

# Zion's Advocate

"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift of power of the Holy Ghost." — 1 Nephi 3:187.

Vol. 51

Independence, Missouri, March, 1974

No. 3

## Great Is Our God

Great is the goodness of our God!  
Let us rejoice, lift up our heads.  
God will bestow His blessings to all  
Who are clothed in robes of righteousness

Great is the wisdom of our God!  
His wondrous plan the scriptures reveal.  
God's Word of Truth is offered to all men  
Who seek to live with Him eternally.

Great is the mercy of our God!  
He has prepared for our escape.  
Sin and death shall not us subdue;  
His matchless power provides deliverance.

Great is the justice of our God!  
Observe the law which He commands.  
Hear and rejoice, O Israel.  
Enter by faith the Kingdom of our God.

Joan Y. Sprague

## CONTENTS

	Page		Page
The True And The False (Ed.) .....	18	Testimony Of Joan Y. Sprague .....	29
Notice To All Members Of The Church of Christ .....	21	News From Collins Local .....	30
Go Ye Into All The World And Preach The Gospel .....	22	Obituaries .....	31
Thoughts And Statements .....	28	1974 Conference Notice .....	32
		Michigan Reunion .....	32

# Zion's Advocate

Official Publication of the Church of Christ  
Headquarters on the Temple Lot, Independence, Missouri  
Phone: 833-3995

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CHURCH OF CHRIST  
(Temple Lot), Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051

Second class postage paid at Independence, Missouri

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Subscription rates to members paid from general funds. In bundles of twelve or more for missionary purposes, \$1.00. Non-member rates one year \$1.50. Canadian and all foreign rates, \$1.75.

Send all donations for the Temple Fund, the Storehouse, Consecrations, Tithes, Offerings, and Subscriptions for the Advocate to: Church of Christ (Temple Lot) Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051.

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## THE TRUE AND THE FALSE Editorial

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you, depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (3 Nephi 6:33-35).

The subject of this editorial was inspired by a recent consideration of some writings and teachings of various protestant teachers concerning the word of God, and what one must do to be saved. It is obvious that there are hundreds, even thousands of teachers abroad in the world today, all proclaiming the word of God. And they do so with all apparent zeal and sincerity.

It is apparent that the scripture quoted above applies more to our time than to any other era in the world's history. "Many," we are told will lay claim to having performed the works of God. Who are these people of which there are many? The scripture identifies them as a group of teachers who profess great power in their ministrations for they have done many wonderful works, such as casting out devils, healing the sick, and prophesying in the name of the Lord. Yet it is evident that they have usurped authority which is not theirs. And since God has not called them he does not recognize their work. This class of people are today represented largely by the Pentecostal movement though this type of spiritual manifestation is now spreading throughout Christendom. The Jesus people and the Charismatic movement are other manifestations of this spirit which has taken the Christian world by storm. These are the people who claim such great power and who perform many miracles, signs and wonders. But they are not founded upon the Rock.

### What does the Book of Mormon say of this group?

"And if it so be that the church is built upon my gospel, then will the Father shew forth his own works in it; But if it be not built upon my gospel, and is built upon the works of men, or upon the works of the devil, verily I say unto you, They have their joy in their works for a season, and by and by the end cometh, and they are hewn down and cast into the fire, from whence there is no return" (3 Nephi 12:22-23).

It becomes clear then that we be certain our works are of God and not of men, or even worse, of Satan. Otherwise our works are for nought. No amount of misplaced zeal or sincerity can change this fact. We might ask why such people who thought they were employed in God's service, and seemingly had dedicated their lives to His cause should be rejected of Him in the end. The key to this lies in the fact (as will become

clear) that they did not approach unto God in the way and manner that God has stipulated in His word. They are attempting to come up by another way. They failed in complete obedience to the things of God, their leaders taking honor which did not belong to them. Worse yet many were deceived by lying spirits. They hearkened unto the voice of a stranger whom they thought was the voice of the master and were thus deceived. My sheep, says Jesus, hear my voice and the voice of a stranger will they not follow.

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (1 Timothy 4:1). But the admonition of the beloved Apostle is "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1).

But these failed to try the spirits and being led astray they took honor not theirs and became teachers of the word which they understood only in part. And since they were not chosen of God to minister in spiritual things, their ministrations were without the power and authority of the Holy Spirit. And so the spirit of another being provided the power which appeared to fulfill the Biblical promises in the signs which followed them.

The elect of God are warned to exercise great care in paying heed to such false ministers of righteousness, "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many . . . And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many . . . For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; inasmuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matthew 24:4-5, 11, 24). We have three classes of people here — false Christ's, false prophets, and false ministers who come bringing the message that Christ is Christ. And these false ministers shall deceive many we are told. Who are these many? Those who believe and follow after them; and in so doing they shall both fall in the ditch, showing that the end of one is the same as the end of the other.

There are many today proclaiming the message of Jesus. Are we to receive their words, separating the bad from the good, or are we to reject them altogether as from the wrong source? Should we who are of the household of God receive truth from the ministers of men or Satan? Listen to latter day revelation. "Verily I say unto you he that is ordained of me and sent forth to preach the word of truth by the Comforter, in the spirit of truth, doth he preach it by the spirit of truth, or some other way? AND IF BY SOME OTHER WAY, IT BE NOT OF GOD. And again, he that receiveth the word of truth, doth he receive it by the spirit of truth, or some other way? IF IT BE SOME OTHER WAY, IT BE NOT OF GOD: Therefore, why is it that ye can not understand and know that he that receiveth the word by the spirit of truth, receiveth

it as it is preached by the spirit of truth?" (Book of Commandments 53:17-19).

Otherwise it is of Satan as we find recorded in 2 Corinthians 11:13-15. "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

### A STRANGE THING!

The teachings of the modern day teacher of the gospel revolves around four basic tenets. 1. Holy Spirit baptism and the resultant speaking in tongues. 2. A two-step route to salvation, that is, the asking of forgiveness of God for one's sins and then the invitation to Christ to come into one's heart. 3. The love of God and of man. And 4. The signs that follow by way of miracles.

It takes considerable discernment to detect the false at times. Yet there are doctrines hinted at which betray the true source of all their inspiration. The scriptures tell us that by their fruits ye shall know them. For one who is well versed in the word of God the false is more readily apparent than for one who is not well versed in the word. Even then discernment can be difficult at times because Satan in his refinement can counterfeit nearly every gift of God. In fact, as we mentioned above, the love of God and man is a central theme of teaching among those who profess to know God and who appear as ministers of righteousness. We must therefore tread very carefully.

### 1. (Reference Book Entitled, "Praise The Lord Anyway")

This book teaches us to praise God for everything that happens, to be ever thankful. She (the writer) states that she is always excited about Christ. Her recipe for salvation is as follows: Ask God for forgiveness and then ask Christ into your heart. Then the Spirit will come. Now find a good church.

She was invited to speak to the student body of one high school. The students were very unruly and booed her. But she screamed to God for help. Then the Holy Spirit (says she) enveloped the auditorium and almost immediately they became perfectly still. During that speech and the one following at a city wide youth crusade many of them were converted. The following Sunday morning an ex-drug pusher jumped up and yelled to her to get this one, and this one and this and this and this, etc., pointing out each person who had not yet accepted Christ. She replied, Okay, relax, I'll get them in a little while. And she did!

There are a number of things that appear in error here.

1. Her call to salvation is not in accordance to the Word of God.

2. She is a woman preacher, having usurped an honor which is not hers, one also to which women are never called.

3. The power by which she worked appeared to take control of dissident hearers and force conversion. She said she would get them and she did. Is not this power? A servant of God does not compel acceptance through the Holy Spirit.

#### No. 2 (Reference Book Entitled, "Power In Praise")

The author in this case is an army chaplain. He received the baptism of the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands of a woman. Yet much that he writes has the ring of truth, but no marvel for Satan is an expert in the Scriptures and can quote them all to his own end. The central theme in this book, as in the first, is to praise God regardless of the situation. Two brief examples should suffice. A certain man had been an alcoholic for 30 years. The prayers of his wife and son all during those years were completely unavailing. Then one day they came into possession of a writing admonishing them to praise God for all things. And so they did. They praised and thanked God for this man's alcoholism. Within a short time the alcoholic was completely healed. Says this author, there is power released when we begin to praise God. We shouldn't plead with God to change the situation, but to praise him for the situation. Why? Because the condition, whatever it is, is a part of God's wonderful plan. As proof, they cite the record - thirty years of prayer had failed, but one day spent in praising Him for the situation and the condition was miraculously changed. He writes of one such experience after the other in which drug addicts, prostitutes, those with suicidal tendencies, etc., have all been healed through praise and thanksgiving. In almost every case the healing was instant and on the spot. For example, a young wife was told to thank God for her drug problem as it had brought her to Him. As in others her healing was instantaneous and permanent.

By what power are such miracles accomplished? This same chaplain tells us that it is important that we take time to pray in tongues daily.

#### No. 3 (Reference Book Entitled, "Hey God")

This book is an account of a Roman Catholic Italian family. They were extremely devout in the Catholic faith giving strict observance to every rite and service both in church and home. Then one day a tremendous thing happened to them. They were converted by another Italian family who were Pentecostals. They taught them of Jesus and said they must be filled with the Holy Ghost.

The process employed here, as in the two above books, was the same. A season of prayer was called for. It is this prayer which in case after case brings about the conversion. The so-called "unsaved" find

it difficult to resist this approach or the power which seems to be released during the prayer and the love and compassion manifested by those who are praying for them. Prayer thus becomes a tool of Satan to ensnare many souls into another way. What a sad thing this is.

The conversion of this family from Catholicism to Pentecostalism was so complete that all magazines, books, and records which didn't glorify God, every statue, idol, beads, etc., were taken outside and piled in a heap and set afire. One lying spirit was replaced by another. They were no closer to salvation than they were before.

O that such zeal was also manifested by the true followers of Christ as is manifested by the children of darkness!

How did this mother of a dozen children receive her baptism in the Spirit? Soon after their converters had left she ran upstairs and demanded of God to know whether all this which was told them was true and if so she wanted the baptism of the Spirit now. She became so full of frenzy that she beat the floor exceedingly. The next instant she was filled with the spirit and began to speak in tongues.

When she came downstairs she was beautiful and a radiant glow surrounded her. But she couldn't do anything but talk in tongues. The next evening she held a prayer meeting and 78 of her Italian friends came. And before she was through speaking to them they were all in tears. Satan is the great counterfeiter.

She was so happy in her baptism in the Holy Spirit that she had to tell others. Blessings were now asked at every meal. At the first meal after her conversion she prayed for 30 minutes and then spoke in tongues for another 20 minutes. She held prayer meetings from then on every week for 39 years. They went from door to door and from city to city. Miracles followed them everywhere they went. Instant healings! Great preparations were made before partaking of the Lord's supper. If any had ought against his brother they would travel miles to ask forgiveness of their brethren. (The zeal of Satan's servants put the zeal of God's servants to shame!)

One unbeliever beat his wife every time she attempted to attend one of their services. One Sunday he took her bible and her dresses and threw them into the stove saying, "Now we shall see what kind of a God you serve." The dresses burned but the Bible was not even singed, and a new convert was added to the ranks of Pentecostalism.

Can Satan cast out Satan? Christ says no, for a house divided against house cannot stand. Yet these are among the miracles performed by the servants of Satan. It is only a Satanic deception. Either one spirit replaces another or else its outward manifestation is changed.

Other miracles include the feeding of 18 people

on ¼ pound of spaghetti. After eating all they could hold, 12 people finished the leftovers the next morning. Diabetes was healed on one occasion through the mailing of a blessed handkerchief, all in the name of Jesus but not by His power, for it was Satan's power to deceive by many signs and wonders. Her son and a friend were badly mangled in a car accident. The friend was instantly healed at the hospital of even any cut or scratch. Her son who had departed from the ways of their God was not so blessed at first. But at length through much repentance and a re-affirming of his faith he too was healed in a most remarkable way. Broken bones moved instantly back into place and healed. The pressure on his brain was removed and full use and mobility of his body was restored, all in a matter of seconds.

Her husband immediately gave up swearing, drinking and smoking on his conversion. Later, however, he was tempted of Satan to light up a cigar which a friend had given him as a gift. At length he yielded to the persuasions of Satan and lit up, taking a couple of puffs. Then a big white hand came through the air slapping him across the mouth, knocking him against the side of the barn by which he was standing. Did God hit him? Not likely. More likely it was that Satan was playing two roles. The deception was thus sealed, and the works of this man assured, for he would think very carefully before allowing himself to be so tempted again.

These stories illustrate the great power of Satan to deceive. We are warned again and again. "For false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect" (Mark 13:22).

It is difficult to tell always who's who, for though the bulk of religious teachers today are of men or Satan, there are those who really are of God. Therefore a word of warning lest we judge wrongly. We cannot conclude from this that all workers of miracles and teachers of the gospel are of men or Satan. "And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbid him, because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is on our part" (Mark 9:38-41). Or as given in Luke, "And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us" (Luke 9:50).

We need to try the spirits. Many of these teachers of religion say nothing of faith, repentance, baptism, the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost, endurance on his name unto the end, resurrection and eternal judgment. They mention only the first, second and fourth, but do not truly follow the great shepherd. And they understand not the deep things of God. The fountainhead of all spiritual truth should reside within the Church of Christ through the inspiration of the

Holy Spirit and the priesthood authority.

Harvey E. Seibel

Next month we hope to cover the subject of praise and thanksgiving as given to us in the Bible and Book of Mormon.

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#### NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

By action of the April, 1973 Ministers' Conference the three days just preceding the April, 1974 conference has been appointed as a time of fasting and prayer for the welfare of the Church; to seek the Lord in humility and faith for His guidance in these troublous times which have come upon the whole face of the earth.

Therefore, the Council of Apostles urges special effort to be made by all to attend this solemn assembly which will convene Thursday, March 28, 1974 at the Temple Lot, Independence, Mo. at 10 a. m.

Provision has also been made for a special conference of the ministry to be held on Tuesday, April 2, 1974. Important matters have been referred to this conference by the conference of 1973. One document refers to transfers from other groups of the Restoration Movement, and another matter is in consideration of a purported manifestation from the Lord. It is hoped that all who can of the ministry will make the effort to be here at that time.

For the Council of Apostles,  
William A. Sheldon, Secy.

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#### HOW WE MEASURE

How are we going to measure our days?

Not only by minutes and hours in space, —  
Some wasted, some used in so many ways.

Sometimes we wonder, with choices to face,  
How some days are rough, and others are fair;  
Some are gone quickly, some grind to an end;  
Some are so full, with abundance to spare;  
Others are empty, with nothing to lend.

What is the difference, the measure to use?

There is a meaning to learn if we can.  
It's worth it to try; there's nothing to lose,  
In any event, by having a plan.

Being good neighbors is one way to find  
Rich pleasure in proving it can be done.  
Getting to live with contentment of mind,  
Knowing we're useful is more than just fun.

Don Willard

## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

NOTE: We solicit articles for this department written in an affirmative manner. An affirmative article is one in which a belief, or an opinion, is expressed, and evidences presented to support that belief.

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

### GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL

By  
Archie F. Bell

This subject is used many times in conversations on religious matters. It is used against the membership and ministers of the Church of Christ. The world can not understand our position on this matter and for, that reason, finds fault with us. We will try to examine our reasoning, using scriptures to back our position. First, let us go back to the beginning or just after the flood:

"And the Lord said, Behold, the people are one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do." (Build a city and a tower) "and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth; and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth" (Genesis 11:6-9).

We notice that, to begin with, the people spoke the same language or tongue. And because they decided to go beyond the dominion that was given them of the Lord, He decided to confound them. This would bring confusion among them. This confounding the Lord brought upon them was the changing of their language; they had only one language up until this time. Now when they came together each spoke a different language. Just try to imagine even a hundred people coming together, each one speaking a different language. And to finish the work the Lord had started, He scattered them over the face of ALL the earth. But this doesn't tell all the story. The Lord determined that these languages would be the basis for the different nations and He determined where each nation should be and what would be their boundary lines (Acts 17:26-27).

These languages would necessarily have a bearing on the preaching of the Gospel in all the world. Let us examine this aspect along with others:

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They

shall take up serpents: and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God" (Mark 16: 15-27).

The part that is considered the most important is the commission to go into all the world and preach the gospel, and many times we leave the rest of the reading and occupy our thoughts on this one detail. If we will prove all things, it will save us from many mistakes. Mistakes at times become gross errors. Let us follow the rest of the reading on through:

a. There were to be signs to follow the believers. This indicates that not only would the gifts be with the missionary while he was in a part of the country, but the work would be so complete that there would be others ordained to carry on the work after the missionary had gone on to open up more of the field.

b. One of the signs was that devils or evil spirits would be rebuked and cast out of people who were possessed by them. To be possessed by the devil means that an evil spirit has taken control of a person's physical being and at times his mental as well. These evil spirits were to be cast out in the name of Christ. Christ gave this power to His Apostles when He first sent them out (Matthew 10:8).

c. The missionaries were to speak with new tongues (languages).

We have noticed the punishment that the Lord pronounced upon the people at the tower of Babel: He brought in new languages so they could not understand one another. The missionaries whom Christ sent out spoke the Hebrew language. The Roman Empire was in existence at that time and many languages were spoken in Europe. If a Christian missionary would go into Europe and begin speaking, the people would not understand unless he spoke in that particular European language. This gospel was for the poor as well as the rich (Matthew 11:5). The poor would not know the language of the Hebrew. It would be necessary for Christ to make some kind of arrangement where all could hear and understand His Gospel. The Lord brought into being all languages of the world. To overcome this, the Lord gave His missionaries power to speak any foreign language. We will notice more on this later.

Christ gave his missionaries power over the bite of poisonous serpents. He also gave them power over any poisonous food or drink.

He gave them power to lay hands on the sick so that they would recover from their sickness.



Immediately after Christ gave the commission and information concerning signs to follow, He ascended into heaven. We want to examine two more references on this same subject.

"And, behold I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye are endued with power from on high. And he led them out as far as Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven" (Luke 24:49-51).

Here we find there was a very important promise made to the disciples of Christ and it must be fulfilled. For this reason they were to tarry in Jerusalem until this promise had been made a reality in their lives. They were to be endued with power from on high. To endue is to provide with qualities, talents etc.

Following the account Luke made of the last instructions Christ gave His disciples: He was carried up into heaven.

"And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence . . . But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight" (Acts 1:4-5, 8-9).

These three references agree in many things:

- a. They were to preach the Gospel in all the world.
- b. They were to receive the promise of the Father.
- c. They were to wait in the city of Jerusalem until they received the promise of the Father.

Mark carries it further and states a part of the signs that would follow them when they went out under the power of the Father. All agree that, following the instructions, Christ was received up into heaven, which makes it at the same time in all three cases.

We want to call your attention to Revelation 12:1, 2, 5. "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pain to be delivered . . . And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up to God, and to his throne."

The word "light" as used many times in the Scriptures carries the meaning of understanding. The sun is the greatest light, so this reading would indicate that this woman had the greatest understanding. The

woman represents the church that Christ left here on earth. When He returns, she will be His bride. The crown represents the authority that Christ gave His disciples when He ordained them. The twelve stars represent the twelve Apostles that Christ left in charge of His church (1 Corinthians 12:28).

The moon under the feet of the woman represents the Law of Moses that was given as a schoolmaster to bring the house of Israel to Christ (Galatians 3:24). Travailing in birth represents the time when the disciples of Christ brought themselves together in one ACCORD to petition in prayer and supplication for that which they most desired (the promise of the Father) and continued in one accord until the day of Pentecost (Acts 1:14; 2:1).

The man child is the power from on high which was promised unto them. The kingdom of God is to cover the entire earth; all nations will be subject to it (Daniel 2:35). The rod of iron is the word of God, both written and spoken (Book of Mormon 45:38-39).

The Lord made a promise to His disciples while He was with them, which promise was to be fulfilled after He ascended from them. The disciples were told to remain in Jerusalem until that promise was fulfilled. They remained.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

"And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

This was quite the opposite from the experience at the tower of Babel. There they were confounded because no one heard in his own tongue. At Pentecost the people were confounded because they all heard in their own language.

"And they were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue wherein we were born?" (Acts 2:1-8).

One of the signs that were to follow the believers was the speaking in new tongues. This took place the first day that they received the power from on high.

This is not the gift of the Holy Ghost because Christ gave them that gift a short time after His resurrection (John 20:22). This power from on high was seen by those present. The gift of the Holy Ghost is not seen (Book of Mormon 628:50).

The Twelve that Christ chose among the Nephites received this same power as the Apostles at Jerusalem

did. They were encircled with fire which came down from heaven and the multitude present did witness it and bore record as well (Book of Mormon 655:14-15).

Let us examine the promise of the Father that Christ mentioned at different times: "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth: whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you (John 14: 16-17).

This same gift is referred to as the Comforter, the Power of Heaven, the Power from on High, and the Promise of the Father. It is always seen when given, but does not always appear in the same form. Let us notice:

- a. It appeared in the form of a dove after the baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:16).
- b. It appeared like cloven tongues of fire on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:3).
- c. It appeared as a circle of fire to the Twelve Christ had chosen of the Nephites (Book of Mormon 655:15).

The gift of the Holy Ghost is not to be confused with the power of the Holy Ghost. The power of the Holy Ghost is properly called the Comforter.

We have been giving the examples of what took place when Christ was ready for His Gospel to go to the world. It is our firm belief that when His Gospel is to go to the world again, He will cause that His missionaries will be equipped as those were in times of old. For we believe that Christ never changes (Hebrews 13:8).

In line with this thought, we want to examine two verses of Acts that we passed over before. "When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom of Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power" (Acts 1:6-7).

These men, no doubt, were students of the Scriptures and had read concerning the restoring of the kingdom to Israel. It is written in Deuteronomy 32:9. "For the Lord's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance." Putting this along with Genesis 49:10, "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

They, being of Judah, might think that Christ would be on their side and conquer their enemies, placing one of them on the throne of David. They did not understand that the Israel of the gathering would be of Ephraim and Manasseh (Deuteronomy 33:17). Christ let them know that they would not have understanding of the gathering. The gathering is one

of the great purposes of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the last days.

For there to be a gathering, there must of necessity be a place to gather. There must be a reason or reasons to gather. There must be one to bring about the gathering. If people come together on their own, that is assembling. But to gather there must be one who judges, for gathering means: To cull; to pick; to select and take; to separate from others less desired and bring together.

We find when Christ spoke of the gathering He used the following words: "And I will gather My people together, as a man gathereth his sheaves into the floor, for I will make My people with whom the Father hath covenanted, yea, I will make thy horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass" (Book of Mormon 659:54).

In old time they would, at the harvest time, bring the sheaves from the field and stack them near the threshing floor. That way the sheaves would be brought in from a scattered condition to a small place that would hold room enough for all. There would be no lost space in the stack yard. We must also notice that Christ said it would be those with whom the Father hath covenanted. This covenant is through the waters of baptism and the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. This is the everlasting covenant.

Let us examine a piece of history of this United States to give an example of what we are going to try to bring to your attention:

After the Declaration of Independence the Federal government, over a period of years, met in eight different cities: Philadelphia, Baltimore, Lancaster, York, Princeton, Annapolis, Trenton and New York. This was not satisfactory, so it was decided to purchase a territory of not more than ten miles square and build a city in this piece of land. The city was to be the capitol city of the United States. The territory was at first referred to as the County of Washington; later it was called the District of Columbia. The city built in this district was called Washington.

There was one mistake in this plan: They did not make provision for enlarging the boundaries of the District in later years. There are many today working in Washington D. C. who of a necessity must live in other cities.

We are told of the Lord's plan for his capitol city in the last days. It is found in Book of Mormon 750: 2-3. "For behold, they rejected all the words of Ether; for he truly told them of all things, from the beginning of man; and that after the waters had receded from off the face of this land, it became a choice land above all other lands, a chosen land of the Lord; Wherefore the Lord would have that all men should serve him, who dwell upon the face thereof; and that it was the place of the New Jerusalem, which should come down out of heaven, and the holy sanctuary of the Lord."



A sanctuary is a place of refuge and protection. A sanctuary designed by the Lord would need to be set up in such a way that there would be no wasted space and also that it would at all times, be large enough to care for all who would be permitted to enter therein. Daniel refers to the sanctuary and the host thereof (One who receives and provides for another) being trodden under foot (Daniel 8:13). He also states that the sanctuary will be cleansed (Daniel 8:14).

This sanctuary of the Lord will be similar to the District of Columbia. It will be called Zion. The District of Columbia is the federal territory in which the Capitol of the United States is built. That city is called "Washington." The Capitol city of the Lord's government will be called "New Jerusalem." Jerusalem means: City of the Great King (Matthew 5:35).

We often speak of the Second Coming of Christ but we may leave off the important detail concerning it: The Scriptures are quite clear that Christ Himself will direct the work of preparation for that coming.

For we read in Joel 3:17. "So shall ye know that I am the Lord your God dwelling in Zion, MY HOLY MOUNTAIN: then shall Jerusalem be holy and there shall no strangers pass through her any more."

It is quite clear that the Lord is referring to His government as His "Holy Mountain." This is the key we will use for defining governments in this writing. In order for the Lord to accomplish what He has determined to do in the last days, He must establish His government here on earth. A government, to be established, must be recognized by other governments or nations. Isaiah mentions this:

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house (family) shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it" (Isaiah 2:2).

The top of a mountain is usually close to the center of the base as far as location is concerned. The geographic center of the United States is about 155 miles west and north of Independence, Missouri. Considering the size of the United States, using it as the base, Independence, Missouri could be considered as a part of the top of the mountain (U. S. A.). People from all nations are, according to our last reading, going to run to this government of the Lord's.

The thought may come into our minds, "This land is part of the United States today." This is true. The motto of this United States is: "IN GOD WE TRUST." There will never be any conflict between the Lord and the United States. The way things are going in the world now, it looks like any Christian nation would welcome the power and presence of the Lord's government as a near neighbor.

When the Lord created man He gave him dominion over the earth and all things on it. Dominion means to be given power to control and develop. Man has made great strides in development of the earth in the last 100 years, but control seems to be getting out

of hand. There needs to be a great power on this earth to bring man back to his original state with God. It will be necessary for the Lord's government to be established and its great power demonstrated in behalf of man.

We read in Psalm 118:22. "The Stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner." This reference is pertaining to Christ. The head stone of the corner is where the name of the building is found. If this government we have been considering is the Lord's, it will have His name on it and can be related to the stone which David refers to. Daniel uses the stone as referring to the Lord's government. We read Daniel 2:34-35, just using part of each verse.

"Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands . . ." (34) "Forasmuch as thou sawest that THE stone was cut out of THE mountain without hands . . ." Now Isaiah 1:27: "Zion shall be redeemed with judgment . . ."

Judgment is without hands. It is the use of power only. So this stone is to be cut out of the mountain with judgment. "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world, and they that dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1) To redeem is to REGAIN possession.

We now have defined the place that the Lord will gather His people to. Let us examine how it will be brought about. Before the Lord would permit His missionaries to go out into the world, He instructed them to tarry in the City of Jerusalem until they were endued with power from on high. When He first sent them out He gave these restrictions to them: "These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matthew 10:5-6).

Before the missionaries went out (after the days of Christ) it was necessary for them to receive the power from on high, or the Power of Heaven. That qualification is just as important today as it was back there. It may even be more important today, because there is more work to be done in the last days than there was in the former days. Remember the words of Christ? "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power."

The question included the restoring the lost tribes to their inheritance, even though the Apostles did not seem to realize that it was included. That is only part of the work that is to be done in the last days.

"But if they (Gentiles) will repent, and hearken unto my words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish my church among them." This was accomplished April 6, 1830 when the Church of Christ was restored. "And they shall come in unto the covenant, and be numbered among this remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land for their inheritance, and they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob.

"And also, as many of the house of Israel as shall

come, that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem; And then shall they assist my people that they may be gathered in, who are scattered upon all the face of the land, in unto the New Jerusalem" (Book of Mormon 664:1-3).

We can see here that this church which was established was not intended to be for the Gentiles only, neither was it for the remnant of the Nephites only. But it was for the Gentiles, the remnant of the Nephites (American Indians), and as many of the house of Israel as should come (Twelve Tribes of Israel). This will be quite a task and can only be accomplished through the power and direction of the Lord.

If this task requires the power and direction of the Lord, let us examine the Scriptures to see if provision has been made for these two matters in particular. These are the words of Christ.

"Then shall the power of heaven come down among them; and I also will be in the midst, and then shall the work of the Father commence, at that day even when this Gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people" (Book of Mormon 664:4).

We notice several things which will take place: The same thing that was experienced on the day of Pentecost will take place before the Lord's servants will go among the American Indian with the fullness of the Gospel. There may be scattered instances among them, but it will not be lasting. There will be more success, as far as membership is concerned, had by those not of the Church of Christ. But when the missionaries of the Church of Christ go among the Indians, having the Power of Heaven, then there will need to be a perfecting of the gospel among the Indians.

Following the reception of the power of heaven, we notice that Christ states that He will be in the midst. This will be for a definite purpose: He will direct out of Zion (Isaiah 2:3). "Out of Zion shall go forth the law." This will be different than it was in former days, for we read, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: For if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you" (John 16:7).

But the word still holds true for the last days, that the Comforter will come first; then Christ will be in the midst. Then will the work of the Father begin. A part of that work of the Father is gathering the Lord's people in, whether they be Gentile, Indian or of the Tribes of Israel.

We notice also that the work, at that period of time, will commence among all the dispersed of the once-covenanted people of the Lord, to prepare the way that they may come unto Christ and be gathered home to the lands of their inheritance (Book of Mormon 113:12). Following this, the Gospel will be taken to the nations of the earth. They must be converted to the fact that the Lord's people must not be hindered in any way from leaving the nations where they are

living at that time (Isaiah 52:15).

"Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands (The stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, Verse 45) which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces . . . and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth" (Daniel 2:34-35, 45).

This indicates where the missionary work in foreign lands will begin: The nations of Europe. The toes of the image that Nebuchadnezzar saw in the dream are the nations of Europe which were part of the Roman Empire. This Stone which was cut out of the mountain is the redeemed Zion. The striking is the Gospel of Jesus Christ going to those nations. The breaking is their conversion from their former beliefs to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. According to verse 35, their former beliefs will be completely forgotten (And the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them).

The feet of the image had ten toes (nations). It will be necessary for the Lord's servants to be able to speak the language of each of these nations, not to mention the nations they will eventually go into. We believe that the Lord has let us know of His preparation by the writings of His prophets. Let us examine Zephaniah 3:9-10. "For then will I turn to the people a PURE language, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve Him with one consent. From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, even the daughter of my dispersed, shall bring mine offering."

There are two thoughts brought out concerning the languages: They will be the pure language of that country. Remember the account of this gift of power on the day of Pentecost. These men were speaking the pure language of the different countries, for we read, "And they were amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?"

Did you ever try to speak for the first time in a foreign language? And did you notice the difficulty you had to speak a few words? Usually it is difficult for the person of that tongue to even understand the words you are trying to speak. But on the day of Pentecost we are informed they marveled at the speaking by the Lord's servants. This experience will be had by the Lord's servants in the last days.

We are also informed in the reading in Zephaniah that these who bring that pure language are far beyond the rivers of Ethiopia. We find in Isaiah 18:1, that this is the "Land Shadowing With Wings." The meaning of the word "Shadowing" is: "The act of watching closely; surveillance." The emblem of the United States is the great eagle. This military emblem is designed in such a way that it accents the wings. Zephaniah is trying to tell us that the servants of the Lord will come to the nations from the land of the Americans, the United States.

Isaiah, when speaking of the gathering of the Lord's people through preaching of His Gospel, makes the following statement: "Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from afar, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; Even every one that is called by my name . . ." (Isaiah 43: 5-7). And in Isaiah 11:11, we find it mentions bringing them in from the islands of the sea.

But, using the stipulation in our first reading, we find that they all must be called by His name before they are brought in. This is when it is fulfilled. "And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world . . ." (Matthew 24:14).

The above reference from Matthew and the one from page 664 in the Book of Mormon have one thing in common: "This Gospel of the Kingdom." This gives us the understanding that there are other gospels and that they are not entirely of the Kingdom. There are several churches claiming to carry the Gospel of the Kingdom. Where there are two or more churches claiming to be carrying the Gospel of the Kingdom, it is safe to state that one or all are carrying some error. This being the case, there of a necessity must be a correcting of error. We find that Matthew gives us the words of Christ on this matter. We will quote Matthew 13:40-41. "As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be IN THE END of this world. The Son of man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His Kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity."

These offenses mentioned are false teachings. Even one false teaching, no matter how small, takes away from the purity of the Gospel. "Them which do iniquity" are individuals.

The power of heaven must be received by the Lord's servants. The Gospel must be cleansed. Zion must be redeemed. The Kingdom of God must be established. All these must come to pass before the servants of the Lord go into all the world and preach the Gospel.

We brought to your attention two references to show that the servants of the Lord in former days must tarry in Jerusalem until they were endued with power from on high. Now we want to bring two references to show that the Lord's servants must tarry in in the latter days.

Habakkuk 2:3. "For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry."

The Lord had shown Habakkuk a vision which describes our day and into the future from our time (Habakkuk 1:1-11). Notice the statement in the fifth verse: "For I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you." How many do you suppose believed the report of the things which took place on the Day of Pentecost?

"Therefore wait ye upon me, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation (Ezekiel 38:18-23), even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy" (Zephaniah 3:8).

Many times armies of nation will go into battle unprepared and will suffer great losses. The Lord intends that His army shall go into the battle against wrong in the last days, fully prepared. Then will be fulfilled what was given in the last verse of the Song of Admonition:

Get ye up, then to your mountain,  
Zion of this closing day!  
For the glory of my coming  
Waits to break upon your way!  
Forth from thence your testimony  
Shall to trembling nations go,  
And the world confess that with you  
God has residence below!

NO TIME

No time, no time to study,  
To meditate and pray,  
And yet much time for doing  
In a fleshly, worldly way;  
No time for things eternal,  
But much for things of earth;  
The things important set aside  
For things of little worth.  
Some things, 'tis true, are needful,  
But first things come first;  
And what displaces God's own Word,  
Of God it shall be cursed.

—Selected

O LORD, WE PRAY

Never leave us,	If we have wronged
O Lord, we plead.	O Lord, we pray,
Fulfill our every	Upon us now
Spiritual need.	Thy chastening rod lay.
If we are taught	One thing we know
That we must repent,	That we must do
(Which is Godly sorrow	That is, O Lord,
For our many sins.)	Put all our trust
	in You! !

O Lord, we pray,  
That we may  
Have truly repented  
By tomorrow.  
Upon us now  
Thy Spirit pour  
O Lord, we ask  
That through this  
fearful hour  
We may last.

If where our treasure is  
Our heart be also,  
That our gold and silver  
Be thoughts of Thee,  
O Lord, we pray.  
From Thy throne  
So far above,  
Grant unto us  
An abundance of Thy  
Love,  
O Lord, we pray.

By Isaac Brockman

### THOUGHTS AND STATEMENTS

Just a few rambling thoughts and statements brought together on paper in hopes that they might be of some good to others in a spiritual way.

The Gospel is like a beautiful rose if we will allow it to bloom forth in our lives.

If the Lord taps you on the shoulder and pleads with you in His still, soft voice will you recognize Him?

Jesus Christ is coming to this earth again soon. In what condition are you going to be, and where will you be when He arrives?

Live not for today only but for tomorrow also.

Money will not buy our way into the world God has promised us in the hereafter.

How often do we try to take advantage of God, in favor of our own welfare? Let us remember, we can take advantage of our fellowman sometimes without him finding out, but, let us also remember that we cannot take advantage of God.

Let us awake from our slumbering while it is yet today, for we know not what tomorrow brings.

To those of you who are delving in witchcraft of any kind. Are you willing to sell your soul to Satan for a few moments of self-satisfaction.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ should be the most important thing in our lives and we should let it govern all our actions.

It is time we wake up and realize our time is short. We don't have time to waste on the foolishness of the world.

If we must admonish each other let us do it in love, let our love show in our speech and humility.

Christ came to save man, not to destroy him. Our main objective in life should be to save souls, including our own.

Let the Lord be the judge of mankind while we concentrate our efforts on trying to save mankind.

We must have a faith so strong that we **know** and not just **think** God is going to answers our prayers.

Are we willing to say to God this day "I will subject myself to all Thy wishes and forget my own desires?"

Sometimes we are quick to reprimand someone for the wrong they do. But, oh, how slow we are to give someone a compliment when he has done something good.

Love cannot dwell in the same abode with malice and hatred.

We should rid ourselves of the shackles of sin which binds us and say, "Get thee behind me," to the devil who sometimes tempts us.

A thought for both old and young. There is a difference, I believe, between a "man" and a "gentleman," also there is a difference between a "woman" and a "lady." Just give yourself time to think about that a moment.

As we know, it takes longer for some of us to grow mentally and physically, as far as our mortal bodies are concerned. We must realize that it might take longer for some of us to grow, as far as our spiritual bodies are concerned.

We should keep ourselves unspotted before the world.

May God grant us the wisdom to see our own faults.

An old adage that bears repeating. If wisdom's ways you wisely seek, five things observe with care: of whom you speak, to whom you speak, and how, and when, and where.

We should be ourselves and not try to make people believe we are something that we are not.

I believe there is a difference between an orator and a preacher. Orators speak to hold a crowd; preachers try to say those things essential to salvation and are supposed to rely on the Holy Spirit to persuade them and prompt them what to say.

I wonder if often, when we go off on "kicks" of the kind of foods we eat, the clothes we wear, whether we will partake of wine or grape juice for the Lord's

supper, and numerous other diversions, we realize that in the process we lose sight of the goal we are really striving to reach. Let us each think about this the next time we want to stress or promote a pet idea we have in our minds.

The thought often comes to my mind when we are holding services in different homes, tents, halls (we even had occasion once to hold service in a bus on a campout) it isn't where we worship but whom we worship that is really important.

We should try to instill within the minds of our young people that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the most important thing in their lives. And, they should cast aside their worldly desires and cling steadfastly to Christ.

In the closing lines of this articles we wish to state that it has not been my intention to point a finger at any one. These are just thoughts that have come to me; I hope that they may be of some good to all who read.

So, may I say that I pray that we, each one, might realize our own responsibility to our God and do our best to please Him.

Please pray for us all in this area, and our prayers are in behalf of God's people.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Elder Isaac Brockman

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#### TESTIMONY OF JOAN Y. SPRAGUE

A little over a year ago I was privileged to become a member of the CHURCH OF CHRIST. The decision to join came as a result of prayer, fasting, and an earnest effort to study the scriptures. The confirmation was given to me that I was making the right choice came in an experience which resulted in the composition of a hymn. (Editor's Note: The words of this hymn appear on the cover of this issue of the "Advocate.")

While I was involved in a confusing but interesting investigation of various Restoration churches, and also while in the presence of terminating my membership with one of those churches, I found myself at times in great turmoil. It was at this point that I realized I would have to place the whole matter in God's hands — for He would have to guide me in my investigation. So I prayed earnestly and regularly for many days.

Early one Sunday morning I was abruptly awakened from a beautiful dream. I recall during the dream that I was seated in a large building (unidentified)

among a congregation of people who apparently were living very close to God and who were worshipping Him on a high spiritual level. A hymn was being played majestically on an organ and the body of people sang fervently each meaningful phrase. In the distance (somewhere unknown to me) was an antiphonal choral group of beautiful voices repeating (somewhat like an echo) the tune phrases that were sung by the main group.

Revealed, in song, to these worshipers was the great goodness, wisdom, mercy and justice of the Lord. I, too, witnessed a strong impact of the Holy Ghost resting upon all who were present.

So vivid was the scene when I awakened that the hymn tune which I had heard kept running through my mind — I could not erase it. So I arose hurriedly and went to the piano where I started jotting down the music and a few ideas of word content that I remembered. The noise of the piano awakened my husband and son, so I shared this experience with them, and later with some close friends in our Sunday Morning Study Group.

On the days following this incident I occasionally sat down and tried to complete work on the hymn but, to my dismay, I was unable to piece the work together. After many attempts that met with great disappointment I put it aside and eventually filed it away in my notebook. Family and friends kept requesting to hear the hymn, but I would make excuses for its incompleteness or perhaps even change the subject.

Meanwhile I continued in my pursuit of study and prayer, hoping soon to decide which church I should join. My main desire was to find out where the Lord wished me to be. As a result of my efforts, I was slowly but gradually gaining new insights about the Gospel. Interestingly enough, many puzzling questions were answered. I finally reached the place where I felt I should request baptism into the CHURCH OF CHRIST. An apostle was coming to our area for a missionary visit, so I decided to request baptism as soon as he arrived.

On the afternoon prior to the visit of Brother Archie F. Bell, I was in our home study writing down questions to ask him. At one point my notebook fell open to the music and notations given to me in the dream. I stared at it rather reluctantly and then I felt strongly impressed by the Holy Spirit to go ahead and complete it.

There was a copy of the Book of Mormon at my fingertips and, not knowing just where I was to begin, I started thumbing through it. Soon I was reading intently II Nephi, Chapter 6 and again I was impressed by the same Spirit to re-read the chapter. While doing so, I was made aware that contained within the lines of this passage were the very ideas sung by the people in my dream. Now I could finish; Everything was laid out before my eyes in great detail. Within an hour's time I wrote all verses; then I went to the

piano and worked on the musical harmony.

This experience was a definite and positive confirmation to me from God, showing me that He was pleased with the step I was about to take. I was privileged to sing this hymn publicly for the first time as a solo at my baptismal service. Following that time I have never once had any doubts or fears that have caused me to regret my decision to become a part of the Body of Christ. I am deeply grateful for this. It is my testimony that God does reveal Himself in many ways if we submit to His leadings.

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### I WILL TRUST WHEN I CANNOT SEE

When the cares of life lie thick around me  
And dark shadows rise and close me in,  
When my way I travel, groping blindly,  
And the prize can scarcely hope to win.

#### Chorus

I will trust when I cannot see,  
When my heart is blind with agony,  
I will live within Your will and love for me;  
I will trust when I cannot see.

When my soul in trouble seems forsaken,  
And life's hopes and dreams have proved in vain,  
I will seek the pathway He has taken,  
And try to see the rainbow in the rain.

When my heart is filled with blighting sorrow,  
And my soul is wracked with throes of pain,  
When it seems there is no bright tomorrow  
Nor the sun will ever shine again.

When upon the sands my heart lies broken  
And all hope of happiness is fled,  
I will look unto the cross of Calvary,  
And unto the Heart that for me bled.

When the hour of midnight comes before me  
And that which befalls me seems all wrong,  
I will turn and look upon my Savior  
And my heart put forth its praise in song.

When the ones I've loved from me are taken  
And my life is full of grief and drear,  
I will rest upon Your love around me  
And my heart will fling away its fear.

(To the melody of number 42 of Favorites No. 7,  
of the same title)

Anonymous

### THE ALMOST EMPTY CHURCH

by Donna Moser

The weather gave me not an inch  
When I left home that day.  
Yet, I knew if I felt the pinch  
That I could always pray.

At first I thought I was alone  
There saw my good friend "A."  
Along came "B," her battle won,  
Then "C" came in to pray.

The day still grim, we waited there,  
A little sad, forlorn.  
But — wait — in came our Brother "D"  
And we were five that morn.

And then — it seemed the sun **must** glow  
Though only five were there.  
No. We were six! A sweet Voice, low,  
Said, "Children, I am here."

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### NEWS FROM COLLINS LOCAL

Winter storms have slowed our activity a little here — but not for long. Due to ice-covered highways, church services have had to be cancelled one Sunday in December and one in January. Regularly our attendance is good, considering the miles some of us have to travel to get there.

We voted recently to use "A Marvelous Work and and a Wonder" by Daniel McGregor as our textbook for the adult Sunday School class study. The class is finding this very interesting.

Although in winter we cannot have a regular, weekly prayer service, yet we do meet when we can in the homes of the members. Always we are rewarded by that sweet Spirit that is so gentle and yet so strong.

The men here have put in a lot of work trying to finish the church annex. There is still work to be done, but it is progressing nicely. The floor covering is down; the heating system is installed; some plumbing is in, etc. It is so good to have room for the Sunday School classes. It converts also into a dining room for our church dinners, which are every third Sunday of each month. Any of you who might visit us are always welcome.

Greg and Elana Kelley have gone to Phoenix, Ariz. where Greg hopes to get work for the winter. We miss them but know that the Phoenix folks will be happy to have them.

Apostle Leon Yates and his wife, Francis, are expected back from Yucatan soon. They left for the mission there the middle of December.

We have had some sick ones in our group this



winter. Sister Leora Martin was in the hospital with a heart attack recently, but is at home now and, the family says, recovering. Joe Yates was quite ill too, but is now better. We feel that in both of these instances, and others too, that the Lord has been mindful of the supplications in their behalf, by administration and the prayers of their brothers and sisters.

A special prayer service was called in January for Elder Cayetano in Yucatan. A day was set aside in February for special fasting and prayer for Bro. LeRoy Wheaton. For these — our prayers join with all of you everywhere.

Recently we have been listening to and reading some hopes and wishes for the year that lies ahead.

From a T. V. sermon: "For this year, Lord, 'Teach us to so order our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.'"

A Christmas card from Hubert A. Yates, Phoenix, Arizona: "Let's each try to bring a little more happiness to those we meet. As long as we live, Patsy and I want to be disciples of peace, happiness and goodwill to all we meet, for this old world is too full of tears. This is our prayer."

A poem by an unknown author, read in a sermon by Ed McIndoo:

#### A New Year Wish

May you have enough happiness to keep you sweet;  
 Enough trials to keep you strong;  
 Enough sorrow to keep you human;  
 Enough hope to make your heart sing;  
 Enough of labor to keep you from rust;  
 Enough leisure to keep you broad;  
 Enough religion to make you value the best;  
 Enough of the love of Christ in your soul to make  
 you glad to serve."

May we be able in this year to determine which things are of REAL value.

Ruth Willard  
 Reporter

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#### OBITUARY

##### Valeria V. Chowning

Sister Valeria V. Chowning passed away at her home, 8048 Church Street, Winn, Michigan, November 25, 1973. She was 84 years of age.

Services in charge of Elder Arthur DuRose were held at Grove & Company Memorial Chapel in Flint, Michigan, November 28, 1973, with burial at Sunset Hills cemetery. Death was sudden due to complications. She was the daughter of Martin and Rosetta Huston. She had made her home in Winn, Michigan for the last 10½ years, moving there from Flint.

Surviving are her daughter Mrs. Charles (Dorothy) Pomeroy of Dearborn Heights, Michigan, four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Sister Chowning was a faithful member of the Church of Christ and always welcomed visits from any and all of the membership, especially those of the ministry, to her home. She loved the gospel and was eager to converse on any subject concerning it. She had great faith and often called upon the Elders for administration when the need arose. She is just one more of the faithful who have gone to meet their Maker, and we are sure that there is a reward laid up for such as these.

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#### OBITUARY

##### Jessie Ellen Sweem

Funeral services were held Monday, December 24, 1973, at one o'clock at the Church of Christ at Collins, Missouri for Jessie Ellen (Sarratt) Sweem, who died December 22 in Hamilton, Mo., at the age of 82 years, nine months and 29 days. Elder Joseph Yates officiated at the service. Music was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Rhondall Shaw, Mr. Ed McIndoo and Mrs. Oreta Yates, accompanied by Mrs. Marjorie Routh. Burial was in Robison Cemetery under the direction of Goodrich Funeral Home.

Sister Sweem, daughter of Walter M. and Minerva Jane Self, was born February 23, 1891, in Bennett, Nebraska. Her early life was spent with her parents in Nebraska and on December 11, 1910, she was married to Leonard M. Sarratt. To them ten children were born. Two children, Dorothy Ellen and Aaron Leonard, preceded her in death at an early age. From Nebraska the family moved to Colorado and then to Kansas, before coming to Missouri in 1924. Her husband engaged in farming. He died on July 25, 1965.

She was baptized November 5, 1899 by her father, Elder Walter M. Self, and joined the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. In 1936 she and her husband and family transferred their memberships to the Church of Christ (Temple Lot).

On May 17, 1968 she was united in marriage to John A. Sweem. From then until her death her home was in Hamilton, Mo. and her church membership was with the Cowgill, Mo. Local Church.

She leaves her husband, John Sweem of the home; five daughters, Mrs. Leora Martin, Mrs. Norma Cook, both of Collins, Mo.; Mrs. Elaine Wilson, Trenton, Mo.; Mrs. Carol Cooper, Raytown, Mo. and Mrs. Mary Palermo, San Jose, Calif.; three sons, Warren Sarratt, Bates City, Mo.; Derald Sarratt, Kansas City, Mo. and Roland Sarratt, Parkville, Mo.; two sisters, Mrs. Lottie Sarratt and Mrs. Leta Chapman, both of Independence, Mo.; one brother, Owen Self of Genoa, Colo.; 16 grand-

children; 15 great grandchildren; and two stepdaughters, Mrs. Zelma Stone and Mrs. Hazel Snider, both of Hamilton, Mo.

"One by one we lose the handclasp,  
That so warm a welcome gave;  
One by one the voices silence  
In the stillness of the grave.

One by one we miss the faces  
And the forms we held so dear;  
One by one their names are written  
On the scrolls of angels there."

#### 1974 CONFERENCE NOTICE

The Annual Ministers' Conference of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) is scheduled to convene Sunday, March 31, 1974. We especially urge all who have the welfare of the Church and the work of Zion at heart to come. We are living in troublous times. We do not know how much longer we shall be able to meet together with the ease that we do today. Therefore we should make the most of our present opportunities.

Since this is the work of the Lord we should be anxiously engaged in its furtherance. The promise is that "... we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9). Therefore "... let us not be weary in well doing" (Galatians 6:9).

There is a great need for greater missionary activity within the Church. "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest (Matthew 9:37-38).

The calling of laborers alone is not sufficient unless they be endued with power on high. These things as well as our own consecration to the work should be the burden of our prayers.

Those who would like to inquire about housing, etc., may contact one of the following:

Elder Frank Fann  
4117 S. River Blvd.  
Independence, Missouri 64055

Elder Lawrence Beem  
13117 E. 45th St.  
Independence, Missouri 64055

Elder Marvin M. Case  
16613 Woods Chapel Rd.  
Lee's Summit, Missouri 64063

Harvey E. Seibel  
General Church Secretary

#### MICHIGAN REUNION

The Michigan Reunion will be held on the 22nd and 23rd of June, 1974 at the Bradley Local, Bradley, Michigan.

For those interested in camping out, there are camping facilities at K. O. A. Camp Grounds within two miles of the Church. For further information contact:

Benjamin Laseur  
Route 1  
Hopkins, Michigan 49238

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#### BLUEPRINTS AND RECIPES

Dorothy Burgin

I drew a blueprint of the home  
I wanted here someday,  
But it isn't built. I guess  
It wasn't meant that way.

Still my dear friends and family  
Love to come and visit me.  
Though it isn't like the nice homes,  
It's what they want to see.

Here's a lovely little recipe  
If you want to jot it down.  
When you serve your friends refreshments  
(Even though you'd rather frown)

Put in a lot of cheerfulness,  
A smile and lots of love.  
I'm sure you'll get a blessing  
From the Master up above.