

# 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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## *For All These Things*

By Reginald Vincent Holmes

Thanksgiving comes to the people of the United States once a year by statute. To the grateful man it comes as frequently as the heart of gratitude will permit.

—Edward S. Martin.

"What am I thankful for, this day?"

I heard a poor man softly say.

"A chance to earn my daily bread,

A place each night to lay my head.

"A soft, white hand to ease my care,

A child's small voice to rise in prayer;

A special friend, both kind and true,

To help me right the wrongs I do.

"To dwell where tyrants fear to tread,

Where freedom's flag floats overhead;

The faith to ask on bended knee,

God, may all men be rich like me."

—From Fireside Fancies.

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## ZION'S ADVOCATE

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### EDITORIAL

Once again the year has rolled around to the Harvest Season and as a nation we will observe Nov. 28 as a national day of Thanksgiving. To many people, this will just be an extra holiday, to many more it will be a day of thanksgiving for material blessings; but to some it will also be a day of sincere thanks for the spiritual blessings of life as well.

Gratitude is a worthy emotion and it blesses the lives of those who feel it in a wonderfully mysterious, yet concrete, way; perhaps best expressed in the words of Edwin Markham:

There is a destiny that makes us brothers  
None goes his way alone.  
All that we send into the lives of others  
Comes back into our own.

I care not what his temples or creeds  
One thing holds firm and fast  
That into his fateful heap of days and deeds  
The Soul of man is cast.

We cannot escape this truth, deny it however much we will. Year by year we plant a crop, that like all other crops, must be harvested. Although most of our lives are spent in accumulating material possessions which we think so necessary to the welfare of our lives, there is a spiritual side which if neglected will make our harvest empty and very sorrowful. But if we nurture and cultivate it—it will bring rich rewards of immediate blessings as well as laying up treasures in heaven for an abundant harvest for the soul.

We must awaken to the truth that there are laws governing the growth of our souls as well as the growth of any living thing, plant or animal. When we apply these laws to our lives, the results are both immediate and long lasting and satisfying above everything else we may obtain.

Where can we find these laws? Stop and reason for a moment; books have been written for the proper planting and cultivation of every worthwhile crop under the sun. Has God left so important a harvest as our souls, neglected with no instructions for man to follow? Not so! Christ said, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." John 5:39.

When we follow this instruction and search the scriptures we find they are a "handbook of instructions" for the behavior of mankind and are as applicable today as when first written: no revision of the truth ever being necessary, God being the same yesterday, today and forever, His instructions remain the same and the results of compliance with these laws remain the same, and the results of disobedience to these laws remain the same.

We, all of us, desire the good things of life, food, shelter, clothing and education. They are all worthwhile pursuits and should not be neglected, the more so as we accept the responsibility of rearing children and making provision for their growth, welfare and education.

We need not be ashamed of this, nor alarmed that it takes up so much of our time. God who created us and implanted in us at the time of that creation these desires for companionship, home and children, recognizes our needs and will help in their provision. But He does not want us to lose sight of our main objectives in the pursuit of lesser ones. For this reason we find in our "handbook of instruction" these words of Christ: "But seek ye **first** the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and these things (the necessities of life OAC) shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33.

Therefore it becomes necessary for us to recognize that the ultimate goal of every individual should be the divine harvest of their immortal soul into our Heavenly Father's storehouse of eternity. It further becomes our responsibility to implant this aim and desire in the hearts of all those upon whom we wield an influence, most particularly those of our immediate household, that they throughout their lives might "seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness." We find these words of instruction in our "Handbook": "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6.

By a careful search for and compliance with the commandments God has given us through his prophets, or priests, but more particularly through His Son Jesus Christ, we can accumulate assets of such eternal value that they will not only bless us throughout eternity but every day of our mortal life; and this too we find inscribed in God's handbook of instruction for mankind. "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10.

As this month brings us to a remembrance of all the things for which we are thankful, let us not forget to recount the blessings of the Spirit that have been ours in days past and among our bounties count with thankfulness these things:

The love of God for all mankind, without which we would cease to exist, which love has given us a Christ to atone for our sins and the gospel which points us towards life eternal.

The love of family, that gives life zest and meaning and provides an impregnable fortress for the hearts retreat.

The love of friends and fellowship with those who share our ideals and dreams.

The opportunity for service, that enables us to express in action our gratitude for this abundance of love in our lives.

The chance to begin life anew each day that we might win the coveted goal.

The courage to admit mistakes and forsake error, for unless we can admit our errors we cannot improve, nor take the next step forward.

The health of body, mind and soul, that keeps us calm in every tempest, serene through every trial, undaunted with every failure and humble with each success.

The avenue of prayer and the approach this gives us to God; for a man on his knees cannot long remain arrogant or egotistical.

The pain and sorrow that recalls our own weakness and teaches us patience and compassion and washes our souls of indifference.

The burdens we must carry that increases our strength that we might assist another.

The searchlight of truth that exposes our own weak limitations and forces us to rely on God.

The miracle of life and the inescapable responsibilities that attend this condition.

For all these and the blessings of which we alone have knowledge we should be thankful, not once a year but daily.

While we live and have our being we are planting a crop that must be harvested. What that harvest will be we determine now, as does the farmer who plows and plants his fields.

From our Handbook of Instructions—"Be not deceived; God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth—that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7.

O. A. C.

### BUILDING

It takes a lot of patience,

And God—

To build a life.

It takes a lot of courage

To meet the stress and strife.

It takes a lot of loving

To make the wrong come out right;

It takes a lot of patience,

And God—

To build a life.

—Margaret Bradt Southmayd

### REPORT OF COLORADO REUNION

Again this year the Colorado Reunion was held in our church on Orchard Mesa at Grand Junction, Colorado. There was great happiness as different ones arrived, and it was good to greet each one. Just to renew old friendships, especially those of our brothers and sisters makes one's heart glad. This year we had those attending from Arizona, Missouri, Tennessee, Canada, and various parts of Colorado.

The first prayer service convened at 9:00 A. M. Friday and was in charge of Bishop John Sweem and Elder R. Overcast. To hear the different testimonies, makes one glad to know that God saw fit that man should gather together from time to time in prayer service. All were made glad by the testimony of Brother T. R. Ely, but perhaps we should tell of the events that led to it. Just before Reunion, he became bedfast and was not going to be able to attend the Reunion, but Friday morning just shortly before service he called for some elders to administer to him. Each one who was there felt that he received a blessing from the Lord. Later after service had started he walked in and when opportunity presented he gave his testimony of how he was able to attend because of help from God.

Each afternoon we had preaching and again in the evening we had preaching preceded by song service. Those who spoke to us were Apostles Leon Yates, T. J. Jordan, Thomas E. Barton, Sr., and William A. Sheldon, Bishop John Sweem and Elder Don McIndoo. We enjoyed some very good sermons from these men and our souls were enriched by having been here.

The Saturday prayer service was in charge of Elders Ed McIndoo and Thomas E. Barton, Jr. Sacrament service on Sunday was in charge of the four Apostles assisted by Priests Bob Ely and John Bell. During these two services we again had some fine testimonies.

Bro. John Sweem related to me an interesting experience relative to his coming here. When he and Brother Overcast were on their way here they stopped in Denver. Brother Sweem decided to go see brother and sister Wiseman. When they got there they found that the Wisemans had been praying that someone might come by for he was unable to drive to the reunion and they both wanted very much to attend. So Brother Sweem left his tape-recorder, some of their bedding, and I believe some other articles at the Wiseman's place in order that they might have room to bring them along. We were all very glad that this decision was made and to see how happy brother and sister Wiseman were to be here made us all doubly glad.

A goodly portion of the meals were prepared in advance and placed in deep-freezers until needed. This lessened the work at the time of the reunion and made it possible for the ladies to be able to attend all of the services. We feel this is a good idea for we know that all like to enjoy the church services.

Saturday evening there was an activity planned for the young people.

All good things must end and the time came for those who had come from afar to go back to their homes. Some were prevailed upon to linger one more day, Monday, and to take a trip with all who were free, over Grand Mesa. This is the largest flat-top mountain in the world for its altitude and there are approximately 300 lakes on top of it. The spruce, quaking aspen, wild flowers, scrub oak, and other wild growth, were beautiful to behold. It was wonderful to spend a day in the quietness and peacefulness of God's wonderland. It makes one glad to be alive to behold the beauties of God's creation and also to know that we had spent the preceding days enjoying the services of the reunion.

Reported by Marvin E. Ely.

### INDEPENDENCE EAST LOCAL REPORT

On August 25th, Elder John Randall occupied the morning preaching hour, and told us that without God's Spirit he could bring us nothing of value. He spoke of the importance of the ministry in helping the people, that all together we could be lively stones; that we should be easily entreated of God, and not as the sons of Alma had been.

Before the evening service, Bro. Rolland Sarratt was ordained under the hands of Apostles Flint and Wheaton to the office of elder.

Apostle Bell spoke at the evening service, using as a text the 62nd chapter of Isaiah. He said we should become acquainted with the word the Lord had sent forth, and see its fulfillment. He said the Lord was interested in all people who have covenanted with Him in all ages, and that we should have the fruits of the spirit manifested in our lives, which are: love, joy, meekness, temperance.

On September 8th in the morning, our pastor, Elder K. J. Smith, spoke to us about the children of Israel; about their heritage, and how they strayed from God. He said we should be careful not to stray as they did. Reference was made to the late Elder Cole's vision concerning the church which was represented as a tree which had been felled, but that green sprouts were visible in the stump, which was located on the Temple Lot. We were told we must be ready for the Lord's coming.

During the evening hour, Bro. Rolland Sarratt was the speaker, and gave us a fine sermon. He read from the scriptures of the atonement of Christ, expounding on this subject and on the need for faith, hope and charity. There were several visitors that night. We hope they like what they heard and will come again.

While I was at the Tennessee reunion, Bro. Elbert Luff spoke at our local church. I heard the report that it was a good sermon, and several visitors were present.

Elder Rollo Addie and Sr. Addie from Lima Center, Wisc., were also at the Tennessee reunion, from which they returned to Independence for the purpose of assisting in the building of our church building. He is a

carpenter of many years experience, and being very energetic, has been able, with some assistance, to make a very good showing in the finishing of our upper auditorium, as well as other phases of the work. They have been staying with the B. C. Flints during the past two weeks, and now are preparing to return to their home. We are deeply grateful for this timely assistance, and feel sure the Lord will richly bless them for their earnest desires and labor of love.

Bro. and Sr. Frank Fann are the proud parents of a fine baby girl, named Becky Lynn. Sr. Fann (Caroline) is the daughter of our Bro. Bill and Sr. Gladys Nast.

On September 15th, our newly completed baptismal font is to be initiated in the baptisms of a few of our children. Soon after the completion of our upper auditorium, or when we are ready to move there from the church basement, two of our fine young people are to be united in marriage (we will leave the names and details for a later date); so, altogether, we feel the Lord is abundantly blessing us, and trust we may live worthy of His continued favor.

Doris Sheldon.

### AN UNITED WORKERS POST SCRIPT

Dear Readers:

At the 1963 conference meeting of the United Workers, some contributions received were not included in the minutes of the meeting due to circumstances which caused the absence of your secretary from the meeting.

We report those contributions now and bring our total reserve report up to date.

Sister Myrtle Robertson sent us \$5.00 for the Old Folks Home Fund and the Puryear, Tennessee, Local sent in \$6.00, their 1962 Birthday Offering, to be added to that fund.

Seventy-two cents in coin, handed to our chairman after the meeting, was deposited in the bank with the above mentioned \$11.00 on April 23, 1963.

The balance in reserve as reported to the meeting, April 9, 1963, was \$491.34. \$39.51 was the collection from the meeting bringing the total balance to \$530.85. During 1961 and 1962 our maintained balance earned interest in the amount of \$38.90. Adding this interest to the last figure mentioned we have a total of \$569.75. To this we will add the \$11.72 of the above paragraph making a total balance of \$581.47 as of April, 23, 1963. Of this amount \$565.43 is our Old Folks Home Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Harris, Secretary.

### A BIT OF SOFT SOAP FOR 1963

DUZ you just DREFT along with the TIDE of unconcern? VEL, PRAISE be, now is the time to CHEER up if you really want JOY. The TREND is for ALL of us to BREEZE right over to church for each meeting with ZEST. Don't let us have to DIAL you an SOS. DASH right out and WISK to church and let's ALL pull together like a 20 MULE TEAM! SALVO? Good LUX!  
Lorraine Patterson

### THANK YOU

According to legend, Peter is said to have sent two angels to earth to collect the prayers of mankind. The first was to gather up the prayers which asked for something, whereas the second was to take men's thanks back to heaven. When the angels returned to heaven, the first was so loaded down with petitions that he could hardly fly through the pearly gates; but the second brought only a few expressions of gratitude.

I wonder if God yearns at times to hear someone say, "Thank you"?

I think perhaps the Father would be much happier if His children were more grateful for His unbounded mercies to them. If they would only stop for a moment their hurrying here and there, and voice a word of appreciation, how much joy they would bring to the Father, and how much peace and serenity to themselves.

Leo Bennett.

### DUST OFF YOUR PREJUDICES

The late Jerome P. Fleishman once wrote in The Walker Log that he liked the story about the little girl who could not dust the furniture to suit her grandmother, and grandmother made her do it again—once, twice, three times, and still was not satisfied.

Finally the child looked up and said, "Grandmother, that dust is not on the furniture; it must be on your glasses!"

Sunshine Magazine.

### AWARENESS

Our prayer is that we may be aware of God's blessings. This is the season of Thanksgiving, when our hearts naturally turn in gratitude to the Giver of all good gifts. But how can we be thankful for something of which we are unaware? May we be aware of life's bounties, and may we turn to thank the Giver with hearts sincere and lives dedicated.

Harleigh M. Rosenberger.

## 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 THE OPINION OF THE AUTHOR AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH OR THE OPINIONS OF THE EDITORIAL STAFF.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST INSURANCE

By Elder Henry Van Duine

God has put in his church, insurance to take care of the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless and the widow. Deut. 27:9 says, "And Moses and the priests the Levites spake unto all Israel, saying, Take heed, and hearken, O Israel; this day thou art become the people of the Lord thy God."

Further on we read, that Levi is one of the ministers who stood upon the mount to bless the people. And the Levites shall speak to all the men of Israel with a loud voice warning them. "Cursed be he that maketh the blind to wander out of the way." and "Cursed be he that perverteth the judgment of the stranger, fatherless and widow and all the people shall say, amen." To pervert means to turn from a former course.

Do we not need this insurance that the Lord has put in the church to care for the Levite (God's ministers) the stranger, the fatherless and the widow?

Deut. 26:10, "And now, behold, I have brought the first-fruits of the land, which thou, O Lord, hast given me. And thou shalt set it before the Lord thy God, and worship the Lord thy God:" Verse 12 says, "When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase. . . ." So we see that the first-fruits are tithes. Deut. 26:16-19, "This day the Lord thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

Thou hast avouched the Lord this day to be thy God, and to walk in his ways, and to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and to hearken unto his voice:

And the Lord hath avouched thee this day to be his peculiar people, as he hath promised thee, and that thou shouldest keep all His commandments;

And to make thee high above all nations which he hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honor; and that thou mayest be a holy people unto the Lord thy God, as he hath spoken.

In Gen. 4, we see this was a law that God put in his church. Cain and Abel gave of the first-fruits unto the Lord. Then we come to the days of Abraham and see that he also gave one-tenth of all he possessed. Now why do those who love the Lord pay their tithes? Because they love to see the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless and the widow have plenty to eat. I Nephi 3:31, 32 says, "And as well in times of old as in times to come; wherefore, the course of the Lord is one eternal round."

In the 23rd chapter of Matthew Jesus admonishes us not to make the mistake the Scribes and Pharisees made, they paid their tithes but the rest of the law of God they omitted; judgment, mercy, and faith,—these ought ye to have done and not to leave the other undone. Here are four things they were told to do and they had done only one.

Romans 13:4, 6, 7—"For he is the minister of God

to thee for good. . . . For, for this cause pay ye tribute also; for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues."

Don't forget, we are the church and we bring the Gospel to the world free, we do not charge them one cent, it is free to all. Some think that our ministers should leave their loved ones and go out and take this Gospel to the world and all we have to do is stay home and have everything we need; and their loved ones can get along the best way they can. Is that the kind of love we have? Do we pay our tithes? Do we have sound judgment? Do we have mercy? Do we have faith? If we have mercy we will pay our tithes so others can eat as well as we.

Moroni 7:49 says, "An again behold I say unto you, that he can not have faith and hope save he shall be meek and lowly of heart; if so his faith and hope are vain for none is acceptable before God save the meek and lowly of heart."

So we see we can not have faith nor hope until we become meek and lowly of heart, and I think if we are meek and lowly of heart we will keep up this insurance that God has put in his church to take care of the Levite (his ministers) "For they are God's ministers attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues.

Jeremiah says in chapter 7, verse 6, "If ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt: then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever."

Acts 5:38, 39, "And now I say unto you, refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to naught: But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God."

Heb. 7:8, "And here men that die receive tithes, but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth." This gives us to understand that tithes were received by someone for Christ during his ministry, on earth and after his ministry was finished on earth. They were received by someone who was a witness of Christ's resurrection.

John 21:14, "This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead." So we see that his disciples are the ones who witness that he liveth, and that they still taught the law of tithes after Christ arose. In other words tithes are the gospel law. Adam preached the gospel, Noah preached the gospel, Melchisedec and Abraham had the Gospel law. Then we come to the days of Moses 420 years later—then on to the days of Christ, and we see that those who witnessed that he liveth, paid their tithes. Moses had the Gospel law. Gal. 3:19 tells us there was another law added because of transgression. Moses had a quorum of twelve, Num. 1:4, 16 and Moses had a quorum of sev-

enty, Num. 11:24, And he preformed a miracle of healing. Num. 12:13—yes he had the gospel law.

There has been a lot of ministers in his church that have tried to overthrow the law of tithes but its still in the church, and "if it be of man it will come to naught, but if be of God ye can not overthrow it." And it is still in the church, so it must be of God and it must be God's will that we pay our tithes.

Alma 10:8-10, "And it was this same Melchisedec to whom Abraham paid tithes; yea, even our father Abraham paid tithes of one-tenth part of all that he possessed.

Now these ordinances were given after this manner, that thereby the people might look forward on the Son of God, it being a type of his order, or it being his order:

And this, that they might look forward to him for a remission of their sins, that they might enter into the rest of the Lord."

We find in Chron. 11:31 that God took their food away from them because they robbed God in tithes and offerings. But when they saw they were doing wrong and sent in their tithes and offerings, then God blessed them and gave them enough to eat and have plenty left.

II Nephi 10:108, "And except they should have charity, they were nothing: wherefore, if they should have charity, they would not suffer the laborer in Zion to perish." Nor will we leave the stranger, the fatherless or the widow to perish for the want of food—for tithes is a law of God put in the Church to take care of his ministers, who leave their homes attending continually upon the things of God. Yes, "if its of God ye cannot overthrow it lest haply ye be found even to fight against God."

Book of Commandments, page 126:30, "Behold now it is called today, and verily it is a day of sacrifice and a day for the tithing of my people for he that is tithed shall not be burned for after today cometh the burning."

As I see it, if we have not charity, then we don't care for our own soul. For we can not enter into the kingdom of heaven if we have not charity. And if we love God we will keep His law—and that includes this law which He has put in the Church so all can eat.

Isaiah 5:24, "Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the Lord of Hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel."

### HAVE FAITH IN GOD

"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent. Hath he said, and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" Numbers 23:19

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the father of lights, with

whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17.

These thoughts are a good beginning in considering why we should have faith in God. In the first place, each of us needs faith. We need something to believe, and to believe with all our hearts: a thought-center; a beginning point from where we may relate ourselves to all that is around us.

None can deny the need for a beginning in any endeavor. Even the simplest act starts with a thought, or a series of thoughts. As soon as we contemplate the action, we consider where we are, what we should do first, and when we should start. These decisions were made by you, the reader, as you picked up this paper to read.

The Scriptures, tell us in Hebrews 11:6, "But without faith, it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

The first thing we usually ask ourselves when we consider a matter is, "Is it true? Is it real? Can I depend on it? Do I believe in it?" In other words, is it **worthy of our faith?** We live very moment on the faith we have in our natural earthly environment; in people around us, our own strength, health and knowledge; our material possessions of money or goods, and governments, local, state and national. Above all this we find ourselves believing in a power that is supernatural and beyond the influence of all these earthly and natural things.

And so the words of the first quoted Scripture comes forcibly to the heart. God is not a **man** who might sin and betray a faithful trust, who will not keep His promise, or who would fail to fulfill a contract.

The second reminds us that He is unchangeable and a giver only good or perfect gifts. It is because of His eternal nature that He is so appealing to us. It is because of His eternal and absolute truthfulness that we have a desire to have faith in Him. When we hear or read the Scriptures, the words come alive in our hearts only when we find that we **need** God. We find faith has its beginning with God, and there is no substitute for either. Faith is a perfect gift. We seek that which we need.

Jesus said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and you 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." Matthew 7:7-8.

"If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldst have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water." "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the

Father in spirit and in truth, for the Father seeketh such to worship him." John 4:10, 14, 23.

We cannot be a "true worshiper" unless we have faith in God. We cannot have faith until we have heard His Word. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17.

The true worshiper shall call upon God and be saved in the kingdom of God. We cannot call upon One in whom we do not believe or in whom we have no faith. Unless we have faith in God, we have nothing promised us that is eternal.

Our families can perish. Our health, strength, and ability to care for ourselves can be lost beyond recovery. Even the memory of the past can fade. Governments can fall. We can be depossessed of all earthly property. But our spirits are capable of faith in God to carry us through all these earthly disasters to Life Eternal.

"Have faith in God." Mark 11:22.

Arthur G. Smith.

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## THE BRIDE OF CHRIST

By Joseph W. Kidd

It will be conceded by most, if not all, of the Restoration Ministry, that the bride of Christ is a representation of His Church. This being true we go to that familiar passage of scripture found in the Book of Revelation 12:1, "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman (Christ's bride, or Christ's Church—JWK) clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars."

We of the Restoration believe that this clothing (the sun) the bride is now adorned with is DIRECT revelation from God. Revelation from God gives us knowledge. Knowledge gives us light. This light is represented by the sun. You will notice that the moon, a lesser light than the sun, is now located "under" the bride's feet. By this we understand that the lesser light has been put down, or fulfilled. Also we know that the light of the moon does not come to us DIRECT, but it comes by way of reflection. This was true of the Mosaical Law. It reflected the greater light, spiritual light, spiritual law, which was to come.

Now, notice that this bride was not a headless woman. Upon "her head" a crown of twelve stars. Some men have the understanding that the only head the bride has, is the Christ himself. If this were true Christ has a headless bride. I am persuaded that the bride of Christ is a complete woman, with all her members. I Cor. 12:18-21—"But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? (???) But now are they many members, yet but one body. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: Nor again the HEAD to the feet, I have no need of you." I wonder if the feet can say to the head, "I have no need of you."

Of course the bride must have a head! Now Christ is the head of the entire body of his bride. Ephesians

5:23-24—"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is Saviour of the body."

Herein we see that God has ordained, not only that His Son be the head of His own bride, but that all husbands are to be the head of the wife. How many wives will accept this?

The Scripture we first quoted, Rev. 12:1, informs us that "upon her head a crown of Twelve Stars." Connecting verse 28 of the 12th chapter of I Cor. with this, we find that these twelve stars are a representation of the twelve apostles, that God has set in the church as being "first". The twelve stars are very appropriately located—"upon her head", and even though a star gives us a light lesser than the moon, we know assuredly that it does give light. We shall understand how this light comes to us through the stars (Apostles) when we consider Ephesians 2:20—"And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone."

From this we know what the structure of the church rests upon, "apostles and prophets." When God gives to his apostles and prophets a knowledge of a certain thing, and they in turn convey that knowledge to us, this is light—light reflected by a star.

Some have understood the foundation of the Church to be made up of more of the ministry other than the apostles and prophets, I cannot find evidence for this in the scriptures.

Now, we know that this foundation does not need footings, as has been suggested, but that which is built upon solid rock does not need footings. Footings are used in foundation construction to distribute the load over a larger area, thus assuring, if properly designed, that the foundation will not settle, which could cause all manner of imperfections in the structure above. We conclude, therefore, that when apostles are called by revelation, the rock upon which they rest, they cannot settle or sink as long as they remain upon that rock. When a builder has sufficient footings, or a rock on which to build, the next question is why a foundation? "And behold he (Christ) stretched forth his hand unto the multitude, and cried unto them, saying, blessed are ye if ye shall give heed unto the words of these twelve whom I have chosen from among you to minister unto you, and to be your servants." III Nephi 5:45.

"And now it came to pass that when Jesus had spoken these words, he said unto those twelve whom he had chosen, ye are my disciples; and ye are a light unto this people, who are a remnant of the house of Joseph." III Nephi 7:13.

"An apostle is an elder, and it is his calling to baptize and to ordain other elders, priests, teachers and deacons, and to administer the flesh and blood of Christ according to the scriptures; And to teach, expound, exhort, baptize, and **watch over** the church;" Book of Commandments 24:32-33.

Christ said, in the Book of Commandments, 43:5, "And I will be your ruler **when I come**: and behold I come quickly: and **ye** shall see that my law is kept."

I believe sufficient has been given to shown the necessity of a foundation. Also that this foundation should keep the structure above on the "level" as has been shown that this is the main function of a foundation—both temporal and spiritual. If the foundation is ever removed from any structure, that structure will fall apart.

May God give us the courage to cast in our "mite" that we may add strength as members, to this structure which has been designed by the Master Architect of all time, the Lord Jesus Christ. "Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen."

### SERMON BY FOREST E. MALEY

(August 11, 1963)

Galatians 5:13-18: ". . . This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. . . ."

Galatians 5:18-26 and 6:1-2: ". . . if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

We would like to impress upon you the 18th verse of Galatians 5 as being the core of what we have to say. "But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law."

Understand, the law is mean for transgressors. If there are violations of the law, there are punishments affixed. But it indicates here that we need not be concerned with the law if we are led by the Spirit, which I think we can be safe in saying in the Spirit of Christ, or the Spirit of God, or the Holy Ghost, as it is sometimes called, the Holy Spirit.

If you are led by the Spirit, you will be so well within the limits of the law that you will need to have no concern at all of perhaps becoming a violator.

We think about one experience which is so common in driving automobiles. If you stay well within the speed limits, you don't have to worry about hearing that siren. When you hear a siren you wonder: "Oh what have I done now?" Sometimes its just an ambulance—you then drive very carefully for the next 300 feet.

In researching the topic, I was amazed, and struck with a little awe because of the great number of references there which relate to the topic of the Spirit. In the concordance which was gotten up by Crudence, I made one count and I got up to almost 140 references to the Spirit. I looked in the Book of Mormon Concordance and there were no fewer references to the Spirit. I've come to the conclusion that it would be an excellent study to pull out all these references and take them as a separate study for any group of people who wish to expand their knowledge with regard to these things. I'm satisfied that we have not absorbed the vast amount of material the Scriptures hold which gives us understanding in relation to the Spirit.

Now we have said, that if ye are led by the Spirit, ye are not under the law. This is a strange thing. It



seems strange because we are not familiar with the Spirit's performance.

Let's turn to the 8th chapter of Acts, and discover a rather peculiar thing here. Read about the 26th verse.

"... And the angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem into Gaza, which is desert. And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet."

Here Philip had received instruction of an angel. Here he is, out in the desert on his own, traveling alone with a caravan, and he finds a man sitting in his chariot, reading the prophecies of Esaias.

"Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot."

And what happened?

"And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readeest?"

"The Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the Eunuch saw him no more: and he went his way rejoicing."

Here are two functions. In one case, the Spirit spoke to Philip directly and told him what to do. In the second case, the Spirit actually moved Philip from where he was to somewhere else. We find out that he shows up later, he wasn't taken to heaven and left there. He was situated in another spot.

He, as we might say, had walked being led by the Spirit, because the Spirit had spoken to him.

If you go over to the 10th chapter you will find that Philip was not the only one who had an occasion of this sort. Peter had a vision which it made understood to him, that there was no distinction between men as far as race and lineage and such things were concerned, as God viewed the matter.

While Peter thought on the vision, (Acts 10:19) "The Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee."

Here Peter was on top of the house, you might say on the sun deck. Information was placed in his mind by a means of which we are not all fully acquainted. Scientific people claim no such thing could happen; it's just a hallucination. Researchers and some other scientific people tend to discount the thinking of the first people. But there are things which happen even between people in which information is transferred without words or any other means, and it can be scientifically proved that the transfer happens.

Now here in the scripture 2,000 years back, it was happening before these men had ever discovered the law. I just wonder how we ever managed to stay on the earth before Mr. Newton discovered the law of gravity. Here we were doing something very scien-

tific all by ourselves, without knowing the formalds of the acceleration of gravity being 32 feet per second and things like that. Here these men, without knowing it was scientifically possible, were enjoying the things which God had done for them, he put information in their heads. It indicates here that the Spirit said unto him, and in certain specific words, "Behold, three men seek thee."

We have sitting in our audience this morning, a man who experienced something very similar. He was sitting in a class up here to my left, and was reading in a book. He read past a certain passage and the Spirit said in so many words, "go back there and read." After (I think) the 3rd. admonition he went back and read it. As a result his mind was changed. His understanding was opened.

We find again in the 10th chapter of Acts 19 verse: the Spirit did not quit speaking to Peter. He recounts the story where he was told there were three men downstairs waiting for him, that were looking for him, and he was told further to arise therefore and "get thee down and go with them doubting nothing, for I have sent them."

So what happened? Did he stay on the roof?

"Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come?"

They went on to tell him, and as a result a whole house full of people were baptized that were the household of a Roman military man.

The Spirit not only tells people what is right, now, but what is in the future. We'll turn to the end of the 11th. Chap. of Acts and find there a man by the name of Agabus that relates (Acts 11:28-30) that a famine was coming. The result was that a collection was taken and preparation made.

This is not the only work of this thing we know as the Spirit. We don't propose to do anything more this morning than to tantalize you with a few bits of information so that you might be encouraged to go ahead and find out the rest of it.

If you have a concordance or have access to one you can look up far more scripture than we have here and come to a far greater understanding than what you have now, and perhaps a greater understanding than I have.

Let's see how important it is to have God's Spirit. Turn to the 2nd. Book of Nephi 6th, Chap. 74th. verse: "—to be carnally minded, is death, and to be spiritually minded, is life eternal."

That's just exactly how important the Spirit is. That's the reason why I think it should be brought to our attention, and the reason why I think it should be studied with a great deal of earnestness, exhaustively, that we might understand the operation of this spirit function that means life eternal.

If you think in the Book of Mormon is the only place

it shows up, lets turn back to the Roman letters again. It is strange the way these two books support each other.

Romans 8:6. Now we have just read to be carnally minded is death, and to be spiritually minded is life eternal. There are the two comparable readings. You begin to wonder if one was not copied off the other and yet they each have their own peculiarities and the placement in the text of course, are different.

"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

1 Cor. 6:19: "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God and ye are not your own?"

I realize in talking about the Spirit of God, that some misunderstandings could easily occur. There is a field in education these days known as semantics. Semantics has to do with the meaning of words as well as their use and the exact definitions of some of the common terms we use. We have been throwing the word "Spirit" around here rather carelessly without making sure you understand.

Sometimes the Scripture refers to spirit as (1) the Spirit of God, (2) the Spirit of Christ (3) spirit of counsel (4) the spirit of jealousy (5) the spirit of error (6) the spirit of fear (7) a dumb spirit (8) a foul spirit (9) the spirit of glory (10) the spirit of grace (11) a humble spirit (12) the spirit of judgement (13) spirit of knowledge (14) spirit of meekness, etc.

When we are led by the spirit, I'm satisfied that it is not one of these other numbers we are talking about but number 1 the Spirit of God.

So when you study the scriptures, look out. You can get in pretty deep sometimes if you try to reach conclusions too quickly without fully digesting the information you have.

We have some words in our every day language; take for instance the word 'blow' meaning to move wind, hit, an emotional shock, to talk excessively. We have the word 'right', meaning not left, correct, civil rights, privileges, just and good.

All these are different shades of meaning which we hope some day will be revolved when God returns to us someday, as He has promised, a pure language. If any of you have studied a foreign language, you realize the problems we have in trying to put down these crooks and pothooks which we call writing, and express the exact impression of our thoughts so that the person who reads them will get the impression the writer had when the words were written.

So, if we want to go on we discover that the word Spirit, again can mean an apparition. In fact at one time when Christ appeared, the people were afraid because they thought they saw an apparition, they called it a ghost. But he told them a ghost can't eat, and to prove it gave him some honey and fish. He ate them both and they disappeared. So by this means they proved it wasn't an apparition; otherwise He couldn't have lifted things, handled food and consumed it.

So many times the word Spirit means a mood, and if we go farther we discover that Spirit can be taken to mean a liquid, such as alcohol, or spirits of ammonia.

Again Spirit could mean similitude. For instance, one of the prophets shows up in the spirit of Elias; in other words performing the same work as Elias had performed. Because of the actions of the prophet a lot of people ask questions. Is this Elias or isn't it?

The spirit picked up Philip and took him somewhere else and as a result we have another definition of spirit. These days, if someone is kidnaped we say they are spirited away because it is done so surreptitiously that no one sees how it is done.

You remember the parable of the 10 virgins. They were preparing for the wedding ceremony; part of which was to light the way of the bridegroom through the door. All had made certain preparations but some had made more than others. By looking you could hardly tell any difference between them because they all seemed to be ready. If you looked in the lamps you would discover of course the lack in five of them. Consider, could it be possible that the scripture in this particular instance had reference to something just as simple and just as essential as this spirit thing, the Spirit of God, which is spoken of as our bodies being the temple for this Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit? It makes me wonder. In Romans 8:11 "—quicken your mental bodies by His spirit that dwelleth in you." Could this quickening be likened to the lighting of the lamps? I'm going to invite you to the thought and let you ask God.

If the Spirit does not dwell in you, what are you going to do? Going back to the example of Cornelius we discover those people had a taste of the Spirit at one time. Their prayers were answered and as a result Peter was sent and the whole household was baptized. There is the pattern. If you don't have it, that's the way to get it. We brought before you scriptures that say the spirit is necessary, it means eternal life. It's just that plain. It's just that simple.

In the 10th. chap. of Acts it shows exactly what happened. These people who did not belong to the tribe of Juda were invited into the kingdom as a pilot group to prove to Peter and the rest of the Christian community that the gospel was to all men and that the Spirit of God was intended to reside in every individual who would let it reside.

There was a certain way for the Spirit to be obtained. While they had received blessings from God temporarily, they found it necessary to go on and go through the waters of baptism and receive the laying on of hands that it might be theirs to keep.

There are many people who have had the experience of having this self same Spirit working in their lives, bringing them joy, healing, knowledge, information, courage—actually changing their whole existence, who now look forward, of course, to reap the ultimate reward, Eternal life.

We invite all men to do likewise.

## FAITH

(Excerpts from a leaflet)

By Apostle B. C. Flint

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Hebrews 11:6.

Faith begins almost at birth. The babe in arms, soon learns this simple law of life. Its faith in its mother is as natural as the very breath it breathes.

The farmer sees his harvest through the eye of faith, while he is yet in the act of sowing the seed. As we close our eyes to rest each night, we envision the morrow through the eyes of faith. Here we should like to present a little poem by Lizzie York Case.

### NO UNBELIEF

There is no unbelief;  
Whoever plants a seed beneath the sod,  
And waits to see it push away the clod  
He trusts in God.

Whoever says  
When clouds are in the sky, "Be patient heart,  
Light breaketh, by and by."  
Trusts the Most High.

Whoever sees  
'Neath winter's field of snow,  
The silent harvest of the future grow,  
God's power must know.

Whoever says: "Tomorrow",  
"The Unknown", "The Future",  
Trusts unto that power alone,  
He dares disown.

There is no unbelief!  
And still by night and day, unconsciously  
The heart lives by the faith the lips decry!  
God knoweth why.

In studying the principle of faith from a purely religious standpoint, it spring into relief as being the beginning of our profession as a fundamental that comes first. "And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God." Mark 11:22.

### FAITH AND BELIEF

There is a difference between "faith" and "belief", though they both spring from the same human impulse. I may believe that a thing exists, but have very little faith in its value. We well remember when the automobile, or "horseless carriage", as it was then called, came into being. We saw the things. We believed they existed, but few had any faith in them as a means of transportation. Today we go even farther than that—farther than mere faith. We know now that the automobile is the principle means of transportation the

world over and we also know that it is rapidly being supplanted by the aeroplane. We are told by the Apostle Paul, that "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17. This shows what must ever be the beginning of "faith in God". We must first "hear" about God before we can have any faith in him. Thus "Faith" becomes the first principle of the gospel of Christ.

In the sixth chapter of Hebrews beginning with the first verse, "faith" is classified as one of six principles that Paul calls the "principles of the doctrine of Christ". This is logical, and when followed in the sequence given, the reason for faith being first, is clearly manifest, because "faith comes by hearing". We hear about God, we learn to believe that "He is". We feel a kinship.. That is because of the fact that we came from Him in the beginning.

### WHAT IS FAITH?

Paul tells us that "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Heb. 11:1.

A better translation, we think, says that "Faith is the **assurance** of things hoped for", etc. The reason we like this better, is because it seems to make the idea clearer, as to what faith really is. True faith, from any standpoint, never stops at mere faith. There is such a thing as becoming "an assurance". In fact, by an acceptance of the gospel, and an obedience to its principles, we become **assured** of the existence of God as our Father in Heaven. We become assured of His Son Jesus Christ as our Saviour. Our faith becomes knowledge. Is this the intent of God in sending His Son in to the world? Let us see.

"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou has sent." John 17:3.

Also this:

"And to you who are troubled, rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking revenge on them that **know** not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." Thessalonians 2:7-8.

Also:

"For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance." I Thessalonians 1:5.

These texts all prove that the faith in God that comes through obedience to the principle of faith as one of the fundamental "principles of the doctrine of Christ", does not leave an individual with a mere faith, or belief alone, but it guarantees "assurance."

### TWO KINDS OF FAITH

There is, as we have shown, a simple faith. A faith that is found in the natural exercise of our normal faculties. This is the kind of faith that is also one of the fundamental principles of the gospel so we have

shown, but there is another kind of faith mentioned in the Scriptures, and that is a special gift of faith. Paul so enumerates it among the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He says:

"Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another FAITH by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues; but all these worketh that one and self same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." I Cor. 12:4-11.

Now, by thus introducing the principle of faith as one of the gifts of the Holy Ghost, that is to be given as an abiding Comforter, as a result of obedience to the Gospel, we have opened up the whole Bible story, in its marvelous array of miracles. It was this faith that enabled Noah to preach for over a hundred years with seemingly little success. It was what enabled him to believe God that there would be a literal flood, and that as a protection against he must build an ark, that could ride the waves. By faith Abel's offering was acceptable to God, and Cain's wasn't. By faith Enoch was translated, and did not see death. "By faith Abraham believed God and it was accounted to him for righteousness." By faith Abraham was willing to offer up Isaac as a sacrifice, because he believed that God required it. We know how this faith was rewarded.

Every outstanding story of the Old Testament where some wonderful miracle was performed, will indicate that it was faith that brought these wonderful things about. It also led to obedience further, as in the case of Naaman the Syrian leper. He had faith to journey to where the Prophet Elisha was but when told what to do to rid himself of his leprosy, his pride rebelled, and he came near forfeiting the boon he sought, until reminded by his servant that it was obedience as well as faith, that eventually brought the desired result.

Faith stopped the mouths of lions, beat back floods, opened the path of the Red Sea, that the children of Israel might go through dry shod, quenched the fires of destruction, tamed the rebellion of sinful men, and proved that it was and is the most potent force in the world, when exercised in keeping with the will of God. In short, it is the thing above all things that brings us to, and keeps us close to God.

#### WHAT MUST WE HAVE FAITH IN?

First, we must have faith in God the Father, and in His Son Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost. These are the authors and finishers of our faith. Then we

must have faith in our fellow man. We must have faith in our country. We must have faith in ourselves.

The wise men had faith that if they followed the star that at its end they would find the King they had come to worship. The shepherds had faith that it was the Messiah whom they saw as a babe in Bethlehem's manger. Mary had faith to believe that God was not playing her false, in the wonderful announcement that she was to be the mother of the Son of God. So, in this not only were her hopes realized even when she beheld that Son nailed to the cross, and she knew He had finished His work among the Jews, but from that cross has the whole world been illumined with the faith that conquers all.

#### HOW MUCH FAITH MUST WE HAVE?

Speaking to His disciples Jesus said:

"If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove." Matthew 17:20.

"Oh", says one, "that isn't much faith. And one can exercise that with very little effort." But stay, Jesus didn't say that it was the size of the mustard seed that He was talking about, but "as" a mustard seed, and a mustard seed is a growing thing. So, "as" a mustard seed, we must have a growing faith. In proof of this let us ask the Master to explain further:

"And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God or with that comparison shall we compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth; But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, etc." Mark 4:30-32.

Yes, if we have faith as a grain of mustard seed we will have a growing faith and then we are told "He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." Matt. 24:13.

#### IS FAITH ALL SUFFICIENT?

"What doth it profit my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

"Even so, faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works; show me thy faith without any works and I will shew thee my faith by works.

"Thou believest there is one God; thou doest well; the devils also believe and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

"Was not Abraham our father justified by

works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scriptures were fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God and it was imputed unto him for righteousness; and he was called the friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works when she received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." James 2:14-26.

Jesus says, "come follow me". Then He proceeds to set in operation in His life the things He expects us to do, to follow Him.

When I have that living working faith that leads me to the Master, and I desire to be His disciple, I'll follow Him all the way, and make no excuses. "And Jesus saith unto them, Have faith in God."

#### NEWS FROM COLLINS, MISSOURI

We the members of the Church of Christ, meeting in Collins, Mo., are very thankful to have a debt-free church in which we can meet together to worship God. We have prayed earnestly and unitedly to be directed in this matter. Our prayers were answered and the way was opened up before us. So because of our deep gratitude, we set aside a special day, October 13th. in which to say "thank you" to God and to dedicate this same building for worship and service to Him.

The day arrived, and so did a bus-load of our brothers and sisters from Independence. We were so happy to see them, and all the others who came in their private cars, leaving their own services to come and help us make this a memorable occasion. If we didn't thank each one of you personally, we do so now. We will long remember your thoughtfulness and your concern in us and our activities.

The dedication service began at 9:45 A. M. Sunday morning and lasted till 5:00 P. M. First we had a prayer service presided over by Elders Dick Wheaton and Oren Caviness. The words and spirit of the prayers and testimonies of that meeting will remain with us to brighten and strengthen our future days. We were only sorry there wasn't more time to have heard from others. The church seemed full to its seating capacity and still others were coming in—we were so happy to see all the little vacant spots disappear as folks moved together to make more room.

Then followed the dedication sermon of the day by Apostle Archie Bell. And we will not soon forget the inspiring words of the opening prayer by Apostle Wm. Anderson.

After dinner, which was served cafeteria style at long tables under the shade of oak trees in the yard, we had a lively song feast under the capable direction of Metta Anderson.

In the afternoon we listened to three short talks by

Apostle E. L. Yates, Apostle Clarence Wheaton and Elder Joseph Yates. As is our pattern of ceremony, these speakers were preceded by prayer. You know how sometimes the spirit of the words of a prayer seems to penetrate your whole being, leaving you aglow with a feeling of comfort and satisfaction—"sorta" like taking a glass of cool water when you are thirsty? Well this opening prayer, by Apostle Wm. Sheldon was such a prayer. It made you feel that even though nothing else would be said—you were glad you were there and you would be a better person because of it.

These last three sermonettes, as well as the morning services, were interspersed with special music appropriate for the occasion.

I will make no comments on the good things said by all four of these speakers—but give you a digest of their remarks in their own words. That way you can imagine you were there and can share with us the feast of the day.

We feel greatly repaid for any effort we may have expended towards making of this day a cherished memory and a living goal. For the many heartfelt prayers of dedication — for the memorable words spoken which are so indelibly written on our hearts—for the tingling inspiration of the harmony and sentiment of the songs—and for the presence and silent prayers of all our brothers and sisters who worshipped with us, for all these things we are indeed grateful. Thank you one and all for your special part in it.

Reporter, Esther Caviness.

#### DEDICATION PRAYER

By Apostle Wm. Anderson

Our Father which art in heaven, it is with humility that we present ourselves before thee this morning, in a consciousness, at least to a degree, of the greatness of the responsibility resting upon us as thy people. You in your wisdom have seen fit to call us out from the world and its various activities, and ask of us that we dedicate our hearts, our lives and our all to thee.

We come together at this time, on this special day, that this building might be dedicated and set apart for the purpose of worship and service to thee. We ask thee oh God, especially for those who have the privilege of continuing in service here, that they might be able to understand that they too must be dedicated to thy service, that they might bring honor and glory to thee. This building will be dedicated just to the extent that thy people will respect and honor it so. May they realize that upon them rests a responsibility and that you are depending upon them to reflect the greatness and the beauty of the gospel through the use of this building.

So as it is set apart today and dedicated to thee as a present by this group who have been willing and able to purchase and pay for it, they are wishing that it might be set apart for use in your service. And so we ask thee our Father that it be so dedicated, and

may they not permit any unclean thing to enter here or allow any evil influences to enter in. May all services that are held in this building be sacred and in honor of thy Son who came to the world and dedicated his life and all he had for our benefit.

May we remember that contending powers have continued to hinder thy work through the years, and are still seeking to separate, discourage and confuse thy people. We ask thee oh God the Eternal Father in the name of thy Son, that you will cause those forces to be stayed and rebuked. May we awaken to the realization that the great purpose of the gospel and the wish of the Master of men is that we might be one.

Bless our brother who shall stand between us and thee this morning, give unto him thy spirit that it might open his mind that he may have the power to express those things that thou would have him to say. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

### Condensation of SERMON OF DEDICATION

By Apostle Archie Bell

Scripture reading: II Peter 1:1-12, from which we quote.

5. And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;
6. And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
7. And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.
8. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Text: Joshua 24:15.

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose lands ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

We want this morning, if possible, to bring to your attention that a dedication of a building is of no use unless the people who occupy that building are as well dedicated.

Remember the time when John sent his disciples to Christ to ask them a question? John was in prison and apparently he couldn't understand why it was. The question was, "Are you the one we are looking for, or look we yet for another?" Christ could have said, yes I am the one you are looking for, but he didn't. He said, go show John how the blind are made to see, the lame to walk, the deaf to hear, the lepers cleansed, and the gospel of the kingdom is preached to the poor. He knew that if John knew these things that he would know the answer to the question he had sent his disciples to ask.

Now we ask ourselves the question, "What must I do if I dedicate my life to the services of God? What steps must I take, or can I do it all at one time?"

We can find in our lesson this morning, step by

step the path that leads to that condition of dedication. Peter has been writing this letter to those who have already embraced the gospel of Christ. And he called their attention to the fact that even though they were called there were steps that they must take up that ladder of excellence if they reached their goal.

"Add to you faith virtue;"—so we see the first step is faith. Paul when he was writing to the Hebrews said that without faith it was impossible to please God, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. And he tells them further that faith was the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Supposing that we go to God in prayer for a sick one in our family. The substance of that prayer is for the healing of the loved one. Faith is the substance of things hoped for. There is a hope within us that if that prayer reaches the throne of grace it will be heard. And there is the evidence of things not seen. That evidence that God whom we cannot see will answer that prayer and bring about the fulfillment of the petition.

Then he said after that faith—virtue. Virtue is purity. Christ said, "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." Add to your faith virtue, that purity of heart that it might be possible for us to see God.

"And to virtue knowledge." We sometimes think we can acquire knowledge by just periodically reading the Scriptures. It is true that is a help to knowledge, but if that was all there was to it why would there be today so many different denominations of Christianity? There is something else that must go along with that reading—the spirit of God. And in order for us to have that knowledge that comes from the spirit of God we must take those steps first. The steps of faith, repentance, baptism and the laying on of hands that we might be worthy recipients of that which we receive from Him. In Paul's letter to the Corinthians he mentions the gifts of the spirit—wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, etc., various ones. But I like the words of Moroni when he spoke of knowledge. And that was that you might teach knowledge. In order to teach something you must first understand it. Knowledge—one of the steps we take up the ladder of excellence.

"And to knowledge temperance." What does temperance mean in our lives? Another word used in the place of temperance is moderation. You don't go to the extreme in anything you do, but do everything in a moderate, reasonable way. Many times we come to a knowledge of a truth and we don't hold to this moderation. We seem to think that the whole gospel of Christ revolves around this one truth that we have found, and as we go about that is all we can talk of. And because someone else doesn't grasp it the way we think they should we get so impatient with them. Maybe if we were more moderate in that, they would be able to see what we were trying to bring them. We hear the expression, "It is so plain I don't see why they don't understand it." And sometimes it takes some of us years before we understand something.

The Lord saw fit to add patience to knowledge—here a little and there a little, precept upon precept. If it takes us so long to see a thing why should we be impatient with another who doesn't see it as well? Yes it takes patience.

"And to patience, godliness." To be godly means to be devout. It is sincere devotion to religious duties. Our religious convictions tell us that we should do this and not that. One way to be devout is to set aside one day of the week to worship God. If we are devout we will be there at the place of worship, and we will exert every effort to be there on time. And when we enter the building that is dedicated to our worship we will reverence it. We will conduct ourselves there in such a way that if our Master should step in the door he would not be displeased with us.

My attention is brought back to a little experience I had a few years ago. I was in Iceland working there and they asked me to take the work as Chaplain on the base. I knew quite a number of those who attended services there and some of them were hard construction workers. But you know when they came in those doors they came up to their seats tip-toes and if they had anything to say to the one sitting next to them, they would whisper. There wasn't any confusion there. They could be plenty loud when they were out on the job during the days of the week—but when they came in the building they showed a reverence there to their God.

The steps that we have mentioned are those that come first before this next one; brotherly kindness. These are steps to perfection—add to godliness brotherly kindness. This may be a little difficult to exercise all the time. When the lawyer asked Christ what the great commandment was he answered: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy mind, with all thy soul, and the second is like unto it. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Matthew stops with the story there but Luke carries it on a little farther. When Christ answered him he answered him well but the lawyer wanted to justify himself so he asked, "Who is my neighbor?" Christ answered in the parable of the Good Samaritan. The Priest and Levite had passed up the injured man by the wayside but the Samaritan who came along, gave him help. Jesus said which one was the neighbor? Why the one who had shown brotherly kindness.

The next step up that ladder is one that many times we puzzle over. "And to brotherly kindness, charity." We are all human and being human we want the other fellow anyway, to start at the top of the ladder first, have charity in his heart first. But Peter has given us steps which we must climb before charity can be a part of our lives and we be dedicated to the service of God.

Paul in Ephesians 4:11, 12, 13, says: "And he gave some, apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the

unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:"

We have given the steps here this morning and the means by which they should be brought to the children of men, that we all might come to the unity of the faith, and knowledge of God.

When we have a place like this building, dedicated to the services of God, it is an excellent place to dedicate our lives to that point where we can all work together in the unity of faith.

I Peter 2:9, we read, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"

"A chosen generation", I want to use that word like it was used sometimes in old English, relationship with God. Because of your relationship with God you are chosen. And "a royal priesthood" royal would mean that it came from a king—Christ himself. When the Elders take a candidate into the waters of baptism they say, "Having authority given me of Jesus Christ." Yes a royal priesthood. "A holy nation", holy mean spiritually whole. And "a peculiar people". Peculiar has a number of meanings, but perhaps one you have never thought of before, it means "privately owned." Who is it that privately owns you when you make that covenant in the waters of baptism? Should not our lives be dedicated to that one who privately owns us? If you are a peculiar people you are a privately owned people—a people who belong to God and not to the world.

I am not going to give you a history of the group here but I want you to know that at one time there was quite a number of lean years. Then a few years ago it seemed like new strength began building up in the lives of each one. The thought came into their minds at different times, we wish we had a building we could worship in, a building of our own. These thoughts were expressed through the years. Then of a sudden it commenced to look like it would become a reality. This year it did become that reality. And it made me think of the last verse of the 17th chapter of Ezekiel.

"And all the trees of the field shall know that I the Lord have brought down the high tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried up the green tree, and have made the dry tree to flourish; I the Lord have spoken and have done it."

And to me that was so symbolic. "All the trees of the field shall know." All the Locals of the Church of Christ shall know that through the work of the Lord this dry tree is starting to flourish. "I the Lord have spoken and have done it." He is the one who gets the praise for the fact that you are able here today to dedicate this building and also to dedicate your lives to the service of Almighty God.

EDITOR'S NOTE: More dedication sermons later.

**GRATITUDE**

Gratitude is rare. "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine?" The appreciative man delights us, the nine are irritating. We look at the nine and remember the saying, "The ungrateful are like the sea, always receiving the showers of heaven and turning them into salt." We look at the one and recall that the flower, parched by drought, lifting its face to heaven when the rains comes, is the symbol of the grateful heart.

Gratitude is self-rewarding. When we show it, it makes us happy; when we repress it we grow ugly and morose. It makes us strong, undaunted by impossible tasks.

Gratitude is Christ-like. The Master was always thanking His Father for bread, for the wisdom of babes, for the Father's answer to His prayers. Here, then, is a virtue rare, beautiful, and self-rewarding. How shall we capture it?

We capture it when we stop looking for thrills, when we see and stress our homely, everyday blessings—daily bread, the laughter of children, the tender understanding of those who love us.

Let gratitude be not an incident but an attitude of life.

Let us repudiate the nine and cultivate the tenth.

(Adapted from Harry Putnam, Insurance Executive, Memphis, Tennessee).

**THE GLORY OF FRIENDSHIP**

The glory of Friendship is not the outstretched hand, nor the kindly smile, nor the joy of companionship; it is the spiritual inspiration that comes to one when he discovers that someone else believes in him and is willing to trust him with his friendship.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

"Devotion to common principles eliminates differences in races. Identity of ideals is the strongest possible solvent of racial dissimilarities."

Madame Chiang Kai-shek.

**USING THE MOMENTS**

The small stones which fill up the crevices have almost as much to do with making the fair and firm wall as the great rocks. Likewise, the wise use of spare moments contributes not a little to the building up in good proportions a man's mind.

—E. Paxton Hood.

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