit ourselves to him, we will bring shame upon ourselves. For when we come before the all-searching eye of our Master, the guilt that we shall feel will be many times greater than the guilt that we felt as a little child when we came before our parents, after we had disobeyed, and we were not able to look up into the kindly eyes of our mother or our dad, but felt that burning shame within us, and had to drop our heads because of the thing which we had done. That will be mild; that will not amount to much, compared to the way we will feel when we are brought before our Master in His majesty, and we will not be able to raise our eyes to meet His. We will have to drop our eyes in shame. The guilt within us, the burning within us, will be like unto a lake of fire. Unquenchable. That is the thing we want to avoid. That is the thing we can avoid by following that which God has laid down for us, His commandments. We must endure after we have entered in at the strait gate, through the baptism of water and fire, and the Holy Ghost. After we have had that baptism of fire and the Holy Ghost, we are members of

the Kingdom, we have life within us. It is up to us to keep it.

Now these are the works of the flesh, "idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulation, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies." It would require quite a little while to go into the definition of each one of these terms. Do it at home. It is a wonderful education. We need to read these things over continually! We need to remind ourselves of the dangers that lurk along the way, like rocks that stick up close to the surface and look very innocent as you look at the water, but to get right out of the channel means shipwreck and destruction.

Continuing the reading: "Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." We will not be able to stand His all-searching eye if we have these things against us.

God has wonderful promises set aside for you and me. I have not received them yet, Why? Because I have not given diligent enough attention to them. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love." Love is that which causes us to suffer with a brother or sister when they suffer. Do you know of any of your brothers or sisters who are suffering physically? Are you suffering with them? Do you know any of your brothers and sisters who are suffering spiritually? Are you interested in their welfare, are you suffering with them? Are you bearing that fruit of love and joy? Are you sharing the joy that you have?

We should be a joyous people. There should not be a happier people on the face of the earth, if we were living up to the fullness of that which God has promised to us.

Peace, the world is howling, Peace, Peace. There is no peace. There never was a time in the world's history when people were speaking so widely of ways of having world peace; and every moment they are looking for world destruction. We know not at what moment the next war may burst upon us, and when it does, it is going to be a terrible thing. It is going to be beyond our comprehension. But God said that when this nation, not the nations across the sea, but this nation that occupies this land upon which you and I live tonight, gets to that place where it is ripened in iniquity, and from the fruits of the nation, I fear lest we are very close to that day, then destruction shall come upon it.

According to Washington's vision; he saw it. He saw the very things taking place in the world today. He saw the cause of it, and he saw the result of it.

"Peace, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, against such there is no law."

On several occasions I have heard Brother Anderson tell of an occurrence at a place where he worked, which illustrates a point I would like to bring out.

I believe he said that he was in a factory or dispensing plant of some sort where fruit was being sorted. There were certain inspectors who were to check it as it came along. And when it reached the end of the

line, it did not pass final inspection. The supervisor went back to his inspectors and said, "You are going to have to do better." And they answered, "We are doing the best we can."

The supervisor said, "Your best is not good enough."

The inspectors excused themselves by saying they did the best they could. They did not. The supervisor wanted the fruit perfect, and it was not perfect.

God wants perfect fruit from you and me—the fruit of the Spirit. And if we get lackadaisical about our lives, we will bear just exactly that kind of fruit. But we can produce perfect fruit—not of ourselves—but through the Spirit of God, if we do what He says.

"Keep my commandments." Pray—once a day? Once an hour? No. Pray without ceasing. Let your heart be lifted up to God—continually. Oh yes, I know that you cannot carry on a conversation with your neighbor or you cannot keep your mind centered upon the work that you have to do if it takes concentration and be on your knees praying, No. But all the time you can keep your mind from wandering. If your mind is like my mind, your mind likes to wander, and it is up to me continually to keep it down that narrow way, else it will veer one way or the other and become shipwrecked.

Are all the thoughts that enter your mind thoughts that you want to keep? One time I heard it said this way, "We can not help the birds that fly over our heads, but we can keep them from building nests in our hair." You cannot always help the thoughts that fly into your mind, but you can sure keep them from staying there.

This thought comes to me: "As a man thinketh, so is he." "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart"—that is the ability we have within us to love. Thou shalt—not maybe, not if you want to—Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with (part of your heart?) all thy heart, with all thy mind (that with which we think which is seated in the brain), with all thy soul. What is there left?

#### SERMON BY BROTHER ARCHIE BELL

"When earth in bondage long had lain, and darkness o'er the nations reigned, and all man's precepts prove in vain, a perfect system to obtain." That song tells us that the light of God was restored to earth again. While we may, at times, recognize the fact that there is a gloomy side, we want to always recognize that there is a bright side of life. I want to read to you from the bright side a good many hundred years ago. I expect it is four thousand years ago, or somewhere around about that time. The Brother of Jared was there when this conversation took place. This reading is from page 720 of the Book of Ether, beginning with verse 66, will be more as a lesson than something to go with our discourse.

"And I know, O Lord, that thou hast all power." (Now if that light was restored to earth like we sing in the song, there should be some of that power restored too.)

"And can do whatsoever thou wilt for the benefit of man; therefore touch these stones, O Lord, with thy

finger, and prepare them that they may shine forth in darkness." (Just the same as we are asking him to touch our lives with his finger that our lives might show forth in the darkness that is prevailing over the world today).

"And they shall shine forth unto us in the vessels which we have prepared, that we may have light while we shall cross the sea.

"Behold, O Lord, thou canst do this. We know that thou art able to shew forth great power, which looks small unto the understanding of men.

"And it came to pass that when the brother of Jared had said these words, behold, the Lord stretched forth his hand and touched the stones, one by one, with his finger;" (I wonder what would be our reaction if that would happen to us today. Have we gotten ourselves in a condition spiritually where if we saw some miraculous thing that the Lord had done, would we think about it, or would we see what took place?)

"And the vail was lifted from off the eyes of the brother of Jared, and he saw the finger of the Lord; and it was as the finger of a man, like unto flesh and blood; and the brother of Jared fell down before the Lord, for he was struck with fear.

"And the Lord saw that the brother of Jared had fallen to the earth; and the Lord said unto him, Arise, why hast thou fallen?

"And he saith unto the Lord, I saw the finger of the Lord, and I feared lest he should smite me; for I knew not that the Lord had flesh and blood.

"And the Lord said unto him, Because of thy faith thou hast seen that I shall take upon me flesh and blood; and never has man come before me with such exceeding faith as thou hast; for were it not so, ye could not have seen my finger. Sawest thou more than this?

"And he answered, Nay, Lord, shew thyself unto me.

"And the Lord said unto him, Believest thou the words which I shall speak?

"And he answered, Yea, Lord, I know that thou speakest the truth, for thou art a God of truth, and canst not lie.

"And when he had said these words, behold the Lord shewed himself unto him, and said, Because thou knowest these things, ye are redeemed from the fall; therefore ye are brought back into my presence; therefore I shew myself unto you." (I want you to catch these words. Because the brother of Jared had manifested such great faith before the Lord, He told him that he was redeemed from the fall).

"Behold, I am he who was prepared from the foundation of the world to redeem my people. Behold, I am Jesus Christ. I am the Father and the Son.

"In me shall all mankind have life, and that eternally, even they who shall believe on my name; and they shall become my sons and my daughters.

"And never have I shewed myself unto man whom I have created, for never has man believed in me as thou hast."

Our text is taken from Isaiah 24:5. Yes, you have heard this, and perhaps you have only heard one side of it. Now we of the Restoration movement, and in particular the ones who hold the priesthood, are not set up to try to scare the people into coming to Christ. There must be something there which is attractive, because if someone is scared into going to such a place can be shown to him for that place, then that person has benefitted.

Now this looks dark, and it is speaking of our time, too. Because if this twenty-fourth chapter is read different things will be seen; different signs that would indicate the very time in which we are living. Here is what it says:

"And the earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance." (Singular. I have heard this quoted, and quoted plural, but it is singular. Look it up and see if I have misquoted this to you.)

"Changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant."

We have five things here then that we must take up. We have the earth, the inhabitants of the earth, laws, ordinance, and everlasting covenant. They have transgressed the law, they have changed the ordinance, and have broken the everlasting covenant.

Let us see if we can identify these things to where they might have a little bit of bearing on our lives. What is the earth? The earth is that terrestrial ball on which we all dwell. And the surface of this earth is composed of various elements. And the various elements that this surface of the earth is composed of, is what all things of the earth are also composed of. We are composed of the same elements as the earth is composed of. We know that God took the dust of the earth and created, or formed everything of it, and He placed it in the earth. And now, we are reading of the time when it says that the earth is defiled, or has become corrupt under the inhabitants thereof. Now if everything on this earth is composed of the same elements as the earth is, then the different things of the earth will also be defiled, because the same elements that are taken out of the earth furnish food for all things to grow here, upon earth. If you want to get to the full understanding of this, live on a farm a few years. You will see how; for everything that is raised from this earth, there has to be some treatment made to counteract something that we call disease; some of the corruption of the earth.

This is a sign, that we, within our minds can fully understand, that has been fulfilled. But our main thought here is, what caused this, and what is going to happen on the earth at the same time? The first thing that we read which caused this, and I believe it should be there first too, and that is because they have transgressed the law; the inhabitants of the earth. Who are in the inhabitants of the earth? Are they the plants? Are they the animals? Are they the fowls? No. The inhabitants of the earth are mankind. A few hundred years after mankind was created and driven from the garden of Eden, the Lord caused the flood to come upon the earth. After the flood and

man was again upon the earth, Noah, who was an instrument in the hands of God in preserving man, animal, beast and vegetation, went forth with his three sons and their wives. We understand that the earth was divided to the descendants of the three sons of Noah. The last time I appeared before you I spoke concerning the descendants of the two sons, Shem and Japheth. Shem's descendants are the Hebrew people. Japheth's descendants are the Gentiles. I did not touch on the other son Ham. We find that the outstanding descendant of Ham was Canaan. And Canaan occupied a land that was a choice land. The descendants of Canaan were eleven tribes called "ites", Hitites, Amorites, etc. They were dwelling in the land, and were doing something that was displeasing to God. They were worshipping idols. When the Lord spoke to Abraham He spoke of what these people were doing in that land. And again, when the children of Israel came out of Egypt, the Lord told them that these "ites" were heathens. So we have before us today, three different divisions of the people of Noah.

We have the Hebrews, who descended through Isaac, and from Isaac on through Jacob, and from Jacob through his twelve sons.

We have Japheth, whose descendants came through Gomer. Then we have Ham, whose descendants came through Canaan and Cush, idol worshippers, heathens.

It is an understandable fact, and it is more so to us, who live here in the states, when we go among the American Indian, we can see there, even though they have drifted away from the Lord, traditions that can be traced right back to Christ being here on this land. What I want to bring to your attention is the fact that even though a people may have become idol worshippers, there is a tradition which they possess that can be traced back to Noah. The earth is defiled under the inhabitants thereof, because they, the inhabitants thereof, have transgressed the laws. Even though they might be heathen, they trace back to Noah some of the things that they have, in their codes or their laws. Therefore they will have to come under this same thing that we are speaking of. The reason for the defilement of the earth.

We turn our attention to the descendants of Shem which we are Hebrew. When Christ came to earth they rejected Him as a people. They did not even keep the law of Moses. That would be transgressing, would it not? And if that is transgressing then they would come in under the same class of people or the same people that caused the defilement of the earth.

Turn our attention to the Gentile. The Gentiles, as nations, have from their beginning, worshipped the god of force rather than the God of heaven. They may not have been idol worshippers, they had a code, yes, but they worshipped the god of force. Through study of the history of Europe, it can be seen that one tribe would be in power today, and perhaps tomorrow another tribe would be in power. It was war, war, war, worshipping the god of force. The boundary lines would switch back and forth through the ages of the Gentile times.

So, here we have the three. The three divisions of mankind, and everyone of them found guilty of transgression before God. The earth is defiled under the inhabitants thereof, because they have transgressed the laws.

Now we take up another point. We read, "They have changed the ordinance," singular. It is so easy for us to say, "They have changed the ordinances." But it isn't that way. It is singular. If it read "ordinances", we would say, "the ordinances of the gospel". But if it is ordinance, it is an orderly way that a work is performed. Not only is it an orderly way, but it is strict that every part of that work is to be done just a certain way.

I am going to give you a thought. If we will refer to I Corinthians 12:28, we will read where God has set some in the church; first apostles, secondarily prophets. The church then would be His ordinance. He has set in His ordinance, first apostles, secondarily, and if you will look up the meaning of the word, secondarily, we will find it to mean; second in order to the first, or of second place origin. If we will accept that meaning and later change it around to make it first prophets and secondarily apostles, we would be guilty of having changed the ordinance. We would have changed the workings of God's church here upon earth. We would have changed the ordinance, if we did that. He has placed in that church duties for such and such a member of his priesthood here upon earth. We will say that he gave elders, priests and teachers and specified the duties of each. And we will say the elder could baptize and lay on hands and all of the difference ordinances of the church. The priest could baptize and the things that go along with that except the laying on of hands. And the teacher could preach and teach. If we accept that for a while, then we decide, that authority comes from Christ, why restrict the teacher. Let us give him authority to baptize, or let us give the priest authority to lay on hands. We again would have changed the ordinance, and would be found guilty before God; even more so, I believe, than just transgressing the law. The earth is defiled under the inhabitants thereof, because they have transgressed the law, have changed the ordinance. And there is another thing: they have broken the everlasting covenant. Now if you will notice, there was only one thing mentioned in that, that could apply to the descendants of all three sons of Noah. Because the Restoration could be the only one that would have his ordinance. The other two sons do not have his ordinance.

Now we are coming to one thing that is in that ordinance; the everlasting covenant. When we go into the waters of baptism we make a covenant that is everlasting. A covenant that we will remember Christ and keep His commandments as long as there is life in us. We read in Hebrews 6, that if the time comes when that covenant has come to an end we cannot renew it. There is no such thing as being baptized again. We are baptized but once. We make that covenant but once. If it comes to an end, that end is everlasting. Let us read,

"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine

of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,"

And it says:

"Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment."

And it says:

"And this will we do, if God permit."

Yes if it was permissible in the eyes of God, there might be some who would step off from this covenant that they have made and live a life of the world for a while and then think, "I had better get back in there. I will be baptized and go back in." But, here is what it says if we try to do that.

"For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

"And have tasted the good work of God, and the powers of the world to come,

"And if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance—."

John the Baptist instituted the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And here it says it would be impossible to renew them again unto repentance.

"—seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame."

Now do you suppose that if there was only a few had transgressed the law, that the Lord would bring a defilement here upon earth? You would say, "No." Do you suppose that if there were only a few who had changed the ordinance that God would pronounce a defilement upon this earth? You would say, "No." Do you suppose if there were only a few who had broken the everlasting covenant that God would bring a defilement here upon this earth? And again you would say "no." The Lord said, if you can find only a few in Sodom I will preserve that city. He specified how few it was. And it is the same with these different things: The transgressing of the law, the changing of the ordinance, the breaking of the everlasting covenant. It would appear like there were very few who had held to the covenant that they had made with God.

Now let us go to the other side. We will refer to Matthew 24:37.

"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

Usually, we will take the reading that I have brought to your attention in Isaiah 24:5, and we will pick out from Genesis 6, something that says that the earth was defiled in the days of Noah and stop there. Then we try to say "boo", to the people and scare them. Now let us see what there was in the days of Noah. First we will notice Genesis 6:5. This is the main one that we think of so many times.

"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

It was there; wickedness, yes, just the same as we have today. Let us go a little bit farther. We will notice verses 11 and 12.

"The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

"And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth."

There is the fulfillment of it. That is the wage of sin, we will say. But as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of man. Now let me ask you a question. If there was no righteousness on the earth in the days of Noah why did they build the ark? Yes, why was the ark built if there were no righteous people? Oh you say Noah was. Yes you say that his ways were perfect before God. And he and his wife and his sons and their wives found favor before God, and they were permitted to go into the ark. In fact, the Lord commanded them to go into the ark. Well, as it was in the days of Noah so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man. The scriptures tell us that Noah was perfect before God. Now I want to read you again what I read here in the lesson.

"And never have I shewed myself unto men whom I have created, for never has man believed in me as thou hast."

Speaking of the brother of Jared. Let us notice here. And, incidentally this is speaking of the Gentiles, too. Remember now, that the Lord showed himself to the brother of Jared, and he said, "because of your great faith you are redeemed from the fall, therefore you are brought back into my presence." When we read this we think there was a great man. Yes, there was a great man, but notice further. This is speaking of the last days.

"And in the day that they shall exercise faith in me even as the brother of Jared did."

Why certainly there is going to be righteousness here on earth. An outstanding righteousness to the extent that the Lord can show himself to the people, even as he did to the brother of Jared. He said that because of your great faith did I do these things. As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man. Let us not overlook that fact. Let us see what is going to happen.

"And in that day that they shall exercise faith in me, (that reads shall, making it a future perfect tense). saith the Lord even as the brother of Jared did that they may become sanctified in me. Then will I manifest unto them the things which the brother of Jared saw, (And Moroni said there could not be greater things shown unto man than the brother of Jared saw. I want to read a little farther). Even to the unfolding unto them all my revelations."

Perhaps it would not take us as long when we are

studying the Book of Revelations after that takes place as it would today. It says He is going to unfold unto His people all of His revelations. That is not only the one that were given to John on the Isle of Patmos, but all of the revelations. Every word that proceedeth forth from the mouth of God. We know it will never return unto him void, but will accomplish what he sent it forth to do. How many of us today can read the revelations of God and understand them and see to it that they are put into effect? I do not think that there are very many of us who would hold our hands very high on that question. We are interested in them, yes. And we try to understand them. But Christ says the day will come when they will exercise faith in Him as did the brother of Jared and then He will unfold unto them the meaning of His revelations. If He unfolds the meaning to them, they will put them into effect, and His word will accomplish that which He sent it forth to do. There is something more here. Genesis 7:23.

"And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark."

So shall the coming of the Son of man be.

We are not so much, as a church, interested in the fact that those that are wicked are destroyed, as we are today interested in the fact that the Lord is going to preserve His people in our day. God is going to be just as interested in preserving His people in our day, as He was in the days of Noah. It says that as it was in the days of Noah so shall it be in the coming of the Son of man.

Daniel 12:1, ". . . And at that time thy people shall be delivered, everyone that shall be found written in the book." Read Genesis 9:11-13.

"And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of the flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

"And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you for perpetual generations:

"I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth."

God said that He was going to establish his covenant with mankind. We say that His covenant was restored in 1830. Yes, that everlasting covenant was restored in 1830. It would have to be restored previously for anybody to be able to break it today. Would it not? But God said something more than that. He is going to establish it. Establish and restore are not synonymous. You might restore a people to a country but until they are recognized by other nations they are not a nation. But He said that He is going to establish it. If we take the days of Noah as an example of what is going to take place in the last days, He is going to establish His covenant. Well, let us go to Micah 4:1.

"But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and all people shall flow unto it."

When the restoration movement began it was preached that this thing was going to happen. Criticism was heard on every hand because it looked like there was no need of it in those days. You remember, I said here a while ago, a people might be restored to a country but until they are recognized by other nations they are not themselves a nation. They are only a people. Then to establish, means to recognize legally, does it not? God said that in the last days His government shall be established, or recognized legally and it shall be in the top of the mountain. Isaiah mentions the same thing in chapter 2:2.

(continued next month)

### PASTORAL

To the Membership of the  
Church of Christ (Temple Lot)  
In Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Greetings in the Lord Jesus Christ:

At the recent conference of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) which convened April 6, 1955, at Independence, Missouri, I was appointed as Missionary in charge of the work in this field for the coming year in connection with my work in Yucatan, Mexico.

It will be a pleasure for us to labor with you and administer to your spiritual needs as far as we possibly can and we assure you that it is a pleasure to us to be able to return to the field where some of our first missionary labors were performed over 25 years ago, and to renew fellowship with those by whom the Lord has blessed us in our labors of former years. Last year a combination of circumstances prevented us from being among you as much as we would have desired, though we were in touch with some of you by correspondence.

It will be greatly appreciated if you will communicate with us as soon as possible and let us know the possibilities of opening work in your vicinity. We hope to see the work revived in many places; and as opportunity will permit, we will come to visit you, and to search out the isolated membership of the church. So, please, dear brothers and sisters, drop us a few lines at our home address, and let us know of your whereabouts. For the next few weeks we will be laboring in the New England and Eastern States, and plan to come your way about the first part of July.

In the meantime, may the Lord abundantly bless you in all spiritual graces, and give you renewed courage and faith to press on to the mark of your high calling in Jesus Christ.

Most sincerely,

Clarence L. Wheaton  
Council of Twelve Apostles  
204 West Sea Avenue  
Independence, Missouri

### "I WANT TO BE LIKE HIM"

I want to be like him who died for me  
Who died on Calvary to set me free  
He brought to me, from heaven above  
Such glorious, grand, and matchless love.

I thank you, dear Lord, for hearing my prayer  
And giving me assurance, that you really care  
For leading me daily, in whatever I do  
And helping me, to always be true.

For guiding me, in whatever I do  
That others may see in me, only You  
I'll work, and wait, thy beauty to see  
For just like You, I want to be.

I thank you dear Lord, for coming again  
I know You are coming, though I know not when  
But I'm willing to wait, and work, and see  
And when You come, to be like Thee.

I pray Thee help me, to be ever true  
And always willing, to stand up for You  
That I may do Thy will, and not my own  
I will praise Thee ever 'round the white Throne.

By Clyde W. Ellis

### THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

Here are some of the little songs and poems that little Kathleen Hening made up when she was six years old. Her mother would copy them down as she was singing them or right after:

Jesus, the little baby, is grown up now.  
Jesus loves the world and all the children.  
Do not worry that Jesus does not hear all your prayers.  
So do not worry.  
From the heavens he sends you help.  
He prays for all the sick. Amen.

Father, we watch for the stars to bloom  
And for the day to close its eyes;  
And then its time for children to close their eyes,  
And for mammas and daddies to too,  
We thank you for our daily bread, and for all you give.

The angels show you the way to heaven,  
It is just like being home there.

I know a lot about Jesus,  
I know why Jesus died.  
He died to teach us not to be afraid when we die.

Jesus loves me, and I love Him,  
He takes care of us night and day.  
Jesus is with you through night, through day,  
Jesus will take care of you.

Kathleen Hening

## OBITUARY

Mrs. Merittina Salter was born at Pecatonica, Illinois, August 6, 1864 and died March 14, 1955 at the home of her sister, Mrs. Lelia Traub in California. She was 90 years and 7 months of age at the time of her death.

She was baptized at Gospel Swamp, California, in the year 1874 and united with the Church of Christ (Temple Lot), February 13, 1927 at Los Angeles, California.

She is survived by a son Earl M. Salter of Long Beach, a sister, Lelia Traub of Pico, a niece, Viola Green, and a nephew LeRoy Jones of Wilmer, all in California.

Funeral services were conducted in the Smith and Tuthill Mortuary of Santa Anna, California at 1:30, March 16. Interment was in the El Toro Cemetery.

At rest! How silent thy repose,  
How peaceful is thy slumber:  
No more shall earthly pain and woe  
And trials great encumber.

How bravely thou hast borne thy lot  
Life's suffering journey through;  
Ever cheerful and full of hope,  
With courage strong and true.

Seasons come and seasons go;  
Flowers wither and die;  
But love in the hearts and planted here  
Shall live till we meet on high.

By Sister Irene F. Yates

## THE CHURCH PUTS ON ITS BEAUTIFUL GARMENTS OF PRACTICAL RIGHTEOUSNESS

Elmer P. Hunter

That the Saints may have a ready reference to the Book of Mormon to learn their practical duties, let them study and lay to heart the matter contained in the following references, viz:

Book of Jacob, Chapter 2, paragraphs 4 and 5.

Book of Mosiah, Chapter 2, paragraphs 2 and 3.

Book of Mosiah, Chapter 9, paragraph 10.

Book of Alma, Chapter 2, paragraph 4 (ending with death).

Book of Alma, Chapter 1, paragraph 5.

Book of Alma, Chapter 3, paragraph 3.

Book of Alma, Chapter 16, paragraphs 22, 23, 24, 25, 26.

Book of Mormon, Chapter 4, paragraph 1.

The conclusion of the whole matter is found in other scripture.

Ecclesiastes 12:13, Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

## CHOOSE!

Choose this day whom you will serve!

Choose! whether from this day you will be kind, generous, clean of mind and body, sympathetic, not given to lusts, not false.

Be this your day of beginning; (if you have not begun the path) make your steps in the path the Savior trod: through the water; through the wilderness of trial and temptation; through the labor of cross-bearing; laying down your life, as did He, in the hands of God for His work.

Thomas S. Maley

## Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana

A reunion will be held at Ava, in South Missouri. This old fashioned Camp Reunion will be on July 15, 16 and 17, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The location of the camp grounds is eight miles east of Ava to the Whites Creek bridge then one quarter mile to the left along the creek.

We want to encourage every one who can to come prepared to camp out on the grounds. There will be housing if desired. Tents may be rented if desired: 8' x 10' tent will be \$7 for the first week and \$3.50 for each additional week, 10' x 12' tent will be \$10.50 for the first week and \$5.25 for each additional week. If you would like to have one of these tents reserved for you, please contact,

Leslie P. Case,  
At the Church in Independence, or  
Route 4, Box 358,  
Lee's Summit, Missouri

## INSTRUCTIONS IN ORDERING

Our quarterlies are not dated, but numbered, because they contain a regular course of study, and if the schools desire to make this study, they should order the quarterlies according to number so as to avail themselves of the entire course, so far as the study has been extended up to the present time. None of the courses are, as yet, complete.

Send ALL remittances for the Sunday School Association to: General Sunday School Association Treasurer, Church of Christ (Temple Lot), Box 472, Independence, Missouri.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

	Price Each
Wee Mites, Picture Stories to color, 5 sets, 1 to 13 ea.....	\$.15
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 1, Childhood of Jesus.....	.20
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 2, Jesus' Ministry.....	.20
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 3, Jesus' Ministry cont.....	.20
Primary, Vol. 1, No. 4, Life of Jesus.....	.20
Junior, Vol. 1, No. 1, Principles of the Gospel.....	.20
Junior, Vol. 1, No. 2, God's Revelments to Mankind .....	.20
Junior, Vol. 1, No. 3, Fruits of the Spirit.....	.20
Junior, Vol. 1, No. 4, Sermon on the Mount.....	.20