

# 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."—1 Nephi 3:187.

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Independence, Missouri, September 1969

No. 9

## The Twilight Years

By

Janice Hansen



The twilight years are upon me,  
I'm tired and my heart is sad  
And my soul is heavy with grief,  
My life hasn't made me glad.

I should look back with joy,  
And remember days well spent;  
And years of useful service,  
But I look back in torment.

What a waste of valuable time,  
But tomorrow was to be the day;  
When I would serve the Lord,  
When I'd find time to pray.

When I'd think about world problems,  
And try to solve a few;  
When I'd win souls for Jesus,  
Oh, so many things I'd do.

But I never solved any problems,  
No souls are on my list,  
No glorious deeds behind me,  
Oh, how much I've missed.

My strength is slowly ebbing  
Myself I no longer kid,  
And I shall stand in judgment,  
For the things I almost did.

Oh, don't think tomorrow will do,  
Please don't be as lax as I,  
For us there is only today;  
For tomorrow we shall all die.

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# Zion's Advocate

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## PERFECTION

"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48).

"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 16:25).

It is quite evident that the world is far from being perfect. It is also evident that we, who are members of the body of Christ, have also not attained that goal. The Solemn Assembly just past has found us weighed in the balance and found wanting. We have not laid all on the altar: we have not yet given up all our sins and come spotlessly clean before the Lord. We are still clinging to those innocent little things which seem so harmless in our eyes but which separate us from God.

What are these modern day evils which are denying us a closer walk with God? And what were the personal qualities of those individuals who were successful in their relationship with God? The Lord makes this statement in one place, draw nigh unto me and I will draw nigh unto you.

Let us consider first a few of the lives of those who did put their trust in God completely and with simplicity. In Genesis 6:9 Abraham was commanded to be perfect and was chosen because he commanded his children to follow after him (Genesis 17:1). He believed in God and it was counted unto him for righteousness. The children of Israel were also admonished to be perfect (Deuteronomy 18:13), but they did not live up to their high calling and were rejected and cast out. Despite the imperfections of the bulk of the people, there were those few individuals who served God in righteousness and who were perfect in their time before God. Job was one of these. "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil . . . And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered by servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feared God, and escheweth evil? (Job 1:1-8). Elijah also was one, although in his day to his comfort there was yet 7000 in Israel who had not bowed the knee to Baal. We could go on and mention the many other outstanding servants of God such as Enoch, the Brother of Jared, Alma, Ammon, Moroni, Peter, Paul, John, etc., to say nothing of the many sheep who entered the fold and followed Christ to the end. The one thing that characterized each of them was diligence unto prayer and much fasting, being completely dedicated to the service of God and obedient unto every command. They were not slothful servants. As Paul so ably puts it, they were prisoners of Christ. Their trust was wholly in Him and they deferred not to do his will and did so without doubtings and fear.

What does the Scriptures tell us? ". . . Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace. . ." (2 Corinthians 13:11). But, how? There are those who say it is not possible for us so to attain in this life. Yet we have just read that Job was a perfect man in his day.

Noah also was a just and perfect man. (See Genesis 6:9). Nephi understood the way of God perfectly for said he ". . . I know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commandeth them" (I Nephi 1:65).

In Hebrews 7:19 we are told that "the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God." I Nephi 3:117 tells us that it is through faith that we come to this better hope.

After we have entered in by the way, what means has God provided for us to go on to the goal of perfection? 2 Timothy 3:16-17 tells us that all scripture is given by inspiration of God that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. That same scripture tells us that there is a way of escape from temptation. "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that we may be able to bear it. . . . The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? (I Corinthians 10:12-13, and 16).

After having done our duty by way of faith, repentance, baptism, etc., we must endure to the end, for we have not yet been brought to perfection even though we have put off the old man. It is a growing process, a moulding of our souls by the master into vessels of honor. It is through this means that the ". . . path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" (Proverbs 4:18). Thus will be fulfilled the scripture found in Hebrews 12:23, that of the spirits of just men made perfect.

There is something else. We mentioned the necessity of patience. In Hebrews 2:10 and 5:9 we are told that Christ was made perfect through suffering. Not that Christ was ever imperfect but that he brought imperfect flesh under subjection thus gaining the victory over his own body being made perfect in the flesh whereby He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

Therefore if it was needful for Christ to suffer to bring about perfection, then how much more so we who are imperfect? "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you" (I Peter 5:10). "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the lamb" (Revelation 7:14).

There is one other element necessary in this process of perfecting the saints which we need to consider. "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, . . ." (Ephesians 4:11-12).

What a terrible responsibility that lays upon those who are called and set apart to the ministry of God. How difficult it is to bring ourselves into subjection let alone help others to do the same. Yet Paul in his day was intent on that very responsibility. "Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus" (Colossians 1:28). Jacob in the Book of Mormon was also aware of this sacred responsibility. "And we did magnify our office unto the Lord, taking upon us the responsibility, answering the sins of the people upon our own heads, if we did not teach them the word of God with all diligence; Wherefore, by laboring with our mights, their blood might not come upon our garments; otherwise, their blood would come upon our garments, and we would not be found spotless at the last day" (Jacob 1:19-20).

How necessary it is then that the shepherds of the flock keep themselves unspotted from the world and to be about their Father's business, having done with lesser things. We should be even as these, "Now they after being sanctified by the Holy Ghost, having their garments made white, being pure and spotless before God, could not look upon sin, save it were with abhorrence" (Alma 10:4).

You often hear the statement, "just believe and you will be saved." This is a true statement but not as the world interprets it, for the devils also believe and tremble. So what is belief? There is far more to belief than just the acknowledgement of the existence of Christ. If we truly believe in the Son of God we will do what he says. We will be obedient unto all his commandments because we know He is good and cannot lie. To really believe then means to trust him and to trust him means that we love him and if we love him we will do whatsoever he tells us, for He himself hath said, if ye love me keep my commandments. But if we do not what He says then we don't really believe that his word is true and so the signs cease to follow us.

2 Chronicles admonishes us to yield to God and Romans 6:13-19 tells us not to yield to sin. For "Why will ye yield yourselves unto him that he may have power over you, to blind your eyes, that ye will not understand the words which are spoken, according to their truth (Alma 8:37). "Oh, my beloved brethren, remember the awfulness in transgressing against that holy God, and also the awfulness of yielding to the enticings of the cunning one" (2 Nephi 6:73). But "Be wise in the days of your probation; strip yourselves of all uncleanness; ask not, that ye may consume it on your lusts, but ask with a firmness unshaken, that ye will yield to no temptation, but that ye will serve the true and living God" (Mormon 4:94).

Then, after having done this, ". . . let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing" (James 1:4). Then "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body" (James 3:2).

Salvation is free, it is true, yet we have to work out our soul salvation with trembling. And works are

necessary or else our faith is dead for it is of them we shall be judged whether good or evil. ". . . be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless" (2 Peter 3:14). In order for Jesus to present his church (Ephesians 5:27) without spot to the Father we as individual members have also got to come clean or else we have no inheritance with him. "I say unto you, ye will know at that day, that ye can not be saved; for there can no man be saved except his garments are washed white: Yea, his garments must be purified until they are cleansed from all stain, through the blood of him whom it has been spoken by our fathers who should come to redeem his people from their sins. And now I ask of you, my brethren, How will any of you feel, if ye shall stand before the bar of God, having your garments stained with blood, and all manner of filthiness? Behold, what will these things testify against you? Behold, will they not testify that ye are murderers, yea, and also that ye are guilty of all manner of wickedness? Behold, my brethren, do ye suppose that such an one can have a place to sit down in the kingdom of God, with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob, and also all the holy prophets, whose garments are cleansed, and are spotless, pure and white? I say unto you, Nay, except ye make our Creator a liar from the beginning, or suppose that he is a liar from the beginning, ye can not suppose that such can have place in the kingdom of heaven, but they shall be cast out, for they are the children of the kingdom of the devil. And now behold, I say unto you my brethren, If ye have experienced a change of heart, and if ye have felt to sing the song of redeeming love, I would ask, Can ye feel so now? Have ye walked, keeping yourselves blameless before God? Could ye say, if ye were called to die at this time, within yourselves, that ye have been sufficiently humble? That your garments have been cleansed and made white, through the blood of Christ, who will come to redeem his people from their sins? (Alma 3:39-49).

We have not fully answered our question as to what these modern day evils are which are keeping us from a closer walk with God. We each have to choose within our own lives, our conscience bearing witness on what is off limits or just within the limits of safety and after having made that decision decide whether we want to be just this side of hell or all the way with Christ our Redeemer.

It is obvious that there are many harmless things in life which we may do but which have no real value as to our soul salvation or to the salvation of others. Granted, we need some time for ourselves but how much of the world may we safely imbibe and still be unscarred and untainted? How much time shall we devote to ourselves, our pleasures and our comforts when there are souls in sorrow bowed, when so many have not heard, while Zion yet languishes? Time is much too short to be spent in lesser things. We haven't time to indulge ourselves overly in what the world has to offer. Instead our energies should be devoted to the spreading of the gospel and to the work of the kingdom. Nothing else really matters.

What is it then that is keeping us from doing our

duty as we ought? It is lack of consecration to our work. Too much ease of life and modern contrivances have dulled our ambition. There is too much television, radio, magazines, newspapers, movies, sports, recreational activities, etc.

How can one maintain high spiritual tone when one's mind is continually being subjected to scenes of crime, war, sin, mediocracy, pleasure, worldly music, idle words, games, etc. Truly, television has been the downfall of this nation. We are given to hour upon hour of entertainment. We haven't time for greater things. We live in an age of pleasure, when people would rather go to a ball game then to church.

It is doubtful that Paul, or Alma or Ammon would have spent much time before a television screen. Had they done so their senses would have been dulled and souls would have been lost. No wonder the ten virgins are sleeping: the marvels of the modern day have put them all to sleep.

In conclusion we quote, "Yea, come unto Christ, and be perfected in him, and deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and if ye shall deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and love God with all your might, mind and strength, then is his grace sufficient for you, that by his grace ye may be perfect in Christ; and if by the grace of God ye are perfect in Christ, ye can in no wise deny the power of God. And again, if ye, by the grace of God, are perfect in Christ, and deny not his power, then are ye sanctified in Christ by the grace of God, through the shedding of the blood of Christ, which is in the covenant of the Father, unto the remission of your sins, that ye become holy without spot" (Moroni 10:29-30).

Harvey E. Seibel

July 17, 1969

Dear Readers of the Advocate:

We will try to bring you up to date on events as they have transpired in Salem, Oregon. You have not had news from us for over a year, when we wrote of a sort of reunion at our home of members and friends from this area and from out of state. During this last year we have continued having, more or less, spontaneous meetings of prayer and study in several homes. This has been at the call of the Spirit and usually filled a need among someone of our little group.

It is with happiness that we report three baptisms recently during Brother and Sister Bell's ministry here.

Two of our R.L.D.S. friends who have been investigating this gospel for almost four years, and an R.L.D.S. man from Independence, Missouri made their covenant in the waters of baptism during this past month.

Brother Bell came from California to Salem on May 24th and began meetings in a little rented house where they stayed in Salem. Brother and Sister McIndoo came for a week's stay also and showed their slides on the "Life of Christ" and the Book of Mormon program entitled "Out of the Dust." The McIndoos stayed at the Joe Smith residence at Hubbard, 30 miles from Salem.

On Saturday, June 22, Emil Heeb was baptized and

confirmed by Brother Bell, following which, that evening, we had sacrament service. Brother Heeb was an R.L.D.S. member for thirty years, living in Seattle, Washington and later moving to Independence, Missouri. He has been working for four years at the Social Center at Independence. Correspondence between him and the Walberg's led him to a deeper desire to investigate the Church of Christ and upon invitation to spend his vacation in Salem, he came by train and was here when Brother and Sister Bell were here. We had several discussion classes after Brother Heeb's baptism and he left by train for Independence on June 26th with plans to return to Salem to make his home.

On June 27th Carrie Asher phoned and gave her decision to be baptized. This was wonderful news, as the past years of association in Church work in the Reorganized Church have made us very close. We had worked together in classes, Junior Church and Worship experiences. Brother and Sister Asher were responsible for helping organize the first R.L.D.S. Church in Salem and also Hopewell, Oregon. Brother Asher passed away a few years ago, but Sister Asher continued to minister as music and song leader for the R.L.D.S. Church and has many friends in that Church as well as among others who know her and her deep understanding of human need.

On June 28th Zelma Welton contacted Brother Bell and also requested baptism. Sister Welton, too, is from the R.L.D.S. Church, having been baptized in that Church 35 years ago the same day as the Ashers' were. How coincidental, that they should enter into the Church of Christ together also! Sister Welton is a cousin of Sister Walberg and comes from the Ames family who came from Missouri by ox team to Sweet Home, Oregon in 1852 bringing the restored gospel for the first time to the West.

Sunday, June 29th these baptisms took place and was followed by another sacrament service. This brings the number of members in Salem to six. If Brother Heeb returns to live here, it will total seven and a number of interested friends who worship with us quite often.

June 30th Brother and Sister Bell left for Toppenish, Washington to minister to the group there. At this writing plans are being made for them to return to organize a Sunday School here at Salem.

We are thankful for these precious souls that have been led into this gospel and we ask an interest in your prayers that, we, as a group, can overcome our weaknesses and be the kind of people God would want us to be. Thank you, one and all, for the ministry you have extended to us here at Salem over the past four years that has helped so very much. The future, we leave in God's hands.

Sincerely, In The Gospel,

Nellie and Milfred Walberg

## BAPTISMS

Emil Heeb of Independence, Missouri was baptized by Apostle Archie F. Bell and received the laying on of hands by Apostle Bell and Elder Joseph F. Smith June 22, 1969 at Salem, Oregon.

At the Missouri Reunion June 28 and 29, 1969, the following young people were baptized: Dee Anna Medders, the daughter of Truman and Mary Jane Medders of Madera, California, Joan Marie Kommer the daughter of Walter and Florence Kommer of Ellisville, Missouri and David Leslie Keeney, the son of Ireatess and Margaret Keeney of Houston, Missouri. Apostle Don W. Housknecht, Elder Donald E. McIndoo and Elder Oren A. Caviness officiated in the baptisms and confirmations.

Mrs. Zelma Mae Welton and Mrs. Carrie Mae Asher both of Salem, Oregon were baptized by Apostle Archie F. Bell and received the laying on of hands by Apostle Bell assisted by Elder Joseph F. Smith June 29, 1969 at Salem, Oregon.

## ORDINATION

Donald Edward McIndoo was ordained a Seventy June 21, 1969 by Apostles E. Leon Yates and Marvin E. Ely.

## OBITUARY

### HERBERT FITZHUGH KIDD

Born to this life October 8, 1876. His life's journey ended Tuesday, July 22, 1969, being 92 years, 9 months and 14 days of this life.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his beloved wife, Irene Conner Kidd. Two sons, Joseph W., and Herbert F., Jr.; two daughters, Virginia (Kidd) Phillips and June (Kidd) Messer, Jr.; fifteen grandchildren, two great grandchildren and one brother, Oscar K. And besides these, a host of friends acquired through his years of being a "Friend of Man."

He was baptized into the Fold and Kingdom of God and member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in 1916, transferring into the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) in 1927, to which he gave a full measure of devotion.

Services were held at 2:00 P. M., Friday, the 25th of July in the Mann Bearden Chapel, with Apostle Don W. Housknecht officiating. Interment, Sherwood Memorial Gardens, Knoxville, Tennessee.

"These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren" (Proverbs 6:16-19).

## 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. Even though some articles may in some cases be interpreted as controversial in nature, we believe that such articles if written in an affirmative manner in which a belief or an opinion is expressed, and evidences presented to support that belief, said articles should be presented to the readers.

### THE SEVEN SEATS OF SATAN

By

Elder M. Harvey Seibel

Not far removed from the dawn of man upon this earth a strange narrative is recorded, found in the Book of Job, first chapter, verses 6 and 7: "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it." For Satan is the prince of this world (Mormon 14:30) as well as the prince of devils (Matthew 12:24). Satan dwells on earth and his angels, and since Christ was on earth he is unable to visit heaven (Revelation 12:7-9). Since the Devil is the Prince in the world we know that he must have a headquarters, which would be always in a great metropolis of wickedness: thus we reason. In this sermon we will study out the seven major locations where Satan has used as headquarters through the ages as he ruled over evil men and his deathless legions of darkness.

#### A. BABYLON: THE FIRST SEAT OF SATAN SINCE THE FLOOD

1. In ancient Babylon Nimrod established his kingdom and idolatrous religion, a religion whose gods and rites have carried down through the centuries, even to our day and whose doctrines and dark practices stain the world religions. The might and wealth of this ancient city is well depicted by quoting from "Bible Readings for the Home Circle."

"The character of the Babylonian Empire is fittingly indicated by the nature of the material composing that portion of the image by which it was symbolized—the head of gold. It was the 'golden kingdom of a golden age.' The city of Babylon, its metropolis, according to history towered to a height never equalled by any of its later rivals. 'Situated in the garden of the East, laid out in a perfect square sixty miles in circumference, fifteen miles on each side, surrounded by a wall three hundred and fifty feet high and eighty-seven feet thick, with a moat, or ditch, around this, of equal cubic capacity with the wall itself; divided into six hundred and sixty-six squares, laid out in luxuriant pleasure-grounds and gardens, interspersed with magnificent dwellings,—this city, containing in itself many things which were themselves wonders of the world, was itself another and still mightier wonder . . . such was Babylon, with Nebuchadnezzar, youthful, bold, vigorous, and accomplished, seated upon its throne."

2. Though Babylon was long since destroyed, we find that she is still with us today in a great religious system, the Papacy which is a bodily take-over of the an-

cient religion of Babylon; its holy water, priesthood, garments of the priests and nuns, the nuns themselves, all down the line we find the ancient idolatries perpetuated in the modern Church (Catholic Church). Note the language of Revelation: "And these followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Fornication in a spiritual sense is idolatry, or the turning away from the true God, for the church is the bride of Christ, and to turn to another god is fornication. Thus is the usage of Scripture concerning the spiritual idolatry.

#### B. THE SECOND SEAT OF SATAN: THE GREAT CITY OF TYRE

1. Ezekiel prophesies a lamentation of the king of Tyrus and shows that the real ruler of this London of the East, this vast megalopolis is Satan: "Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou was created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou was upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou was created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire" (Ezekiel 28:12-16).

Although the words tell us that this lamentation was addressed to the king or ruler of Tyre we see that it was the same individual who was with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, that being who was the covering cherub, in heaven, who walked up and down midst the stones of fire, and whom God determined to cast down from the mountain (kingdom) of God as is recorded in the Book of Revelation where the war between Satan and Michael is recorded with the result that Satan was cast down to earth where it is written that he "goeth about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour, because he knows that his time is short." Thus the second seat of Satan, even in the days when he was permitted to walk among the stones of fire was ancient and mighty and wicked Tyre, having apparently transferred his main headquarters from Babylon, reserving Babylon as a subsidiary headquarters.



### C. THE THIRD SEAT OF SATAN: PERGAMOS

On the fall of Babylon the Babylonian priests moved in a body to Pergamos, and continued the old Babylonian worship, carrying the ancient title "Pontifex Maximus" from Babylon (possibly through Tyre, of which history is apparently silent) into Pergamos, identifying the chief priest of Pergamos as the Pontifex Maximus of Babylon, which title originated in the person of Nimrod. Here, in Pergamos, amidst unbridled orgies and untrammelled licentiousness unparralleled in the heathen world, Satan ruled in his kingdom of darkness over the hearts of men and devils.

Of this we are certain, for the Scriptures explicitly point out this city as the next in line among the seats of Satan: "And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write . . . I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is" (Revelation 2:12-13).

### D. THE FOURTH SEAT OF SATAN: PAGAN ROME

One of the strangest of wills ever recorded in the annals of history was made by the last king of Pergamos. On approaching death this king willed his whole country to Caesar and bequeathed his title of Pontifex Maximus, which he had received as head of the ancient pagan, Babylonian religion; thus transferring the seat of Satan to Pagan Rome and its famous head: Caesar. It was from this center that the early church was attacked: for the Church (Revelation 12:1) "brought forth a man-child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron (Revelation 12:5), the child being Christ, who was caught up to God (at the crucifixion), and which child was attacked by the dragon, the devil (Revelation 12:3) to devour the child as soon as it was born (verse 4). It was the armies of this fourth seat of Satan that, under the Roman general, Titus, attacked the city of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. and destroyed both the city and the temple. This army is here called the abomination of desolation (Matthew 24:15) spoken of by Daniel the Prophet (Daniel 9:27).

### E. THE FIFTH SEAT OF SATAN: PAPAL ROME

1. The Pagan Roman emperor Hadrien renounced the title of Pontifex Maximus and a few months later bestowed it upon the Pope, and the modern Babylon was born, thus making the Papacy as headed by the Roman Pontif, into the fifth seat of Satan. As in Tyre, the visible head of each seat of Satan is a man. It is interesting to note in this connection that the number 666 of Revelation 13:18 used to identify the Pope, being the number obtained by giving Latin equivalents to the Pope's Latin name of "Vicarius Filii Dei" is the same number as found in ancient Babylon where the city was divided into 666 squares.

#### 2. Papal Rome:

a. Revelation 13:1. "A beast" (referring to Daniel 7:17 we learn that a beast in prophecy represents kings, or kingdoms.)

(1) Out of the sea (represents peoples as seen from

Revelation 14:15) showing that this kingdom arose in the midst of peoples, a densely populated district.

(2) Having 7 heads (mountains, see Revelation 17:9; or kings, verse 10). Both interpretations apply. Rome has always been known as the seven hilled city, being situated on seven hills. If one were to speak of the seven-hilled city, it would be understood by everyone of ancient times that Rome was designated. And thus it turns up in prophetic language. The interpretation of kings, or kingdoms is also true as Rome was ruled throughout its existence by seven different governments, the last being the Exarchate of Ravenna.

(3) And ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns. The ten horns are the ten kingdoms into which Rome was divided by the inroads of the heathen hordes. The presence of ten crowns shows that they were kingdoms in their own right, not under an emperor.

b. Revelation 13:2.

(1) a leopard: Greece.

(2) bear: Medes and Persians.

(3) mouth of a lion: Babylon.

For the sake of brevity many of these statements are left undocumented. Those having an interest in details can be accommodated by addressing inquiries to Elder M. Harvey Seibel, Star Route, Box 64, Willow Springs, Missouri 65793.

These facts can be seen by comparison with the beasts of Daniel 7 and the image of Nebuchadnezzar of Daniel 2 in which these ancient kingdoms are depicted in like manner. It is of note that the mouth of this beast was the lion of Babylon so that the beast speaks with the mouth of the first seat of Satan. This is adequately borne out in history for it is well known and easily established that all the ancient forms of worship passed directly from Pagan Rome (who had received their religion through a colony of Babylonian priests who had settled in eastern) into Papal Rome.

(4) Dragon gave him power, seat, authority. This tells us that the Devil (dragon) gave his authority to the Catholic Church, and also his seat. Hence Papal Rome becomes the fifth seat of Satan.

c. Revelation 13:3.

(1) Head wounded and healed. (See Revelation 17:8: "Was and is not, and yet is.") These two prophecies describe the same event. It was fulfilled when the Lombards invaded and destroyed the last vestige of Roman civil authority in the overthrow of the Exarchate of Ravenna (the seventh head, being killed) the seventh and last government of old pagan Rome. But Revelation 17:8 is fulfilled in that the head (seat of Satan residing in the Exarchate of Ravenna) "was" but "is not" when this government was destroyed, "but yet is" with the reviving of the seat of Satan under Papal Rome. For these events came about in the following manner. In Thessalonians it tells us that He who now lets will let until he be taken out of the way and that then the man of sin will be revealed. The man of sin is the Catholic Church headed by the Pope, and "let" means in King James English "to hinder." Thus it should read, "He

who now hinders will hinder until he be taken out of the way." As long as the civil government of Rome continued they were jealous of the existence of any other power dominating the kingdom. But when the Lombards destroyed the Exarchate of Ravenna, they, the Lombards, did a marvelous thing for a heathen nation, they established the Pope in authority in Rome, and the development of the Papacy was no longer hindered. Thus the head was wounded nigh unto death (the overthrow of the Exarchate of Ravenna), but the power (Babylon) was in Pagan Rome the "is not" at the death of the Exarchate of Ravenna, but "yet is" when Papal Rome came into power, thus making the transfer of Satanic power from Pagan Rome to Papal Rome, and Papal Rome became the fifth seat of Satan.

(2) To worship the dragon: it is interesting to learn that many of the heathen gods have been canonized as saints in the Catholic hierarchy of saints. This was thought to be a stroke of political genius: to canonize heathen deities, thus making it easy for the heathen to come into the Christian church. In particular, in fulfillment of prophecy that they shall worship the dragon (Satan) we are amazed to find that one of the Catholic saints is Saint Swithin, another name for the Devil.

d. Revelation 12:5-6: Mouth speaking great things and blasphemies.

(1) "I do make holy and unholy; I do justify the wicked. All the world is my diocese, and I am the ordinary of all men, having the authority of King of kings upon subjects. I am in all and above all . . . If these things that I do seem to be done not of men but of God, what do you make of me but God? . . . I, being above all prelates, seem by this reason to be above all gods, whereupon no marvel if it be in my power to change times and abrogate laws, to dispense with all things, yea, the precepts of Christ.—Bolton's *The Great Antichrist* p. 48. We see here that the Pope claims to be God, and claims further that he has the authority to dispense with the precepts of Christ.

(2) "For thou art the shepherd, thou art the physician, thou art the director, thou art the husbandman: finally thou art another God on earth." From *Oration of Christopher Marcellus in Fourth Session of fifth Lateran Council*. Other such statements could be given, but these illustrate the blasphemies uttered by this beast.

#### F. THE SIXTH SEAT OF SATAN: WASHINGTON

##### 1. Revelation 13:11.

a. Another beast out of the earth: If water signifies peoples, then earth signifies the absence of peoples. Here we have a beast (nation) arising where there are few people. The only great nation of modern times in all the world that can fulfill this prophecy is the United States, which arose where there were mostly forests and few Indians in comparison with the dense populations of eastern nations.

##### 2. Revelation 13:15.

a. And he had power to give life unto the image

of the beast. Thus Washington will give Satanic life to the image, the same authority which it received from the beast (the Catholic Church); resulting with the United Protestant Churches having persecuting authority over the people of God and over the world, bringing about a time of trouble such as the world has never seen, as prophesied by Daniel and Matthew.

b. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

There has been much dispute on what the mark of the beast is: The rendering of the Peshitta adds light on this question: "And he compelled all, both small and great, rich and poor, freemen and slaves to receive a mark on their right hands or on their brows, so that no man might buy or sell unless he who had the mark of the name of the beast or the code number of his name." This tells us that the mark is the name of the beast, and the beast is known as the Catholic Church. If we call ourselves Catholics we but take on the identification of the beast.

3. Revelation 13:18. "Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast; for it is the number of a man; and his number is six hundred threescore and six." This number is taken by giving numerical values to a title worn on the crown of the Pope: *Vicarius Filii Dei*, which when added together equals 666, it being the number of a man.

#### H. THE GREAT AND FINAL PERSECUTION

1. Daniel 12:1. There shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time."

2. Which is likewise described in Matthew 24:21-22, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elects sake shall those days be shortened."

3. The two questions asked by the Twelve.

a. "When shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" Matthew 24:3.

4. The abomination of desolation.

a. "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which is on the housetop not come down to take anything out of the house, Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes" (Matthew 24:15-17).

b. The abomination of desolation began with the crucifixion and was consummated in 570 A.D.

Daniel 9:27: "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that deter-



mined shall be poured upon the desolate." From this we learn that he (Christ) shall confirm the covenant with many for one week (3½ years was the ministry of Christ) so that in the midst of the week He was crucified (cut off) causing the sacrifice and the oblation to cease (being Himself the last and final sacrifice for sins). The other 3½ years he confirmed the covenant in this country and other places where the children of Israel were to be found. "And for the overspreading of desolation" (the overspreading of the power of Satan over the world) he shall make it (Jerusalem) desolate (which event occurred in 70 A.D. when Titus destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple). "Even until the consummation" or the completion of the overspreading of desolation, at which time we should find the Church of Christ overcome and the power of Babylon absolute. This occurred in 570 A.D. (Daniel 11:31)

d. The power of the beast (the Catholic Church) will continue for 1290 days after the setting up of the abomination that maketh desolate. "And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand and two hundred and ninety days" (Daniel 12:11). At this time the Church of Christ (570 + 1290 = 1860) determined to return from the apostate condition into which the Restoration had fallen. It is of course also true that this is the date of the founding of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, but this latter Church does not fulfill this prophecy since they never did return from the apostacy, since they still have the false offices brought about by the changed revelations, they still teach the changed revelations (there are 1700 changes, introducing new offices, adding whole paragraphs, and subtracting others, a thing which God never would have done), they still believe in baptism for the dead, and have perverted the Book of Mormon which was translated by the power of God, thus believing that they know better grammar than God. They have gone a long way down the road to apostacy. Then teaching that there are but two in the Godhead, that the Holy Spirit is but an emanation from God, they verge upon the unpardonable sin of denying the Holy Ghost, the same as those who deny Christ by believing in only one in the Godhead. Then the worldly manner which is creeping into their meetings: one elder told me that they could not allow the Holy Spirit to take over in their prayer meetings for that would bring chaos. Another elder, in Minneapolis said, "The time once was when we would say, 'Thus saith the Lord' when we wanted to call a new elder; but that now we look over the congregation and say, 'There is a likely young man, and we call him.'" Another man went to the elders and said, "Please don't call my son until he is through college." They waited until he was graduated and then his call came. I also heard his first sermon. It was a good sermon but not by the Spirit of God, for I had read it in a book written by one not of the Restoration. And last of all they show their true colors when they join the seventh seat of Satan: the world ecumenical movement.

e. Back to Matthew 24:15. "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place."

"Standing on the holy place" should read "standing in the holy place," as here stated. This prophecy like so many others has two fulfillments. The first coming to pass brings confidence that the second and greater fulfillment will likewise come to pass. The first was when they saw the armies of Titus (the abomination that maketh desolate, the armies of Babylon, in this case pagan Rome) standing before the walls of Jerusalem (standing in the holy place); and when for some unknown reason the Roman armies withdrew temporarily from before the walls, the Christians fled precipitately from the city, the armies closed in again, and the siege became so severe and the famine so great that mothers ate their own children, thousands crept through the gates at night to gather grass to eat and were seized by the Romans who covered the hillsides surrounding Jerusalem with the crucified descendants of those who had crucified Christ.

f. The second fulfillment will be when the armies of Gog and Magog, which will then be a part of the ecumenical movement, come against the saints, with the united forces of the image of the beast, since all the world will be together as the Church of the Devil against the Church of Christ. Then will be the time to flee in great haste to Zion. For in Zion will be a pillar of fire by night and a pillar of cloud by day over every dwelling place in Zion for safety. (see Isaiah 4:5-6.)

## I THE BEGINNING OF THE CONSUMMATION TODAY

1. The word from the 18th National Convention of the Communist Party, U.S.A., in New York City in June of 1966:

a. "This aspect is that of the Party's assigned role in giving impetus and direction to an amalgamation of organized religious bodies which Moscow has blue-printed to emerge, in the early 1970's, as a universal 'Church of World Brotherhood.'"

b. "At the same time, the Council, in collaboration with the political arm of Operation '76 will undertake to intensify the assault upon the churches and individual clergy and evangelists who remain outside the Council and faithful to fundamental tenets which fail to yield to the secularizing of God and his forms of worship. The assault will take two approaches: one frankly political, the other psycho-sociological. In the first, resisting churches, missions and individual religionists will be identified with the "lunatic fringe" in the political area—the so-called "far-right," the "extremists," "fascists" et. al. In the second, the resisters will be portrayed as "sick," "paranoid," "escapist" and a menace to the "mental health" of both the local community and the nation."

c. "At the same time, NCC's psycho-sociological thrust will be reinforced by the Federal Government through another executive agency, the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, under which is operated the National Institute of Mental Health.

d. "It is projected that these 'standards' will parallel the 'creed' of the National Council of Churches with respect to such matters, and that such concepts as Divinity, Salvation, 'literalism' in Bible interpretation, chastity before marriage, abstinence from homosexual and perverted heterosexual relationships, etc., will be spelled out as latent signs of actual or potential 'mental illness.'

e. "The year chosen by the Kremlin's blueprint is 1973, and the legislation (presently drafted by top Communist legal experts) provides for compulsory 'observation custodial care and such treatment as may be indicated by the patient's condition and prescribed by competent medical authority' in cases involving individuals 'whose behavior, demeanor or public utterances as an individual religious practitioner shall be such as to impair the emotional well-being of the community as defined in Article II of this Act.'

f. "At this writing, agents operating within the world ecumenical movement have initiated the preparation of an 'authorized version' of the Holy Bible which, by 1972 is to supplant the Douay Version of all Catholic (Roman) churches and the Revised Standard Version in all Protestant pulpits allied with the NCC. This will be the First Edition of an 'evolving World Bible' which will 'ultimately come to engage and reconcile the religious beliefs of all rational Twenty-First Century mankind.' In the First Edition marking the 'reunion of World Christendom' all Divinity is to be stripped from the Second Person of the Godhead, with the Nazarene emerging as the 'historical Christ,' the teacher and social reformer who met his death at the hands of the Roman political power, which view his work among the poor and socially oppressed as a threat to its retention of the Province of Palestine! That is the 'story' of the crucifixion which 'world Church' Protestants and Catholics will be obliged to accept by their highest prelates, and which all churches, denominations and individual evangelists and communicants will be compelled by law to acknowledge when again in 1973, it is made an offense punishable by imprisonment to publish or preach the crucifixion account related in the Douay and King James Versions of the Scriptures. At this writing, the legislation to ban the crucifixion passages of these Bibles from print, from the pulpit and form all others forms of communication is being agitated by the organization assigned this task—the notorious Red front, the Anti-Defamation League. The legislation itself is already in draft form, prepared for introduction into Congress well in advance of the publication of the First Edition of the 'evolving World Bible' in which the ADL is also taking an active interest." From the American Mercury.

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"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge" (Proverbs 1:7).

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

## GOOD NEWS FROM YUCATAN

By  
E. L. Yates  
August 1969

Through the years of our work in Yucatan we have had many occasions to rejoice as we have seen the working of the Spirit of God among the people. We have reported many of those experiences to the people of the States, by word of mouth and by articles in the Advocate and also other publications.

Yes, we have rejoiced, but we have known also moments of sorrow and deep sadness as we have observed the power of evil at it has striven to overthrow and to destroy those who had grasped the "rod of iron" which is the word of God, and according to the Book of Mormon, those who would cling to that rod of iron would be able to press forward to the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God, and the fruit thereof is the pure love of God. The master deceiver has been busy in Yucatan as he has been in all places in the hearts of men since the day he fell from heaven and took a third of the hosts of heaven with him. The force of evil that is abroad in the world persuaded some of our loved ones of Yucatan to loosen their grasp upon that rod of iron for a moment and wander from the Sheepfold.

In April of 1967 the General Church received a letter of withdrawal signed by 15 members of the Church in Yucatan and 6 non-members who were sympathizers to their cause. This letter of withdrawal was the cause of one of the greatest heartaches I have ever experienced, but in the anguish of sorrow, the words of the Master came to mind. "How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?" (Matthew 18:12).

To relate in detail all the effort, heartaches and joys we have experienced in our search for those who have wandered from the fold would make too long a story, but soon after the letter of withdrawal was received the following letter was sent to each member of the church who signed it.

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Dear Friends:

I have a great sorrow in my heart as I write this letter to those persons who signed the letter of withdrawal from the Church of Christ. As I read the names on the list, I can see each one of you in my mind and in my heart, and I can only remember that all our association together in the past has been pleasant.

I remember with much joy and pleasure when it was my privilege to be among you for the first time. I remember the wonderful spirit of love which was in all our hearts as we worshipped together under the Spirit of the Gospel of Christ. I remember the prayers and the beautiful testimonies that many of you gave. I have many of your beautiful testimonies recorded on tape, and many times we get them out and play them again and rejoice again in the memory of those happy days as we hear your voices.

I remember the happy experiences we had with many of you in your homes and in the church as we worshipped together. I remember how happy we were to be your brother and sister in the fellowship and Spirit of the Gospel of Christ, and how happy we were to be able to call each of you our brother and sister.

In those days when we understood each other better we learned to love each of you with a love that shall endure.

It brought me much sorrow to read in your letter of withdrawal the unkind statements against the Church, against its representatives and against myself. I find it hard to believe that any of you wrote that letter, for I do not remember any unkindness in any of you.

I have no desire to say anything unkind to any of you, for I have found you to be a wonderful people and I still think you are a good and a wonderful people, but in the decision you have made to separate yourselves from the General Church, I feel, is a bad mistake. I believe The Church of Christ is the true church here on earth, both in organization and in doctrine and it teaches the Gospel of Christ of which the great Apostle Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is in the power of God unto salvation."

In I Corinthians 12:12-13 we find Paul making another statement of great truth. "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free: and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

This is the great truth of the Gospel, when we are baptized by one Spirit, (the Spirit of Christ) we are baptized into one body and then we no longer see each as Jew, or Gentile or Mexican or Indian or North American, but we shall all be one and drink of the same Spirit. Then we would be as Paul has declared in I Corinthians 12:27 "Now ye are the body of Christ; and members in particular."

When we are the body of Christ and members in particular we will not desire freedom from the other members of the same body. I do not desire freedom from any one of you, because I remember the times that we were of one mind and one heart and did drink of the Spirit of Christ together.

There are many church members here in the United States that love each one of you even though they have never seen you. They too will have a heavy heart of sorrow when they hear of your action, but I am sure they will continue to love you and to pray for you.

If at any time any one of you or all of you wish to unite with the Church of Christ, you need only to let your wish to desire to be known and we shall be happy to receive you under the principle of repentance.

May God bless all with wisdom and understanding, and in particular with an understanding of our own mistakes and imperfections and give us the strength to

overcome them and to endure to the end, is my prayer.

#### Good News From Yucatan

After writing the above letter we made another trip that Conference year into Yucatan. This time we were accompanied by brother William Sheldon. Together we visited those who had withdrawn from the church. We were well received by most of them, and received in the same beautiful spirit of love that we had always experienced in them. Several of them could not read or write and told us they did not know that the letter was a letter of withdrawal from the church. One old brother in particular still had the letter I had written to him, and because he was unable to read and no one had read it to him, he was still unaware of its content and when one of our good brothers read it to him in our presence he very emphatically told us that at no time had he ever wanted to leave the church and that he always wanted to remain a member of the church.

It seems that the Evil Spirit never rests, but is active day and night. When it fails to destroy by one method it soon tries another approach. Not long ago I received a letter from the town of Dzan. It stated that the Saints were discouraged because they had been told that I had left the church and I would never come to visit them again. I give some quotations from that letter. "Please send a letter stating that you have not left the church, that you have been invited to visit the Church of Christ in Dzan and that you will as soon as you can, and that the Apostles of the General Church in the United States know your wishes and approve them. Write a letter to be read to all the members of the Church in Dzan. Your letter could be read to the congregation at the time of the meetings and this would encourage the people to attend the meetings."

In response to this request, the following letter was sent.

February 7, 1969

I address this letter to all the brothers and sisters in the great family of Christ, and in particular at this time, to those loved ones in the town of Dzan. I greet you with all the love of my heart and pray that this letter finds each of you in good health, and striving to serve God in love.

It has come to my attention that some think I have left the church. I take this opportunity to declare to one and all, I have never left the Church of Christ, nor have I ever at any time considered such a thought. I belong to the same church I belonged to when I first came to you many years ago. I preach the same beautiful gospel of Christ that I have preached through the years. I believe it to be the gospel of an unchangeable God. I believe the Church of Christ has been organized by Christ himself through the Spirit of divine revelation from God to man. I believe that in these last days, God has called men to be ministers of the Gospel, and has given them authority to preach the gospel of the Kingdom and baptize those who become converted. I believe

that those who are baptized, become members of His church. I believe, that if those members will be obedient to the comandments of Christ and endure to the end, they shall have eternal life.

I shall never forget those happy days when I came to you many years ago. You were worshiping in a beautiful spirit of brotherly love, understanding, patience, kindness and longsuffering. I remember how patient you were and how you endured terrible persecutions because of the love of Christ that had been born in your hearts through an understanding of the gospel. I remember also, the many blessings that came from God as we worshiped together. I remember how the Spirit of the Lord was poured out as many were healed by Christ as the ministers anointed the sick with oil and asked God in faith to touch those who were sick, with His Divine Healing Power.

On one occasion, just before we had to leave for the United States, we attended a prayer service in Dzan. The power of God was among us that night. Many times the entire congregation were moved to tears because of the great love each one had for Christ and for all mankind. Many of our dear brothers and sisters gave beautiful testimonies of the blessings they had received from God, and of the love that was in their hearts for Christ and for all men.

I recorded your testimonies and I have them to this day. Many times Francis and I play them, and as we hear your voices and hear your beautiful testimonies, we live again, in memory of those, happy spiritual experiences, and the love for each of you comes sweeping back into our hearts. We know, that love for you shall never die.

One of the testimonies that thrills our hearts, is from a member in Dzan. He told of the great persecutions that the Saints in Dzan had to endure, because of their love for the gospel of Christ. He thanked God, that he and the other members had been given an understanding of the pure love of Christ, which gave them the power to forgive their enemies and to continue to love them.

The gospel of Christ is based on love. The Master of men has said, that the two greatest commandments of the law was to love God first, with all our might, mind and strength, and the second was like unto it. Love your neighbor as yourselves. When the above testimony was given by the one in Dzan, that Spirit of Christ ruled in your hearts. I pray that it shall always rule in your hearts, for we are told in the Book of Mormon, "Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men. Wherefore, ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus saith the Father: Ye shall have eternal life."

When we live in accord with the gospel of Christ, we will enjoy the fruit of the spirit. In Galatians 5:22-23 we are told, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

The gospel of Christ has been brought to Yucatan, and a church has been formed, and many of you have become members of that church by baptism, but it is necessary to continue in that gospel of Christ even after baptism and endure to the end, if we wish to secure eternal life. Remember, salvation is to everyone that believeth, and if we truly believe we must do all the things that Christ demands of us. He demands that we repent of our sins and be baptized for the remission, or forgiveness of sin. And he demands that we be baptized by one whom he has given authority to baptize. He also demands that we forgive all who have transgressed against us. This would certainly require us to forgive members of our own Church, and until we can do this, I am sure that we can never grow in the knowledge of the gospel of Christ.

There are ministers among you whom we believe have been called of God to minister, preach the gospel, baptize those who become converted, and to perform all the ordinances of the church, but because of some misunderstanding among some of the people, these called ministers are not permitted to serve you. As long as the spirit of unforgiveness is among any people, they can not grow in the knowledge of the gospel or in the pure love of Christ. If we obey the Spirit of God we become filled with the fruits of the Spirit and and we become a people filled with love for one another. We can then find it in our hearts to forgive our brothers and sisters. We can then worship together. Because of this obedience to his will, God will continue to bless this people and will give them strength to resist the evil spirit, which is always standing ready to destroy us.

Again I say, we love you each, and we continue to pray each day for your spiritual and physical welfare. Regardless of the problems you have had, the Apostles and the General Church here in the United States, still consider you as members of the Church, and our loved brothers and sisters in the great family of Christ. Let me remind you once more, that in order to receive the blessings that God desires to give all his children, we must continue in the gospel of love for him and for all mankind.

Let me quote from II Peter 1:5-11, "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. 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. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

It is my desire, and the will of the Apostles and the

General Church that I visit you again. I shall surely do so, if the Lord will permit.

In behalf of the Apostles and the General Church, we send you all our love, and may God bless you with his wonderful Spirit of love and understanding and keep you in his hands safe from all harm.

Your Brother in the Gospel of Christ

It seems that the Lord in his mercy and love has been reaching out to those loved sheep who had wandered from the fold, and His Holy Spirit has gently lead them back to that rod of iron, as is witnessed by the following letter from the Dzan Local, which I recently received.

Dzan, Yucatan, Mexico  
May 11, 1969

Mr. E. Leon Yates:

This is to greet you with love and in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is to let you know that on this date we have agreed in our church, before the Elders of the Church of Christ, who are Cayetano Alfaro c., Filemon Manrique T., Marcos Peraza and Vicente Poot P., as witnesses besides the baptized members and the sympathizers or believers of our faith, that we have decided to follow our purposes with faith and repentance, and we beg to be forgiven for the ex-communication and we promise to be faithful to the end, these are our wishes and we beg you to let these be known to whom it may concern in the General Church and to all the Apostles

The above letter was signed by seven of those who had left the church, fourteen baptized members who have remained in the General Church and twelve believers of the faith who are not as yet members of the church.

The great sorrow that was ours to know when we received the news that some of our loved ones having left the church is now overshadowed with a wonderful joy and we more fully comprehend the words of the Master when he was speaking of the man who went into the mountains seeking the lost sheep, "And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray" (Matthew 18:13). We know, also, that there will be great rejoicing in the hearts of all the members of the body even though many have not had the privilege of personally knowing these wonderful people, but they are our brothers and sisters, for, we have all been baptized into one Spirit, that of Jesus Christ, and are now of the great family of Christ.

Our ministry of the church in Yucatan who had a great part in bringing their loved ones back into the fold are rejoicing with us, and I quote from some of their letters. The following is from a letter of Brother Cayetano Alfaro, member of the Seventy. "We as witnesses of this happening do believe that they were sorry of what they did sometime ago, and we believe that they were sincere when they promised to be faithful to the church from now on. My dear brother and sister, I want you to know that I was very happy to hear the words of our brothers, words of repentance and humility,

thanks to God and to his Son Jesus Christ for bringing these wonderful moments to our lives. We hope that the others also will soon express their repentance. Please continue praying for us and we shall continue praying for you. May God bless you abundantly." The next quote is from Brother Marcos Peraza, a Priest in the ministry. "I am happy to tell that, thanks to the Lord Jesus Christ and to God, the brothers and sisters in Dzan, who were not in harmony for a long time, are again together, and they admit that they made mistakes and were ashamed of their behavior. They promise to remain united and to be happy together and faithful to the Church of Christ to the end." The next quote is from Elder Vicente Poot. I think it is particularly beautiful. I wish that all who read this could know this man as I know him. It has been one of the greatest experiences of my life just to witness his wonderful love for God and man, and his beautiful spirit of humility. Now read his words. "Everybody is happy for the decision of these brothers and sisters to express their repentance in public. . . . My dear brother, I am happy because my wish since I joined the church and began to spread the Gospel, was that I could bring more brothers and sisters to His Kingdom with repentance and love, and to help my brothers and sisters from Dzan so that they follow God's will.

"I do not wish for men to worship me or to express their repentance to me, but to God. I want them to be faithful believers and followers of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, I want them to obey His commandments and receive His blessings.

"May God bless you and all the brothers and sisters in America."

Yes, I feel that the return of those who have wandered from the fold, is indeed good news. It gives me much pleasure to relay this wonderful news from Yucatan to all the members of the body who care and pray for the welfare of these bothers in the Gospel of Christ. I am happy to report also that the ministry of the church in Yucatan are doing a good work and because of their diligent preaching of the word, many have become faithful believers of the Gospel of Christ and are receiving of the promised blessings according to their obedience.

Before bringing this article to a close I wish to bring one more thing to to the attention of all the body of Christ in all the world. I do so by quoting from a letter written by Elder Vicente Poot.

"I am here in this town enjoying the presence of our Lord and our Master Jesus Christ. I pray that he blesses you, and I beg you to give my best regards to all the brothers and sisters of the church there. Tell them that we pray for them, as we know they pray for us. We wish that they could visit us. My heart is sad, and there are tears in my eyes and it is my earnest prayer that He keeps us united in His love in spite of the distance in miles that keep us apart.

"My brother, please answer my letter and let me know if you think my idea is good. We do not have a

temple, (church building, E.L.Y.) in which to meet. Myself, Victor, Dionicio, Christina, Agustina, Margarita and Sevastiana, have agreed to start cutting lumber to build a temple. I am sorry if I bother the General Church with this, but we do need help to be able to build our Temple and have a place of worship.

"Please inform the church of this idea of ours. We plan to build the temple using asbestos shingles for the roof."

Here we have a young minister who is so devoted to the cause of righteousness that he and his family are willing to go into the jungle and cut by hand, with crude tools, the necessary lumber to build a building to which he might invite his neighbors to come and worship and hear the Gospel message of life and hope. He and his family are devoting their time and talents to promote the Gospel message. They have asked our help, and this is as it should be, for we are all of the body of Christ and members in particular, and each member should have the opportunity to supply his or her part to further the gospel in all the world, according to the abundant blessing they have received, be it money, material or talent.

In the past when we have pointed up some particular need of our loved brothers and sisters in Yucatan we have received a wonderful response from the people throughout the church, and we have been able to care for many of their needs. Two years ago due to storm and crop failure they needed food. Enough money was sent in to provide food for the duration of that emergency. I believe that the Bishopric still have a little of that money on hand that can be used in the future for aid, but inasmuch as some may feel that this present need is not for their physical relief there may be some question whether it should be used for the present request. Therefore, those who feel they would like to contribute to help our brother in the jungle to buy material for a roof and to help in the building of a house of worship, please send your contributions to the Bishopric and if there should be a surplus it could be used in the future for any worthy request that may come out of Yucatan to further the cause of righteousness.

What a great force for good we as a church will become when we, (each member) will supply his or her part to the cause, be it time, talent or material, whatever or whenever it is needed. The great Apostle Paul had this very thought in mind when he brought the following great truth to the attention of the members in particular. "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love" (Ephesians 4:15-16).

Notice the body maketh increase and edifieth itself in love when we are joined together under Christ, and every joint (or member) supplies its part. We are not all called to preach or to hold some functional office in

the church, but we are all called to be members in particular.

May God give each member in particular, wisdom, understanding and desire to give of our time, our talent or our material according as He has blessed us and then according to Paul the body will be fitly joined together and compacted by that which has been supplied, and its effectual working in every part will make an increase of the body of Christ (the church), unto the edifying of itself in love.

I close this article by quoting again, a few words from our brother, Elder Vicente Poot, who lives deep in the jungle country of the Territorio de Q Roo of Mexico. "It is my earnest prayer that He keeps us united in His love inspite of the distance in miles that keeps us apart."

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## NOTICE

The following book, "Life of Joseph the Prophet" by Edward W. Tullidge, Plano, Illinois, 1879, is out of print. I would like to purchase this book if some one has a copy and would sell. Please write of condition and price before mailing.

Mrs. A. K. Marsh  
1112 E. Atlantic  
Springfield, Missouri 65803

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## A REQUEST

Does anyone have any old hymnals or old copies of the book of Mormon which they could spare? If so please send them to me for my missionary work.

Send to:

Elder Hans Hansen  
7318 Columbia Ave.  
Hammond, Indiana 46324

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## TESTIMONY COLUMN

### A SPIRITUAL DREAM

Given to Elder Lewis E. Welch

In my dream I came to a large body of water; so large that I was unable to see across it. And there appeared a large harbor, seemingly filled with ships of all sorts, some large and beautiful, some small and of all makes and designs.

As I viewed the beauty of the harbor and the hundreds of ships anchored to the wharf, I saw a large sign reading **MYSTERY BABYLON**. As I wondered what it could mean a voice spoke and said, "These that thou seeth are the ships-of-state of all the religious world that are anchored here."

I looked again and a short way down the wharf I saw a small ship anchored, and the voice spoke and said, "This ship is also anchored here for repairs; for



she has weathered many a storm." As I drew nearer I saw workmen working to replace some of the timbers that had become broken and decayed. Others were warped and out of shape. The paint and the railing around the deck was worn and scarred. As I looked for the identity of this ship I saw the name, **CHURCH OF CHRIST IN GOLD LETTERS ON THE BOW.**

Again I wondered why the Church of Christ should be anchored at this wharf along with the other ships with the sign **MYSTERY BABYLON.** Then the voice spoke and said, "The Church of Christ ship is anchored here to receive all that are willing to heed the call, 'COME OUT OF HER, MY PEOPLE, THAT YE BE NOT PARTAKERS OF HER SINS, AND THAT YE RECEIVE NOT OF HER PLAGUES.'" That "when the ship 'Church of Christ' is fully repaired and fully equipped to receive those willing to come under the 'new and Everlasting Covenant' then will come to pass the saying, 'Gather my saints together unto me: those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.'" "

As I walked further on the wharf toward the shore, suddenly a person appeared at my side. He spoke and said, "Come with me and I will show you what confronts the **CHURCH OF CHRIST.**"

As we neared the land I saw a helicopter near by. My companion said, "Come up and sit with me." (Here I want to say that I have always feared going up in the air, but at this time all fear was gone. L.E.W.) I climbed and took a seat by the side of my companion and soon we were soaring through the air. We hadn't gone far when he said to me, "All over the world in every land are thousands, yea, millions of people of every tongue who are crying to the Lord for deliverance from that terrible **MYSTERY BABYLON,** yet my servants are living as did Israel in the days of Haggai the prophet." (Read Haggai, 1st chapter.) He called my attention to the book of Joel and said, "These prophecies are soon to be fulfilled." He also called my attention to the Lord's commission to his servants, wherein he (the Lord) said, "**And thou shalt take no purse, nor scrip,** neither staves, neither two coats, for the church shall give unto thee in the very hour that thou needest for food, and for raiment and for shoes, and for money and for scrip." He also said the "Modern ways of transportation had caused that many that longed for the Gospel story were neglected by the use of streamliner, overland buses, and long pleasure trips." He said to me as we landed the helicopter, "Fear not, it will yet be as was shown you. **ZION WILL BE REDEEMED,** but in troublesome times." And I awoke singing "Redeemer of Israel."

#### HAGGAI 1:2-11

"Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built. Then came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet, saying, Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste? Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little;

ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord. Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house. Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and earth is stayed from her fruit. And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands."

## CHILDREN OF GOD

By Archie F. Bell

The world's life we are leaving behind us.  
Christ's life we are living today.  
Will we occupy every hour,  
Or let it slip useless, away?  
This life is our footprint for others.  
'Tis a path we cannot leave untrod.  
We can walk it as one of this world,  
Or tread it as children of God.

This life for us, to be happy,  
Must be not left up to chance;  
Must know heartache as well as rejoicing;  
Must know restraint as well as advance;  
Must be tempered with pure love of Jesus,  
As charity, in Scripture 'tis known;  
But must be applied in our lives,  
For Him to declare us His own!

How good and how pleasant, said the Psalmist,  
If brethren in unity live.  
In wisdom, we learn of receiving,  
As well as our knowledge, to give.  
All men shall know, said the Master,  
Ye are my disciples indeed,  
If ye have love for each other,  
Be it in poverty, plenty, or need.

Then, let us be true to His teachings,  
Let us walk on the path that He trod.  
Let us not be part of this world.  
Let us now, be true children of God.  
Our Master has said, through His prophets;  
'Tis written in the Books of His word,  
That Zion shall be as He promised;  
A haven for each child of the Lord!

"Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine" (Proverbs 3:9-10).

## ANGELS

Reprinted from the September 1936 issue of  
Zion's Advocate

### Angels of Light

For some time I have thought to write an article for the Advocate, and have wondered just what subject we could use to interest the readers of the paper.

I finally decided that perhaps we could say something about the ministrations of angels—good angels as well as bad angels. We are going to treat the subject by asking and answering questions as we proceed.

By what name are those composing the family in heaven commonly known to us?

"And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne" (Revelation 5:11).

Did angels exist before the death of any of the human family? "So He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim" (Genesis 3:24).

Note—There are different orders of angels: "Cherubim," (Genesis 3:24) "Seraphim," (Isaiah 6:2, 6) "Archangel" (I Thessalonians 4:16; Jude 9). Some of their names are "Michael," "Gabriel," "Uriel," "Ariel." Michael means, "Who is like God," and hence it is a fit title for Christ. Gabriel signifies "The strength of God," an appropriate name for the angel or being who stands next to Christ. (Daniel 10:21). Uriel means, "The light of God." Ariel, "The lion of God." Angel means Messenger. In Malachi 3:1, Christ is called "the messenger of the covenant."

What description is given of Gabriel in Daniel? "His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as the lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in color to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude" (Daniel 10:6). Similar descriptions are given of God, the "Ancient of days," in Daniel 7, 9, and of Christ "the Son of Man," in Revelation 1:13-15.

What was the appearance of the angel that rolled away the stone from the sepulcher at the resurrection of Christ? "His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment WHITE AS SNOW" (Matthew 28:3).

In what work are angels engaged "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation" (Hebrews 1:14).

What shows that the action of men are recorded? "And the Lord hearkened, and heard it and a book of remembrance was written before Him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon His name" (Malachi 3:16). It is reasonable to infer that the angels are the ones that make the record of our lives. Then when the books are opened and examined, they will of necessity be present, to minister before God (Daniel 7:10).

What does God promise overcomers? "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in WHITE raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life,

but I will confess his name before my father, and before His angels" (Revelation 3:5).

I believe this will suffice for the description of the good angels; those who represent the workings of Christ and the Father. We have pictured them to you as the scripture reads, as ministering spirits whose countenances are as lightning, whose eyes are as flames of fire, whose raiment is white as snow. A description denoting purity in every instance. Lightning, fire, snow—all these mean purification. (Such was the description, I believe, of the angel that appeared to the latter-day prophet, Joseph Smith.)

### Angels of Darkness

Let us find the picture of the dark angels, the deceiving spirits.

To what place were the angels that sinned cast? "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment" (2 Peter 2:4). What is Satan himself called? "The God of this world" (2 Corinthians 4:4). "The prince of this world" (John 14:30). "The prince of the power of the air" (Ephesians 2:2).

How numerous are these wicked spirits, or fallen angels? "And He asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion; for we are many" (Mark 5:9).

Note—In undiminished possession of their intelligence and strength, they constantly assault us in every weakness, through every avenue, by every means, by methods foul or fair \* \* \* Whom they cannot destroy they cease not to worry and torment. They inspire evil tempers, arouse dark passions, instill ill will; beget malice, envy; impose care, fear, distrust; suggest deceit, fraud, and all the forms of crime. They foster falsehood, arson, further divorces, plan default, instigate all kinds of crime. He is also the author of old grudges, intemperance, pride, foolishness, too much levity and anger. We should suppress anger, be sober and watchful, and nip every prompting of sin in the bud.

The Devil and his angels are well acquainted with the laws of nature, for they raise storms and scatter disease and death as far as lies within their power. As enemies of God they likewise pervert the truth and disseminate error as far as possible. Far better than the inhabitants of the world, do they know that the end of all things is fast approaching, and that their time of work is short.

(continued in October issue)

"My son, let not them depart from thine eyes; keep sound wisdom and discretion: So shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck. Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble. When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid: yea, thou shalt lie down, and thy sleep shall be sweet. Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. For the Lord shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken" (Proverbs 3:21-26).