

# Zion's Advocate

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

Vol. 65

Independence, Missouri • January, 1988

No. 1

## **PRAISE FOR THE OLD AND THE NEW YEAR**

Blessed Father, standing here,  
At the closing of the year,  
Looking o'er the varied way  
Thou hast led me day by day,  
Nothing, nothing can I see  
But thy faithful love to me  
And o'er all Thy works and ways  
Write but one inscription—"Praise!"

Blessed Father, standing here,  
At the threshold of the year  
I commit my way to Thee  
Knowing not what it may be;  
Only sure that it will prove  
Like the past, Thy faithful love;  
Therefore o'er Time's unknown ways  
I inscribe already—"Praise!"

—Anon

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# Zion's Advocate

ZION'S ADVOCATE (USPS 6993-0000)  
 Official publication of The Church of Christ  
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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 (Temple Lot) 200 South River Boulevard, P.O. Box 472, Independence,  
 Missouri 64051-0472

Second Class Postage Paid at Independence, Missouri

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Zion's Advocate  
 (USPS 6993-0000), P.O. Box 472, Independence, MO 64051-0472.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Subscription rates to members paid from  
 general funds. In bundles of twelve or more for missionary purposes,  
 \$2.00. Non-member rates: one year-\$4.00; Canadian and all foreign  
 rates-\$4.50.

Send all donations for the Temple Fund, the Storehouse, Consecrations, Tithes, Offerings and Subscriptions for The Advocate to:

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## APPEAL FROM ENGLAND

Our brothers and sisters know how much the restored Gospel of Christ means to us and how the desire to labour for the Lord burns within our hearts. However, due to our own situation we would like to extend the joy and delight of working for the Saviour to all.

We distribute approximately 4-5 copies of the Book of Mormon every month and yet do not have the resources to replace them. We wondered if you would like to help us share the Gospel in this country by sending us a missionary (paper cover) copy of this sacred record? But, not only that, on the inside of the cover could you paste a photograph of yourself, a small testimony of the Book of Mormon, plus your name and address so the recipient may write to you. We will also inform you, ourselves, of their name and address and of their progress in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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**EDITORIAL FROM THE PAST . . .****Remember the Conference**

At Independence, Missouri, April 6, 1943

To the members of the  
Church of Christ, scattered abroad,  
Greetings:

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"See ye not the clouds portentous?  
Note ye not the world's alarm?  
Nations to their ruin hastening—  
Self their interest—flesh their arm?  
Is this desolation voiceless?  
Speaks this carnage not to you?  
Echoing my ancient warning—  
Witnessing my word is true?"

Song of Entreaty, Joseph Luff.

Saints, do you see the situation clearly? Are you listening to these trumpet voices? What are they saying to you? That now is a good time to spend your substance in the pleasures of the world, the follies and amusements thereof? in the purchase of houses and lands for personal comfort and gratification?

Was there ever a day when the signs of the times admonished more emphatically than today that worldly investments of time and money in the building of the Kingdom of God be increased?

We are living in the *last generation, the closing century of time*, in the days of the great *tribulation* spoken of by Daniel the Prophet, and by Christ, who said, "After the tribulation of those days, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken, then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn." Matthew 24:37 (Joseph Smith's New Translation).

"And when the time of the gentiles is *come in*, a light shall break forth among them that sit in darkness, and it shall be the fulness of my gospel: but they receive it not, for they perceive not the light, and they turn their hearts from me because of the precepts of men; and *in that generation shall the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled*." Book of Commandments 48:27.

"Verily I say unto you, this generation, the generation when the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled, shall not pass away until all be fulfilled." Luke 21:32 (Joseph Smith's New Translation)

"Once more the Spirit cries, *Beware—*  
The *closing century—*  
Freighted with warnings waits the proof  
Of their divinity."

Love's Warning and Entreaty, Joseph Luff.

The time of the Gentiles *came in* with the Restoration of the gospel. That generation saw also the rejection of the gospel by the gentiles; we are now in the generation of the *fulfilling of the times of the Gentiles*, in the days of the *great tribulation*, the

"closing century", bringing its proofs of the warnings that have so long gone unheeded.

Yes, the closing century draws toward its end.

The hotly debated plans of men for a New World order, after this day of tribulation, are futile and insignificant in the light of God's word. But the plans that God has revealed for a New World Order after this day of tribulation are of supreme importance.

Wages have been good. How do you plan to spend them? For things that will vanish as the old world order vanishes? Or for the purchase of an inheritance in the New World Order where Christ will reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords?

Purchased? How? By sacrifice!

"Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." Psalms 50:5.

Begin now. Make a covenant by sacrifice with Him, and come to the conference. Do not be lightly dissuaded for any reason, or by any means, or by any one; but if at all possible, come to the conference. Make your vacation do double duty, if you can—a rest for you and an impetus to the work of God.

We ought to have 300 there. Surely there are that many who are so interested in the coming of the Lord that they would be willing to make a little sacrifice. That was the size of Gideon's army. You are the ones to make the preparation for His coming. Neither the Twelve nor the Bishopric can make it for you. They are at best but humble servants to do your bidding. Until you become anxiously engaged they cannot proceed to function properly.

Come prepared to learn what God requires of His people that they may be qualified to enter the New World Order after the day of wrath. Come prepared to enter into the business sessions doing your part without fear or favor.

Come prepared to make adjustments where adjustments are indicated. Come prepared to take stern measures where stern measures are necessary.

Above all things, come determined to get at . . .

THE TRUTH AT ALL COST.

All else will fail. Lay personal friendships and earthly ties on the altar of sacrifice, if they run counter to TRUTH.

Your humble servant and fellow-laborer,  
Leon A. Gould

# GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST

by Joseph Smith, Jr.

(From *Times and Seasons*, Vol. 3, No. 16, written June 15, 1842)

Various and conflicting are the opinions of men in regard to the gift of the Holy Ghost. Some people have been in the habit of calling every supernatural manifestation, the effects of the spirit of God, whilst there are others that think there is no manifestation connected with it at all; and it is *nothing* but a mere impulse of mind, or an inward feeling, impression, or secret testimony or evidence which men possess, and that there is no such thing as an outward manifestation. It is not to be wondered at that men should be ignorant, in a great measure, of the principles of salvation, and more especially of the nature, office, power, influence, gifts and blessings of the Gift of the Holy Ghost; when we consider that the human family have been enveloped in gross darkness and ignorance for many centuries past without revelation, or any just criterion to arrive at a knowledge of the things of God, which can only be known by the spirit of God. Hence it not unfrequently occurs, that when the elders of this church preach to the inhabitants of the world, that if they obey the gospel they shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, that the people expect to see some wonderful manifestation; some great display of power, or some extraordinary miracle performed; and it is often the case that young members in this church, for want of better information, carry along with them their old notions of things and sometimes fall into egregious errors. We have lately had some information concerning a few members that are in this dilemma, and for their information make a few remarks upon the subject.

We believe in the gift of the Holy Ghost being enjoyed now, as much as it was in the apostles days;—we believe that it is necessary to make and to organize the priesthood; that no man can be called to fill any office in the ministry without it; we also believe in prophecy, in tongues, in visions, and in revelations, in gifts, and in healings; and that these things cannot be enjoyed without the gift of the Holy Ghost; we believe that holy men of old spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost, and that holy men in these days speak by the same principle; we believe in its being a comforter and a witness bearer, “that it brings things past to our remembrance, leads us into all truth, and shows us of things to come;” we believe that “no man can know that Jesus is the Christ, but by the Holy Ghost.” We believe in it in all its fullness, and power, and greatness, and glory; but whilst we do this we believe in it rationally, reasonably, consistently, and scripturally, and not according to the wild vagaries, foolish notions and traditions of men. The human family are very apt to run to extremes, especially in religious matters, and hence people in general, either want some miraculous display, or they will not believe in

the gift of the Holy Ghost at all. If an elder lays his hands upon a person, it is thought by many that the person must immediately rise and speak in tongues, and prophesy; this idea is gathered from the circumstance of Paul laying his hands upon certain individuals who had been previously (as they stated) baptized unto John's baptism; which when he had done, they “spake with tongues and prophesied.” Philip also, when he had preached the gospel to the inhabitants of the city of Samaria, sent for Peter and John, who when they came laid their hands upon them for the gift of the Holy Ghost, for as yet he was fallen upon none of them; and when Simon Magus saw that *through the laying on of the apostles hands* the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money that he might possess the same power. Acts 8. These passages are considered by many as affording sufficient evidence from some miraculous, visible, manifestation, whenever hands are laid on for the gift of the Holy Ghost.

We believe that the Holy Ghost is imparted by the laying on of hands of those in authority, and that the gift of tongues, and also the gift of prophecy, are gifts of the spirit, and are obtained through that medium; but then to say that men always prophesied and spoke in tongues when they had the imposition of hands, would be to state that which is untrue, contrary to the practice of the apostles, and at variance with holy writ; for Paul says, “to one is given the gift of tongues, to another the gift of prophecy, and to another the gift of healing” — and again, “do all prophecy? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?” evidently shewing that all did not possess these several gifts; but that one received one gift and another received another gift — all did not prophecy; all did not speak in tongues; all did not work miracles; but all did receive the gift of the Holy Ghost; sometimes they spake in tongues and prophesied in the Apostles' days, and sometimes they did not. — The same is the case with us also in our administrations, while more frequently there is no manifestation at all that is visible to the surrounding multitude; this will appear plain when we consult the writings of the apostles and notice their proceedings in relation to this matter. Paul, in I Corinthians 11, says, “Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant;” it is evident from this that some of them were ignorant in relation to these matters, or they would not need instruction. Again, in the 14th chapter, he says, “Follow after charity and *desire spiritual gifts*, but rather that ye may prophecy.” It is very evident from these scriptures that many of them had not spiritual gifts, for if they had spiritual gifts where was the necessity of Paul telling them to follow after them! and it is as evi-

dent that they did not all receive those gifts by the imposition of hands, for they as a church had been baptized and confirmed by the laying on of hands – and yet to a church of this kind, under the immediate inspection and superintendance of the apostles, it was necessary for Paul to say “*follow after charity and desire spiritual gifts*,” but rather that ye may prophecy,” evidently showing that those gifts were in the church but were not enjoyed by all in their outward manifestations.

But supposing the gifts of the spirit were immediately, upon the imposition of hands, enjoyed by all, in all their fullness and power; the skeptic would still be as far from receiving any testimony except upon a mere casualty as before, for all the gifts of the spirit are not visible to the natural vision, or understanding of man; indeed very few of them are. We read that “Christ ascended into heaven and gave gifts unto men, and he gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers;” Ephesians 4. The church is a compact body composed of different members and is strictly analagous to the human system, and Paul after speaking of the different gifts says, “Now ye are the *body* of Christ and *each one* members in particular; and God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healing, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? have all gifts of healing? do all interpret?” It is evident that they do not; yet are they all members of one body; all members of the natural body, are not the eye, the ear, the head or the hand – yet the eye cannot say to the ear, I have no need of thee, nor the head to the foot, I have no need of thee; they are all so many component parts in the perfect machine – the one body; – and if one member suffer, the whole of the members suffer with it; and if one member rejoice all the rest are honored with it.

These then are all gifts; they come from God; they are of God; they are all the gifts of the Holy Ghost; they are what Christ ascended into heaven to impart; and yet how few of them could be known by the generality of men. Peter and John were apostles, yet the Jewish court scourged them as impostors. Paul was both an Apostle and prophet, yet they stoned him and put him into prison. The people knew nothing about it, although he had in possession the gift of the Holy Ghost. Our Savior was “anointed with the oil of gladness above his fellows,” yet so far from the people knowing him, they said he was Beelzebub, and crucified him as an imposter. Who could point out a pastor, a teacher or an evangelist, by their appearance; yet had they the gift of the Holy Ghost. But to come to the other members of the church and examine the gifts as spoken of by Paul, and we shall find that the world can in general know nothing about them, and that there is but one or two that could be immediately known, if they were all poured out immediately upon the imposition of hands. I Corinthians 12. Paul says, “There are diversities of gifts yet 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 unto *every man* to profit withall. For to one is given, by the spirit the *word of wisdom*; to another the *word of knowledge*, by the same spirit; to another *faith* by the same spirit; to another the *gifts of healing*, by the same spirit; to another the *working of miracles*; to another *prophecy*; to another *discerning of spirits*; to another *divers kinds of tongues*; to another the *interpretation of tongues*. But all these worketh that one and the self same spirit, dividing to each man severally as he will.” There are several gifts mentioned here, yet which of them all could be known, by an observer, at the imposition of hands? The word of wisdom, and the word of knowledge, are as much gifts as any other, yet if a person possessed both of these gifts, or received them by the imposition of hands, who would know it? Another might receive the gift of faith, and they would be as ignorant of it. Or suppose a man had the gift of healing, or the power to work miracles, that would not then be known; it would require time and circumstances to call these gifts into operation. Suppose a man had the discerning of spirits, who would be the wiser for it? Or if he had the interpretation of tongues, unless some one spoke in an unknown tongue, he of course would have to be silent; there are only two gifts that could be made visible – the gift of tongues and the gift of prophecy. These are things that are the most talked about, and yet if a person spoke in an unknown tongue, according to Paul’s testimony, he would be a “barbarian to those present.” They would say that it was gibberish; and if he prophesied they would call it nonsense. The gift of tongues is the smallest gift perhaps of the whole, and yet it is one that is the most sought after. So that according to the testimony of scripture and the manifestations of the spirit in ancient days, very little could be known about it by the surrounding multitude; except on some extraordinary occasion as on the day of Pentecost. The greatest, the best, and the most useful gifts would be known nothing about by an observer. It is true that a man might prophecy, which is a great gift; and one that Paul told the people – the church – to seek after and to covet, rather than to speak in tongues; but what does the world know about prophesying? Paul says that it “serveth only to those that believe.” – But does not the scripture say that they spake in tongues and prophesied? Yes; but who is it that writes these scriptures? Not the men of the world or mere casual observers, but the Apostles – men who knew one gift from another, and of course were capable of writing about it; if we had the testimony of the scribes and pharisees concerning the out-pouring of the spirit on the day of Pentecost, they would have told us that it was no gift, but that the people “were drunken with new wine,” and we shall finally have to come to the same conclusion that Paul did, that “no man knows the things of God but by the spirit of God,” for with the great revelations of Paul, when

(continued next page)

he was caught up into the third heaven and saw things that were not lawful to utter, no man was apprised of it until he mentioned it himself fourteen years after; and when John had the curtains of heaven withdrawn, and by vision looked through the dark vista of future ages, and contemplated events that should transpire throughout every subsequent period of time until the final winding up scene - while he gazed upon the glories of the eternal world, saw an innumerable company of angels and heard the voice of God - it was in the spirit on the Lord's day; unnoticed and unobserved by the world.

The manifestations of the gift of the Holy Ghost; the ministering of angels; or the development of the power, majesty or glory of God were very seldom manifested publicly, and that generally to the people of God; as to the Israelites; but most generally when angels have come, or God has revealed himself, it has been to individuals in private - in their chamber - in the wilderness or fields; and that generally without noise or tumult. The angel delivered Peter out of prison in the dead of night - came to Paul unobserved by the rest of the crew - appeared to Mary and Elizabeth without the knowledge of others - spoke to John the Baptist whilst the people around were ignorant of it. When Elisha saw the chariots of Israel and horsemen thereof, it was unknown to others. When the Lord appeared to Abraham it was at his tent door, when the angels went to Lot no person knew them but himself, which was the case probably with Abraham and his wife; when the Lord appeared to Moses it was in the burning bush, in the tabernacle, or on the mountain top; when Elijah was taken in a chariot of fire, it was unobserved by the world; and

when he was in the cleft of a rock, there was loud thunder, but the Lord was not in the thunder; there was an earthquake; and then there was a *still small voice*, which was the voice of the Lord, saying, what dost thou here, Elijah?

The Lord cannot always be known by the thunder of his voice; by the display of his glory, or by the manifestation of his power; and those that are the most anxious to see these things, are the least prepared to meet them, and were the Lord to manifest his power as he did to the children of Israel, such characters would be the first to say "let not the Lord speak any more, lest we his people die."

We would say to the brethren seek to know God in your closets, call upon him in the fields; follow the directions of the Book of Mormon, and pray over, and for, your families, your cattle, your flocks, your herds, your corn, and all things that you possess; ask the blessing of God upon all your labors, and every thing that you engage in; be virtuous, and pure, be men of integrity and truth, keep the commandments of God, and then you will be able more perfectly to understand the difference between right and wrong, between the things of God, and the things of men; and your path will be like that of the just, "which shineth brighter, and brighter, unto the perfect day." Be not so curious about tongues except there be an interpreter present; the ultimate design of tongues is to speak to foreigners, and if persons are very anxious to display their intelligence, let them speak to such in their own tongues. The gifts of God are all useful in their place, but when they are applied to that which God does not intend, they prove an injury, a snare, and a curse instead of a blessing.

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## SPECIAL SERVANTS OF GOD

by Harvey E. Seibel

Here it is the year 1987. Thirteen years remain to the end of the century. I wonder if we are really ready for what lies ahead? It is interesting to note that the successors to the apostles, the early church fathers, wrote that Christ would not return again until after the 6000 years were finished. They also realized that a falling away would occur first and that Wicked One be revealed who exalteth himself above all that is called God. And unlike some of our contemporaries they knew who the hindering power was that prevented its manifestation. It was the civil power of Rome. They earnestly prayed for its continuance that they themselves might not witness the rise of this evil power.

In our day the great work of God, prophesied of through the ages, is about to begin in earnest culminating in the casting out of Satan and in the millennial reign of Christ. It will be a time in which the Gentiles (at least some) will come clean before

the Lord and attain unto the faith of the Brother of Jared, and thus will come forth the sacred records which are yet hid up from the world. It will also be a time of trouble such as the world has never known.

In the midst of all this some very special servants will be raised up who will perform a marvelous work for the Lord. This is in addition to that of the three Nephites and of John the Beloved. The first reference to these is found in Jacob concerning the parable of the vineyard in which the Lord is instructing His servant in the final pruning of His vineyard. Unlike former prunings particular mention is made that the servant is this time to call other servants into the work. These servants, we are told, went forth with their mights until the whole vineyard again had brought forth the natural fruit. Of these servants we have this interesting statement.

"... and they did obey the commandments of the Lord of the vineyard, in all things" (Jacob 3:140).



These will accomplish a task one would not think possible even where several decades allotted to its accomplishment.

In 2 Nephi 2:45-47 we read of another special servant. Lehi is prophesying of the coming forth of the Book of Mormon through the instrumentality of the Choice Seer and how that the seed of his little son Joseph would never perish and that they would hear the words of this book and believe them. And as a result there would raise up one mighty among them (of his seed) who would do much good and bring to pass much restoration unto the house of Israel.

There is another to come forth, unnamed, who will be instrumental in the hands of God in bringing forth and translating ancient records yet to be revealed. And one of these records contains a revelation from God from the beginning of the world to the end thereof. "...and whoso findeth them, the same will have power that he may get the full account" (Ether 1:4). This may be the one spoken of below.

"Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men: So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider" (Isaiah 52:13-15).

The Lord also discourses on this prophecy in 3 Nephi 9:78-83, 86, 93-99.

"And then shall they say, How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings unto them, that publisheth peace: that bringeth good tidings unto them of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

"And then shall a cry go forth, Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch not that which is unclean; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord. For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for the Lord will go before you; and the God of Israel shall be your rearward.

"Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonished at thee; (his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men,) So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider.

"...I give unto you a sign, that ye may know the time when these things shall be about to take place, that I shall gather in from their long dispersion, my people, O house of Israel, and shall establish again among them my Zion.

"And when these things come to pass, that thy seed shall begin to know these things, it shall be a sign unto them, that they may know that the work of the Father hath already commenced unto the fulfilling of the covenant which he hath made unto the people who are of the house of Israel.

"And when that day shall come, it shall come to pass that kings shall shut their mouths; for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider.

"For in that day, for my sake shall the Father work a work, which shall be a great and a marvelous work among them; and there shall be among them who will not believe it, although a man shall declare it unto them.

"But behold, the life of my servant shall be in my hand; therefore they shall not hurt him, although he shall be marred because of them. Yet I will heal him, for I will shew unto them that my wisdom is greater than the cunning of the devil.

"Therefore it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not believe in my words, who am Jesus Christ, whom the Father shall cause him to bring forth unto the Gentiles, and shall give unto him power that he shall bring them forth unto the Gentiles, (it shall be done even as Moses said,) they shall be cut off from among my people who are of the covenant; And my people who are a remnant of Jacob, shall be among the Gentiles, yea, in the midst of them, as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep, who, if he go through both treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver."

The key point here is that before Gentile opportunity is fully past and before his rejection of the gospel will be complete, one who is to be marred must first bear witness unto them of things which they had not before considered. It is because of their refusal to pay heed that Jacob shall rise up as a lion to visit judgment upon them such as they have not heard. The coming of the marred servant will represent the Gentile's final opportunity to come unto Christ before the sword of God's justice shall fall upon them. Surely this event and those to follow are very close upon us. And that day surely will not linger.

Some have suggested that the marred servant is Christ. That possibility is precluded by the statement by Christ in 3rd Nephi that the marred one was his servant. It has also been suggested that the servant is John the Beloved. This may possibly be so, but not likely unless partially immortalized flesh can be marred or mutilated as we are told is the case here.

There are two other special servants of God who are yet to be revealed, and the time and circumstance of their revelation is different from those who precede them. To illustrate the truth of this fact we must first describe the events leading up to their revelation. Revelation 4 and 5 tells, among other things, of John being caught up to heaven and seeing in the right hand of God a book sealed with seven seals of which only the Son was worthy and able to unloose. Chapters 6 through 11 portray a sequential series of events that were to follow the opening of these seals, historical events beginning from the time of John and continuing till the end of the world.

The first four seals are passed, the fourth of which covers the period known as the dark ages and the papal persecution of the saints. We are presently near the end of the fifth seal in which the souls under the altar await the death of their brethren who shall be killed as they were, after which, as we told, God will avenge his servants.

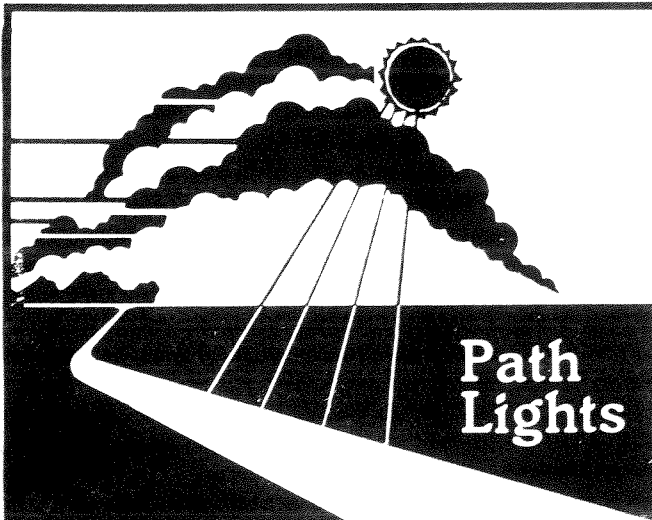
The sixth seal is the appearance of Christ in the heavens to bring judgment upon the wicked and to prepare the earth for His reign. This judgment or punishment upon the wicked is described in the seventh seal. It is this seal with which we are most concerned, for when that seal is opened as we find recorded in chapter 8, seven angels stand forth with seven trumpets containing the seven judgments of God. It is the sixth trumpet (the second wo) with which we are most interested, for an event of unusual significance will occur during that time.

"And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the Holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.

"And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of

their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will. And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth. And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.

THE SECOND WOE IS PAST; AND, BEHOLD, THE THIRD WOE COMETH QUICKLY. AND THE SEVENTH ANGEL SOUNDED; AND THERE WERE GREAT VOICES IN HEAVEN, SAYING, THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD ARE BECOME THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD, AND OF HIS CHRIST; AND HE SHALL REIGN FOR EVER AND EVER" (Revelation 11:1-15). (Emphasis HES)



Dear East Independence Local and Others,

I wish I was able to be there to say this in person instead of writing it. But, what I want to give is my testimony.

Before I came into the Sarratt family, June and I had a talk about religion. I asked her how she would feel if Eric and I got married, especially with me being Catholic. She told me how she felt, and that she would pray about it. Well, I told her I would *never* change my religion, and we would give our children a fair chance to see both sides of our religions so they could choose for themselves. June said she would pray over that also. Well, a very short time went by after June and I had this talk and I found myself asking June if I could go to Wednesday night church service, and Sundays with her. Each and every time I went to church with June, Roland and Eric, when he was home, the sermons seemed to run over 12:15 p.m. or so. Either that or I was never able to get out in time to be at my church by 12:30 p.m. Each time this would happen, I saw a very nice smile from June, and every once in a while I would hear, "I'm still praying." Time went by, and I traveled to a couple of different locals with June and Roland. I felt so welcome and I heard a church service, not a ritual like my church. I found myself in the East Local many times. Everyone



As we can see, the work of the two witnesses is quickly followed by the sounding of the seventh trumpet at which time the kingdoms become the Lord's. To set these events in their proper time frame it must be remembered that the events here described are wholly encompassed within the seventh seal which follows the return of Christ of the sixth seal and occurs during the time of judgment preceding the start of the millennium. Thus the work of the two witnesses must necessarily be confined within the period outlined here.

With this in mind let us now carefully consider the prophecy of the 11th chapter of Revelation quoted above. In verse two we are told the holy city shall be trodden down of the Gentiles for 42 months. During that same period the two witnesses are to accomplish their prophesying. These shall have the power to retaliate against their enemies by fire, by withholding rain, by turning water to blood, and by smiting the earth with all plagues as they will. After this the beast shall rise up and kill them.

The question is, who are these two anointed ones? Some suggest that they represent Gentile and Israel. Others have thought they were the Bible and the Book of Mormon. I think there are some strong considerations why neither of these interpretations are correct. Consider the language here used. These two witnesses are the servants of God, they are the two olive trees and the two candlesticks who stand before the Lord. And if any man will hurt them (Bible/Book of Mormon or Gentile/Israel?) fire will proceed from out of their mouth. They also will have power to shut heaven so that it rain not and cause plagues, etc. Have either the two records or the two

nations ever done so? Will they do so? And can or will these books or nations be killed and will their bodies lie dead in the streets of Jerusalem? Space isn't sufficient for the two nations to lie slaughtered there. The Book of Mormon is clear however that the Gentiles will reject the gospel. So they can hardly qualify for being one of the witnesses. As for the church it too will not lie dead in the streets for we are assured that the saints will not this time be overcome. Gentiles who come unto Christ are received into Israel by adoption. The other Gentiles will prepare for war along with the heathen (says Joel) and will come up to battle in the valley of decision at the time of the Day of the Lord.

The language that the enemy will not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves is indicative, not of books or nations but of human prophets. But what about the prophetic time periods mentioned here in relation to the work of the two witnesses and to the trodding underfoot of the holy city? First, the fact that the Gentiles shall tread down the holy city shows that one of the witnesses can hardly be the Gentiles. Second, this trodding down is not the same as that referred to in Luke 21 for that period of trodding was for a time far longer than 1260 years. It is possible that this latter period of trodding down will occur with the invasion and captivity of Jerusalem as recorded in Zechariah 14.

At any rate, the 1260 day period prophesied of in relation to the work of the two witnesses cannot be taken in the prophetic sense as in other time prophesies. There are two reasons why this is so. First, the entire prophecy is to have its fulfillment within the confines of the sixth trumpet of the seventh seal,

there is so very friendly. That is probably why it seemed so spiritually warm.

I've been doing a lot of praying about this, as I know many others have also. I've done a lot of studying, went to Tony Grzincic's classes before I was married in May, and I myself have done so very much praying over this certain subject. My life has been so much happier and peaceful since I've let the Lord in my life, as He has been playing a very big part now that I've let Him guide my way.

Well, the Lord gave me my answer a little while back. When Bill and Doris Sheldon were here on a very nice visit, I had spent seven hours in the emergency room at the Army Hospital the first night they arrived because I was dehydrated from an unusual type of flu. It took my energy and strength away. When Eric and I finally arrived home that night, I asked Bill if he would administer to me the next day if I wasn't feeling better, and he said he would. The next day I was a lot worse. I had a very hard time swallowing and breathing. So Eric and I asked Bill to administer to me and he did. Within thirty minutes I

was up and able to keep a bowl of soup down, which was a major improvement. He had also given me consecrated oil orally. I have never before felt such a warm feeling in my body like I did that day. Part of me was afraid, but I didn't know why. So I prayed even harder about this subject. The Lord has put my mind at ease. A couple of weeks ago I asked my father-in-law, Roland Sarratt, to baptize me when Eric and I come home in January. I'm very excited about this. I'm proud to say I've done all of my soul searching myself except for the prayers, and I'm happy to find the pot of gold at the end of my rainbow, the Lord's path to a happy and very spiritual life.

Sheila Sarratt  
Fayetteville, North Carolina

If any others of you readers have testimonies that could be used in this feature, please mail them to:

Path Lights  
Melissa McGhee  
2533 Glen Lane  
Independence, MO 64052

that is, subsequent to the opening of the sixth seal but preceding the sounding of the seventh trumpet. That means the two witnesses will accomplish their prophesying between the time that the Lord makes His appearance in the heavens and the time that the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of God and Christ. We cannot say that another 1260 years remain following the return of Christ before the reign of Christ can begin. The opening of these seals has to be taken sequentially. They represent a chronological sequence of historical events.

The second reason that we must concede that this 1260 day period must be taken in the literal sense is the fact that time prophecies, when given concerning specific individuals, have a literal application. It is only when these time prophecies involve national or world events that they take on the prophetic aspect of great periods of time, that is, a day for a year. This fact is easily illustrated in regard to the time prophecies of Daniel. The giving of the saints into the hands of the little horn for a time, times and the dividing of time (3½ times) was for 1260 years because it involved a long term system of power and oppression against the people of God. But when God judged Nebuchadnezzar, he told him that seven times (twice 3½) would pass over him. That was seven years, not 2520 years (twice 1260). Because this prophecy involved a specific person, it is impossible of a day for a year fulfillment.

The same is also true of the two witnesses. Their mission will end in 3½ years, their dead bodies will lie in the streets for 3½ days (not years) (dead bodies could not last for a period of years but would crumble into dust), and after their ascension into heaven, the seventh angel will sound ushering in the reign of Christ over the nations. One thing seems quite certain, neither the Bible or Book of Mormon nor Israel and Gentile shall ascend up into heaven or be removed from the earth just as Christ is to begin His reign upon the earth.

To conclude we quote two further references. The first is found in Zechariah 4:2-3, 11-14. "...What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof: And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof... Then answered I, and said unto him, What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof? And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these two olive branches, which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves? And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Then said he, THESE ARE THE TWO ANOINTED ONES, THAT STAND BY THE LORD OF THE WHOLE EARTH."

I think it is quite obvious that these two anointed ones are the same as those mentioned in Revelation 11.

Finally we read, "Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the Lord the cup of his fury; Thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling wrung out; And none to guide her among all the sons she hath brought forth; Neither that taken her by the hand, of all the sons she hath brought up.

"THESE TWO SONS ARE COME UNTO THEE; WHO SHALL BE SORRY FOR THEE: THY DESOLATION AND DESTRUCTION, AND THE FAMINE AND THE SWORD: And by whom shall I comfort thee? Thy sons have fainted, SAVE THESE TWO: they lie at the head of all the streets, as a wild bull in a net: they are full of the fury of the Lord, the rebuke of thy God" (2 Nephi 5:100-106).

These two sons will comfort Jerusalem but the fury of God will be in them as we saw was true also of the two witnesses when they poured out wrath against their enemies.

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## ALMA SPEAKS TO OUR DAY

From the Book of Alma, chapter 3,  
verses 27-65, 98-108.

The words which Alma, the High Priest,  
according to the holy order of God,  
delivered to the people in their cities and villages  
throughout the land. Approximately 83 B.C.

And now behold, I ask of you, my brethren of the church, Have ye spiritually been born of God? Have ye received his image in your countenances? Have ye experienced this mighty change in your hearts? Do ye exercise faith in the redemption of him who created you? Do you look forward with an eye of faith, and view this mortal body raised in immortality, and this corruption raised in incorruption, to stand before God, to be judged according to the deeds

which have been done in the mortal body? I say unto you, Can you imagine to yourselves that ye hear the voice of the Lord, saying unto you, in that day, Come unto me ye blessed, for behold, your works have been the works of righteousness upon the face of the earth? Or do ye imagine to yourselves that ye can lie unto the Lord in that day, and say, Lord, our works have been righteous works upon the face of the earth, and that he will save you? Or otherwise, can ye

Imagine yourselves brought before the tribunal of God, with your souls filled with guilt and remorse; having a remembrance of all your guilt; Yea, a perfect remembrance of all your wickedness; yea, a remembrance that ye have set at defiance the commandments of God? I say unto you, Can ye look up to God at that day with a pure heart and clean hands? I say unto you, Can you look up, having the image of God engraven upon your countenances? I say unto you, Can ye think of being saved when you have yielded yourselves to become subjects to the devil? I say unto you, Ye will know at that day, that ye can not be saved: for there can no man be saved except his garments are washed white: Yea, his garments must be purified until they are cleansed from all stain, through the blood of him of whom it has been spoken by our fathers who should come to redeem his people from their sins. And now I ask of you, my brethren, How will any of you feel, if ye shall stand before the bar of God, having your garments stained with blood, and all manner of filthiness? Behold, what will these things testify against you? Behold, will they not testify that ye are murderers, yea, and also that ye are guilty of all manner of wickedness? Behold, my brethren, do ye suppose that such an one can have a place to sit down in the kingdom of God, with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob, and also all the holy prophets, whose garments are cleansed, and are spotless, pure, and white? I say unto you, Nay, except ye make our Creator a liar from the beginning, or suppose that he is a liar from the beginning: ye cannot suppose that such can have place in the kingdom of heaven, but they shall be cast out, for they are the children of the kingdom of the devil. And now behold, I say unto you my brethren, If ye have experienced a change of heart, and if ye have felt to sing the song of redeeming love, I would ask, Can ye feel so now? Have ye walked, keeping yourselves blameless before God? Could ye say, if ye were called to die at this time, within yourselves, that ye have been sufficiently humble? That your garments have been cleansed and made white, through the blood of Christ, who will come to redeem his people from their sins? Behold, are ye stripped of pride? I say unto you, If ye are not, ye are not prepared to meet God. Behold ye must prepare quickly, for the kingdom of heaven is soon at hand, and such an one hath not eternal life. Behold, I say, Is there one among you who is not stripped of envy? I say unto you, that such an one is not prepared, and I would that he should prepare quickly, for the hour is close at hand, and he knoweth not when the time shall come; for such an one is not found guiltless. And again I say unto you, Is there one among you that doth make a mock of his brother, or that heapeth upon him persecutions? Wo unto such an one, for he is not prepared, and the time is at hand that he must repent, or he can not be saved; Yea, even wo unto all ye workers of iniquity; repent, repent, for the Lord God hath spoken it.

Behold, he sendeth an invitation unto all men; for the arms of mercy are extended towards them, and he saith, Repent, and I will receive you; Yea, he saith, Come unto me and ye shall partake of the fruit of the tree of life; yea, ye shall eat and drink of the bread and the waters of life freely; Yea, come unto me and bring forth works of righteousness, and ye shall not be hewn down and cast into the fire; For behold, the time is at hand that whosoever bringeth forth not good fruit, or whosoever doeth not the works of righteousness, the same shall have cause to wail and mourn. O ye workers of iniquity; ye that are puffed up in the vain things of the world; ye that have professed to have known the ways of righteousness; nevertheless have gone astray, as sheep having no shepherd, notwithstanding a shepherd hath called after you, and art still calling after you, but ye will not hearken unto his voice.

Behold, I say unto you, that the good shepherd doth call you; yea, and in his own name he doth call you, which is the name of Christ; And if ye will not hearken unto the voice of the good shepherd, to the name by which ye are called, behold, ye are not the sheep of the good shepherd. And now if ye are not the sheep of the good shepherd, of what fold are ye? Behold, I say unto you, that the devil is your shepherd, and ye are of his fold; and now who can deny this?

And now I say unto you, all you that are desirous to follow the voice of the good shepherd, come ye out from the wicked, and be ye separate, and touch not their unclean things; And behold, their names shall be blotted out, that the names of the wicked shall not be numbered among the names of the righteous, that the word of God may be fulfilled, which saith, The names of the wicked shall not be mingled with the names of my people. For the names of the righteous shall be written in the book of life; and unto them will I grant an inheritance at my right hand. And now my brethren, What have ye to say against this? I say unto you, If ye speak against it, it matters not, for the word of God must be fulfilled. For what shepherd is there among you having many sheep, doth not watch over them, that the wolves enter not and devour his flock? And behold, if a wolf enter his flock, doth he not drive him out? Yea, and at the last, if he can, he will destroy him. And now I say unto you, that the good shepherd doth call after you; and if you will hearken unto his voice, he will bring you unto his fold, and ye are his sheep; And he commandeth you that ye suffer no ravenous wolf to enter among you that ye may not be destroyed. And now, I, Alma, do command you in the language of him who hath commanded me, that ye observe to do the words which I have spoken unto you. I speak by way of command unto you that belong to the church; and unto those who do not belong to the church, I speak by way of invitation, saying, Come, and be baptized unto repentance, that ye also may be partakers of the fruit of the tree of life.

Submitted by Becky Downs

# What's a Smart Woman Like You Doing at Home?

*Condensed from the book by Linda Burton*

*Reprinted with permission from the October 1987 Reader's Digest*

I hadn't intended to stay home. Before the birth of my first child, I had a full-time job as a fund-raiser at a public-interest law firm. It was harrowing work sometimes, but fun, and it made good use of my energies.

After my child was born, I found myself, at age 33, walking the floor with my son, getting angry about all the things he was keeping me from doing. I missed my job and my friends; I felt poverty-stricken and I looked awful. So, like many other women, I decided to go back to work.

I found a job writing for a public-television station and happily set out to enjoy life again. I would give my child "quality" time in the evenings and on weekends and find an absolutely sterling person to care for him during the day.

I researched child care with a vengeance. Luckily, I did find someone who seemed fine to care for my son. She lasted a month.

During my return to the office, I made some discoveries. I found that I had little "quality" time for my child in the evening: I was tired. I also discovered that I missed him during the day.

Now I came back home again to attend to him—temporarily I hoped—and meanwhile searched for child care. I searched for two years, during which time my second son was born.

In the beginning I wanted a housekeeper or nanny to give my children one-on-one care. But nannies and housekeepers are expensive. Their wages would have eaten up a major chunk of my salary. Besides, if the interviews I conducted were any indication, a fair percentage of the people who came to my door seemed unqualified for the job.

I also learned that some nanny-housekeepers who are good and qualified don't always stay around very long. I wanted my children to learn confidence and trust, to feel that the people who cared for them would not leave them.

I decided to try home-based day care. This seemed like an attractive option because my children would be in a homey atmosphere with other children who could be playmates for them. Yet my hopes fell with each successive experience.

The biggest problem I encountered with family day care was overcrowding. Time and again, I left my children with a sitter who assured me she cared for "very few" children, only to return on an impromptu visit to find a staggering number of "drop-ins." In one instance, I found the "marvelous" day-care provider, recommended by friends, sleeping on her sofa while 11 children (she claimed she took care of only five) wandered aimlessly around a blaring TV.

Another problem I found was that the care givers generally were women with their own children who took in extra kids to supplement their income. Even

the best-intentioned person in the world would naturally respond to her own children more quickly and sensitively than to others. I worried also that my boys' bright inquisitiveness might be dulled by a caretaker who, though a kind and decent person, did not respond adequately to them. And on visits to family day-care homes, I often observed a sitter relating to my children differently from the way I do—in, for example, attempts to deal with (or ignore) conflicts and questions.

I came to see that the raising of children does not represent simple custodial upkeep. Rather, my children were learning lessons, making choices and being guided by the repetition of small human interchanges. Here, I began to worry, indelible impressions might be implanted about their place in the world, their relation to other people, and their own value.

Finally, I realized that when I was at the office, I did not in fact ever really know what went on with my children. My younger son couldn't talk, and I suspected that his brother might be easily intimidated into not saying anything critical about his situation. Also, I'm embarrassed to say, when I left work harassed and tired, I did not want to hear about additional problems from my kids.

At one point I also investigated day-care centers. I was dismayed at what I found. The people staffing many of the centers certainly weren't all the superior, loving, multi-degreed maternal paragons that the brochures had touted. Some I saw were underpaid, undereducated and under-interested.

This is not to say that I didn't find some superb, dedicated day-care personnel. But two of the six directors with whom I spoke actually advised me to do everything I could to try and stay home with my children, and to use day care only as a last resort.

In time, my search for child care taught me a critical lesson: no matter how many licenses we issue, how many guidelines we establish or how much money we pay, it is impossible to have quality controls over the capacity of one human being to love and care for another.

I had wanted someone who was loving and tender, with a sense of humor and an alert, lively manner—somebody who would encourage my children's creativity, take them on interesting outings, answer all their little questions, and rock them to sleep. Slowly, painfully, I came to a stunning realization: the person I was looking for was right under my nose. I had desperately been trying to hire me.

And that's what a smart woman like me is doing at home.



# TO YOUR KNEES, O ISRAEL

by Joseph Luff  
November 1931

Revelations 3:15-20. "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would that thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor and blind and naked; I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

A vision given to a prominent Elder in the Reorganized church a number of years ago. A scene was shown him as of a tier of shelves, and from the things that loaded the lower one the saints seemed to be helping themselves, and feeling delighted. The upper shelves seemed to be loaded with richer treasures increasing in excellence and value to the top one. While dwelling in thought upon this picture his mind was enlightened by what he took to be the good Spirit and the import of the following language fed to his soul.

"The treasury of my grace is replete with blessings richer than they have known; provided by me and intended for the enrichment and sanctification of the estate of my people, but they can not be reached by them from the ground they now occupy.

If therefore ye desire these things that they may make for my glory in the building up and establishment of my kingdom on earth, and to this end would lengthen the arms of your faith for acquirment, stand ye in high and holy places, remembering that the high places are those unto which I sought to lift you

when ye were chosen out of the world, and they can not remain holy if invaded by those pleasures which belong to the estate from whence ye were chosen, nor by the indulgence of those things not commended of me and that do not minister unto holiness. In the cheerful separation of yourselves from these things for my sake, and in your obedience to my law is revealed the sincerity and the degree of the love you profess for me, for love hath within itself all the persuasion to obedience and sacrifice.

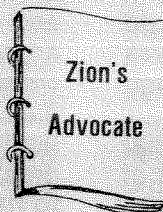
It has again and again been declared unto you that the set time to hasten my work is at hand, but my adversary, whose mission is to destroy, hath given greater heed to this than have ye, in that he has greatly multiplied his emisaries of service and to the extent of his power has given them angelic habiliments insomuch that my people, by reason of this transformation have been deceived and have invited into their lives and their homes and their assemblies many things which before they had disallowed and decried. Their inovations have rendered less holy the places where it has been my purpose to walk in communion with my disciples, yea, they have crowded the resorts of my heritage till they have made the places too narrow for my feet and there is small room for me to walk in their midst.

If ye love these more than me, then be content with the fruit they yield, but if ye will be strong in my strength and share in my triumph, and if ye account my wisdom sufficient unto the mission given me of my Father, which purposes your final redemption, then be advised of me and love as I have loved, and feed ye alone at the table my hand hath spread, and consider it your glory to deny yourselves even to the uttermost, even as I have done that my Father might be glorified and ye might have joy. Remember that with God change is not known and his pleasure is still in those things alone which have given him delight from the beginning."

## Pass It On

Would you like to be a missionary for Christ's Church? You can, it's easy!

Pass It On. Yes, by merely passing on each issue of the *Zion's Advocate* to a friend not yet a baptized member of this Church, you will have greatly expanded the missionary potential of this paper.



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Sincerely,  
Your Editorial Staff



# —NEWS—

## YPCL Report



Saturday, November 7, the East Local had a Fall Fling, and everyone was to come dressed as they did in the fifties. There were games and food. Then some of the people left to go on a treasure hunt directed and produced by Harvey Seibel. We had fun looking for the clues. It ended with a tie between two groups. We got to McDonalds parking lot at the same time, and made a mad dash to get the treasure. When we got back to the church the judging began for the most uniquely dressed people: Cheri Pennington came in first place, followed by Ray Hunholtz and Tamar Seibel.

Heidi Temple

November 14, the young people met at Randy and Becky Sheldons. A blazing campfire warded off the chill of evening. Roasted marshmallows, Smores, and apples wrapped in tin foil and rolled onto the coals to bake staved off hunger. Threads of conversation wove in and about the group a tapestry of togetherness.

Following the feasting, fourteen of us pushed and shoved and squeezed our way into the back of Randy's pickup truck, and we bounced and jolted over lumpy backroads.

Hot buttered popcorn, piping hot teas, and games of Uno and Skip-Bo closed the evening.

H. L. Seibel

November 21, a few of the young people got together and prepared a fruit basket for Kenneth and Edna Smith. We paid them a surprise visit and presented it to them. We had a wonderful time and I think they did too. Sr. Smith showed us a completed bedspread she had knitted. It was beautiful.

Their dog, Skeeter, kept growling. Sr. Smith said he didn't like mailmen, and everyone agreed it was due to Harvey's presence . . . he being a mailman and all.

We had gone there with some misgivings. What would we talk about after we'd given the basket of fruit? Would there be uncomfortable and embarrassing pauses in the conversation? My prayers were answered and everything went smoothly and with no difficulty. I feel we were very blessed.

Afterwards, we went to see the Broadway production of *Annie* which the William Chrisman High School was putting on. The sets, singing, and acting were superb. All in all it was a very enjoyable evening.

Ruth Seibel

## GREETINGS FROM GRAND JUNCTION

Two days ago, we observed Thanksgiving Day, but it hardly seems like that time of year already. The wonderful weather of Western Colorado lulls us into a false security, making us believe that winter will surely never arrive. I appreciate the sunny days which have afforded us several long walks on the newly-made Colorado River Trail, which winds its way along the river bottom west of town. The Audubon Society has dedicated a special section for the enjoyment of bird watchers, and we see many community seniors getting their exercise while admiring the scenic wonders God has provided. It is truly a glorious time of year here, and our day of Thanksgiving gives us pause to count life's blessings. Our livelihood, our health, our measure of spiritual blessings, our privilege of meeting in a local church, our knowledge of the gospel and God's plan of redemption—all things that we have received from God's bountiful hand.

The year has brought us much joy, also some sadness. In April, we grieved the passing of Brother David Hinkle, a long-time member of the Church of Christ. Many times in recent years, he had made a supreme effort to attend meetings when his poor health hardly afforded him the opportunity of being out of bed. His example of faithful attendance will be remembered, along with the deeds of kindness and friendship we will miss. Dave's wife Charlotte is currently visiting family in Phoenix, Arizona, and is remembered in our prayers.

My thirteen-year old son Aric was baptized into the Church of Christ, way back in June. I hardly know how to report it without letting some of my joy spill over. During the Colorado Reunion shortly before Aric's baptism, one of the sisters told us in a testimony of her desire to convert others to Jesus, and that she did not know how she could reach anyone in this world. She was told that her children were souls needing conversion, and that was a good place to begin. So many of us will never go to distant lands and convert thousands, will never be given a great work to do, but we can teach our little children to trust and believe in Jesus.

Do you appreciate the gifts that God has given you? You will never have to return any useless items to the "celestial store" after Christmas. He knows so

much about us, things that we will never see in ourselves. Through adversity, He mends our weakness. And in adversity, He gives us something to compare the "good times" with, something to make us value our days of sunshine and good cheer. He helps us turn the stumbling blocks into stepping stones. As the New Year begins, you are in our prayers. May our fellowship in Christ deepen, may it blossom and bear fruit.

Becky Downs, Reporter  
Grand Junction, CO 81503

## **COLLINS LOCAL NEWS**

It's amazing how quickly time passes. Sometimes I feel like I need to put my arms out and stop this whirling process for a second or two so I can get a better grip on things. If only it were that simple. Perhaps it's not the quantity of time I should be so concerned with, but the quality of that time. Am I making good use of the time I have? I heard an excellent sermon on that very thought a year or so ago. I hear many wonderful sermons and I understand them, but somehow, all too often, I look and see that I haven't been living them—following after their counsel. What then—shall I give up? Oh my, no! I've come too far to quit now. Pray for me and I also will pray for you.

Our Rally here at Collins was a marvelous success. The church was almost brim full—people even had to sit on the front row. It was wonderful! We opened with prayer service from 9:00 A.M. until 10:00 A.M. followed by four 20 to 30 minute sermons. After lunch we heard two more sermons. The day just flew by.

Brother Larry Beem told us how two is better than one. If one falls the other will lift him up; will sustain him when tried.

Brother Frank Fann said following after Christ is not an easy thing to do—because we have an adversary. The Devil's aim is you and me. If he can cause one Church of Christ member to fall he has a victory.

Brother Joe Smith said he was a watchman and his sermon was a cry to action; to be willing to be obedient to the will of God.

Brother Allen Kauffman spoke on the power of prayer. He read the poem, "Prayer of an Unknown Soldier" and asked, how many of us ask God wisely for things we need?

Brother John Jones read a song to us from the green hymnal called "Ready" and told us how we all need to be ready—that we are living in a day to prepare ourselves.

Brother Bob Eddy said, we're not here to sell anything. What we have is without price. There is no promise of an easy way, but a way will be provided and the end will be sweet.

The Rally was a success. The people were touched by the Spirit; our hearts were united; we were filled.

Each time we meet together I feel a portion of this Spirit that seems so freely given. Is it any wonder that Sundays and Wednesdays are so important to

me? Without Sunday how could I ever face Monday?

God bless you each one—and thank you for your prayers.

Your reporter,  
Czerna Kauffman

## **BRITISH ISLES NEWS**

This is being written on Remembrance Day, November 11th, when we in the United Kingdom remember the dead from both World Wars and the sacrifice they gave for our freedom. This year the event was marred by an IRA bomb explosion in Northern Ireland during a Remembrance service killing eleven and injuring many others.

Whilst we sit and remember those who have died and gone before, may we also remember the early latter-day saints who suffered and died to preserve for us the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Book of Mormon. Some may say a nobler cause, to die for the Gospel than for some political ideology.

When we examine the courage and faith of those early saints and their total trust in the Lord, can anything we do become comparable to anything they suffered? We don't know what *real* persecution is; perhaps in times to come we will feel it, but now our lives are of ease and comfort with the Church to protect us and our friends to gather around us. We know, though, that these things will be taken away and that we will have to stand on our own in times to come. How many of us value our scriptures enough to read and memorise key texts of comfort, hope, and doctrine? It's a hard world which doesn't get any easier when we announce our belief in the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ. Think about it.

The work here in England is carrying on quite as usual but there are more people being taught than before and therefore our street and door-to-door outreach has had to be curtailed somewhat. Copies of the Book of Mormon are being distributed to the hungry ones and the work of the Gospel is going forward. We are still holding services in two towns and the response is favorable, if not completely what we would wish for. But more and more people are coming within the sound of the Restoration, particularly former members of the LDS church.

The trip we had to the States has boosted our morale tremendously and filled us with ideas, although, at times it can seem quite lonely after being with so many brothers and sisters. But we are brimming over with ideas only hampered to some extent with my admittance to the hospital for a couple of weeks for tests, although I was allowed home at the weekends to conduct services.

We are hoping to get some more literature printed here, in England, as supplies are dangerously low and we thank all the brothers and sisters for their help which, miraculously, always arrives at the exact time of need!

**KEEP THE FAITH STRONG!** We love you all and pray for you daily. Please don't forget us.

Your brother in the Gospel of Christ,  
Priest Martin Rosen

**CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES**

The 1988 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 3. 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.

The 1987 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 19 through 21 at Independence, Missouri.

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