

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

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"Christ's Church"



In our church there's lots of love,
In our church there's lots of care,
We praise our God in heaven above,
Along with testimonies of his love,
We sing in his praise through a song,
As we feel the fellowship throughout the service
long,
In our services we all take part,
As we show the love of Jesus in our heart,
And we all kneel in prayer as someone starts
us out,
To proclaim what Jesus's love is all about,
While Jesus fills our heart with love,
We feel the spirit that comes from above,
At the last supper Jesus was betrayed that
night,
He died on the cross which he knew was right,
Just so we all could have the heavenly flight,
As we all soar to a spiritual height.

By James Addie

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DO YOU READ ME?

Greetings:

I am the "Zion's Advocate." I know that you know who I am because I've been coming here every month. In case you're not too well acquainted with me, I think it's time that you get to know me better before it's too late.

I am the official monthly publication of the Church of Christ. Over eleven hundred of me are sent out each month. Although a small percent of me is paid for by subscription, I am mostly financed by tithes and offerings.

I have been around for over fifty years and I've traveled to many places and homes in that time. I have tried to carry my share of the missionary work of the church.

I know that I'm not much to look at compared to other publications that I am often laid next to in your magazine rack. By necessity I am rather plain. I know I can't run the race of competition that the others are involved in, but you don't have to look at any advertisements or watch any commercials while you read my pages. What I do have to offer is very simple and, I hope, easily understood. My only value is in my ability to help others.

Unfortunately I have a problem. It's called **look-kemia**. Unless I get some help soon, my pages are going to turn completely white. No matter how hard

you look, you are not going to see any print on them. This is because the white corpuscles of my lifeblood are gradually overcoming the black. I'm in great need of more black corpuscles.

My editor is becoming very discouraged. He has made special requests from people that he knows can help me. He has asked for special articles which have been a big help to me for a time, but he's running out of ideas.

He has reprinted some of my old articles, but he feels that this can only be a temporary aid. He has talked about the possibility of reducing the number of pages of each issue or making me bimonthly, but he doesn't want the responsibility of proposing such a thing when in reality it would only mean the beginning of the end for me.

The priesthood members of the church used to have special interest in me; they supported me over the years by sending in articles reflecting the teachings of the Church of Christ. But now, for some reason, most of them have forgotten me. Outside of a very few who send in an occasional article, the only way I am able to carry their words is through transcribed sermons. These are good to a point, but there is something usually lost in the process of transcribing.

My actual value has been questioned from time to

time. To isolated members, I am practically the only contact with the church that they have. This seems reason enough to keep me in existence. Almost everyone in the church supports me in their verbal comments, but, as it has been said at times, what is everybody's business is nobody's business. Without

a general support of those who believe in me and my mission, I cannot stay alive.

Send me your black corpuscles soon.

Sincerely,
Z. A.

ADD TO YOUR FAITH VIRTUE

A sermon by Elder James M. Case

I'm glad to be here this morning. I have prayed through the confusion and the turmoil of the week, meeting the different people, that I might be able to bring a message to us this morning. Since last Wednesday night I had a few words constantly being spoken in my ear. It was constantly on my mind. Yesterday I was able to set for a few moments with nothing bothering me and look up those words. Those words were, "Add to your faith virtue." I will endeavor to bring you a message that I feel that the Lord has for you this morning.

I have a little reading I'd like to bring to you entitled, "They Do Hunger," by Evelyn Maples: "I am surfeited with food that does not satisfy; the wisdom of the twentieth century wise is as wood fiber filled without feeding. I hunger, Lord, let spirit manna be for me fresh every morning." I read this because of the things that are continually before us that are being fed us today.

I would like to read the first chapter of Second Peter: "Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

"And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

"Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance

shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

"Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

"Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

I wonder if we realize what the interpretation or the meaning of the word virtue is. I was surprised, and yet I wasn't surprised, as I looked this up. I want to go to the 7th chapter of Moroni and read the 52nd verse: "Wherefore, cleave unto charity, which is the greatest of all, for all things must fail; but charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth for ever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with them."

When Christ was walking among the people with his disciples, he felt someone touch the hem of his garment and he turned and said, "Who touched me?" A woman confessed she had touched his garment. And he said, "I felt virtue go out of me."

I often think of the first chapter of Romans where Paul makes the statement, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation." Since going through some of the trials that I have, I've been made to realize something. The

scriptures teach us that in reality we have no guarantee of tomorrow. We must live today that we will not need tomorrow. We are all subject to mistakes — all of us. And we all make mistakes. Unless we place ourselves in that way that when we make those mistakes and we are conscious of them, we rectify those mistakes.

Folks, I've seen those who have made mistakes and have refused to rectify those mistakes. We cannot afford to let the sun go down on us as we lay our bodies down to rest knowing that we have made a mistake and have not rectified it. This is something that God has taught us.

When we read the Sermon on the Mount and we follow the teachings there, can we pray for those that spitefully use us? Can we do that? We had better. We are told to do those things. I went through that one time, and I was told — yes, a voice spoke to me and said that I had to. I told the Lord that I could not. But I was told that I had to do it. I went out by myself and I knelt down and prayed that I might have that strength to petition His throne for those individuals. I never prayed so hard in my life and a feeling of peace and comfort came over me that I had never experienced before. The very elements that we are living in today are just the opposite.

In picking up our newspaper, in listening to the news and in listening to the T. V., we see the things that the world is producing. Most of you don't go back beyond World War II. I went through World War I and I experienced some things back there and also at the very beginning of World War II. The things that they brought out to the people were to prepare them to kill. I remember hearing a young man who was in the Navy tell his father that before they would go into a battle they would gather the men around the Admiral or Captain and he would give them a talk. He said that after he gave that talk that you would fight your own mother.

Can we have those things happen to us? Can we have those things effect us? That is what they are planning for us at the present time.

There is only one way that we have a promise. I want you to study your books; I say this with all my heart. What does the Bible, the Book of Mormon and latter day revelation teach this people, the people of Christ? There's one sure thing that it says. What was charity? The pure love of Christ. In those three books it teaches this, only the pure in heart can assist in this work. Are we pure in heart! Is there any envy? Is there any jealousy? Is there any animosity at all that we exercise daily? or maybe just once in awhile? It must go. It must be done away in our lives that we might put into operation those teachings that God has sent to us through His Dear Son. They must be made a part of our lives. And in so doing then we have a guarantee that the Lord will be our guide and

our stay. He teaches us that and we must grow daily, I mean daily, because of the things that we are facing.

The Bible and the Book of Mormon teaches us that there's going to be the days of tribulation, it don't only mean days, it means years. We've had trials, wonderful! Some of them taught us a great lesson. But there's going to be days of tribulation for we are told in the 38th and 39th chapters of Ezekiel that the Lord is going to bring the nations, and He means all of them down there in the Holy Land and bring them to their knees and make them know that He is God.

The Lord, all through the centuries of time, has tried to draw the honest of heart into His work. He can't draw them only just as far they will let Him. Therefore, He's going to make one more try to make them realize that He wants them. He's not going to make them; He's going to show them.

What do you suppose Paul saw when he was knocked down? He don't come right out and say, does he? But he immediately said, "What will you have me to do?"

Alma, the son of Alma, explains the whole thing; he would not have lived through that if it hadn't been for his father and the righteous people of that day. They knew what was taking place. Read it. They were fasting and praying that the Lord would give that boy a chance, after he was knocked down, to repent. And how long was it before he was forgiven. He says three days. He plead with the Lord to forgive him for what he had done.

At the end of that third day the Lord told him that he was forgiven, and what did he say he experienced? He knew what his punishment would have been if he didn't repent. That's the reason he plead for forgiveness from our Father in heaven. And the Lord forgave him. He had been preaching against his father and he knew better. But Satan had done something to those boys, even the sons of Mosiah.

Alma told one of his sons that when he went to those people whom he had deceived that he tried to get them to realize that he had told them a lie. He didn't get all of them to repent. He said that he could labor the rest of his days and he could not atone for the wrong he had done.

So you see how essential it is that we must put into operation those few words that were said to me the last few days. Add to your faith virtue. Put into operation in plain words the teachings of Christ that he has brought to us as individuals and as a people.

There's a passage of scripture where we are told to not let the sun go down on our wrath. That means a lot, too. I've done that a few times. My disposition has been terrible. It seemed like that while I was growing up, every time I turned around there was something against me. And I fought it. I come to realize that it doesn't make any difference what the other man thinks about me. No, but it does make a dif-

ference what I think about you. For it means we must put into operation that charity, the pure love of Christ, toward others and mean it. That is the teachings that Christ has brought to us.

I want you to know, the Lord still has His hand extended to this people, more so today than ever before. Because we are facing something and this nation is facing something that even our government officials are going to run to get away from. They are going to flee from the White House and Washington, D. C. There was something that was shown years ago to an individual; this individual saw death and devastation by war and bloodshed and plague from the west coast to the east coast. That is the cleansing that is going to take place not only here but in every land on earth, bringing about a condition whereby God's Spirit can touch the pure in heart and draw them out.

O, we've been trying to build a temple. You know why we haven't built it? Folks, it's just as plain as day. It's not time yet. The Book of Mormon indicates that the temple will be built in the New Jerusalem. Latter Day revelation says beginning at the Temple Lot.

After the cleansing, not only here but in the Holy Land, the Lord will begin to draw the pure in heart. And it will be His church, the Church of Christ. Our beliefs that are not as they should be will pass away. They will be as the chaff in the wind. Our desire only will be to follow our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. So when these things take place it says, "And this gospel of the kingdom," specifying the gospel of the kingdom, "shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all the nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

I want to tell you something, folks, I love everyone of you. When this people commence to love as they should, our countenance will even change. Those that we come in contact with will know we are chil-

dren of Christ. The light will shine to all nations when the Lord will take over His Kingdom here upon the earth.

"And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge," To obtain knowledge, we have to have God's help that we might be able to contain those things that we read. The scriptures say that the Holy Ghost will bring to our minds (remembrance) the things that are past, things that are present and things that are future.

These promises are not just to one or two persons; they are to all. But we have to work at it; we have to do it. When we do that, there are our fruits. And God will bless His people.

"And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity."

There is one thing that I've had trouble with all my life. I'll say two — temperance and patience. And I still have trouble with them. It seems like I don't have any patience — I can't wait.

I want to be like the blessed old lady that Brother Gould told me about one time up in Minnesota. There was a lady that hadn't accepted the gospel that commenced to meet with them. In the Wednesday night prayer meeting, someone asked for administration. It was explained that these things came by faith. She wasn't feeling good and she asked for administration also. A few weeks later something was said again in the prayer meeting about faith, and she got up and bore her testimony. She said, "I don't know what faith is but I sure know how it works."

That's what we have to put into operation — those things that we can grasp, and ask God for the rest, that we may be guided, that we may be aided and helped and given that assurance that we might have that life eternal. In other words, as he stated here, making our calling and election sure.

May God bless you is my prayer.

WHERE ARE THE PRAISES OF THE LORD?

Why not praise the Lord?

We can have joy with our fellow men
But they like us are made of clay.
They have weaknesses as we have weakness.
Our Lord is not the same.

Why not praise the Lord?

He is my God and my friend.
He won't let me down,
He won't be partial,
He will never teach just a theory,
but only the truth.

Why not praise the Lord?

The darkest days of my life he was there.
But where were my other friends?
Did they forget or were they busy?
But not my Lord, He was there!

Why not praise the Lord?

As I gaze out on a clear night
into the heavens He made
Their beauty, their greatness, my words
cannot describe
I want to go to Him He is my God!

by Helen Carroll

WHAT I BELIEVE

Wednesday evening, November 28, I attended prayer meeting out at our little church and although our numbers were few God met with us. The Spirit of calm and sweet peace was present. The theme seemed to center around prayer for one another.

I have realized more fully why my parents taught me, as a small child, to pray, "Thy Will Be Done", and the working power of prayer.

God wants not only for us to praise Him but to put our full confidence in Him asking for things that are needful for our well being here on earth so that we may better serve him.

Years ago when our daughter was a baby we were renting a home that was operated mostly by electricity, our water supply and all else but our heat, that too had an electric thermostat to govern it. Wages were very small and oft times the bills were very hard to meet. At this particular time we had been unable to pay our electric bill and we had been notified that on a certain date our service would be cut off. I began praying over the matter for with two small children such an act would be a great hardship on us. I knew my husband was doing all he could to raise the money to pay that bill, but no help seemed to be coming our way. So I prayed earnestly over it.

On the day our service was to be shut off my next door neighbor came over after my husband had left for work and she always came in at the back door, but this day she entered from the front door. The reason I make this statement is the events that transpired couldn't have been laid at her door, and I want to make it plain from whose hand our blessing came. As was my custom I offered her a cup of coffee and going to my kitchen, which was at the back of the house, and opening my cupboard to get a cup for her, this is what I found. Laying on the cupboard shelf by my cups was money in just enough amount to pay our electric bill, not one penny more and not one penny less, just the exact amount.

Thinking my husband had left it there and didn't tell me, I went to the telephone and called him at work. The answer I got from him was, no, he hadn't left the money for he didn't even have car fare to get to work, he had walked a good many miles from our home. I then knew that some how God had answered my prayer for help for I had asked Mrs. Rice, my neighbor, if she had put it there and her answer was also no. With her help with the children I got in the car and drove the few miles to where we paid our electric bill. As I did this I wondered why Ken, my husband, had not taken the car, but that too I learned was a part of God's answer to my prayer. Ken told me that evening when he got home the car wouldn't start for him for it was out of gas; but it started for me and although there was only gas enough to take me to pay the bill, it did that and home again.

No one could ever make me believe there is no God and that He doesn't answer prayer, for in my own life I've seen the workings of answered prayer and it's power too many times. I'm now considered one of the senior citizens, but my belief in the blessings now and all through my sixty some years of life have been the answer to earnest heart felt prayer. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. All He asks of us is that we believe that He is and trust Him to care for us. I don't mean we should sit down and have Him feed, clothe and care for our every need and we do nothing. He expects and rightly so, for us to show our faith in Him by our good works. Faith without works is dead the Bible says.

The gospel of Christ is pure and so simple that even small children can understand. The very principles of the Gospel are, Faith, believe God is; Repentance, a sincere Godly sorrow for our sins; Baptism, the cleansing of sins through the water and the power of His blood shed upon the cross; The laying on of Hands, for the reception of the Holy Ghost which leads and directs us in to paths of righteousness; Resurrection, when we shall be raised from the dead as was Christ; and finally Eternal Judgement. where we all will stand before the judgement bar before God and Christ to be judged, everyone according to the works they have done here in life upon God's footstool. How much plainer or simple can anything be than that which Christ Himself planned to bring we sinners back to Him. The Gospel is not some complicated plan, but one by which every man, woman and child can understand and come unto Him for the salvation of their souls and be saved.

It was to the common people Christ came in the Bible times and it is to the common people now that the Gospel makes its appeal. The rich and mighty feel it is too far beneath them or just a cloak to don on Sunday. No, the Gospel is a plan of life by which our lives must be governed and not just joining a church, for after all a church is only a collective body of God's children working and praying together that His will be done. How then when we see the wonderful power of God manifested in answer to earnest heart felt prayer could we doubt that He lives today and still rules over us if we will but let Him. He gives us our own choice. So, dear readers, let us choose wisely that our souls may be saved, and pray earnestly, daily for one another especially those we see sinking deep in sin. The Bible says God loves the sinner not the sin and He will cleanse us if we'll let Him.

I believe with all my heart and pray daily over all things in my life also for those I meet and those I hear of needing the healing power of prayer. It is a mighty force especially united prayer for a common cause.

The Bible tells us to pray off and in secret and that God will reward us openly. I believe that with all my heart for I've seen it happen. Let us all pray for one another and the onward progress of God's great plan of salvation.

Although the greatest prayer of my life has not yet been answered, the complete healing of my husband, I still can say, "Thy Will be done, oh Lord" and truly mean it. He knows what is best for us. There must be a reason, although in our humanness we still ask why, He knows the reason and I try to be content and say that is enough.

The time is growing short until Christ shall come again; therefore let us unite in mighty prayer ever praying and mean it with all our hearts, "Thy Will be done"; cast out the spirits of evil that abound and oft times invade the church so that "His Will will be done"!

Pray for us for we are in great need of your prayers. The leg Ken broke December 20, 1978, although healed, doesn't seem strong enough to permit him to walk on his crutches as yet. Our prayers are for all and for God to rule and over rule for the benefit of His people.

Edna R. Smith

MEMORIES OF THE TRI-STATE REUNION

With the guest book full of names and our hearts full of joy the straight and narrow path may become the old, old path through memories of those most dear. The handshakes, the hugs, the closeness of those whom you love are of course strong in our memories and we shall surely want to return for such a feast again as there was nothing to molest the free flowing of brotherly love we all so much need.

Along with this feeling of togetherness from afar came another feeling that's felt within, the Spirit of God burning its mark into our character. This spirit was felt in our meetings and in our fellowship.

The opening meeting, presided over by Bro. Sheldon and Bro. Jensen, was a unique opportunity for us to find out the concerns that are important to our apostles. This meeting was a question and answer session and it enjoyed good productive participation. There was a freedom of spirit and free flowing of ideas that was both informative and pleasant to be a part of.

Saturday's second set of meetings consisted of two sermons by Bro. Ray Hunholz and Bro. John Gill.

Bro. Ray's sermon explained the knowledge of Christianity and it's truth down through time and that the full knowledge of the gospel was preached in every time.

He explained that all beliefs and religions actually were derived from the belief in God, the Christ Child, virgin mother and the plan of salvation. Man polluted the truth by his own greed, pride, vanity, and fleshly wants; thereby creating pagan forms of worship with only grains of truth in them.

He said some have the misconception that Christianity evolved from pagan religions which carry a similitude of Christianity when in reality all pagan religions stem from Christianity and the plan of redemption which was given to man from the beginning.

Bro. John Gill's sermon admonishes us that quitting or putting things out of our lives was not the whole job. In fact in comparison to the responsibilities of serving

our fellow man it is by far the lesser task.

He said we should repent and then go on to the weightier matters of the law for we as Christians (saints) have a service to do for the Lord. He has commanded us to preach and teach His words, to visit the sick, feed the hungry, clothe the poor, and visit those in prison. Bro. John said, don't think for a minute that you have in anyway begun a pathway to heaven because you quit this or that bad thing that someone else still does. Indeed the devil may be, even in the thought, capturing you through pride or vain glory.

You must be humbled by the fact that you quit this or that and from that humbled awareness of your humanness come before Christ asking His forgiveness as any sinner, and then decide to serve Him. Then from that choice to serve those about you, and actually doing it, you may be blessed by the grace of God to put those things forever behind you. It was the sinner who cried, praying, "forgive me a sinner", who had a broken heart and a contrite spirit, not the Pharisee.

With the Spirit Bro. John warned us to not get the idea that it isn't important to repent, because it is. But repentance is not service. By repentance we may become more efficient servants but if after having repented we do not start reaching out to serve we may become unprofitable servants.

We later enjoyed a song fest and sharing time led by Randy Sheldon. During this time, spent together, we grew in our knowledge of one another as we blended our voices and spirits. From this our hearts were made glad as we retired to cabins and smaller family circles.

The bell in the bell tower echoing on the bluffs of the narrow valley woke us to the sabbath morning.

Sunday's spiritual feast, so much like Christ's last supper, was a sacrament service where we took bread and wine in remembrance of His body and His blood and the covenant each of us had made with our God.

Many prayers and testimonies were a part of the spirit that flowed freely among us. When the meeting came to an end the spirit of brotherhood and love did not.

The afternoon gave us a shower of talent offerings. The efforts of those preparing for this feast was deeply appreciated. It's one thing to come but another to make special preparations; to perform a talent offering is a responsibility and a joy realized by the performer and appreciated by all.

This reporter says thanks to all who planned, worked and struggled to make the talent offerings, as the

whole reunion, a success. So thanks to the planners, to the workers, to the violin players, to the guitar players, to the singers, to the performers of skits, to the cleaners and scrubbers and to the ministry. We came to be fed and we were fed. Some more, some less. Some right on the need and some with more study to go.

I sincerely hope to see all of you and many more next year.

Your Brother in the Love of Christ,
John R. Gill

TEMPLE LOT LOCAL NEWS

Well, once again its time to write another news report on our activities here in the "Center Place". But we are such a large group and so many things are happening all the time, I'm not sure I'll be able to recount it all.

Some of our speakers since I last wrote were, John Case, Bill Morris, Nicholas Denham, Roland Sarratt, Jack Sprague, LeRoy Wheaton and Dick Wheaton. The gist of some of the lessons brought to us were that we were to serve God in love, not fear and in serving God we must serve our fellow man. The Church is "Me" and we must not involve ourselves so much with the world and become more concerned with our eternal lives, spending our energy on the things that truly are important to our salvation. We need to be closer to one another for time is running out for ourselves and for our nation. We must prepare ourselves and remember we are free to act for ourselves to choose either "death" or the way of "eternal life". It is later than we think and are we satisfied with our accomplishments, with the way we have spent the time God has given us? or do we feel we still need to do more?

Well, I for one, sure feel unsatisfied with my accomplishments and pray that God will help me see the many opportunities He gives me to serve Him, so I won't always have such good "hindsight" and see those opportunities after some one else has utilized them.

We are very grateful for the blessing Manon Lawrence has received. Most of the summer, until now, she has been suffering with a mysterious fever which has made her feel miserable. After visiting two doctors who did nothing for her except tell her they thought she had a very serious illness, she went to the third doctor. Of course, during all this time she had been administered to several times and we all have been remembering her in our private prayers. Then the marvelous blessing came, the third doctor said all her blood tests were good and no sign of the dreadful disease suspected! She just has a great many allergies which give her much discomfort (and there are many of us who can personally sympathize with this

problem). But we know the Lord is able to heal this problem also and we will all still be remembering Manon.

We've had special prayer meetings for our Brother, Apostle Archie Bell and his family. We were so pleased he was well enough for our pastor, Al Harris, and Archie's nephew, (a registered nurse) Gerry Case, to bring him home to Independence via airplane. But he is still in very serious condition and needs our prayers most constantly.

We held the ordination service to the office of elder for our two young brothers, Gerry and Benny Case, in the evening of October 21. They were ordained by their father, Marvin Case and their grandfather, Maynard Case.

On November 4th the youngest son of Gerry and Gary Adams, Nicholas (Nicky), was baptized by Maynard Case and confirmed by Maynard Case and Nicholas Denham. It was a beautiful sunny day, but very chilly, our young brother was very determined "weather" or no!

Since I last wrote, we've had some very welcome visitors. Mr. Bill Clements, who just returned from Central America has been a frequent visitor. My cousin, Twylia Yates, was in town visiting her sister, Shayla, and came to the Temple Lot for a visit. Gary and Neva Housknecht were recent visitors when they came to attend a baby shower Neva's family gave her for their expected first. (We never get to see enough of our family from south Missouri.) We are also very pleased to report that Sister Janice Welch is in town visiting her parents with her two little girls while her husband, Gary, is in Atlanta for some special schooling. She will be here until after Thanksgiving. We certainly enjoy hearing her lovely voice in congregation singing as well as in the specials we can persuade her to sing for us. Janice is one of those special people who are always pleasant to be around because of her sweet cheery personality.

Mark and Kathy Harris were blessed by the arrival of a little sister for her son, Eric, on Friday, November 9th. Danielle Lynette arrived "weighing in at 8½

lbs. and 20" long. Grandmother and Grandad, Joyce and Al Harris, are taking care of Eric while Mom is in the hospital. When last seen in Church Sunday, great fun was being had by all!

The United Workers have started meeting again with the beginning of the Fall and Winter season. They meet in different homes, have a study class and then share lunch with one another.

We have a joint choir here in Independence, the East Local and Temple Lot Local combined. They prepare special songs to be sung at both locals and for our sick in the hospital. All this under the able direction of Sister Martha Bruner.

November 10th, a Bishop's meeting was held at the home of Al Harris while the Ladies used the Church building for a shower for Sister Irene Seibel. Even though this is Irene and Harvey's 8th, Irene had never had a baby shower in her honor! On the same day, later in the afternoon, a baby shower was given in honor of Jane Ann Stancil at the home of Sister Jewel Beem.

Because of the Bishop's meeting that week-end, I was able to have my Mother and Father, Bro. and Sister Oren and Esther Caviness, stay with us! We had such a great time catching up on all the visiting. I thought when they finally moved back here from Arizona I would get to see them more, but we all live such busy lives, it hasn't worked out that way. So I hope the Bishops continue to have these meetings once a month, that way I get to visit with them at least that often!

Barbara Case's parents (from St. Louis, Missouri) were in visiting over the same week-end. They are such friendly people, we always love to have them meet with us while they are in town.

At our sacrament service in November, Brother Marvin Case spoke to Bro. Don Case by the Spirit of the Lord, telling him it was time to take up his call as a Priest, that the Lord would magnify him in this calling and bless his family and his work in this responsibility. There were several testimonies to this admonition, Brothers Richard Wheaton, John Case and Maynard Case. Brother Maynard Case added that the

Lord would have a special blessing for Bro. Don in this work. So we would ask all of you, our brothers and sisters in the great family of Christ, to remember Brother Don during this time of decision, as well as, Brother Warren Johnson, who was also admonished to take up his call a few months ago.

One last item I am so pleased to report — Sister Sylvia Seibel is out of the Armed Services and now living here in town with her sister, Lovita. We are so glad to have her cheerful presence with us once more!

I must say "hasta luego" for now, and tell you, each one, that we love you and enjoy reading the news of your area and the testimonies of God's blessings to you.

My prayers are that the Lord will bless us all, forgive us our transgressions, make us aware of our faults and give us wisdom, courage, strength and a lively sense of our responsibilities. That God will remember His ancient covenanted people. I pray also for our many sick and afflicted, the isolated, the discouraged, our young people (on whose shoulders the future depends) our ministry and our brothers and sisters in Yucatan, overseas and throughout the world.

Your sister,
Velma J. Wheaton

FLASH! A special news item. Since I finished writing this to all of you and before I was able to get it to the editors, we've had another special event! John and Barbara Case had twin boys Friday, November 16th. They were named Marvin Gabriel (4 lbs. and 11½ oz.) and called "Gabe" for short and just 10 minutes later Joseph Tobias (5 lbs. and 5 oz.) and called "Toby" for short. When born, Toby had difficulty breathing and was sent to the special unit at Children's Mercy Hospital. But at last report, is doing fine and has been returned to Mother and his twin at the Medical Center of Independence. God's blessings to this little family and to the Harris' as well. Is anything any more wonderful that our little ones?

That's all for now.

Life's heaviest burden is to have nothing to carry.

Better do a kindness near home than go to a far temple to burn incense.

We need life in our hopes to put hope in our lives.

The courage to speak must be matched by the wisdom to listen.

The best health insurance is moderation.

The greatest of all arts is the art of losing ourselves in the service of others.

More men fail through ignorance of their strength than through knowledge of their weakness.

EAST INDEPENDENCE LOCAL NEWS

Greetings once again from the little white church at the fork of the road east of Independence.

We have been enjoying a goodly attendance at our meetings and much spiritual food has been served by our local ministry as well as from guest speakers.

The harvest is ripe and so few of God's servants to go out and gather in the souls of those seeking God's way and earthly church. We need to be ever prayerful for one another, as Satan is surely on the rampage knowing his days are drawing to a close. Praying is one act Satan would like to do away with. He doesn't want us to gather together and pray earnestly to God our Saviour; therefore, we must be more determined than ever to meet often and pray with one accord that God's will be done and that we be ever faithful to our covenant made in the waters of baptism.

Brother and Sister Paul Liekness made a trip early in November to Tennessee to visit their daughter, Amy Wilson, and her husband, and for the Thanksgiving holiday she came home for a few days visit. We regret that her husband, Bruce, was unable to come as his job kept him in Tennessee. We hope that for the Christmas season they both will be able to come for a visit with Amy's parents.

November 3rd found a group from the local church assembled at the Temple Lot parking lot at 7:30 in the morning to journey to places of interest to all believers in the Restoration. They went to Adam Audi Aham, Far West, Haun's Mill, where the great massacre of the saints took place, Richmond, Missouri, and the Liberty Jail, where the prophet Joseph Smith and a group of early elders were held for so long. There were about 23 persons that went in a four car caravan. Brother Maynard Case gave an interesting sketch at each of the historical places and at the Reorganized Latter Day Saints Church at Far West. Elder J. E. Dobson showed slides that were interesting and the narration that accompanied them of the history surrounding that locality and of the early saints that had settled there. All are now gone but there had been great numbers at one time. Here also we ate our lunch that had ben brought by us in the basement of the Far West Church.

A group journeyed to Phoenix, Arizona for the reunion from our local. The Robert Oldham family, Brother Smith Brickhouse and family, all except the two youngest members whom Grandpa and Grandma Ray Hunholz cared for while their parents were gone, Brother Ron Temple and family, Brother and Sister Wm. Sheldon. The reports these good people gave of that reunion has given new courage and zeal to press ever onward in the great work God has placed in our hands to do. God grant we are worthy stewards and an honor to our God.

God places a task upon each of us who have answered His call and gone forward into the waters of baptism, the door by which we enter His Kingdom. Just how well we perform those tasks is shown in the lives we lead. We can either become a light that is set upon a hill which can and will guide those seeking the way of righteousness, or a tempest that destroys. God grant our lives are bright and shining lights showing we are earnestly striving to follow Him thereby leading others into the paths of righteousness that leads to joy and happiness. We never know what small act or deed might be just what someone we come in contact with will set their feet firmly on the right path. It might help them over a rock that has hindered their progress and thus enable them to take the next step upward.

I hope that the press of everyday living that has hindered me from getting these few items to the Advocate Editor can be eased and the next ones will be on time.

The news from other locals help each and everyone of us for it or they act as a thread in drawing us closer together into one big family though we are scattered all over this broad land. We are God's children residing here on His footstool and we need each other. Each of us knows, I'm sure, how warm we feel when our individual families gather together and the love for one another radiates to one and all, so is it true with God's family and news from the various other locals acts the same way. We no longer become just a name upon the page, but a dear brother or sister all working toward the same goal.

Edna R. Smith

When error sits in the seat of power and of authority, and is generated in high places, it may be compared to that torrent which originates indeed in the mountain, but commits its devatation in the vale.

—Colton

Only a perfect people can practice socialism; but if perfect, they wouldn't need socialism.

A man protesting against error is on the way toward uniting himself with all that believe in truth.

—Carlyle

AVA, MISSOURI REPORTING

We've enjoyed many good sermons by Brethren Marvin Case, Roland Sarratt, Eugene Gould and Kenneth, Arthur and Alex Smith, Norman Warfield and Tony Grzincic. We gained much food for thought and admonition for making preparation in living more fully in righteousness.

One question asked, "If a prophet came now out of the wilderness or desert, not belonging to our Church would we listen to him?" We know as recorded in Matt. 3:1 that John the Baptist came so. Isn't the focal point in this question, are we acquainted enough with the Spirit of God that we would be able to discern whether this prophet spoke truth by God's power, whether the prophet be of our Church or one passing through the land?

All good comes from God, (James 1:7) and all love is from God; then to realize this we know that to have this pure love we must reflect it in purity, act it, give it forth freely.

Remember the manna as related in Ex. 16, which soured or spoiled if it was hoarded. It must be gathered every day fresh for each day's use; then it was good and sweet. So it is with God's love, it must be received anew every day and continually through each day, in order to know it's precious sweetness, and it must be freely given forth, freely expressed, freely extended to all, how'er quietly it be done in order for the continual inflow; thus a living branch to Him who is the Vine.

Another thought expressed, that it so often seems that to have an illuminating experience of God's Presence and rejoicing in this precious strengthening to our faith, that the aftermath is fresh attacks of the tempter by trials, added worries, distresses of many kinds. This we know by experience to be true, and also that as spiritual growth increases, or progress is made, the on-slaughts of temptations, poisonous darts, confusions, turmoils etc. increase by satan's concentrated attacks, he knowing his time is short comes like a roaring lion seeking those he may devour, destroy; desiring the misery for others that he suffers.

Do not forget we have a sure refuge in Christ, proven over and over through all our lives. Heed the Spirit's warning and flee to Him immediately.

Most of Christ's commandments are with promise, so to view His commandments as just orders from some crushing power, is to rob them and oneself of such riches besides setting up a rebellious antagonism with hearers.

But when we realize His commandments are truly loving advice to us out of deep concern for us, and are that which will be for our best benefit, our best good, in living our lives in true joy; and that there are blest promises coming to us as a result of living His Way, the whole picture changes and we long to be

more fully surrendered to His Will, more truly "committed".

Faith great enough, though it be but the size of a mustard seed, can remove mountains; this was an actual mountain the brother of Jared moved, a mountain named "Zerin", Ether 5:30. And while the details are not given, this does not detract from the fact that it was a real mountain and it was really moved; we are sure there was a valid reason for this to be done, valid in God's sight, not a mere act of side-show level, nor would He condone an indiscriminate idle shifting of mountains for no reason; one's neighbors might become incensed were we to move a mountain and cover up their farms. Christ in Matt. 17:20 was not speaking insuch an idle vain; His words are ever of deepest and highest levels of meaning and importance, thus we can readily realize He was speaking too of mountains,

of spiritual blindness,
of vast unrighteousness,
of unlovingness and unkindness,
of lacking the pure love of God dwelling in us,
of indifference and disobedience,
of paralyzing fears and unbelief,

that which prevents us from making a total commitment to Him, be they fears, or because we are wrapped up in self that last hard-knot of selfness we don't want to yield into His hands; not realizing the blessedness of the inflooding Light and Love we are closing out by this fear; this holy treasure before which, when tasted, we tremble in an adoring fear lest we mar it, deny it, or so besmirch that it withdraws from us; an holy fellowship, a heavenly treasure foretasting.

THE OBSTACLE

Do not look at the mountain,
The mountain that is there,

The mountain which causes thy despair;
Glue not thine eye upon that mountain,
lest it grow to fill thy whole sky.

In the many hours of prayer,
Tempted to feel no one to care;

Thine eye is fastened on the mountain;
Rather, thou must feast thine eye
wholly on God, the Most High.

Release unto Him the blocking mountain
By turning completely to Him

In faith of a pure heart's esteem,
Release this obstacle to God,
head of the Fountain.

Mysteriously by unseen ways
As thou work through hours, days;

Thou in sweet heart - release resting
 "Beyond understanding" in "peace"
 may ask - "Where is that mountain?"

d. s.

Ether 5:12, "But in the gift of His Son, hath God prepared a more excellent way, and it is by faith that it hath been fulfilled;"

How truly is Christ and His teachings our most "excellent way". We read also in 1 Cor. 12:31, and all

of chapter 13 of this more excellent way: "But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way." Now read the whole of chapter 13, which explains in detail what this beautiful, excellent way consists of, that which must grow and dwell in our souls and in all our actions, inward and outward, that which controls our thoughts, our tongues, our doings, our emotions and even our memories, cleansing, purifying, healing by His Mercy and Grace.

OKLAHOMA NEWS

The Oklahoma church group met December 2 with Barbara and Mike Kimble near Shawnee. We were so happy to have Apostle and Mrs. Bill Sheldon and the Ron Temple family with us. They were returning from a Western missionary trip and came by to see the Kimble family when we had planned our second church meeting.

December 2 was a beautiful autumn Sunday. It was a good day for traveling and we were glad because some of us had a good many miles to drive. I left my home in Weatherford at about 7:15 a. m. and went by Laura Mae Elwell's. We drove together to the Kimble home and enjoyed a nice visit together. Since we are both school teachers we never run out of good conversation.

Apostle Sheldon opened our service the usual way with a beautiful hymn, a most inspirational prayer, and a short talk appropriate for this sacred occasion. After the sacrament was served, the opportunity for prayer and testimony, and song was available for those who wished to contribute. We all felt and enjoyed the inspiration of the good Spirit.

Apostle Sheldon reminisced about his lengthy stay in Oklahom City in 1967. It was at the VA Hospital that Brother Sheldon learned how very much everyone loved him. The prayers of many people were offered

in his behalf and even though it seemed he would not live another hour, he did. Even his doctor realized a power beyond mankind had helped him. It is hard to understand why we have to endure painful experiences, but even so, we grow spiritually provided we allow this good Spirit to grow within us. And so it was with Brother Sheldon, his family and all his friends. Those memories are very vivid and with these memories comes tears of humility, thanksgiving, and love as he so beautifully tells his story. It is VERY meaningful to me for I remember those days and so does Laura Mae.

Next, we enjoyed a lovely Sunday dinner prepared by Barbara. We were so glad to have these dear people from the great state of Missouri to share it with us. It gets pretty lonesome "out where the West begins" for we don't see church people very often.

When we said our good byes, we planned our January meeting. Unless something unforeseen develops, we will meet with Laura Mae and M. G. Elwell in Del City the second Sunday in January. If any of you readers are passing through this area, we invite you to join us for our worship service.

From all of us in Oklahoma, we wish you a most Happy New Year and may God bless each of you.

Alzada Keeny Massey

REQUEST FOR TESTIMONIES

Have you a testimony written
 To glorify the Father in heaven?
 His goodness to you is evident
 His blessings have made you His testament.
 Let the light of your testimony shine
 Across miles of earth and through endless time.
 What a wonderful book it could be
 In the hands of one struggling to see.
 The glory of God let each one express

Do not delay. This is no time to rest.
 Anxious for your personal reply
 My prayers for your letters heavenward fly.

Not exactly a poet but . . .

Karen Malone
 18840 North 30 Street
 Phoenix, Arizona 85024

THANK YOU ALL

I was reading in the Book of Mosiah the other evening. I was reading chapter nine, where Alma was about to baptize a number of Nephite people. In verse 37 it reads, "He did teach them, and did preach unto them repentance, and redemption, and faith on the Lord. And now," he says, "as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light; and mourn with those who mourn, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things."

How I have seen these things take action since I've been sick. I have had so many wonderful things done for both myself and my family. Those who have not been here to have done physical labor, have sent cards, letters, and money. I would like to tell you of "some" of those burdens our local has done for us.

I came home from the hospital after having fluid taken from my lungs, and what should I find but the women cleaning out one of the dirtiest basements they had ever seen; not only that, but they brought their own things to clean with. How neat and clean it looked when they had finished. This was not an easy task.

Then since I've been sick, we have not only had our brothers and sisters visit us from away, but friends as well. Every day the meals were cooked and brought. Pies baked, bread and many more things, and another day they all came and washed my windows, storm windows and all.

My husband, son, and daughters, and sister can never do enough and I could never tell you what is done for me every day. I just listened to my son, David's, tape of his last sermon here in Houston, "Something Good Is Going to Happen." Something good happens to me every day.

Yes, we have a loving church family, and as Alma says, "as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light." I know our little church stands and struggles sending forth rays of light that all may see. You see, it is these sermons that bring back to mind such as Alma. You can read and hear them and you never seem to get enough. It reminds us of what we should be about, be loving and kind to all about us.

I thanked God for my family and my church family, and all the good things "He" gives us each day.

May God bless each of you is my prayer,

Love, Verna Jones

The Bible "has its gaze fixed on God, not on man, on truth, not on happenings, on the constant force of love, not on the fluctuations of power, and so it can never become outmoded or irrelevant."

Malcolm Muggeridge

I AM GRATEFUL

I am grateful that I know there is a God!

I am grateful there is a me, too.

I am glad that God made me and gave me this opportunity in life.

I am not happy with what I am, but I'm hopeful that I may still become what He intended when He made me.

I am grateful for a Savior, who gave his life that I might live - not only this mortal life but also an immortal one.

I am grateful for His promise to always be with us, to bless and sustain and protect, even at those times when we are too dull of spirit to be aware of Him.

I am grateful for the presence and the peace of the Holy Spirit, which surpasses understanding; which can put a melody deep within the soul even though the heart be breaking.

I am grateful I was born to parents who taught me to revere God; to be honest, to love and seek for truth.

I am grateful for that revelation which God has made to me of himself, yet yearn to know Him better; in a closer and clearer and deeper relationship.

I am grateful for family and friends who bear me up to the Lord's blessing on the arms of their interceding prayers.

I am grateful God gave us the capacity to love, and to love deeply, even though loving means sharing pain as well as joy.

I am grateful for every comforting glimpse of heaven that has been given to lift our hearts over the throes of death and separation.

I am grateful that the beauty of this world will continue - perfected into the next; that nothing which has been good will be lost.

I am grateful for the hope and promise of Eternal Life; that we too may stand in the presence of our Maker, perfected, and that we will yet look upon our Savior's face.

I am grateful for the years God has given me with my companion, one of the sweetest, finest persons the heart of God ever loved into being, grateful that the blush of new love matured through those years to an affection so deep and rich that it defies description.

I am grateful for the promise of the resurrection, that what has been begun here - sought, found, learned, can continue and be enjoyed without end.

I am grateful for the promise that we will meet and mingle again with those whom the Lord has called home.

I am grateful that God is God, and that He has made himself a Father to us; grateful that God is love and that we are the cherished children of that love.

I am grateful.

TO BELIEVE OR NOT TO BELIEVE

Humanity has ever been faced with a real paradox in attaining faith. In every attempt to believe there has always been the unexplained questions which place a serious challenge to believing. Those questions are not raised to justify unbelief, they simply rise too high for some to surmount (without explanation) in order to believe with anything but blind following.

Christianity propounds a God . . . A Creator, aganst atheism's no God . . . evolving coincidence. Christianity propounds a God who is good. Some primitive religions propound one as fierce. Christianity magnifies the good attributes and tries to explain the other, primitive religions seek to appease the fierce and scarcely acknowledges the good.

This is the paradox; if God is all good, how can His creation be subjected to so much that is pain and grief and suffering? But the paradox is just as great from the view of a fierce God, or from the view of no God, whence come all that is good, and peace and love?

Even though humanity may not have found an expressible, acceptable answer, it may be possible to state the problem concisely that we can make a rational rather than a blind choice of what to believe, for believe something we will, one way or the other. That there should be a God, a personage so powerful, of

such magnitude as to have planned, formed and ordered all the universe in it's vastness as well as in it's minuteness, in it's perfection to the last detail, and yet left room for suffering, is incredible to the limited, unquicken human mind. That condition of mind succeeds only in picturing God after the pattern of it's own limitation rather than seeing man as a creature made in the image of it's creator, though still faulty. There is a vast difference in the two concepts.

It may well be conceded that to believe in a God who made, and so also governs the whole universe, and desires reverence from the creatures to whom He gave sentience, is incredible, except to not believe there is such an intelligence behind all we know of the universe and it's magnificence is even more incredible; that all that is perfection in all that we behold, beyond what the human mind can even imagine much less find out, should have come about by coincidence is far more incredible to believe, than is that Being who proclaims himself God.

So there is our choice, to believe in an unfathomable God, and go on to seek understanding for meaning to creation and life . . . and suffering; or accept an incredible existence of coincidence which admits no meaning to the beginning of life, so therefore can present no purpose for it's continuation nor any goal at it's end.

OUR FATHER KNOWS

Our burden of sorrow was heavy indeed,
Our days passed so wearily by,
Our bodies, our nerves, our minds needed rest,
Each breath seemed a wearying sigh.

One morning I woke ere the day had quite dawned,
The sun cast a faint glow of light;
My weariness, heartache and pain had all gone -
Soul rest had come in the night.

I instantly thought, I shall pray to the Lord,
This comfort has come from above,
This peace and this rest, and this freedom from pain
Seem a gift from the Father of love.

I wrapped myself warmly and knelt by my bed
As often before I had done,
And there in the quiet and peace of the hour
I talked to the Father and Son.

Oh it was so restful that morning alone,
To pray with my heart all atune
With our Father in heaven, who listened, I know
His Spirit was there in my room.

He never had left us alone in our grief,
He had known all about it and cared;
He too had known anguish in yielding His Son,
All the woes of the world He has shared.

Though grief is our portion, His love can sustain,
A sheltering wing hovers near,
On eternity's shore His care is the same
Where His love is, there's nothing to fear.

These thoughts seemed so clear and so verily true
They flooded my being throughout,
They summed up the lessons I'd learned through the
years
And left not a shadow of doubt.

I do not forget that blest hour of prayer,
Though heavy each day is our cross;
He knows, and He cares and He hears when we pray,
We can trust Him whatever our loss.

Written by Halle M. Gould after the death of her sister, Iva, following a long illness of cancer.

TEN FACTS OF ECONOMIC WISDOM

1. Nothing in our material world can come from nowhere or go nowhere, nor can it be free; everything in our economic life has a source, a destination, and a cost that must be paid.

2. Government is never a source of goods. Everything produced is produced by the people, and everything that government gives to the people, it must first take from the people.

3. The only valuable money that government has to spend is that money taxed or borrowed out of the people's earnings. When government decides to spend more than it has thus received, that extra unearned money is created out of thin air, through the banks and, when spent, takes on value only by reducing the value of all money, savings and insurance.

4. In our modern exchange economy, all payroll and employment come from customers, and the only worthwhile job security is customer security; if there are no customers, there can be no payroll and no jobs.

5. Customer security can be achieved by the worker only when the boss is allowed, by the worker, to do the things that win and hold customers. Job security, therefore, is a partnership problem that can be solved only in a spirit of mutual understanding.

6. Because wages are the principal cost of everything, widespread wage increases, without corresponding in-

creases in production, simply increase the cost of everybody's living.

7. The greatest good for the greatest number means, in its material sense, the greatest goods for the greatest number which, in turn, means the greatest productivity per worker.

8. All productivity is based on three factors: (1) Natural Resources, whose form, place and conditions are changed by the expenditure of (2) Human Energy (both muscular and mental), with the aid of (3) Tools.

9. Tools are the only one of the three factors that man can increase, and tools come into being in a free society only when there is a reward for the temporary self-denial that people must practice in order to channel part of their earnings away from purchases that produce immediate comfort and pleasure, and into new tools of production. Proper payment for the use of tools is essential to their creation.

10. The productivity of tools - that is, the efficiency of the human energy applied in connection with their use - is highest in a competitive society in which the economic decisions are made by millions of progress-seeking individuals, rather than a state-planned society in which those decisions are made by a handful of all-powerful people, regardless of how well-meaning, unselfish, sincere and intelligent those people may be.

OH, YE OF LITTLE FAITH

Oh, ye of little faith, was it not I
When, to the Red Sea, fearfully, you came,
Who shielded you from Pharaoh's evil eye?
The waters were divided at My name.
Angels in heave still My power proclaim.
Oh, ye of little faith.

Oh, ye of little faith, why did you weep
When winds did roar, and billows fierce did rise?
Was I not with you in the boat, asleep?
Yet not asleep; I knew your fears, your cries.
Am I not Master of the earth and skies?
Oh, ye of little faith.

Oh, ye of little faith, did you not see
The healing of the sick, the blind, the lame?
Through that glad time did you not follow Me?
Why falter now; am I not still the same?

Devils still fear and tremble at My name.
Oh, ye of little faith.

Oh, ye of little faith, did I not bear
The cross with all its suffering and its pain
That you might know henceforth how much I care?
Yet you, through doubts and fears, bear it again,
Not once but many times, Was it in vain?
Oh, ye of little faith.

Oh, ye of little faith. Oh, little flock,
When I have said not even sparrows fall
To earth unnoticed, and the lily's lot
Shames that of kings, would I not hear your call?
Hold then My hand; I will not let you fall.
Oh, ye of little faith.

Submitted by Vida Filley with permission of the
Author, Edna Wilkins.

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1980 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will commence Sunday, April 6, 1980. The business sessions will start at 10:00 A. M. Monday, April 7. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, April 4 and 5, 1980.

The 1980 Minister's Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 20th, 21st and 22nd at Independence, Missouri.

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Articles, sermons, poems, news items, letters, notices, etc. which are appropriate to be printed in this paper are requested by the editorial staff. If possible they should be typewritten on one side of sheet only, double spaced and grammatically corrected. If this is not possible, please send your material anyway. Send all material to one of the members of the editorial staff or to the general church (see title page). The deadline for each month is the 7th of the previous month.

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