

# 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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**God governs the world and we  
have only to do our duty wisely,  
and leave the issue to Him.**

*—John Jay*

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# Zion's Advocate

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To promote Jesus Christ as Saviour and His teachings;  
 To promote His church, the Church of Christ;  
 To be a voice of warning to His people;  
 To be Zion's advocate.

This, we believe, is an important work. Please  
 remember the editorial staff in your prayers.

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*Articles, sermons, poems, news items, letters, notices, etc., which are appropriate to be printed in this paper are requested by the editorial staff. If possible, they should be typewritten on one side of a sheet only, double spaced and grammatically corrected. Send all material to the Editor (see address listed above). The deadline for each month is the 5th of the previous month.*

## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

All individual articles published in this paper are opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the Church or the opinions of the Editorial Staff. All authorized declarations and notices coming from the General Conference, the Council of Apostles or the General Bishopric reflect the practices and beliefs of the General Church.

**GUEST EDITORIAL . . .****OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS**

"Except your righteousness exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." Matthew 5:20. This is one of the many admonitions that Jesus gave in his sermon on the mount, which is timeless in application to our lives. In these latter days, we know the coming of Christ is very near. The signs are all about us giving us reason to be aware of our need to evaluate our righteousness in our own hearts.

We are surrounded on every hand by many professing believers and teachers of religion who in many ways equate with the scribes and the Pharisees of old. They add confusion to error leading many into sin and destroy faith in God. Our youth need to be taught the true word of God to follow rightly; the aged need the comfort of a steadfast faith and hope in the gospel of Christ.

We, of the Church of Christ, need to look carefully at what we say that we believe. It is often heard in our conversations and testimonies that this is the "right" or "true" church." Equally important, then, is that we be the right kind of people. Do we have the qualities of heart and mind that give substance to our words?

A good brother many years ago would often quote a saying: "If every member were just like me, what kind of a church would this church be?" Oh,

you say that is a hard question to ask me! Indeed it made us think about ourselves and that was good for us to consider a very real fact; we are what we think! The good natured gentle kindness of this brother was evident to all who knew him.

We need a righteousness that exceeds that of the many teachers about us who often raise contention and controversy over matters that are entirely in the hands of God which we can not alter nor change. Some of these things are not given for us to understand and know fully. Most have little bearing on how we live today to assure our souls salvation. We will someday understand some of the mysteries of God. For the present time Paul wrote, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." Hebrews 12:14.

We strive hard at times to prove the point of view we hold to be the truth and more right than our brethren. We are given to the sin of pride and self-adulation, often jealous of one another. A good dose of humility with a desire to serve rather than to rule could be edifying to the church toward achieving righteousness.

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33.

—Elder Arthur G. Smith

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## **WHY SO MUCH SUFFERING**

**Sermon By Priest Aaron Heath  
April 24, 1988**

If GOD is good, if He is love, why is there so much suffering in the world? This is an old question, as old as pain, sickness, accident, and loss. People have been asking it for thousands of years and will go on asking it till the end of time.

Probably no completely satisfying answer will be available until God makes all things plain in His kingdom, but the Bible offers several helpful suggestions.

You will find the first reference to suffering in

Gen. 3:16, where God reveals to Eve the consequences of her disobedience: "I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow shalt thou bring forth children." From this it might be deduced, and rightly so, that all suffering springs from that initial act of wrongdoing. Yet, that is not the whole story. Just as there are many types of suffering, so are there many reasons for it.

Some suffering is a result of ignoring basic law. This is true both in the spiritual and physical realms,

for through all creation runs the law of cause and effect: "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7). If you break the laws of the land, you expect—if caught—to suffer punishment. If you break the laws of health, you know you will get sick. If you break the moral law, the consequences are just as certain. "For he that soweth to his flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (verse 8).

Some suffering is the result of accident or natural disaster. Three times Jesus asserted that trouble often comes upon innocent people. When He was told about some Galileans whom Pilate had unjustly killed, He said, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered thus? I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:2,3, Revised Standard Version).

Then He mentioned eighteen persons upon whom a tower in Siloam fell, killing them all. "Do you think that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?" He asked. "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish (verses 4,5).

(John 9:2,3) On another occasion, as He passed a blind man along the way, His disciples asked, "Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents."

In each case Jesus strongly repudiated the thought that the calamity happened as a result of the individual's sin. Usually when earthquakes, tidal waves, explosions, airplane accidents, and the like occur the majority of sufferers have no responsibility whatever for the disaster.

Some suffering results from power in the hands of evil men. Says the prophet Habakkuk: (ch. 1:13) "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?"

One of the facts of life most difficult to understand is "the prosperity of the wicked" (Psalm 73:3). "They are not in trouble as other men," says David; "neither are they plagued like other men. . . . Their eyes stand out with fatness; they have more than heart could wish. They are corrupt, and speak wickedly concerning oppression; they speak loftily. . . . Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world" (verses 5-12).

This is a perfect picture of the dictators and racketeers who elbow their way to power in politics and other phases of organized society regardless of the consequences to others.

Some suffering is a result of God's remedial

judgments. Just as a parent punishes his child to keep him in the right way, so God sometimes permits hardship and sorrow to come to His children in order to turn them from an evil course. "He doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men" (Lamentations 3:33), but sometimes some correction becomes necessary. Should this ever happen to you, "Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, so the Lord your God disciplines you" (Deut. 8:5 R.S.V.).

There is always a good reason for God's judgments. Comparing the correction of parents with that of the Lord, the writer to the Hebrews says in ch. 12:10: "For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness".

In our Bibles we will find several examples of sinners brought back to God through affliction.

When Jonah refused God's call to go to Nineveh and fled on a ship bound for Tarshish, he was thrown overboard and swallowed by a great fish. "Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly, and said, I cried by reason of mine affliction, unto the Lord, and he heard me" (Jonah 2:1,2).

In 2 Chron. 33:12,13: King Manasseh was carried captive to Babylon because of his fearful wickedness. But "when he was in affliction, he besought the Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, and prayed unto him: and he was intreated of him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord he was God".

Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, defied God and lost his reason for seven years.

Later he testified: "At the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honored him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation" (Dan. 4:34).

Several times in the Old Testament God is portrayed as a refiner sitting by a furnace skimming off the impurities of His people. As in Malachi 3:3; and Job 23:10. Through Isaiah He says, "Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction". That was Isaiah 48:10. Later in verses 17, and 18, He adds: "I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go. O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! Then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea."

Most of Israel's troubles could have been averted

by obedience and right living, but when, through disobedience, affliction became necessary it was sent for their prophet to lead them in the way that they should go.

Some suffering is the result of dedication to Jesus Christ.

From Jesus Himself we have this warning: "If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you" as read in John 15:20. This certainly came true in the life of the apostle Paul who, time after time, was imprisoned and beaten because of his fearless witness for his Lord.

Out of this full experience of suffering he assured Timothy: 2 Tim. 3:12—"All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." When he returned to Lystra, where he was once stoned, he told the members, "We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God" and that is written in Acts 14:22.

So there are several causes of suffering, and sometimes it is difficult to classify correctly one's personal troubles. However, if you see to it that, whatever their cause, they drive you toward God rather than away from Him, the ultimate result is bound to be beneficial.

If you think that your affliction is the result of disobedience to some basic law, ask God to help you remedy the defect.

If you know it comes from an accident for which you are in no way responsible, pray for patience to bear it, wisdom to understand it, and love to forgive those who caused it. In Job 1:21; and James 1:3; and 5:11 we can read about these things, that I have just mentioned.

In Romans 12:12, we will read if what you endure is the result of evil men, pray that God may turn them from their wicked ways; "rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer".

Now in Heb. 12:11; or in 1 Peter 5:10, If you believe your troubles are a divine discipline, search your heart for the reason why God is displeased with you. Then plead for forgiveness and pledge Him your eternal devotion.

If you are enduring persecution for Christ's sake, "Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: For great is your reward in heaven" as it tells us in Mat. 5:12. Remember, in 2 Tim. 2:12, "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him".

Without doubt all of us need more of the glorious fortitude Paul revealed when he said, "None of these things move me". That's from Acts 20:24.

"Therefore," he told the Corinthians (this is taken from 2 Cor. 12:10), "I take pleasure in infirmities, . . . in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong".

For him and for all who endure to the end, a glorious reward is awaiting. In James 1:12 we read: "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him".

Please read the following passages from the Book of Mormon: 1 Nephi 5:236-238, Alma 5:36-40, Alma 7:39-40 and Alma 16:171-173.

If God's only begotten son, had to go through all that suffering and pain for us, why shouldn't we as God's children also have to endure these same hardships? Are we worthy servants? Are we willing to sacrifice and suffer for our blessed redeemer? Let us lift up our heads and be counted. The Lord can only help us, if we let him. There also must be effort on our part. One of my favorite verses is Prov. 16:3. It reads: "commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established." Let our thoughts always be on what's good and proper and what is pleasing to God.

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## HE THAT DOETH TRUTH

By Apostle Roland Sarratt

PART ONE



A scripture that is quoted by most all Christians is found in John 3:16,17. The beauty and truth in those words never grow old; they are ever a source of inspiration to all who will trust in God. Let's look at those words again that we might be renewed in the

divine truth which they contain.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world to con-

demn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

God's merciful love for the world caused Him to send His only begotten Son into the world for the special purpose of saving it. This was done, not because the world deserved it or that God was obligated to do so, but rather it was a gift from God to all who would respond favorably by believing on the Son of God.

Jesus Christ was not sent to condemn the world, although he, being perfect without sin, brought a distinct contrast to sinful man. This contrast would cause a reaction by all who would come in contact with him either in the belief and acceptance of Jesus Christ, or in the disbelief and rejection of him.

Jesus plainly tells us of the importance of believing on the only begotten son of God in the 18th verse:

"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten son of God."

Jesus makes it plain that our personal response of accepting or rejecting the great gift of God will bring either God's favor or condemnation upon us. Although this may be referring to the initial reaction of all those who have made contact with the gospel of Christ in this life, this nonetheless contains an all inclusive truth that we each should consider. Let's read the remainder of his statement:

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

"For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

"But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God." (verses 19-21)

The natural reaction of those who do evil (sin) will be to hate the light (truth) because it exposes their sinfulness. Those who obey the truth will be drawn to the light because it is compatible with their desires of good.

The big test for the natural man is to get past that first reaction without being offended and to be able to embrace the love of God by comprehending His mercy and grace. It is humbling to the ego of man to realize that he is not alright as he is—that he is a sinner and must repent of his sins and strive to overcome his desire to win.

There are two important parts of man's experience with the plan of salvation: he must be able to understand it and he must be able to obey it. Essentially, he must do both simultaneously. He

must believe the truth and apply it to this life at the same time. Otherwise if he stops short of applying it to his life after having an initial understanding of it, he returns to darkness and comes under condemnation.

This fact is applicable to all of us at any point in our lives after we have once heard the gospel. When we cease to grow in faith by applying the truths of the gospel to our lives, we let the darkness of disbelief or rebellion overtake us and we are unable to discern the truth. If we are not aroused and awakened to the danger of our state of being, we can soon come under great condemnation. Therefore we must keep ever new in our hearts and minds the message of God's love for us—the gift of His only begotten Son.

When Jesus preached the gospel of truth to the Jews, it brought favorable and unfavorable responses according to the belief or disbelief of the hearers. On one occasion, when Jesus healed a blind man, it caused a great stir among the Jews. Jesus made a profound statement that brought a reaction by the Pharisees:

"And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

"And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also?

"Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth." (John 9:39-41)

Jesus brought judgment into the world by bringing the light to those who were ignorant of the truth that they might understand and respond accordingly. Those who already had a degree of the light, such as the Pharisees, rejected the greater truth that Jesus brought and were made blind. They were accountable for the truth apparently, but refused to obey it, for Jesus said, "...your sin remaineth."

In the sermon on the mount, Jesus describes the effect our attitude toward good and evil has upon our comprehension of the truth:

"The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

"But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!" (Mat. 6:22,23)

If we are receptive to the truth and make the favorable response, its light will increase to give us a full understanding. On the other hand, if we respond negatively, we have some comprehension of the truth, but it becomes darkness to us. As Jesus said,



"...how great is that darkness!"

James said, "...to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." (James 4:17) The word "do" is small yet very essential in the gospel of Christ. In an earlier quote (John 3:21), Jesus said, "But he that doeth truth cometh to the light..." How simple, yet how beautifully descriptive that statement is! The willingness to do the truth (obey the gospel) is fundamentally essential to come to the light (the fullness of the gospel). If we obey the truth we will not be ashamed of our deeds for "...they are wrought in God."

On another occasion Jesus answered the Jews in this language:

"My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

"If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

"He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him." (John 7:16-18)

The means by which a person is to know if the doctrine is of God is to do the will of God. In other words, he must put the doctrine to test in his own life. Again that little word "do" plays an essential part in gaining knowledge.

Later Jesus made this statement: "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Jesus offers us the "light of life" upon the condition that we shall follow him. The alternative if we do not follow him is that we will walk in darkness.

One of the first things that Jesus told the Nephites when he came to them after his resurrection was, "I am the light and the life of the world." (3 Nephi 4:48) Later he told them, "Behold I am the light; I have set an example for you." (3 Nephi 8:49)

The light that Jesus has shed upon mankind is his living the truth by example. He has not only given us the truth by the spoken word but he has demonstrated it by his deeds. The Nephites became witnesses to the light and Jesus reminded them to give that witness thus: "Behold I am the light which ye shall hold up—that which ye have seen me do." (3 Nephi 8:55)

Jesus did not stop at calling his people to be witnesses in word only. He told them to be the light: "Verily, verily I say unto you, I give unto you to be the light of this people. A city that is set on a hill can not be hid." (3 Nephi 5:61)

Very emphatically, Jesus instructed his disciples to do the works that they had seen him do:

"Verily, verily I say unto you, This is my gospel; and ye know the things that ye must do in my church; for the works which ye have seen me do, that shall ye

also do; for that which ye have seen me do, even that shall ye do; therefore if ye do these things, blessed are ye, for ye shall be lifted up at the last day." (3 Nephi 12:34,35)

Jesus Christ was given as a sacrifice for the benefit of the children of men that all those who would believe in him might be saved from the condemnation of sin. For mankind to be able to be totally free from sin, however, they must be shown a perfect way of life to follow as an example. Jesus has done this, not just as an example, but through the absolute obedience to the will of the Father, he lived a perfect life because he loved the Father. This is the light that is in him which makes him the light and the life. He has called us to follow his example that we might possess that light also.

(To be continued)

### **DARE TO DO RIGHT!**

If you are lashed by another's tongue, while innocent of his charge, do not retort in kind, but let goodness answer evil. If his condemnation is founded in truth, receive it in humble confession —

#### **Dare to do right!**

When tempted to lie, even a so-called white lie, or to stretch the truth —

#### **Dare to be true:**

It is better to be silent than to deceive. Liars will have a portion in hell.

When others profane the name of God or defile themselves by obscene, lewd or darkly suggestive language —

#### **Dare to do right,**

And lend no encouragement by your countenance, or a rejoinder in kind. Your silence or withdrawal can speak volumes; but if wisdom directs that a rebuke is in order, let it be with firmness and meekness, in the fear of the Lord, rather than in harsh condemnation.

Though there be, all around, those of close association, and of pretended friends (or indeed of proven friends) who, in weakness will defile the temple of God, which is their body, by use of alcohol, drugs or tobacco - go not after their way, but —

#### **Dare to do right,**

For theirs is the way of physical death and possibly that of the spirit. If sexual desire, which is implanted in the human family by divine purpose to prepare a godly seed, is permitted an unrestrained course resulting in fornication or adultery, those who thus disobey the commandment of God and continue therein cannot inherit the kingdom of God —

#### **Dare to do right and dare to be true!**

In a world where one devours another before he himself is devoured, and takes advantage of the other in his weakness, let us rather lift him than to crush him —

#### **Dare to do right,**

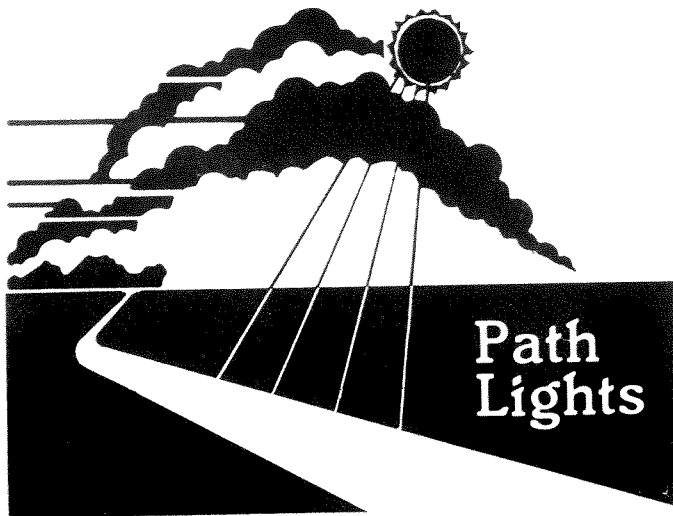
For he that exalteth himself shall be abased, and he that abaseth himself shall be exalted.

We are schooled with the view of advancing ourself economically, socially or politically, according to individual desire; and the world will adulate and claim her own; yet how quickly, when we fail, does she forget, and perhaps to turn and rend. You cannot serve God and mammon, for either you love and serve God and mankind, and hate the world and her allurements - or else your desires are turned to the other —

#### **Dare to be true,**

And secure the hidden treasures of heaven where moth doth not corrupt, nor thieves break through to steal!

Apostle William A. Sheldon



## Cleansed From a Life of Sin

To all my dear brothers in the great family of our Lord Jesus Christ:

This is my testimony. I am happy and full of desire to write and to be a faithful witness for God. I regret that we live far apart but God unites us. I feel great love for you, my brothers in the United States.

I am thirty years of age, but for 16 years I have lived a victim of vices, drugs and alcohol. And worse, I knew of the Word of God in my first fourteen years, but I did not want to accept it as the most sacred thing in my life. It was in great sorrow that I lived and now I regret my past life very much. I thought that I would never be able to change my life; I never wanted to accept the fact that I was a slave to the vices of the world. My mother had counseled me many times saying that I was killing myself.

Brothers, I give thanks to God and to His children such as you in the United States, for your prayers were heard by our Savior. I remember very well working on the ocean far from land when I was called by the Lord. The ocean waves grew immensely in the midst of a terrible storm with heavy rain and darkness. I trembled in fear; I cried in desperation to God, all-powerful. I was in great sadness and had great fear.

My prayer was heard by our Savior and the storm became calm and I was saved. I sought the Church of Christ and I praised the Lord, but in a short time I forgot. I drowned myself in a sea, but it was an ocean of vice. When I arrived in my home drunk my small children cried that I was a drunkard; my wife cried in sorrow and no longer supported me, asking me when

I was going to change.

One night I had gone to sea to fish while I was drunk. In the night I became so thirsty I could not swallow, but I had brought no water with me. Soon I could not work and I thought that I would die here, alone on the ocean. I sank to the bottom of the boat and prayed to God. A second time, He heard my prayer and rescued me. I cut open a small fish and squeezed its body fluids through a cloth and was able to drink a few drops. With the help of the Lord my thirst was quenched and I finished my work and came home without suffering more, knowing that it was His love that saved me.

For the third time He had spoken to me, and now I accepted and obeyed Him with all my heart. I prayed that he would remove all of the things of the world and Jesus filled my whole life; He occupied my heart and at last I have found happiness.

Now we still are poor in the material things of life, but rich in the spiritual. Now my life is full of joy and I am happy. For this, I write to you all and beg that you would continue to pray for us. I am named Mario and my wife is Maria. I was baptized in March of this year. May God keep us all in the name of Jesus. I send you my greetings by the brothers, Donald (Apostle McIndoo) and Alvin (Elder Jay Moser), with all love that God would unite us; we are far apart, but made near by the love of God.

Mario Polanco N.  
Yobain, Yucatan, Mexico  
March 9, 1988

## God Intervened

As I go over the events of my life I think of how many times my gracious Lord has blessed me. Even though at times I deviate from the strait and narrow path, he still blesses me. I praise my God for the many blessings which I have received throughout my life. The most recent blessing is an accident that my boyfriend, Bob, and I had on the seventh of February.

On the night of the seventh, Bob was bringing me home. The snow at this time had begun to melt, but there was some ice and snow on the roads. Bob had decided to bring me home the back way this particular night. On our way home we went down a real long and steep hill which had a fairly sharp curve and then a bridge below it. As we neared the bottom of the hill there was an unexpected ice patch, and Bob's car began to slip and slide. He soon lost con-



trol of the car and the next thing I knew I was floating through the air as the car turned over. When the car stopped, it was upside down ten feet below the bridge on the ice from the creek. His car leaned to rest against a fork in a tree, so the top of the car was not caved in. I ended up in the back of the car on the inside roof, and Bob was still sitting behind the steering wheel. Neither one of us was seriously hurt, for which we were very thankful. We were able to walk away from the accident with just a few bruises, and I praise God for that.

Not only were we blessed by being able to walk away from the accident, but we also met some very kind people who helped us calm down and put things in perspective. Although Bob's car was totaled and he is now having to make payments for a new car and go to business school, I feel we have received a blessing. Bob and I are now much closer and we have a much stronger relationship. Not only has my relationship with Bob improved, but I also feel much closer to my Lord. This event has helped me to realize that God is always there to help his children whenever they need his help and strength.

Love and God Bless,  
Carmine Case

Please send your Path Lights testimonies to:

Melissa McGhee  
2533 Glen Lane  
Independence, MO 64052

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# THOU SHALT NOT ADD NOR TAKE AWAY

by Elder Andy Brantner

(Part Two - Conclusion)

If we have decided that we shall close our minds and our hearts to God then we are obligated to determine when we shall do this. We must determine just when our "end" shall be. When we shall become dead to God. Let's go to Prov. 30:6, "Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar."

Was Joseph Smith a liar? If so, then the Book of Mormon must also be a lie. I think the real admonition here is that man is not to change the meaning of His words, don't you? Let's take a look at Deut. 4:2, "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish aught from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you." Are you willing to draw your line here? What say ye? How about Deut. 5:22? "These words (10 commandments - AB) the Lord spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the mist of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice; and he added no more." Are we yet found to be bound by the Law of Moses? Of course not! Christ came to fulfill the Law of Moses. He gave (added) unto us a new and better law. A law of Grace, a law of Mercy, the Gospel Law. The same which the ancient Israel lost because of transgression. The same which the Jews have denied even exists. Please turn to Deut. 5:24 and read the last eight words, "... God doth talk with man, and he liveth." If God does NOT talk with man then man is dead! But we rejoice that God does talk with us (if we'll listen). No, we must not draw that line that separates us from the love of God. We must not close that door that He has opened unto us, even Jesus Christ, in whom is the Spirit of Prophecy. Once more turn to Deut. 12:32 and read "What thing soever I command you, observe to do it; thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it." He's telling us to obey His commandments and not to change them to suit our own purposes.

Do you realize that God has said that He will do things which are *not* written in His Scriptures? Deut. 28:58-61, "If thou wilt not observe to do *all* the words of *this* law that are written in *this* book that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD; Then the Lord will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance. Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee. Also every sickness, and every plague, *which is not written in the book of this law*, them will I the Lord bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed." (emphasis mine - AB). Of course He speaks here of the law of *this* book and glad we are for that! But wait! Did not John say the same thing in the Book of Revelation when he wrote "... the prophecy of *this* book..." Are you beginning to understand? Do you now see how a small amount of acceptance for additional knowledge does cause your heart to leap with joy? Oh, remove that stumbling block which blinds you and binds you. Do not be as the ancient Israelites referred to in Psalms 78:41, "Yea they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel."

It would be well for us to observe at this time that no where do we find evidence that God shall *not* add nor take away, only that man shall not add nor take away, unless commanded to do so (see 3 Nephi 10:33-41 and 2 Nephi 12:65 for examples of this). You may be saying in your heart, "But God is an unchangeable God," and right you are! It is because He is an unchangeable God that He continues to reveal to those who do not shut Him out things which confound the learned and the wise. (See 1 Nephi 3:26-32 and Alma 16:144-146). Not to change what has been given, but only to give the more. Read now if you will Eccl. 3:14 & 15; Matt. 13:12; 2 Nephi 12:38; and Gal. 3:15. Can you now see by reading these passages that it is man who should not add nor take away but that God can and will if He desires. And all this without contradiction.

Do you sit at the Master's table and pick and choose what may be tasteful to you? Perhaps, like a little child, you have not sought to clean your plate. You then lack the proper nourishment. You will not develop to your full potential. Surely it is true, you more than any, can not afford to deny the mercies of Christ no longer, lest ye die and Satan gain the victory.

Once we realize that, indeed, the Lord can and does add and take away then we discover a great evidence to verify the Apostasy (taking away) and the Restoration (giving back or adding to).

Let us place this thought train on another track. Please turn to and read Job 1:21, "... Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither; the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Blessed be the name of the Lord if you have understood! Without the Lord adding to or taking away you would have no Hope, you would have no Joy, you would not be reading this because you would not exist! I praise God continually that He takes away my sins, for they are many, and that He gives so freely that which does not canker or spoil.

Perhaps, now, your mind doth begin to expand. Please, by all that is ordained of God, do not allow Satan to deceive you with his half truths. Do not harken unto his spirit. You have been commanded, but have you heard? Are you listening to God? Will you obey? You have your agency. Hear, therefore, the words of the Psalmist: "Be still and know that I am God" 46:10.

Consider Eccl. 12:12-14, "And further, by these, my son, be admonished; of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter; Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man." Also John 21:25: "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if

they should be written every one, I suppose even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen!" Will you still claim that God has stopped speaking or causing that more should be written? Do my words burn as the hot ember? Perhaps it is the truth of God that does distress you? "Yea, wo be unto him that saith, we have received, and we need no more. And in fine, wo unto all those who tremble, and are angry because of the truth of God. For behold, he that is built upon a rock (Christ - AB)), receiveth it (truth - AB) with gladness: and he that is built upon a sandy foundation, trembleth, lest he shall fall. Wo be unto him that shall say, We have received the word of God, and we need no more of the word of God, for we have enough. For behold, thus saith the Lord God: I will give unto the children of men line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little: And blessed are those who harken unto my precepts, and lend an ear unto my council, for they shall learn wisdom; For unto him that receiveth, I will give more: and from them that shall say, we have enough, shall be taken away even that which they have" 2 Nephi 12:32-38.

I know there are some who will say, "We have received and we need no more." 2 Nephi 12:45, "And because my words shall hiss forth, many of the Gentiles shall say, A bible, a bible, we have got a bible, and there can not be any more bible." I would expect that response from those who no longer listen to God and therefore deny that He speaks, and follow after the precepts of men. I am saddened greatly to report that we, too, as a people, have given way to that same spirit which deceives the world. We profess a belief in the risen Christ, but many deny the mercies thereof.

Therefore, I am compelled to write, not adding to nor taking away from the word of God. The same spirit that causes the world to reject the Book of Mormon causes us to reject that which we've received, bit by bit, until all that is left is one verse. It's the shortest verse in the Bible:

"Jesus wept"

Please contemplate upon that.

## LAY UP TREASURES IN HEAVEN

*"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, — where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, — where thieves do NOT break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Repent therefore, and enter ye in at the strait gate: — Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and FEW there be that find it. Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall*

*enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that DOETH the will of the Father which is in heaven. Therefore whosoever heareth (or readeth) these sayings of mine, and DOETH them, I will liken him unto a wise man, —: And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them NOT, shall be likened unto a foolish man, —.”* Matt. 6:19-21, 7:13-14, 21, 24, 26. (Paraphrased and emphasized throughout by G.B.)

Coming to church on Sunday is one way to help us lay up treasures in heaven. It is not just a social event; not just a place to go; not just an event or outing to give us something to do. Coming to church on Sunday is more like going out to a fine restaurant; a specialty restaurant; a restaurant that serves only a certain specific kind of food; a restaurant that serves **SOUL FOOD!**

What I mean by this, is that “THE CHURCH” is meant to FEED the soul; to FILL the soul; to satisfy the spiritual hunger; the longing, the righteous desires, the emptiness of spirit. The meal is meant to help us renew our FAITH. I say RE-new, because we all had faith at one time. When we submitted to baptism, we had this faith! We must continually RE-NEW that faith! We must nourish, and exercise, and sustain, and cause our faith to grow! We don't need to count calories in OUR restaurant, the Church of Christ!

## THE BIBLE AND THE T.V. GUIDE

On the table side by side,

The Holy Bible and the T.V. Guide.

One is well worn but cherished with pride,  
(Not the Bible, but the T.V. Guide).

One is used daily to help folk decide,

No! It isn't the Bible, it's the T.V. Guide.

As pages are turned, what shall we see?

Oh, what does it matter, turn on the T.V.

So they open the book in which they confide

(No, not the Bible, it's the T.V. Guide).

The Word of God is seldom read

Maybe a verse e're they fall into bed.

Exhausted and sleepy and tired as can be,

Not from reading the Bible . . . from watching T.V.

So, then back to the table, side by side,

Is the Holy Bible and the T.V. Guide.

No time for prayer, no time for the Word.

The plan of salvation is seldom heard.

Forgiveness of sin so full and free,

Is found in the Bible, not on T.V.

Submitted by Robin Ann Cox

Coming to church on Sunday is a privilege; a privilege that some people in the world don't have; a privilege that some in our country don't have; a privilege that even some in our church don't have! Think of the poor and the feeble, the isolated and the aged, the sick and the afflicted; some of these people don't have the privilege of coming to church on Sunday!

But coming to church on Sunday is something ELSE also!, it's more than just a privilege; it's an OBLIGATION! Yes — you are obliged to attend Church!! You say, but, I can still honor and worship God from my living room, or from my fishing boat, out on God's lake or out in God's wood or fields. Well — this is true to some extent — BUT: You still are obliged to come to church on Sunday!

You can not stand long alone! No man is an island unto himself; You need support and fellowship from your fellow Saints in the Church of Christ!! You need to RE-FUEL your desire, your understanding, your spirituality, your resolve — and — YOU NEED TO HELP YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS DO THE SAME!! This is part of what it means, when it says you will be judged by your works.

Coming to Church on Sunday and supporting your Brothers and Sisters IS a WORK: A GOOD WORK!! And we need GOOD WORKS!! This is one method of Laying up Treasures in Heaven!

Some have allowed their faith to grow weak, for lack of nourishment. Some have stayed away, and dieted, almost to a point of starvation; they have wasted away and become weak and emaciated. If this continues too long, it can cause DEATH — SPIRITUAL DEATH!! I know what I'm saying because I've been there! I've been on that diet; I've stayed away from church and denied myself of the FEAST we're talking about, that SOUL FILLING, Spiritual meal that can be obtained only when we come to church and fellowship with Brothers and Sisters in the FULLNESS of the gospel; the restored gospel; and FEAST upon the words of Christ. YES I've been there! For way too long, I stayed away!! Then one day I realized my hunger, and my thirst, and my MORTALITY, and I realized how LITTLE time I may have left, to make amends; I realized how little time we all may have left, I realized how little time the WORLD (as we know it) may have left. My Brothers and Sisters, I pray that YOU will realize these things also! I don't say these things to frighten you; I say these things to ENCOURAGE YOU; for if we are doing what GOD would like us to be doing, we have NO NEED of Fear!; but rather, we can REJOICE, because we know our CHRIST is coming and we will live with him for a thousand years.

I would like to share this desire with you; this

desire of FEASTING upon the words of Christ. I would like to encourage you to RETURN; and to come; and to feast at this table. I encourage you to desire; the return of Christ and the Millennial reign of peace and happiness.

Paul tells us in Heb. 10:24-25 (paraphrased) "*Provoke one another unto love and good works: Do Not give up (or stop) assembling ourselves together, as some people do, but let us strongly urge one another to continue; and let us do this even stronger as we see the day (the end) approaching.*"

In 2nd Nephi, it tells the following.

*"But behold, my beloved brethren, thus came the VOICE OF THE SON unto me, saying, after ye have repented of your sins, and witnessed unto the Father that ye are willing to keep my commandments, by the baptism of water, and have received the baptism of fire and of the Holy ghost, and can speak with a new tongue, yea, even with the tongue of angels, AND AFTER THIS, should deny me, it would have been better for you, that ye had not known me. And I heard a VOICE FROM THE FATHER, saying, Yea, the words of my beloved, are true and faithful. He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved."* 2 Nephi 13:18-20.

These scriptures clearly tell us that we MUST assemble, that we MUST feast on the words of Christ, that we must endure, and then, we SHALL

have eternal life.

In closing, let me tell you of something I heard, about a Sister in the church, just before she passed away. This Sister was talking to an Elder, and she said, "O, I'm so tired! I just can't get any rest! I'm sure I can't find any rest till I get over to the other side! I AM READY"! This Sister passed away that evening (I think it was). This reminds me of what it says in Matthew 11:28 & 29, Christ speaking. "*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find REST unto your souls.*"

To this, agrees Alma in chapter 19, verse 44. "*And then shall it come to pass that the spirits of those who are righteous, are received into a state of happiness, which is called paradise; a state of rest; a state of peace, where they shall rest from all their troubles, and from all care, and sorrow, etc.*"

So I pray, my Brothers and Sisters, that each and every one of us will come and FEAST upon the words of Christ, and will join His church, (if you haven't already) and that you will come and fellowship with the Saints, and endure to the end; so that when that time comes for you, you can truthfully say: "I AM READY".

In Brotherly love,  
Elder Gale Brantner

# -NEWS-

## NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NOTICE TO ALL PRIESTHOOD

Please send me a photograph of yourself for use in the *Zion's Advocate* whenever an article is published, authored by you. I have all the Apostles photographs and some of the rest of you are aware that I have yours on file also.

The *Zion's Advocate*, besides fulfilling its role as a missionary arm of the Church of Christ, also is a valuable historical record. Think how marvelous it would be if all the early church publications had photographs of our church forefathers! There is no "pride" involved and I do not believe any of our readers would misconstrue having your picture accompanying an article in the paper as an act of self-aggrandizement.

So, if you haven't already done so, send me a photograph of yourself. Either color or black and white will do and size does not matter - so long as I can keep it on file. It also does not matter if there are other people or objects in the picture as long as your head and shoulders can be "lifted" cleanly. A simple polaroid would do nicely.

I will add my annual plea for articles here, also. At present, this paper is one of the greatest missionary outreaches for the entire church, and priesthood support is miserable, at best. Actually, it's kind of embarrassing that the priesthood of Christ's own church are so apathetic. You don't have to be a gifted writer, as you have an editorial staff that can "clean up" your writing for you - and even type it for you if you cannot.

I barely have enough material to fill these pages each month, and many times I have to resort to using previously published material or cut the length of an issue by four pages (as I did twice this past year).

The article doesn't have to be long either. In fact, the short and medium length articles are best (2-6 typed pages). But, please keep in mind the editorial policy of the paper, as found on the inside cover of each issue under "the *Zion's Advocate* is..." Also avoid obviously

controversial subjects (within the church) and any argumentative language.

With the condition of the world today, and spiritual sickness so prevalent among us, there is much that can be said to the glory of God and the spiritual edification of His people.

Will you, please, help me?

Gary Housknecht  
Editor

P.S.: Send your photographs with or without an article, please. Thank you.

## MINNEAPOLIS NEWS

1988 is wasting no time! As of today, April 28, mornings are chill; but we are enjoying the sights, sounds, and fragrances of spring. A pair of Red-Headed Woodpeckers visited our yard yesterday. The lady sat in the Maple tree with feathers plumped out like a fur coat, and the lad sounded off twice with his drill (somewhere above the window) "Bzzzzt! Bzzzzt!" - before zooming to the ground on his quest for breakfast. The encounter enlivened our morning! Incredible feat behind that racket!

On January 31 our annual business meeting was held and the following were elected to service for the coming year:

Thomas S. Maley, Pastor; Forest E. Maley, Secretary; Ruth Maley, Treasurer; Enoch Gould, Co-signer; Auditing Committee: Thomas Maley, Doug Ferrier, Forest Maley. Benevolent Committee: Thomas Maley, Merlin Eddy, EvaLin Eddy; Correspondent to *Zion's Advocate*, Irene Maley; Editor of the Minneapolis Reporter, Thomas Maley; Back-Up Editor, Irene Maley. Merlin Eddy is our Sunday School Superintendent.

On February 14 a sermon by John R. Gill will long be remembered, showing how we have to make choices among those things which contend for our attention and time. As a consequence some items have to be eliminated or given second place. These principles were illustrated by having the children blow up small balloons and label them to represent things people are usually interested in. The fact that there is room in a person's mind for only a few of those many things was illustrated by trying to fit a number of the different balloons into a huge glass jar which represented our minds. All the balloons wouldn't go in at once. Interest was high and the children enjoyed participating in the sermon.

Tom Maley's sermon on February 21 was driven by the word PLAN. God's plan for mankind. The Plan of Happiness, Plan of Redemption, Plan of Mercy, Plan for Man's Eternal Life. Most of the scriptures were from the Book of Mormon.

On February 28, speaker, Merlin Eddy brought us a most valuable study on the topic of Judgment, in the sharp and pertinent words of the Book of Mormon. Merlin's study began with 1 Nephi 3:33-36 on page 26 and included 1 Nephi 4:48-64 on page 46. Mosiah 1:126-129 page 218; Alma 3:31-45 page 315, 7:42-44, 8:94-107 page 341, 9:21-32, 12:200-203, 19:66-71; 3 Nephi 11:32, 33; Mormon 4:58-65; Mosiah 1:106-107; 2 Nephi 6:36-56.

On March 13 Thomas Maley spoke about spiritual principles which he entitled the four "R"'s: Responsibility, Recognition, Reconstruction, Recompense.

On February 28 we learned that the Doug Ferrier family had received word of the passing of Doug's father in Missouri. They had gone to attend the father's funeral and lend comfort and help to the ailing mother and family there.

March 20 Stephen Gould sang as a talent offering, "Lead Kindly Light". Thomas Maley read Psalms 92, 94, and 95 as a base for his remarks relating to the heritage which God has prepared for us. His concluding remark was "My conviction is that Zion will be built in our hearts".

We were so thankful to have Sister Nana back home from Honduras, about March 21.

Forest Maley, on March 27 spoke on the Palm Sunday theme, principally reading scripture from the Bible.

In attendance at Conference from the Minneapolis Local Church were Tom and Ruth Maley, Merlin Eddy, John and Nana Gill and family, Joe Miles, Stephen, Judy, and Charity Gould. Our sister, Katy Moyer returned with Tom and Ruth for a brief visit. Those who attended Conference had many interesting events to relate.

As a matter of record, Tri-State Reunion is scheduled for May 27, 28, and 29, at Flandrau State Park, New Ulm, Minnesota. The Fair Booth project will be in early August.

Merlin Eddy customarily goes to Wisconsin on the third Sunday of the month. Ben and John Case accompanied him in March to minister to the Wisconsin church members.

On April 17th Tom and Ruth visited Sister Della Bittner at Lamberton, Minnesota, and Brother Wayne Krause and Leona. Our speaker in Minneapolis was Merlin Eddy.

Brother Ben Case has been having to travel in his work. He and Patsy were with us on April 24. Ben was in charge of preaching service. "Remembrance" was sung as a fitting close to Thomas Maley's sermon.

The graduation announcement of Nancy Case (daughter of Jim and Bonnie Case), Lone Jack (Missouri) High School, was read. Congratulations, Nancy! We are happy for you. Nancy is the granddaughter of Tom and Ruth Maley.

My personal apology has been made to Brother Clarence Boettcher for misstating that he is a member of VFW, instead of the American Legion. We are always glad when Clarence is able to meet with us.

Quoting a verse written by a dear friend who expresses thought of the swift passage of time:

"Life is just a flash of time  
before your startled eyes  
Like a flicker of a falling star  
in the summer skies."

By way of encouragement, we enjoy so much the news of other locals. Let us pray that we will mutually have good things to report of our spring and summer. Sometimes our hearts are heavy because of the length of our prayer list and the suffering, sickness, and adversity, the uncertainties of age, that our list represents, until we think of the great love and power of our heavenly Father! You who hurt, you are remembered and loved. Hold that thought as a shield against pain.

Your sister in Christian love,  
Irene Maley

## EAST INDEPENDENCE LOCAL NEWS

May began with a business meeting where our new officers were elected:

Pastor - Smith Brickhouse  
Assistant Pastor - Steve McGhee  
Secretary - Carolyn Fann  
Treasurer - June Sarratt  
Auditor - Michael McGhee  
Advocate Reporter - Patty McGhee  
Collection - Ron Temple and Bob McCubbin  
Dinner Committee - Neva Housknecht, Sue  
Brickhouse, Helen Kidd and Darl Temple  
Inside Custodian - Darl Temple  
Outside Custodian - Pat Fisher  
Chorister - Neva Housknecht  
Pianist - Jennifer Oldham  
Sunshine Committee - Helen Kidd

Librarian - Harvey L. Seibel  
 Maintenance Committee - Pat Fisher, Michael McGhee and Isaac Brockman, Jr.  
 Recorder - Benjamin Seibel  
 Junior Young People - Pat and Michele Fisher  
 Flower Arranger - Melissa McGhee  
 Social Committee - Becky Sheldon, Melissa McGhee and Darl Temple

Our Sunday School Officers for the coming year are as follows:

Superintendent - Jim Smith  
 Assistant Superintendent - Rick Olsen  
 Secretary - Michele Fisher  
 Pianist - Trudy Smith

In April our brother Michael Smith's mother, Helen Smith, passed away. Though not a member of the church she was an inspiration to all of us. Helen showed us the meaning of courage and the will to carry on as times got more difficult. Helen will be sorely missed.

I haven't any more news for now but our love and prayers are with you.

Patty McGhee

## RAVENNA LOCAL NEWS

Greetings Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We hope and pray you are all enjoying the many bless-

ings Our Lord has for us, and may you all have good health and many loved ones for they are the true riches of this earth.

Our local is making an effort to extend the hand of fellowship to the Ravenna area by personally inviting all to attend our special introductory All-Day Meeting the 22nd of May. We hope that the 'searching' people of the area will attend to learn what THE CHURCH OF CHRIST is.

Our local also has added to our regular Sunday worship with an hour of Sunday School preceding our Church Service with Sunday School starting at 10 a.m. and Church starting at 11 a.m.

We are happy to have our Sister Lois Heath back with us again after a long trip with her brother visiting relatives in some of the southern states.

Our dear Sister Irene Reed has been in our prayers again as she is recovering from eye surgery. Get well soon, Irene.

Sister Jean Shevock is again helping her sister in Indiana who is recovering from an illness. We hope she is back home soon.

May 1st our local held a Memorial Service with Pastor Gale Brantner officiating for Tom Cartwright (brother-in-law of Sister Sue Heath) who passed away very unexpectedly at 44 years of age. We are saddened by the family's loss, and shall keep them in our prayers.

Also in our prayers is the family of Brother Orville Eddy who also has passed on. Some from our local were able to attend his funeral service in Flint on May 2.

Remember, June 18 and 19, 1988 is our Michigan State Reunion! Please plan to attend!

Your reporter and Sister in Christ,  
 Debbie Brantner Vogel

## REUNION NOTICES

### ARIZONA CAMP FOR ALL AGES

The Phoenix Local would like to invite you to spend the Fourth of July weekend (July 2, 3, and 4) with them worshipping the Lord in the refreshing mountain air at the Arizona Camp For All Ages. Meals will be provided. All you need are scriptures, bed rolls, personal effects (swim suits, change of clothing, etc.) and a prayerful attitude. The following donation will be applied accordingly; however, if you are unable to pay do not allow that to hinder your attendance. We want to share this wonderful opportunity to meet with the Lord with everyone. Singles: \$5.00; Couples: \$10.00; and Families: \$15.00.

For further information, please contact:

Andy Brown, Camp Coordinator  
 18646 N. 29th Place  
 Phoenix, AZ 85024

or

Kim Yates, Assistant Camp Coordinator  
 2317 E. Beverly Lane  
 Phoenix, AZ 85022  
 (602) 971-9674

We hope to see you all there. If you cannot attend, please seek the Lord in our behalf.

### COLORADO REUNION

The 1988 Colorado Reunion will be held at the Church of Christ, 3233 B $\frac{1}{2}$  Road, Grand Junction, Colorado, on June 10, 11 and 12.

We are looking forward to many of you joining us in our worship. Please contact one of the committee members to reserve a place at our table.

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

Robert L. Ely  
 3201 B $\frac{1}{2}$  Road  
 Grand Junction, CO 81503  
 303-434-8090

David D. Larsen  
 3043 B Road  
 Grand Junction, CO 81503  
 303-434-7830

We welcome each of you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Enid E. Bell, Secretary

### MISSOURI REUNION

We would like to invite everyone to attend our Missouri Reunion with us.

**Date:** Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 12-13-14, 1988. First meeting to begin at 9:00 A.M., August 12.

**Place:** Warrensburg, Missouri, at East Hudson Conference Center (the same building as the past few years).

**Location:** East Anderson St., east off Highway 13 in Warrensburg.



**Lodging:** Rooms are \$16.00 for a single room and \$20.00 for a double room per night. Pay as you enter. Linens are furnished.

**Food:** Meals will be furnished, desserts included. Donations will be accepted from those who dine with us.

We would like to know approximately how many plan on attending so the menu can be prepared. As soon as possible notify Jeanette Cunningham, Rt. 5, Warrensburg, Missouri 64093. 816-747-5024

There is plenty of room for all. Arrangements can be made for disabled persons if we know ahead of time.

Let us all try to attend and worship and associate together to make this the best Missouri Reunion ever.

## 1988 MICHIGAN REUNION

The Michigan Reunion will be held June 18 and 19, 1988, at the Sullivan Township Hall, 8318 Hts. Ravenna Road, Ravenna, Michigan. All are invited to attend this reunion and fellowship with the Saints in Michigan. Following is our expected schedule of services:

### Saturday, June 18:

10:00 A.M. Prayer Service  
11:30 A.M. Sermon by Elder Jim Yates, Sr.

12:30 P.M. Dinner (provided)  
2:00 P.M. Business Meeting  
3:00 P.M. Song Special  
3:30 P.M. Sermon by Elder Smith (Buzz)  
Brickhouse  
4:30 P.M. Supper (provided)  
6:00 P.M. Sermon by Evangelist Hubert Yates

### Sunday, June 19:

8:00 A.M. Coffee and Rolls  
9:00 A.M. Sacrament Service  
1200 Noon Dinner (provided)  
2:00 P.M. Song Service  
2:30 P.M. Sermon by: Elder Robert Oldham

Your presence is required to help us fill our day. For you to come and join us, is what we often pray.

Camping and housing are available. For further information contact:

Priest Aaron Heath	OR	Vivian Spencer
159 E. Beech St.		11610 E. Apple Ave.
Fruitport, MI 49415		Ravenna, MI 49451
(616) 865-3270		(616) 853-2391
or (616) 722-2253		

### Reunion Committee:

Norman Trudgen, Aaron Heath, Jay Lee

## BOOK OF MORMON NOTICE

Because of the passing of James Hedrick, who had undertaken the responsibility of preparing the Book of Mormon for publication, this project was virtually at a standstill for nearly a year. However, due to the continued interest of Alma and Daniel Hedrick, there is a renewed effort being made. The services of these men were and are without cost to the Church, and we are deeply indebted to them for their kindness and dedication. We understand that at least one other, a fellow-employee with Brother James Hedrick, is also offering valuable assistance.

With previous publication of the original notice in the course of a couple of years, many donations are on hand, held in reserve for the time of publication, which we anticipate may be in the fall or early winter months. That notice offered the Book of Mormon with a cheaper binding for a donation of \$10, and the book with a better binding for a donation of \$25. We may offer a limited number of these with better binding also with thumb-indexing; this would cost a few dollars more. These are only initiatory prices, which may be changed after actual publication costs have been determined; but these pre-publication prices are good for any who will donate until those prices have been fixed. If it is desirable to obtain more than one copy at these initial figures, it will be honored.

Please send your contribution with an expres-

sion of your desires to: Business Manager, Church of Christ (Temple Lot), P.O. Box 472, Independence, MO 64051. It will be credited to the Board of Publications fund. In the unlikely event that, for reasons beyond our control, the Church would be unable to complete the publication of the Book of Mormon, your money will be refunded upon request; otherwise, it would remain in the fund for other publications, most of which are given free of charge.

Considerable effort has been made to prepare this book even more nearly in accord with original manuscripts than the present 1908 authorized edition of the RLDS Church. The preface goes into historical detail not previously given, and answers some notable criticisms against the book. Reference text material has been revised and expanded, and study helps have been included at the back.

This project being a conference action, we would like to emphasize the importance of supporting this worthy cause to its completion. It is hoped that you will generously donate even above your anticipated order of new books, and if feasible, you will raise funds at the Local church level for the publishing of our own Book of Mormon. We pray that this precious record may always be available to us and our posterity.

The Council of Apostles  
Church of Christ (Temple Lot)

**CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES**

The 1989 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 2. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 3. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, March 31 and April 1.

The 1988 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 17 through 19 at Independence, Missouri.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS**

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

	Price Each
<b>Zion's Advocate Subscription Rate:</b> Non-Members	\$4.00
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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
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(Spanish)	N/C
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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.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS**

Send all orders to the General Sunday School Association c/o Becky Sheldon, Rt. 1, Box 315, Grain Valley, MO 64029. All materials are free of charge to members of the Church of Christ, except as indicated. Write for more information, or see Synopsis in June, 1985, Zion's Advocate.

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**AUDIO VISUAL MATERIALS**

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 (unless stated otherwise) 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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**Holy Scriptures on Cassette Tapes**

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For "regular" cassette tapes write to Mike Kelley, 1949 E. Libby St., Phoenix, AZ 85022, or Ron Temple, 5621 Logan Rd., K.C., MO 64136.

For video tapes, write only to Ron Temple as listed above.