

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.

Vol. 43

Independence, Missouri, September, 1966

No. 9

I Seek Beauty

by

Ola Eskelson

I seek beauty:

The beauty of calm in a time of great stress,
A boon to help silence all fears and to bless.

I seek beauty:

The grace of a flower at the peak of its bloom,
The strength of its power to dissipate gloom.

I seek beauty:

The glow of a truth rising clear in the mind,
With a feeling of triumph attending the find.

I seek beauty:

The marvel of faith with the lift that it gives,
Transporting the soul to the height where He lives.

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Editorial . . .

One Accord

The Special Conference of the Ministry, for the purpose of fasting and mighty prayer, brings to mind some references found in the Scriptures on the same subject. Christ gave instructions to His disciples at Jerusalem, before His departure, to pray for a certain gift or blessing. He gave similar instructions to His disciples on this land. The disciples at Jerusalem were told to tarry in that city until they had received this promised power. The disciples on this land were not told to wait, so they prayed for their gift while Christ was still among them.

There were two outstanding qualifications mentioned by the writer of the Book of Acts which we find were observed in both instances. They were "With one accord in one place." Being with one accord would indicate their eminent fitness of one for the others. This would indicate that there was no thought of differences with each other of any kind, neither on personal things nor points of doctrine.

This does not mean that they all believed exactly alike in all things but rather it means that all differences were placed to one side and they came together in a unity of the faith that they might obtain this desired blessing from the Lord. They would hold no discussions, for we find in both instances that they continued with one accord in prayer and supplication for that which they most desired. It was not the desire of each individual but rather the desire of the group, and they desired that the Holy Ghost should be given them. They were united.

The group at Jerusalem consisted of men and women and their number was about 120. Those on this land were spoken of as a multitude. We find from the reading that they were the families of the Nephites. It tells that on the day before this happened that every man did take his wife and his children and did return to his own home.

It is our opinion that the church should engage in more solemn assembly meetings in the future than we have in the past. Joel mentions it in his writings. The indications are that the church has neglected this service to God and when the time of trouble does come upon them, they will not be prepared. They apparently thought they could put off their preparation or the putting on of their wedding garments.

A testimony was given at the reunion by one of the brethren in which he told of it being made known to him in a dream that there would not be time to change into the wedding garments after the cry went forth, "Behold the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet Him."

Joel gives the warning instruction in this way: "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation,

assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: . . . Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?"

We find among Isaiah's writings, things we should do as an individual before the day Joel tells of: To loose the bands of wickedness, to ease others' burdens, to break every yoke of evil, and to help those who are poor in material things, and spirit. He says if we do these things the reward shall be:

"Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rearward. Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am."

There may be another solemn assembly appointed by the 1967 Conference. Let us keep that thought in mind. Some may say, "I would like to go but my vacation may take up all of my spare time." Maybe your vacation can be set for that time. There is no doubt that Joel was inspired of the Lord to write what he did concerning our time; and if he was, we should do our part to be there, and in the spirit to help. We might have to console ourselves like the words of a song I heard several years ago. We might not agree with all the thought expressed in it, but the thought we want you to consider is there if you will study it. We will try to write it from memory:

Many are taking vacations
To the mountains, the lakes or the sea,
Where they rest from their cares and their worries.
What a wonderful time that must be.
But it seems not my lot to be like them
I must toil through the heat and the cold
Searching out the lost sheep on the mountains
Bringing wanderers back to the fold.

When I take my vacation in heaven
What a wonderful time that will be
Hearing concerts by the heavenly chorus,
And the face of my Savior I'll see.
Sitting down on the bank of the river
'neath the shade of the evergreen tree.
There I'll rest from my burdens forever.
Won't you take your vacation with me?

There the weather will always be perfect
Not a cloud shall creep over the sky.
No sorrows, no teardrops shall burden
In that land of the sweet bye and bye.
But the old gospel train will be ringing
With the songs of the glorified throng
Who are on their vacation with Jesus.
You are invited to go along.

We mentioned that there were two outstanding qualifications mentioned in the quotation, "With one accord in one place." We have dealt with "One accord." The other is, "In one place." We believe there is wisdom in this thought of being in one place. Those in Jerusalem were witnesses of the Holy Ghost falling upon those who received it. Those on this land were also witnesses of the marvelous things which took place concerning the twelve which Christ had chosen.

A similar experience is to take place in our day for Christ made the statement, "Then shall the power of heaven come down among them." He was speaking of our time. Surely those who will be in one place will be of one accord. Think it over.

A. F. B.

ADULTS ONLY

Thinking that three hours of any movie are harmless for the child, but that two hours of Church and Sunday School are too much for his nervous system is just bad thinking.

Giving him a nickel for the offering and fifty cents for entertainment, not only shows a parent's sense of value, but is also not likely to produce a giver.

Letting him watch and listen to several hours of TV thrillers a day with no time for one short prayer and a few Bible verses is criminal unbalance.

Being careful that Junior has his week-day lessons, and caring not that he knows his Sunday School lesson makes for spiritual illiteracy.

Saying that a child must make his own decisions as to whether or not he should go to church, or as to what church, is shirking parental responsibility.

"That parent's life is a child's copy book."

"The influence of the parent surpasses the influence of the pastor, the superintendent, the Sunday School teacher, the public school teacher or any other person."

Sometimes . . . "Parents wonder why the streams are bitter when they themselves have poisoned the fountain."
Faithful attendance in church is one great heritage you can give your child.

BECAUSE I LIVE

If the Christ who died
had stopped at the cross
His work had been incomplete,
If the Christ who was buried
had stayed in the tomb
He had only known defeat;
But the way of the cross
never stops at the cross,
And the way of the tomb leads on
To victorious grace
in the heavenly place
Where our risen Lord has gone.

Letters to the Editor

OUR SINCERE THANKS

I would like to use this means to thank all of the brothers and sisters of the church who sent their expressions of sympathy and also for the many, many prayers that were said in our behalf during our recent tragedy, the loss of our daughter and sister Pam. We also want to thank you for the prayers in behalf of Rhondal and Irene Shaw at whose place the accident occurred.

I have oft times thought that if I should ever lose one of my children I just couldn't live through it, but God has given me the strength I needed, only through the prayers of so many were we given this strength.

Pam was a beautiful girl and grew more beautiful as the month's passed. She was her class's candidate for homecoming queen this year. She was blessed with the love of so many, many friends. Not only did her classmates love her but so did their parents and her teachers. Pam, like any other teenager (or any of us for that matter), was by no means perfect, but she tried very hard to rise above the temptations that are placed before our young people today. She wanted and respected discipline.

For a reason we do not know now, God took her home while still in her youth. We do know that God knows best and that Pam is living a life more beautiful than anything here on earth.

Thank you again from all of Pam's family, and I know that I will not be wrong in also saying thank you for the Shaws.

Your Sister in Christ,
Bonnie Sanders

CMR Box 5015
APO San Francisco,
Calif. 96515
July 20, 1966

Dear brothers and sisters of the church,

I haven't forgotten any of you folks even though you are so far away, and it appears someone hasn't forgotten me. I've recently been receiving the Advocate I didn't even request and I think that was very sweet of whoever suggested sending it. I've sat down on various occasions and have unsuccessfully attempted to write a letter to you. I'm not the best of letter writers, but now that someone has taken the liberty to send me the Advocate when I didn't even request it I'm compelled to write, I had all intentions of writing and asking for it. So you see I feel rather ashamed because of my backwardness.

I enjoy reading the Advocate, for many reasons. For one, it gives me an idea of some of the happenings of

the people of the church and most important of all the stories, sermons, etc., give me an added zeal and inspiration to serve the Lord.

Since last fall when I was baptized in Bemidji, I have truly felt more thankful than ever that I'm alive and able to serve the Lord. I only seek to serve him more diligently than I've ever yet served him. It seems as though there is never enough that you can do for the Lord. You can never give enough, love enough, suffer enough or anything. I feel so thankful that I'm just alive that giving all that I have of myself or anything would never begin to touch what the Lord has given to me. I'm thankful for all the people that have been in my life that have inspired me, that have led me, helped me, guided me, directed me in all the things that I have done. I know that I could never repay them.

I've been here in Hawaii about a year now and the Air Force has been pretty good to me and the Lord has been wonderful to me. Wheeler Air Force Base is situated directly in the middle of Oahu and that is where I'm staying. I'll be here for three years altogether, so I have just over two years to complete and I'll join the ranks of the "free civilians", and I'm looking forward to that time.

As you may well know, the Mormon church is the largest organization on this island, with many churches, temples, a college and a recreation center called Polynesian Cultural Center. Therefore, it's needless to say that I've had some encounters with their organization. A couple of months ago I was going to the LDS in Wahiwa, a nearby town to the base. I enjoyed attending, but after awhile they seemed to be too determined to add me to their numbers and after arguments concerning scripture, I figured rather than causing contentions and stirring up animosity it would be better that I didn't attend. I thought it might be displeasing in the eyes of God that I stay.

One of their biggest reasons for wanting to baptize me was that they didn't believe that I had the proper authority for a valid baptism, because more of the original twelve apostles went with them to Utah at the time of the split in Nauvoo. Well, rather than to become a victim of some vicious circle I thought it might be more appropriate that I didn't come. So now I generally attend the chapel here on base, but since I've been working on the weekends there is hardly a choice as to what to do.

I enjoy reading the poems in the Advocate and sometimes I enjoy writing them, so perhaps you might like to use this one that I wrote a while back.

Also accept this small offering, its really so little and it hardly covers what the Advocate is worth to me so I do ask that you accept it, I'm really not too certain how you send certain things to the church, but I trust someone should receive it.

And I thank you and pray that God blesses you all.

With Love,

Bro. William E. Frishkorn

OBITUARIES

Goldie D. Welsh

Goldie Dell Rogers was born in Columbus, Ohio, on January 29, 1888, and grew up in a family of eight children, of which there are three sisters remaining: Mrs. Alice Pinkerton, Mrs. Hazel Chandler, and Mrs. Helen DeMoss.

At the age of 17 she married her childhood sweetheart, Fred C. Welsh. They raised a family of six children in the warmth of a good Christian home. Four boys: William E., Theodore R. who passed away in January of 1958, Matthew E., and Frederick R.; two girls: Mrs. Edna Albright and Mrs. Mary Wilson. Her life was centered around her home, family and church. She is also survived by eleven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

She enjoyed doing all sorts of needle work and her home was always decorated with doilies she had crocheted or with scarfs she embroidered. She also raised delicate African violets, watching them grow and giving many away to friends.

Christ was always present in her life. Grace was said at meals and the Bible was always found on the table; its pages worn from use. She was a ready listener for others' troubles, and tried to give words of comfort to those in need. Many times her home was open for church services and hymn singing. She never failed in testifying to all about the many blessings God had bestowed upon her.

A year before their 60th wedding anniversary she lost her companion, but continued in the faith that they would one day be together, never again to be separated.

She was a loving person and will long be remembered in the hearts of her family and a host of friends. The date of her passing was July 14, 1966.

Marjorie Rose Neufarth

Mrs. Edward (Marjorie Rose) Neufarth, 74, of 1313 East 7th Street, South, Newton, Iowa, a long-time member of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot), passed quietly away at her home the morning of July 19, 1966. She leaves two sons, Paul H., and Roy J., a daughter, Adeline E. Neufarth, a brother, Eddie Fortner, all of Newton, and three grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, by her husband on November 10, 1962, a sister and three brothers. The daughter of John and Adeline Guy Fortner, she was born March 30, 1892 at Sedan, Kansas. She was married to Edward William Neufarth on November 1, 1908 at Wichita, Kansas.

Funeral services were conducted by Apostle Robert H. Jensen of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot), at the Toland Funeral Home of Newton, assisted by the Reverend David B. Hinkle, of the Apostolic Faith United Pentacostal Church, a friend of the family.

TEMPLE LOT LOCAL NEWS

Another month has come and swiftly passed. Many hot days and dry weather have gone, and we are now enjoying more moisture and cool breezes. Things look lush and green again. I hope it lasts.

The biggest event this month was the Missouri reunion held at the Temple Lot Local. We had many guests from other states: Jack Martins and Truman Medders from Oklahoma; Don E. McIndoos from Arizona; Harvey Seibels from Pennsylvania; Allen Scotts from Michigan; Robert Jensens from Nebraska; Bonnie Gill from Minnesota; Don Housknecht from Michigan; Paul Johnsons from Iowa; and from Tennessee, Joe Kidds, the Grooms family, Tony Paschall and Sr. R. R. Robertson.

The church was practically bulging. Folding chairs were used in every available space, even out in the hall. There were many who enjoyed the croquet sets, the volley ball, and the horseshoe pitching to relieve the long hours of sitting, and to enjoy the outside shade under the trees. These things especially interested the young folks who need something to enable them to become better acquainted.

We had many who helped in the kitchen, and others who helped on the menus. Others ran errands, and to each of these we wish to extend our thanks for their kind help and thoughtfulness. At the noonday meal Sunday, we served 155. It was good to see all the faces of those who hope to be in the army of the Lord.

I couldn't help but notice all the cute babies and small children, and how the older children have grown up to young man and womanhood in just a few years.

A rather frightening thought strikes me at this time. Can we hold these young and eager ones? Will we be able to instill in them a lively interest in the gospel—enough to hold them when the world is crashing in their ears, creeping in from many concealed places as well as boldly advancing? May God help us fulfill our duty.

While it's on my mind. I'm sure we all wish to give a vote of thanks to Bro. and Sr. Leslie Case, who kept all the young people at their home near Lee's Summit. I know you're wondering how this could be accomplished.

The boys slept in sleeping bags outside; in case of rain—in the barn. The girls slept in the house—when they slept that is. As you can probably guess, there was much visiting, and chattering to be done which lasted well into the morning hours. There is so much to talk about when young ladies get together. I know there was an occasional "Shush" from Sister Irene. There were sixteen girls and ten boys. Irene cooked pancakes for all, with the help of her able right hand, Leslie, of course.

Sunday afternoon many had to leave because of the long trip ahead. I hope they received the spiritual food we all need to bring forth good fruit in the vineyard of the Lord. With that thought in mind, I'll leave you now until next month.

Sister Katey Moyer

Children's Hour...

Families Who Moved for God

3. Abraham

A long time ago—a few hundred years after Jared and his brother came over to America and a few thousand years before we were born, God told a man named Abraham, "Take your family and move to a land that I will show you."

Do you suppose Abraham stood around and argued with God about moving out of this country where he had lived so long? I doubt it. Abraham had faith in God. Now 'faith' is a little hard to explain. It's when you believe something so much that you almost think you know it. Suppose you stood on something pretty high and your dad said, "Jump and I'll catch you." When you jumped that showed that you had faith in your dad that he would do what he said. God said to Abraham, "Move, and I'll show you where." Abraham had faith in God and he moved.

He took his wife, Sarah, and his nephew, Lot, and left all his other relatives behind in Haran. He took all his flocks and herds and all the people who worked for him. This might have been more than a hundred people because Abraham had a lot of property. It might be that he was called a rich man.

Don't you suppose it was a big job to herd all those cattle and sheep every day. Every morning they'd have to get up, round up the cows that had to be milked. The women would have to fix breakfast and pack up everything they had used; their supper things, their sleeping things, and their breakfast things. Big boys probably helped with the sheep and cattle and big girls probably got the little children ready. Then after breakfast they'd have to take the tents down and load everything on mules or donkeys. Then they'd take a last look around to see that they hadn't forgotten anything and then they'd start the flocks and herds to moving.

Probably some of the men went ahead with the donkeys. Then most of the people would come walking along in the dust. And last would come the cattle and sheep. They'd have to travel slow because the animals would need to eat. And the people would get tired enough walking slow all day without trying to hurry, too. Because Abraham moved when the Lord told him to, there was no need for him to rush.

As it began to be late in the afternoon the men with the donkeys would find a place to camp. When they found a good one they'd start putting up the tents again. The women would come up, lay the babies down to sleep and start to fix something for supper. The little children would probably wash their feet and hands and face to be ready for supper. They'd be tired enough after walking all day to be ready to sleep as soon as they'd eaten.

The bigger girls would brush the dirt out of the little girls' hair, and unroll beds, and unpack the dishes for supper.

After supper the children would go to bed. Some men who herded the sheep and cattle would go out with the flocks while the ones who had stayed with them during supper came in to eat. Everything would have to be cleaned up. Some women would have some mending to do. Everyone would want to wash their tired feet, and maybe put some oil on them to make them feel good. Maybe they sang around the campfires as they finished their work before they went to bed.

Just imagine doing this day after day after day. Sometimes it takes a lot of days and a lot of little, dull jobs to make one big job. It took a lot of faith to get them started and it probably took just as much faith to keep them going.

Anyway, they all went with Abraham into the land of Canaan. And there the Lord appeared to Abraham and told him, "To you and your family after you I will give this land." and there Abraham, like Noah and the brother of Jared, built an altar and worshipped God.

MORBUS SABBATICUS

Morbus Sabbaticus, or Sunday Sickness, is a disease peculiar to church members.

Symptoms: (be especially watchful for these)

1. The symptoms vary, but never interfere with the appetite.
2. It never lasts more than twenty-four hours.
3. No physician is ever called.
4. It always proves fatal in the end—to the soul.
5. It is becoming fearfully prevalent, and is destroying thousands every year.

The attack comes on very suddenly every Sunday. No symptoms are felt on Saturday night; the patient sleeps well and wakes feeling well; eats a hearty breakfast, but about church time the attack comes on and continues until the services are about over. Then the patient feels easy and eats very heartily at dinner. In the afternoon he feels much better, and is able to read the Sunday paper, or take a walk, or an automobile ride, or go swimming and boating. He sleeps well on Sunday night and wakes up Monday morning feeling refreshed, able and eager to go to work, and does not have any further symptoms of the disease until the following Sunday.

Prescription: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked." (Galatians 6:7)

Conversation In Ink...

Isaac Watts: "Come, ye that love the Lord, and let your joys be known; join in a song with sweet accord . . . and thus surround the throne."

Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters."

Darleen Smith: "Is it 'ostrich-like' to loose the worry and fears one has of world conditions, the knowledge we have of what is before the poor old stumbling humanity; to loose ourselves, or find escape momentarily in the beautiful things God has made, has placed all about us if we only reach out our hands to pluck? Besides a constant reliance on Him?—these other innocent occupations, what is called the 'homely occupations'—in these is rest for tired minds as well as tired bodies, and I believe good for tired spirits. As Gladys Taber said in some of her writings, she felt so sorry, so distressed for people, when she heard them say they could never bear to be alone, even momentarily, for it meant that the inner spirit, the spirituality of their lives had sunk so low they could no longer dip into the deep well within for sustenance. Periods of solitude are so essential for normal growth and development. Certainly for any thinking and weighing out the values of life, where everything whirls so fast. We watch people grubbing and snatching (figuratively speaking) without taking time to see whether the carelessly brushed aside things are really what they are seeking."

"He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

Alice Ice: "I think that there are times when we all become discouraged—even to the point of doubt. I know there were times when I did and it was only through a very strong faith that others had and the prayers of others that helped re-establish me to my original thinking and faith. That has been a good many years ago and I hope it never happens again, but I shall never forget it. And I shall forever be thankful to the one who had the love and patience to help me. Even though I'm away from our own church people now I never doubt for a moment our beliefs."

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Bonnie Sanders: (speaking of Pam's death) "It was like a horrible nightmare for us all. I didn't see how we could live through it. Skeet and Francis (Yates) and Ed and Louise (McIndoo) came; Skeet and Ed administered to me. The Lord blessed me and I received a comfort and strength beyond belief that has carried me through the past two weeks. Jackie and Beckie miss her but are learning to accept it as God's will, and to know how much better a life that she is living in heaven."

"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence

of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over."

Alzada Massey: "The very spirit your heart embraces will be evident in all that you do and say. If your heart embraces the pure love of God, you will have an intense desire to deal justly with your fellowman. The word 'fellowman' includes all you come in contact with, from your family to perfect strangers. It also includes small deeds and large deeds. The pure love of God promises us joy untold. What a challenge!"

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

Mr. Watts: "Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God, but children of the heavenly King . . . may speak their joys abroad."

Ella Engle
listener

OF LIFE

by

William E. Frishkorn

Of birth is newfound life
Of growth a bitter strife
Of dawn a night must run
Of dusk this setting sun

Of seeds the flower grows
Of all the wise man knows
Of youth the carefree boy
Of warmth her endless joy

Of care is golden thought
Of need a hand is sought
Of work the sweating brow
Of earth the turning plow

Of love is warmth so deep
Of woe the tears we weep
Of wind the calling trees
Of soft the silent breeze

Of gold a priceless cost
Of death our life is lost
Of pride all men are tall
Of lust a world must fall

Of bells the chapel rings
Of songs the chorus sings
Of lips our love may seek
Of glad we lift the weak

Of war the shedding tears
Of hate the hiding fears
Of gift this given heart
OF LIFE we share our part

Family Worship and Study

by

Nellie Walberg

September No. 1

Scripture Yet to Come Forth

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning; that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." (Romans 15:4)

"Nevertheless they are laid under a strict command, that they shall not impart only according to the portion of his word, which he doth grant unto the children of men; according to the heed and diligence they give unto him; . . . he that will not harden his heart, to him is given the greater portion of the word, until it is given unto him to know the mysteries of God, until they know them in full." (Alma 9:16, 18)

1. Greater things to be revealed according to faith.
 - a. Already been given lesser things to try our faith. (III Nephi 12:3)
 - b. Greater things given on condition that we believe what we already have been given. (III Nephi 12:2-4)
 - c. If things are withheld, it will be to our condemnation.
 - d. Will know of greater things if we do not condemn the present record of the Book of Mormon because of its imperfections. (Mormon 4:14)
 - e. Jesus said, "I have many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now." (John 16:12)
 - f. II Nephi 12:35, 36, 38 shows need of continued revelation.
2. A list of sacred writings yet to be revealed:
 - a. Original writings of John the Revelator (Apostle John). (Ether 1:113; I Nephi 3:239-240)
 - b. Book of Enoch (Jude 14)
 - c. Original writings of Moses (on brass plates). (I Nephi 6:3)
 - d. Twenty-four gold plates: Brother of Jared's writings containing account of creation. (Alma 17:52, 55; II Nephi 11:143; Ether 1:87-101)
 - e. Brass plates: Brought by Lehi from Jerusalem. Among these may be Isaiah's original writings. Will "never perish or be dimmed by time;" contained genealogy of scripture down to 600 B.C. (I Nephi 6:6-56; I Nephi 1:170)
 - f. Record of Lehi. (I Nephi 1:15, 16)
 - g. Other sheep to whom Christ came. (III Nephi 7:24, 26)

If they heard his voice they would bear record. (II Nephi 12:69)

Alma 30:6, 13 mentions ships went northward and never heard of more.

Jeremiah 16:14, 15 mentions north country in connection with gathering Israel in last days.

Isaiah 43:6, 9 has an interesting reference to "former things."

God's word will not return void. (Isaiah 55:11)

h. Prophecies of Joseph who was sold into Egypt. (II Nephi 2:2-11)

i. All Apostles "bore record" but we have only a few from Nephite nation who likewise were commanded to "bear record" but we only have the writings of Nephi from those whom Jesus set apart as special witnesses. (I Nephi 3:249, 250)

3. Bible, Book of Mormon and latter day revelations are in our possession. Let us prepare in faith to be worthy to receive and be judged by these greater things yet to come.

a. Men to be judged by written word. (III Nephi 13:2)

b. Shall stand as a testimony at judgment. (Mosiah 1:125)

c. Books shall be opened. (Revelation 20:12)

Questions to Ponder:

1. What type of people must be entrusted with these "greater things"? (II Nephi 11:127)
2. Will these records be kept in God's temple?
3. Who shall "suddenly come to His temple"? (Malachi 3:1)
4. What is the promise in Micah 4:1, 2?

Note: "House of the God of Jacob" implies a temple shall be there from which there shall go teachings resulting in bringing in universal peace among nations. (Question No. 2, Isaiah 2:3)

Lesson Purpose:

1. To appreciate the word of God which we already have; and to awaken a yearning in our hearts for spiritual understanding of more of God's revelations of truth.

2. To prepare ourselves to be judged according to that which is written, and in our possession.

3. To help realize that, "to whom much is given, much is required."

"Behold, look ye unto the revelations of God. For behold the time cometh at that day when all these things must be fulfilled." (Mormon 4:44)

September No. 2

Books Mentioned But Not Included In Scripture

"But behold, there are many that harden their hearts against the Holy Spirit, that it hath no place in them; wherefore, they cast many things away which are written, and esteem them as things of nought." (II Nephi 15:2)

1. Scripture mentioned in the Bible but not contained in it:
 - a. Prophecy of Enoch. (Jude 14)
 - b. Book of the wars of the Lord. (Numbers 21:14)
 - c. Book of Jasher. (Joshua 10:13; II Samuel 1:18)
 - d. Book of the manner of the kingdom. (I Samuel 10:25)
 - e. Book of the Acts of Solomon. (I Kings 11:41)
 - f. Book of Gad, the Seer. (I Chronicles 29:29)
 - g. Book of Nathan, the prophet. (II Chronicles 9:29)
 - h. Prophecy of Ahijah. (II Chronicles 9:29)
 - i. Visions of Iddo, the Seer. (II Chronicles 13:22)
 - j. Book of Shemaiah the prophet. (II Chronicles 12:15)
 - k. Book of Jehu. (II Chronicles 20:34)
 - l. Isaiah's history of Uzziah. (II Chronicles 26:22)
 - m. Book of Jeremiah. (Jeremiah 36:32)
 - n. Paul's previous epistle to Corinthians. (I Corinthians 5:9)
2. Scripture mentioned in Book of Mormon but not included in it.
 - a. Zenock. (I Nephi 5:240; Alma 16:188)
 - b. Zenos. (Alma 16:188)
 - c. Nehum (I Nephi 5:241)

These prophets prophesied of Christ. They were prophets of ancient Israel but are not mentioned in the Bible.
3. Urim and Thummim (meaning light, truth).
 - a. Called "Interpreters" in the Book of Mormon. (Mosiah 5:72-79)
 - b. Used for translation of ancient records. (Mosiah 12:18, 19)
 - c. Used for understanding of future events or prophecy. (Mosiah 5:78)
 - d. No man can possess or use unless commanded of God—when commanded, the same is a "seer." (Mosiah 5:73, 74)
 - e. A seer is greater than a prophet. (Mosiah 5:76)
 - f. Only effective by faith. (Mosiah 5:81)
 - g. Urim and Thummin not mentioned in Bible after 600 B.C. Lehi may have taken them when commanded to leave Jerusalem.
4. Urim and Thummin used by prophet Joseph Smith in:
 - a. Translating ancient American record which

is entitled the "Book of Mormon." (Times and Seasons, Volume 3, page 18)

- b. Will be used in further translation of revealed records when God sees fit in His own wisdom. (Ether 1:99-101)
5. God is a revealing God. Man closes the channel.
 - a. No respecter of persons—reveals to those in all nations who fear him. (Acts 10:34, 35)
 - b. Testimony of Jesus is the "spirit of prophecy." (Revelation 19:10)
 - c. "Thou shalt not add" in Revelation 22:18, 19 refers to John's book. Bible, as such, was not yet compiled in 90 A.D.
 - d. Spirit will "lead into all truth" and show things to come. (John 16:13)
6. Things of God are spiritually discerned. (I Corinthians 2:14). If not so discerned, they are foolishness unto men.

In studying, please refer again to questions for September No. 1 lesson.

Lesson Purpose:

To try to reach a higher point of faith in climbing the mountain of truth. Exercise will strengthen us to climb higher in days to come.

A Love So Rewarding

by

Harry Slocum Tordoff

Happy is the Spirit
That leaves folks who understand
That Life and all that's in it
God holds within His Hands.

For there beyond our perception
Is a life both full and free;
But most of us have no conception
Of how rewarding Death can be.

Many have a mortal fear
Of all connected with it;
They haven't the slightest conveying idea
How close folks are in spirit.

If we would open up our hearts
To their ever existing love,
When a dear one this life, departs
We will place our trust Above.

God will give us strength to bear
The sorrow that's bound to come,
And eventually the right to share
The joys of His Heavenly Home.

Trust in a Love so rewarding
That we can't feel that we are alone,
But encompassed by those who are guarding
Our paths t'ward the Heavenly Throne.

Gleanings By the Way

By

Clarence L. Wheaton

Just a few lines from the field to let you know that we are still in the service of the Lord, and as we have so many requests from hither and yon for us to drop them a few lines to let them know how we are making out, we are again reviving our old by-line of **Gleanings By The Way** at the request of the Editor.

At this writing we are stopped in a nice shady spot in a State Park at Ludington, Michigan, where we stopped to prepare a noon day snack as we journey on to our next destination. Here we had a lunch of bread and cheese with fresh strawberries we purchased along the way.

This park is on the shore of Lake Michigan, and at this writing we have a nice cool breeze blowing in from the lake.

We left the home of Elder Max Lee and family in Marion about 9 o'clock this morning (June 30th) after being with them a couple of days. Glad to report that both Brother Max and Elaine are recovered from their recent sickness in the hospital, and that they are doing nicely. Brother Max is back to work and did us the kindness of tuning up ye old Chevy so that it would be in condition to make the trip into our new field of missionary endeavor in the South-eastern States.

We had a real pleasant trip to Madison, Wisconsin, from Missouri, with Sister Flint and Brother William Sheldon. The trip was made without incident so far as car troubles were concerned, and we received a warm welcome in the hospitable home of Brother and Sister John Davies. These folks were among the first we and stayed with back in 1927 when I debated Elder Leonard Holloway of the RLDS Church at Lancaster, Wisconsin.

The first night we were in their home, this trip, we just rested and chatted together till bed time. The second night we showed a series of slides in their home on the Book of Mormon archaeology and the area where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found, to some of their neighbors and a son of Brother and Sister Davies and his children. Had a nice opportunity of thus presenting the Restoration story to them.

The next morning we left their home, leaving Sister Flint there for a visit among her Wisconsin friends and relatives. We were accompanied on our trip to Cedar Springs, Michigan, by Brother Sheldon, and thus shared another fine missionary trip with him. It was especially nice and relaxing to me as he shared the driving of the car all the way from Missouri.

At Cedar Springs we received another warm welcome in the home of Brother George and Sally Brantner, where we made our stay over the time of the Reunion. Here Brother Sheldon transferred over to the companionship of Apostle Don Housknecht, with whom he is

to travel and take up his new duties in Michigan as Missionary-in-charge.

And so the torch is passed after Sr. Wheaton and I had spent the last 6 years in that mission. I feel quite sure that Apostle Sheldon's work in this field will be fruitful, and we pray for his success and will give our support.

Our Reunion at Cedar Springs was one of the best in that area in recent years. Well over a hundred came from various parts of the State, and there were a number of new faces present, while a number of old friends and acquaintances were missing. More of the details of the Reunion will appear in an article being prepared by Brother Bud Hanes, one of the Reunion committee, I wish to verify the fact that we had some fine meetings, both preaching, prayer and sacrament services and music, with a wonderful time provided for the children whom three of us volunteered to take to a nearby City Park for two hours of lessons and games, for the fore part of the Sunday morning prayer and sacrament service which occupied the whole time from 9:00 a. m., till noon adjournment. There were several administrations to the sick and one spiritual manifestation, and above all the pervasive influence of the Holy Spirit was near to all of us. Every one present expressed their pleasure and joy with the spiritual blessings thus enjoyed.

It was indeed a time of sadness and regret to us to realize that some of these folks we would not see again for perhaps years unless they come to conference or we attend their Reunion. For we have enjoyed for the most part our labors among the church folks of Michigan, though leaving this area for a new field of service, our love and affection for those folks will always be remembered by us. In time to come we may have the privilege of seeing some of them at Conference or other Reunions.

I sincerely hope we shall all learn the wisdom of rotating the missionary fields, for if we leave an individual in one field too many years it could cause the missionary as well as the people to stagnate in spiritual things, thus deterring the Lord's work.

After the Reunion we lingered with the Brantner's for a few days and assisted with carpenter work on the new home of Sister Jeanice Stevens and her husband Ross. Sure was nice to have an opportunity to smell sawdust and apply my skill with the tools of my trade in this manner. We sure wish these nice young people every happiness in their new home.

Then we spent a couple of days at Sand Lake with the family of Brother Grant Hanes, the Bud Hanes' and their mother. While there we had an evening's service in which I had the opportunity of telling the Book of Mormon story to them and several of their friends by the use of colored slides.

From there we made a trip to Flint, where we were scheduled to preach the following Sunday. On the way we stopped for a short visit with Elder Vernon and Sister Burns in their home in Belding. We feel that our aging and isolated members should be visited by the Missionaries as they travel along, for these are ones that are

denied church privileges and perhaps are they of whom the Savior spoke when he said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." They need encouragement and the prayers of the saints in order that their faith and courage faint not and that they may be inspired to run the race until the end. And I am quite sure that they will appreciate being remembered with a friendly greeting card also from time to time. May the Lord bless these folks, the Burns' whom I baptized in the dead of winter in the river nearly forty years ago.

We arrived in Flint rather early in the afternoon, and went directly to the home of Sister Meade Pinder, where our beloved brother of many years, Emery, had passed on to his reward this last winter after a long seige of sickness. This was Friday, June 24th, so realizing that we would have spare time on hand decided to continue on to Port Huron, Michigan for a brief call with Sister (Otto) Fetting who is now in her 90s, whose home and hospitality we had shared in happier days of yester-years. She had expressed a desire to see Sister Wheaton when Apostle Don Housknecht and I visited her home two years ago.

She is now in a rest home, seemingly content, though her memory is failing fast, yet after a little while she could recall many things of our former associations. After a pleasant visit with her we retired to a tourist home for the night for a much needed rest.

Saturday morning we left Port Huron behind and drove to Lincoln Park to visit with the Podholas and the Chesneys at Wyandotte and then returned to Flint and the home of Sister Pinder for the night.

Here we remained over Sunday and preached once more in the chapel there, thus completing a cycle of 40 years, since I first went to Flint engaged in a missionary effort with marked success in the basement church on Saginaw Street back in the Fall of 1926. We again revisited this area in 1946 to assist in the dedication of the present church structure on Utah Street.

We had a nice visit and dinner with the family of Brother and Sister Orville Eddy after the services. On Monday we went to the home of Brother and Sister Toulouse for the evening meal and gospel talk. Upon our return to Sister Pinder's for the night we had the pleasure of finding Mr. Jack Stamos, a young man who had attended my series of meetings there in Flint last October. He seems to be a fine gentleman and is seriously investigating our church. I feel that if he is properly looked after and encouraged that he may yet accept the Restoration and become a useful member.

Concluding our stay in Flint we left our friends and church members for this time and started the long trip home via Marion, Michigan, where we had previously arranged to visit before leaving Michigan. While here, Elder Max Lee tuned up the Old Chevy, and now we enjoy a much needed increase in gas mileage for the old car. Leaving Marion we drove to Ludington for the purpose of arranging for ferry passage across the Lake to Milwaukee, but found that it was too costly for us. Here we stayed for the night, and the next day went

on to Muskegon and a short visit with Elder John Reed and family. They were in the midst of preparing for a week-end vacation over the Fourth, so we continued on to Cedar Springs, and later the all-day meeting at Hopkins.

On the way to Muskegon, we stopped in a park to fix a lunch, and evidently, the hot wire on our generator was chaffed and grounded thus burning out the car generator and much of the wiring. This day we also had a flat tire, and I was in trouble as the result of breaking my glasses.

Well this should be all for now. On the 6th of this month, July, I will be 73 years old, 60 of these years spent in the Church of Christ as a convert from Methodism, and over 50 years as a minister, during which time I served as teacher, priest, elder and 40 years in the Council of Twelve, and am still able to get about my Father's business witnessing for Him and my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, His only Begotten Son.

The Wheatons

The Peace That Once Was Found

by

Harry Slocum Tordoff

I remember the days that are long since gone:
The "Model T" and the "Old Time" song;
The old fashioned, winding country lane,
Its borders, with flowering beauty, aflame.

The sounds of nature abundantly there
Songs of the birds, the fox in his lair;
The peace found there 'long that twisting road
Would relieve the pressures of life's heavy load,
And time would seem to come to a stop,
We'd forget the world and its prodding clock.

There was something about the peaceful way
That road picked up the shades of day
That put to rest the fears of man,
For, 'twas easy to feel "this is God's land."

And though 'twas many years ago
We traveled that way, this much I know,
No man or woman of this modern Age,
This era when hist'ry turns its final page,
Can know the peace that once was found
On a country road treading God's good ground.

For today, though "way out in the country" we go
We can't escape the traffic's flow;
The peace of the "Olden Days" is gone.
We fail through the noise to hear the birds' song
And worst of all, God's closeness seems lost;
I wonder sometimes 'bout the awful cost.

Is this modern Life we're living today
Worth throwing the Love of God away?

Reunion Report

Michigan State Reunion—1966

On the morning of June 18, our Reunion opened with a prayer service in charge of Elder Arthur G. Smith, with Apostle William Sheldon offering the opening prayer. Bro. Sheldon followed with a talk on the need of prayer among our people. Appropriate hymns opened the meeting for prayer, testimony and songs, in which most everyone took part in some manner. The time was well filled to the closing for dinner, with Apostle Don Housknecht offering the prayer.

The tables were spread with a delicious meal served to all attending. This was provided from the generous offerings of those who came. This was a potluck meal, and apparently the menu was satisfactory with everyone.

At two o'clock the dinner was cleared away and the worship service was entered into with Bro. George Brantner in charge. With the usual songs and a prayer by Bro. Brantner, our missionary, Bro. Sheldon, opened our reunion with a good inspiring hour of preaching. This service lasted until about three-thirty and was closed by Bro. Brantner.

This year a new program was adopted that seems to have caught on as a delightful way to draw out our thinking and give everyone a chance to be heard. It was a panel discussion, with one member of the panel acting as moderator. On our panel were Apostle Don Housknecht, Elder Arthur G. Smith, and Priest Bud Hanes. Bro. Smith acted as moderator, and after the usual opening with prayer and songs, the moderator gave a few remarks regarding the need for courtesy and respect for another's point of view and set the meeting in order for discussion by calling for a question from the assembly floor.

The following questions were considered, and the panel answered some or referred the question to other members of the priesthood who were present for their views:

- a. Is baptism essential to salvation?
- b. Is priesthood authority necessary to baptize?
- c. How do we answer those who claim authority outside of the Church of Christ?
- d. How many disciples did Christ have?
- e. Was Judas Iscariot a disciple?
- f. Was the thief on the cross a disciple?
- g. Is belief possible without faith?
- h. Can a man be an Apostle without being a disciple?

The discussions were lively and informative and kept the moderator busy trying to give all a chance to participate. Bro. Hanes closed this meeting with prayer at five-thirty and all felt that a good spirit prevailed and made this meeting enjoyable to all.

Following the evening lunch of sandwiches and desserts, the Reunion Committee called a business meeting to order at seven o'clock with those present assenting. A new committee was elected for the coming year,

minutes were read and approved, reports were made, and our affairs were considered. It was agreed that we shall continue to work with our missionary-in-charge, whoever he is, and look to him for spiritual guidance and counsel as in the past.

The last meeting of this first day of the reunion was in charge of Elder Max Lee. Sr. Angela Wheaton sang a special and Apostle C. L. Wheaton gave us a message to close our day of worship together. We felt that God had blessed us this day.

Another beautiful day was Sunday, and at nine-thirty we were underway again with Bro. Sheldon in charge. Songs and an opening prayer by Bro. Hanes commenced the prayer service for the adults. For the children we had called for someone to help program an outdoor Sunday School. Apostle C. L. Wheaton, Bro. Arthur Smith, and Sr. Jeanise Stevens, led the children in file to the Cedar Springs village park. There they formed a circle in the shade, and worshipped together with prayer, songs, and stories. They had a brief period of games, also. The group was led back in file to the hall where the prayer service was in progress. At a signal to Bro. Sheldon, the congregation arose and sang a song as about thirty children were brought into the hall to join their parents for the Sacrament service hour. It was an inspiring sight for the congregation to witness the obedience and good deportment of these children. Then followed a brief talk by Bro. Housknecht. Bro. Sheldon and Bro. Housknecht presided over the preparation and blessing of the bread and wine. Bro. Orville Eddy and Bro. Hanes assisted by serving the congregation. More time was now available for those who arrived late for prayer and testimony. The son of Bro. Emory Pender was administered to and the hour was soon spent in worship with many participating.

A roast turkey dinner was then served to about one hundred persons present. It was an excellent meal.

A song service was led by Bro. Lussenden at one-thirty. Sr. Wheaton sang a solo. Bro. Lussenden, Bro. Housknecht, and Bro. Sheldon, with Sr. Housknecht at the piano, sang two numbers as a trio. This was followed with a solo by Bro. Lussenden. It was a very enjoyable after-dinner program of music and song.

At two o'clock the last service of the reunion was in charge of Bro. Lussenden. A special number was given by the Cedar Springs children with Sr. Jeanise at the piano to lead them. They sang two nice songs for us. Bro. Housknecht then brought our thoughts to bear on the problems before us as a church in the field of our missionary efforts.

It was followed by a special song by all the ladies present, with many of the children, in a tribute to our Heavenly Father, and in honor to all fathers present, as it was Father's Day. They sang, "Faith of Our Fathers." The closing song by the whole congregation was sung and a prayer by Bro. Sheldon closed our reunion for another year. As several had many miles to travel home, there were few who stayed to end the day together in a lunch.

We trust that you who came enjoyed the time together and are planning to return next year. To those who were not with us, we hope that you will be led to feel, that it was a good reunion and make plans to come to Michigan and worship with us in 1967.

God bless you all and keep us faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the end, when we shall have the greatest reunion of all time with our Lord and our Saviour.

The Michigan Reunion Committee

A Sheet of Paper

by

Rosa Zagnoni Mariononi

A sheet of paper is a helpless thing.
It lies before you ready to impart
A new-found hope, or stab with cruel words,
A human heart.

A piece of paper that a match can burn
Can cause the drooping lips to curve and smile.
And to a dismayed life it can lend hope . . .
Once in a while.

AFTERGLOW

by

Gordon Hawkins

I watch the sunsets come and go
Now, in the quiet afterglow
Of turbulent and busy years.
I see the glory fade and die
Each evening in the western sky
As the loved Hesperus appears.
Each one marks off another day
That I have traversed on the way.
And as I watch these things I try
To learn acceptance, even though
The stern reality I know—
The implication of that sky
That darkens with the coming night!
In days of youth it was the sight
Of dawns upon the hills that brought
Fierce tumult to my eager mind . . .
But now, I only try to find
Serenities, so long unsought.

Couplet

by

Grace R. Johnston

Love is the touchstone of our lives;
With its abundance mankind thrives.

God's Gifts To Ears

by

Remelda Nielsen Gibson

A gurgling stream, a waterfall,
A bluebird's song, a robin's call;
The cricket's chirp, the buzz of bees,
The croak of frogs, the wind in trees
Are welcome noises to the ears
Of one who treasures what he hears.
The pitter-pat of falling rain
Against the roof and window pane,
A kitten's purr, a puppy's yips,
And lovely words from loving lips
Are treasured sounds to one who hears,
For they are all God's gifts to ears.

My Lord Is An Artist

by

Ramon A. Prichard

My Lord's an artist—
It shows throughout the land;
I see the beauty of His majesty
Created by His hand.

The awesome view of hills of green
With timber spread throughout;
The splendor of the vales serene
Leave little room for doubt.

With lakes of crystal, streams and brooks
Reflecting blue above,
We see His work of beauty,
And we know His gift of love.

His wonders spread from coast to coast
In all the world around;
They echo from the mountain tops,
And from the shores around.

Communion With God

by

Aloise Tracy

Have communion with God.
It enriches your mind.
You receive peace of heart
And grow wiser I find.

Our bad habits make us prisoners, and false pride
is the jailer that keeps us there.

Awake!

By

Wm. F. Anderson

Awake! Ye saints of God awake! Call on the Lord in mighty prayer, That he will Zion's bondage break, And bring to naught the fowler's snare.

As the congregation where I attend church, was singing the above referred to hymn, there was a train of thought started in my mind. I asked the question of myself, "I wonder if that could not apply to me?" I drifted from that thought and considered the various groups or peoples of the restoration. Again the question came in to my mind, "Is there any need for us to be awakened from our lethargy, our sleep, or our self satisfaction?"

My thoughts drifted along and there came to my mind another question, "Are we not in bondage?" I felt the answer come as it seemed to press itself into my very being, and I had to give answer to the question, "Yes, we are in bondage as far as the restoration movement is concerned." I look about and ponder on the divided condition the restoration is in at the present time. There is only one conclusion we can come to and that is we are in bondage to the forces that are opposite to God, for we must conclude that God is not the author of division, or confusion.

There are at present at least nine sets of apostles. This tells us that there are at least nine sets of people or churches, each claiming to be the "Church of Christ". There is not the slightest possibility that all these churches and sets of apostles can be right. Jesus has only one church, therefore eight of these churches and sets of apostles must be wrong.

No two of these groups believe completely the same things as pertaining to the way of the Lord. Paul when speaking of this condition, made the following statement, "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you: but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." (I Corinthians 1:10)

The church was given a similar commandment in January, 1831: "Behold, this I have given unto you a parable, and it is even as I am: I say unto you, be one; and if ye be not one, ye are not mine . . ." (Book of Commandments, 40:22). We must therefore conclude that all are not His, referring to all believers in the restoration.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Original Articles are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the church or the opinions of the editorial staff. We solicit articles written in an affirmative manner in which a belief or an opinion is expressed, and evidences presented to support that belief.

Would it not be well for each of us and especially each group or division, to see the necessity of being awakened to the fact that there is something wrong and that we are in bondage to the satanic forces to the extent that he has caused this great division and led folks in different directions.

There was a promise made by Christ just before His crucifixion where He said, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;" The promise was to the effect that, ". . . He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance whatsoever I have said unto you." (John 14:16, 26). We can plainly see that this Comforter would not cause the Lord's people to divide up into many groups differing from each other.

This Comforter would be a guide or director which would guide into all truth and not into error. Error is what has brought about this great division in the restoration. Somewhere along the line, Satan the author of division, must have been able to sow the seeds of confusion and division in this restoration.

Following the death of Joseph Smith those seeds grew and grew to the extent that according to history, there was something over a hundred divisions took place. A man here or a man there rose up making the claim that he had been appointed to be the successor to Joseph Smith.

A warning had been given in September 1832 telling them the whole church was under condemnation because they had treated lightly the things they had received. They were called upon to repent otherwise a scourge and a judgment would be poured out upon them. They evidently did not repent and correct the errors, for the following year they were driven out of Jackson County, Missouri. The mob at this time, forced them to turn over the deeds to all properties which the members of the church held. It would seem that the judgments began at that time. They were driven to Far West, Missouri and while attempting to build a temple, they were driven out of the State of Missouri. They located in Nauvoo, Illinois, and seemingly prospered there for a time but again mobs rose up and they were persecuted.

I presume it will not be necessary to call attention to that which happened on June 27, 1844, when Joseph Smith was assassinated. Following that event, the church was again driven and forced to move on, some going one way and some another, until we find there were one hundred and twenty-five groups which claimed to be the proper ones in succession.

We need not to follow the goings and comings of those various groups or what happened to them. We are told that there were over 200,000 members in the church in 1844. There is no doubt that hundreds just dropped out and became lost. It is sufficient to say that judgments and scourgings were poured out which caused them to be scattered to the four winds. Some of those early divisions are still in existence. They are still divided; each going his way claiming to be the one and only true church.

There came other divisions in later years. We have one group claiming that Christ is God. There is another group which claim the visitation of John the Baptist. They established a new church, claiming that God had to establish His church anew in 1929. It would appear that their thought was that the church which God had restored through the instrumentality of Joseph Smith, had failed and for that reason it was necessary for Him to start it all over again.

Thus we have many divisions in the restoration movement each having apostles in their church but having nothing to do with each other.

That is one of the reasons we raise the question of whether we are in bondage or not. Does it appear that Satan has an upper hand at the present time, in that he has succeeded in dividing those who believe in the restoration and the Book of Mormon? He has succeeded in causing division and is endeavoring to bring about divisions inside of the different organizations to try to keep their members from working as they should.

We refer back to the language of the poet, "Awake! Ye saints of God awake! Call on the Lord in mighty prayer, that he will Zion's bondage break, and bring to naught the fowler's snare." "Let all the saints in union join."

I may not be going far afield if I say that each and all of those various divisions accept the early revelations that were given through Joseph Smith and accept the promise of Zion to be a great and marvelous work which no one can assist in, except he shall be humble, and full of love, having faith, hope, and charity. The cause of Zion is first. Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart.

When we reach that standard, it will not be hard to keep all others. If we would be full of love, the love of God must come first, for when we love God with all our heart, we will be full of love, and unity will prevail in our lives. There will be no thought of disunion; each struggling against the other.

The restoration movement is in as bad or even worse state of confusion today, than the Christian world was when the boy went into the woods to ask God which of these churches he should join. So, we ask the question, "How about the so called restored gospel and church?"

Jesus said, "I will build my church". (Matthew 16:18). He did not say churches; just one. It should be evident to all that there is something wrong. It is very needful that we put forth an effort to discover what has happened.

This therefore, is an appeal to all divisions of this restoration movement. I suggest that there be arranged a gathering together of at least the leaders of those various divisions or churches. Let them meet together on those things on which we agree. Let them be willing to set aside for the time, all those things on which they are not in agreement. Set the things on which there is not an agreement, before the Lord, not only to ask but to be willing to abide by His decision, and in so doing, get rid of this conflict.

World events are pointing to the near coming of Christ. He said He would gather His saints together at that time. Prior to that time He said he would send forth His angels, and they would gather out of His kingdom, all things that offend and them that do iniquity. The things that offend would primarily be referring to wrong teachings. They are an offense to Christ. Those which do iniquity, refers to those who follow the ways of the world or teach those things which are an offense to Christ.

I am sure I will not go far astray when I say that each of those divisions are hoping to be worthy to be among those who are gathered. There is something said about a certain garment that must be worn. That garment is called righteousness. It is my firm opinion that each individual has been allotted the task of making or preparing his or her own wedding garment. It therefore is reduced to one thing: Personal righteousness. This does not mean self righteousness.

We are told that the pure in heart shall see God. One who is pure in heart, if he has received the gift of the Holy Ghost, becomes a holy person, and that is the condition we will find in Zion. The Lord's people will be gathered into one place on this continent or land. We cannot be widely different in our beliefs pertaining to the Lord, and be pure in heart.

It might not be out of place here to say that God has a people who are acceptable to Him, in each of the divisions. He knows where they are to be found and will gather them in when the proper time comes. Then they will be taught all the things God would like for them to know.

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest to your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow;" (Isaiah 1:18). We need to reason with God, giving Him the opportunity to straighten things out for us.

I am reminded of a statement that was made by Christ while here among men. He was concerned, and endeavored to keep their minds stirred into the right line of thinking.

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Matthew 7:13, 14) Beware of false prophets! The broad way will take in all divisions. It is wide enough. But only one will be permitted to enter the narrow way, because oneness is the key that will open that straight gate.

Again may I call attention to the words of the poet, "Awake ye saints of God awake. Call on the Lord in mighty prayer, that He will Zion's bondage break, and bring to naught the fowlers snare."

An Experience

By
Archie F. Bell

My wife and I were traveling in missionary work and were in the southern part of the state of California. We stopped at a cafe for a lunch at noon. While we were sitting in the booth waiting for our lunch to be brought, I happened to glance at the wall some distance from us. It looked like a plaque or some such a thing on the wall and on this plaque it seemed I read a thought. I took a note book and started writing the following poem and with but a few minor changes, it was the same as it is today.

After we had finished our lunch we happened to walk by where this plaque was. There was one there but the thought was nothing like the thought I had written. This was September 21, 1957.

TRUTH

A simple question I did ask,
The truth I wished to know.
I asked it of a person who
I thought could truth me show.

The answer that was given me
I failed to comprehend.
The words and tone were not to me
As from a trusted friend.

The words were not of knowledge great;
Nor weighed to carefully,
But rather to exalt the one
Who uttered them to me.

The tone was sharp as of a knife
To cut a person low.
Because of this, the question asked
Did not the asker know.

O Truth, the precious gift to man,
How often it is stayed
By those who should its virtue show
But really are afraid.

Because, you see, they do not of
All truth the knowledge know
But rather than be found alack,
A false front they do show.

This is not our Master's plan
How plainly we should see.
For, said He, the truth you'll know
And the truth shall make you free.

He is brave who has endured all the pains of mankind and still is serene.

THE GRAND OLD BOOK—GOD'S WORD

Whenever my heart grows weary,
With life's burden and weight of care,
I read for my solace the grand old Book,
Till my soul breaks forth in prayer.

As I pore o'er the blessed pages,
In the light which the Spirit sheds,
There comes a sweet thrill of devotion,
Till meekly I bow my head.

For it's here I learn the secret
Which the key of promise holds,
And I would not miss communing
For the world and its weight in gold.

And soon I forget life's trials
And my cry to be freed from pain,
In weeping and praising and blessing,
Rejoicing again and again.

And I cease to crave for the comforts
I once so longed to possess,
But instead I pray for His Spirit,
That His grace my life may bless.

Worldly minds are seeking pleasure,
Some in folly, some in gold;
But I've found, I've found life's treasure,
In this grand old Book of old.

—Unknown.

WISDOM

By
Edgar A. Guest

This is wisdom, maids and men:
Know what to say and when.

Speech is common; thought is rare;
Wise men choose their words with care.

Artists with the master touch
Never use one phrase too much.

Jesus, preaching on the Mount
Made His every sentence count.

Lincoln's Gettysburg address
Needs not one word more or less.

This is wisdom, maids and men:
Knowing what to say and when.

When a man has no good reason for doing a thing,
he has one good reason for leaving it alone.

Education's first duty is to make possible the survival
of our country.