

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. 3

NOBILITY

True worth is being, not seeming;
In doing each day that goes by,
Some little good, not in dreaming
Of great things to do by and by.

For whatever men say in their blindness,
And in spite of the fancies of youth,
There is nothing so kingly as kindness
And nothing as royal as truth.

We get back our mete as we measure,
We cannot do wrong and feel right,
Nor can we give pain and feel pleasure,
For injustice avenges each slight.

The air for the wing of the sparrow,
The bush for the robin and wren,
But always the path that is narrow
And straight for the children of men.

Alice Cary

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Editorial From The Past . . .

Nephi's Plainness

Plainness of speech was characteristic of Nephi, and his soul delighted in it, and all who love truth must also take delight in the plainness of Nephi's teaching. The object of this plainness is stated in this language:

"My soul delighteth in plainness unto my people, that they may learn."—II Nephi 11:7.

Other prophets sometimes made statements that were veiled, and the truths contained therein were hidden, and could only be understood when compared with and interpreted by the plain teachings of men like Nephi. Chapter 13 of Second Nephi is a concrete example of his plainness of speech and the simpleness of his teaching:

And now I, Nephi, make an end of my prophesying unto you, my beloved brethren. And I can not write but a few things, which I know must surely come to pass; neither can I write but a few of the words of my brother Jacob. Wherefore the things which I have written, sufficeth me, save it be a few words which I must speak, concerning the doctrine of Christ; wherefore I shall speak unto

you plainly, according to the plainness of my prophesying. For my soul delighteth in plainness; for after this manner doth the Lord God work among the children of men. For the Lord giveth light unto the understanding; for he speaketh unto men according to their language, unto their understanding.

Nephi was writing this about the year 545 B.C. He had been prophesying to his brethren concerning the coming of Christ and the things that would take place almost 600 years later. He continues:

Wherefore, I would that ye should remember that I have spoken unto you, concerning that prophet which the Lord shewed unto me, that should baptize the Lamb of God, which should take away the sin of the world.

Nephi had a foreknowledge of that which would take place in the future, when John should baptize the Son of God, an account of which we find in Matthew, as follows:

Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he suffered him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

The question has often been asked: If baptism is for the remission of sins, and Christ was without sin, why then did it become necessary for him to be baptized to "fulfill all righteousness?" Nephi understood why, and gives the answer in simple language, after stressing the greater need for our baptism:

And now, if the Lamb of God, he being holy, should have need to be baptized by water to fulfill all righteousness, O then, how much more need have we, being unholy, to be baptized, yea even by water. And now, I would ask of you, my beloved brethren, wherein the Lamb of God did fulfill all righteousness in being baptized by water? Know ye not that he was holy?

But not withstanding he being holy, he sheweth unto the children of men, that according to the flesh, he humbleth himself before the Father, and witnesseth unto the Father that he would be obedient unto him in keeping his commandments: wherefore after he was baptized with water, the Holy Ghost descended upon him in the form of a dove.

The purpose of his baptism is here made plain. First to show unto the children of men, that he, while in the flesh, humbled himself before his Father who was in heaven; and, second, as a witness unto his Father that he was obedient in keeping His commandments.

It is so plain that a child can understand it; and how, we, too, in going down into the water, humble ourselves before our Father in heaven, and before our fellow men, and also we witness before our heavenly Father that we will be obedient unto Him in keeping His

commandments. There is also something else connected with the ordinance of baptism that is important to us:

And again: It sheweth unto the children of men the straightness of the path, and the narrowness of the gate, by which they should enter, he having set the example before them. For the gate by which ye should enter is repentance and baptism by water: and then cometh a remission of your sins by fire, and by the Holy Ghost.

Baptism of water and of the Spirit is for the "remission of sins."

And this is the gate taught to Nicodemus by the Master, when he said: "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven.—John 3:5.

This is the gate, and the only gate by which we enter into the way of life:

And then are ye in this straight and narrow path which leads to eternal life; yea, ye have entered in by the gate; ye have done according to the commandments of the Father and the Son; and ye have received the Holy Ghost; which witnesses of the Father and the Son, unto the fulfilling of the promise which he hath made, that if ye entered in by the way, ye should receive. . . And now behold, my beloved brethren, this is the way; and there is none other way nor name given under heaven, whereby man can be saved in the kingdom of God. And now behold, this is the doctrine of Christ, and the only and true doctrine of Christ, and the only and true doctrine of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, which is one God, without end. Amen.

How simple and plain Nephi makes it.

As the Apostle Paul said, so say we, "Though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you, than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."—Galatians 1:8.

Apostle Leon A. Gould

(Condensed from the February, 1950, issue of The Advocate)

ATTENTION LOCAL PASTORS AND MISSIONARIES

Assistance For Needy Elderly

As winter sometimes brings hardships on the elderly, we want to remind each of you that the General United Workers has set up a fund to give assistance to the "needy elderly" members of our church.

If you know of someone needing assistance at this

time, please refer your request to one of the following:

Sr. Darl Temple — Chairman

Sr. Lois Harris — Treasurer

Sr. Melissa McGhee — Committee Member

Spiritual Gifts

FROM A SERMON BY APOSTLE MARVIN ELY

PART TWO (Conclusion)



There's a scripture in Moroni, in chapter 2, verse 2, when Christ spoke to his disciples, when he laid his hands upon them, and it shows how the power of God works. It shows how the Holy Ghost is given. The Holy Ghost is given by the laying on of hands. Some believe that you have to first speak in tongues before you receive the Holy Ghost, but I just brought out the contrary very plainly. Do all speak in tongues? The answer would be, no. And I want to show you how the Holy Ghost is given. "And he called them by name," this was to his twelve disciples that Christ chose upon this land, "saying, Ye shall call on the Father in my name, in mighty prayer; and after ye have done this, ye shall have power that on him whom ye shall lay your hands, ye shall give the Holy Ghost; and in my name shall ye give it, for thus do mine apostles." So he outlined the way there, for those having authority to give it, to call on the Lord in mighty prayer.

Turning to 2 Nephi, chapter 13, verse 16, there is another important reference, "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, I know that if ye shall follow the Son with full purpose of heart," and that is important that we follow Jesus Christ with full purpose of heart, "acting no hypocrisy and no deception before God, but with real intent, repenting of your sins, witnessing unto the Father that ye are willing to take upon you the name of Christ, by baptism: yea, by following your Lord and your Savior down into the water," and Jesus Christ set the example in this, we're all well aware that Jesus, when he was baptized, came up out of the water and, lo, a voice from heaven came, saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased". And we know that the Holy Ghost descended upon him, one writer says, in the bodily shape of a dove, and another says, as a dove. And then this says after you go down into the water, "According to his word, behold, then shall ye receive the Holy Ghost; Yea, then cometh the baptism of fire and of the Holy Ghost;" and I want you to notice this, "and then ye can speak with the tongue of angels." No, this didn't say an unknown tongue or another tongue but it said with the tongue of angels, "and shout praises unto the Holy One of Israel." And going on into the next verse, I won't read it all, it says, "... and can speak with a new tongue." What is that new tongue? What is the tongue of angels? Is it an unknown tongue? Is it something you wouldn't be understanding, or what would it be? Go over to verse 3 on the next page, in chapter 14. "And now, how could ye speak with the tongue of angels, save it were by the Holy Ghost;" that is how it is done. Angels speak by the power of the Holy

Ghost, "wherefore, they speak the words of Christ."

So, by baptism you put off this old creature, you're buried in the waters, the old man is washed away, you put on a new man and if you go from that point seeking and feasting on the words of Jesus Christ, verse 4, "... for behold the words of Christ will tell you all things what ye should do." If ye do this, going forward, you'll speak a new tongue, after Jesus Christ, no longer after the old carnal man. Angels speak by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore they speak the words of Christ and those who've compiled with these things, also would speak the words of Christ. This is explaining how it will be, "Wherefore, now after I have spoken these words, if ye can not understand them, it will be because ye ask not, neither do ye knock; wherefore, ye are not brought into the light, but must perish in the dark. For behold, again I say unto you, that if ye will enter in by the way and receive the Holy Ghost, it will shew unto you all things what ye should do."

Going again to the 12th chapter of 1 Corinthians, Verse 31, "But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way." This more excellent way, what would it be? The next chapter goes into that beautiful discourse on charity and the value of it in our individual lives, some of which I've already brought out, "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." Mormon in speaking to his son Moroni had this to say about that charity, that we are to pray with all the energy of our hearts that we might be filled with this love which he hath bestowed upon all true followers of his Son Jesus Christ. You can read it in the 7th chapter of Moroni verses 52-53 if you want the reference. And so Paul says, yet I shew you a more excellent way.

Now going on into the 14th chapter of 1 Corinthians, beginning at verse 1, "Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy." and he would have said the same thing to you and me today, it is not wrong to desire spiritual gifts. "For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries." That's this unknown tongue, "But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort. He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself;" and one meaning of edify is to 'make godlike', "but he that prophesieth edifieth the church." (or maketh godlike). "I would that ye all spake with tongues," and if I stopped there that might seem an odd statement, "But rather that ye prophesied: for

greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying." So there is a purpose in speaking in tongues, but unless it's interpreted it doesn't benefit the church.

"Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?" If he did this and you understood it then it would be valuable to you. But if I suddenly would complete this sermon in an unknown tongue, that not one of you could understand and it was not interpreted, you might just as well have been home. But if it was interpreted it would be a different thing. There are purposes for the speaking in tongues, but we have to have them in the proper place and order. He goes on to tell here that different instruments give different sounds and we learn to know the instrument by the sounds that they give. And in verse 9, "So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air." I invite you to read the whole 14th chapter, but in the 13th & 14th verses it says, "Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful." if you don't know what you are saying, your understanding is not benefitted.

Verse 15, "What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest." How should one even be able to say amen if he couldn't understand the words that were said? He is not edified. In verse 18 Paul says, "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:" Paul had spoken in tongues, I have no idea how many times and it isn't important that I know, "Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue." Now that is Paul's evaluation of the matter. And then note this, "Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men." Don't be children in understanding. There is a way these things should be, and he's explaining it. And He has said, greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh in tongues; the prophesy is more valuable unless the tongue is interpreted, that there is understanding with it. Sometimes there are those whose understanding in the scripture is in the attitude of a child, but in understanding we're to be men, and in malice (ill will) to be children.

Continuing at verse 22, "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. If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad? But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth. How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying." unto making god-like the body of Christ, unto it's benefit, that ye might be men and not children in understanding.

Verse 27, "If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret." Let it be by two or three at the most, not twenty or a hundred, and that by course, not all at once. Course means one at a time. (A number of like things in some regular order; a series. Webster) We're all aware that when you eat a dinner served in courses that you have a salad, perhaps, a soup, the main meal and a dessert, brought out in courses, one at a time. To me, it seems he gave a rather plain and explicit description and counsel concerning this. "But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God. Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. For ye all may prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted." In verse 33 it is said, "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." God is not the author of confusion, and if you have many speaking at the same time in tongues, (or otherwise) it engenders confusion, and the scripture says right here as plain as it can be, "Let it be by course", "one by one", one at a time.

Down in verses 39 and 40 it says, "Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak in tongues. Let all things be done decently and in order." And so I feel that he has explained this rather plainly.

I will turn to the book of Moroni, again, for a closing scripture, on page 776, taking up at verse 14 and reading through 18. "And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that he is the same yesterday, today, and forever, 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." That is the only reason.

There is a wise purpose in all these gifts. When we think of prophesy we think of what Amos wrote in the 3rd chapter, 7th verse, "Surely the Lord God will do nothing but he revealeth his secret unto his servants

the prophets." That is an important gift, but the others are important also. "Wherefore, there must be faith;" that thing which to every man is given a measure of, "and if there must be faith, there must also be hope; and if there must be hope, there must also be charity; and except ye have charity, ye can in no wise be saved in the kingdom of God; Neither can ye be saved in the kingdom of God, if ye have not faith; neither can ye if ye have no hope; and if ye have no hope, ye must needs be in despair; and despair cometh because of iniquity. And Christ truly said unto our fathers, If ye have faith," and note this verse, "ye can do all things which are

expedient unto me." I like that verse. That's a positive verse if I ever read or heard one. "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." There again, is the reason that they can be done away.

I hope that these things might point you a little closer, not only to your reasonable duty and responsibility to God, but also to a deeper understanding of the value of the gift and power of the Holy Ghost in your life; the spiritual gifts and these things tied with them.

1985

THE YEAR OF THE BOOK OF MORMON

Let's all make this the year we bring the Book of Mormon out of darkness into the light where Christ meant it to be.

To bring this book to light we must understand the light between its covers. If we don't know what is in the covers of the Book of Mormon we can't take it to others or bring it to light for all the world to see the brightness thereof. So, we all must ask God for wisdom as we read the book and THEN we must read the book until we understand what we read.

Before you start reading the Book of Mormon read Moroni 10:3-31. After we read this and want to please Christ, we have to BELIEVE every word of Christ. If we truly believe every word of Christ we will do each and everything He tells us to do, EXACTLY the way He tells us. This is what we must do if we want to reign with Him forever.

We have to understand and believe before we can bring it to our young ones in our churches. If we can't even teach it to our young ones, how are we going to bring it to the ones outside the church who have only heard the world's version of the book, if any? Could you imagine yourself trying to sell a car to someone who has already heard that it would not run, and you have never heard it run? It would be the same as trying to bring the light of the Book of Mormon to someone when we are not sure there is light in it. Before we can help others believe and understand we must first believe and understand ourselves, without any doubt. We cannot show others the light if we are not sure the light is there.

The Book of Mormon is like a flashlight: If we don't

turn the flashlight on we will stumble and fall in the darkness, and if we don't open the Book of Mormon and read and walk in the light of Christ it gives us, we will also stumble and fall in the darkness. The Book of Mormon is like a scientist looking into outer space: The more he looks, the farther he looks, the longer he looks, the more he finds is there. Now, it is the same when we open the Book of Mormon: When we read, the MORE we look, the FARTHER we look, the LONGER we look the more God will give us if we ask him for guidance. The more we use what he has already given us in understanding, the more He will give us to understand until we understand completely.

We must keep reading until we understand the Book of Mormon completely. Read Ether 1:85, "And he had faith no longer, for he knew, nothing doubting; wherefore, having this perfect knowledge of God, he could not be kept from within the veil; therefore he saw Jesus, and he did minister unto him." For if we start out with faith like the Brother of Jared did and read the Book of Mormon and do what it says in all things, we will please God. We could also have perfect knowledge just as the Brother of Jared had through faith and works (Read Ephesians 4:11-16).

We all know the time is short and we don't have a lot of time left, so we better get BOTH his books out now and study them, and walk in the straight and narrow path Christ told us to walk in if we want to live with Him forever. Christ gave us all a choice, to follow him forever or follow man and the world and be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone FOREVER. . . .

Jeff Butts

A Great And A Marvelous Work

by Apostle William A. Sheldon

PART THREE



In our foregoing treatment of this matter, we have only sketched or outlined the fundamental purpose for which the Restoration has been initiated of God. Because of wickedness and unbelief in the latter days, He has, in accord with His wisdom and long-suffering, begun to "do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act" (Isaiah 28:21). This work has begun with the coming forth from the dust of a history of those ancient Americans, containing the word of God to them, which also prophesies considerably concerning not only the house of Israel, but also the nations of the gentiles. This book, the Book of Mormon, meets every qualification as a book of divine scripture, and yet is considered a strange thing by those who say they believe the Bible, and who ought to have discernment of the Spirit of truth.

"Because Ephraim hath made many altars to sin, altars shall be unto him to sin. I have written to him the great things of my law, but they were counted as a strange thing." (Hosea 8:11-12).

It is being rejected, as is also God's companion labor to establish His Church upon the earth in latter days in accord with the ancient order and doctrine of the Church of the New Testament. In a word: We are presently given to see that both Jew and Gentile are rejecting the fulness of the gospel of Christ. Many of them are professing a belief in Christ, and yet deny basic precepts of His doctrine. A deceptive spirit is sweeping this nation which says, "believe on the name of Christ, confess Him as your Savior, and leave it all up to Him." While it is true that we may only be saved through the grace of Christ and the merit of His blood shed for all, the question remains: how is it effected? How is the blood of Christ applied? The answer is as old as the history of man: Repent and believe—really believe—the gospel of Christ: *obey* His voice; keep His commandments.

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and (then) ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (through the laying on of hands of those whom God has called). Acts 2:38. Parenthetical insertions are by the author.

This, in brief, describes the restoration of the fulness of the gospel as delivered to Joseph Smith and others. This movement of the Holy Ghost by the hands of angels is denied and rejected by those who should rejoice at the latter day evidence of God's redeeming, reclaiming labor of love; and transgression of the basic laws of morality is the order of our time, passing all

precedent. Is it any wonder we are admonished from the very inception of this work to say nothing but repentance to this generation? (See Book of Commandments 5:4).

The rejection of the fulness of the gospel, both by Jew and Gentile is characterized as a battle against Zion. The Lord has virtually equated Zion with this land of America, in the sense of His ultimate purpose being to transform it as such for the place of His government upon the earth in the last days.

"And this land shall be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles: and there shall be no kings upon the land, who shall raise up unto the Gentiles.

"And I will fortify this land against all other nations;

"And he that fighteth against Zion, shall perish, saith God; for he that raiseth up a king against me, shall perish.

"For I the Lord, the King of heaven, will be their king; and I will be a light unto them for ever, that hear my words.

"Wherefore, for this cause, that my covenants may be fulfilled, which I have made unto the children of men, that I will do unto them while they are in the flesh, I must needs destroy the secret works of darkness, and of murders, and of abominations;

"Wherefore, he that fighteth against Zion, both Jew and Gentile, both bond and free, both male and female, shall perish:

"For they who are the whore of all the earth;

"For they who are not for me, are against me, saith our God." (II Nephi 7:18-25).

The Lord will not indefinitely restrain His wrath for spurning His love and many overtures to mankind. He is long-suffering and not willing that any shall perish; but divine wisdom will dictate its limitation, and finally:

"The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day." Isaiah 2:11. Some have supposed that God Himself does not directly intervene to destroy the wicked; that He uses mankind for this purpose; the wicked being used to destroy the wicked. It is true that in many instances this is so, but it is equally true that He will do so by the exercise of His own power. We would only need to refer to such instances as the Red Sea being opened for passage of the children of Israel in the exodus from Egypt, and then being closed to swallow the Egyptian army; or of the fire and brimstone from heaven upon Sodom and

Gomorrha (Genesis 19:24,25); or of the flood which destroyed all life except Noah and his family.

Regardless of which method the Lord uses—and it appears He will permit man to virtually destroy himself while hiding the saints in the hollow of His hand, and then to wreak His vengeance upon those wicked nations—He will thus accomplish His purpose to glorify Himself and exalt the saints.

Because men have made a covenant with death, and an agreement with hell in that lies are their refuge rather than a trust in the mighty God, there will be an *overflowing scourge* (see Isaiah 28:15), a consumption (Isaiah 10:23), which both Daniel and Christ refer to as "an abomination of desolation" (Daniel 9:26,27; 11:31; Mark 13:14). This appears to connote both a spiritual flood of abominable doctrine and also an overflowing desolation of horrendous military might. The Jews turned from righteousness to gross wickedness, from the light of Christ unto darkness and the early Church received, in place of the gospel of Christ, an overflowing flood of abominable doctrine. Jewish rejection of their Messiah set in fulfillment of Christ's mournful prediction: "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate." (Matthew 23:38). This was accomplished in 70 A.D. when the Roman armies besieged and destroyed Jerusalem; truly an abomination of desolation, the details of which are almost beyond description.

This was a prototype for a similar situation in the last days, as also prophesied by Christ. A casual reading of Matthew 24 might make it appear to speak only of the tribulation of 70 A.D. upon Jerusalem. In verses 21 and 22 we are told of a tribulation "such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be

shortened, there should *no* flesh be saved; but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." Then in verses 29 and 30 we are informed that "Immediately after the tribulation of those days" would appear signs of Christ's appearance in glorious power. At that time, then, the Lord is pictured as arising in righteous wrath, taking vengeance upon the wicked.

"Come near, ye nations, to hear, and hearken, ye people: let the earth hear and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it.

"For the indignation of the Lord is upon all nations, and his fury upon all their armies; he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter.

"Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcasses, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood.

"And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree.

"For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment." (Isaiah 34:1-5)

"For it is the day of the Lord's vengeance and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion. (Isaiah 34:8).

The tribulation of man's inhumanity to his fellow man, culminating in a second abomination of desolation beginning again at Jerusalem, and to overspread the earth in a third world war, is not to be compared to the wrath of God unleashed; and will this not be "a great and a marvelous work?"

(to be continued)

If God Should Go On Strike

It's a good thing that God above
Has never gone on strike
Because He wasn't treated fair,
Or for things He didn't like.

If ever once He had sat down
And said: "That's it! I'm through.
I've had enough of those on earth
So this is what I'll do:

"I'll give my orders to the sun
To cut off your heat supply.
I'll command the moon to give
no more light
And run your oceans dry.

"Then just to make it really tough
And put the pressure on—
I'll turn off the air and oxygen
'Til every breath is gone."

Do you know He'd be justified
If fairness were the game.
For no one has been more abused
Or treated with disdain. . .

Than God. And yet He carries on
Supplying you and me
With all the favors of His grace
And everything is — for free!

Men say they want a better deal
And so on strike they go.
But what a deal we've given God
To whom everything we owe.

We don't care who we hurt or harm
To get the things we like.
But what a mess we'd all be in
If God should go on strike!

Author Unknown

(Submitted by Wayne Lussenden,
Shelbyville, Michigan)

RELY

Upon the things which are written; for in them are all things written, concerning my church, my gospel, and my rock.

By Elder Howard Leighton-Floyd

In a previous article we talked about Matthew 16:18. "Whom do men say that I the son of man am?" In that scripture it was revealed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Then Jesus said that flesh and blood had not revealed this but His Father which is in heaven. The He added this everlasting truth. "Upon this rock I will build my church."

Jesus Christ is the rock, revealed by the Father. When Jesus appeared to the Nephites upon this American continent He taught the people the same old Jerusalem gospel that He had just taught the Jews in Jerusalem. However, that is not surprising is it? We are told, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17.

Here are some of the words of Jesus regarding His doctrine. "Behold, verily, verily I say unto you, I will declare unto you my doctrine. . . . and it is the doctrine which the Father has given unto me.

"And I bear record of the Father, and the Father beareth record of me, and the Holy Ghost beareth record of the Father and me, and I bear record that the Father commandeth all men everywhere, to repent and believe in me; And whosoever believeth in me, and is baptized, the same shall be saved; and they are they that shall inherit the kingdom of God. And whosoever believeth not in me, and is not baptized, shall be damned." 3 Nephi 5:32-35.

The doctrine of Jesus Christ is so plain, and so easy to be understood. It is only man, and the devil that have added to, taken from and brought in false doctrine, and precepts of men, promoting confusion, and conflict within the ministry and the church. And that, my friends, is one of the primary reasons we have the Book of Mormon today; if used in doctrinal questions, it would lay down contention and establish peace.

In speaking of the Book of Mormon in that light I can not help but think of those three very young men in the midst of interpreting the ancient writings on the unsealed plates, containing the record written by the Nephites. Can you see them? Joseph Smith having been given the gift to translate the book, with a strict commandment: "And I have commanded him that he shall pretend to no other gift, for I shall grant him no other gift." Book of Commandments 4:2. There, Joseph was looking into the interpreters and under the ancient characters would appear the interpretation in English. He read the English to Oliver Cowdery, the

scribe, and Oliver in turn wrote the interpretation down. Thus we received the Book of Mormon.

It is true Joseph, Oliver Cowdery and David Whitmer had all been shown the plates by an angel. That was an event that they testified of unto their dying day. Yet as they sat there at the time, and heard from Joseph's mouth those words, not seeing them themselves, I find it possible for them to have wondered. They must have desired of the Lord to know more about the words that they were writing as they came from the mouth of the translator. The Lord discerning this, honored them by giving them a revelation, found on page 26 of the Book of Commandments, Chapter 15. It is a very important revelation for living in this end time period, especially for the Church of Christ, in its present condition. If I am not mistaken, this revelation was received through the stone or interpreters, the same means used for the translation of the record. This is what the Lord said to those three young men and every word of it is valid today, because the Word of the Lord will not return unto him void.

1. A Revelation to Joseph, Oliver and David, making known the calling of the twelve disciples in these last days, and also, instruction relative to building up the church of Christ, according to the fullness of the gospel: Given in Fayette, New York, June 1829.

Now behold, because of the things which you have desired to know of me, I give unto you these words:

2. Behold I have manifested unto you by my Spirit in many instances, that the things which you have written are true:

3. Wherefore you know that they are true; and if you know that they are true, behold I give unto you a commandment that you rely upon the things which are written; for in them are all things written concerning my church, my gospel, and my rock.

4. Wherefore if you build up my church, and my gospel, and my rock, the gates of hell shall not prevail against you.

5. Behold the world is ripening in iniquity, and it must needs be, that the children of men are stirred up unto repentance, both the Gentiles, and also the house of Israel;

6. Wherefore as thou hast been baptized by the hand of my servant, according to that which I have commanded him:

7. Wherefore he hath fulfilled the thing which

I have commanded him.

8. And now marvel not that I have called him unto mine own purpose, which purpose is known unto me:

9. Wherefore if he shall be diligent in keeping my commandments, he shall be blessed unto eternal life, and his name is Joseph.

10. And now Oliver, I speak to unto you, and also unto you David, by way of commandment:

11. For behold I command all men everywhere to repent, and I speak unto you, even as unto Paul mine apostle, for you are called even with the same calling with which he was called.

12. Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God:

13. For behold the Lord your God suffered death in the flesh: wherefore he suffered the pain of all men, that all men might repent and come unto him.

14. And he hath risen again from the dead, that he might bring all men unto him on conditions of repentance.

15. And how great is his joy in the soul that repenteth.

16. Wherefore you are called to cry repentance unto this people.

17. And if it so be that you should labor in all your days, in crying repentance unto this people, and bring save it be one soul unto me, how great shall be your joy with him in the kingdom of my Father?

18. And now if your joy will be great with one soul, that you have brought unto me into the kingdom of my Father, how great will be your joy, if you should bring many souls unto me?

19. Behold you have my gospel before you, and my rock, and my salvation:

It is time to pause and consider the things that we are being told by God in this revelation.

a. Let's consider the date: June 1829. The church had not been organized according to the laws of the land, yet God was giving some basic instruction relative to building up the Church of Christ, according to the fullness of the gospel. Let's take note; it was not to be according to man's ideas or precepts but according to the fullness of the gospel.

b. This revelation answers a lot of questions! God was commencing to do a marvelous work among the children of men and He didn't expect them to start out by guess. So what was the vital truth He told them?

The first things God gave them and us for our guide was and is, "The fullness of the gospel." The second thing was assurance: "Behold I have manifested unto you by my Spirit in many instances, that the things which you have written are true." The third fact, "Wherefore you know that they are true; and if you know that they are true, behold I give unto you a

commandment, that you *rely* on the things which are written. . ." (Emphasis: HLF)

Why? Why did the Lord give this commandment? What were the things they were writing? The answer is evident, so plain and easy to understand. The Almighty God, of heaven and earth, caused the Nephites to keep a record. He preserved it for centuries, He ministered unto the peoples upon this continent after His resurrection, He taught them His gospel, He established His Church among them. In this end time, He gave power to translate the record for the very purpose that the points of His doctrine might be taught, nothing more, and nothing less. The things they had written, and was before them, was the manuscript of the Book of Mormon.

Those are the plain facts. The commandment was to rely on the things which are written, concerning His church, His gospel, and His rock. The promise was ". . . the gates of hell shall not prevail against you." It is also a fact of history: They didn't rely on the Book of Mormon.

Joseph, Oliver and David were called to the same calling as the Apostle Paul, and they were also told that there were others, "Yea, even unto twelve" B/C 5:27. Most second graders could tell you that left nine more to be chosen. Verse 23, same chapter: "And now I speak unto the twelve." These men never occupied as members of twelve (Quorum or Council). The fact is, twelve Apostles were not placed in the church until 1834, after many man made offices had been added.

Now, I am sure that most members in the Church of Christ know of these, and many more early errors made between 1829 and 1844. However, there are millions in the Restoration that don't know; they need to know. We in the Church of Christ have problems still facing us to this day, because we are still evidently unwilling to rely on the things written in the Book of Mormon.

The controversy over the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment still seems unresolved in the minds of many in the church, and this after having the plain and precious truths before us for 155 years as recorded in the Book of Mormon. The Early Restoration did not heed the commandments given, and many factions and churches is the result. This basic commandment is still valid today; the only way our problems can be resolved is for all of us to rely on the things as we find them written in the Nephite record.

In light of the commandment to rely on the Book of Mormon, also in the view of so little progress, we should at last give pause to re-evaluate our position on doctrine. It may be too late for the Restoration Churches, but there is still time for the Church of Christ in particular to give pre-eminence to the things as we find them written in the Book of Mormon any time it comes to questionable doctrines (doctrines that are debatable or conflicting), regardless of origin.

God commands all but man obeys. God commanded the earth to hang on nothing and the earth obeyed. (Job 26:7, Psalms 33:6,9). In the beginning God said, "... Let there be light ..." (Genesis 1:3), and there was light. "Let the waters bring forth" (Genesis 1:20), and the waters obeyed. God commanded and they obey. The grave could not hold Lazarus. It obeyed the command of Jesus (John 11:43-44). The moon and stars obey! God commandeth and the entire universe is in obedience (Psalms 33:8-9).

What is the problem? The heart and mind of man is the problem. We are the problem! But time is running out. The angel has been sent flying through the midst of heaven, "Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made the heavens, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." Revelation 14:7 When we have read that scripture, let's not stop, for the rest is at hand, near at hand to follow.

I must conclude by quoting some of the words of Jesus to the Nephites, starting with 3 Nephi 12:20,

speaking of the church: "... But if it be called in my name, then it is my church, if it so be that they are built upon my gospel." How can we maintain that we are built upon the gospel of Christ, as taught by and to the Nephites and others upon this land?

Let's consider what the Master has to say further to us: "And if it so be that the church is built upon my gospel, then will the Father shew forth his own works in it. But if it be not built upon my gospel, and is built upon the works of men, or upon the works of the devil, verily I say unto you, They have joy in their works for a season, and by and by the end cometh, and they are hewn down and cast into the fire." (3 Nephi 12:22,23)

In speaking of works, let us close with this thought: "And it is requisite with the justice of God, that men should be judged according to their works; and if their works were good in this life ..." (Alma 19:66) Jesus said, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: for the night cometh, when no man can work." (John 9:4)

Conference To Convene

MARCH 31, 1985

Following instructions of the 1966 Referendum, the annual conference of the Church of Christ, will begin on the Sunday of the week in which the 6th of April occurs, which, this year, will be March 31st.

Business sessions, however, will start at 9:00 A.M., Monday, April 1st. A Solemn Assembly is scheduled March 29th and 30th at the Temple Lot Local Church.

As per Bill No. 1, 1972 Referendum, "all committees and boards, etc., of the Church empowered to expend general Church funds or collect the same shall be required to submit an annual report of their activities, to include a financial statement of funds received and disbursed, and submit to a joint meeting of the Council of Twelve and Bishopric at least one week prior to the opening of Conference, a proposed budget for the ensuing year."

Officers and committees, as noted in the directory, should see that their reports are filed with the conference Secretary as early as possible. Persons needing a place to stay should contact the Conference Coordinator. Those wishing to donate food or money to the conference should contact the Dining Hall

Committee.

A larger facility has been rented for the first Sunday of the Conference so that all may be able to meet in one room. All activities for Sunday, March 31st, 1985, will be held at the Mid-America 4-H/University of Missouri Extension Center Building, located at 2828 South M-291, Independence, Missouri. Please note that access to this building is only possible via the M-291 frontage road. This is the same building that was rented last year.

For further information, please contact a Conference Coordinator, either Smith Brickhouse, 5713 Logan Rd., Kansas City, MO 64136, 816-356-9214; Marvin Case, 409 N.W. Woods Chapel Rd., Lee's Summit, MO 64063, 816-373-1116; or Mike Smith, 5701 Logan Rd., Kansas City, MO 64136, 816-737-0846.

We are looking forward with eager anticipation to greeting each one of you and pray that the Lord's will be done in all things.

R.W. Oldham
General Church Secretary

CLARIFICATION

In the January, 1985, issue of the Advocate, page 14, the article, "But if not, nevertheless," appeared as submitted by sister Vida Filley. Sister Filley wishes to clarify that the author of the article is unknown.

Editor

Greetings From Grand Junction, Colorado

In preparing to write this report, I was dismayed to see how much water has gone under the proverbial bridge. How in the world can I condense the several month's activities and sermons into a short, comprehensive report? How can I pass along to the readers the actual happenings without putting too much "self" into it? This will be a report from my viewpoint, the sermons as I heard them, the things that seemed important to me. Someone down the aisle may have received a different message. Since this report is not being prepared by a committee, you get only my view.

In September (light years ago), Bro. Don McIndoo was our guest speaker. He spoke of those people who run the affairs of the world today, who have plans to snare those who would serve the Lord. There is a curse on this land, that destruction will come to workers of iniquity and darkness. He spoke of the ingenious threads of deception and mysticism working today. A warning must go to this nation, that God has not the least degree of allowance for iniquity and sin, that repentance is necessary to cleanse the land.

Brother Leslie Case was also a speaker in September. He brought us a special message, telling us of his daughter Linda's great blessings. Even in adversity and time of great distress, the Lord gives peace and comfort, and great JOY. Many close to Linda could see the hand of God, they heard and saw the effects of prayer. They could understand the testimony, that God lives and works.

While Leslie and Irene were visiting here, our mid-week study was the personality of Christ. When He was a young child, He realized His mission, and this gave Him a seriousness not usually found in the young. He was holy, righteous, just, harmless, undefiled, infinite, full of grace and mercy. He had anger and righteous indignation, but no guile. His love of the common people, His compassion, would sometimes move Him to tears. The clouds are the dust of His feet, His voice is thunder, yet He had like passions that we do. He shrank from pain, suffered in humility and meekness. He was gracious and gentle in His manner of speech, and touched men with His tenderness and concern for His enemies. Altogether a goodly example of how our actions and attitudes should be *every day*.

Noted from a sermon in October indicate that Christ was neat and comely about His person. Showmanship is not a principle of the Gospel, and there was nothing bizarre about Christ or his instructions to us.

Notes from the primary class: Sometimes in questioning the children about their stories, the teacher learns a great deal. Did you know that the birds brought Elijah bread and *jam*? One of the stories was about Jesus and *Minehaha*, maiden of Indian legend.

More sermon notes: Sometimes man wants to

govern the universe, when he has his hands full just managing his own life. It should be comforting to know that control of the world around us is not being managed by man. What man could you trust with your soul? We don't understand viciousness and treachery, used by Satan and the angels who fell with him from heaven. We must be willing to acknowledge a power higher than our own, and live in hope.

So much of our contact with people is with those who have a patchy concept of Christ. We need to show Christ in our lives as goodly examples. We have no specific guarantee that we will find God anywhere, unless we stop and find Him where we are.

Now, a condensed report: Some among us have been ill, but with the grace of God, have recovered. One baby was born to David and Kathy Larsen, a daughter Sarah June. No baptisms to report. Business much as usual. Ron and Violet Church hosted a Thanksgiving dinner; the food and company were good. The Christmas program was fine. United Workers meetings have been good. We've enjoyed the visitors we've had. The business meeting was held in January with no major changes in personnel or committees. Hope to see you at the Colorado Reunion, June 14, 15, 16.

I know that you will forgive a little levity in my report, for some of you have been Advocate reporters and know how difficult it is to represent a local properly. You know that I want to have only glowing news to report, and this means sifting through pages and pages of notes. We all have problems particular to our own locations, which we don't write about; not that we wish to have you think we're in perfect control, but to encourage you to think kindly of us. So many good things are happening all over the church, and we'd like to be part of them. Our fellowship has become deeper over the years, and we've learned to cherish each one for his particular virtues. A personal testimony now: I remember one lady I was introduced to at the Missouri Reunion, who was dismayed that I had already "heard all about her," so I reassured her that I remembered only the good things and knew what a wonderful person she was. Sometimes those "jewels in the rough" present us with a tough exterior, and it's a little bit like finding out what a softy the porcupine is under all those quills. Some may find the exterior too much of a challenge and will leave without making an effort to scale the walls, to find the rose among the thorns. Pray that we never present a prickly exterior which prevents our fellowship with others.

So much for philosophizing. Hope you have found something in this report that interested, cheered, amused or provoked you to thought.

Becky Downs, Reporter

Phoenix Local News

The Phoenix Local of the Church of Christ began the New year of 1985 with the annual election of officers. We'll report them to you Advocate Readers in case you would like to contact anyone.

Pastor—Gordon McCann with Jay Moser as Asst.

Secretary—Meredyth Baskett.

Treasurer—Doris Housknecht.

Bishop's Agent—Duane Ely.

Librarian—Val Stavro.

Historian—Karin Malone has two more years to serve.

Pianist—Patsy Yates.

Custodian—Mike Kelley, Andy Brown Asst.

Song Leader—Joel Yates, Wanda Yates Asst.

Maintenance—Brian McIndoo, John Jeschke, Mike Kelley.

Welfare—Pat McCann, Debbie Biringer, Andy Brown.

Program—Michelle Yates, Elana Kelley, Judy Jeschke.

Hand of Fellowship—Marjie Frank, Ass't. Ed. Verda Malone.

Recreation—Jim Yates, Jr., Greg Kelley and Ed Yates.

Audio Tech.—Mike Kelley.

Advocate Reporter—Becky McIndoo.

Trustees—Jim Yates, Duane Ely and Don McIndoo to serve one more year.

Photographer—Ken Oar, Brian McIndoo and Duane Ely.

Choir Director—Michelle Yates.

The middle of January brings again the time of departure for our two Missionaries—Apostle Don McIndoo and Elder Jim Yates—for the fields of Yucatan, Mexico. They have the love and prayers of those of us who remain behind. In early January we had a Mexican supper to help raise money for the use of our brothers and sisters to the south.

As we begin this year, our Secretary reported that 1984 ended in our local with 7 blessings, 5 baptisms and a total membership of 93.

Your Phoenix Reporter,
Becky McIndoo

Ava (Missouri) Local News

Christmas services were extra special in Ava this year. Lorraine Welton and Barbara Burgin helped our children put together a Christmas program. Using their feltboard and figures, Joey Burgin, Joey Darlington, David Davis, Tammi Smith and Jason Smith presented the story of Christ's birth. Then Crystal and Brandon Darlington each recited a poem. Jerry and Cindy Case and their adorable daughters, Amy and Suzanna, were here to share our Christmas service and

the gift giving and meal that followed. David Smith was also here on vacation from Bob Jones University.

Jerry Case's sermon was about praising God. He talked about the habit we might have of "putting others down", even those we call our friends. This is not true friendship and it does not praise God. Then he asked us to consider whether we just "play church". Do we also pretend to worship God?

Merle Darlington and her daughters, Cindy Riley and Dorothy Deewall sang a lovely special for us on December 23rd. Dorothy's Dolly and Cindy's husband, Bobby Riley, and their children Shane and Shana were also guests.

In October Gladys Nast was here, and Eugene and Bernice Gould visited in November. It had been a long time since we had seen them, and we enjoyed having them. Eugene Gould brought us the message of complete submission to God.

Arthur and Ruth Smith took a long trip in November. They visited their son, David, in South Carolina and their daughter and son-in-law, Diana and Gerald Hilterbrand in Georgia.

December began with an early snow followed by a double dose of flooding, but there was a touch of misplaced Spring about the time Amy Schrader arrived. Amy is staying with Darlene Smith at least until the end of February. Fellowship with Amy helps get us through these cold, white months.

Larry and Jewell Beem and their daughters, Christy Beem and Cherie Doesburg, shared communion services with us the first Sunday in January. They were visiting Lorraine and Berchie Welton. Cherie came all the way from Germany.

The snow which has been abundant this winter kept Leslie Case from being here on January 20th. We missed him and hope that he will be able to come again soon. So much in January had to be canceled, and February does not look any better. But we are looking forward to Spring and God's promises.

Sandra Smith, Reporter

GENERAL UNITED WORKERS NOTICE TO LOCALS

As conference is approaching soon, we would like to remind all locals who have membership in the General United Workers that your secretary and treasurer should submit brief reports on their activities during the past year.

We look forward to seeing each of you very soon. However, if you are unable to attend our yearly meeting, a written report would be appreciated.

Darl Temple, Chairman

Mail reports to: Marcia Christian, Secretary
300 Ponderosa,
Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Minneapolis News

Election in our January business meeting left officers as they were:

Pastor—Elder Thomas S. Maley

Treasurer—Ruth Maley

Secretary—Bethany Gould

Auditing Committee: Douglas Ferrier, Forest Maley, Thomas Maley

Sunday School Supt.—Forest Maley

Benevolent Fund Committee: Thos. Maley, John Gill, Merlin Eddy

Fair Booth Coordinator—John Gill

Reunion Coordinator—Merlin Eddy

Reporter—Irene Maley

The usual midweek meeting near the Gill farm augments the Sunday gathering in Minneapolis. By publication time another event will have become history: the "Winter Workshop". There a full day is given, not to mere socialibilities, but an extended in depth consideration of goals, projects, etc.—impossible to accomplish in the little time available on a Sunday meeting day.

Minnesota winter is about as close to Armageddon as most people ever want to come; and it sometimes makes our meetings difficult to schedule. (Case in point, Jan. 20 with temperature of 25° below). Compared with two or three preceding winters this winter has been mild, with little or no snow so far. This blessing encourages us to think that Spring will not be too long in coming. Then like the wild creatures mankind can ruffle feathers, shake themselves and say, "There, that's over and we made it one more time!"—Then it will be time for Tri-State Reunion and the Fair Booth exhibit.

Forest and Irene Malay plan a mid-February flight to Grand Junction to the wedding of their son Mark to Rita Smith. This will include a visit also to other loved ones of family and church, there.

The Gary Bentson family: Gary, Gloria, Robert, Lynne, and Carmen left us last Fall to take work near Houston, Texas. Gloria, who raised prize-winning goats here in Minnesota, is managing a herd of some two hundred goats which are in milk production. We wish them the best and pray for them and their success. It turns out that they are close to the Frank Fann family. Their move leaves quite a gap in our ranks. We miss them greatly. The John Case family from our Independence, Missouri Local has now located in Rochester, Mn., and with Benny Case they share our Sunday meetings with us. Before you know it, John, Barbara, Matthew, Gabe and Toby will be well adjusted to Minnesota. John and Ben increase our eldership by two. We rejoice!

Victoria and Enoch Gould anticipate joyfully the arrival of their firstborn about the time the grass is up

and the trees decide to show some tender leaves (early April). Enoch, a computer specialist, is working out some new programs for our Fair Booth computer display; and if all goes well, our local publication, the Minneapolis Reporter, will have computerized addressing.

Our new Church Secretary, Bethany Gould, formerly of Bemidji, is living here while attending further schooling. Bethany is a new member of the Kingdom. (We love her.) John and Nana Gill were away during the holidays with their four children, on a trip which included Bemidji, west by the northern route to the west coast, south along the coast to San Diego to visit kinfolk, then back through Phoenix and home again.

Our Sister Ida Boettcher, in a nursing home for some time, responds in a beautiful way following administration. These blessings from the hand of God are heartening to Brother Clarence. Remember them in your prayers.

The date of our Tri-State summer reunion is yet to be set; but there will be plenty of advance notice so that many can attend.

"That Spirit which bids us pray" was with us at the February 3 Sacrament Service. Our prayers are for the Church of Christ in these last days, and for those who are ill. We pray also that enthusiasm for our Father's work will abound in each heart that has taken upon itself the name of Christ. "... they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." Isaiah 40:31.

Irene Maley, Reporter

This Is the Love of Christ

I would like to start this as a late happy birthday to Brother Bergy who was 90 years old January 13th.

Brother Earl and Sister Mabel Bergy drive 40 miles one way to church every Sunday through snow, ice, or sleet to meet together with their Brothers and Sisters of the Church and a lot of the time they only have Sunday School. But they put forth the effort to come, anyway, and we know the Lord does bless them for this.

They also stop and pick up Sister Ella Adams at a nursing home on their way.

Let us all pray we will always have this same dedication to be at the Lord's house every Sunday.

We all love you Brother and Sister Bergy.

Love in Christ,

Jeffrey Butts

Clarksville, Michigan

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1985 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will commence Sunday, March 31, 1985. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 1. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, March 29 and 30, 1985.

The 1985 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 14th, 15th and 16th at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Send all orders to: Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
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Articles of Faith and Practice (Spanish)	N/C
Article No. 9 (Bible and Book of Mormon)	N/C
Article No. 20 (Marriage)	N/C
Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus	N/C
What the Church teaches in Respect to Matrimony	
(Spanish)	N/C
Mighty Acts of the Ages (Spanish)	N/C
Priesthood, Divine Authority	N/C
"Why"	N/C
A Synopsis of the Church of Christ's Beliefs and Practices	N/C
First Presidency or First Apostles	N/C
Marriage For Time and Eternity?	N/C
Baptism For The Dead?	N/C
Zion and the Temple of the Lord	N/C

NOTE: Donations accepted to cover postage and printing costs. Lot prices of tracts exclusive of postage are in packs of 6-50¢, 100-\$5.85.

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Send all orders to the General Sunday School Association, Church of Christ, P.O. Box 472, Independence, Mo 64051-0472. All materials are free of charge to members of the Church of Christ, except as indicated.

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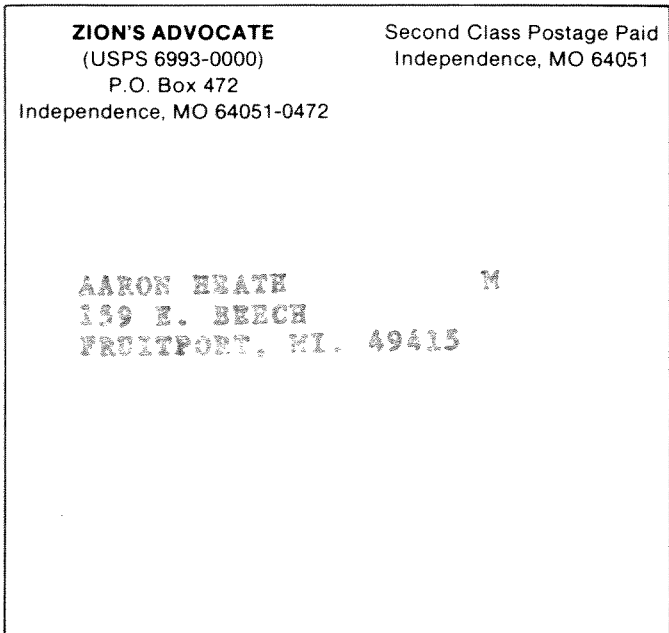
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The following materials are available on loan to members of the Church of Christ from the Audio, Video, Visual-Aid and Archeology Committee. Send all requests (except for sermons) to Elder Gary Housknecht, 2901 S. Norwood, Independence, MO 64052.

Slide Programs with Taped Narration

Specify program(s) wanted, anticipated dates of use, and the make of your projector. Slide projectors and tape players are not provided except in the Independence area.

Allow adequate advance time for handling and shipping, and for your own preview of the programs. For more information on these slide/tape programs, see the March 1984 issue of the Zion's Advocate, page 47.

"Mexico, Land of Contrast" (39 minutes) — Illustrates how modern archeological finds in North and Central America lend credence to the Book of Mormon and the story it tells of the continent's former inhabitants.

"Out of the Dust" (45 minutes) — Tells the story found within the Book of Mormon. Also available is a 35 minute version directed toward Indian viewers and entitled "A Lamp Unto My Feet."

"Light at Evening" (27 minutes) — Story of the bringing forth of the Book of Mormon and the restoration of the Church of Christ in the 1820's and 1830.

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