

# 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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## *Giving*

God gives us joy that we may give;  
He gives us joy that we may share;  
Sometimes He gives us loads to lift  
That we may learn to bear.  
For life is gladder when we give,  
And love is sweeter when we share,  
And heavy loads rest lightly too  
When we have learned to bear.

—Author Unknown

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## ZION'S ADVOCATE

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### EDITORIAL

How many times has this lamentation been made: "O, if we just had the faith, this or that could be accomplished." What is faith? Paul says that faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. It is this evidence that causes the farmer to go forth in the spring and prepare his field and plant the corn. He does not know that it will sprout and grow to maturity and produce its yield, but he has had evidence that it will and he hopes that it will.

When we read, in both the Bible and the Book of Mormon, of the wonderful blessings which God's people have received as a result of their faith, our hearts are cheered and we have born within us a hope for such blessings for ourselves. When we read in history of the recent past of the rewards of faith to our progenitors our hopes are increased. But when we hear from the lips and the pens of our associates our hopes are intensified.

There is plenty of evidence that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Just read the testimonies which appear from time to time in the Advocate. If then we find that our faith is weak, we should seek the cause; either it has failed to develop from its early beginning or it has dwindled for some reason. In either case the cause is the same.

Moroni, in writing the concluding paragraph to the Book of Mormon, gives the cause of failure of faith: And Christ truly said unto our fathers, If ye have faith, ye can do all things which is expedient unto me. And now I speak unto all the ends of the earth, that if the day cometh that the power and gifts of God shall be done away among you, it shall be because of unbelief. And wo be unto the children of men, if this be the case; for there shall be none that doeth good among you, no not one. For if there be one among you that doeth good, he shall work by the power and gifts of God. And wo unto them who shall do these things away and die, for they die in their sins, and they can not be saved in the kingdom of God; and I speak it according to the words of Christ, and I lie not.

To obtain the great blessings of God, the greatest of which is eternal life, we must serve Him with full purpose of heart. A vessel which is full can contain nothing additional. And to serve God with full purpose of heart means that our every thought, our every word, and our every act must be to serve him. If they are done for other purposes, they are sin and must be repented of, if we would avoid being cast out.

It may seem at first thought that some of the necessary things in life which we do are not done for the glory and honor of God, but upon analyzation, we find that all necessary things, if done with proper intent, are done to His honor and glory. Paul wrote in Ephesians as follows: Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ, not with eye-service, as men pleasers; but as the Servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord.

From this reading we learn that the things which we do should be done as unto the Lord. And such as can not be done as unto the Lord is sin.

If we apply this principle at all times we will experience an increase in faith and also an increase in other spiritual blessings as well.

N. F. D.

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### YE MISSIONARIES ABROAD

Just a few lines from "ye missionaries abroad", that you may share with us, in a measure at least, the joy that was ours when we were again permitted to meet with the saints over here in this distant land of Wales, in the British Isles. We sailed from New York on the good ship, United States, July 6th, at high noon. The weather was mild but a fog soon shut us in till even the shore line of the harbor faded from our view. The sea was calm with very little motion until we struck the Gulf Current, when it became a bit rough and the ship began to lift and roll, but she was plowing her way through the water at a speed of a little over 39 miles an hour, and the morning of the third day found us on a calm sea and under a clear sky, well out in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

On Sunday, July 8th, by consulting the bulletin board, we learned there were three religious services on the ship that we could attend any of these that we might choose, the Catholic Holy Mass, the Jewish meeting, or the Episcopalian. We chose the Episcopalian and were well pleased with the sermon delivered by an Episcopalian minister from Philadelphia, who, realizing he was to address a congregation composed of people belonging to many different churches, and beliefs, chose as his subject: Faith, Hope, and Charity. After the sermon they took up a collection for the benefit of "Disabled Seamen", and from the looks of the two large plates, well filled, pressed down and running over, he could feel well pleased with the fruit of his effort. We were unable to join in with them when they read the prayers from the prayer book, or when they

repeated in unison the Apostles' Creed, but we did enjoy some of the hymns they sang as some of these were those we also sing in the Church of Christ.

The ship made good time and as we neared the coast of France she was so far ahead of the schedule that the engines had to be shut off, and we drifted for a couple of hours to avoid coming into the dock at La Harve, France, too far ahead of schedule. Our journey up and across the English Channel to Southampton was very pleasant. The sea was quite calm, and the sunshine was very bright, but the wind was too cool to permit one to stand out in it for very long. Coming into Southampton at low tide, it required five big Sea Tugs to turn this huge ship (53,300 gross tons) around and push her into the dock.

We left the ship at 5:15 P. M. and after getting our release from the customs officer, we hastened to the train and left for our destination in Wales. We were to go by train to Cardiff, Wales then by bus to Gilfach, Goch, but on reaching Cardiff we found we were too late to get a bus to Gilfach and would have to spend the night there. This threatened to be a bit embarrassing, since the towns and cities in Wales seem to be poorly equipped to care for the transient visitor. We went to a hotel. It was full; then we went to another. It was the same. Then the hotel keeper phoned to all the others only to find the same and it looked as if we would have to walk the streets all night, but a lady coming in just at this time called a friend and found a place in a private home for us, and by taking a taxi we finally reached this place after midnight. Early the next day we took our bus to Gilfach, Goch, and were welcomed in the home of our friend and brother, George Allen, and his wife, Priscilla.

Saturday evening, July 21, the saints of Garden Village met in the home of Brother George Allen to welcome us back to Wales in the good old Welsh way. Brother Silvanus Mason and his wife had come up from Ilenelley for the occasion, and as can be expected it was quite late when we finally called it a day and sought our rest for the night. The following day was spent visiting the sick, and in the evening when we gathered at the chapel (and they are still using the same hall for their chapel that we obtained for them when we came here and started the work up again, some three years ago) we were pleased to see Sister David Edwards and her daughter Sister Sallie Button, who had come down to worship with us. Sister Edwards is one of the very few who remained faithful to the covenant made with the Master through the waters of baptism, in those dark days when the little group of saints here at Garden Village became scattered and broken and finally totally disorganized, some moving away while others chose to bow the knee to the Gods of other churches, while some forgot the covenant they had made that they, "would always remember Him, to keep His commandments", and drifted out into the world and the worldly ways. Sister Edwards was one of the few who refused to be moved, for her faith was founded on, "the Rock that would not move." She has been in poor health for some time; besides her age is having its way with her, and she has not been able to attend services for some time back. We earnestly ask an interest in your prayers for her. She has been a bul-

wark of strength to these saints over her and they still need her counsel and encouraging testimony.

After the preaching service we had an impromptu song service in which we were given a good demonstration of the gift for which this people is noted, the gift of singing, and especially is this gift made manifest in the singing of their devotional hymns. Thus ended the day, but not until we had again gathered at Brother Allen's house to plan for the work of the church in the weeks that were to follow. Thus we were welcomed back to Wales. We could not help but think of our first visit to this place, when we walked from one house to another, homes of those whom we knew had their names on the church books, only to be told there was no room there. One told us that she was still a member, though she attended another church, but she did not want us to start the Church of Christ again. Just who is responsible for the tragedy that befell this little group of saints built up at this place, at such great cost and sacrifice by Samuel Wood and later by Apostle B. C. Flint a few years back, we can not say, but we are sure that it was the work of the Satanic powers, and we pray it may never happen to them again.

And now in closing, dear saints, we ask an interest in your prayers, that God will open up the way in which we may reach those who may be hungering for the truths of the Gospel in this faraway land. There is much wickedness in this land as we know there is in all lands, and we know the time is not long now till the Master shall stretch forth His hand in vengeance against the wicked, and those who do those things that are an abomination in the sight of the Lord, and we earnestly pray there may be a great gathering in of those who are earnestly seeking after righteousness before that day. We, therefore, earnestly pray for an interest in your prayers.

A. M. Smith and Wife

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## LETTERS

Morgantown, West Virginia  
July 29, 1956

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Church of Christ:

Greetings to you all from those of this little group in Morgantown.

This is my first report to the Advocate, which I hope will be encouraging to all of you. We are only few in number, but we have had the joy of the addition of two more souls to the fold, for which we are very thankful.

Brother Wm. F. Anderson arrived and was met at the bus by Darwin Corey. We were very glad to see him and to have him with us once more. He was our speaker for the evening, Saturday, June 23. Previously, on June 10, we had the privilege of winning one more soul to the fold and our little group, for which we are thankful to God. That was Brother Henry L. Stone, Jr. He was baptized at Arms Creek, just a little way from here, by Elder C. W. Joseph, Sr. Brother Stone was confirmed on June 24. It was very impressive to

me, as it brought back memories of when I took those same steps, and what it has meant to me. It was not easy, nor is so yet, for I am a convert from Catholicism. Apostle Anderson, assisted by Elder Joseph, confirmed Brother Stone. Brother Anderson was our speaker for our Sunday and nightly services. His text was based on the Sermon on the Mount, which was very clearly told and explained to us. It is one of the most beautiful sermons I know of; very instructive and inspiring.

On June 16 we had a shower for Sister Evelyn (Joseph) Huff, at which time the announcement was made of her approaching marriage to Brother Henry L. Stone, which was to take place on June 30, 1956.

At 2:00 P. M. on Saturday, June 30, Apostle Wm. F. Anderson performed the wedding ceremony of Sister Evelyn Huff and Brother Henry Stone. The bride was given in marriage by her father, C. W. Joseph, Sr. Her attendant was Miss Rose Marie Shahan, and the best man was the bride's brother, C. W. Joseph, Jr. After a short wedding trip they will reside at Mason-town, West Virginia. Brother Stone is employed at Sabraton with the Sterling Faucett Co.

On Sunday, July 1, we had another request for baptism, which made the second one in the last month added to our little fold. This was Sister Rose Marie Shahan. She was baptized on July 4 by Brother Wm. F. Anderson. Thank God for her. May the Holy Spirit be with Brother Stone and Sister Shahan to guide and guard them on to higher plains to which He will call them, is my earnest prayer. May they persevere to the end and receive a robe and a crown.

I must close now, so please remember us in your prayers that we may be ever faithful. We will remember all of you.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Elizabeth Tomei, Reporter

Maple City, Michigan  
August 3, 1956

To Zion's Advocate:

There are just a few of us in number but we are working together for the good of the Lord's work. We had a good one-day meeting. Were glad to have a few of the priesthood to help us: Brothers Housknecht, Brantner, Adams, Bowman, and Wilkinson. We enjoyed their presence as well as our sisters whom we have learned to love. We are working towards the completion of the church as we are having donations sent in, besides our women working together to help.

Most of the young people are picking cherries or working in the resort camps, and will be going to school next month. We have a large number of young people from 18 years down to 5 years of age.

We are praying for the Lord to help us that we might be faithful to the end.

Your Sister in Christ's Cause,  
Mrs. Minnie B. Price  
Maple City, Michigan, Local  
Elder Peter Price, Pastor

Ticul, Yucatan, Mexico  
July 18, 1956

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I just thought I had better get busy and write a few lines to let you know that we are "still alive" and thinking of you. When we pray we always remember to ask our Heavenly Father's blessings to be poured out upon you.

We are grateful to Him and will always be for the many blessings that have been ours to enjoy, and even today we are able to testify that He is a God so merciful, who never fails to answer the prayers of His children.

We feel so unworthy of receiving the blessings which we have so far received and it makes us feel so humble to know that He looks down upon us with compassion regardless of our unworthiness.

It's a very hard thing to take up our cross and follow the good Master of Galilee. That cross can be so heavy at times, but we know that at the end there lies a great reward which is worth bearing our cross for.

There are thorns and stumbling rocks, on the way, but there are also beautiful flowers growing on both sides of the path. We have to go through hardships and terrible storms, but then there are some real bright days of peace. We must cry unto Him in the midst of the storm and praise Him in the peaceful days.

We have learned so much in our few years of experience in His Church. Our church here in Yucatan, young as it is, has had to go through some real tempestuous days but He never did forsake us. Why then should we forsake Him now that we are enjoying the peace He has caused to exist? We feel so weak so many times, it is true, but then He sees our sorrows and comes to our aid.

It is hard for some people to realize that "He hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; that they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us." (Acts 17:26-27).

It cheers me up so much to learn that He is not far from us, and I just happened to remember one experience that Sister Gilberta Interian, Brother Marcos Peraza's wife, had a couple of weeks ago. She related it this way.

"I've felt that the Lord is so near at times and whenever I kneel down to pray unto Him I've always felt the impression that He is so close to me that He hears my prayers and sees my tears. Day and night I pray unto Him for I know that a Christian must always pray unto his Savior.

"I was lying in my hammock one evening, my husband was not home and I was alone. I was thinking of various things when I somehow went to sleep without having offered my evening prayer. I had not been asleep thirty minutes when a voice spoke to me real loud and said, 'Get up and pray. You must not forget to pray.' I very quickly got up on my knees and with-

out any fear of anything offered my prayer unto my God and I asked Him to forgive me because I went to sleep without thanking Him for blessings of the day and asking His protection for the night.

"When I got through praying I felt a hand, a very strong one, lift me up and place me back in the hammock, and then I shut my eyes and went to sleep again feeling a great gratitude to Him because He doesn't let me forget my duties."

Sister Marcellina Huchim of Oxkutzcab, tells us of another experience she had while she was accompanying her husband in the jungles a week ago.

"He'd go to the plantation and leave me alone with the baby (one year old) to look after the few things we have in the little hut and get our meals ready. During the first two weeks we were there I never in my life felt so wearied and sad. I was feeling terrible. I could hardly pray.

"One morning as I sat down to eat my breakfast, I had the little one on my lap, I was alone for he goes to work very early (five o'clock), and I lowered my head and tried to pray but I simply couldn't make it.

"I got up and went out not knowing what to do. What was it that was causing me to draw away from my Lord? I stood up and looked up and begged Him to come to my aid. I wanted to cry out but I couldn't. I finally felt I couldn't keep on trying. My strength left me and I had to run back to the hut to find a place to lay down. We had a hammock hanging in it and it was just what I was looking for.

"I held the baby so close to me and cried unto the Lord. Tears filled my eyes and all I could see was a very bright beam of light that flashed through the doorway into the house. Then I saw the sweet face of a man whose hair and beard were so bright but not too bright. He was smiling and His was the sweetest smile. He spoke to me and said, 'I'm with you. What you need I'll give you. Be of good cheer and wait.'

"When I came to myself I felt the most happy person in the world. I was sure He was my Christ!"

Prayer is indeed an all-time duty. A follower of Christ must, by all means, be a praying person. He promised to be with us at all times and in every condition, and if there is someone who keeps his promises it is He. Pray, and always pray unto your God.

We must all learn to pray and teach others to pray at all times. We must arise in the morning with God, dine with God, work with God, walk in the sweet companionship of the Father for this is His will manifested to us by Christ, our Savior.

Little Alejandro (Brother Filemon Manrique's youngest brother, who is 4 now) is just beginning to understand this. He sat down to eat his meal one morning and very hurriedly took the first bite to his little mouth and started to chew it. He had not gotten it down yet when he happened to remember that he had not given thanks to Him who gave him his meal, so he decided to spit it out, bow his head, thank God and then go on eating his dinner.

There is also another sweet experience I want to re-

late briefly. Just about a month ago, one stormy evening, Sister Marcelina Huchim knocked on my gate. I invited her to come in and sit down. She was all wet but said she couldn't stay long. She had to go back to Oxkutzcab where she has her home. Her husband was not home then and she had to leave their four children all by themselves to come down on the bus to Ticul and tell me that there was a very sick young man in her town who wanted to be administered to. She told me who he was and very hurriedly went back home on the next bus.

I called on another elder of the Ticul Local, Brother Vicente Poot, and he and another brother and I went to see this sick boy.

When we arrived at the place we were informed that the boy had been sick for over two months. He had been taken to Merida and was examined by several "good" doctors and was sent to the hospital where he stayed over a month, but never got any better. He was getting worse instead.

The family is a very poor one, as his father had left it since the boy was very little. They, his mother, two sisters, and he, had to work very hard to support themselves. They had sold out all they had to doctor the boy without any results. There was only one source of help left, only one hope, the last one, Christ!

They were a protestant family. He was a deacon in the Presbyterian Church, and his sister, a girl preacher in the Assembly of God. But to these churches who had inherited their authority from the Roman Catholic Church, anointing with oil was just an "old song".

The boy, himself, had fought against it before he took sick, but the Lord acts in mysterious ways His wonders to perform. The whole family was expecting him to die in the next few days.

Before we administered to the boy, we explained to them how the Lord had promised to heal us if we comply with the things He wants. We spoke to them of the Restoration of the Church of the Gospel with its gifts and blessings. Then we sang the hymn, "I Need Thee Every Hour". The boy was so hopeless, he said, "That song I want you to sing for my funeral."

We all knelt down and prayed unto God. Most everyone prayed and then we administered to the young man. Then we sang, and sang, our beautiful gospel songs and before midnight the boy was able to get up, the first time in a long time! Since then he has been improving and is now well and able to testify of the Lord's mercy.

Previous to these happenings, the Assembly of God people had tried to "convert" our people to their church and tried to do so very hard. I had to face one of their "hottest" preachers one afternoon. He started an argument and tried to ridicule our "Mormon" Church but he found something different to what he had expected to find and went away after listening to a long, long and plain real Gospel talk.

The Lord has won this young boy and girl to His Church and both are active in helping us organize a local in their home. We have so far held several good meetings in their home and we again ask your prayers

in behalf of this great work. "The task is great and there are few laborers."

May God bless all of you.  
Your Brother in Christ,  
Fernando Ojeda

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### INDEPENDENCE DIARY

Brother Rolland Sprague occupied the 11 o'clock hour of July 15. The Bible and the Book of Mormon are our guides; and by them we can, and must, prove all else as to whether it is true or false doctrine. According to these two books, there is only one sin that is unforgiveable, but without repentance no sin can be forgiven. Brother Sprague used a chart to show the strait and narrow way and many of the stumbling blocks and pitfalls that lead to the broad way. The chart also showed what happens to these mortal bodies at the time of death. Alma 19:43-47 tells us that all spirits go back to God at the time of death. Then the spirits of the righteous enter into a place of rest, known as paradise. The spirits of the evil are cast into outer darkness where there is weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. There the souls shall remain until the time of their resurrection. Luke 16:26 and I Nephi 4:46 tell us that there is a gulf fixed so that the souls cannot pass from paradise to outer darkness or from outer darkness to paradise. Alma 16:230-232 says that no labor can be done after we pass from this life, nor can we repent after this life. The spirit that possesses one at the time of death will have power over the body in the eternal world.

Brother Aldridge was our speaker the evening of July 15. The scripture reading was Psalm 8. When we consider the condition of the world and the prophecies concerning the time of the end, we need to ask ourselves as we read in II Peter 3:11, "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness?" I Peter 1:15, "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation." We must always watch that our conduct and conversation is holy, if we desire to have the Lord's watch and care over us.

July 22, at 11 o'clock, Apostle Archie Bell spoke to us. Matt. 20:1-16 was the scripture reading. This is the parable of the man who hired labourers in his vineyard from early until late, and at the end of the day he paid them each a penny, though some had worked all day and others only an hour. The kingdom of heaven is likened unto this parable. Some forget the pleasure there is in laboring for the Master and think only of the reward, the penny. Everything is on a money basis now. We do not neighbor as people did years ago. We want to buy or sell favors instead of giving and receiving help. This is not loving our neighbor as ourselves, but rather loving money and the power that it gives to us. Let us be more humble and full of love.

Brother Levi Maley occupied the evening hour of July 22. Philippians 4:4 was the text. "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice." Communism teaches the young that it is a form of superstition to believe in God. Yet, their people still worship God in

various ways. Science cannot explain the human need to worship. There is this need in all men and when they follow it, they live a higher mental and moral life.

July 29, Brother Maynard Case occupied the 11 o'clock hour. The scripture reading was Galatians 5:13-26. Brother Case's main thought was how we should love one another. He also read Matthew 24:4-5, "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many." He read from a pamphlet about a man who claims to be Christ. This pamphlet was given to Brother Case by one who has been deceived. We must all watch and pray that we may not be deceived.

Brother Forest Maley was the speaker Sunday evening July 29. Brother Jack Sprague was the speaker the evening of August 5. I am sorry we were unable to attend these two services.

Sunday, August 5, at 11 o'clock was our Sacrament Service. Brothers LeRoy and Richard Wheaton were in charge. It was a good service where much strength could be gathered for the days ahead.

Brother and Sister William Nast and daughters welcomed a new little girl into their family, August 4. She has been named Michele Kay.

On Saturday, July 21, Barbara Babcock of Independence and Richard Hoagenson of Black River Falls, Wisconsin were wedded in a beautiful ceremony performed by Brother William A. Sheldon. They are making their home in Independence. We extend our best wishes and congratulations for a long and happy life together.

Irene Case, Reporter

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### HERE AND THERE AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Alma 5:41, "And see that ye have faith, hope and charity, and then ye will always abound in good works;"

From Alvin and Joyce Harris, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, we hear of their hope in the work they are doing. (June 17) "I believe I've told you about the Young Christian Couples Club we belong to; tonight Al has a big job on his hands. They asked him to give a talk on the organization and beliefs of the restoration movement. They thought we belonged to the Utah Mormon Church and wanted a talk on that. Al explained our status and they said fine, they'd still like to hear what he could tell about the 'Mormons'. Its purely a history lesson. There is going to be a doctor there who is an elder with the Utah Mormons. When you're given an opportunity like that it makes you really realize how much you don't know.

"Yesterday was the hottest day we've had this summer and the heat was made worse by the constant threat of rain.

"Alvin's folks were here the end of May for four days. Brother and Sister Smith were here in April and they stayed two days. It was pretty wonderful seeing

someone from home. Sister Smith said Joe is planning to go to Warrensburg this fall. My brother is too. So it will be real nice if they can be there together."

Word comes from Joe Smith in Germany of his plans for coming home this fall. "I am thinking about going to college down at Warrensburg, Missouri.

"Only 55 more days in the Army. I am sure counting the days. I should leave here about the 10th or 15th of next month I hope. It depends a lot on whether or not I fly home. I couldn't care less how I get there just as long as I'm home."

From the North we receive words of thankfulness from John Gill, Long View Farm, South Saint Paul, Minnesota. (July 11) "Farming sure has been swell this season. We're farming altogether about 200 acres and every field is looking better than I've ever seen them. Our cows have more pasture than they can eat, and the oats is almost ripe. Our first cutting of hay was a bumper crop and it's already nearing the second."

We find that Johnny and Enid Bell, Grand Junction, Colorado, are enjoying the country around them and are thankful for church associations which are theirs. (July 10). "This is a fabulous country. I've never seen anything like it. I really think it's nicer here than in the higher mountains. It was a beautiful day when we came from Denver. We were very cordially welcomed by Ely's. We're now living in a house, with Mom and Dad Bell, on Brother and Sister Ted Ely's peach ranch.

"I suppose you have all heard about Mom's accident. She fell while picking cherries, and fractured her right arm. That was on June 18. It sort of threw me into the role of chief cook and dishwasher. I've learned quite a few things from it.

"On June 27, Ted Ely, his granddaughter, Patsy, Dad, Lois June, Johnny, and I went up on Grand Mesa for the day. It's a mile higher than here and thirty miles to the east. There's a national forest up there, lots of lakes and shelter house away up on the point where you can see all over the valley where we live.

"Our next interesting trip was July 4th. Mom felt well enough to go this time, for which we were very thankful. Our family and Archie Down's family went together. Archie and Margie are Brother Ted Ely's daughter and son-in-law. They have two children, Edith and Allen. We drove to the west of Grand Junction this time, up on what is known as Colorado National Monument. Here the quaking aspens ("quakies" as the people here call them) and spruce trees make a cool, beautiful border for the trail. We spread our picnic on the ground and relaxed for a couple of hours. As we came back down through the quakies, Johnny suddenly stopped the car and called our attention to a spot about 200 yards away to the left of the road. A beautiful brown deer stood looking at us curiously for a moment, and then slipped away into the trees.

"There are so many pretty places around here close that I find myself wishing the Independence Y.P.C.L. could be transported out here.

"We enjoy our church associations here very much. The group isn't large, but they usually fill the little

church building here at Ely's. We have Sunday services; and on alternate Tuesdays we have prayer meeting and Book of Mormon study. There is also a men's study group conducted every two weeks on Thursday."

In closing we will use a verse from the Bible, Romans 1:8:

"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world."

Delores Bell  
Alice Reed

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### WISCONSIN REUNION

The Wisconsin reunion opened August 11, 1956 at the home of our dear Brother and Sister Addie of Lima Center. These good people have generously offered their home year after year to make these reunions possible, and our heartfelt thanks go to them.

We were very pleased to welcome three members of the Council of Twelve, Brethren B. C. Flint, Wm. F. Anderson and R. R. Robertson, and two members of the General Bishopric, Brethren John Sweem and D. Ray Bryant. There was also a goodly number of men of the priesthood from the different locals. Our visitors were from Tennessee and Missouri as well as Wisconsin, and it made our hearts rejoice that these brothers and sisters came from so far to worship with us. Some started to gather in the night before, and I am sure it was with anticipation of good things to come.

At nine o'clock Saturday morning we gathered in the "little chapel" for our opening prayer meeting. This chapel is Brother Addie's garage which they have fixed up for services. It made a very nice place to worship, and was graced with two lovely bouquets of Brother Addie's gladioli.

These flowers are most beautiful. They call to mind a song we used to sing from the Zion's Praises long ago. It went like this:

Starry lilies so sweet and fair,  
Sweetly breathe on the sabbath air;  
Be pure, be pure in heart.  
Be pure, be pure in heart.  
Like the lillies, the lovely lillies;  
Be pure, be pure in heart,  
Like the lillies, the lovely lillies;  
Be pure, be pure in heart.

Brother Flint and Brother Addie were in charge of the prayer service. There were many prayers and testimonies of a spiritual nature which were enjoyed by all.

At the 11 o'clock hour, our speaker was Brother Sweem assisted by Brother Paschall. The sermon was very spiritual on the principles of the Gospel. Brother Sweem likened these principles to keys that open the door to the Kingdom of God.

Preaching at 2:30 was by Brother Robertson with Brother Harry Hutchison assisting him. Brother Rob-

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## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

NOTE: We solicit articles for this department written in an affirmative manner. An affirmative article is one in which a belief, or an opinion, is expressed, and evidences presented to support that belief. Contributions are to originate with the author and do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the Church or the opinions of the editorial staff.

### PREACH THE WORD

(Originally printed in "The Evening and the Morning Star" for May, 1833, and reprinted in "The Evening and Morning Star" for April, 1913).

(continued from last month)

He says, Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. This then, has been literally fulfilled. The Lord has rode into Jerusalem according to the word of the prophet, amid acclamations of joy from the multitude, saying, Hosanna to the son of David! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the Highest!

Before the Savior was crucified, when instructing his disciples concerning the destruction of Jerusalem, and the signs of his coming, he says, There shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people (the Jews). And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles shall be fulfilled. The prophecy concerning the destruction of Jerusalem, and the scattering of the Jews, was literally fulfilled. All who are acquainted with the history of Jerusalem, know that it has been trodden down by the Gentiles, notwithstanding all the efforts made in the holy wars, to wrest it from the power of barbarism.

In these quotations, we have a plain sample of the literal fulfillment of ancient prophecy; and not finding any rule directing them to be understood different, given by those from whose mouths they were delivered, the rules of men formed by their own wisdom, certainly must fail to establish the principle in mind of the diligent searcher after the truth, that they were ever designed by the great Author of them, to be understood in the least, contrary from what they were actually spoken, by those who spake moved by the Holy Ghost.

Many parables were spoken by our Savior, and many figures, types, similitudes, etc., were set forth by the ancient prophets. We conclude then, that a parable is to be taken, or understood and applied as a parable; and that figures, types, or similitudes, are to be understood and applied as such. But if the plain word of God, without a parable, without a similitude, and without a type, spoken to man, with all the fulfillment of plain prophecy which ever has been from the beginning to Christ, and from that time to the present, for examples, is not now, in these last days to be literally fulfilled, then certainly a change has taken place, and the Lord is a respecter of persons and dealt better with our fathers than with us! but this is not the case: he ever remains unchangeably the same.

The prophet that said, rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation, lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass; which was literally fulfilled; also said: Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

It may be thought by some, that the destruction and captivity here mentioned, would refer to the time of the captivity of the Jews, by Nebuchadnezzar; but a moment's reflection is sufficient to correct the idea, as only half were to be cut off and go into captivity: and also, this prophecy was spoken after the destruction of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar, who took all except the poor with him to Babylon, and they (the poor) in a short time fled into Egypt, and Jerusalem and the land of Judea lay waste; and, according to the words of the prophet Jeremiah, enjoyed her Sabbaths for seventy years.

Some may suppose, that if this captivity does not mean the captivity of the Jews by Nebuchadnezzar, that it may be applied to the destruction of Jerusalem after the Savior was crucified: but this is not so, because when Jerusalem was destroyed by the Romans, no part was left. According to the account, one million one hundred thousand of the Jews perished, ninety-seven thousand were taken prisoners; besides an innumerable company in other places of Judea, killed themselves, or perished through famine, banishment, or other miseries.

It can be seen further by the expression of the prophet, that this captivity has not yet been, for he says that when one half of the city goes forth, and the other half not cut off, that, Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. By the expression above, it will be seen that all nations are to be gathered against Jerusalem at the time of this captivity, which has never been at any of her previous destructions. By the mouth of Jeremiah before the Babylonish captivity, the Lord said, behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the Lord, and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and a hissing, and perpetual desolations.

By this prophecy from Jeremiah, it may be seen that all nations were not to be gathered against Jerusalem at the time of Nebuchadnezzar's conquest over it, but that the nations round her, were also to become sub-



ject to him as well as the Jews; for he further says, These nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. But at the end of seventy years he would punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, and the land of the Chaldeans, and make it perpetual desolations.

But when all nations are gathered against Jerusalem to battle, and the city is taken, etc., and the Lord goes forth to fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle, the prophet says, then, at that time, His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east; and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

If the last quotation is to be literally fulfilled, then certainly the Lord himself will come upon the earth once more for the salvation of his people, and according to the word of the prophet, set his feet again upon the mount of Olives, before the city of Jerusalem. That the captivity spoken of by Zechariah, does not mean the destruction of Jerusalem by Titus, is plain, because then the city was utterly destroyed, and according to the word of the Savior to his apostles before he was crucified, the Jews were led captive into all nations: when at the time of which Zechariah speaks, only half of the city is to go into captivity, while the residue are not to be cut off from the city.

At the time when the Lord sets his feet upon the mount of Olives, agreeable to Zechariah, and the mount of Olives divides so as to form a valley, he further says, (speaking of the inhabitants) And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal; yea, ye shall flee like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah; and the Lord my God shall come, and all the saints with thee. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark; but it shall be one day which shall be known to the Lord, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light.

(continued next month)

### SERMON BY LEON YATES

April 15, 1956 at Independence

For a scripture reading, let us begin at verse 28 of chapter 3, in II Nephi, "And upon these, I write the things of my soul, and many of the scriptures which are engraven upon the plates of brass: For my soul delighteth in the scriptures, and my heart pondereth them, and writeth them for the learning and the profit of my children. Behold, my soul delighteth in the things of the Lord; and my heart pondereth continually upon the things which I have seen and heard. Nevertheless, the great goodness of the Lord, in showing me his great and marvelous works, my heart exclaimeth, O wretched man that I am; yea, my heart sorroweth because of my flesh. My soul grieveth because of mine iniquities. I am encompassed about because of the temptations and the sins which doth so easily beset me. And when I desire to rejoice, my heart groaneth because of my sins; nevertheless, I

know in whom I have trusted. My God hath been my support; he hath led me through mine afflictions in the wilderness; and he hath preserved me upon the waters of the great deep. He hath filled me with his love, even unto the consuming of my flesh. He hath confounded mine enemies, unto the causing them to quake before me. Behold, he hath heard my cry by day, and he hath given me knowledge by visions in the night time. And by day have I waxed bold in mighty prayer before him; yea, my voice have I sent up on high;" (and notice the next words) "and angels came down and ministered unto me."

And might I interject the thought here that if the Church of Christ is on earth today, it must of necessity have been established through the visitation of an angel according to all scriptures. In regard to this point, that must have been a fact.

"And upon the wings of His spirit hath my body been carried away upon exceeding high mountains. And mine eyes have beheld great things; yea, even too great for man; therefore I was bidden that I should not write them. O then, if I have seen so great things; if the Lord in His condescension unto the children of men, hath visited me in so much mercy, why should my heart weep, and my soul linger in the valley of sorrow, and my flesh waste away, and my strength slacken, because of mine afflictions? And why should I yield to sin, because of my flesh? Yea, why should I give way to temptations, that the evil one hath placed in my heart, to destroy my peace and afflict my soul? Why am I angry because of mine enemy? Awake, my soul! No longer droop in sin. Rejoice, O my heart, and give place no more for the enemy of my soul. Do not anger again, because of mine enemies. Do not slacken my strength, because of mine afflictions. Rejoice, O my heart, and cry unto the Lord, and say, O Lord, I will praise thee forever; yea, my soul will rejoice in thee, my God, and the rock of my salvation."

I find this morning in my heart mingled feelings. First, let me mention I find in my heart a great love. I find a love for God and for all mankind. Because of that love for God and for mankind I have in my heart this morning, a fear. I feel a sense of responsibility to God and man and I feel a deep fear that in my inability I might not be able to bring to you the message of the gospel in the power that I would like to do. And so I feel a deep humility and in a sense, a feeling that perhaps might be entertained in the heart of a beggar as I stand before you. My desire is to beg; to beg of God that He grant me this morning, a portion of the power of which I choose to speak.

I wish to bring to your attention the power of God Almighty, the greatest power that is in existence. We as human beings, are deeply concerned in regards to power in these days, the power of men to create the machinery of war that can destroy human life. I wish to bring to your attention the power that is so great that it will salvage the souls even after we have mastered the art of destruction.

In bringing to your attention the power of God Almighty I would like to mention a few things that happened in Yucatan. While there with Brother Wheaton on a mission trip, it was my good pleasure to meet

many young men and women and many old men and women who had been touched by this power and who did not hesitate to so mention.

Upon one occasion we met in the home of a young man who does not belong to the Church but who had become acquainted with Brother and Sister Wheaton through this manner. It seems that he was having difficulties, I believe, with his automobile, and it was late at night and he had no way to take his wife and family to their home where they could rest. It was on the highway and in that country that was quite a predicament, and Brother and Sister Wheaton stopped and asked him if he and his wife would care to ride. When he stepped into the car they not only took him to the approximate destination but were willing to take him to his home. This surprised him. The night we were in his home there, he mentioned the fact. After we had been talking of the gospel, he made this statement. "I want to know more about this power that I felt as we have been in your company and as we have talked concerning what you claim to be the gospel of Jesus Christ." He recognized that there was a power present. He stated that he felt a definite power and wanted to know more of it.

Before I go further in to this discourse, let me tell you that the secret of knowledge, the secret of understanding is that one little spark of curiosity which prompts you to say, "I want to know." If in your life you have never experienced the deep need to want to know of that power, you shall never understand it and its significance and its importance. I am sure that all of you here under the sound of by voice this morning certainly have had that hunger in their souls and want to know, or they would not be here this morning. They have searched, I am sure, and have discovered a portion of that power.

Another man, while we were in a prayer service, in Yucatan, rose to his feet to bear his testimony, and this is it, as near as I can remember. He said, "A year ago, my son was in the car with Brother and Sister Wheaton when they were ambushed on the jungle trail. My son at that time belonged to the church. I did not. I had no desire to even know. But," he said, "When this happened I began to think," and this is the line of his reasoning. He said, "I know that the forces of evil are always striving with the forces of right. I began to comprehend that there must be something good to cause people to want to ambush and to murder and there is some evil force that is fighting some power that is good."

That was the line of his reasoning. I think it is good reasoning. And he said, "Because of that, I want to know what that power is which the forces of evil were trying to destroy." Brother Wheaton baptized that man. And he said, "When I decided to learn more of this power, I began to feel that definite power working with me."

As we begin to feel the power of God Almighty, as we begin to have a desire to understand, that is the beginning of knowledge. That is the beginning of thirsting and hungering after righteousness and then the Spirit of God can have sway in our lives, and He will open the way to understanding in miraculous manners.

There was a letter read from this pulpit in the business service day before yesterday. It was a testimony of a man who had been here, and he stated that he had not the opportunity to testify when he was here, and that he would like to bear his testimony. His testimony was that under the hands of the elders as they anointed with oil, that by the power of God through them as the instruments of God Almighty, he was healed of a back injury.

Well, you know, I believe that, and I will tell you one reason why. There are those of you in this audience who know of the serious condition that I found myself in at one time, when I had my back completely broken in two. The back bone was completely severed and the only thing that was intact was the spinal cord and it was pinched. The doctor was looking at the X-rays and wanted to know if I could move my fingers and my toes and I shook my foot at him and he said that according to the X-rays I should be totally paralyzed.

He did not know that thirty minutes before he made that statement, I had been totally paralyzed. I could not move any members of the body. I could not do anything but speak and hear. I was suffering so that I even had to have my wife move my hands, move my head, do this and do that, so that I might get some relief. Then, under the hands of a minister of God, the Lord saw fit to pour out power sufficient to restore to their activities, each member of my body and I haven't lost it from that moment to this. However, I did have to go through the process of healing of the bones.

I just merely mention this because of the fact that I am not pointing to you something that I saw happen to another individual. I am bringing to your attention something that happened to me. I am like the man who had his eyes healed from blindness when Christ mixed spittle with the clay and rubbed it into his eyes and told him to go to the pool of Siloam and wash, and he obeyed. He went and washed and he could see.

There was those who questioned him, "Are you the one who was blind and can now see?"

He said, "Yes, I am he." They did not believe it.

They went to his parents and asked, "Is this your son that was blind at one time and can now see?"

"Yes, that is our son." Yet, they did not believe.

And so, in the face of all this unbelief, because of the power that had rested upon him, he merely made a simple statement, "Once I was blind, this I know, and now I know I can see."

There is not much you can do with a man like that. Just try to prove to him that there is no such thing as a great power. There isn't much you can do with me. Just try to convince me that there wasn't a great power that rested upon me in the form of healing, that has rested upon me in the form of wisdom. Not that I am worldly wise, not that I am a great man, but the power of God Almighty has rested upon his ministers from time to time, so that they had the power to convince people of the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is liberating, if you please, those that are in bondage,

in bringing from darkness into light those who sit in darkness. That is the reason for the power of God Almighty to be placed in the minds and the hearts and the souls of men that they might liberate. So these young men of Yucatan felt a certain power. I believe that in these cases, it was the Spirit of God Almighty working with their minds to bring them into the light from out of darkness, that they and their race have been deeply in for centuries.

I read one of the most beautiful accounts I have ever read in my life. The speech was eloquent. I read it last night in the home of Brother C. L. Wheaton. It was written by one of the Maya people. The writer was telling the story in his way as he remembered it, about his people. At one time he said that they walked in the light that was given from above, recognizing the fact that at one time, because of that power (that I am trying to convince you of today), they were a great and happy people. He went on to say also that because of the power of darkness overcoming the souls of men, that the light had receded and gone back. He said, "the seeds have been spread from the great trees and they have taken root and they have covered our cities because of the lack of that power," and he said, "Still we are walking upon Holy dust."

Why was it Holy dust? Because there is where the feet of Jesus trod and they recognized that fact; the fact that upon one occasion that that power came from heaven and He spoke saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, hear ye Him".

And that same power spoke to a little boy in the woods (Joseph Smith) as he was on his knees asking for light, "This is My beloved Son, hear ye Him." And this gospel of the kingdom was restored unto a land of darkness by the visitation of an angel, by power from God Almighty.

So I think these cases are definite examples of men listening to that still, small voice that speaks to the souls of men, or cases of men hearing that knock upon the door. Christ made this statement, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him and sup with him, and he with me." Rev. 3:20. These are the words of Jesus.

We might ask the question, "How does man open that door?" I would like to turn to Matthew to give an illustration as to how the door is opened. This is found in chapter 7, verses 7 and 8, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

Do you remember that in the first part of the discourse I pointed out the fact that a young man said, "I want to know more about this power I have felt." Let me ask this, Why shouldn't he have felt a power when he was in the presence of individuals who had been blessed with that power. I don't mean this to eulogize anybody at all, from the standpoint of human eulogy. But if God Almighty has appointed unto men today to be Apostles and Ministers to preach the gospel of Christ, it must be a necessity that if they be

Apostles, they must have that power within them that can be felt by those whom they meet, else they cease to be Apostles and Teachers and Priests and Deacons.

That power must be visible through the spiritual eye and it was seen and because of it having been seen, a young man says that he wants to know, and asks, will you tell me more about it? The Lord works in marvelous ways and that is one of them. This power of which I speak is greater than Atomic bombs. It is greater than any power that we can conceive of that man can engineer and manufacture, because it is from above. It comes from Him who has created all.

So we must knock, we must seek, and I am reminded at this point of a little illustration that my brother Joe reminded me of the other day. He said that at one time years ago, about 1918, that he and my father were driving across the western country in an old Model T Ford and he said that he was rather rebellious about this power. You know our father had been a minister from the time we were born and that is all we knew and sometimes people so close to it cannot see it as easily as those that stand afar off and look. So as we grew up, sometimes we were rebellious.

I think you will understand this feeling. Perhaps some of you have had the same. Joe was in that frame of mind and so he was asking Dad about these things. "What is in the gospel? How do you know there is power there?" etc.

And so Dad reminded him and said, "Joe, you see that mountain over there, that big mountain?"

"Yes, I see it." In other words, Joe was rebellious about doing anything whatever that the gospel required. He did not have to seek anything, did not have to look for anything. What did it have to offer? Yes, he could see that God has done wonderful things. He could see that but he was still in his youth. He was rebellious and did not feel it was necessary to go out and look for anything or do anything.

My father said, "You see that mountain? Inside the mountain, if you were told there was a wealth of gold, could you possibly get it without seeking for it? Could you possibly get it without digging, without doing something? Well, it would be an utter impossibility. But first, you would have to have a desire. You would have to have the desire to want the wealth."

It is necessary for us to first want the wealth of the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is the greatest above all. It is a wealth that we can possess and be poverty stricken in worldly goods and yet be rich above measure of richness, but we have got to dig for it. It is inside a large mountain and it will not be handed to us in an easy manner, we must acquire it by digging for it, but we must have a hungering and thirst and the desire for it.

I would turn further in the Book of Mormon. Page 25, starting at verse 23. "And it came to pass after I, Nephi, having heard all the words of my father concerning the things which he saw in a vision; and also the things which he spake by the power of the Holy Ghost; which power he received by faith on the Son of God; and the Son of God was the Messiah who should come; I, Nephi was desirous. . ."

Here is another young man and we find that there was created in him a desire to know. Who created it? He came in contact with his father, who was a man of God. And he began to perceive that in his father was a power, not a human power, but there was a power beyond the human and he began to desire to know and to understand that power.

So Nephi was desirous also that he "might see, and hear, and know of these things, by the power of the Holy Ghost, which is the gift of God unto all those who diligently seek him, as well in times of old as in the time that he should manifest himself unto the children of men; For He is the same yesterday, today and forever. And the way is prepared from the foundation of the world, if it so be that they repent and come unto Him; for he that diligently seeketh shall find; (Do you notice that it does not say only that "he that seeketh" but "he that diligently seeketh?") And the mysteries of God shall be unfolded unto them by the power (Here is that power again) of the Holy Ghost, as well in this time as in times of old; And as well in times of old as in times to come; Wherefore the course of the Lord is one eternal round."

We are living in the present, and so it says that the power was given to men back before our time. It says it shall be given beyond our time in the future and it says it shall be given in our time if we diligently seek Him.

I am sure that the power that these men felt and have expressed is one and the same power. It is the same power that revealed these things to Nephi and to all the prophets of old. The same power that revealed wisdom to Nephi when he spoke these words, "And the mysteries of God shall be unfolded unto them by the power of the Holy Ghost, as well in this time as in times of old; and as well in times of old as in times to come."

So men must have a desire to know and to call upon the Lord. I would like to read in Romans 10:13-15, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?"

Well now folks, I am trying to point out to you how the power of God works. There were men in Yucatan, there are others all over the world that have not heard the gospel. How are they going to hear without a preacher? So in the wisdom of God Almighty he has ordained and given the authority unto men to go into all the world and preach the gospel and that is just exactly how the power came to those men of Yucatan; how they began to feel it and understand it and comprehend it because there had been one who had been ordained of God to go into their midst and preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. They felt the power when they came into contact with things that he said and the way he conducted his life. (I say again I am not eulogizing you, Brother Wheaton. I do not believe in human eulogy. I am eulogizing the power of God Almighty and the way it works.

Let me carry the point just one little bit further. This

same power, which I am trying to portray to you, and get you to see in all its magnitude and magnificence, was working in the room where I work in Phoenix, Arizona, one night when I retired. When I offered up a prayer to God to show me what was my course before Him in righteousness. It wasn't only one prayer, I had been praying for some time. There had been several nights gone by and I hadn't received anything, but on the morning of this night I am speaking of, I awoke and I still hadn't been given any information and I was rather disappointed because I expected something of the Lord. I felt that because of my prayers and my diligence and my faith to cast my all upon Him, that I had a right to receive a portion of that power and I will tell you frankly, I was disappointed. All of a sudden there stood out in front of me in the room that scripture, (It didn't stand out in bold letters, it stood out in the mind.) "Sell all that thou hast and give to the poor and come and follow me."

You may not believe it, you may not know it, but God Almighty was working in that room and there before me, as in the silence I listened, I could hear him speak. I did not hear an audible voice but it was that still small voice that speaks to the souls of men. I was not listening with the ear, I was listening with the inner man and when I rose from that bed there was no doubt, there was no question in my mind what I was going to do and I pursued that course on through.

Just to add a little more to that testimony, to those of you who have not heard it, after I had concluded the affairs that were necessary for me to leave my family and my job and go with Brother Wheaton on that mission, I was sitting at my desk writing checks to pay last minute bills. There was a little black book that I had never seen in my life. I still don't know where it came from but I am not trying to lead you to believe that miraculously in some manner this book came to be on my desk because I believe it came there by natural causes. I think if I had questioned my family I would have found out where it came from and how it got there. But that is not important, the fact is, I had not recognized it. I had not seen it before and after I was finished with my work, I idly picked it up. When I opened it the first words my eyes fell on were, "Sell all thou hast, give to the poor and follow me."

The power of God—and I hope that power is sufficiently manifested at this moment to convince you that this is no idle dream. I am portraying to you the power that has touched my life, and it is greater than any other power in existence. I am also telling you that it is exactly the same power that touched the hearts of those young men in Yucatan that caused them to say, "I want to know why and know more of this power."

And so there was the power of God working. I have no doubt in my mind but what there are men in this room that can rise to their feet and tell you an equal experience or even greater, that because of their willingness to serve, their desire to do that which is right, they have felt it come flooding into their souls; perhaps by a vision of the night or a dream or by the dictation of the still small voice speaking to the souls of men. They can also testify of this power of which I am trying to paint for you in a word picture.

How shall they preach? Ah, there is something else. Notice in verse 14 (Romans 10) it says, "And how shall they hear without a preacher", and then speaking of the preacher, "And how shall they preach, except they be sent?" Sent by whom, the church? How shall they preach under the influence of the power unless they be sent of God and how can a man feel the power if it does not exist?

I am not trying to tell you that this is the only power on earth. There is the power of darkness. There is the power of light. And the power of darkness has such sufficient power that unless men are careful, unless they are prayerful, unless they are humble, unless they are willing not to exalt themselves above their fellowmen, the power of darkness can cause them to think it is light. It can lead them astray and there will be those who will follow blind leaders and both shall fall into the ditch. I would say that the ditches are more filled with people than the churches and I have no references to the ditches that are dug in the earth.

"And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15.

So we must conclude that it is the Spirit which guides people into all truth and Christ said of the spirit of truth. "When he, the spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth." John 16:13. The Scripture also says and states that the Holy Ghost is the spirit of truth. It reveals to people in many ways. It reveals in dreams. It reveals in visions. It reveals by the visitation of angels. It reveals by the dictation to the souls of men by the still small voice.

Upon one occasion, while in Yucatan, Fernando and I went into the jungle a few miles from Ticul to preach to a group, or a family of Maya Indians. We went in to carry to them the gospel of Christ, to cause them, if it would be in our power, to comprehend and understand this power that I am trying to describe today. And so, without describing the method and the experience of getting there, let me just tell you what happened when we got there. When we came into the clearing of this little jungle family, an old man came running out when he spotted me and threw his arms around me and tears were streaming down his face. I had never seen him before in my life.

There was a power that flooded my soul at that moment, the power that will break a man down, the power that will take him and put him into the dust of humility, the power that will cause him to condescend to be a man of low estate. Well, I began to listen to the excited talk of the Maya people in their language. Of course I could not understand it, but in a few minutes Fernando began to interpret.

The story is this: One young woman had seen us in a dream and she recognized us. Of course they knew Fernando and some in the group had known me. Some had been to our reunion and Fernando had mentioned the fact that we might come in there. But some of those who had the dream had never seen me and they had told the family, their father and all the rest of them, of their dream and they said that they knew

that two men are coming in here to bring, one of them said, a basket of bread, good bread, from which they will feed us. Another dreamed that we brought a basket of good fruit from which they could eat. And they had told these dreams prior to our coming. That is why the excitement, and one young woman said, "This man, (and pointed to me) is the man I saw in my dream."

Still, I am not eulogizing myself. I am eulogizing the power of God that caused her in the night dream to see what was going to happen, as Christ said that I tell you these things so that when they happen you will believe.

That night I had the privilege of standing in the cathedral of God with the silent jungle for walls and the canopy of Heaven for a roof; of preaching to those people and reading the Scriptures by candlelight and experiencing the light that comes from God Almighty, as it illuminated the souls of those present. I told them in the beginning of my discourse that I had a basket of good bread, which bread was the word of God. It was food for the soul and I quoted them the Scripture that man does not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

That is the only part of the discourse I care to go into but don't you realize that when I awoke in the Fire Station in Phoenix, Arizona, and that Scripture was given to me, that the power of God was working to the end that I might also spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to those who sit in darkness and liberate those who were captives. So we see that men shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

We might ask the question, "How is it that we have come by or have in our possession, the word of God?" Is the word of God anything that some minister might get up and because he has the Book of Mormon, or whatever he might have before him, and preach from the pulpit to the people, is that the word of God which comes in that manner? No sir.

We find that from the beginning, the very beginning, that God has dealt with the righteous in visions and dreams, in prophecy, and revelations and he has caused in great many instances, that these things be recorded. And then we find this in the Scripture: "For the word came not in old time by the will of man but Holy men spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." Again, there we have the method by which the word of God came into existence. Holy men spake as they were moved upon by what? But a power; that same power that I am trying to portray to you now. The same power that came to men of old through the Holy Ghost.

I would like to turn to the Book of Mormon, page 143, and read to you verse 48. "And we talk of Christ, we rejoice in Christ, we preach of Christ, we prophecy of Christ, and we write according to our prophecies." Why? "That our children may know to what source they may look for a remission of their sins." Ah! This was in existence before Christ was born. How did it come into existence? By the power of God Almighty, that men even in those days, might know the road

which they must tread to gain eternal life. What a wonderful God we have!

God moved upon the mind of men in the period of time that we call the Dark Ages when the gospel was taken from the earth and there was a thirst and a hungering, not for the want of food or water, but for the word of God, and it couldn't be found in all the land. And the time came in the great time plan of God that there were those who were moved upon by that same power: John Wesley, Martin Luther and a host of others, trying to liberate and come out from under the bondage that had held men's souls for centuries. And in the great time plan of God, there finally came a time when an angel from Heaven restored the gospel to the earth, and you and I have a knowledge of it.

Once coming to a knowledge of the gospel of Jesus Christ, it places a great responsibility upon the shoulders of those who understand it, greater than any other responsibility could possibly be. It is the greatest, and that applies in particular to those who have been called to the priesthood. Those men who have been called to the priesthood, and refuse to take upon their shoulders the responsibility that has been laid there, shall be held accountable for their neglect.

Let me also testify to you that those young men and older, who are called to the ministry from time to time, if they will accept the responsibility in humility and prayer, the time will come that they will feel that power of God Almighty flood their souls that will give them courage to preach the gospel in the face of disaster, as far as the physical is concerned.

I could quote you Scripture after Scripture where God protects His own. I can also quote you Scripture after Scripture where God, when He finds it necessary, will put men in positions where they may even be killed, for He does not always choose to keep them from being killed, yet he will give them the courage by that same power, to face these things.

When it comes to being killed, I was reading the Book of Commandments where it mentions the fact that they killed Christ. We are all aware of that. And there I penned beside that, "They killed Christ, they may kill me." But let me tell you folks, and I am not bragging, I want to so walk before God Almighty that that power will be poured out upon me, that will cause me, if necessary, to walk into the face of disaster, as far as this human life is concerned, and die still professing His Almighty power.

This is my desire that He give me courage to walk into these dangerous places. He will also give you the same courage.

Now to continue with the reading, on page 143 of the Book of Mormon beginning with verse 53. "And the words which I have spoken, shall stand as a testimony against you; for they are sufficient to teach any man the right way: For the right way is to believe in Christ and deny him not; for by denying him, ye also deny the prophets and the law. And now behold I say unto you, that the right way is to believe in Christ, and deny him not; and Christ is the Holy One of Israel: Wherefore ye must bow down before him, and worship him with all your might, mind and strength, and your whole soul, and if you do this, ye shall in no wise be

cast out." You may be killed, but you will not be cast off.

And then further in the book, page 674, we read three verses: "Write the things which ye have seen and heard, save it be those which are forbidden; Write the works of this people, which shall be even as hath been written of that which hath been; For behold, out of the books which have been written, and which shall be written, shall this people be judged, for by them shall their works be known unto men. And behold, all things are written by the Father; therefore out of the books which shall be written, shall the world be judged."

How did our Holy Scriptures come into existence? Holy men of old spake as they were moved upon by the power of the Holy Ghost and that is how these words I have read to you this morning came into existence. I recall a verse in Deuteronomy 29, verse 29, which reads, "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." That is why God has moved on Holy men of old to bring forth these things.

The Holy Ghost is the spirit of truth, therefore, the prophecy that came through the spirit of the Holy Ghost is truth and it is the word of the living God; therefore when we are living by these things of the ancient prophets, in accord with that power that has been given, we are living not by bread alone but by the word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Christ said, "Search the Scriptures; for . . . they are they which testify of me." After I had pointed out this very thing, in a sermon preached in Dzan, a young man by the name of Filimon apparently was touched, not by my words, but by the power, (I do pray that was back of them) and he came to Fernando a few days later and with tears streaming down his eyes he related this experience: After listening to the words that come that night in that sermon telling us to search the Scriptures, he said, "I was inspired with a zeal, with a desire to know more of this power, to know more of this Jesus Christ and the gospel and the plan of salvation." And he said, "I went home and I unfolded my books. (This mind you, was a little Indian, a young man, small in stature. He holds the priesthood and is a magnificent and a marvelous young man, and is a giant in spiritual understanding). And there in the quietness of my room while I was attempting to unfold the mysteries of God, there appeared a light in my room and as I looked above, I saw what appeared to be Christ standing in my room and he was surrounded with a host of angels and they were singing. He did not speak, but He looked upon me and smiled, and the vision faded."

Let me tell you, ladies and gentlemen, I believe it. There are those who say that this Indian was touched in the head. Let me tell you the people of Jesus Christ will be known as a peculiar people. He was not touched in the head.

I would like to read in the Book of Mormon, page 766, verses 27 to 33 to start with. "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, hath miracles ceased, because Christ hath ascended into heaven, and hath set down on the

right hand of God, to claim of the Father his rights of mercy which he hath upon the children of men; For he hath answered the ends of the law, and he claimeth all those who have faith in him; and they who have faith in him, will cleave unto every good thing; wherefore he advocateth the cause of the children of men; and he dwelleth eternally in the heavens?"

Now the question is: Because Christ has come and since gone back, are we left then without any power to give us knowledge? "And because he hath done this, my beloved brethren, hath miracles ceased? Behold, I say unto you, Nay; neither have angels ceased to minister unto the children of men. For behold, they are subject unto him, (The angels are subject unto Him and why are they subject unto Him?) to minister according to the word of his command, showing themselves unto them of strong faith and a firm mind, in every form of godliness. And the office of their ministry is, to call men unto repentance, and to fulfill and to do the work of the covenants of the Father which he hath made unto the children of men, to prepare the way among the children of men, by declaring the word of Christ unto the chosen vessels of the Lord, that they may bear testimony of him."

Who are the chosen vessels of the Lord? I believe the interpretation correctly put upon this is the ministry of God Almighty that they might go out and bear testimony, and that does not limit the visitation of the angels to the ministry alone, but in this case in Yucatan, men of God went into the jungles and preached the gospel and the power was felt. It had been delivered unto them and the power was felt by those who heard.

So there will be a great many scoff at the Indian and say he was touched in the head. But let us be mindful of this fact, that there will be those who will say, "No, the angel didn't appear unto this young man, Filimon. It didn't happen." There are those who say it didn't happen to Joseph Smith and you ask these individuals, "Do you believe in the Bible?"

"You betcha I believe in the Bible," and a great many of them will even go as far as to say, "from cover to cover." All right then we turn to the Concordance and we find there that angels are mentioned 130 times and their ministry unto men are mentioned. And we find that they did visit people and did carry out the work of the Lord in ministering unto the children of men. We find that in the Bible.

But let us hear further the words of Christ as we turn over to Revelation 22:16, "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star."

Then to II Peter 1:19, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts."

We do well to take heed unto the prophecies until the time comes that through the ministering of these prophecies and the ministering of them who have been called of God and set aside to preach and expound the gospel until the day dawns that the day star arise

in your heart. And who is the day star? Jesus Christ. In these Scriptures we find the words of God.

They tell us that God is the same yesterday, today and forever and that man lives by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. And here is the conclusion that I have come to: that if we do not believe these things it does not prove that they are untrue, it merely proves that if we do not believe them, in my opinion, that we are in the state of near starvation, for man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

From Ephesians 3:20-21, let me read in conclusion: "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

### WISCONSIN REUNION

(continued from page 135)

ertson continued on the subject of the morning speaker, the gospel principles and their application in our lives. He was blessed with the Spirit through his entire discourse.

Following this meeting we gathered at the water's edge to witness a baptismal service. Brother and Sister Virgil Addie's oldest daughter, Cherrie, embraced this glorious gospel, along with her grandparents on her mother's side, Brother and Sister Evertt Beachtel. Brother Anderson officiated in this ordinance with Brother Flint in charge and Brother Robertson offering prayer. We sang two verses of the beautiful hymn, "O Jesus, I Have Promised, To Serve Thee to the End." That is truly the promise we make when we take this step. We rejoice to see our numbers growing, and pray God's Spirit will be with these new members, to lead them along the pathway of truth.

In the early evening, we assembled for a song service. We were very fortunate to have Sister Anderson with us to take the lead in this. It is always a pleasure to blend our voices in songs of praise to our Heavenly Master.

Following the singing, we were privileged to witness another ordinance of this wonderful gospel; that of the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. Brethren Flint, Anderson, Robertson and Sweem officiated in this. As is the custom in our church, all present then came forward to extend to these new members the right hand of fellowship.

Our speaker for the evening was Brother Anderson assisted by Brother Glenn Gill. After the Scripture reading we were favored with a special number, "Wonderful Words of Life." Then from the lips of this long time missionary, we heard again the wonderful words of life. He brought us a message of hope for all mankind through obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

At 9 o'clock Sunday morning we again gathered in the "little chapel" for our prayer and sacrament service. Brother Maynard Case and Brother Ray Bryant were in charge assisted by Brother Addie and Brother Overcast.

Early in the service, little Walter Addie, infant son of Brother and Sister Virgil Addie, was blessed. This ordinance is always dear to our hearts as we see little ones brought to the Master for His blessing, and recall His words, "of such is the kingdom of heaven."

A number then came forward for administration. Here again we see the manifestation of faith in our Master's words as we seek a blessing from His hands.

As we entered into the partaking of the emblems of the broken body and spilled blood of our Lord and Master, His Spirit was with us to a marked degree. What an experience of spiritual wealth and refreshment was had. The prayers and testimonies offered were indeed uplifting and seemed to unite us as one. This service lasted through the dinner hour, and it was with reluctance that it was brought to a close.

The 2:30 service was presided over by our Pastor, Brother Ray Hunholz, with Brother Flint preaching. It did our hearts good to see Brother Flint taking his place behind the pulpit and expounding the Scriptures to us. We give our kind Heavenly Father the praise and glory for this. He brought us a wonderful gospel sermon on the prophecies in the Bible concerning the establishment of Christ's church in the latter day, and their fulfillment. The hymn, "Brightly Beams Our Father's Mercy", was sung at this service.

A short business meeting followed. Brother Addie arose and stated that if the Lord is willing, and they are able, he wants the Wisconsin reunion held at his place again next year. It was then voted to hold the reunion the second week-end in August. The reunion committee was retained and Sister Helen Taubert was put in as reporter.

Our last sermon of the reunion was brought to us by Brother Case with Brother Gill assisting. Following the Scripture reading we were favored with that beautiful old stand-by "The Old Rugged Cross." Brother Case spoke on the love of God and the fruits of the gospel, showing what it should do for each of us. He also related some very interesting and wonderful experiences in the church which he had known as a boy.

The meals were served in Sister Addie's kitchen. Much of the food was donated by the sisters of the local, and there were many willing hands to help get it prepared and served.

Brother Sweem brought his tape recorder along and played many songs for us recorded by groups of some other locals. This was much enjoyed. He told me that he takes his recorder along when he visits shut-ins, and I know what a joy these beautiful hymns must be to them.

Many times as I enjoyed the sweet spirit of love, fellowship and unity of these reunions, I have thought that Zion would be similar to this; Zion, the pure in heart, those who love God and keep His commandments. May we all attain to these heights is my prayer.

Helen Taubert, Reporter

## OBITUARIES

### Melissia C. Gardner

Melissia C. Haldeman-Gardner of Inglewood California, was born August 27, 1885, the daughter of James F. and Martha Jane Haldeman, and passed from this life, July 30, 1956.

She was a granddaughter of Adna C. and Melissia C. Haldeman and a sister of Sister Maude E. Wagaman and Sister Miriam C. Mason, both of Independence, Missouri.

She was married, October 26, 1904, to R. D. Gardner.

### Mary Richards

Sister Mary Edith Finch-Richards was born August 15, 1880, at Newaygo, Michigan, and passed from this life June 30, 1956.

She was married to Levi Richards in 1904. Her husband preceded her in death in 1950.

The funeral services for Sister Richards were conducted at the community church by Brother Benjamin Bowman. Interment was at Big Prairie, Everite Township, Newaygo, Michigan.

Sister Richards was baptized into Christ at Newaygo, Michigan, July 2, 1939, by Brother L. E. Welch. Brother Benjamin Bowman officiated in the Laying on of Hands.

May we urge all who have material to be published in the Advocate to be sure to have it in the hands of the Editors by the 13th of the month previous to its mailing. Example: Material for the August issue should be in the hands of the Editors by July 13. This will help us to get the paper out on time.

The Editors

## 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.

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