

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

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Number 5

For The Beauty Of The Earth

For the beauty of the earth, For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon, and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony Linking sense to sound and sight,
Lord of all, to thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild,
Lord of all, to thee we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

For thy church that evermore Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore Her pure sacrifice of love,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

From Zion's Hymnal song 202.

Featured In This Issue

The Temple Lot Property.....	83	Path Lights.....	93
The coming of Zion.....	84	News.....	94
Christian Awareness Test.....	90	Announcements.....	98

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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.

WRITTEN MATERIAL REQUESTED

Priesthood articles and sermons, testimonies for "Path Lights," submissions to other regular monthly Z.A. features, and news items of Church-wide interest are requested, and should be sent to the Editor as listed above. Deadline for material requiring publication in any certain month is the 10th of the previous month.

Format of Submitted Material: Please type all submissions (if possible), on one side of the paper only. Please

avoid overuse of underlining, ALL-CAPS, and italics. The most important thing, though, is to send the material — the staff can arrange for typing or otherwise prepare anything you send.

Word Processors/Computers: We can utilize text files on an IBM or compatible computer floppy disk of any size or format and nearly any word processor. If you have this capability, it is a big help to our process.

STATUS OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Articles published in this paper do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the Church nor the opinions of the editorial staff.

Declarations and notices authorized by the General Conference reflect the practices and beliefs of the General Church.

THE TEMPLE LOT PROPERTY

For several years a newsletter type of correspondence has been circulated among various members of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) and, from all indication, among members of other "restoration churches." Those letters have directly addressed individuals by name as well as individual churches by name within the contents of the letters.

The individual who circulates those letters is not a member of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot). The Council of Apostles has requested of that individual by letter and by direct confrontation to cease referring to this church and its members by name and to not attempt involving us in any of his efforts in amalgamating churches or the selling or leasing of the Temple Lot property. However there has been

no cessation of his efforts to involve this church in the promotion of his beliefs.

It is not our disposition to discredit or defame the individual who has circulated the letters, but a recent letter expressing his efforts to write a contract of sale for the Temple Lot property has given us cause to publicly deny and reject any possibility of such a transaction or involvement lest our membership and other concerned persons might be unduly aroused.

Therefore we use this means to assure all who might be concerned that the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) is not in any way involved in a legal contract of sale or lease of the Temple Lot property. The Temple Lot property is not and has never been for sale or for lease since it was purchased by this

church. Neither has there been any consideration of such by this people in our conferences or otherwise.

Further, this Church of Christ has not involved itself in any action to amalgamate with any other church or legally recognized body that would give another organization any right to the control of the property. We have no direct affiliation with any other organization by contract nor do we have any intent to become so involved.

Council of Apostles
Church of Christ

THE COMING OF ZION

Isaiah 4: 3-4. "And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in 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 judgement, and by the spirit of burning."

When we read the above quotation, our attention is drawn to several statements that become quite interesting. "he that is left in Zion...", This tells us that there are going to be some who will **not** be left, or who will be removed, from Zion and from Jerusalem. Those that remain "...shall be called holy,..." This statement tells us that apparently those who will not be allowed to remain **are not holy**. The method by which they are to be removed and who will do the removing is found in the 4th verse: "When the Lord...", is the **WHO**, and ..."by the spirit of judgement, and by the spirit of burning." is the **HOW**.

The period of time, the

events, and the conditions, just before the arrival of Zion is of great interest to those who believe in the coming of Zion. At that first vision received by Joseph Smith in 1820, **the divine light** of God began its dawn upon this dispensation of time. According to the promise given in old testament, we are not to be left in the dark concerning coming events. Amos 3:7 "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets." Believing this to be true, I would like to search some prophecy.

Jer 30:4-7 "And these are the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah. For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? Wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it."

Looking at the above quo-

tation from Jeremiah 30, we find some interesting thoughts. We find here a message concerning Judah and Israel and it is about a time of trouble, possibly a time of war since it speaks of no peace. It speaks of a great day, great because of the events that will be taking place. It speaks of Israel and of Judah and Jacob. And if we go to the last few verses of this chapter we find that it is to take place in the latter days, our days. Jer 30:24 "The fierce anger of LORD shall not return, until he have done it, and until he have performed the intents of his heart: **in the latter days ye shall consider it.**"

We know who Judah is, because of all the tribes of Israel, they have not lost their identity. There seems to be some who do not recognize latter day Israel, so let us search out their identity. Gen 48:14-16 "And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head, guiding his hand's wittingly, for Manasseh was the firstborn. And he blessed Joseph, and

said, God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day, The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; **and let my name be named on them**, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth." Now, Jacob's name was Israel, and this is the name applied to Joseph's two children and their descendants.

It is understood, by many historians, that Ephraim was the leader of the northern kingdom. After the division of the children of Israel, wherein Ephraim led the ten tribes away from the tribes of Judah and Levi, there began to be two kingdoms of the descendants of Jacob. The one was called the kingdom of Judah, the other the kingdom of Israel. This Kingdom of Israel, otherwise known as the Northern Kingdom, led by the tribe of Ephraim, fell to the invading armies of the Kingdom of Assyria, in the year 720 B.C.

I found the following account of ancient history interesting.

REFERENCE MATERIAL: Ancient Times, His-

tory of the Early World, James Henry Breasted, University of Chicago, Ginn and Company.

page 228 subj; Destruction of the Hebrew Kingdoms, by Assyria and Chaldean; "Assyria first swept away Damascus, the Kingdom of Israel, left thus exposed, was the next victim, and Samaria, its capitol was captured by the Assyrians in 722 B.C., of the unhappy northern Hebrews, 27,290 well-to-do people were carried away as captives..."

2 Ki 17:23,24 "Until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day. And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof."

In 612 BC Assyria became part of Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon. Upon its defeat and loss of power, the government of Assyria was no longer able to hold captive the Israelites. During this period of time there was a general

migration of peoples from this semi-arid land toward a more suitable climate, or perhaps the Lord had initiated this migration in order to accomplish His purposes. In any event, the flow of peoples was from this eastern land, westward to the land of modern day Europe, and later beyond. After almost a century of living in a foreign land, the Israelites were quite willing to embark on this westward movement, and it is said of Ephraim: Hosea 12:1 "Ephraim feedeth on wind, and **followeth after the east wind:**" Note here, that east wind blows east to west.

It would be very difficult to trace Ephraim across Europe, England, and the Atlantic, to the continent of America, in the limited space of this article. There is, however sufficient evidence in the Bible, Book of Mormon, Latter Day Revelation, and world histories, to establish this land as Joseph's land, the fulfillment of the promise given in his blessing from his father, Jacob, as found in the 49th chapter of Gen., verses 22-26. While it is true that this nation is a melting pot of nationalities, with the evidences we have at our disposal, we should be able to recognize

this nation as containing the blood of the ten lost tribes of Israel. We should also realize that when Bible prophecy speaks of Israel in the latter days; those prophets are speaking to this nation, and not the present nation called Israel, which is really the old kingdom of Judah.

Let us continue on with the prophecy as found in the 30th chapter of Jeremiah, with the understanding that "Israel", in this instance represents America, especially the United States. The last line of the 7th verse says that the great and terrible day of the Lord would occur at a time when Jacob (Israel) would be in trouble. If we go to the beginning of the 31st chapter we find a very interesting statement. Jer 31:1-2 "At the same time, saith the LORD, will I be the God of **all the families of Israel**, and they shall be my people. Thus saith the LORD, The people which were **left of the sword** found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest."

The word "sword" in prophecy would represent war, and what was it the prophet said at the beginning of the 30th chapter? "We have heard a voice of trem-

bling, of fear, and **not of peace**" And again in the 7th verse where it speaks of Jacob's time of trouble we find that Jacob is to be saved. So this prophecy is telling us that this nation is set for a war, and it is to take place here at home. Call to your minds Washington's vision, or Granville Hedrick's vision of war in this nation, or the warnings given to us in other latter day revelations, Oh! You would ask where would those who were left find a wilderness to find grace in this highly developed nation? If you take away, as a war would, the electricity, the gasoline that provides transportation, the radio, television, and telephone communication, we would be left in a virtual wilderness.

More important to me is the question of what this war would accomplish. Now notice this: Jer 30:8-9 "For it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that **I will break his yoke from off thy neck**, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him: But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them." Whose "Yoke" is on our neck and what is that "Yoke".

A yoke is usually a device that binds a work animal to a burden, or a slave to a certain labor, or in this case a people to a philosophy, a system, a way of life, a type of civilization. If those of us who are descendants of Israel, by natural birth or by spiritual adoption, are under a "yoke" that binds us, we need to know what that yoke is and to what does it bind us.

Let us go to the 47th chapter of Isaiah to see if we can find the answers we wish to know. Isa 47:1 "Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground: there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called tender and delicate." Notice that the greeting, or salutation, is not directed to Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon of ancient time, but rather to a descendant, who is represented as a woman. In Bible prophecy a woman represents a church, keep this in mind as we go through this chapter. She has lost a throne where she has reigned politically, and has fallen from a high moral and spiritual esteem.

Isa 47:5 "Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called,

The lady of kingdoms." In all the world histories, who do we find that fits the description of "The Lady of Kingdoms"? This title was given in this prophecy as a means of identification. History reveals the fact that the Roman Church not only set up kings and kingdoms, but also had the power to destroy them as well. As I continue in this chapter I'll show why this "Lady" is a daughter of Babylon, but lets go along carefully.

Isa 47:6 "I was wroth with my people, I have polluted mine inheritance, and given them into thine hand: thou didst show them no mercy; upon the ancient hast thou very heavily laid thy yoke." THERE IT IS :: Did you notice that. There it tells us who has laid their "yoke" on Israel. God says that he was wroth with his people and gave them into the hand of a descendant of Babylon. Where did we say Israel had moved to after the Assyrians had lost their kingdom? Where did this "Lady of Kingdoms" reign in power? Europe. Many of the Prophecies directed to scattered Israel were directed to the North countries. North from the original "land of Israel" would bring you into Europe.

To understand why I said that this daughter of Babylon is the "Holy Roman Church", let me quote from the encyclopedia Britannica, 13th edition, Volume 3: Article=**Babylonian and Assyrian religion**. Speaking of the Babylon of Nebuchadnezzar "ends with Cyrus's conquest of Babylon in 539 BC though the religion proceeds on it's undisturbed course for several centuries after the end of the political independence...**Even when we reach the New Testament period, we have not passed entirely beyond the sphere of Babylonian-Assyrian influences.** In such a movement as early Christian Gnosticism, Babylonian elements-modified to be sure, and transformed-are largely present."

The original source of all false religions is the religion in ancient Babylon by Nimrod and his wife Semiramis. It has taken on different identities in various kingdoms and nationalities. It has undergone changes, has adapted to different societies, and therefore has appeared as different religions, but it has always been in opposition to the true religion of God. In ancient times, church and state were united and their religion, being more superstition than anything

else, was used to keep the populace under control. At the establishment of the Church of Christ, with its "render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's philosophy, and its growth in popularity, some of the sects of the ancient Babylonian mysteries had lost power and control. The Nicolaitanes was one such relic of the Babylonian mysteries.

The Christian Church had one thing that the ancient Babylonian mystery churches did not have. It had a popular hero in Jesus Christ, and this was a very enticing symbol to the people. The spirit which drove the ancient mystery church desired to take over control of this new religion, and to destroy the true church. In order to do this it had to infiltrate the organization and over a period of time destroy the influence of the Apostles, change the ordinances, change the beliefs, change the authority, in essence the original Church of Christ had to be led into apostasy. In history we see that church disappear near the end of the first century. We see, what is supposed to be the same church coming out about one hundred and fifty years later, but it does not look like the same church.

During the next few centuries, we see the christian church develop into what is called a universal church, but it is totally different than the one Christ established. One historian refers to this period of time as the "paganization of christianity".

The Church that came forth out of the darkness of unreported history between the first and second century after Christ, had for its leadership the Bishop of Rome, which office later became known as the Papacy. This office had supreme control of both Church and state. Some of the practices of their faith were; Mother Child worship, worship of Mary, worship of Saints, Saints days, unmarried priesthood, confessing to priests, praying out of purgatory, fish friday and the spring festival, the winter festival, good friday, and many more, all of which can be traced back to the ancient babylonian religion. The next highest office after the Pope is that of cardinal. Apostles, prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers, which Christ set in the Church were no longer in the Universal Church. Space only restricts an abundance of evidence showing ancient Babylonian religious beliefs,

symbols, practices and theology, being mixed into the christian Church.

Then comes the question of what is the "yoke" that was placed on ancient Israel by this Universal Church, which has evolved through the centuries to become a "daughter of Babylon". Some of the characteristics of the ancient Babylon civilization is their development over a period of centuries, of civilizations. The concept of commercial trade, ownership of property, value of metals, such as gold, silver, precious stones, the study of astrology and astronomy, the development of sciences, art, trades, such as goldsmith, silversmith, every trade used for commercial purposes, all were developed and enhanced for the improvement of civilization. These characteristics were carried on down through the Assyrian and Chaldean empires, hand in hand with their religion, by virtue of the power of their civil government.

The Holy Roman Church, which is the Universal Church, the Daughter of Babylon, further refined and developed these qualities of civilization. Our Society today, our civilization, has been delivered to us, molded and

refined, through many hundreds of years of rule and guidance of that Church, **totally in conflict** with the values and principles of God's provisions for mankind. This is the "yoke" by which we are bound. Consider this, we depend on the blessings of God to sustain us, to guide and direct, to provide the opportunities for our sustenance, but we are bound to operate within the confines of the civilization in which we live, without a complete commitment to it. Rev 18:4-7 "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. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. How much she hath glorified herself and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow." This is the daughter of Babylon of Isaiah 47.

The breaking of the "yoke" from our necks is go-

ing to be a "time of Jacob's trouble"; It will be a time of judgment, a time of suffering, a time of war and destruction. Another Prophet speaks of this time in like terms: Isa 24:1-6 "Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest; as with the servant, so with his master; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; so with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the taker of usury, so with the giver of usury to him. The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled: for the LORD hath spoken this word. The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth 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. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left."

This promise we have of

the Lord, Jacob (Israel..JFS) shall be saved. Notice this from another prophet: "Amos 9:8 "Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the LORD."

In the history of the world from Adam down to our time, God has brought his people out from under bondage several times. He has also placed his people in bondage to punish them for their disobedience. He is again going to break the "yoke" from off the neck of His people, and this will be the final time, for He will establish His government upon the earth no more to trodden down. The words of the prophet Isaiah in Chapter 2, verses 2-5, gives us hope: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of Lord's house shall be established in the top of mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob,; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall

go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. **O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD.**

Elder Joe Smith

CHRISTIAN AWARENESS TEST

How do we rate ourselves spiritually? Take the test and see where you stand, and if you need to improve yourself in any of these categories. There are 10 categories, each category ranges from 1 to 10 points, 1 being the best and 10 being the worst. Grade yourself, by taking 1 category at a time and marking down, what number you feel best represents your level in that area. Example: Patience- if you feel that you are a very patient person, you might score yourself with a 2. In the faith category, if you feel that you are halfway between: full of faith and no faith, you would score yourself a 5 etc. etc.. When you finish scoring yourself in all 10 categories, consult the **AWARENESS RATING CHART**, for your results. LET US BEGIN.

1. PATIENCE: "And now I would that ye should be humble, and be submissive, and gentle; easy to be entreated; full of patience and long suffering; being temperate in all things; being diligent in keeping the commandments of God at all times." Alma 5:39

"For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise." Heb. 10:36

#1 YOUR SCORE:

2. ENDURANCE: "And if they endure unto the end, they shall be lifted up at the last day, and shall be saved in the everlasting kingdom of the lamb;" I N. 3:188

"Labor not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed."

John 6:27

#2 YOUR SCORE:

3. COMPASSION: "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, courteous."

I Pet. 3:38

"For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."

Rom. 9:15

#3 YOUR SCORE:

4. STUDIOUS: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

II Tim. 2:15

"And behold, I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom; that ye may learn that when ye are in the service of your fellow beings, ye are only in the service of your God." Mos 1:49

#4 YOUR SCORE:

5. VIRTUOUS: "I know that the words of truth are hard against all uncleanness; but the righteous fear them not, for they love the truth,

and are not shaken." II Ne. 6:78

"And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge." II Pet. 1:5

#5 YOUR SCORE:

6. MEEKNESS: "And the first-fruits of repentance is baptism; and baptism cometh by faith, unto the fulfilling the commandments; and the fulfilling the commandments bringeth remission of sins; and the remission of sins bringeth meekness, and lowliness of heart; and because of meekness and lowliness of heart, cometh the visitation of the Holy Ghost, which comforter filleth with hope and perfect love, which love endureth by diligence unto prayer, until the end shall come, when all the saints shall dwell with God." Mni. 8:29

"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." Gal. 6:1

#6 YOUR SCORE:

7. FAITH: "And he commandeth all men that they must repent, and be baptized in his name, having perfect faith in the Holy One of Israel, or they cannot be saved in the kingdom of God."

II Ne. 6:48

"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."

Rom. 1:17

#7 YOUR SCORE:

8. REPENTANT: "And if he trespass

against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shalt forgive him." Luke 17:4

"And now surely, whosoever repenteth shall find mercy; and he that findeth mercy and endureth to the end, the same shall be saved." Alma 16:135

#8 YOUR SCORE:

9. CHARITABLE: "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." I Cor. 13:13

"Wherefore, there must be faith; and if there must be faith, there must also be hope; and if there must be hope, there must also be charity; and except ye have charity, ye can in no wise be saved in the kingdom of God." Mni. 10:15

#9 YOUR SCORE:

10. OBEDIENCE: "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous." Rom. 5:19

"For every man receiveth wages of him whom he listeth to obey, and this according to the words of the spirit of prophecy; therefore let it be according to the truth." Alma 1:129

#10 YOUR SCORE:

(add 1-10) TOTAL SCORE:

Now check the chart on next page to see how you rate.

AWARENESS RATING CHART

- 10 - 20 Seeking first the kingdom of heaven
- 21 - 30 Nourishing the word with much care
- 31 - 40 Beginning to be delicious to us
- 41 - 50 Holding fast
- 51 - 60 Word beginning to enlarge our soul
- 61 - 70 Seed starting to take root
- 71 - 80 Seed (the word) planted
- 81 - 90 Looking upward for help
- 91 - 100 No where to go but up!

(10-20...III N 6:11)
(21-100...A1 16:152-166)

I hope and pray that we each might consider these things in our lives, because they certainly will help us in this walkway of life.

"Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men. Wherefore, if ye shall press forward, feasting upon the word of Christ, and endure to the end, behold, thus saith the Father: ye shall have eternal life." II Ne. 13:29,30

May God be with us is my prayer.
In Gospel Bonds:
Elder Aaron Heath

Robert Jack Harley, Jr.

Robert Jack Harley, Jr. was born December 16, 1959 at Atlanta, Georgia and passed from this life March 27, 1994. He was baptized and became a member of the Church of Christ on April 16, 1991.

He indicated a keen desire for fellowship and a building up of the Church in Florida, and took occasion to make personal contact with other isolated members as opportunity was afforded.

We have little information on surviving members of his family except for one brother. His sister in law, Mrs. Tammy Foxx, has submitted the following poem in loving memory of our brother. Those of us who were acquainted with him truly mourn his passing in consideration of his potential for good in the service of his Master, yet we rejoice in his commitment to Christ and in his bright hope of eternal life.

Gone Home

Our dear Brother, you have left us.
Hear your loss we deely feel.
But, tis God who has bereft us,
He can all our sorrows heal.

Gone to bloom in heaven's garden,
To dwell with the happy and blest,
We mourn your loss with tender sorrow,
And wish for you eternal rest.

And, dear brother, until the morning,
When with Christ we all shall rise,
And our mourning turned to gladness,
We shall see Him with our eyes.
Hand in hand we'll walk together,
In His Kingdom in the skies.

Written by Mrs. Tammy Foxx,
Robert's Sister-in-law, in loving memory.

PATH LIGHTS

A Slice Of Heaven

Sunday 9/12/93

It was early one Sunday morning. I was busy in the kitchen preparing the last of the food for potluck dinner. Six year old Andrew wandered in and sat on the couch. He did not greet me, but seemed to be pondering something. A mother's intuition told me that something was going on. A nightmare perhaps? No, after another peek in his direction, I was assured it could not be anything traumatic. No tears or sobbing, just a peaceful, contemplative look.

"Mommy," Andrew spoke up quietly, "I had a dream and I want to tell you about it." I dropped what I was doing, dried my hands and headed for the couch. My heart beat a little faster. Have I not too had marvelous experiences as a young child? My heart began to slow as I remembered what a great blessing my experiences had been throughout my life. And now, Andrew could add another bit of knowledge to his pure child's faith. I looked expectantly at my son. He began unfolding his story. "well, in my dream, I was walking with a group of people in a dirt field at nighttime. Then we stopped to rest and we looked up at the sky. It was real dark. I looked up and there was a big dark blue cloud above me. The sky lit up and then the cloud was bright. I kept on looking up and I started to walk. Then I was just lifted off the ground. I was going straight up with my arms at my side towards the cloud. When I came closer to the cloud, it looked like the shape of a building. When I got as high as the building, I walked inside. It was like a house. Then Jesus appeared in front of me and He was sitting down. I walked up to Him. He was wearing a white glowing robe and there was a red sash across His chest. He was smiling at me. Then he picked me up and sat me on His knee. I felt real good inside. Then there was darkness, but just for a little bit and it was very bright again. I was standing in front of a man. I knew he was an apostle, but I did not recognize him. He was wearing a white robe too, but not as glowing as Jesus' robe. He was smiling too. Then I just woke up feeling really happy. I felt like God was telling me that if you walk closer to God, He will love you. That was all there was to it," finished Andrew.

My heart thrilled. That was ALL? How I would like to have seen that little slice of Heaven and been enfolded in the arms of Christ. How wonderful for Andrew to have that affirmation of a living, loving Savior and the reality of a place the Lord called His "Father's House". It is an experience he will be able to draw from throughout his life.

And Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein." And he took them up in his arms, and put his hands upon them and blessed them. Mark 10:14-16

Andrew Brown (Age 6)
Phoenix, Arizona

N E W S

Ravenna Michigan.

Greetings from the Church of Christ local, Ravenna Michigan.

Our pastor Elder Gale Brantner, Preached on Hebrews 4:12, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword." Then, Bro. Gale said, there is a cleansing the world needs and that the Lord will do that when he comes.

Next preaching service, Elder Max Spencer preached on making a commitment to obeying the Lord.

Several from Ravenna Local will be going to Conference this year. Pastor Elder Gale Brantner, assistant Pastor Elder Max Spencer and wife Vivian; also Elder Aaron Heath and wife Sue.

Some have been sick because of the Flu and colds. They are better and back to church

Sunday; March 20 we had visitors Sr. June Haines and husband Ken and their son Bruce Haines. They also are planning to attend Conference. Preacher for the hour was Elder Max Spencer.

"What is Life all About", was his topic. All that counts is what we do for God. We make promises to him, do we keep them? Each day we must make and keep our commitment in our life to God.

Our first preaching service after Conference was by Elder Gale Brantner, our Pastor. His sermon concerned the two songs, we sang, "We Have an Anchor" and "On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand".

All our Brothers and Sisters, that went to Conference are home. We are happy they are home and safe. Sr. Marie Piatt has been sick. Hope she will be back soon to Church.

Wednesday Night Prayer Service, and reading by Elder Max Spencer, Isaiah 55 chpt. and 6 to 11 verses. "Seek the Lord while he may be found." Sr. Marie needs our prayers as she is having tests concerning her heart.

The Lord gave us a beautiful day today, after having a hard winter. We are now looking forward, to the summer gatherings, and reunion. Hope all our meetings will be that of rejoicing in the Lord and with all our brothers and

sisters of like faith.

Since being home, Elders Gale Brantner and Aaron Heath made a missionary trip to Canada.

Advocate Reporter:
Sr. Lois Heath

Grand Junction

The new year began rather dramatically for the Larsen family. Srs. Alice, Jeanie, and Joanie had driven to Aspen, CO on New Year's Eve to celebrate the holiday with Bro. Tom Larsen and children. Late in the evening Tom's heating system failed. Since repairs could not be obtained until the following Monday, Tom and his sisters decided to drive to Grand Junction to get electric heaters from their mother's place.

Tom's children had retired and Tom and the girls said I (Alice) should too. But I felt uneasy, so I stayed up to keep a fire in the fireplace and pray for the safety of my children.

They expected to return by 4:30 a.m. When they were not back at 5:30, I knew that either they had decided to stay

N E W S

at Grand Junction until morning or there had been trouble. I decided to call home before contacting the State Patrol. Jeanie answered. She said the dead elk was deader than Tom's car which had been towed to our place, but they were all okay. She "just happened" to go in the house as they were ready to leave with Joanies' vehicle when I called.

I am so thankful that God protected my son and daughters even though Tom lost his car.

This winter in the wide valley of the junction of the Colorado and Gunnison Rivers has been, for the most part, pleasantly mild and uneventful. Now as buds swell and greening begins, early spring bulbs spread their bright carpets of bloom. We hear tractors and chain saws in the orchards and feel the wakening, livening essence of spring.

Once again we begin our preparations for the Colorado Reunion. Because of conflicting schedules, it was not until yesterday March 6) that we were able to definitely set our Reunion date for the second weekend in June (June

10,11,12). We hope many of you will be able to join us then to enjoy a spiritual feast.

Our business meeting was held in January. Our pastor is again Bro. Marvin Carroll. Bro. Jim Shaw is our assistant pastor.

Bro. and Sr. Bob and Shirley Ely recently returned from Oklahoma where they visited Shirley's sister Donna. Our prayer's join theirs for complete recovery of health for Donna, who is receiving treatments for cancer.

Apostle Marvin Ely is expected home soon from another missionary journey to "feed the sheep" in his field. Then he will soon be leaving for the General Conference.

Your sister in Christ,
Alice Larsen

Editor's Note:

News addressed to the Church P.O. Box may be delayed reaching the Editor 1 to 2 months.

Please address correspondence to the Editor, address on the inside cover page.

Springfield

Greetings and Happy Spring from the Springfield local. What a beautiful and amazing time of year this is for all of us. Springtime in itself is a wonderful testimony of the power Jesus Christ has in our lives.

So far this has proven to be a busy Springtime for the Addie families. We both have taken up new residences and we welcome any of you to come and visit. The Lord has also blessed me with a wonderful job and I just love it. I am a Home Health Aide for a retirement condominium community. Our sister Janeen also works at the same place.

Sister Florence Kommer and her husband, Walter arrived back home safely after wintering for three months in Southern Texas. Thank God for his watch care over them. Sister DeAnna Hutchison and her family have often visited the Houston Local and got to stay with her Mother. Our schedule has been very sporadic and it will be very nice now that we are moved to get back on a regular schedule.

N E W S

We sure do miss being together to worship our Lord and Savior, but He always seems to bring us back together again. Our Sister Marlen Cobb, Francis Yates, and Jennifer McClure have all weathered the winter quite nicely, especially sister Yates who spent the whole month of February in Tempe, Az with her brother. Praise the Lord for her safe return.

We are all amazed and awed at the revelations of Jesus', love for us through the birds singing, the flowers blooming and the wonderful messages of our traveling ministry. We just praise our Lord for the wonderful gospel that was brought to pass so many years ago. We ask that you remember us all in your prayers as we are a small group and need more lambs for our flock.

Happy Spring to you all!
Your Sister and reporter
in Christ
Sandy Addie

OUR NEW ADDRESS
FOR THE ADDIES

Martin & Janeen
Rt 1 Box 155
Willard, Mo 65781
(417) 742-3343

James & Sandy
234 S. Truman Blvd.
Nixa, Mo 65714
(417) 725-9533

Wisconsin

We have been blessed greatly in an abundance of the Holy Spirit for which I must give thanks and praise to our Heavenly Master. It has manifested itself in various ways. One has been the visits of the ministry of five Elders on a rotating basis to our area. We greatly appreciate and need their leadership for our spiritual welfare. Four of these Elders travel long distances to meet with us. They are Gail Brantner, Aaron Heath, Charles Brantner, and Bob Oldham. The fifth is Andy Brantner who resides in Janesville. Their efforts are being rewarded in ways that are not immediately apparent but are slowly emerging to view.

On February 20 we held Church at my house in Racine,

Wi. We were blessed to have a banner turnout. Among those present was Rashelle Firkus and her three children; Ashley, Cathy, and Jimmy. Rashelle (Shelly) drove 200 miles from Nekoosa, Wi to meet with us here. Shelley is a newly baptized member as of last October. Also present were Bill and Diane Shepard who are two of the three Strangites from the Burlington area who have been meeting with us for several months. The third is Billy Jean Weber.

Finally, I would like to extend an invitation to attend our **Rally** which will be held on **May 29, 1994** at **Lima Center, Wi** to any and all interested. It is our hope that we will get to meet new faces that have a familiar spirit. Meeting familiar faces will also bring us a renewal of our fellowship in the gospel of the Lord. For further information contact me either by mail or telephone.

Meredith C. Gage
2612 W. Crescent St.
Racine, Wi 53403
(414) 632-3812

TEEN CHALLENGE '94

A Church youth camp filled with fun, fellowship, study and worship.

CAMP CLASSES: Woodworking, volleyball, radio broadcasting, canoeing, sign language, and archery are just some of the classes planned for this year.

STUDY CLASSES: Each day there will be a study class centered around some spiritual theme.

SPORTS: The afternoons will be full of swimming, volleyball, softball, horseshoes, basketball, and more.

CAMPFIRE: Nightly campfires with plenty of time for both fun and serious activities.

Camp Far Westa is a beautiful, spacious, well-kept camp that is only an hour away from Kansas City. Their facilities include a pool, boy's and girl's dorms and showers, a large cafeteria, a lake, a ball field, etc.

MINISTRY: There will be Priesthood in attendance at all times.

CHAPERONES: There will be one adult for every eight campers.

LIFE GUARD: The camp provides a certified life guard.

FOOD: The facility provides the food service-SNACKBAR AVAILABLE.

AGE GROUP: Junior and Senior High -- ages 12-18

DATES: August 2-12 1994

TOTAL COST: \$85.00 (\$75.00 if paid before July 1, 1994)

FOR REGISTRATION FORM AND MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

CAMP DIRECTOR: Buzz Brickhouse
5713 Logan Road
Kansas City, MO 64136
(816) 356-9214

This camp is a cooperative effort by Church of Christ members, ministry and parents from several locals. The purpose of the camp is to provide a setting for the youth of the Church to meet in fellowship with others of similar beliefs in a moral Christian atmosphere.

If you would like to help or offer financial support, contact the Camp Director:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WISCONSIN RALLY May 29th, 1994 LIMA CENTER, WISCONSIN

Your Brothers and Sisters of Wisconsin are organizing another GRAND GET-TOGETHER and would like to invite ALL to come and join with us Sunday, May 29th, 1994, at Lima Center, Wisconsin. We hope to enjoy a spirit filled day sharing and visiting with ALL.

We are looking to begin at 9:00 a.m. with a Sacrament Service, which should include a season of prayer and testimonies. Lunch will be served around noon, with plenty of time to visit and renew some of those very special relationships. Again, during the afternoon we are hoping to offer a special presentation of music and song. Later in the afternoon 4 members of the ministry will present short sermonets. We will schedule to end our day together about 5:00 p.m. with snack to get everybody on their way.

Last year each that attended helped to make our Rally held in Wisconsin a great success. Please make a SPECIAL effort to join us in Lima Center, Wisconsin, to make this one just as spiritual filling as our meetings were last year.

We would like to invite and ENCOURAGE as many as possible to share this day with us!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

For assistance in lodging and directions, please contact:

Meredith (Bud) Gage at (414) 632-3812
or Andy Brantner at (608) 758-0437.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL
THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

PLEASE RSVP Meredith (Bud) Gage
2612 W. Crescent Street
Racine, Wisconsin 53403

MICHIGAN REUNION

The Michigan Reunion will be held at the Ravenna Local Church of Christ. We are looking forward to many spiritual meetings and hosting this joyous event. Please come and join us for, I'm sure, a very uplifting time. Jot down the time and place so you don't forget, because we love each of you dearly and want to see your smiling faces again.

DATE: JUNE 17-19 (Father's Day Weekend)

Address: 750 S. Ravenna Rd.
Ravenna, Michigan 49451

Once again, there is plenty of room for campers of any size at the church, and other housing is available by contacting: Elder Gale Brantner (616) 853-2123

1994 ARIZONA CAMP FOR ALL AGES

The Arizona Camp For All Ages will be held again this year at Walnut Ranch, near Heber, Arizona. The camp will begin on Saturday, July 2 and end Monday, July 4.

The camp has always been spirit filled as well as fun filled. Each year we have been blessed with the fellowship of many of our brothers and sisters from all over the United States, but this year we are anticipating attendance from some of the families that have been contacted on the Navajo Reservation.

If you have any questions, are planning to attend, or need help making arrangements, please contact:

Coordinator	<u>or</u>	Assistant Coordinator
Jim Yates, Jr		John Yates
1449 E. Rockwood Drive		18648 N. 30th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85024-2969		Phoenix, AZ 85024
(602) 582-4163		(602) 867-7232

1994 PHOENIX REUNION NOTICE

The 1994 Phoenix reunion will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 25-27, 1994.

We invite all to come and worship with us. For further information contact:

Elder Brian McIndoo	or	Elder Ken Oar
18824 N. 30th St.		19012 N. 29th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85024		Phoenix, AZ 85024
(602) 867-7063		(602) 569-2249

MISSOURI REUNION NOTICE

We invite you to come worship and fellowship with us at the Missouri Reunion of 1994.

DATE: August 12, 13 & 14, 1994 (Friday through Sunday)

PLACE: Warrensburg, Missouri, at East Hudson Conference Room, East Anderson Street, East of Highway 13 (the same place that the reunion was held three years ago)

LODGING: Room for one (share bath) \$20.00 per night
Room for two (share bath) \$30.00 per night
Room with two queen size beds (share bath) \$38.00
two room suite (includes setting room & kitchenette) \$48.00

FOOD: Meal will be furnished; donations accepted.

FOR RESERVATIONS WRITE OR CALL:

Jeanette Cuningham
510 SE 201
Warrensburg, MO 64093
(816) 747-5024

FOR OTHER INFORMATION WRITE OR CALL:

Isaac Brockman Sr.	Roland Sarratt
1203 Baker Dr.	15910 E. 36th Terr.
Indep., MO 64050	Indep., MO 64055
(816) 254-8190	(816) 373-6605

Smith N. Brickhouse
5713 Logan Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64136
(816) 356-9214

COLORADO REUNION 1994

On June 10, 11, and 12, 1994, the annual Colorado Reunion of the Church of Christ will be held at 3233 B 1/2 Road, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Please notify one of the following members of our Reunion Committee for assistance in housing in a home or motel.

Jim Shaw	Bob Ely
3186 B Road	3201 B 1/2 Road
Grand Junction, CO	Grand Junction, CO
81503	81503
(303) 434-8067	(303) 434-8090

Marvin Ely
236 32 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503
(303) 434-8149

We are looking forward to seeing many of our friends, both old and new, and greeting you each in the name of the Lord and Savior.

Enid E. Bell, Secretary

Missouri Camp For All Ages

The Missouri Camp For All Ages will be Friday evening, June 10th to 12th at camp Aroua (same place as last year).

The cost will be \$15.00 ea. for a cabin, \$8.00 ea. for children 12 to 5, under 5 free. Camp sites are \$10.00 ea., \$5.00 ea. for children. For more Information contact:

Rick Olson	Jeff Oldam
5629 Logan	4957 South Union
Indep., MO 64136	Indep., MO 64055
(816) 358-8530	(816) 358-4940

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1994 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 2. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M., Monday, April 3. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, March 31 & April 1. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 1994 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 17 through 19, at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

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

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

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

Ancient Prophecies Fulfilled in 1830
 Articles of Faith & Practice of the Church of Christ
 Articles of Faith & Practice (Spanish)
 Baptism for the Dead? - A Fallacy
 The Book of Mormon (tract)
 A Brief History of the Church of Christ
 The Cost of Salvation
 Does it Make a Difference to Which Church You Belong?
 First Presidency or First Apostles?
 God's Purpose in America
 The Great Plan of Redemption
 The Latter Day Restoration
 Marriage for Time and Eternity? - A Fallacy
 Mighty Acts of the Ages (Spanish)
 Priesthood - Divine Authority
 The Principles of the Gospel - Baptism
 The Principles of the Gospel - Faith & Repentance
 The Principles of the Gospel - Laying on of Hands
 Resurrection and Eternal Judgement
 Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus
 A Synopsis (Compares beliefs of 3 Restoration churches)
 What about the Book of Mormon
 What the Church teaches about Matrimony (Spanish)
 Why? (Amplifies absence of a "First Presidency" in Scripture)
 Zion and the Temple of the Lord

*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.

Bible Stories to Grow By - 52 Lessons about God and Jesus for ages 5-7
 Book in the Stone Box, The - About the Book of Mormon
 Church History for Juniors - Includes a Teachers Guide
 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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 P.O. Box 472
 Independence, Mo 64051-0472

Second Class Postage Paid
 Independence, Mo 64051

Richard & Velma Wheaton
 704 S. Elizabeth
 Independence, MO 64056

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.

LAMP UNTO MY FEET, A (32 minutes) — Directed specifically toward American Indian viewers, compiled from three other programs.

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.

OUT OF THE DUST (45 minutes) — Tells the story found within the Book of Mormon.

RETURN, THE (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 addresses are listed on the inside front cover.