

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;"*

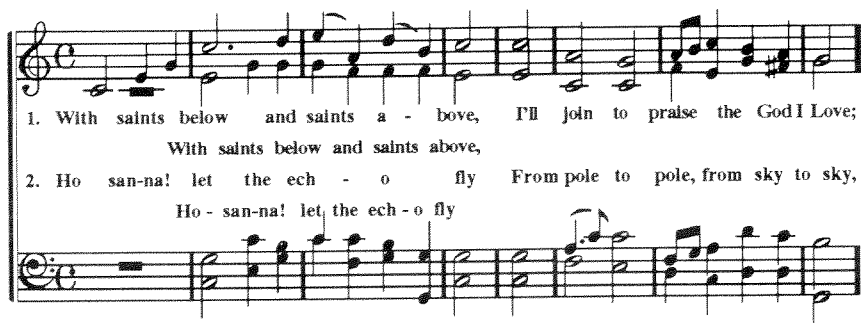
I Nephi 3:187

Volume 69

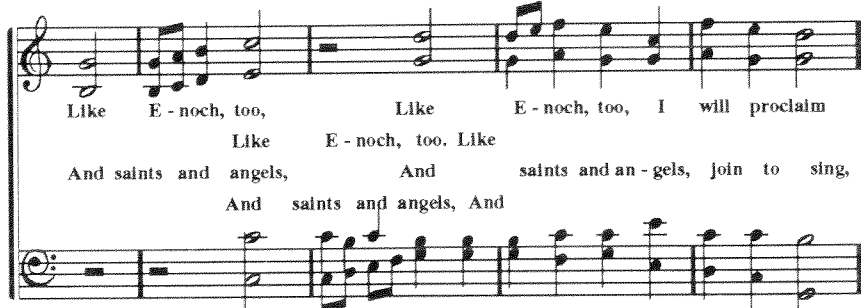
Independence, Missouri — December 1992

Number 12


ZION'S TEMPLE.



1. With saints below and saints a - bove, I'll join to praise the God I Love;
With saints below and saints above,
2. Ho san-na! let the ech - o fly From pole to pole, from sky to sky,
Ho - san-na! let the ech - o fly



Like E - noch, too, Like E - noch, too, I will proclaim
Like E - noch, too. Like
And saints and angels, And saints and an - gels, join to sing,
And saints and angels, And



A loud Ho - san - na, A loud Ho - san - na to his name.
A loud Ho - san - na, A
Till all e - ter - ni - ty, Till all e - ter - ni - ty shall ring.
Till all e - ter - ni - ty, Till

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 Hosanna! let the voice extended,
Till time shall cease and have an end,
Till all the throngs of heaven above
Shall join the saints in songs of love. | 4 Hosanna! let the trump of God
Proclaim his wonders far abroad,
And earth, and air, and skies, and seas
Conspire to sound aloud his praise. |
|---|---|

(Taken from the Saints' Hymnal printed in 1895)
(Courtesy of Ron Temple)

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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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Editorial...



THE MESSIAH

The greatest blessings forever possible have been bestowed upon the earthly mortal children of our God - The Gift of Life; The Gift of His Son, Jesus; The Gospel He Brought to the Earth; and The Plan of Eternal Salvation.

It was decreed that as man is, it is so that he might have joy and obtain to eternal salvation. (2 Nephi 1:114-117)

Having received the gift of life from our Heavenly Father, we are totally accountable to Him for the manner in which we conduct our life within the choice of freedom He gave us to either follow His bidding to pursue righteousness, or to follow the carnal and evil desires of a human heart that lists to obey the enticings of the opposing force which has great dominion upon the earth.

“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.” (Ps 19:7-8)

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of the sinner, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.” (Ps 1:1-3)

Beginning with Adam and Eve there were many generations who believed in Christ through faith only,

before He was born into mortality. Their's was the greater faith. Those who saw and heard and believed the Savior during His earthly ministry were blessed with a particular blessing - being in His very presence and eye-witnessing His teaching and miracles.

Those who lived at the time of the coming of the Lord Jesus as a tiny babe, were eligible to receive such a divine blessing-some did receive it. They were blessed in this life with riches of spiritual gifts beyond measure. Though there were many who turned away and walked wantonly in their own paths of frivolity and ill-doing, they could not deprive the righteous from the joys and blessings received through the promises of God.

Then, many also were the generations following the crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus who began to



question and doubt His life and ministry intended for all peoples of the earth until the end of time. The flame of righteousness flickered very dimly over a period of many centuries, until the promised restoring of His gospel and Church upon the earth in these Latter Days. They brought great joy to many who then heard and saw and believed. (Acts 3:19-21) They also experienced in great measure the prophesied opposition in all things. (1 Nephi 1:81-97)

In like manner we who live today have received such great joy into our hearts because of a knowledge of the life and ministry of Jesus, His Gospel, and the ultimate salvation in the Heavenly Realm following our life here below. Our's is the great privilege to have fellowship with many of kindred minds and spirit in Christ, to seek after the fruits of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: ("... Against such there is no law". Gal 5:22-23). In so doing, we shall also reap the gifts of the Spirit of God: The word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, different kinds of tongues (languages), the interpretation of tongues. (1 Cor 12:8-10). It perhaps is noteworthy

to observe that there are 9 fruits and 9 gifts of the Spirit.

As in times of old, also in our dispensation of time: "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed." (II Cor. 4:8-9) It seems as if world problems cannot further deteriorate, but they continue in that course. The only source of real help and protection for the people of the Lord, is to live for and rely upon His divine protection and guidance; "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Eph 6:12) In recent years record numbers of high governmental officials of nations around the world have been rejected by the people because of their wickedness and oppressions.

It has been written; 'All are invited to come unto Christ; many are called, but few chosen'. (Mat 20:16) Even 600 years before the Lord was born, it was prophesied that the numbers of His faithful followers in the last days in which we are living would be few, and their possessions would be small because of the wickedness in the world. (1 N 3:217-244)

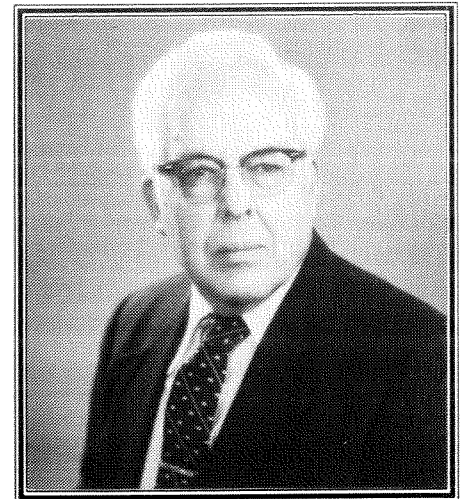
We must not allow these things and personal afflictions and discouragements to bring us down into despair, for it is a serious thing which must be avoided. We must always strive for faith and hope and charity, the latter being the greatest of all.

Without these elements in our spiritual character, we cannot be saved in the Kingdom of God. (Mi. 7:46-53; 10:9-16)

The Apostle Paul said: "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" (Rom. 8:31-32)

The Lord, Himself, said: "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom." (Lk. 12-32)

Among Jesus' concluding words: "... If ye have faith, ye can do all things which are expedient unto Me." (Mi 10:17)



Apostle Robert H. Jensen

CHRISTMAS I.Q. TEST

Submitted by Elder Andrew Brantner

INSTRUCTIONS: Read and answer each question in the order it appears. When choices are given, read them carefully and select the best one and circle your answer, Guessing is allowed, cheating is not.

- As long as Christmas has been celebrated, it has been on Dec. 25. (True or False)
- Joseph was from:
 - Bethlehem
 - Jerusalem
 - Nazareth
 - Egypt
 - None of the above
- How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem?
 - Camel
 - Donkey
 - Walked
 - Volkswagen
 - Joseph walked, Mary rode a donkey
 - The Scriptures don't tell
- Mary and Joseph were married when Mary became pregnant. (True or False)
- Mary and Joseph were married when Jesus was born (True or False).
- When Joseph and Mary found out that Mary was pregnant with Jesus, what happened?
 - They got married.
 - Joseph wanted to break the engagement.
 - Mary left town for three months.
 - Both A and D.
 - Both B and C.
 - All of the above.
- Mary was a virgin when she delivered Jesus. (True or False).
- Mary and Joseph Were related by blood. (True or False).
- Jesus was an only child. (True or False).
- What did the Innkeeper tell Mary and Joseph?
 - "There is no room in the Inn."
 - "I have a stable you can use."
 - "Come back after the Christmas rush and I should have some vacancies,"
 - Both A and B.
 - None of the above.
- Jesus was delivered in a:
 - stable
 - manger
 - cave
 - barn
 - unknown
- A manger is a:
 - stable for domestic animals.
 - wooden storage bin for hay.
 - feeding trough.
 - barn.
- Which animals does the Bible say were present at Jesus' birth?
 - Cows, sheep, goats.
 - Sheep, donkeys, cows.
 - Miscellaneous barnyard animals.
 - Wolves in sheep's clothing.
 - A white dove.
 - None of the above.
- Who told Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem?
 - An Angel.
 - Mary's mother.
 - Herod.
 - Caesar Augustus.
 - Alexander the Great.
 - No one told them, they were on their honeymoon.
- Who saw The star in the east?
 - Shepherds.
 - Mary and Joseph.
 - Three Kings.
 - Both A and C.
 - none of the above.
- How many angels spoke to the shepherds?
 - One
 - Three
 - A "Multitude"
 - None of the above

17. What sign did the Angel tell the shepherd to look for?
- A. "This way to baby Jesus."
 - B. A star over Bethlehem.
 - C. A baby that does not cry.
 - D. A house with a Christmas tree.
 - E. Take a right at the third Santa on the left.
 - F. None of the above.
18. What did the Angels sing?
- A. "Joy to the World, the Lord is come"
 - B. "Alleluia"
 - C. "Unto us a child is born, unto us a child is given"
 - D. "Glory to God in the highest, glory to the newborn King"
 - E. "My Sweet Lord"
 - F. None of the above.
19. What is a "heavenly host"?
- A. The angel at the gate of heaven.
 - B. An angel choir.
 - C. An organism giving nourishment to a parasite in heaven.
 - D. Many angels.
 - E. None of the above.
20. There was snow that first Christmas:
- A. only in Bethlehem.
 - B. all over Israel.
 - C. Nowhere in Israel.
 - D. somewhere in Israel.
 - E. Mary and Joseph only dreamed of a white Christmas.
 - F. The scriptures don't say.
21. The baby Jesus cried:
- A. When the little drummer boy banged his drum.
 - B. Just like other babies cry.
 - C. He never cried.
 - D. The scriptures don't say.
22. What is "frankincense"?
- A. A precious metal.
 - B. A precious fabric.
 - C. A precious perfume.
 - D. A monster story.
 - E. None of the above.
23. What is Myrrh?
- A. An easily shaped metal.
 - B. A spice used for burying people.
 - C. A drink.
 - D. Aftershave lotion.
 - E. None of the above.
24. How many "wise men" came to see Jesus? (write in the number).
25. What does "wise men" refer to?
- A. They were men of the educated class.
 - B. They were eastern Kings.
 - C. They were Astrologers.
 - D. They were smart enough to follow the star.
 - E. They were sages.
26. The wise men found Jesus in a:
- A. Manger.
 - B. Stable.
 - C. House.
 - D. Holiday Inn.
 - E. Good home.
27. The wise men stopped in Jerusalem:
- A. to inform Herod about Jesus.
 - B. to find out where Jesus was.
 - C. to ask about the star they saw.
 - D. for gas.
 - E. to buy presents for Jesus.
28. Joseph took the baby Jesus to Egypt:
- A. to show him the pyramids.
 - B. to teach him the wisdom of the pharaohs.
 - C. to put him in a basket in the reeds by the river.
 - D. because an Angel told him to.
 - E. To be taxed.
 - F. Joseph did not take Jesus to Egypt.
 - G. None of the above.
29. Where do we find the Christmas story in order to check up on all these questions?
- A. Matthew
 - B. Luke
 - C. John
 - D. Mark
 - E. All of the above
 - F. Only A and B
 - G. Aesop's Fables
30. I think this test was:
- A. Educational and fun.

ANSWERS TO CHRISTMAS TEST

1. F 2. a Luke 2:1-5, though Joseph's exact birthplace is not known it was to Bethlehem that his genealogy was traced (the house of David) and taxed. 3. F 4. F Mat. 1:18, they were espoused. A commitment much more binding than the engagements of our day. 5. T Mat. 1:20. 6. F a. - Mat. 1:24, . b. - Mat. 1:19. c. - Luke 1:56. 7. T Mat. 1:23 - 25, 8. T Jesus is of the lineage of the house of David, Mat. 1:1. Mary, the mother of Jesus, must have been of the house of David also because Joseph, Jesus' le-

gal father, though also of the house of David, (Luke 3:23-38), was not a biological parent. Thus the lineage is traced through the line from Mary. Mary being the blood line. Joseph being the legal line. The Holy Spirit being the spiritual line. Therefore Mary and Joseph were both of the house of David. It is said also that Mary was the daughter of Jacob, the uncle of Joseph, If this is true then they were also cousins. **9.** F Jesus was the first born. First born of what? First born of several children, Luke 2:7, Mark 6:3-6, Mat. 13:55-56. **10.** e Luke 2:7, No one knows just what the Inn keeper may have said. **11.** e Luke 2:6-7, Jesus was placed in the manger after he was delivered. He may very well have been delivered in a stable though this can not be substantiated. Common practice was that when the Inn was full, late comers were obliged to take refuge in the lower level among the animals. **12.** c **13.** F **14.** d Luke 2:1-5 **15.** e Mat. 2:1-2 . **16.** a Luke 2:9 & 13. **17.** F Luke 2:12. **18.** F Luke 2:13 & 14. They didn't sing, they spoke. **19.** d **20.** F **21.** d See Isa. 42:2 & 13, John 11:35, Luke 19:41, Heb. 4:15. **22.** c Often burned as an Incense in the Temple. **23.** b A Holy ointment, see Mark 16:1. **24.** ? "men" would imply two or more. The world infers that there were three because of the three gifts. Could there have been more than three? It would be fitting to the occasion to have each of the twelve tribes of Israel represented would it not? See the Zion's Advocate of December, 1984 for an excellent editorial on the subject. Ref. 3N 1:3, Helaman 5:120 for two of the house of Joseph who could have and should have been among the wise men. **25.** d They also saw the star in the east and they arrived at Jerusalem coming from the east. This means that they must have been traveling west. Could it be, that they came from America? **26.** c Mat, 2:11. **27.** b Mat. 2:1 & 2. **28.** d Mat. 2:13&14. **29.** F But always remember, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that



Path Lights

He Is Mindful Of Even Our Smallest Desires

God has been gracious and kind unto me again. I shared this testimony at camp in July, but I like to share these things with you all. I lost a diamond out of a fine ring I have. I searched everywhere to no avail. The ring sat for about two years until my husband replaced it with a really nice diamond.

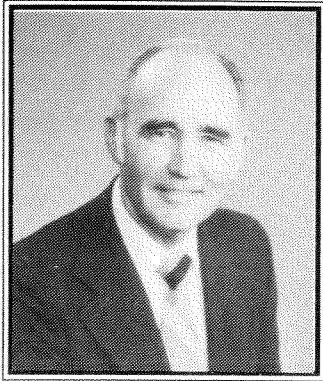
We were outside working when some people came. The kids and I sat down, then Ben said, "mom, look at your ring." There it was, bare, the diamond gone again. I was stunned, I just had the setting checked a month ago. I went immediately into the house to pray and seek peace of mind. I said not a word to my husband. I told the Lord I was not going to look for it, He knew I meant it. He also knew my heart was not set upon this vain thing. I told Him, if He wanted me to have it, He would have to show me where it is.

I went back to work outside. I wasn't outside five minutes when my head and my eyes went straight down to that diamond. There it was glistening. I bent down and said, "Oh my God." My husband said, "What?" So, I told him! I can tell you, my joy in the Lord was very full. I just marvel what He can and will do. That's my testimony, He can, and He does.

Witness to His Condescension
Kathy Cloyd
Phoenix, AZ

TESTIFY TO THE TRUTH OF THE BOOK

Apostle Donald McIndoo



The Holy Bible tells us that the Son of God, who came to earth to do His redemptive work among the children of men, was born of a virgin. Today many Bible scholars and theologians ridicule this assertion as nonsense. It is reassuring that believers in the Book of Mormon have an added witness to the divinity of the man, Jesus. In vision Nephi was shown "the virgin which thou seest is the mother of the Son of God, after the manner of the flesh (1 Nephi 3:58)."

Since the ancestors of many Indian peoples were familiar with this record, we should be able to find a similar belief reflected in the traditions of the Indian people. Let us examine the research of people in the field.

Honore ¹ describes the legends of the Indian people of Mesoamerica, in which they refer to "...the White God of the Indians said to be born of a virgin by immaculate conception."

Brinton ² writes, "Many of the great gods of the race, as Quetzalcoatl, Viracocha, and Ioskeha (tribal names for the same white, bearded God - dem), were at times said to have been born of a virgin. Even among the Indian tribes of Paraguay the missionaries were startled to find this tradition of the maiden mother of God."

The anthropologist, L. Taylor Hansen ³, tells the story of the traditions of the ancient Puant people of Oklahoma concerning the bearded white God who once came among them:

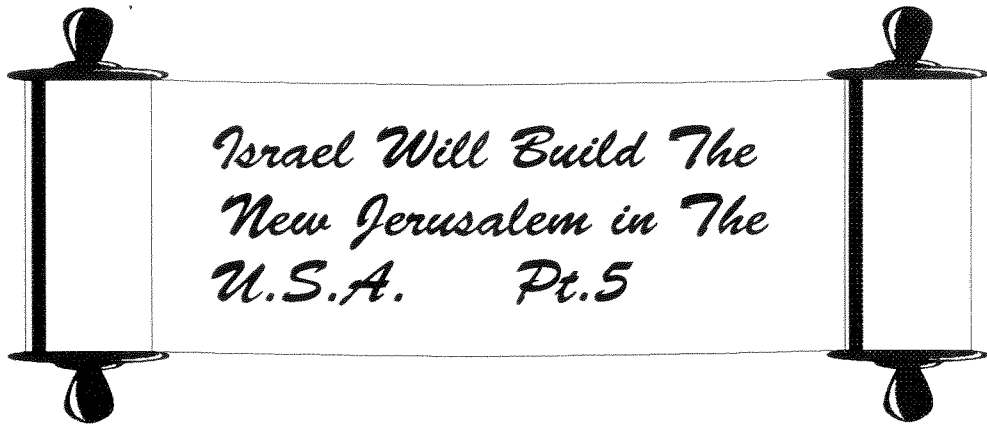
"He told them that He was born across the ocean, in a land where all men were bearded. In this land He was born of a virgin on a night when a bright star came out of the heavens and stood over His city. Here, too, the heavens opened and down came winged beings singing chants of exquisite beauty."

1. Honore, Pierre, In Quest of the White God, p.34.

2. Brinton, D.G., Myths of the New World, p.161.

3. Hansen, L. Taylor, He Walked the Americas, p.48.





*Israel Will Build The
New Jerusalem in The
U.S.A. Pt.5*

By Apostle William Sheldon

Since the Bible and Book of Mormon refer to a latter day Zion of God, it should not appear strange that the Lord would reveal further light "at evening time," or the latter days, as well.

Very early in the history of this Church, in April of 1829, Joseph Smith was told:

"Now as you have asked, behold I say unto you, keep my commandments, and seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion." (Book of Commandments 5:3)

And what is this cause of Zion? We are informed that "Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness" (Isaiah 1:27), so here is the cause-righteousness. The people of Zion are "the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven: the meek: for they shall inherit the earth; the pure in heart: for they shall see God", etc.. (Matthew 5:3-16) The cause of Zion is the pure love of God and of all men.

In the Book of Mormon, 1 Nephi 3:183-189, we are informed of the Lord's efforts in the last days to bring forth His gospel in power, including the coming forth of the Book of Mormon. Concerning His ministry, He said:

"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." (verse 187)

Joseph Smith, and others in his day, did have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost despite their human frailties, and so also will those who yet seek to bring forth Zion!

In August of 1831, the early elders were told (Book of Commandments 59:7-8):

"...For this cause I have sent you that you might be obedient, and that your hearts might be prepared to bear testimony of the things which are to come;

"And also that you might be honored of laying the foundation, and of bearing record of the land upon which the Zion of God shall stand."

I believe that this was God speaking, and that they did bear record of the land upon which Zion should stand, and did lay the foundation thereof!

Have we built upon this foundation and continued to bear the same record? Or in others words, have we sought to bring forth the Zion of God? Perhaps the answer is found in the magnitude of the gift and power of the Holy Ghost enjoyed, compared to that of Joseph Smith and others of his time.

Not only was it confirmed to

Joseph that this was the land of Zion or the New Jerusalem, but the very center place was appointed: the city of Zion was to be at Independence, Missouri.

"Hearken, O ye elders of my church saith the Lord your God, who have assembled yourselves together, according to my commandments, in this land which is the land of Missouri, which is the land which I have appointed and consecrated for the gathering of the saints; wherefore this is the land of promise, and the place for the city of Zion.

"And thus saith the Lord your God, If you will receive wisdom here is wisdom. Behold, the place which is now called Independence, is the center place, and the spot for the temple is lying westward upon a lot which is not far from the courthouse..." (Doctrine and Covenants 57:1)

This is the place of which Isaiah spoke, saying:

"...out of Zion shall go forth the law."

And he described the location in this manner:

"...The mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains..." (Isaiah 2:2)

The term, mountain, manifestly refers to the place of His government, and being "in the top of the moun-

tain", would be in the midst of other governments, evidently of the world. It is not unreasonable to presume it refers specifically to the place of the central government of all the United States governments the State of Missouri! That it should be within the confines of The United States of America, rather than another of the Americas, may be logically assumed from the fact that the Church of Christ, the nucleus of the kingdom of God, was organized and "established agreeable to the laws of our country, by the will and commandments of God..." (Book of Commandments 24:2)

Having established Zion's location, let us examine more closely the purpose of her creation.

We have found that her inhabitants must be saints in the true sense of the word, and that "the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem ... by the spirit of burning." (Isaiah 4:4)

Who are the "daughters of Zion" if they do not include the divisions of this great Restoration Movement, at least? Their filth is to be "washed away".

Jesus alluded to this latter day cleansing process saying:

"The Son of man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity." (Matthew 13:41)

"All things" refers to false doctrines which destroy the faith of the saints.

"And there shall be gathered unto it out of every nation under heaven:"

"And it shall be the only people that shall not be at war one with another."

"And it shall be said among the wicked, let us not go up to battle against Zion, for the inhabitants of Zion are terrible:"

"Wherefore we can not stand." (Book of Commandments 48:60-66)

Thus shall the Lord bring again Zion, and be her rock of defense, and the glory and salvation to all who will trust in Him.

Christ is to bring those of Israel, of previous generations, with Him, to stand upon Mount Zion. These will be numbered with faithful Israel of the last days, together with multitudes of the righteous who will have been converted by an endowed ministry. See Revelation, chapter seven, and Rev. 14:1.

For this purpose does the inspired writer of Psalm 80 pray; a prayer yet to be fulfilled, no doubt:

"Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth. Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh stir up thy strength, and come and save us. Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved". Vs. 1-3.

Yes, the Shepherd of Israel (Christ) who will lead Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) like a flock, will turn their hearts to himself again and save them. He will speak unto all of Israel, and to the nations which survive His terrible judgments, to gather the righteous in unto Zion, the New Jerusalem (see 3 Nephi 10:1-8), that He may wipe their tears away; to give beauty for ashes, joy for sorrow, peace in place of war, happiness and fulfillment where frustration had been (see Isa. 65: 17-25).

"Thou shalt arise and have

mercy upon Zion: for the time to favor her, yea, the set time is come. For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favor the dust thereof. So the heathen shall fear the name of the Lord, and all the Kings of the earth thy glory. When the Lord shall build up Zion, He shall appear in His Glory. He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer. This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord". Ps. 102:13-18.

By whom shall He speak to bring a gathering of His saints, and the building of the New Jerusalem? Angels are to signal the gathering by a tremendous blast of a trumpet (Matt. 24:31), but a preparatory work is to be done by the servants of God, endowed with power from on high (see 2 Nephi 10:4); and who will these servants be?

"His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh". Deut. 33:17.

Yes, the servants of God, those of the seed of Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) are to arise upon this land of the Americas in the power of God, and will push (by an undeniable spirit of truth) the nations to the ends of the earth, to Jerusalem of old and to the New Jerusalem of this continent; they shall be the ten thousands of Ephraim and the thousands of Manasseh, who shall go forth from Zion, the New Jerusalem, to be built by Israel with other repentant gentiles, under command of the great Jehovah in what is presently Independence, Missouri of the U.S.A!

This great gathering of Israel

through the power of God cannot occur until He shall have cleansed the nations, including those of Israel, of moral and spiritual corruption, by a literal destruction of the more wicked elements of human society.

"The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languished away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant." Isa. 24:5,6.

"And it shall come to pass, them that are left in Zion, and remain in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, every one that is written among the living is Jerusalem: When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning. And the Lord will create upon every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory of Zion shall be a defense." 2 Ne. 8:67-69.

Please note the distinction made in this last reference between Zion, or mount Zion, and Jerusalem. Now, let us see if we can further identify mount Zion, which is the new Jerusalem of the Americas, with the U.S.A.

"Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King." Ps. 48:2.

Mount Zion is to be "on the sides of the north." Well, of course a far north would be the north pole of the earth, and therefore, the "sides of the north" would be in the northern hemi-

sphere. This would fix both Jerusalem and the New Jerusalem in the "sides of the north".

Now we shall further establish Ephraim (who is Israel both by birth and by blessing) in the events relative to the building of the New Jerusalem. Let us remember that, anciently, the kingdom of Israel was in Samaria; but let us also remember that Israel was to have a separate inheritance in the last days, from whence they should no more be moved or afflicted (2 Sam. 7:10). It would be that portion of Israel which was appointed by divine blessing to the land of the Americas' it would be those of both Ephraim and Manasseh, the sons of Joseph, for this is "Joseph's land". Therefor, in a symbolic sense, this land may also be termed as "Samaria"; and thus we read in Jer. 31:5: "Thou shalt yet plant vines upon the mountains of Samaria..."

The vines are Ephraim and Manasseh. Continuing:

"For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the Lord our God" (v6).

Who are these "watchmen upon the mount Ephraim"? "...They are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh" who "shall push the people together to the ends of the earth," as previously referenced.

To continue further:

"For thus saith the Lord; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations..."

What or who is the chief of the nations? It is the United States, located in this land of the Americas, the "choice land above all other lands, a

chosen land of the Lord" (Eth, 6:2).

"...publish ye, praise ye, and say, O Lord, save thy people the remnant of Israel..." (v.7).

"They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn."

O yes, YES!

"... I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my **FIRSTBORN**"

How is Ephraim the first born of Israel and of God? By his obedience to the gospel of Christ in these latter days; the first among the gentiles in this gentile nation of the U.S.; He was "to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble".

Ephraim was to be revealed upon mount Ephraim, "in the sides of the north", by the appearance of an Ephraimite prophet, Joseph Smith, whose declarations and ministry would come initially to his brethren, also of Ephraim, but ultimately the fullness of the gospel to be declared by a faithful succession of the servants of God to their brethren of Manasseh. Such Ephraimite brethren, known as gentiles (that is, their Israelite connection being hitherto unrecognized in the midst of a gentile nation) will thus "assist my people, the remnant of Jacob (American Indians)... that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem" (3 Ne. 10:1,2). And where is this New Jerusalem to be? In mount Ephraim, in the "chief of the nations"; in the U.S.A! ♦

News

Flint Local News

We have been enjoying many of God's blessings in life. The season is Fall, the leaves are turning their brilliant color, soon we think to prepare for the oncoming winter, so should we prepare ourselves before the Lord spiritually, making our lives a good example of Jesus Christ's, teachings and observing his commandments. Soon we will be having our annual Harvest Dinner on November 1st, everyone enjoys it and many come from far off in Michigan for a good time of fellowship and services. Also we have welcomed a new member to our local, Sister Tina Adams from Bay City. She was baptized at the Youth camp in Missouri, we gave her the warm hand of fellowship on Sunday the 4th of Oct.. We pray for her continual growth in the family of Jesus Christ and His Gospel, it shall be a guide and torch light in her life.

Your Brother in Christ

Priest *Adam Porter*

More News From The Flint Local

Hello from Flint! Once again as ever we are thankful for the Lord's merciful watchcare in our behalf and for you. The weather is colder and the leaves are gone. Unlike our Heavenly Father whose love is always warm for us and his blessings, forgiveness and patience towards us never ends.

On November 1st, we had our annual Harvest Dinner. Many came from all over Michigan to fellowship with us, we are so thankful. We started the day with two sermons, one by Brother Emery Pinder, and one by Brother Adam Porter. We then partook of the sacrament with testimonies to follow. After filling our souls with spiritual food, we then enjoyed an abundance of food for our physical well-being. After dinner we gathered once again to hear a song special from the children who sang "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" and "Amazing Grace," led by their grandmother, Sister Velma Porter, on the piano. Then came words of admonishment and courage by brother Emery Pinder through the scriptures and from the holy spirit. At that time Brother Adam Porter was ordained to the office of Elder, by Elder Edward Toulouse, with Elder Maxwell Spencer confirming. Everyone offered Brother Adam and his wife Susan words of encouragement in their oncoming task. We are thankful to the Lord for everyone's safe journey to be with us in sweet fellowship and worship.

May God Bless You All,

Sister *Susan Porter*

Farmington Local News

In the trust of the blessings of Jesus Christ in each of our lives, the Church of Christ Farmington local also adds its testimony in this monthly report. The TRI-State Reunion, held on September 4-7 (Labor Day weekend), served to bring many loved ones together at the beautiful site, the White Water State Park in Minnesota, under mostly sunny skies. The weather was an answer to prayers as were all those who attended who shared the "peace of God which passeth all understanding." (Phillipians 4:7) We were so very thankful to reunite with our brothers and sisters in gospel bonds for the purpose of gaining sufficient strength to return to our everyday tasks with singleness of heart towards our Creator.

Those who attended also enjoyed the fellowship of the additional two members in Christ's fold, Jahaira Pena and Amy Ferrier. Jahaira Maria Castillo Pena and Amy Marie Ferrier witnessed before the church of their repentance and their desire to obey Christ's command by entering the waters of baptism on Saturday, September 5, 1992. Elder Merlin Eddy had previously stated, in an August sermon, that the theme for the TRI-State Reunion was "Baptism," and as it turned out, baptism became more than a theme. There were actually two real-life examples. We are so thankful for Jahaira's and Amy's decisions, and we pray the light of Christ will shine through them as an example to others.

Jahaira and Amy were able to partake of the "flesh and blood of Christ," (Moroni 4:1) in Sunday's sacrament service as Elder Thomas Maley presided. Seasons of prayer and prayers for healing, administrations, testimonies, and hymns were offered in thankfulness to Jesus' eternal sacrifice for mankind. Those attending, fully utilized the avenue of prayer to thank our Heavenly Father for His son's sacrifice, through early morning prayer services led by Elder Thomas Maley.

Other of Christ's servants: Apostle Robert Jensen, Elder Isaac Brockman, Priest Peter Gould, Priest John Gill (with Jahaira interpreting in Spanish), while being directed by the Holy Spirit, strengthened the audience with messages teaching God's condescension, how He cares for us and how we need to keep on the strait and narrow path or, the path which will lead us to perfection. Priest Randy Sheldon, led a youth forum while Apostle Robert Jensen and Elder Thomas Maley led an adult forum. Elder Merlin Eddy, in concert with the available visiting and local ministry, hosted a questions and answer session. Other events participants enjoyed were: an "ice breaker" (an opportunity to become acquainted, which Enoch Gould took charge of; a scavenger hunt which Nana Gill fostered; and talent offerings, which consisted of a skit and songs, done mostly by the youth.

The reunion closed with "God Be With You," but this did not end our devotion to the God who lends us our every breath (Mosiah 1:53), as some of us returned to Farmington and enjoyed the song special, on September 13, "I Will Follow Him." The song, written by Stella Winegar with music by John Gould, was sung by: John Gould, Allyssa Gould, John Gill, Nana Gill, Thomas Gill, Laura Gill, Marie Calix, and Jahaira Pena.

Priest John Gill, in a sermon September 13, stated, "We are called to be

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the eyes of those who are blind." Tristan Gould was administered to on September 20 and 27 for his eyes and health condition. Also, on September 27, the Church of Christ Farmington local were blessed with the presence of Harvey and Irene Seibel as first-time visitors.

Your sister in Christ,

Patricia Gould

Ravenna Local News

Greetings from Church of Christ Local in Ravenna, Michigan. November first our Pastor Gale Brantner was Preacher of the hour. He read from the Bible and Book of Mormon and explained how much they agreed on the subject of little children. Brother Max bore testimony that on November 8th his granddaughter Kristi Horn had asked for Baptism. Max and Vivian and three of their grand children and I left early to attend the ordination of Brother Adam Porter in Flint. We arrived just in time for Brother Max to be asked to assist in ordination.

The next prayer service Priest Aaron Heath was Preacher that evening, reading from John chap. 10 on entering by the door and that door is Christ. November 8th, we gathered to the lake and after prayer and song Brother Max led Kristi into the water and baptized her. We then went back to church for confirmation and the hand of fellowship. November 15th, we went to the lake again and after prayer and song Priest Aaron Heath led Cathy Wieten into the water and baptized her. Then we went to church for confirmation and the hand of fellowship. Afterwards Elder Max Spencer was preacher, instructing us about faith and our works. The air temperature was only 32.0 both baptisms!

Advocate reporter

Sister *Lois Heath*

Mogollon Local News

A warm hello to all. Debbie and Kim have been gone all summer taking care of their new babies. Maureen Karas took over Sunday School duties, and Tracy keeps us in line on the piano! Kim and Jim have started coming again. Debbie wants to, but is still unable. We appreciate you all. Reunion is this week, we'll see everyone there. Betty hit a deer and has major auto repair, but is O.K.. Apostle Don McIndoo came and preached to us this week. Thank you dear brother for giving us precious time. He spoke on the 46th chapter of Isaiah. To show ourselves men, be responsible, not complaining. Besides God, there is none else. He has declared to us the end of the world from the beginning. Look at History, did it not come to pass? So will the rest. Scholars today do not believe in prophesy. Beware, false teachings are abounding.

My hope for each of us at this time of year is to be filled with charity, the pure love of Christ. Not to let the temporal affairs of life steal our peace and joy. This used to be a blessed nation, the people have left the old path. But we are still a blessed remnant in the midst. Called to assist the one, whose land this will be. We are not a small, unseen group. We are in the hands of the Lord. The controversy of the world is with the Lord, their battle will be with Him. I love Him for giving me such knowledge and making me wise, I never was before. His Majesty is a shadow over me. We will stand in awe as the day so approaches.

Circle the wagons.

Sister *Kathy Clouyd*

Treasure Valley Local News

"Praise God"! On the 20th of September, with the help of the Lord our Savior, we in Idaho became the first local in this area. We would like to thank the people the Lord sent us to make this possible. Apostle Marvin Ely and his brother Bob Ely, (Grand Junction, Colorado, Elder Bill Zabriskie, Lillian Zabriskie (Hogansburg, New York), Evangelist Jim Yates, Evangelist Hubert Yates (Phoenix, Arizona), Elder Gordon Mccann (Phoenix, Arizona), Eli and Gretchen Tarbell and family (Hogansburg, New York), Lenny Zabriskie and family, Kirk and Margaret Zabriskie and family, Evan and Debbie Brumble and family (Independence area). WE would like to thank all our brothers and sisters in Christ for all their prayers and support.

We would like to thank Hubert and Jim Yates for the times they visited and for their help of the week of August 2-10, 1992

In this part of our Lords vineyard six people committed their lives to Christ; Ryan Maher, Ryan Reynolds, Robert Brain, Debbie Brain, Charlie Brain, Jacqui Brain. They were Baptized on the 9th and 10th of August and the spirit of the Lord was upon us. The baptism was a beautiful country setting with the birds singing and the sun setting.

I also want to thank Elder Roy Coon and Mary Coon who worked so hard to help bring this about.

We as a New local pray that we will be diligent on our new commitment to Christ. We are also very excited about every member in the new local going to the Phoenix reunion.

On September 29th Apostle Marvin E. Ely and his brother Bob Ely came and officially made us a local. We praise the Lord every day for this great and marvelous work that has happened here. "Praise the Lord"!

We would like to extend an invitation to everyone to come and visit.

Roy and Mary Coon
3995 County Line Rd.
Emmett, Idaho 83617.

Your advocate reporter

Jim Maher

Obituary

A FAREWELL TO DOROTHY HOWE

Sister Dorothy Howe of Newaygo, Michigan, passed from this life on October 24, 1992; she was 83.

Sr. Howe (nee Harris) was born March 20, 1909. She lived most of her life on the farm west of Morley until she first became ill some three years ago, then removing to the Kelsey Memorial Extended Care facility in Lakeview, Michigan.

Elder Louis Welch was a missionary preaching throughout Michigan in 1939 and Dorothy was baptized, starting her new life as a Christian. She had great faith in the Gospel of our Lord and it's blessings, I asked Dorothy a few months ago, if she lacked anything; her reply was, "Not really."

Sr. Howe is survived by her 10 children; Vera (and husband Melvin) Weeks of Morley, MI, Jay (and wife Loucile) and Elon (and wife Londa) of Newaygo, MI, Don (and wife Billie), Clyde (and wife Sharon), Ardin, Marvin (and wife Judy), Daisy (and husband Carlos) Stinefield (all) of Las Vegas NV, Hazel (and husband Orville) Fritts of Pahrump NV, and Jerrald (and wife Louise) of Muskegon MI; 50 grandchildren, 86 great grandchildren, 10 great great grandchildren; 1 sister Lola (and husband Luke) Evango. Her husband Joseph, 2 granddaughters, 1 great granddaughter and sister Deloris Jones preceded her in death.

This reading from the Book of Mormon was then given; Alma 19:30-56; followed by a reading of her favorite psalm, the 23rd, "The Lord is my shepherd—".

A reading of passages from the Bible; Malachi 3:16-18 and St. John 14:1-4 followed.

Services were held at the McKinley Funeral Home of Newaygo, Michigan: on October 26, 1992. Internment was at Big Prairie-Everett cemetery, White Cloud, Michigan with Elder Max Lee officiating.

In closing this thought was left to be thought upon.

* 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18; "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

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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.

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- Marriage for Time and Eternity? - A Fallacy
- Baptism for the Dead? - A Fallacy
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*NOTE: Donations will be accepted to cover postage & printing costs.
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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.

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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.