

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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No. 5

Mother's Day

Who rocked you to sleep at close of day
In the old arm-chair in the dear old days
When you were so tiny you did not know
How tired she was as she rocked to and fro?
That Dear One was Mother.

Who mended your clothes you tore while at
play,
Who wiped the childish tears away,
Who tucked you in bed at close of day,
When your evening prayer she had heard you
say?
That Dear One was Mother.

Who helped you bear the greater trials
When you were grown up, no longer a child
Who helped you say, "Thy will be done,"
When the greater sorrows of life had come?
That Dear One was Mother.

Let's make each day a Mother's day,
Help wipe the tears of sorrow away
Take care of her if she's old and gray
As she cared for us in the dear old days.
Think every day of Mother.

Mariam Haldeman Mason

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Editorial

HOLD UP YOUR LIGHT!

As time goes by, we see the condition of the world worsening. We, in the church of Christ, feel the need to speak out against the increasing wrongs and to expose the evil powers of influence for what they really are. Unfortunately, our weak voices and limited means can't seem to reach far enough.

But, why can't we more effectively counter this world of sin? Could it be that we are not sufficiently righteous? Could it be that our individual lives are not pure enough to project this gospel as our Lord would have them to be?

Although we feel unworthy in many respects, we are compelled through a sense of responsibility to struggle forth in weakness to meet the increasing reign of sin in the world. We cannot afford the luxury of silence when so great a responsibility is laid upon our shoulders.

As a church we should be carrying forth this gospel—the fullness of the gospel—that all might see the truth. Our failure, if we wish to confess that we are failing to effect the world to the degree that we are called to do, is in our individual lives. We are not letting the true light shine through us; we are not yet that city that is set upon a hill.

Jesus said that he is the light of the world and that those who would follow him would not walk in darkness, but they would have the light of life (John 8:12).

Also we are told that they (we) are the light of the world (Matt. 5:14). If we are his people, we can conclude from this that Jesus gives us the responsibility of projecting and conveying his light (his gospel) to the world. We are not the source of the light, but we are transmitters. We must realize that our light is of no value unless it is a pure light, even as Jesus is pure.

To illustrate, one might liken himself to a pane of clear glass. He, the glass, is the means by which the light shines through unto others.

We know that a true pane of glass has no blemishes nor deformities. If it is clean and spotless, one can see through it perfectly. Also, light can be transmitted through it perfectly.

However, if the glass is dirty, the light is somewhat dimmed. The dirt or smudges are usually noticed rather than the light. Also, if the glass is faulty, it gives wavy or distorted effect.

So it is with our lives. If our lives are dirty, if we have lived an unclean life, then the light of the gospel cannot shine through us in its purity. Our lives are reducing the true effect of the gospel. No matter how much we claim to know this gospel, our presentation cannot be truly effective.

It is also true that if we have followed the precepts of men rather than the precepts of God, that we

will distort the true light. If the light is to shine through us perfectly, we must be a clear, clean glass. Our lives must be clear of false doctrine and of sin. We have this responsibility individually. We can see why the Lord has commanded us to be perfect even as our Father in heaven is perfect.

In using this illustration, we might consider the stained glass windows in most church buildings and temples. Stained glass will let only a limited amount of light shine through, and it colors and diffuses it. The pure light cannot shine through.

It is rather ironic that that is what has happened to the gospel in many of the churches today. They have colored and distorted the truth. They are not letting the purity or fullness of the gospel shine through because of the precepts of men.

It is also true that stained glass does not show dirt or smudges like clear glass does. Using the comparison in our own lives, we can hide our sins more easily behind false doctrines than we can if we are proclaiming the true doctrine of Christ.

This is an example to us: we are not to let our faulty precepts, traditions and beliefs stand in the way of the pure gospel. We must seek the truth and do as Jesus has said: "... he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God" (John 3:21). "Therefore hold up your light that it may shine unto the world. Behold I am the light which ye shall hold up—that which ye have seen me do" (3rd Nephi 8:54,55).

RLS

ARE WE GROWING?

A Sermon by Elder Frank Fann

This morning, our Brother was talking about being prepared, getting our lives in order that we may be able to meet our heavenly Father. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." This was one of the things he was talking about this morning, was changing, was repenting of the things that we are doing that are contrary to Christ's law and in so doing bringing our lives into alignment with that which Christ would have us to be. And the question I would like to ask each and everyone here tonight, individually and as a group: "Are we growing?" are we growing in numbers, as a church? As a local? Are we growing in Spiritual gifts? Are we growing in knowledge? Are we growing in understanding?

Turn to 1 Corinthians 12: verse 1. I'm going to read to you some of the Spiritual gifts that we should be growing in, "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were gentiles, carried unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led." This is talking about us. We're carried away from time to time to dumb idols. Anything that we put before our Heavenly Father is an idol to us, no matter what that thing may be.

"Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." Now that is a spiritual gift; and by that we can call Jesus the Lord. "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which

worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom;" Is the word of wisdom growing among us? Are we becoming a wise people so as to be able to prepare to meet our heavenly Father-

"To another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;" Are we becoming more knowledgeable concerning the gospel of Jesus Christ? "To another faith by the same Spirit;" Are we growing in faith or are we on a plane that we have all reached and are floating along? "To another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophesy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues."

How long has it been since you have heard the gift of tongues within this church? Do we lack? Are we ready to meet our heavenly Father, really ready? "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

Move over in the same reading to the 27th verse. "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular;" We are the body of Christ, we have gone into the waters of baptism, we have accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and we have claim on these spiritual gifts that he's talking about here, but they are getting away from us; they are in the church less and less and this a condemnation to each one, because we are not preparing ourselves to enter into God's kingdom; we are not obedient enough, we are not righteous enough and we must repent of our sins and go in a new direction.

"And God hath set some in the church, first Apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. Are all Apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Have all the gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But covet earnestly the best gifts; and yet show I unto you a more excellent way."

He goes on in the 13th chapter and tells us the excellent way, and he tells that by this way all will come closer to God, and that is to have charity among us. To love one another and to love God. That is the only way that we will see these things more manifest in the church; more tongues, more miracles, more healings.

Jesus said, ". If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, remove hence to yonder place; and nothing shall be impossible to you." Wouldn't that be marvelous, not to move mountains, no but to pray and nothing be impossible to us? Anything that we would ask, that was good, God would grant unto us? Oh, what a happy and joyful people we would be; what a mighty work we would do for Christ.

Turn to the Book of Mormon on page 220, starting with the 20th verse. I want to read a bit about knowledge, and I want to see if we're growing in that knowledge. "Even so I would that ye should remember, and always retain in remembrance, the greatness of God, and your own nothingness, and his goodness and long suffering toward you unworthy creatures." We are unworthy. We ought not to think more highly of ourselves than we are. The Bible tells us we are to realize our place in the scheme of things, we are to realize that God is holy, that God is all-powerful and that we are to follow him.

"And humble yourselves even in the depths of humility, calling on the name of the Lord daily, and standing steadfastly in the faith of that which is to come, which was spoken by the mouth of the angel; And behold, I say unto you, that if ye do this, ye shall always rejoice, and be filled with the love of God, and always retain a remission of our sins; And ye shall grow in the knowledge of the glory of him that created you, or in the knowledge of that which is just and true." We shall grow in knowledge if we do the things that God tells us to do.

"And ye will not have a mind to injure one another, but live peaceably, and to render to every man according to that which is his due." To live peaceably one with another; there should be no back-biting, no contention, if we truly follow after Jesus Christ.

Turn to page 438; this is just a little side issue here, verses 37-39. "And now, it has hitherto been wisdom in God, that these things should be preserved: for behold, they have enlarged the memory of this people, yea, and convinced many of the error of their ways, and brought

them to the knowledge of their God, unto the salvation of their souls." He's talking about this Book of Mormon; this book will enlarge our knowledge. "Yea, I say unto you, were it not for these things that these records do contain, which are on these plates, Ammon and his brethren could not have convinced so many thousands of Lamanites, of the incorrect traditions of their fathers; Yea, these records and their words, brought them unto repentance; that is, they brought them to the knowledge of the Lord their God, and rejoice in Jesus Christ their Redeemer." The words in this book will (can?) bring us to repentance, will bring us closer to our heavenly Father, will bring us closer in line with his will concerning us.

Turn with me to the 2nd chapter of 2 Peter, and read a little of what will happen to you and I if we reject these things that God has given us, 20-23 verses, "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning." And I believe that we have been able to escape the pollutions of the world by having a knowledge of Jesus Christ, by having a knowlegde of what he can do for you and I. We've been able to escape to a certain extent these pollutions that are among us.

"For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire." That's a terrible thing to think about, that you and I who know Christ, you and I who have accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior, if we do not continue to follow in his paths, if we do not continue to grow daily, coming each day closer to our heavenly Father, coming each day better able qualify ourselves, our end will be worse than our beginning because we will drift away. We cannot stay stagnant, we cannot stay on the same plane, because it is human nature to be moving ahead or sliding backwards.

Are we growing in understanding? Knowledge is the coming in contact with the fact but understanding is grasping the full meaning of the fact. As a church and as a people, we have come in contact with many facts; we have a knowledge of many things written in the Bible and Book of Mormon, but we're not able to grasp the whole meaning of these facts. We're not able to take these facts and put them into our lives. I ask a question, are we growing in understanding daily in such a degree that there are no disagreements among us? In such a degree that there are no contentions among us? In such a degree that there is pure love and charity among us? And I say that if we are not, then we are not qualifying ourselves to be ready to meet God, ready to meet Jesus and sit on his right hand. We're falling short.

Are we growing in gifts of healing? I know there are

gifts of healing; I've seen them in the church. I've seen the sick healed instantly, miraculously, but not with such power as we've had in times past, because we have drifted away. The Book of Mormon tells us that if we don't have these things in the church it is because of unbelief, because we just don't believe they'll be there. Are we guilty?

My mind goes back to some of the stories I've read in the history, about some of the marvelous healings that were had in the early church, marvelous healings, even the dead were raised, the crippled were made to walk, children with fever and dying were healed instantly. Our Brother Joseph Smith was poisoned and yet through administration was healed. A brother Whitney had his leg broken with the bones sticking out through the flesh, and he was healed under administration immediately.

Why, I ask, don't we have that today? Where have we fallen down? Where are we short? Where have we not committed our lives to Jesus Christ? It's a condemnation to all of us that each of us individually and collectively can't bring our lives closer to God that we may be able to have these things again amongst us with power.

Are we growing in the gift of prophecy? I've heard very little prophecy within this church lately. What prophecy I've heard was of man, and it came to nought. Is God through working with us now? Has He put us aside? Has He forgotten us? Answer the questions in your own minds. Has He forgotten us? Does He refuse to speak to us anymore? Think back, when was the last time you heard prophecy? The Bible tells us that prophecy is for the edification of the saints. Does God feel now that we should not be edified?

Turn to 1 Corinthians 14. I'm going to read verses 1-4 and then jump over to the 22nd verse. "Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy." Charity is that pure love of God, charity is that thing which if followed after, will bring us closer to our heavenly Father, and maybe bring back into the church some of these things that seem to have slipped away from us.

"For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but to God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church."

And now the 22nd verse: "Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not; but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe." Do we not stand in need of prophecy? Why isn't our heavenly Father talking to us in prophecy? Why isn't our heavenly Father talking to us in revelation? We believe in revelation;

our church was founded by revelation, and yet revelation has not come unto us because of unbelief, because of drifting away, because we have not prepared ourselves to meet God.

Are we growing in prayer? That may be a strange question. Do we hear prayers of praise and thanksgiving or do we hear prayers that are selfish in nature? Are our prayers answered as they should be, as they were in times past?

I'm thinking of a story, and it's kind of gory, but I'm going to tell it anyway. Maybe you read it a few years ago in the Guidepost magazine. It's about a bush pilot in Alaska. He flew into this lake alone and taxied across the lake. He left the engine running and got out on the pontoon. If you know what a little sea plane is, it has pontoons that you can stand on.

He was standing on the pontoon, and it was a little icy there and he fell into the water. He thought, what a dumb thing I've done, I'll just swim back there, get back into the plane and take off.

As he was struggling back his arm was numb, and he thought, I must have bumped my arm because I have hardly any feeling there. Then he looked, and he had no arm. It had got caught by the propeller and there he was struggling with one arm to get back into that plane.

The blood was spurting out and felt helpless, he felt weak, he felt lost. He thought for a moment of just giving up and sliding under the lake.

Then he thought of the scriptures and he thought of where Christ said, I will never leave you nor forsake you, and he cried out for strength. Prayer was answered then and there. He was able to get back into the plane, he was able to stop the bleeding of his arm and he was able to fly that plane hundreds of miles back to a town because of answered prayer: the kind of prayer that we should have in this church today; the kind of prayer that God has promised to answer to each one of us if we are living to that measure that God wants us to. Where have we fallen down? Where have we fallen short? Why isn't it amongst us today?

Turn to page 426 in the Book of Mormon, verses 177-184, "Do ye remember to have read what Zenos, the prophet of old, has said concerning prayer or worship? For he said, Thou art merciful O God, for thou has heard my prayer in the wilderness:" He will hear our prayers in the wilderness, He will hear our prayers at home, He will hear our prayers in our secret closets if we are living up to that which He wants us to. "Yea, thou wast merciful when I prayed concerning those who were mine enemies, and thou didst turn them to me: Yea, O God, and thou wast merciful unto me when I did cry unto thee in my field; when I did turn to thee in my prayer, and thou didst hear me. And again, O God, when I did turn to my house thou didst hear in my prayer. And when I did turn unto my closet, O Lord, and prayed unto thee, thou didst hear me; yea, thou art merciful unto

thy children when they cry unto thee to be heard of thee, and not of men, and thou wilt hear them; Yea, O God, thou hast been merciful unto me and heard my cries in the midst of thy congregations; yea, and thou hast also heard me when I have been cast out, and have been despised by my enemies; Yea, thou didst hear my cries, and was angry with mine enemies, and thou didst visit them in thine anger, with speedy destruction; and thou didst hear me because of mine afflictions and my sincerity; And it is because of thy Son that thou hast been thus merciful unto me; therefore I will cry unto thee in all mine afflictions; for in thee is my joy; for thou hast turned thy judgments away from me, because of thy Son."

I usually wait until the end of my sermon to read a poem, but this so fits here that I would like to read it now.

Prayers are the stairs we must climb every day,
If we would reach God, there is no other way;
For we learn to know God when we meet him in
prayer

And ask him to lighten our burden of care.

So start in the morning, and though the way steep-
Climb ever upward till your eyes close in sleep.
For prayers are the stairs that lead to the Lord
And to meet him in prayer is the climbers reward.

Are we growing in love as we should? Are we growing in love? Page 768, from verse 50: "And if a man be meek and lowly in heart, and confesses by the power of the Holy Ghost, that Jesus is the Christ, he must needs have charity; for if he have not charity, he is nothing; wherefore he must needs have charity." This is showing us what the problem within the Church of Christ is. We don't have pure love of Christ. "And charity suffereth long, and is kind, and envieth not, and is not puffed up, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, and rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things; wherefore, my beloved brethren, of ye have not charity, ye are nothing, for charity never faileth. 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 forever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with them. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart, that ye may be filled with this love which he hath bestowed upon all who are true followers of his Son Jesus Christ, that ye may become the sons of God, that when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is, that we may have this hope, that we may be purified even as he is pure."

Now two verses, 14 & 18 on page 776: "And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that he is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever, and that all these gifts of which I have spoken, which are spiritual, never will be done away, even as long as the

world shall stand, only according to the unbelief of the children of men." If God gave the church the gifts yesterday, He'll give them to-day and He'll give them tomorrow, if we follow after Him, because God is an unchangable God. He will give these gifts that I talked about earlier: the gift of knowledge, the gift of wisdom, the gift of love, the gift of the Holy Ghost, the gift of tongues, the gift of prophecy, the gift of healing, all of these things of which He has spoken. It's pretty plain isn't it? If we don't have them today as we think we should, what is the reason? The Book of Mormon tells us what the reason is, it doesn't pull any punches, it doesn't sugar coat it over, it is because of unbelief.

The 18th verse: "And now I speak unto all the ends of the earth, that if the day cometh that the power and gifts of God shall be done away among you, it shall be because of unbelief." Verse 19: "And woe be unto the children of men, if this be the case; for there shall be none that doeth good among you, no not one." How can we grow? What can we do to get ourselves back into the grace of God? A renewed effort, a renewed desire to follow after Him. More prayer, humble prayer, down on our knees in humble prayer before Him; thanking Him and praising Him for that which we have already had and asking that He will show us each the way that we may become closer unto God. Try to pull our minds away from the pollutants of the world, concentrate our efforts and our strengths on spiritual things that are good, that will lead to eternal life. More study. The Bible says to study to show thyself approved, able to give an answer for the hope that is in us; and each of us has that hope. We have that hope that these gifts will be among us in abundance, and they will be, I promise you, they will be if we will come closer to God, if we will cleave unto that charity which God's been talking about.

I'd like to close by reading Colossians, chapter 3, start with the 8th verse. Paul's going to tell us how we can come closer; he's going to tell us how we can put some in our lives that might be able to help us to come closer to God. "Now ye also put off all these; anger," be not angry with your brother, "wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;" Right at first I said that we should become a new creature, the people of God are new people, we've put off the old man we've put aside those things that be contrary to God's commands, "And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him; Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free; but Christ is all and in all." That's what we should put first, Christ. That's what we should put at the head, Christ. We claim to be the body of Christ, we claim to be God's followers, so we should, "Put on therefore, as the elect Of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one an-

other, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye." Do we do this or do we carry grudges? If we carry grudges we have wrath. We just read that we should put these things away from us.

"And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness." Put on charity, put on that pure love of Christ, toward Christ and toward each other. That's the bond, that's the cement that will hold us together. "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." We should help each other, if one of us stumbles, reach down and pick him up. "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

I believe that by so doing these things that we will see ourselves growing. We will see ourselves developing and coming to that understanding and coming to that knowledge that each one of us wants, coming closer to Christ that we may see more of the gifts of the Spirit of God among us.

OBITUARY

Mary Louise Addie

Mary was born March 23, 1925 to Everett and Edna Beachtel who lived in the Whitewater, Wisconsin area. She was married to Virgil V. Addie on March 23, 1943. Born to this union were seven children: Cheryl Renley, Janesville, Wisc., Jeanette Rogers, Madison, Wisc., Jerrold Addie, Ramstien, Germany, A. F. B., Michael Addie, Edgemont, Calif., Walter Addie, Stoughton, Wisc., Martin Addie and James Addie, Houston, Missouri.

Mary and Virgil joined the Church of Christ in 195-

Mom worked in a rest home in Columbus, Wisc. before she and Dad, myself (Martin) and James moved to Houston, Mo., which was May 26, 1978, in time for the Houston Rally. She was an active member in the church acting as correspondent to the Zion's Advocate the past few years.

Mom enjoyed worshipping our master in many ways. The people who she has worked and went to church with all respected and admired her. She held high faith in God and her beliefs. She was quick to testify to the many blessings she had received from our Master.

She died December 25, 1982, two weeks after her doctors diagnosed severe cancer of three vital organs. She was home nine days from the hospital and all of the children were home to see her as we knew her time was short.

We had an early Christmas on the 23rd as Michael had to return to California the next day. She passed

away Christmas day about 4:00 p. m. Dad and two of their sons were with her at her death.

Mom was prepared to meet her Master. I and the rest of the family find it comforting that earlier in the week she told Dad that she had seen Jesus standing on a hill with his hand outstretched to her. We consider it a great blessing that the Lord saw fit to take her home without her having to endure months or weeks of pain and suffering.

Mom was and will always be remembered as a wonderful mother, wife and grandmother and friend to many. She will be missed greatly by many, but we find comfort in our faith.

I want to, at this time, sincerely thank, for myself and my family, all who offered prayers for Mom and our family.

Thank you. Martin Addie

IN LOVING MEMORY

I have a grand friend that's passed from this life;

Made the journey to a better place.

She was a devoted friend, mother and wife.

She always had a smile on her face.

She had a love about her one just can't explain,
A love that shone out bright.

And though this love be simple and plain,
It shone out through her life like a light.

There was always within her eyes a glow,
And upon her face a sweet smile.
And just to meet her was to know,
Peace and comfort for awhile.

There never was a person she did meet,
Who when they said goodbye,
Felt her love so complete
That from joy they did cry.

She was a very devoted mother and wife,
A dear, dear friend to many,
And to those that shared her life
She brought joys a plenty.

She loved to serve her Master above
Through testimony or songs of praise.
And she was always quick to tell of His love,
Quick her voice in His honor to raise.

And though she now from this life has past,
And gone on to her reward above,
We know our joys will forever last
Through the memory of her love.

Dedicated to the memory of Mary Addie,
by Janeen Addie,

CROSS ROADS

EXERCISING

by Larry Sarratt

I recently joined a fitness center with the thought of getting back in shape as well as bringing my blood pressure down. During this physical training I have learned some lessons that I can also use in my spiritual life:

- 1) When your muscles are exercised you will grow in strength.
- 2) As a result of continued exercise your endurance will improve.

This also applies to faith, love, and many more attributes we should be trying to improve.

All of my life I've heard our ministry preach about exercising our faith or exercising more faith in Jesus Christ. I've heard many cliches: "Step out in faith . . .", "Practice faith . . .", etc, and I have found myself say "I wish I had more faith." Sometimes I have prayed for more faith for several months and not realize a marked difference.

Praying is a good first step in asking for anything the Lord provides. But then we must take more steps for actual improvement. One could be relying on the Lord for answers and direction in our life. I can remember times when I have prayed for faith and a trial has presented itself. I would run to my best friend and ask, "What do I do now?" I may or may not have received the right answer, but my faith in the Lord didn't increase. If I would have taken the matter up with the Lord and received direction from Him then my faith in the Lord would have increased.

There are other aspects of building faith that cannot be related to the building of the human body. I can't tell you about a great work-out where I expanded the strength of some twenty muscles and expect your physical strength to increase from telling about that experience; However if you told me of an experience where the Lord had helped you that could increase my faith.

P. S. Send some article to Crossroads that will increase my faith as well as others.

MY FAVORITE BOOK

My all time favorite book has not one author but many. It is many books rolled up into one, though there is only one editor. The impressive part of this book is that it's true, every word of it.

It may very well be the best known book throughout the world. Certainly the title is well known even if the

contents are not. It's been called, "The Greatest Story Ever Told." It can be very influential in your life if you let the editor aid you in your reading of it.

It's not hard to read if you want to understand it. There are even children's stories which we can all learn something from. Once you start reading it you just can't stop. It sure has had a bearing on my life. My all-time favorite book is: **The Bible!**

Submitted by: Mikeal Payne

THE HIDDEN LINE

The Destiny of Men

There is a time, we know not when,
A point we know not where,
That marks the destiny of men
To glory or despair.

There is a line by us unseen,
That crosses every path;
The hidden boundary between
God's patience and his wrath.

To pass that limit is to die
To die as if by stealth;
It does not quench the beaming eye,
Or pale the glow of health.

The conscience may be still at ease,
The spirits light and gay;
That which is pleasing still may please,
And care be thrust away.

But on that forehead God has set
Indelibly a mark,
Unseen by man, for man as yet
Is blind and in the dark.

And yet the doomed man's path below
May bloom as Eden bloomed;
He did not, does not, will not know,
Or feel that he is doomed.

He knows, he feels that all is well,
And every fear is calmed;
He lives, he dies, he wakes in hell,
Not only doomed, but damned.

Oh! where is that mysterious bourne
by which our path is crossed;
Beyond which, God himself hath sworn,
That he who goes is lost.

How far may we go in sin?
How long will God forbear?
Where does hope end, and where begin
The confines of despair?

An answer from the skies is sent;
 "Ye that from God depart,
 While it called to-day, repent,
 And harden not your heart."

CECIL FRANCES ALEXANDER

A TIMELY ENTREATY TO THE CHURCH'S YOUNG PEOPLE

There has arisen within the membership of the YPCL a serious problem resulting, a good part of the time, from a severe lack of resolve and a falling apart of discipline. Irregular attendance and a startling absence of contributions to the Crossroads can be attributed to this problem. Therefore it can readily be seen that this is not a problem to be taken lightly, certainly not to be dismissed with a wave of the hand and a studied interest of something in the other room.

If immediate action is not taken, the Crossroad, which has only recently emerged to claim some of its previous glory, may again find itself dwindling into obscurity along with, perhaps, the entire Young People's Christian League. Can we, the Young People of the church, sit back, vaguely watching **Love Boat**, and allow this to happen? No! A thousand and nineteen times no!

But what, the question from thousands of voices rings out, is the problem? In somber tones the answer echoes back, causing the hearts of men to be pricked, the souls of many tremble exceedingly, and the consciences of all to burn like an iron: "There is stealing over the YPCL the creeping paralysis known as **apathy!**" And where as it could eventually disband the YPCL, I feel an urgency not to dwell on this aspect but on one dealing with the Crossroads. Plainly stated, though repetitious in nature, there are not enough contributions being submitted to the Crossroads! Without these contributions, the life-giving blood of our beloved paper, it will not be much longer before Crossroads goes the way of all periodicals.

So, fellow Young People, I admonish and entreat you to take pen in hand (yea, a pencil, felt-tip marker, or piece of chalk will do), and unite as one to forever rend asunder this dread apathy that, if not checked, will certainly be the death of the Crossroads.

And yea, I would exhort you a last time, that whoso among you readeth these words, and doeth them not, even so shall he be drawn and quartered on the Day of Printing.

So please, do the Crossroads and yourself a favor and submit any articles, poems, thoughts, quotes, or two box tops from your favorite cereal to insure a healthy future for the Crossroads.

Submitted by the Editor, Harvey L. Seibel
 (The above submission, having been written under duress, I feel it my duty to assure those who feel un-

able to take time, who feel they lack inspiration, or who don't care if the Crossroads does sink into oblivion, that if I can write something, so can you!)

THERE IS NO DEATH

There is a plan far greater than the plan
 you know;
 There is a landscape broader than the one
 you see.
 There is a haven where storm-tossed souls
 may go.
 You call it death — we, immortality.

You call it death — this seeming endless sleep;
 We call it birth — the soul at last set free.
 'Tis hampered not by time or space — you
 weep.

Why weep at death? 'Tis immortality.

Farewell, dear voyageur — 'twill not be long.
 Your work is done — now may peace rest with
 thee.

Your kindly thoughts and deeds — they will
 live on.

This is not death — 'tis immortality.

Farewell, dear voyageur — the river winds
 and turns;

The cadence of your song wafts near to me,
 And now you know the thing that all men
 learn:

There is no death — immortality.

UNKNOWN

COUNT YOUR BLESSING

I awoke this morning with the sun shining in my eyes. I closed them and started to mentally prepare myself for the day. Many thoughts passed through my mind, but one stuck out the most.

"Have you counted your blessings? What a wonderful thought!" I said to myself. "Where do I begin?" I finally came to the conclusion that I couldn't count my blessings. Not because I couldn't think of any, but because there were so many to remember.

What a great feeling! Just knowing I have a God that loves me no matter what I do or say. I think the blessing which stands out most in my life is that Jesus died upon the cross so that I might have a chance at an eternal life.

If you can spare a few minutes, stop and ask yourself these questions. Can I count the blessings I have received? Can I name them individually? Can I name them one by one? May God bless you!

Submitted by: Mikeal Payne

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

A Bible in your hands leaves an impression in someone's mind that a thousand words could never find.

Submitted by: Mikeal Payne

* * * * *

"CROSS ROADS" is a publication of the "Young People's Christian League" of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot). Contributions of written material are solicited from all young people throughout the church.

Editors:	Secretary:
Harvey Seibel	Cynthia Bruner
Michelle Brockman	Treasurer:
Nancy Case	Carrie Hedrick
Leader:	Reporter, Recorder:
Larry Sarratt	Kim Oldham
Asst. Leader:	Parliamentarian:
Bobby Hedrick	Kim Oldham

* * * * *

I was very touched by the February editorial of Brother Rolland Sarratt. One should be very careful to read ALL the Zion's Advocate these days, as the Lord has a message somewhere in it for each of us. In thinking back, I realized that I have served in some musical capacity for at least 20 of my thirty-plus years and don't regret any of it. Maybe that's the only worthwhile thing I've been given to serve the Lord and my brothers and sisters. How nice it would be to sing with the congregation more often, though. What service has the Lord demanded of you, and what are you willing to do for him? Surely he will give us the words or the music to fully praise Him. Our talents are not worth much to the world, and would often throw us into the wrong company. When I first started playing by ear, venturing away from the written page all these years, the first songs that came easily were hymns. Think about it.

We have been very concerned over the welfare of our ailing members, especially Brother Bill Morris of Independence, Mo. Our sister Enid Bell is his sister and Kathy Larsen his daughter. They both visited Bill while he was in the hospital and we missed them. Our prayers for their safe return were answered. It is wonderful how God grants safety and peace of mind.

We have heard many times from Bob and Shirley Ely of God's goodness to them as they travel with Bob's business for an optical company. God has protected them from danger on the highways and has even provided them with opportunities for spreading their particular joy and goodness to others. Once, in stopping to help an older gentleman whose car had stopped, the man said he knew they must be Christians because of their actions, their eagerness to help. Actions speak louder than words, and their example has found root in other lives. Keep Bob in your prayers, as he has some continuing health concerns.

Our February meeting of the United Workers was held in the home of Sister Alvina Bell. We continued our study in I Samuel, chapters three and four. We discussed the possibility of printing a cookbook made up of our favorite recipes and using it as a fund raiser in conjunction with a table this fall at a crafts fair. More on that later.

During February we were pleasantly surprised by visitors, though no strangers to Grand Junction. Jim and Vievea Shaw's daughters, Verda and Rita, with their children, had surprised their parents by driving up from Phoenix. Maybe they can stay a little longer next time. The Shaws have moved to Denver because of their job situations now and will be sadly missed. We keep all those unemployed in our prayers and pray that our providers will remain employed during these difficult times.

Apostle Marvin Ely travels thousands of miles from here in his missionary endeavors each year. He often mentions his trust in the Lord and how it has brought him through perilous times. We have been encouraged

GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. REPORT

Dear Readers,

To night is chilly and my husband is busy trying to protect our little fruit trees from possible frost damage. By the time you read this report, our garden will be planted and lots of little plants (weeds!) will be growing in the spring sunshine. During the sacrament service this morning, the snow went racing past the church windows almost horizontally. It felt so peaceful and safe inside with our friends, weathering out the storm in God's presence.

Much has transpired in the past few months with our little group. The Bell family has been busy with the happy work of helping Harvey and Alvina celebrate their sixtieth year together. We have felt so privileged to know them and enjoy their genuine pleasure in serving our Master. An open house was held March 6, in the home of their daughter Alice Larsen of Grand Junction. A reception was held March 13, at a family reunion in Independence, Mo. It has been fun looking at all the pictures they brought home of familiar, smiling faces. We have held many get-togethers in their home, such as our Easter dinner today. Harvey fires up his stove in the shop to keep us warm, and Alvina always makes one feel so welcome and "at home". We have encouraged many times by their testimonies of faith and blessings while raising their seven children. Brother Harvey included admonition in one of his sermons, to "accept no substitutes" for the laws and commandments the Lord has given us. For who else but Christ holds the keys to eternal life.

by Marvin's reports of his experiences in the field. He is deeply concerned about the ground into which the seed of the gospel is planted. Have we cultivated fertile where where it can flourish in our own lives?

Our United Workers meeting in March was held in the home of Sister Enid Bell. We continued our study in I Samuel, chapters five through seven. Enid is another gracious hostess who has always opened her home and her heart to others. We seem to be blessed throughout the church with such warm and willing workers. We held our annual election, with the following results: Shirley Ely is our chairman, her assistant Alice Larsen. Violet Church is our secretary, who also keeps track of our funds. Enid Bell is our teacher, who gets to lead us in our studies, wherever they may take us.

I hope that you've got all your spring cleaning and garden work done, and are ready to participate in another wonderful summer of reunions. They seem to clean the windows of our souls to let in the brightness of God's great mercy and tenderness. Reunions clean windows, and a whole lot more. How's your window looking out on life? Please remember us as we prepare our hearts and homes for the Colorado reunion here. Mark your calendars and plan to be here June 10, 11, and 12. Let us know how many are coming with you so we can provide adequate food and shelter.

With affection, Becky Downs, reporter.

HOUSTON LOCAL REPORT

Greetings from South Central Missouri. We have enjoyed many good thoughts from sermons the last two months.

In February, our pastor, Brother John Jones, caused us to think about Amos 6:1, "Woe unto them that are at ease in Zion." Christ asked the question, "What manner of man should you be?" Then he answered, "Be ye even as I am." We must strive for this.

Brother Marvin Case reminded us of Lehi's vision and the meaning of the "Rod of Iron." We must hold fast to the rod in the name of the Lord in mighty prayer of irons. He also impressed upon us the need to call on the name of the Lord in mighty prayer.

Brother Ike Medders gave a sermon on "growing older" which was dedicated to Granddad Keeney who, was 89 years old that Sunday, Feb. 20th. Eric Hawkins was here from Memphis, Tennessee to celebrate his fourth birthday with his great-grandad.

Brother John Jones gave a Number One sermon on March 6th. "Who is to judge the greatness of men?" Answer this with the scriptures, Ephesians 4 & 5. Happiness is found by giving your life away. We are so fortunate to be loved by so many. Pass this love on and be saved in the Kingdom of God.

On the second Sunday of March, Brother and Sister Roland Sarratt were here. He explained to us about the

relationship we should have with our Heavenly Father. Heb. 11:5,7, Isa. 26:6,16, Book of Mormon, page 584, verses 89, 90 are good scriptures for us to read.

Many of us are chastened today. I pray it will bring us all to a closer relationship with God and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Sally Addie and children have their orders from the Army to join Jerry in Germany the middle of April. We sure will miss them, but I know it will be a real joy for their family to be together again.

On Sunday, March 27th, a birthday celebration took place after church in the Medder's home for Dee Anna Hutcheson, Tom Medders and their aunt Florence Kommer. They all have the same birthday. Those helping to celebrate were the Kim Stancil family, Ireatess, Margaret and Diane Keeney, Grandad and Grandmother Keeney, and the John Medders family and the families of the celebrities.

We are looking forward to two special things in May: James Addie will graduate from High School, and don't forget to plan to attend our Rally the last weekend in May.

We have missed Sister Seibel the past few months; she had a fall, then took the flu. We hear she is feeling better now and hope to see her soon.

LET ME

Let me be so strong that nothing can disturb my peace of mind.

Let me think only of the best, work only for the best, and expect only the best.

Let me wear a cheerful countenance at all times and have a smile ready for every living creature I meet.

Let me be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Let me live in the faith that the world is on my side as long as I am true to the best that is in me

Mary Jane Medders, Reporter.

MINNEAPOLIS REPORT

The morning sun falls softly across my shoulders from a skylight, as I begin my account of activities here in our local. Quiet and sunlight are a God given combination. Disquiet and gloom are mostly manmade, right?

Study together is such a wonderful privilege. We miss it when weather or health keeps us apart for a time. God's word, like the wonders of our world, cries out to be shared. Just as not many have the ability to identify ALL in Nature's vast array of marvels, all are not of scholarly ability to observe all the jewels of the Scriptures in their full meaning. Have we had the experience of hearing a question asked which seems in content silly, and it give us a silent laugh? Then the overlooked answer to the "silly" question brings a flash of light that astounds us! New understanding of an ageless truth has folded it self into the worshipful section

of our grey matter. Study together is truly an adventure!

Such a privilege it is to partake together of the emblems of Christ's sacrifice, and to share testimonies and prayers. The Laying On Of Hands at times of needed physical healing . . . Such beneficence! How many times have we listened to the word, "If any sin has been committed it shall be forgiven"? Such a great reward of our Faith it is to be promised both physical and spiritual healing.

A recent sermon told us that it is the American and Christian way to help others. We can't be lovers of ourselves only and Christians, too. So, when friend, Neng Yeng moved his family to California, and the Lee family elected to move into Neng Yeng's pleasant, vacated home in the country from a crowded residential section of St. Paul, Forest Maley, Doug Ferrier, and John Gill facilitated the move with their trucks.

Brother Thomas and Sister Elizabeth Maley celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on March 4.

You who have honored our request for prayers for Brother Doug Ferrier's employment needs will be happy to know that God has directed him into good employment in answer to his need.

On March 20, the children sang for us, "This Little Light of Mine". One small boy could not be coaxed to stand with the others and sing; but was heartbroken because he didn't get to hold a lighted, small candle as the others had done. He is too young to know that we never outgrow that disappointment within ourselves which we feel when we fail to let our light shine out brightly as we know we should. He was suffering the pangs of lesson Number One, perhaps!

Easter morning found many of our folks gone to attend Conference in Independence. Others were ill. Total attendance, just two! Forest and I sang our opening song together at the Sunday School hour. Our lesson was the reading of the special "Easter Story" found in the 8th Chapter of Mosiah, which tells the prophecy of Abinadi, and his subsequent persecution and death; because it was considered that he made up a whopper of a lie about One, "the Son of God", who would come to earth to die for the sins of mankind. Young Alma was the one who heard and believed. He taught what Abinadi had taught, though he and his followers had to meet in secret. In the reading our nearly empty meeting hall became a Church, sweet with remembrance of God's great love, and hallowed by the knowledge of the suffering of those countless others who, even as was true of Jesus Christ the Son of God, would not forsake unpopular TRUTH.

Gary, Gloria, and children, Robert, Lynn, and Carmen (Bentson), who have livestock to care for at home and distance to come, joined us for Sacrament Service. We partook of the Broken Body and Spilled Blood of Him whose coming was prophesied. The prayers and

testimonies which followed attested to the fact that once again we were witnesses to the keeping of His Promise to meet with us no matter how few in number. As we took our departure we were surprised to notice that it was almost 2 p. m. We were not hungry — We had been richly fed!

We want to re-extend our invitation to the Tri-State Reunion to be held July 1, 2, and 3, at Whitewater State Park near Rochester, Minnesota. Please contact Brother Tom Maley, phone 612-521-9423, if you plan to meet with us.

Irene Maley, Reporter

JESUS SAID, "I WILL COME AGAIN"

Howard Leighton-Floyd

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I WILL COME AGAIN and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (John 14:3)

Here we have one of the most reassuring promises made by Jesus. However, it is said that there are over 300 references that can be found in the New Testament indicating that Jesus will come again. All twenty seven books, with the exception of four, refer to his second coming. Over fifty times the believers are exhorted to watch. Consider a few other statistics and we can get a vision of the importance the Lord places upon his second coming. The sacrament of the Lord's supper is mentioned in only four of the twenty seven books. In the writings of the Apostle Paul water baptism is mentioned fifteen times, while the second coming of the Lord is mentioned fifty times. This is not to say that either of these ordinances are less important but it does indicate the importance of the second coming of Jesus Christ. Indeed the eternal plan of salvation for man and the Kingdom of God could not be accomplished without the second coming of Jesus.

Many of the holy prophets, and Jesus the greatest prophet of all, spoke of the signs that would be evident upon the earth and among the children of men, to show to them the nearness of the Lord's return, and the impending judgment to come upon the wicked, in the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

Some of the parables that Jesus gave refer to his second coming. David in the Psalms speaks of the coming kingdom. Psalm, 2 and 24 give many details of the kingdom. Isaiah in the eleventh chapter speaks of the Messiah, tells how he will judge, not with the sight of his eyes or with the hearing of his ears, but with righteousness. It speaks of the peaceful condition that will prevail in the Messianic Kingdom and of the great gathering of Israel and Judah and of the unity that will prevail between Ephraim and Judah.

In Isaiah 12, the whole chapter describes how his people will praise and worship in the coming Messianic kingdom. Let's read those words; praise God, His people don't have to wait. The sons of God that have the

mind of Christ will be worshipping and praising the Lord right now, because he resides in their hearts. Isaiah 9:6-7 speaks of the Messiah's birth but immediately turns to his government, and his names. (9) "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and justice from henceforth and for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

Isaiah 55 speaks to this generation thus, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he shall have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Then in verses 12 and 13 we are told of the joy of all nature in that soon coming kingdom. "For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the fields shall clap their hands." etc.

In Isaiah 61 the first one and a half verses speak of the Messiah, and Jesus proclaimed the fulfillment of that portion. "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and he stood up for to read." That day he declared his mission, stopping with these words in verse two. "To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord . . ." the rest of that verse and the chapter had to do with his then future work and kingdom, it is near at hand. (3) "To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified."

Isaiah 65 among other things speaks of the millennium, the thousand years when Christ will reign upon the earth. I want us to note the condition of the mortal in that blessed period. Soon to come here upon the earth, (18) But be ye glad and rejoice forever in that which I create: for, behold, I create in Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy."

Isa. 65:19: "And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: . . ." (20) "There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed." (22) ". . . as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." Aren't the conditions as described interesting to contemplate? But we are not through yet. The Lord states, "I will rejoice in Jerusalem, . . ." The prophet Ezekiel gives some other reasons why the Lord will rejoice in Jerusalem. "In the visions of God brought he me into the land of Israel, and set me on a very high mountain, by which was the frame of a city on the south." (Ezek. 40:2)

"Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looketh toward the east: (2) And behold, the glory of the Lord God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like the noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory." (5) "So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the Lord filled the house." (7) "And he said unto me, son of man, THE PLACE OF MY THRONE, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel for ever, . . . (Ezek. 43:1-2-5&7) Zechariah 1:16 confirms these words. "Therefore thus saith the Lord; I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be built in it, saith the Lord of hosts, . . ."

There is going to be a temple built in the near future in Jerusalem. It will be built on the sacred spot of Ornan's threshing floor, where Solomon's temple stood, and where the Mosque of Omer now stands. That's where the throne of David will be. We have just noted Ezekiel was told, ". . . the place of my throne . . ., where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever. . ." That brings to mind the words of the angel to Mary: "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the son of the Highest: and the Lord God will give unto him the throne of his father David. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." (Luke 1:31-32-33)

THE SECOND TIME

"So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear THE SECOND TIME without sin unto salvation." (Heb. 9:28) We should take note that the promise is, "unto those that look for him shall he appear the SECOND TIME" not the third time, not the fourth time. The prophets foretold of the coming of a Messiah. To all who believe that Jesus was the promised Messiah (Christ) the birth, ministry, death, resurrection and ascension into heaven of Jesus fulfills the first coming of the Messiah. The suffering Messiah described in the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah speaks of his first coming: "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid it as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not." "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted." "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and WITH HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED." "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." (Isa. 53:4-5) It was this suffering Messiah that the Jews failed to recognize in Jesus of Nazareth.

The Jews were looking for 'Messiah the King,' the one who would deliver them from their enemies. "But

thus saith the Lord, Even the captives of the mighty LIKE MANNER as ye have seen him go into heaven." shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall (Acts 1:9-10-11) be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save my children." (In the days of Jesus, the Jewish people were under the oppressive heel of Rome and they longed for the Messiah to come and deliver them.) "And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I am the Lord and thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty one of Jacob." (Isa. 49: 25,26) Jesus didn't fulfill these promises at his first coming. The Lord didn't make bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth didn't see the salvation of our God. (Isa. 52:10)

We are now living in that period of time just prior to the return of Jesus to this planet earth, where so many of the holy prophets and Apostles of old tell us Jesus is going to reign. We have this promise made by Jesus himself: "And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." (Matt. 19:28) That is the time of the Messianic rebirth of the world. It is the coming new age.

The disciples were concerned about the time when the kingdom would be restored to Israel; thy asked Jesus about it. "When they therefore were come together, they asked him saying Lord wilt thou at THIS TIME restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, it is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power." (Acts 1:6-7) It wasn't for them to know. Yet in Matthew quoted above, Jesus had already told them he was going to come again and then he would sit upon the throne of his glory.

Zechariah the prophet spoke of the Messiah's coming in these words, "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof . . ." ". . . and the Lord my God shall come and all the saints with thee." (Zech. 14:4-5)

We need to bring this to a close, and still there is so much to write about on this wonderful subject. It's hard for me to stop. I love the mount of Olives. I always enjoy going to the top of the mount and looking out over the city of Jerusalem; it's beautiful, day or night. Jesus ascended from there and the angels said he would come again in like manner. "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, SHALL SO COME IN

MISSOURI REUNION

- Date: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, August 12-13-14, 1983. First meeting to begin at 9:00 A. M. August 12.
- Place: Warrensburg, Missouri at East Hudson Conference Ctr.
- Location: East Anderson St., east off Hwy. 13 in Warrensburg.
- Lodging Rooms are \$14.00 for a single room & \$20.00 for a double room per night. Pay as you enter, linens are furnished.
- Food: Meals will be furnished, desserts included, donations will be accepted from those who dine with us.
- We would like to know approximately how many plan on attending so the menu can be prepared. Please notify Jeanette Cunningham, Rt. 5, Warrensburg, Mo. 64093.
- There is plenty of room for all; arrangements can be made for disabled if we know ahead of time.
- Let us all try to attend, worship and associate together to make this the best Missouri Reunion ever.

MISSOURI CAMP FOR ALL AGES

The Missouri Camp For All Ages will be held May 14 and 15 at the Preston Coop. Please plan to make this a date you will not forget.

For additional information, please contact Michael Smith (phone 816-737-0846) or Kimberly Oldham (816-737-0920). Remember, this is your camping weekend.

SPECIAL NOTICE

TO ALL LOCAL PASTORS

from THE GENERAL CHURCH RECORDER

I have been instructed by the Council of Apostles to prepare a directory of all local pastors, with their addresses and telephone numbers, and this directory to be sent to each pastor. For the special purpose of requesting a mutual interest in prayers for those in the congregation in sickness, etc.

Please send the above information to me immediately.

Respectfully

Elder Isaac Brockman

1208 Baker Dr.

Independence, Mo. 64050

816-254-8190

PHOENIX REUNION NOTICE

The 1983 Phoenix Reunion will be held November 25, 26 and 27 at the Phoenix Local Church, Phoenix, Arizona. Any one able to come may contact: Jay Moser, pastor, 4062 E. Danbury, Phoenix, Az. 85032, phone 602-971-6697, or Tom Karas, assistant pastor, 14441 N. 36 Pl., Phoenix, Az. 85032, phone 602-867-9506.

Come and join in worship and fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ. It is also a time to grow spiritually and grow in the love and unity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is our hope that you will each attend.

In Gospel Bonds, Elder Jay Moser.

ARIZONA CAMP FOR ALL AGES

This is to invite all to come to the first Arizona Camp For All Ages which will be held on July 2, 3, and 4 on the Walnut Ranch in Heber, Arizona. It is our intent that this camp will help in the spiritual growth of each who attend.

For further information please contact: Hubert Yates, 18819 N. 29th Pl., Phoenix, Az. 85024, Phone 602-992-3613; or Jim Yates, 18648 N. 30th St., Phoenix, Az. 85024, Phone 602-867-7232. Jay Moser, 4062 E. Danbury, Phoenix, Az. 85032, Phone 602-971-6697.

In Gospel Bonds, Joel Yates.

"The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." (Proverbs 29:15)

TRI-STATE REUNION

AN INVITATION

Tri-State Reunion, sponsored by the Minneapolis Local, will be held on July 1, 2, and 3, at White State Park near Rochester, Minnesota. The camp is a place of unmatched privacy in a large and deep rock ravine where huge trees enhance the setting. The eight clean, secure cabins have capacity to sleep 132 people. Meeting room, dining hall, and kitchen are more than adequate. A trout stream skirts the camp, and a swimming pool is nearby. The Tri-State Reunion of the Fall of 1979 was held at this location. Come and participate actively.

Make two lists of things to bring: On the first, list good plain clothes, sleeping bags or blankets, sheets, pillows, towels - those things you will need for your comfort and safety. On the second list, number with care the intangibles, uniquely yours, of uplifting fellowship, Praise, Prayer . . . Precious items needed for a Spiritual Blending worthy of Our Father's blessing. This second list will prove of great value . . . In fact I've heard of the entire assemblage taking home

with them more of the intangibles than they brought! Pack with great care!

Come to Rochester, Minnesota. Go East out of Rochester on Highway 14 to St. Charles. Take Highway 74 North out of St. Charles, approximately ten miles, to the park office. When you arrive at the park office inquire about a required Vehicle Park-Use Stamp. We suggest a two-day stamp which will cost you \$4.00 per vehicle.

We ask God's blessing for your trip; and that He will give by His Presence, success to Tri-State Reunion 1983. We invite your prayers, also. Please call, if you are coming, Pastor Thomas Maley - 612-521-9423. Thanks.

(Irene Maley)

COLORADO REUNION NOTICE

The 1983 Colorado Reunion will be held at the Orchard Mesa Local Church, 3233 B½ Road, Grand Junction, Colorado, on June 10, 11 and 12. For further information contact:

Marvin E. Ely 303-434-8149
236 - 32nd Road
Grand Junction, Colorado 81503

MICHIGAN STATE REUNION

The Michigan State Reunion will be held June 18 and 19, 1983, at the Bradley Local, Bradley, Michigan. As usual, meals will be potluck.

Camping facilities are available at Cottonwood Acres (formerly KOA), near Bradley. Telephone number at the campgrounds - 616/792-2725.

Anyone needing housing or other information regarding the reunion, may contact:

Elder Laverne Lussenden
204 Oak
Hopkins, Michigan 49328
Phone: 616/793-7245

Please make a note of the dates and plan on attending and making this the biggest and best Michigan State Reunion ever. If you've never attended before, come and see what you've been missing. If you have, we don't have to tell you what a wonderful experience it is. Come and worship with us.

Reunion Committee
Norman Trudgen
Jeff Butts
Jay Lee

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1983 Minister's Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will commence Sunday, April 3, 1983. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A. M. Monday, April 4. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, April 1 and 2, 1983.

The 1983 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 17th, 18th and 19th at Independence, Missouri.

WRITTEN MATERIAL FOR "ZION'S ADVOCATE"

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.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Send all orders to: Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
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Baptism For The Dead?	N/C
Zion and the Temple of the Lord	N/C

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AUDIO VISUAL MATERIALS

The following materials are available on loan from the Audio, Video, Visual-Aids and Archeological Committee:

"Mexico, Land of Contrast" — A 50 minute slide program with taped narration about how archeology supports the Book of Mormon.
"Out of the Dust" — A 55 minute slide program with taped narration about the story told within the Book of Mormon.

"A Lamp Unto My Feet" — A 35 minute slide program with taped narration about the story within the Book of Mormon (directed toward Indian viewers).

"Light at Evening" — A 35 minute slide program with taped narration about the bringing forth of the Book of Mormon and the Restoration of the Church of Christ.

"The Return" — A 12 minute slide program with taped narration about the return of the members of the Church of Christ to the "land of Zion" in 1867.

"We Sing and We Talk About Jesus" — A series of Sunday School lessons, each with a teaching outline, and illustration and a taped song to be learned by primary or intermediate age children.

Send all orders to the Office Secretary, Church of Christ (Temple Lot), P. O. Box 472, Independence, Mo. 64051. Slide projectors and tape players are not provided.

We also provide a Sermon-by-tape service. There is no charge for the issuing of a cassette tape on a loan basis. Write to the AVVAA Committee, Church of Christ, 2929 E. Siesta Lane, Phoenix, Arizona 85024.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Send all orders to: General Sunday School Association Treasurer, Church of Christ (Temple Lot), P. O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472.

	Price Each
Primary, Volume 1, No. 1, Childhood of Jesus (Out of Print)	N/C
Primary, Volume 1, No. 2, Jesus' Ministry (Out of Print)	N/C
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The Bible Game "Who Am I?" by Doris Houshnecht	1.50

(No charge for single box to a Local Sunday School)