

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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Five score and nineteen years ago our fathers brought forth upon this world the old Gospel conceived in revelation, and dedicated to the purpose for which Christ taught. We are always engaged in a great conflict against evil, because that Gospel so conceived and so dedicated must endure. We are met together on a great battlefield of that conflict. We have come to bring to remembrance the things which the brave men who lived long ago bore record of. It is altogether fitting and proper that we do this. But, let us remember that we can not change, we can not misconstrue this record. The divinely directed men of long ago, have born record far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they stood for. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they, who fought before us, have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us-that from these great disciples we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave, the last full measure of devotion-that we here highly resolve that these men shall not have died in vain-that this Gospel of God, which has had a new birth, and that this ministry of Christ, by, God, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Leslie Case.

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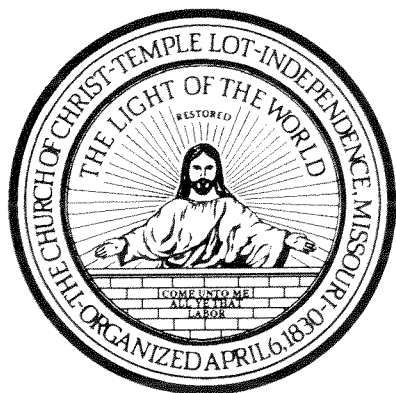
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To promote Jesus Christ as our only Saviour;
To promote His Teachings & His Church, the Church of Christ;
To be a voice of warning to His people; To be Zion's advocate.

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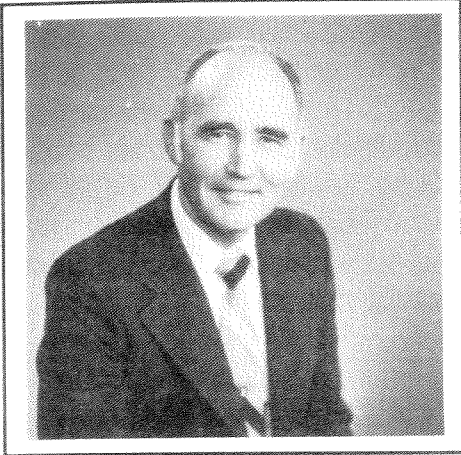
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Editorial...

AMERICAN MINUTEMAN—1992



Apostle Donald E. McIndoo

When British General Gage ordered 800 redcoats to march from Boston to Concord to seize rebel supplies in 1775, he little supposed his troops would encounter any trouble. We can imagine their surprise when, upon reaching Lexington, they encountered a nondescript American force awaiting them on the village green to block their advance. Some forty Minutemen heard their captain's order: "Don't fire unless fired upon. But if they want to have a war, let it begin here!"

A single volley from the well-trained British column tore into the rank of American civilians, killing eight of them and dispersing the remainder. These were to later rally at Concord's Bridge and route the British troops, sending them retreating to Boston. That "shot heard round

the world" was certainly heard in neighboring New England communities as the Minutemen gathered to harass the British, who suffered more than 250 casualties during their chaotic retreat to Boston.

Thus began the "shooting war" which was to fulfill the ancient prophecy found in the Book of Mormon: "And I beheld that the power of God was with them; and also that the wrath of God was upon all them that were gathered together against them to battle (1 Nephi 3:154)."

During the month of July the feelings of patriotism are often fanned to a high level in most Americans. Celebrations of the anniversary of our independence, stirring speeches, well-worded editorials and flying banners increase the pulse of America and stir the old, almost dormant feelings of purpose and conviction that once forged a handful of discordant colonies into a single, powerful republic - a nation to be reckoned with for two hundred years.

But patriotism and patriot's dreams are not enough to insure the continuation of this great republic. We are well aware of God's edict to the people of this land: "And this cometh unto you, O ye Gentiles, that ye may know the decrees of God.... Behold, this is a choice land, and whatsoever nation shall possess it, shall be free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations

under heaven, if they will but serve the God of the land, which is Jesus Christ... (Ether 1:34-35)."

In the sophisticated and technological world today, just as in times past, the call to arms and country is oftentimes a contrived occasion to take citizens' minds from domestic and economic woes rather than a necessary defense of freedom and democracy. The blood of young patriots is still the frequent sacrifice made to the old gods of power and avarice, and today we hear a new call to defend, not American freedom, but rather, a "new world order".

... Patriotism and patriot's dreams are not enough to insure the continuation of this great republic.

What this nation needs, rather than the occasional swellings of patriotism such as those garnered by the Persian Gulf War, is a constant consciousness of our Christian heritage coupled with an awareness of the responsibilities God has placed upon the inhabitants of this land that they might enjoy continued Prosperity and Protection. We must reestablish the mind set of Daniel Webster who once said, "The most important thought that ever occupied my mind, was that of my indi-

vidual responsibility to God!"

Politicians today would like to erase completely this God consciousness from the American mind, while historians are constantly asserting that America's political forefathers were guided by nothing higher than their own intellect. Nothing could be farther from the truth nor more dangerous to the survival of liberty in our nation. Who but a believing, prayerful Washington could have led a ragtag army out of the agony of Valley Forge to eventual victory?

Who but a wise old statesman such as Benjamin Franklin, whom historians like to portray as an agnostic, could have turned around the collapsing Constitutional Convention with this appeal for prayer? "And have we

now forgotten this powerful Friend? Or do we imagine we no longer need His assistance? The longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: "that God governs in the affairs of men". And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?"

In 1892 the Supreme Court made a decision in the case of the Church of the Holy Trinity vs. the United States. The highest court of the land stated, "Our laws and our institutions must necessarily be based upon and embody the teachings of The Redeemer of mankind. It is impossible that it should be otherwise; and in this sense and to this extent our civilization and our institutions are emphatically

Christian... this is a Christian nation." Oh, that our national leaders had the courage to make similar declaration today and act accordingly. How far we have fallen in but a century.

Patriot, the call to arms is once again resounding in America. The enemy is entrenched on every side and in every institution. Victory can be attained only through and with the help of Almighty God. Reach not for the musket, powder horn nor sword, but arm yourself with the Word of God. Humble yourself to His Divine Will, pray for His strength and seek the direction of the Holy Spirit. Thus armed and fortified, let true patriots witness across the land of God's covenant with America, and His expectations of all Americans.

All Are Alike Unto God

by **Apostle Roland Sarratt**



There is much said about equal rights today and a great deal of importance, in the way of political effects, has been placed on the subject by influential people. Racial and gender discrimination has been a national problem, as well as a worldwide problem, as far back in history as anyone might care to research. Only in modern times has there been a real concerted effort made to break down the prejudices that have built walls between races, religions, genders, nationalities, etc.. According to some the situation is still a long way from the desired equality, but apparently a worldwide campaign has been launched in that direction with the desire to bring about a peaceful interac-

tion between all peoples. This nation, being the melting pot of the world, is supposed to be the example leading the way for others to follow.

We might discuss the likelihood of successes or failures of world peace by the prescribed plans of those leading the campaigns, but perhaps it would be better to merely reflect momentarily on the fact that the true prescription of world peace has been rejected by such a great majority of those leading the campaigns that there is no real hope, and certainly no wisdom, in following their teachings. It may seem somewhat ironic to have the truths that the Lord has spoken through his prophets of old, who have seen our day and who have given us direct counsel

and warnings, to be ignored and rejected.

What is the truth concerning the problems of race, nationality, religion and gender that plague us today? The Lord is our example. However He feels toward people should be our feelings, and He is not a respecter of persons. What does that mean? Peter and Paul can answer that best. "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: but in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him." (Acts 10:34,35) "But glory, honor, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: for there is no respect of persons with God." (Romans 2:10,11)

Nephi gives us additional information as he speaks of the Lord: "And he doeth nothing save it be plain unto the children of men; and he invited them all to come unto him, and partake of his goodness; and he denieth none that come unto him, black and white, bond and free, male and female; and he remembereth the heathen, and all are alike unto God, both Jew and Gentile. (2 Nephi 11:112-115)

All are alike unto God, black and white (race), bond and free (class), male and female (gender), Jew and Gentile (nationality), and He even remembers the heathen (those without a knowledge of God).

Nephi also tells us that "...the Lord esteemeth all flesh in one. He that is righteous, is favored of God." (1 Nephi 5:121, 122)

People talk about inequality quite often, but there seems to be a lack of understanding as to how inequality comes about. Alma tells us this: "And

thus we see how great the inequality of man is because of sin and transgression, and the power of the devil, which comes by the cunning plans which he hath devised to ensnare the hearts of men." As he continues, Alma gives us a hope to overcome inequality. "And thus we see the great call of the diligence of men to labor in the vineyards of the Lord; and thus we see the great reason of sorrow, and also of rejoicing; sorrow because of death and destructions among men, and joy because of the light of Christ unto life." (Alma 15:50,51)

Jacob points to one of the main causes of inequality - pride: "And now my brethren, I have spoken unto you concerning pride; and those of you which have afflicted your neighbor, and persecuted him, because that ye were proud in your hearts, of the things which God hath given you, what say ye of it? Do ye not suppose that such things are abominable unto him, who created all flesh? And the one being is as precious in his sight as the other. And all flesh is of the dust; and for the self-same end hath he created them, that they should keep his commandments, and glorify him for ever." (Jacob 2:25-28)

Pride is indeed a cause of inequality among peoples of the earth, and we have not escaped the effects of it in our day. Going back to Nephi's words we find that he, by the Spirit of prophecy, spoke concerning us, the Gentiles, and the pride which has touched our lives: "And the Gentiles are lifted up in the pride of their eyes, and have stumbled, because of the greatness of their stumbling block, that they have built up many churches; nevertheless they put down the power

and miracles of God, and preach up unto themselves, their own wisdom, and their own learning, that they may get gain, and grind upon the face of the poor; and there are many churches built up which cause envyings, and strifes, and malice; and there are also secret combinations, even as in times of old, according to the combinations of the devil, for he is the founder of all these things; yea, the founder of murder, and works of darkness; Yea, and he leadeth them by the neck with a flaxen cord, until he bindeth them with his strong cords forever." (2 Nephi 11:90-93)

A person would almost have to be blind not to recognize the truth of this prophecy as it is being fulfilled before our eyes. Nephi very plainly tells us that these are the works of the devil, but he also goes on to tell us what are the works of the Lord in contrast to that of the works of the devil: "For behold, my beloved brethren, I say unto you, that the Lord God worketh not in darkness. He doeth not anything save it be for the benefit of the world; for he loveth the world, even that he layeth down his own life, that he may draw all men unto him. Wherefore, he commandeth none that they shall not partake of his salvation.

Pride is ... a cause of inequality among peoples of the earth, and we have not escaped the effects of it in our day.

“Behold, doth he cry unto any, saying, Depart from me? Behold, I say unto you, Nay; but he saith, Come unto me all ye ends of the earth, buy milk and honey, without money and without price.

“Behold, hath he commanded any that they should depart out of the synagogues, or out of the houses of worship? Behold, I say unto you, Nay.

“Hath he commanded any that they should not partake of his salvation? Behold, I say unto you, Nay; but he hath given it free for all men; and he hath commanded his people that they should persuade all men unto repentance.

“Behold, hath the Lord commanded any that they should not partake of his goodness? Behold, I say unto you, Nay; but all men are privileged the one like unto the other, and none are forbidden.” (2 Nephi 11:95-105)

To acknowledge
God is to accept
Him on His terms
and to trust His
disposition toward
mankind.

The Lord has given the invitation to all mankind to come and partake of his salvation. Some say that the particulars of the plan of salvation, i.e. faith, repentance, baptism, etc., have an inhibiting effect depriving us from the greater freedom that we might enjoy in the absence of all traditional religious teachings. But Paul puts us on the right path with a few inspired words: “Stand fast therefore in the lib-

erty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage ... For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion of the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” (Galatians 5:1,13,14)

Lehi also has spoken some inspired words which gives us an understanding of the purpose of our existence and the freedom that has come through the redeeming power of the Lord in providing us the right to act for ourselves through the knowledge of good and evil: “Adam fell, that men might be; and men are, that they might have joy. And the Messiah cometh in the fullness of time, that he might redeem the children of men from the fall. And because they are redeemed from the fall, they have become free forever, knowing good from evil; to act for themselves, and not to be acted upon, save it be by the punishment of the Lord, at the great and last day, according to the commandments which God hath given.

“Wherefore, men are free according to the flesh; and all things are given them which are expedient unto man. And they are free to choose liberty and eternal life, through the great Mediator of all men, or to choose captivity and death, according to the captivity and power of the devil: for he seeketh that all men might be miserable like unto himself.” (2 Nephi 1:115-121)

True freedom comes only through a knowledge of good and evil. Man has repeatedly tried to escape the accountability that comes through this knowledge by rejecting it. History has

repeated itself once again only this time a great outpouring of knowledge has swept the earth. Nonetheless mankind is still the same fallen creature, sensual and devilish by nature, which proves once again that they must turn to the God that has created them and acknowledge Him as God.

To acknowledge God is to accept Him on His terms and to trust His disposition toward mankind. We must believe that He is a God of goodness and that He wants our individual attention that He may direct our lives in the way of goodness.

The truth that the Lord is not a respecter of persons that He does not look upon the color of the skin but rather what is in the heart, that He does not favor man over woman or woman over man, that He will accept any person from any nation and that He remembers those that are lost to Him through ignorance-should be cause enough for us to shake off any racial prejudice or tradition that might effect our personal relationship with mankind in general. An impartial attitude toward all peoples and individuals should be practiced by all members of this church and especially by the ministry because the commission is still in effect that was given by Christ to his disciples: “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” (Matthew 28:19)

Series on the articles of faith and practice.

Part two

Elder Robert Dewaele

* *As a follow up article to High Aspirations, this article will begin addressing the Articles of Faith and Practice on a point by point basis which will include appropriate Scriptural references and commentary.*

The Articles of Faith and Practice weren't designed as a dogmatic set of proclamations, but as a device to help form our thoughts around. Hopefully, students of the scriptures will be aroused enough to seek out further evidence of the Church's stated beliefs. Additionally, we can find strength to meet life's obstacles. As is common in everyday life, within the church, I believe strongly that if we ask what is required of us in a prayerful and considerate manner, we will receive an answer that will help us meet our goals. Conversely, if we as individuals set out on our own agenda, with the thought of being vindicated, we will meet certain failure. So it is up to us, as members of the Church of Christ, to seek the Lord in all things so that we may excel in what is required of us.

■ **ARTICLE #1 We believe in God the Eternal Father, who only is Supreme Creator of the Universe; Ruler and Judge of all: unchangeable and without respect of persons.**

For confirmation of this principle,

let's turn to Isaiah 45: 15-21." Verily thou art a God that hidest thyself, O God of Israel, the Saviour. They shall be ashamed, and also confounded, all of them: they shall go to confusion together that are makers of idols. But Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end. For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself; that formed the earth and made it: he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord and there is none else. I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said no unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the Lord speak righteousness, I declare things that are right. Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, ye that are escaped of the nations; they have no knowledge that set up the wood of their graven image, and pray unto a God that cannot save. Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the Lord? and there is no God else beside me: a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me."

There are many ideas to ponder stated in the above quoted scriptures. We are given explicit instructions on who to worship. The Lord has identified himself clearly. We are given equally strong evidence on who not to worship. There is no question that we should worship our Creator. Assuredly, the statement, "I am the Lord, and there is no one else" says it all. We can carry out the idea of who not to worship to the act of coveting, thus worshipping things which have no value. We come in daily contact with

such enticements, whether it be the latest model of luxury car, or even to covet ourself with too much self directed attention. One needs to be more concerned with pleasing the Lord and helping others rather than fulfilling selfish needs.

■ **ARTICLE #2 We believe in Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, the manifestation of God in the flesh, who lived, suffered, and died for all mankind; whom we own as our only Leader, Witness and Commander.**

For scriptural evidence of this article, please turn to the Book of Mormon, Third Nephi, 4:44-49. "Behold I am Jesus Christ, the son of God. I created the heavens and the earth, and all things that in them are. I was with the Father from the beginning. I am in the Father, and the Father in me; and in me hath the Father glorified his name. I came unto my own, and my own received me not. And the scriptures, concerning my coming, are fulfilled. And as many as have received me, to them have I given to become the sons of God; and even so will I to as many as shall believe on my name, for behold, by me redemption cometh, and in me is the Law of Moses fulfilled. I am the light and life of the world. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. And ye shall offer up unto me no more the shedding of blood; yes, your sacrifices and your burnt offerings shall be done away, for I will accept none of your sacrifices and your burnt offerings; and ye shall offer for a sacrifice unto me a broken heart and a contrite spirit."

The second article of Faith and Practice is a very appropriate next step from the first article. Again we are admonished to have a broken heart and a contrite spirit. It is difficult for anyone to absorb the truth if in fact their heart is closed to it. It is absolutely necessary to develop humility in order for ourselves to grow spiritually. Christ's life best exemplified these ideals. In the previous Book of Mormon passage, Christ was speaking to the people of this continent. In these passages, Christ noted that his coming was foretold, but nonetheless, he wasn't accepted. This situation must have indeed been disheartening to him. Surely there were many other things which he wished to, but wasn't able to do, due to this lack of acceptance. I'm sure that many of us have had experiences which paralleled his experience in which we had high hopes of accomplishing much, when in reality, little of apparent worth had been realized. Any person can only go from these experiences and try harder once again

to make a difference. We as a people, and a church, must cast off all that does not glorify both God and Christ. This can be achieved through the earnest study and meditation upon Christ's teachings.

The second coming of Christ is obviously very near. More evidence is available daily that supports this contention. It is up to us individually, and the Church as a whole to become better prepared for this most glorious of occasions. And, for the last article of this installment, we shall turn our attention to:

■ **ARTICLE #3. We believe in the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth, the Comforter which searcheth the deep things of God, brings to our minds things which are past, reveals things to come, and is the medium by which we receive the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

For evidence of this Article's valid-

ity, please turn to John 14: 15-18. "If you love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of Truth; whom the World cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him; but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you."

These passages provide a most valuable source of instruction on how we are to be able to identify the Holy Spirit in our lives and to make it a part of us. It is very plainly stated that attracting and containing the Holy Spirit is an attainable thing. For once we accept the Holy Spirit into our lives, many wondrous events will be beheld.

The next installment of this series of Articles of Faith and Practice is planned for the near future in Zion's Advocate.

The Gathering

Printed Zion' Advocate July, 1950

T. J. Jordan

The subject of gathering God's people is one which has been largely neglected for nearly two thousand years. In fact, ever since the seeds of apostasy were first sown, and the resulting evils predominated the church and iniquity abounded; from that time forward, many of the truths of the gospel were suppressed, and man-made theories instituted instead thereof. Among the suppressed truths was the gathering of the saints.

However, in these last days, this part of the gospel has been, to a degree, given more consideration, preparatory to the second advent of Jesus Christ. After the long silence on this subject, at last, light has been revealed from on high through the young Palmira Prophet, Joseph Smith. This young, unlettered man, again announces to the world many portions of the gospel that lay hidden or entirely forgotten, and he claims divinity to be his authority for thus stating. However, his claim as a prophet must stand or fall upon the

close examination as to whether it agrees with the prophets of old. May we remind our hearers of the statement made "If they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

We propose to examine the scriptures on this all important subject. First we are going to the Bible, then the Book of Mormon; then we are going to examine the so-called revelations of Mr. Smith, to see whether these three records are in harmony on this subject.

We shall now ask you to go to

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

"This shall be written for the generations to come." "When the people are gathered together." Psalms 102, verses 18 and 22.

"...I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah..."

"And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious, and it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people," "and He shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth." Isaiah 11:10 and 12.

"Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together and come to Thee."

"Thus saith the Lord God, Behold I will lift up Mine hand to the Gentiles and set up my standard to the people; and they shall bring thy sons in their arms." "and kings shall be thy nursing fathers and their queens thy nursing mothers." Isaiah 49: 18, 22, 23. (See also Isaiah 60:1-22).

"I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as a

flock in the midst of their fold." Micah 2:12.

"And they of Ephraim" "I will hiss for them, and gather them." "and I will sow them among the people: and they shall remember me in far countries; and they shall live with their children, and turn again, I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon; and place shall not be found for them." Zechariah 10:7-12.

"Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." Matthew 3:12.

"And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect." Matthew 24:31.

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord," II Corinthians 6:17.

"That in the dispensation of the fullness of times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth." Eph. 1:10.

"Now we beseech you brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto Him." II Thess. 2:1.

It is very clear, from this last text, that at the coming of Jesus Christ, the very sure and prevalent principle of His saints will be the fact of their being in a gathered condition, awaiting His coming. (See Acts 2 and 44; 4 and 32).

"And I heard another voice from heaven saying, Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." Rev. 18:4.

This voice came from heaven. After the angel, of verse 1, lights the earth with his glory, then Babylon the great, or the confused sects, are overthrown, and plagued and punished, for their sins, for they teach for doctrine the commandments of men. They are blind guides leading the blind. They teach false doctrine and contradictory false teachings; who have taken upon them so-called authority, but they have not been called of God as was Aaron.

Paul speaks of it in 2nd Timothy as, teachers heaped to themselves, but we notice that clarion call by the angel from heaven to all of God's people in all lands, and in the islands of the sea: "Come out of her, oh ye My people."

We are admonished to be a separate people. Much could be said as to where we should go, but this would make this article much longer than is desired. We leave this part of it with you as touching the teachings of both the Old and New Testaments.

Now we want to note some of the teachings of the Book of Mormon. We shall quote from the Lamoni edition:

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord"

"But behold, thus saith the Lord God: When the day cometh that they shall believe in Me, that I am Christ, then have I covenanted with their fathers that they shall be restored in the flesh, upon the earth, unto the lands of their inheritance, And it shall come to pass that they shall be gathered in from

their long dispersion from the isles of the sea, and from the four parts of the earth; and the nations of the Gentiles shall be great in the eyes of Me, saith God, in carrying them forth to the land of their inheritance. Yea, the kings of the Gentiles shall be nursing fathers unto them, and their queens shall become nursing mothers; Wherefore, the promises of the Lord are great unto the Gentiles, for He has spoken it, and who can dispute it? But behold, this land, saith God, shall be the land of thine inheritance; and the Gentiles shall be blest upon the land. And this land shall be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles: and there shall be no kings upon the land, who shall raise up unto the Gentiles." II Nephi, chapter 7:2.

"And now I, Jacob, would speak somewhat concerning these words: for behold, the Lord has shewn me that those who were at Jerusalem, from whence we came, have been slain and carried away captive; nevertheless, the Lord has shown unto me that they shall return again." II Nephi, chapter 5:4.

"Nevertheless when they (the Gentiles) shall have received the fullness of My Gospel, then if they shall harden their hearts against me, I will return their iniquities upon their own heads, saith the Father, and I will remember the covenant which I have made with my people, and I have covenanted with them that I would gather them together in My own due time, that I would give unto them again the land of their fathers for their inheritance." Nephi chapter 9:9.

And again: "But if they (the Gentiles) will repent and harken unto my words and harden not their hearts, I will establish My Church among them,

**"And that
ye might
escape
the power
of the
enemy
and be
gathered
unto Me a
righteous
people,
without
spot and
blemish."**

and they shall come in unto the covenant and be numbered among this, the remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land (America) for their inheritance, and they shall assist My

people, the remnant of Jacob, and also as many of the house of Israel as will come, that they may build a city which shall be called the New Jerusalem, and then shall they assist My people that they may be gathered in who are scattered upon all the face of the land."

"Behold Ether saw the days of Christ, and he spake concerning the New Jerusalem upon this land, and he spake also concerning the house of Israel, and the Jerusalem from whence Lehi should come, that after it should be destroyed it should be built up again, a holy city unto the Lord, that this Jerusalem of old, in its rebuilding, should be the focal point of the gathering of Israel, but the New Jerusalem which should be built on this land should be the focal point of the gathering of the seed of Joseph." Ether 6:1.

We have thus examined in a limited degree, some of the teachings of the Bible and some of the teachings of the Book of Mormon upon the gathering.

Now we wish to examine some of the purported new revelations given us through the latter day prophet and see, if we can, if they harmonize with that which we found in the Bible and Book of Mormon.

"And righteousness will I send down out of heaven, and truths will I send forth out of the earth, to bear testimony of My only begotten, His resurrection from the dead, yea, also the resurrection of all men, and righteousness and truth will I cause to sweep the earth as with a flood, to gather out my own elect from the four quarters of the earth, unto a place which I shall appoint." D. & C., page 133, chapter 12.

"And that ye might escape the

power of the enemy and be gathered unto Me a righteous people, without spot and blemish." page 136, chapter 7.

"For the time is at hand, the day nor the hour no man knoweth, but it shall surely come, and he that receiveth these things receiveth Me, and shall be gathered unto Me in time and in eternity." Page 139, chapter 5.

A Revelation of February, 1831:

"The city of the New Jerusalem shall be prepared, that ye may be gathered in one, that ye may be My people, and I will be your God."

Read also Revelations of March 7, 1831, Revelation of March, 1831:

"There are to be certain men appointed, and they shall be appointed to purchase the land, and to make a commencement to lay the foundation of the city, and then ye shall begin to be gathered with your families."

Another Revelation of March, 1831:

"But before the great day of the Lord shall come, Jacob shall flourish in the wilderness, and the Lamanites shall blossom as a rose; Zion shall flourish upon the hills and rejoice in the mountains, and shall be assembled together unto the place which I have appointed.

Revelation of 1831:

"And let the work of the gathering be not in haste, nor by flight, but let it be done as it shall be counselled by the elders of the Church and the conferences, according to the knowledge which they receive from time to time."

Another Revelation of August, 1831:

"And now behold, this is the will of the Lord your God concerning your

saints, that they should assemble themselves together unto the land of Zion, not in haste, lest there should be confusion, which bringeth pestilence."

Now let us go back a little in these purported revelations through Joseph Smith. As early as May, 1829, we note one of the outstanding prophecies of these latter days.

"Listen to the voice of Jesus Christ, your Redeemer, the great. I am, whose arm of mercy hath atoned for your sins, who will gather His people."

"Yes, Satan doth stir up the hearts of the people to contention concerning the points of My doctrine, and in these things they do err, for they do wrest the scriptures, and do not understand them. Therefore I will unfold unto them this great mystery, for behold I will gather them as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, if they will not harden their hearts."

Again, in a Revelation of September, 1830:

"And also with Peter and James and John, whom I have sent unto you (Joseph and Oliver), by whom I have ordained you and confirmed you to be apostles and especial witnesses of my name, and bear the keys of your ministry, unto whom I have committed the keys of My Kingdom, and the dispensation of the gospel of the last time and

for the fullness of times, in the which I will gather together in one all things, both which are in heaven and which are on earth."

Revelation of September, 1830:

"Listen to the voice of Jesus Christ, your Redeemer, the great I Am, whose arm of mercy hath atoned for your sins, who will gather His people."

Revelation of March 7, 1831:

"And it shall come to pass that the righteous shall be gathered out from among all nations, and shall come to Zion singing:"

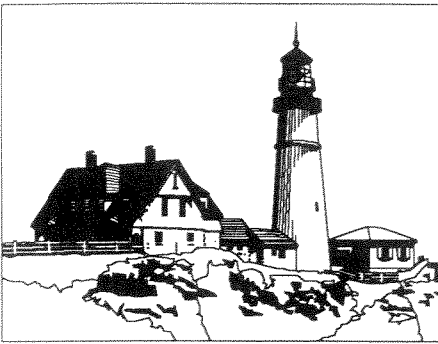
Revelation of October, 1830:

"And verily, verily I say unto you, that this Church have I established and called forth out of the wilderness, and even so will I gather Mine elect from the four quarters of the earth, even as many as shall believe in Me and harken to My voice."

Thus we see that the three books agree in one, as touching the gathering together of the saints of God, and I fully believe the time is now, when we should be giving serious consideration to this particular theme of the gospel of Christ.

But may I remind you that there is another all-important subject which has equal bearing upon every child of the kingdom of God that must be given due consideration, that is necessary in our qualifying to be one of those worthy of gathering together. this will be dealt with in another article.

T. J. Jordan



Path Lights

Complete Healing Through Administration

In a Christmas card, Ruth and I received this letter, which we believe is a wonderful testimony of God's goodness to someone we love very much. We would like to present it to the Path Lights for publication. This experience happened while we were on a Missionary trip through Wisconsin in June of 1991. Elder Isaac Brockman

Dear Isaac and Ruth.

I thought and thought about writing an article for the Advocate about the blessing I received this past summer, but I changed my mind as I am no writer and I knew I couldn't express myself like I wanted to.

Over a year ago, I began having spells where I would feel weak and see bright lights on the right side of my right eye. The flashing lights would last about 10 minutes and once or twice a month I would have these spells. Finally, one day last summer, we were in a restaurant and all of a sudden, the left side of my tongue felt numb and I felt really hot all over. This lasted about 10 minutes. I was scared. When I got home, I called my doctor and she said it sounded like I had a small clot pass very quickly. That made me more nervous and I went to see a specialist in LaCross, Wisconsin. He and his associate asked me if I smoked. Of course, I had to say yes, I had smoked for over 40 years. They said I definitely should quit smoking and suggested I have 3 very expensive tests as soon as possible. I told them I would get back to them about the tests.

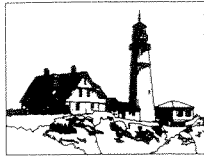
My blood pressure was so high, I had to lay down and they kept taking it until it went down. It was high because of being so nervous and worried. I went home, continued to smoke and worry.

About a week later, LaVern, my husband, had just left for town and I began to feel funny. I called my daughters, Pat and Cindy, neither was home, so I called my cousin, Darlene. She took me back to La Cross, WI to Emergency, and I saw a third doctor. He preached to me about smoking and said if I continued to smoke, I was at risk of having a stroke. I went home and I wondered what I was going to do. I knew after so many years, I could not quit smoking without help.

I began to pray. I asked God to help me. Darlene called and suggested that if I wanted, one of their (RLDS) Elders would administer to me. I didn't call her and about a week went by. One afternoon before I was going to go back to the doctor to get the results of the test I'd had, the phone rang and it was you, Isaac and Ruth. Thank God you were in town and came to see us that evening. My daughter Patty called and said, "Mother, you should have Isaac administer to you." I told her, "I've already thought of that."

The minute you layed your hands on my head, I felt the Spirit of God all through my body. I knew right then my tests were going to be okay and the cigarettes were gone forever. I am happy to report, it has been 6 months now since I have smoked and I have had no more funny feelings. By the way, both doctors said I would be very nervous without cigarettes and would have withdrawals and feel like climbing the walls. I never chewed gum, hard candy or felt nervous. I don't know how God could think I was worth a blessing such as this, but I'm not going to argue with Him. I thank Him every day for helping me and God bless you. He couldn't have directed you to me when I needed you more than I did then. My tests all turned out good. Praise the Lord. Happy holidays to all of you.

Much Love,
Wanda & LaVern



Path Lights

The Two Books

The Bible and Book of Mormon contain the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of believers. Their doctrine is holy, their precepts are binding; their histories are true, and their decisions are immutable. Read them to be wise, believe them to be safe, practice them to be holy.

They contain light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you. They are the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter.

Here paradise is restored, Heaven opened and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is their grand subject, our good their design and the glory of God their end. They should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet.

Read them slowly, frequently, prayerfully. They are a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory and a river of pleasure. Follow their precepts and they will lead you to a resurrected life in Christ, yes, to glory itself for eternity.

Selected.

News

MOGOLLON LOCAL NEWS

A heartfelt hello to our dear brothers and sisters. A prayer and a hug for our brothers on the road. A prayer of health to those that need it. A prayer of inner strength for all.

We had hoped to be reporting on our visit with Dave and Debbie Vogel and the kids but the weather did not allow it, church was cancelled. We will have to get our hugs another day. We had a wonderful surprise visit by the Don and Tamara Grimm family. We so appreciated that spur of the moment decision to come worship with us, especially when we learned they plan on moving to Missouri within a month. We wish God speed to some lovely people.

We had several good messages that day. We have to labor to enter our rest in heaven. If your heart stops beating, you're dead, if your heart stops loving, you're spiritually dead. Put on the breastplate of love. Do good because you love the Lord. The things we do need to be motivated by our desires to please God. It is my belief brothers and sisters, when the time comes, we will have the faith and strength to overcome. Grow in your understanding of the scriptures and you will increase in your peace. Work for God, the pay is better. We hope to see many of you at camp in Heber.

Unfeigned love to all. Reporter
Sister Kathy Cloyd

FARMINGTON LOCAL NEWS July, 3

In the trust of the blessings of Jesus Christ in each of your lives, the Farmington local also adds its testimony in this monthly report. As we celebrate the privilege of life in which our Maker has granted us, the Farmington local has met together on numerous occasions, to join with loved ones, in remembering their birthdays'. It is such a joy for us to be blessed with the health and protection of our darling children for which we give God thanks, and for which we are indebted.

On Mother's Day, one of our young adults, Allyssa Gould, played a piano solo for a talent offering in tribute to God for the musical gift He has granted her. In addition, we were thankful for hearing the words of God, given through Brother Merlin Eddy, admonishing us in our Christian walk. We were given very important points to ponder concerning charity, some of which were: "Charity is not giving to the poor, but the reason you do it", "Without charity you cannot have everlasting life", and "If you have charity, you will have faith and hope".

On May 24, 1992, Brother Merlin Eddy traveled to Wisconsin to offer sacrament to scattered members of the Church of Christ. The following Sunday, the Farmington local traveled to Dennison, Minnesota to Edward Linton's farm at which we enjoyed a preaching service and potluck.

Sister Patricia Gould

News

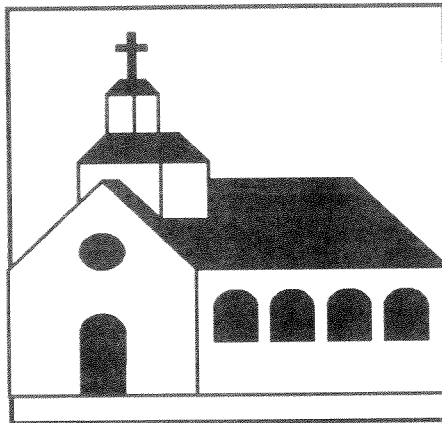
FARMINGTON LOCAL NEWS July, 8

In the trust of the blessings of Jesus Christ in each of your lives, the Farmington local also adds its testimony in this monthly report. On a Wednesday night meeting, after one of our sisters Jeannine Gould, brought Alma 16:219 to our remembrance, "Cry unto him over the crops of your fields, that ye may prosper in them", the Farmington local petitioned God for the rain that was so desperately needed here in Minnesota. We also asked for rain during the first Sunday of June, in a sacrament service. Our ever-merciful Heavenly Father, heard our prayers and abundantly blessed us with rain; For which we were extremely thankful.

On the second Sunday, in June, much of the Farmington local again participated in a sacrament service while we met at the Bemidji State Park along with many of our brothers and sisters of the Bemidji local. The sacrament service was a most-blessed time the Gould family shared as we gathered together for a Gould reunion. During the reunion, it was such a pleasure to see how God had watched over all 14 of sister Betty's children and to learn of how God had tenderly cared for all 37 of Betty's grandchildren, as well as her in-laws. We were sorry Priest John Gill and Bobby Cermak could not attend the reunion because of their jobs and/or schooling.

The Farmington local was blessed with a sermon by Priest Peter Gould on Father's Day. Brother Peter Gould is soon to be the father of six. We will continue to keep Elaine Gould in our prayers, as her little miracle makes his/her way into our world. It sure was enjoyable to spend time with Peter, Elaine, and their children as well as all the other visitors the local has been blessed with in the month of June.

Mrs. Patricia Gould



Petter William Rob and Seena Lea Bush exchanged wedding vows on July 3, 1992 in a church ceremony in Manchester, Tennessee. The beautiful ceremony was performed by Apostle William A. Sheldon. Sheena is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray C. Phillips. All of Manchester thank you very much.

Virginia K. Phillips

Notices

Camp For All Ages

We are pleased to announce the 1992 Camp For All Ages. This camp will take place in scenic Devil's Den State Park located in northwest Arkansas. Our campsite is a private area with gates, showers, water and electricity. Morning devotionals and evening campfires are planned, with plenty of food, fellowship and fun. Daily activities include swimming, hiking, horseback riding, spelunking, fishing, canoeing. Campsite fee is \$1.00 per person per day. Canoe rental is \$3.50. Horseback riding is \$7.50 (children under 7 free with adult). Please bring your own tents. Please plan to attend the campfires and sing, do a skit or bear your testimony. Directions: South on 71 Hwy. to West Fork, Arkansas, and south on Hwy. 170 to Devil's Den State Park. Date: The first weekend of September. Friday thru Monday, September 4-7.

For further information, contact:
George Adams
(501) 839-2610

or

Ronnie Sheldon
(816) 737-2157

Notices

Missouri Reunion

The Missouri Reunion Committee would like to invite all to attend the 1992 Missouri Reunion, which will be held August 14th, and 16th, 1992. Our meeting will be held in Independence, Missouri, at the Temple Lot Church of Christ. Noon and evening meals will be served Friday and Saturday, with a noon meal only being served on Sunday.

For the out-of-town guest, we will reserve a group of motel rooms in one of the local motels. For information concerning reservations, please contact:

Isaac Brockman, Sr.
1203 Backer Dr. Independence, Mo. 64050
(816) 254-8190

Roland Sarratt 15910
E. 36th Terr. Independence, Mo. 64055
(816) 363-6605

Smith "Buzz" Brickhouse 5613 Logan
Road Kansas City, Mo. 64136 (816) 356-9214

Phoenix Reunion

The 1992 Phoenix Reunion will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 27, 28, 29th, at the Phoenix Arizona Local. We would like to invite all to come and worship with us at that time.

For information of housing contact:

Elder Brian E. McIndoo 18824 N. 39th St.
Phoenix AZ 85024
(602) 867-7063

or

Elder Gordon McCann 18808 N. 39th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85042
(602) 867-7681

TRI-State Reunion

The 1992 TRI-State Reunion to be held on September 4, 5 & 6, will be held at the White water State Park Group Camp eight miles north of St. Charles, Minnesota, on road number 74.

The camp is the site of our first TRI-State Reunion years ago and has proved well as a place to entertain people for a faith tryst.

Come! A required use-stamp for your car is available at the park office at entry.

Bring some plain warm clothes, bedding (cots with sanitary mattresses are furnished), and yourselves. Friends are also welcome. Address inquiries to:

Merlin Eddy 3370
West 203rd Farmington, MN 65728
(612) 463-2218

The Minneapolis, Minnesota Church of Christ;
The Farmington, Minnesota Church of Christ.

Teen Challenge 1992

Church of Christ youth camp to be held at Camp Far Westa. This is a beautiful, spacious camp located one

hour from Kansas City. The cost is \$85.00 each it is open to ages 12-18 the dates are Aug., 9-14. The camp Director is Smith Brichouse, address :

Smith Brichouse 5613
Logan Road Kansas City,
Mo. 64136 (816) 356- 9214

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1993 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 4. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M., Monday, April 5. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, April 2 and 3. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 1992 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 19 through 21, at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Send all orders to the Church of Christ, P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472

Price Each

Zion's Advocate Subscription Rate:	
Members (optional)	\$ 4.00
Non-Members	4.00
Foreign	4.50
Book of Mormon (1908 Authorized Edition - Leather)	20.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition - Missionary)	7.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition - Cloth)	18.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition - Leather)	24.00
Book of Mormon Concordance	8.00
Outline History of the Church of Christ	4.00
Book of Commandments (paper bound)	4.00
Book of Commandments (plastic bound)	5.00
Book of Commandments (hard bound)	9.00
Book of Commandments Controversy Reviewed	4.00
The Marvelous Work and a Wonder - by Daniel MacGregor	3.50
What the Restoration Teaches Concerning God	2.50
Historical Facts Concerning the Temple Lot	1.30
Temple Lot Deed	.30
Changing of the Revelations	.50
Comprehensive Comparison of Changes to the Revelations	1.30

The balance of these General Church Publications are free of charge.*

- A Brief History of the Church of Christ
- The Principles of the Gospel - Faith & Repentance
- The Principles of the Gospel - Laying on of Hands
- The Principles of the Gospel - Baptism
- The Latter Day Restoration
- The Book of Mormon (tract)
- Articles of Faith & Practice of the Church of Christ
- Articles of Faith & Practice (Spanish)
- Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus
- What the Church teaches about Matrimony (Spanish)
- Mighty Acts of the Ages (Spanish)
- Priesthood - Divine Authority
- Why? (Amplifies absence of a "First Presidency" in Scripture)
- A Synopsis (Compares beliefs of 3 Restoration churches)
- First Presidency or First Apostles?
- Marriage for Time and Eternity? - A Fallacy
- Baptism for the Dead? - A Fallacy
- Zion and the Temple of the Lord
- Does it Make a Difference to Which Church You Belong?
- God's Purpose in America
- The Great Plan of Redemption
- The Cost of Salvation

*NOTE: Donations will be accepted to cover postage & printing costs.
(Multiple copies available: 6-50¢ / 100-\$5.85 plus postage)

Sunday School Materials

Send orders for SS Materials to Becky Sheldon, 31607 E. Major Rd, Grain Valley, Mo 64029. All materials are free of charge to members of the Church of Christ except as noted. Donations will be accepted to cover postage.

- Church History for Juniors - includes a Teachers Guide
- The Book in the Stone Box - About the Book of Mormon
- Bible Stories to Grow By - 52 lessons about God and Jesus for ages 5-7
- Jesus' Life and Teachings - 4 quarterlies for ages 8-10
- Who Am I? - Bible game on cards; Free to Sunday Schools / \$1.30 individuals.

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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:

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, Missouri, or Phoenix, Arizona, areas.

Allow adequate advance time for handling and shipping, and for your own preview of the programs. Write to the AVVAA Committee, Church of Christ, P.O. Box 472, Independence, MO 64051.

Out of the Dust (45 minutes) — Tells the story found within the Book of Mormon.

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.

A Lamp Unto My Feet (32 minutes) — Directed specifically toward American Indian viewers, compiled from three other programs.

The Return (12 minutes) — Reveals the significance of the return to the "land of Zion" in 1867 by the members of the Church of Christ especially as holders of Title to the previously dedicated Temple Lot.

Holy Scriptures on Audio Cassette Tapes

Complete set narrating the King James Version of the Bible New Testament and a set for the entire Book of Mormon. Write to Ron Temple, 5621 Logan Rd., Kansas City, MO 64136. Specify which set is desired and the estimated length of time you expect to use it

Sermons on Audio Cassette Tapes

For a sermon on cassette tape write to Mike Kelley, 1949 E. Libby St., Phoenix, AZ 85022, or Ron Temple, 5621 Logan Rd., Kansas City, MO 64136.

PRIESTHOOD VISITATION

If you or someone you know (member or non-member) would like to be visited by a member of the Priesthood of the Church of Christ, please call or write to the Council of Apostles at Church Headquarters in Independence. The phone numbers and address are listed on the inside front cover.