

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 the power of the Holy Ghost;" 1 Nephi 3:187

Vol. 54

Independence, Missouri, August, 1977

No. 8

Lord, Keep Me From Turning Back

Lord, keep me from turning back
I've set a faltering hand upon the plow,
But all I see in front of me
Is wilderness; untrod, untilled
Land, unknown to me.
I see no bounderies, must my furrow
Cross that lonely desert waste?
Or must I break a path up
Yonder mountain height?
Or on trembling feet descend
That chasm, yawning in the distance?
My hands upon the plow are wet with tears;
It seems such a broken implement
With which to toil the years through.
Rust eats at its blade
Which once was bright and clean.
Its wooden handle grips are cracked
and checked and weathered dry —
For I let it lie neglected
In fair weather and foul, over past decades.
And now it is all I have as a tool

To break a furrow for late autumn sowing,
Praying there yet be time to reap a harvest.
Little it seems I have to sow;
This handful of precious seed
I've gleaned through the years
From the harvest of those who've gone before,
And which I've hoarded
And clutched to myself and fed upon,
Lest my soul should famish.
This only have I, to scatter in my wake,
Praying that, resown, it will multiply
To feed others coming this way,
And hearten them on their journey
To yonder point of sunrise.
And if it need be —
In casting abroad my small treasure —
Myself must be spent and drained
That others may live, so be it, Lord,
Just keep me from turning back —
Again.

—Selected

CONTENTS

Youth Of The Church	114	Memories and Obituary	124
The Love Of God	115	What It Means To Pray	
Sermon - Harry Hutchison	116	In Jesus Name	126
The Popular Man	118	An Item Or Two Of	
The Temple of God - What & Where	119	Testimony	127
Ava Visits Again	121	Do Something Good	127
Missouri Reunion	123	Notices	128

Zion's Advocate

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

EDITOR

Elder Roland Sarratt, 15910 E. 36th Terr., Independence, Mo. 64055
 Phone 373-6605

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Donna Moser, 405 Arabian Dr., Raymore, Mo. 64083, Ph. 331-3141
 Doris Ratterree, 926 So. Logan, Independence, Mo. 64050, Ph. 461-3779

BUSINESS MANAGER OF THE ADVOCATE

C. LeRoy Wheaton, P. O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051
 Subscriptions and changes of address

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Temple Lot), P. O. 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) P. O. Box 472, Independence, Mo. 64051 Attn: C. LeRoy Wheaton, Business Manager Church

Secretary, Council of Apostles, William A. Sheldon, 1011 S. Cottage, Independence, Missouri 64050.

Secretary, Council of Bishops, Oren Caviness, Rt. #1, Box 67, Preston, Missouri 65732.

General Church Secretary, Doris Ratterree, 926 So. Logan, Independence, Missouri 64050.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

All individual articles published in this paper are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the Church or the opinions of the Editorial Staff.

All authorized declarations and notices coming from the General Conference, the Council of Apostles or the General Bishopric reflect the practices and beliefs of the General Church.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Send all orders to:
 Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
 P. O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051 Price Each

Book of Mormon — Missionary Edition	\$2.25
Outline History of The Church of Christ	\$2.50
Book of Commandments (Hard Bound)	\$2.75
Book of Commandments (Paper Bound)	\$1.25
Book of Commandments Controversy Reviewed	\$2.20
The Marvelous Work and a Wonder	\$1.75
What the Restoration Teaches Concerning God	\$0.50
Zion's Hymnal	\$3.65
Historical Facts Concerning the Temple Lot	\$1.00
Temple Lot Deed	\$0.20
A Brief History of the Church of Christ	*
The Principles of the Gospel, Faith and Repentance	*
The Principle of the Gospel, The Laying on of Hands	*
The Principles of the Gospel, Baptism	*
The Latter Day Restoration	*
Apostacy or Succession, Which?	*
The Book of Mormon (Tract)	*
Articles of Faith and Practice of the Church of Christ	*
Articles of Faith and Practice (Spanish)	*
Articles of Faith and Practice, No. 1, 9, 20	*
Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus	*
Changing of the Revelations	\$0.20
What the Church of Christ Teaches	
In Respect to Matromony, (Spanish)	*
What About Israel?	*
Priesthood, Divine Authority	*
'Is Any Sick Among You?'	*
'Why'	*
A Synopsis of the Church of Christ's Beliefs and Practices	*
An Invitation	*
The Sealed Book of Isaiah 29	*
Are You Satisfied?	*
Gentiles-Weighed and Wanting	*
First Presidency or First Apostles	*
Is Marrying For Time and Eternity?	*
Baptism For The Dead	*
Zion and the Temple of the Lord	*

NOTE: *Donations accepted to cover postage and printing costs. Lot prices of tracts exclusive of postage are: in packs of 6, 30¢ or of 100, \$4.50.

Editorial . . .

YOUTH OF THE CHURCH

"O remember my son, and learn wisdom in thy youth; yea, learn in thy youth to keep the commandments of God; yea, and cry unto God for all thy support;

"Yea, let all thy doings be unto the Lord, and whithersoever thou goest, let it be in the Lord; yea, let thy thoughts be directed unto the Lord; yea, let the affections of thy heart be placed upon the Lord for ever; counsel the Lord in all thy doings, and he will direct thee for good:

"Yea, when thou liest down at night, lie down unto the Lord, that he may watch over you in your sleep; and when thou risest in the morning, let thy heart be full of thanks unto God; and if ye do these things, ye shall be lifted up at the last day" (Alma 17:68-70).

No better advice could be given to the youth of the Church of Christ today. To be raised up in the teachings of Christ and to experience first hand a close relationship with God through prayer would be beneficial throughout one's life. The possibility of this may seem so idealistic and unreal that we might not give ourselves a chance to prove these words to be true. Many however can testify that they are true; they only require a diligent effort and an open faith in God.

More recently the expressed feelings of many parents and concerned individuals in the church have been directed toward the young people of the church. Questions have been asked in this sense: Have sufficient efforts been made to teach and direct the young in those things that would prepare them to meet the world? Are they grounded in the fulness of the gospel of Christ so that they do not fall victim to the many half-truths that falsify God's word? These and many other questions and comments have been made focusing upon the proper rearing and training of our young people.

It is time indeed that the church put greater emphasis upon the needs of our young. Some have felt cause to criticize the older generation for their failings and for their permitting stumbling blocks to be laid in the way of the younger generation. This criticism might be well founded, but we must give consideration to those who have endeavored to keep the faith and have taught others to do likewise. The stalwarts of the gospel who have endured to the end have no reason to apologize to us.

The true gospel of Christ has been called a "way of life", but in reality it is THE way to eternal life. To young and old alike it is a spiritual growth pattern given both in word and example by He who made the provision. Our physical age has little or nothing to do with our spiritual growth once we have become accountable in the eyes of God. A man that has just been converted to the gospel may be considered a mere

child spiritually even though he is an old man physically.

Christ did not segregate his people according to age; what He taught to one He taught to all. He even gave instructions that little children be permitted to come to Him that He might bless them. Using them as an example He commanded that they all become as little children.

The only time that Christ differentiated His teachings was when He instructed those whom He chose to be of His holy priesthood. To them He gave added responsibility.

In worldly realms of influence today, efforts have been made to separate children from their parents. The "Generation Gap" has been more than just a term; it has become a fact in many homes. The inability to communicate and understand each other has often become a trying experience for both parents and children. The families of this church have not altogether escaped this influence.

Too often the young of the world are classified as being one type of people. Our young must be raised to be individuals. They cannot be grouped with the general type of people that the world is producing today. If they hope to enjoy the promises that God has made to His elect, they must of necessity be peculiar to the ways of the world.

Although our general efforts to provide activities, classes and services for the young by adult supervision in our young peoples' organizations, etc. are usually above reproach, we should nonetheless be on our guard against any deliberate misguidance that would separate the young from their elders in behavior levels. We should exercise discernment to determine if actions are being motivated by a good spirit or by a rebellious spirit. All that is good should be supported by our prayers and by whatever talents or means that we have to help our young.

Although our concern is for the general and individual welfare of our young, it would not be wisdom to interfere by setting forth rules or restrictions upon them that would cause discontent and ill will. However we should not shirk the responsibility to counsel them concerning their spiritual and physical well-being.

The young of the church should be counseled to pray always that they be protected against the enemy of their souls and against accidents, sickness and all physical dangers. Particularly, they should be counseled concerning their group activities. At all times they should give attention to their leaders and heed all instructions and warnings that their leaders give.

The parents of the young should be interested and aware of all their children's activities. They should pray that their children be guided and protected at all times. We cannot expect protection except through our continued prayers and supplications to God.

We should also be cautioned against unauthorized activities. When an activity such as an outing is planned by or for the young of the church on a private basis, that is without the knowledge and consent of the properly appointed or elected young peoples' leaders, such an activity should be investigated thoroughly by each of the young people and their parents before becoming involved. A capable adult should be in charge of all activities that include minors, those who are under eighteen years of age. All overnight outings should be properly chaperoned especially when both young men and women, boys and girls, are participating.

The expressed feelings of parents and concerned individuals in the church have indicated that this church, generally speaking cannot endorse unnecessary risks that jeopardize the lives of our young people when it is done just for the pleasure or thrill of that particular occasion. They also indicate that we should avoid the very appearance of evil if at all possible. Our activities should not be so loosely governed that we appear to be on the par with worldly people.

All in all, we should seek to preserve the sanctity of our religious endeavors. Any service or activity done in the name of the Church of Christ must reflect the will of Christ. Inasmuch as Christ has not authorized a separation of young and old in His Church, we must act carefully that we do not step beyond His written guidelines. Moreover we should all seek to bring about a greater closeness and oneness with each other and with Christ in our obedience to Him. May God bless us all to this end.

RLS

THE LOVE OF GOD

The world daily revolving upon its axis, turns its bulk between us and the sun; as we enter the deep shadow cast by the earth, we say "the light fades."

Yet the sun ever shines and everywhere, except in the shadow of the earth's own making, all is light and there is no night, for day is eternal and never fades. That which we call the coming of night and departing

of the day, is our going from where the light is, and not the light from us.

So it is with the love of God: Eternal and never diminishing, we may forever remain within its radiant light. If it seems to diminish, to fade, it is because we pass from it into the shadow of some bulk which interposes between us and the brightness of His love.

SERMON AT THE TEMPLE LOT

By Elder Harry Hutchison

(Ed. note. This is a condensed version (for publication) of the last sermon that "Uncle Harry" preached before his critical illness last spring. Let us pray in unity that, God willing, it shall **not** be his last!)

Greetings in the Lord. It gives me great pleasure to be here. I feel unworthy, but highly honored. Someday on this ascred ground the Temple will be built. I wonder if we have all thought of that in the past. How important it is to realize not only the things of the past, but the things of the present and the future.

We look to our Lord for everything we do. I never thought the day would come that I would be standing behind the pulpit in this sacred home provided many years ago. I feel a responsibility to all. The Lord said, "Feed my sheep." A shepherd needs to have certain qualifications; I need the Lord's help in providing these. I sincerely ask you to whisper a little prayer to our Lord and Master in my behalf that I might give you a message that will encourage you to look forward to the days to come. The scriptures say to look forward to that day when our redemption shall draw nigh.

I hope I can bring you some words that will create a desire within your hearts to put forth a greater effort from this day forward to serve the Lord, He will bless you immeasurably for it. There have been many times that I have been blessed.

I think some of us fail to put our complete trust in the Lord. That is the one thing that He demands of us. There have even been songs written, telling us to trust and obey. If we put our trust completely in the Lord, no matter what may come sometime in the future, we know that He will protect us. He has promised us that He is the same yesterday, today, tomorrow and forever. With that consolation in your mind, there is no need to worry about the future, if you will just keep His commandments.

We have two books, handed down through the ages for our learning. We can depend on them implicitly. If we have them, we should study them. Put yourselves back in the days when you were going to school; there were things that were difficult to understand at times. You put forth a greater effort, or you read an item over and over. Eventually, you saw the light.

I realize that during the years the Bible was written the human element had something to do with things in there that are difficult for us to understand. But not so with the Book of Mormon. That was given in our **own** language! When I think of the days when Lehi and his family came across the many waters and the perilous times they faced, I thank God that He has seen fit to bring forth this message, another witness that Christ is our Redeemer and we can trust Him completely.

If we trust Him completely, do you know what His promises are? There are so many. I will read you a few examples, recorded history that was given at the direction of the Lord. So there is no need to doubt, because you **know** that it came from the Lord. He moved upon His servants in the days of old to make this record, and through all the efforts that were put forth to bring it forward in our day, so that we, because we love our Lord, could study that book and put our complete trust in our God.

The first chapter of the 4th Book of Nephi speaks of a people who trusted the Lord and, because of their love for one another and doing what the Lord would have them do, became a happy people.

"And surely there could not be a happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God. There were no robbers, nor murderers, neither were there Lamanites, nor any manner of ites; but they were in one, the children of Christ, and heirs to the kingdom of God; And how blessed were they, for the Lord did bless them in all their doings; yea, even they were blessed and prospered, until an hundred and ten years had passed away; and the first generation from Christ had passed away, and there was no contention in all the land" (vv 19-21).

What a beautiful picture! No contention. We are living in a free country, and because of contentions, our freedom is gradually slipping. So we **have** to put our trust in the Lord, because He is the one and only One we can trust.

"And it came to pass that Nephi, he that kept the last record, (and he kept it upon the plates of Nephi,) died, and his son Amos kept it in his stead; and he kept it eighty and four years, and there was still peace in the land, save it were a small part of the people who had revolted from the church, and took upon them the name of Lamanites; therefore there began to be Lamanites again in the land. And it came to pass that Amos died also, (and it was an hundred and ninety and four years from the coming of Christ,) and his son Amos kept it in his stead; and he also kept it upon the plates of Nephi; and it was also written in the book of Nephi, which is this book. And it came to pass that two hundred years had passed away, and the second generation had all passed away save it were a few. And now, I, Mormon, would that ye should know that the people had multiplied, insomuch that they were spread upon all the face of the land, and that they had become exceeding rich, because of their prosperity in Christ" (ibid 22-26).

If you are looking for prosperity, you know where to find it!

"And it came to pass that when two hundred and

ten years had passed away, there were many churches in the land; yea, there were many churches which professed to know the Christ, and yet they did deny the more part of his gospel, insomuch that they did receive all manner of wickedness, and did administer that which was sacred unto him to whom it had been forbidden because of unworthiness" (ibid 22).

Of course, we are speaking of the sacrament here. You can readily understand when the elders, speaking before a sacrament service, bring to your knowledge that only those who are baptized members of the church can partake. Of course, each one is responsible for himself and he knows whether or not he is worthy.

"And again, there was another church which denied the Christ; and they did persecute the true church of Christ; because of their humility, and their belief in Christ, and they did despise them, because of the many miracles which were wrought among them" (ibid 31).

Did you get the picture? In other words, those who fell away from the true church were jealous of those who were in that true church, because of the many blessings and the prosperity that they were receiving at the hand of the Lord. In our day you will find that those who have a tendency to be lazy will go to others or even rob. Not only are they in bad with the Lord, but they are in bad with the law of the land. You can see that one thing leads to another and that we who claim to be the children of God have to keep ourselves clean. Then when the time comes and He makes His appearance, if we are here, we will be able to receive Him with open arms.

If we read on a little farther here, we find that there was never a happier people. Can you imagine it? Within a very few short years after enjoying all those gifts and that prosperity and the Lord's guidance, they could think of getting away from it. Pride entered in. When one has a little more than another and thinks he is above another, it is a sad situation. That is the cause of more hardship and more misunderstanding than one can think. I have often thought about ourselves; could we ever get into such a condition that we would have so much pride in our hearts that we would fall as they fell? I hope not! Of course, after they once fell into transgression, it took them such a long time before they realized that the Lord was not blessing them as He had before. It is the same in this day and age. There are people that will even curse the Lord because of their misfortune, when it is really their own fault.

But, you know, the Lord is merciful. He has compassion on His children. If they will but turn to Him, even after transgression, He will forgive them.

These people had partaken of some of the supposed pleasures of the world deliberately and, even though they were repenting and again calling upon the Lord, He heard them but wouldn't answer them for awhile. But when He saw that they were in the depths of humility, **then** He answered their prayers. Then they again began to prosper.

We should be grateful for the time in which we live, because we know (if we are faithful followers of the Book of Mormon and the Bible), we **know** of a surety that the time is soon at hand when the Master of men will make His appearance. Knowing that and of the prophecies that must be fulfilled, what a wonderful time it is to be living! The Lord is going to again deal with His people, as in those many stories you have read in which He protected them from harm and danger. That time is coming again, and we will have to expect the Lord to watch over us in that same manner.

That is one of the reasons why many of us are thinking about the building of Zion. Of course, we do not want to run before the Lord; we are waiting for Him to guide and direct us. That will come to pass, I am sure, in the days of some of us. I hope that we might be true and faithful right until that time, so that we can be with Him.

I know everyone would like to participate in that. The next question that arises is, are we preparing ourselves for that occasion? Even though you may not be here on this earth, your spirit goes right on living. What a pleasure it would be to come down from heaven as one of Christ's children and see the glorious things that will transpire before our very eyes. Why shouldn't we be happy even though we are gone in the flesh? Our spirits go right on living.

I want to bring to our minds very forcefully that these people, again in a prosperous condition, having repented, were again worshipping their God — and **again** they fell into transgression! So, don't think that, because you feel you are embedded in the gospel of Christ, the cunning one can't mislead you. He can! He has so many ways of getting around individuals. If we give just a little, that's all he wants; he'll drag us right down with him.

The one thing I want to bring to our attention most sincerely is that we **must** keep His commandments. Now, if we don't know those commandments, then, as members of the Church of Christ, we'd better make it our business to find what they are. He makes many promises, but whenever He makes a promise, He says, "If ye will keep my commandments". There is always a condition. With that in mind, you can see that, in a prayerful attitude, you can approach the Lord and He will help keep you in the strait and narrow way.

"And thus ended the thirty and first year of the reign of the judges over the people of Nephi; and thus they had had wars, and bloodsheds, and famine, and affliction for the space of many years. And there had been murders, and contentions, and dissensions, and all manner of iniquity among the people of Nephi; nevertheless, **for the righteous' sake**, because of the prayers of the righteous they were spared" (P. 558, vv 48, 49).

So you think prayer isn't important in life?

Now turn to page 353.

"And it came to pass that they took Alma and Amulek, and carried them forth to the place of mar-

tyrdom, that they might witness the destruction of those who were consumed by fire. And when Amulek saw the pains of the women and children who were consuming in the fire, he was also pained; and he said unto Alma. How can we witness this awful scene? Therefore let us stretch forth our hands, and exercise the power of God which is in us, and save them from the flames. But Alma said unto him, The Spirit constraineth me that I must not stretch forth mine hand; for behold, the Lord receiveth them up unto himself, in glory" (vv 47-50).

That's a beautiful thought isn't it? I realize that they suffered as they were burned by fire, but if they had been allowed to continue to live the conditions of their lives would probably have been much worse. The Lord again — He could see ahead where you and I couldn't. Alma certainly exercised a great deal of faith. And there is another word that I think we should keep in our vocabularies, "patience". Without patience we can very easily go astray, because we say and do things that are contrary to the teachings of the Lord.

"Oh, Lord, give us strength according to our faith which is in Christ, even unto deliverance; and they brake the cords with which they were bound; and when the people saw this, they began to flee, for the fear of destruction had come upon them" (ibid. p. 356. v 77).

Now, why would they fear? Two men — and a multitude of people. There must have been a reason. In other words, the people knew that Alma and Amulek were men of God! Otherwise, what could two men do among a great army of people? But they had been trying to reach the people with the word of God. Perhaps the people, thinking back on some of the miracles performed by men of God, now became very much afraid.

"And the prison had fallen to the earth, and every soul who was within the walls thereof, save it were Alma and Amulek, were slain; and they straightway came forth into the city" (ibid. v 83).

Now, doesn't that show you how the Lord will protect you if you will put yourself into his hands? Put complete trust in the Lord.

I read a little more on page 611. There again, wars! And what brings on wars and contentions? Pride, distrust, etc.

"Therefore when the armies of Giddianhi did rush upon them, they were prepared to meet them; yea, in the strength of the Lord they did receive them; and the battle commenced in this the sixth month; And great and terrible was the battle thereof; yea, great

and terrible was the slaughter thereof, insomuch that there never was known so great a slaughter among all the people of Lehi since he left Jerusalem" (vv 55, 56).

Then, apparently, the Lord finally was petitioned and gave them some idea of what to do.

"And the Nephites were continually marching out by day and by night, and falling upon their armies and cutting them off by thousands and by ten of thousands" (p. 612. v 69).

The thing I want to really impress upon our minds is that God s no respecter of persons. It doesn't make any difference whether you are well educated or have no education, whether you are rich or poor; if you call on the Lord He'll hear you. Even if you are desperate (there are times when you can hardly offer a prayer) just say, "Lord, give me strength that I might offer a prayer". You will get that strength that you need!

Think of Joseph Smith. He was almost overcome when he went to the woods to pray to be guided. He was **almost overcome!** And if you think that the powers of Satan are any less now than they were then, you are mistaken! Have you ever stopped to think that Satan has a third of the angels who were in heaven? And, believe me, they are trying with all their might to help him, and he is doing his best to try to win you and me.

We believe in Christ; we believe He is our only Saviour and there is no other name given under heaven whereby man can be saved. We know that to be a fact. As He appeared to the people of Nephi, so will He appear again to the righteous here. Many of us wonder, where will He come? He certainly wouldn't want to go where He would be a stranger, but to where they are teaching His gospel, because He would feel right at home there. I hope and pray that we might all be found in that condition when He does come again.

In the 3rd chapter of Revelation Christ is speaking.

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, evn as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches" (19-21).

I hope and pray that the Lord will always be with us to direct our complete activities, so that when He comes again, we will be welcomed with open arms.

Thank you.

THE POPULAR MAN

He has no enemies, you say!
My friend, your boast is poor;
He who hath mingled in the fray
Of duty that the brave endure,
Must have made foes.
If he has none

Small is the work that he has done,
He has hit no fraud upon the hip,
He has shook no cup from perjured lip,
He has never turned the wrong to right,
He has been a coward in the fight.

THE TEMPLE OF GOD, WHAT AND WHERE?

"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fuller's soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years" (Mal. 3:1-4).

Malachi tells us of the coming of Christ to His temple, preceded by a messenger, called by the scriptures the Elias. Some conclude that this refers to His coming to the Jerusalem temple during His ministry. But, let us look again.

1. He shall be like a refiner's fire.
2. He shall purify the sons of Levi.
3. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem shall be pleasant to the Lord as of old.

When did He act as a refiner's fire to purify the Levites (the priestly caste of the Jews) of their Mosaic rituals and make them as gold and silver, so that their offering is pleasant to Him? It was not at the time of His first coming. These same Levites were the ones who brought blasphemy charges against Him; their offerings could not have been pleasant. In 70 A. D. the Roman army under Titus destroyed the temple; in 135 A. D. another Roman emperor, Hadrian, drove the Jews from Palestine. This purifying, which will make the offerings of Judah pleasant, is yet to come — in these latter days.

What is a temple? Christ said, **"My house shall be called the house of prayer"** (Matt. 21:13).

According to Webster and the Cruden Concordance, a temple is a house of prayer, a place of public worship, a church edifice, a dwelling or building erected and set apart for worship of God.

One objection to this literal definition has been this: the temple of the New Testament times was the body of Christ.

"Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days. But he spake of the temple of his body" John 2: 19-21).

A second objection is that the temple is our bodies.

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are" (1 Cor. 3:16, 17).

A third objection made is that the temple is the spiritual body of the church.

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (John 5:1).

"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord; In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit" Eph. 2:19-22).

The sense of these passages is symbolic; they use metaphors: "the temple of his body"; "our earthly house". A metaphor uses one word as the image of another.

"I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth" (Num. 24:17).

"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David (Note: David was not the Star, nor the Sceptre.) and the bright and morn'ng star" (Rev. 22:16).

"But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall" (Mal. 4:2).

Another objection has been: authority for building the temple depends too much on the Old Testament. If this is sustained, Christ and His work will also be rejected. Many Old Testament prophecies of Christs and His mission are not yet fulfilled. Were they false? If an extension is allowed for one, then we must allow the same for the others.

On the other hand, some feel that the command is only found in modern revelation. Obeying modern, or contemporary, revelation is in harmony with past precedents.

"Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry. Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him. Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoics, encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? other some, **He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.** And they took him, and brought him unto Areopagus, saying, **May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is?** For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean" (Acts 17:16-20).

The "strange things" were, of course, the tidings of Jesus.

"By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of righteousness which is by faith" (Heb. 11:7).

Contemporary revelation has always been subject to criticism and contempt. The Church of Christ dares not reject modern revelation; she shall be diligent to accept only that which does not contradict former revelation.

"We believe in the principle of continuous revelation; that the canon of scripture is not full, that God speaks to men in every age and among all people . . ." (Articles of Faith).

Does the Bible or the Book of Mormon indicate that the gold plates would be found, or an angel appear to Joseph Smith, in New York State? Do they mention him or David Whitmer or Oliver Cowdery? Do they say that the church would be legally established in this same place? (They do say that the church would be restored, and tell of witnesses.) If these comparatively modern events are rejected, the very foundation for our church is removed, however.

True, in a metaphoric way, the Church is the temple of God. Still, Christ and His disciples met in houses, upper rooms, temples and synagogues, all materially composed. (See John 12:3; Acts 1:13 and 2:46; Luke 24:53.) Nor do we deny that the body is a temple of substance and is the home of the soul. We do rely on Old Testament proof: many prophecies relating to Christ and His mission, unfulfilled during His lifetime, related to the restoration and the last days.

Nor must we reject modern revelation; we are committed to the principle. All inspired knowledge was modern when given.

If we disbelieve in the building of the temple because of small evidence in the New Testament, we must also disbelieve in the Book of Mormon. Most evidences of its divinity are found in the Old Testament. Dare

anyone attempt to establish the Book of Mormon by the New Testament alone? Christ said, **"Search the scriptures: for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me"** (John 6:39). The scriptures He spoke of were the only ones in existence, the Old Testament.

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that **the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains**, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, **to the house of the God of Jacob**; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Isa. 2:2, 3).

In the last days the Lord's house indeed shall be established and all nations come to it. "Unto" means "to", not "into". If this were the metaphoric "household" of Eph. 2:19, the nations would come "into" it. All nations shall come to the place of this house; this has not been so with the temple at Jerusalem.

Verse 3 shows that this latter day structure is to be "Jacob's house". The blessings of Jacob rested upon the sons of Joseph: Ephraim and Manasseh. The temple of Solomon was for the "house of David", who was of Judea. This difference is emphasized by "for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem".

The latter part of Isaiah 18 indicates that "Mount Zion will be in the "land shadowing with wings" (the Americas). This is confirmed by the Book of Mormon. Ether calls this a "choice land above all other lands . . . the place of the New Jerusalem, which should come down out of heaven, and the holy sanctuary of the Lord" (6:2, 3).

Then John the Revelator corroborates Ether.

"And I John saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, **Behold the tabernacle of God is with men**, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people and God himself shall be with them, and be their God" (Rev. 21:2, 3).

The latter day temple in prophesy is called: house, holy sanctuary, temple and tabernacle. Let us consider its purposes. "He will teach us of his ways and we will walk in his paths" (Isa. 2:3). Malachi 3 says that "he will come suddenly to his temple." Nephi makes a similar statement. "And then shall the power of heaven come down among them; and I also will be in the midst" (3 Nephi 10:4). There are other scriptures that show that the temple was used for teaching by Christ and His apostles: Luke 19:45-47; Acts 3:1-12 and 21:26, 27; 3 Nep. 5:1. Latter Day revelations also state that it will be for teaching the ministry. My own belief in the marvels that will be seen in the

temple is shown by these words that came into my heart.

At the gate of the beautiful Temple,
As beggars and maimed we will wait
The healing hand of our Master,
The Lord of the Beautiful Gate.

From the gate of His holy Temple
A gleam of His beauty we'll see,
Tho the light of His wondrous glory
Is now hidden from me and from thee.

From the portals of His sacred Temple
A flood of hosannas we'll hear,
And will know by the voices of singing —
The step of our Savior is near.

He cometh! He cometh! He is waiting.
At the gate of the Temple will He stand
And touch the maimed — and exulting,
We will leap with Life from His hand!

by Apostle Clarence L. Wheaton

(All scriptural emphases and parenthetics are the author's.)

AVA VISITS AGAIN

A number of events has delayed this report; I shall now gather together my notes and prepare a few remarks. Easter Sunday was a beautiful sunny day for a picnic dinner at Ava's Roadside Park, planned by Sis. Sue Smith, after the morning Service - which was a Sacrament Meeting, most fitting service to commemorate our Lord's Resurrection and to celebrate a Risen Lord. Some few were unable to attend the picnic due to sickness and previous plans having been made.

We have heard a variety of good sermons during the last two months, those by local ministers and by visiting ministers, - Bro. Joseph Smith, Bro. David Jones, Bro. Alex Smith, Bro. Leon Yates, Bro. Albert Leighton-Floyd and Bro. John Jones.

The Ava Tri-Local Day was well attended and enjoyed as the report of those attending attested. We value so much the work of those who planned and arranged this day's services and the good dinner, and wish not only to thank them but to thank all who came and helped make the day a day of service and worship unto the Lord. Deeply we thank Him for His Presence, that which really makes these meetings of worth and edifying. We personally were unable to attend due to the fact that we were in Patagonia, Arizona at the time, welcoming a new grandson, little Jason Eric Smith, son of Bro. Verl Smith and dear wife, Sandra; the baby arrived May 2, 1977; great is our joy and delight over this second grandson, also happy was his little sister Tammi over this new brother.

"And she went, and came, and gleaned in the field after the reapers" (Ruth 2:3). Here is a handful of gleanings from sermons, testimonies, study classes etc.:

Small gleanings -

Question, is the last battles of these "last days" to be physical, material? It will be physical and spiritual both; as we look back over these later days and during the time of the Reformation and the days of the Restoration of the Gospel in 1830, great was the forces of evil which rose up against this breaking forth of "light", and the "light" when it came, physical as well as spiritual battling. Forces are increasing daily against God's righteousness and humanities striving to

live these attributes and promises Christ has commanded. Each of us are becoming more aware of the viciousness of the wild "ravenous beast" (Isa. 35:9) that is "seeking whom he may devour": (I Pet. 5:8). Praying and fleeing to our Savior, and rebuking this evil by His Holy name, is our only safety, as we have not the power within us to protect us from such evil. Let us cast our care "upon Him, for He careth for you" (I Pet. 5:7). He is the "clift of the rock" (Ex. 33:22 and Ps. 94:22). He is our "sure defense" (Ps. 7:10, 59:17, 62:2), He is our "rock" (1 Cor. 10:14). "I will love thee, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies" (Ps. 18:1, 2, & 3).

Small gleanings -

In reading I Nephi, chap. 3 in the Book of Mormon, it speaks of the "many plain and precious things" having been taken out of the "book", the record of the 12 apostles in Palestine, which is the Bible; "Which were plain unto the understanding of the children of men, according to the plainness which is in the Lamb of God" verse 174 (emp, mine). This is plainness of Spirit, simple, direct, no dissembling etc. though the height and depth of His meaning grows as we grow in the Spirit, by the Spirit's piercing illumination. The Bible and the Book of Mormon bring us the fulness of the Gospel (I Nephi 4:16). "And make them one stick, and they shall be one in my hand." (Ezek. 37:19), the record of Judah and the record of Joseph, which is the Book of Mormon.

Small gleanings -

Also from I Nephi 3:189, "And who shall publish peace, yea, tidings of great joy, how beautiful upon the mountains shall they be." In the Bible we read, (Isa. 52:7) "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reign-

eth!". And in Rom. 10:15, "And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" This truly explains what it is that is **beautiful beyond measure**, not "feet", nor yet persons so full of faults and weaknesses though they be called of God; but "The Gospel of Peace" that which grows more glorious and shining unto the perfect day. "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" (Prov. 4:18). And this "path" is the path Christ trod and taught, The Gospel! O! how dearly dear and "shining" this ever continually grows!

Small gleanings -

A testimony to and of the ministering of a kindly heart of a friend that caused a young member to **feel** that she was a "real person" in God's kingdom; how blest we are in such friends whom God uses for furthering His Work in one's soul; and greater the blessing as we realize Christ is our true "friend"-of-friends, who knows and gives these helps to His followers by way of associates.

A testimony of another, while living as an isolated member of hymns being brought to mind, and of singing them as she went about her morning's work on the 1st. Sunday of the month, conscious that this was evidence to her of prayers being offered at these times for scattered members and loved ones; and of her heart joining in the service even though bodily she was absent. We are thus strengthened and encouraged to keep these far loved-ones in our prayers, not only at services but in the hours between.

Small gleanings -

" . . . he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire" (Matt. 3:11 and Luke 3:16).

"The fruit of the spirit is love etc" (Gal. 5:22).

The Holy Ghost making his abode within us and we being born of the Spirit (John 3:5-7) which Spirit is "Love"; can this love be the "fire" spoken of in Matt.; Which "fire" saves us (I Cor. 3:13-15) and this "fire" i. e. love shall try every one's work of what sort it is; this cleansing by His Love a veritable burning indeed, "a refiner's fire" (Mal. 3:2).

Pray that we may yield to this purifying "fire" of His Love, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." (Phil. 2:13) and if it be "good" it can only be for our best interests, truly our good.

Small gleanings -

"Man's extremity is God's opportunity." I had always felt we should not wait until we were to the "end of our endurance" to go to God; we should go to Him "first", So this old axiom was low in my esteem, yet on closer consideration, when one comes to the "end-of-oneself", the end of mighty-self-pride in our en-

deavors, then God can take over. We, converted and accepting God, strive greatly in our own will to serve Him, and failing repeatedly, come utterly heart-broken to Him (having come to the end-of-ourselves) pleading that He work His Will in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure. Then He through the Holy Ghost's indwelling works His Work, we yielding daily, hourly, minutely to this work of His Will, which cleanses us inwardly of all self-will, self-pride, of all self i. e. works of the flesh; Gal. 5:19 is often quoted but look at verse 20, "Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies" and verse 26, "vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another." Who of us but are guilty too often of much of these works of the flesh? These intangibles are sins of the inner man, hidden sins yet plain to the eyes of our loving Father, causing Him grief and pain.

O! may your gift of
God ever be
A gentle merciful
tranquility.

A peace born not of
indifference,
Thou hast known grief and sin
by life's experience.

The burden of which, thine own
and for others
Hast struck deep; far from
thy soul's borders.

Deep in the soul's crucible
are battles fought
More severe, more sacrificial
than any surface wrought.

Here yielded to Him, co-workers,
co-sufferers,
In His Redeeming Love,
pain-borne "brothers".

O! may your gift from this
crucible rising
Be a kindness, a gentleness,
love, a peaceful out-flowing.

Small gleanings -

"My soul, wait thou only upon God — " (Ps. 62:5-8). To "still" ourselves before Him into quietness and confidence (Is. 30:15 and 32:17) and then our prayers offered up for a definite need, a definite concern for another, or a pleading for forgiveness of a definite mistake (let us not make our petition just a generalized blanket asking) thinking that God knows better than we do our needs and failures; this He surely does but by our petitioning for each definite need we open avenues within us for the work of His Spirit to bring about an answering, or a cleansing or freeing-by-forgiveness.

Ava Reporter

MISSOURI REUNION AT EAST INDEPENDENCE LOCAL

June 24, 25 and 26 have ceased to be anticipated dates and become a collection of memories. For me the remembrance is twofold. On the one hand I can still feel the love, peace and joy. On the other — there is the inspiration to renew my efforts to do and be more what my Father desires, a longing for more and ever more of the outpouring of His Spirit. Dual emotions: fulfilled desire and increased longing. It never ceases to amaze me that two such varied conditions can coexist: the peace that passes understanding, and the never-satisfied hunger to be able to perform more service and see more blessings received. Our reunions always intensify these different, yet related, states of being.

Due to a car receiving treatment, I wasn't able to attend any of the Friday meetings. Due to a lonely husband at home, I left after the afternoon services on Saturday and Sunday. If what I derived from the services which I attended is an indication, how much I must have missed!

The Saturday morning prayer service was in the charge of Priests Gerry and Benny Case. Their youth and inexperience proved no drawback; God was with them all the way. This service ended just before 11:00 A. M. and was followed with preaching by the older brother of these two, Elder John Case. After lunch we visited, rested, cleaned up, etc., then heard an afternoon sermon by Elder Tony Grzincic. This was adjourned and the congregation witnessed a baptism service. Our new brother is Henri Vindreau, who came from his home near Paris, France for this purpose.

On Sunday the Sacrament, prayer and testament service extended through the morning. Apostle Leon Yates was in charge and was surely directed by the Spirit, which remained with us in great force. Our new family member, Henri, was lovingly welcomed. How we do pray that he may be sustained in his spiritually lonely homeplace! We would also pray that he be brought back to be with us, except that perhaps it is our Father's wish that he be used to form a new spiritual family there.

The prayers and testimonies, the songs, the almost tangible love.

The messages that came through to me from the sermons that I heard were these. We have had such boundless gifts given to us; we must not clutch them contentedly to us; they must be shared with a world in terrible need! Also echoed in my heart was the message that we can have **all the help we need** to do this, even including the gift of love, for the asking. This asking must be ardent, continuous, contingent upon God's will, and must be accompanied by faith. Even that faith can be given in increasing measure through prayer! God asks **nothing** of us that He does

not make possible. There is nothing worthwhile that we can do alone; there is nothing worthwhile (that accords with His infallible wisdom) that we **cannot** do — with His help.

It is true that we mortals cannot remain on spiritual mountaintops. Still, we can keep in our memories the heavenly view we see from those dizzy heights. This too can be attained through that marvelous tool — prayer unceasing.

Donna Moser

The Missouri Reunion is now history and although I was able to attend only two services I realized this was one of the largest reunions ever held in this locale. Our little East Local building fairly bulged at the seams with the crowd and long lines formed waiting to be fed at meal time.

I was able to attend the service at which Elder Roland Sarratt was the speaker. Words of counsel and instruction were indeed pertinent to our day and time. Brother Sarratt pointed out through scriptural reference how our pettiness as a people over insignificant things was blinding us, causing us to lose sight of the meat or kernel upon which to build. God intends this people to truly become His chosen people in these last days. Time is rapidly slipping by and we desperately need to cleanse our lives and draw ever closer to Him. The day is fast approaching in which God would pour out His wrath upon the wicked of the world. We need to draw ever closer to Him and follow more closely His teachings that we might be delivered when that terrible day of the wrath of the Lord does come. We are told in the scriptures that Christ makes this statement, "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" We must forget our pettiness; we must put on the whole armor of Christ that we can through faith and diligence become the people He wants us to be.

Elder Richard Wheaton closed the reunion by summarizing the sermons preached by the other speakers of the reunion. He said he had pondered long hours over what he should present to the people and each subject he thought on had been ably presented by another. He said he was strongly impressed that his task was to do the summing up of all that which had been presented adding the scriptural text that added weight to what had already been given. This he did and very well. The saints left feeling it was good to have met in reunion once more enjoying "God Be With You Until We Meet Again."

The locals are back in their home ports and I'm sure they are receiving and being blessed by more good counsel and instruction from their pulpits as we are at the East Independence Local.

Apostle Marvin Ely and his wife, Bernice, are with

us and Brother Ely gave us a very good and inspiring sermon again admonishing us of our great need to grow ever closer to God and to more diligently keep His commandments. We are our brother's keeper whether we realize it or not and our example can either be

a beacon for good or a stumbling block that will cause another to fall.

Let us go forward and not slide backward. Hold high the banner of truth by deeds and not words alone.

Edna R. Smith

MEMORIES OF DAVID MORRIS

The family of David Morris would like to take this way of sharing some thoughts about David, so that you might know him in the way that we would like to remember him.

David was born at Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln, Nebraska. His birthday was the 11th of September; David would have been 20 years old this coming September.

The one thing we all share about David is a memory of a happy, creative, little blond boy, who did all the things that little boys do but with a zest and vigor that left his competitors baffled, his friends envious, and his family breathless.

His sister Kathy recalls the time when David was about 6 years old, that he actually started and drove the family truck. The family still laughs to think of the truck coming around the barn, apparently driverless, till a blond head popped up, then down, as the boy alternately pressed the gas pedal and checked his direction. Kathy remembers David's squeals of delight mixed with terror the time she and David were buried under a pile of pigs on the farm as they attempted to crawl in among the pigs unnoticed. She also remembers his standing outside the house singing in a high, clear voice that was beautiful, but which he did not wish heard because he felt ashamed of his soprano tones.

Kathy and David were very close when they were small, but their closeness did not prevent them from engaging in raucous disputes. We used to refer to them as "Ma and Pa Kettle".

His brother Chris remembers swimming in a muddy pond with David. David began to squirm and wiggle; investigation revealed that he had gotten a tadpole in his britches. He had never seen one before and Chris had to explain what it was. He remembers that David was the fort builder; the two conspired many times to build forts that their older brother Mike could not find (but he always did). David was also a clubhouse builder. At one time he attempted (alone) to rebuild two barns to his own design.

David's oldest brother Mike recalls a trip over the Rocky Mountains with David. They took the dog Jemima along. As the pressure of the altitude began to be uncomfortable for the dog, the boys spent time trying to get her to swallow, all the time laughing at her antics as they tried different tactics on her.

David's mother Martha remembers the special thing that made David unique among the children. She, with some help from Bill, carried David for two years strapped to a board because he was born with a congenital hip defect.

All who knew David remember his creative talent. He wrote a letter to the rocket scientist, Dr. Werner Von Braun, asking for a rocket like the television space ship, Jupiter II, complete with a force field. David conceded that if Dr. Von Braun didn't have one of those, any old used rocket would do. He wrote in complete faith; the scientist never answered the letter.

David rebuilt an antique 16-rank pipe organ in the basement of the family home and taught himself to play it. He followed that by assembling another. At the time of his death he was in the process of building a third, including all the cabinet work. Completely without training he undertook the effort, and the unfinished organ is a work of art.

David did not know that something could not be done. To him, the thought was full partner to the deed. His lifetime ambition was to raise the sunken passenger liner Titanic. He had researched the matter through the libraries and wrote to the Cunard ship line, seeking information on the ship. They gave him their permission to raise the vessel; those who knew him never doubted he could do it.

David was the boy who raised chickens in the backyard of our home in Independence. The entire neighborhood was awakened each morning by the crowing of a rooster, possibly the only one in the city.

David was baptized into the Church of Christ on July 30, 1972. He wanted to be a church organist. He found his opportunity as assistant organist and a member of the choir of the Grand Avenue Methodist Church in Kansas City.

Perhaps the simplest memories are the best, as expressed by David's youngest brother William. William says, "David was someone who loved and cared enough to do things together." . . . things like building spook houses, going to Worlds of Fun and using David's new CB radio.

David was loved by all who took the time to know him. We want to remember him in these ways, and we invite you to share in that loving remembrance.

Bill and Martha, Michael,
Chris, Kathy and William

The following are copies of letters: one from Raja Ram, a family friend in India, the other Brother Morris' answer.

New Delhi, India
13th June, 77

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Bill Morris,

I am sad to know the untimely demise of your son David. It is so unfortunate that he took such a drastic step to end his life. It is all in the hands of Almighty. I pray to God to give peace to the departed soul and strength and power to you, your wife and other members of your family to bear this irreparable loss.

We had a very nice time with Michel and John. They are perfect gentlemen and have all good habits and qualities. They stayed with us like the members of our family. We will not forget their sweet memories.

My son, Amar Prakash who is there at Kansas City always speaks highly about your country and your people. He is very happy there. Any service for me.

With regards,
Your sincerely,
Raja Ram

Dear Mr. Ram:

On behalf of my wife, Martha, and myself, may I say that we are deeply honored by your letter of condolence and the message of hope which it contained. We received many letters, but yours, coming as it did from halfway around the world, carried a special meaning. Your letter illustrated as few things could do that, though we live in different parts of the world, separated by thousands of miles of land and ocean, and though we are separated by cultural differences, we are, nonetheless, inspired by the same ideals of love and devotion.

May I say also that I appreciate your kind words regarding our son, Michael. He has honored us, and we are grateful that you find him acceptable to your household.

Our best wishes go out to you. Once again, thank you, and may the God we both worship help you find peace and happiness in your lives.

I remain your obedient servant,

W. L. Morris

IN MEMORY OF LOIS JANE THOMPSON

Lapeer, Mich.
June 19, 1977

Dear Sister Velma:

Thank you for your kind expression of sympathy in the loss of my daughter, Mrs. Donald (Lois Jean) Thompson.

In response to your questions: she was born September 28, 1934 at Ortonville, Michigan and died March 31, 1977, at Lapeer, Michigan.

She was not a baptized member of the Church of Christ. She was, however, blessed June 23rd, 1935 by Apostle George A. Backus, assisted by Newell J. Mead, at Pontiac, Michigan. This was, as you know, at a time that the church had become divided over certain matters.

Throughout her life, circumstances having not permitted her to attend the Church of Christ, she had attended the Methodist and Baptist Churches. She had, however, gained a good understanding of the Restored Gospel from her family. She often declared her faith in the Gosepel and had defended the Restoration to others.

She suffered much trouble and sickness in her life, having had an asthmatic condition from the age of 16. She was very susceptible to pneumonia because of this. Her condition was further complicated because of her inability to tolerate any antibiotics and many other medications.

About a year and a half before her death, she was again critically ill with pneumonia. She called for the elders, and Bro. Wheaton and Bro. Brantner came at midnight to the hospital to administer to her. She was greatly blessed at that time and recovered in a comparatively short time. The hospital staff was quite surprised; they had not expected her to live until morning.

In her last illness she again called for the elders; Bro. Harold Polack and Bro. Orville Eddy came. After administration she asked for baptism and was very desirous of obeying this ordinance as soon as she was able.

I expect it is natural for one to wonder why the Lord did not spare her to do so. In pondering this question, I received some comfort and a deeper understanding of the words of James 5:14-15. Speaking of the ordinance of administering to the sick, we read; "Is any sick among you? let him send for the Elders of the Church; let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; **And the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he hath committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.**"

These are definite promises. Usually we look for a physical healing, which often does take place, but what of those times when a healing is not experienced? We know God's promises are sure, therefore the words "save", "raise up" and "be forgiven" must not be limited to physical, temporal, healing alone, but must apply to the spiritual and eternal life as well.

Realizing this, I wonder how far I may have failed to comprehend the extent and power of the many other promises of God.

"Wherefore He is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Heb. 7:25).

Elder E. J. Toulouse officiated at the service for Lois, which was held on Palm Sunday, the day the Conference opened this year. The interment was at Stiles Cemetery, Lapeer, Michigan. Besides myself, Lois is survived by 2 sons, James and John Thompson of Lapeer, 3 daughters, Mrs. Kenneth Knox (Janet) of Bristol, Indiana, Jennifer and Julie, at home. Also 2 sis-

ters, Mrs. Frank Hill (Nedra) of Lapeer, and Marion Filley of Chicago, Ill. Two small grandsons also survive, Richard and K. Adam Knox.

This may not be of much help for the record, but could possibly be of some interest and encouragement to some readers of the Zion's Advocate. You may submit it for publication, if you wish. With my deepest appreciation for the prayers and sympathy of my Brothers and Sisters.

"We know all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28).

Sister Vida Filley

OBITUARY

Eva Jean Boucher

Services for Mrs. Eva Jean Boucher, 48, of Maysville, Arkansas, who died at 5:40 p. m. Monday, June 6, 1977 at the Gravette, Arkansas Medical Center where she had been a patient ten days, was at 2:00 p. m. Thursday, the 9th, at the Maysville Bible Church at Maysville, Arkansas.

The Rev. Billy Smith and Elder James M. Case of the Church of Christ officiated and burial was at Lee Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of the Lawson Funeral Home, Jay, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Boucher was born February 28, 1929, at Grove, Oklahoma. She attended school at Noel, Missouri. She married Claude Boucher on July 9, 1946 at Kansas City, Missouri. He survives.

Additional survivors include two sons, Larry Boucher, Las Vegas, Nev., and Craig Boucher, Bullhead, Ariz.; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Cantrell, Maysville; two brothers, George Cantrell, Sulphur Springs, Ark. and Thomas Cantrell, Maysville, and five grandchildren.

WHAT IT MEANS TO PRAY IN JESUS' NAME

I feel one of the greatest blessings the Lord gives me, from time to time, is that teaching of the Spirit which illuminates my understanding on some point or aspect of his truth; sometimes of something which I have just taken for granted and even practiced without really understanding it; to which he gives me a deeper and greater meaning.

One such incident recently was concerning what it really means to pray in Jesus name. Perhaps others have already clearly understood what was enlightenment to my mind: how great a privilege it is that Jesus has given us, to take our requests to his Father in his name; with his permission and authorization to ask as though he, himself were making the request for us. This also means a great responsibility and caution that we not ask for anything he cannot sanction.

As an example, there came to my mind an experience of my husband's while in France during World War II. He was put in charge of a convoy sent from the front to the supply depot with a requisition for much needed supplies. However the requisition was ignored with various excuses as to why it couldn't be filled and he was sent back to his company with empty trucks. A second time he was sent for the supplies and a second time he was given the same old run-around

and no materials and had to go again to his company with the trucks empty, which upset his commanders not just a little.

Thus it was a third time his commander came to him with the requisition plus a sealed envelope. Hubert never did know what the envelope contained, but he knew where it came from. And what a difference it made, for this time he confronted the depot personnel in the name of and with the authority of General Eisenhower himself. He said it was comical (and I'm sure it made him feel good) to see those same persons who couldn't be bothered on the previous two occasions, fall all over themselves and each other to get his requisition filled with dispatch.

Something of this is what it means to pray in Jesus' name; to petition the Father under his authorization. However this does not mean He will automatically grant every prayer made in his Son's name. He did not grant his Son's own plea, made in his humanness when in the garden he asked to be spared the cup. He could not grant it without abrogating his own purposes. But He did grant the second half, the greater part of the prayer. And so He will deal with us.

This is a great and marvelous privilege that Jesus

has given us, even in the unknowing and blindness of our humanness, to go in his name; with his authorization to the Father for our wants and needs; and it is so important that we be careful that we do not ask

in his name for that which he would not, can not sanction. And we are remiss if we ask ought in his name, without adding that second half of his own prayer.

Amy Schrader

AN ITEM OR TWO OF TESTIMONY

I was determined to start paying tithes when I went to work and though it took me a little while to set it all in gear, so to speak, I'd like to tell you of a couple of things that happened as a sort of reimbursement though that wasn't my reason for doing so. I just thought it was a necessary thing to do if I wanted to apply what was being taught, an affirmation of faith from me. I didn't really expect to benefit in a monetary way but did think "peace of mind" over it would be sufficient repayment.

Every time I sent in the 10% it came back to me in one way or another. I'd get asked to work an extra shift, receive a sick day pay (a gift, I felt) or find a bargain when I went to shop for something we needed.

For instance, I had been wanting to get a sleeper Davenport for a couple of years as we didn't have a spare room or extra place for overnight guests unless someone slept on the floor. I saw an ad for just what I wanted reduced \$80.00. It wasn't one of those sales where they mark up the price and then slash it (supposedly) as I'd been watching the price market. Also the saleslady said she didn't know how the one I picked got included in that sale price group as it was much better or higher priced normally than the group was otherwise.

Another time recently when one the boys was outgrowing his clothes, I was a little apprehensive after listening to working associates tell how they had to spend \$15 to \$20 for one pair of pants. Imagine my delight when on the day we went shopping an unadvertised sale let us purchase two complete outfits of good quality clothes for under \$20. I can only thank our good Father up above for these happenings.

When our younger son was notified he could attend a special camp for Hemophiliacs in Michigan for two

weeks free — we'd just need to pay his air fare there and back which they said was about \$90.00 — I said, "Okay, great! We'll come up with the fare." We had six to seven weeks to work it out, and again God prevailed. A few days later, I worked an extra shift, also received an extra amount on the pay check and a small state tax refund all coming to the estimated price of his tickets all in one day, Friday the 13th.

Along a different line, this incident happened. My husband was on a trip out of state with one of his big trucks and had many troublesome experiences and one very close call. He had a load on and was heading home when a front tire blew out on his cab-over tractor which sent him careening down into the ditch. It was soft after a recent rain and slowed him up somewhat; he was able to hold it and bring it back up on level ground without tipping over the load or any injury to him, his companions or the load they had on, which would have been badly damaged had the trailer turned over.

When he finished telling me about it, I asked, "When did this happen?"

"About six o'clock or a little after yesterday morning. Why?"

"Well," I said "that just when I was asking God to protect you and bring you home safely. How about that for an immediate response to prayer?"

"Sure is, cause I don't see how come we didn't tip over or worse. It could have happened in the mountains an hour earlier and we'd all been over the side and gone," he replied.

Thank you, God.

Your sister in Christ,
Mary Addie

DO SOMETHING GOOD

Many a life has been spent without any appreciable profit to mankind, while its possessor was waiting to do "something big".

But few can do the "big things" but all may do something, even though it be a little thing. Don't wait for the big opportunity, but seize the little chances

which are strewn with such great profusion in the path of all. Doing the little things that offer and doing them well, fits the doer for larger things, if the wisdom of Providence sees fit to allot the task to him. Whether the chance comes to do the single big thing or not, the man who faithfully grasps the little oppor-

tunities as they present themselves, makes good use of them, and keeps on grasping and making use of them, will find in the end that the sum total of the "little things" has made a mighty heap. Do something good and do it **now**.

(from "Evening and Morning Star", August, 1908)

CONFERENCE NOTICE

There will be a Conference of the Ministry to be held Wednesday, August 17th through Friday, the 19th at the Independence, Mo. East Local Church. The opening of the conference will be at 9:00 a. m. on Wednesday.

Provision is made for a Sacrament, prayer and testimony service, for all who wish to attend, on Wednesday evening at 7:00 p. m. On Thursday and Friday evenings, there will be public preaching services beginning at 7:00 p. m. All these services to be at the East Local Church.

There should be reports and recommendations from three committees appointed in August, 1976. Followings are the areas of concern, and those appointed:

(1) The opening of missionary efforts in new areas of the United States; Robert Jensen, Kenneth Smith and Isaac Brockman.

(2) Development of plans for revitalizing churches; John Jones, Larry Beem and Howard Leighton-Floyd.

(3) Explore means and feasibility to open foreign missions; Jim Lacy, Don McIndoo and Kenneth Hoare.

Additional matters of concern at the August 1976 conference which were to be published, are these:

(1) Individual spiritual preparation for the tasks required of a Minister of God in these latter days.

(2) Earnest fasting and prayer by all that the Lord will send forth more laborers into His harvest, and for the filling of incomplete quorums.

Please join in prayer with those of the Ministry in these matters, and for the success of the conference.

William A. Sheldon, Secy.

MISSOURI YOUNG PEOPLE'S CAMP NOTICE

The young people of Missouri will hold the first Missouri State Young People's Camp August 6th and 7th at the C. O. O. P. house in Preston, Missouri. Everyone is invited above the age of 13. All we ask is that whomever comes will do so with the intent to participate in ALL activities and meetings.

If you would like more information, write:

David L. Jones
P. O. Box 746
Rolla, Missouri 65401

or

Jody Housknecht
R. R. #1
Preston, Missouri 65732

ZION'S ADVOCATE

Second Class Postage Paid Independence, Mo. 64050 Second Class Postage Paid Independence, Missouri 64051

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

Speed delivery of your "ADVOCATE" by sending us your new address immediately. Mail to:

ZION'S ADVOCATE
P. O. Box 472
Independence, Mo. 64051

Each undeliverable "Advocate" is now costing the church 25 cents. We would rather spend this on delivering your paper than its return to us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Instructions In Ordering

Our quarterlies are not dated, but numbered, because they contain a regular course of study, and if the schools desire to make this study, they should order the quarterlies according to number so as to avail themselves of the entire course, so far as the study has been extended up to the present time. None of the courses are as yet complete.

In compliance with the action taken at the 1960 General Sunday School Association General Assembly, all publications printed by the Association will be sent free of charge. SEND ALL ORDERS TO: GENERAL SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION TREASURER, Church of Christ (Temple Lot), P. O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051.

	Price Each
Primary, Volume 1, No. 1, Childhood of Jesus	N/C
Primary, Volume 1, No. 2, Jesus' Ministry (Out of Print)	
Primary, Volume 1, No. 3, Jesus' Ministry con't.	N/C
Primary, Volume 1, No. 4, Life of Jesus	N/C
Church History for Juniors (34 pages) plus separate Teacher's Guide) by Sr. Donna Moser	N/C
The Book in the Stone Box (7 pages) by Sr. Viola Henning	N/C
The Bible Game, "Who Am I?" by Bro. Gary Housknecht	
No charge for single box.	