

Zion's Advocate

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

1 Nephi 3:187

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Number 10

The Anvil

I stood one day beside a blacksmith's
door,
And heard the anvil ring like vesper
chime;
I saw old hammers lying on the floor,
Worn out with beating o'er years of time.

"How many anvils have you had?" asked
I,
"To wear and batter all these hammers
so?"
"Just one!" said he, with twinkling eye.
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you
know."

I thought of God's holy Word—an anvil
Enduring all the blows of unbelief and

time,
The hammers worn and cast
aside—forgotten,
The anvil still rings with truth sublime.
It's shaped the souls of countless men
When pressed by heat of sin's sharp
sword,
They're caught upon the anvil's
unyielding face
With faith they bend to God's holy Word.
Behold, the Anvil of the Lord, His Word!
Unchanged by time or blow till now,
It will endure till time is done
And man before his Creator bow.

—Unknown

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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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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.

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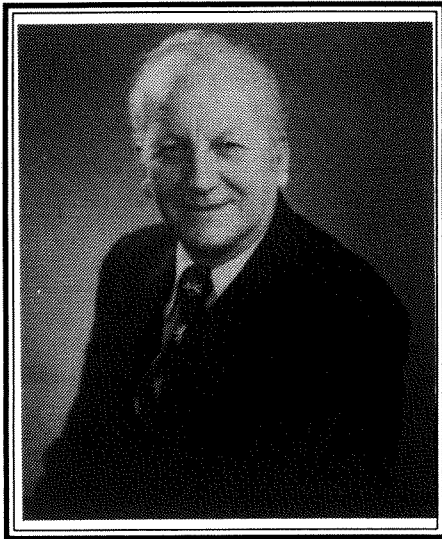
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The Pit of Destruction



By Apostle William A. Sheldon

When the article entitled, "The Fall of Babylon" was written and published in the *Zion's Advocate* in 1988-89, there was presented an overview relative to the "mark of the beast", his name and his number, as found in Rev. 13:17. Also, reference was made to Rev. 14:9-11, which reveals the damnation of those who "worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand".

At the time, the author's

thinking was inconclusive as to the total ramification of what might be involved, or by what means the mark of that "beast" should be revealed. Anciently, and down through the centuries to the present, it has been revealed in the display of a cross, ostensibly, and in most cases, innocently, in reverence to the cross by which Christ was crucified. Without repeating why the cross is felt to signify that "mark of the beast", at least as the most conspicuous evidence of it, from a religious standpoint, it is our intent to offer here an apparent but insidious means by which that "beast" is seeking to mark the nations of men for destruction: the digging of a "pit" for such purpose.

The cross is an obvious sign or mark with religious significance, and the beast, which is the devil, is the foundation of a great and abominable church (a church in his service, and which thus qualifies it also as "the beast" through a sa-

tanic system of church government—the papacy)—the devil uses that sign to entrap innocent souls, and if possible to lead them carefully down to hell. Satan has other agencies which require no specific religious connection, but which may have a spiritual connection in their wickedness. That "great church...is the mother of abominations" 1 Ne. 3:222.

"And that great pit which hath been digged for them by that great and abominable church, which was founded by the devil and his children, that he might lead away the souls of men down to hell; yea, that great pit which hath been digged for the destruction of men, shall be filled by those who digged it unto their utter destruction, saith the Lamb of God" 1 Ne. 3:206-207.

The question arises: What is this pit? Surely it will be revealed lest the sons

of God, being unaware, should fall therein unto destruction with those who know Him not! We need not suppose that only the saints of the Church of the Lamb of God are to escape, but there are those who will ultimately be so identified, who are pure in heart, though presently confused by doctrines and ideologies of men, or are simply ignorant of God and His laws. Nor should we assume that the saints have a corner on all knowledge relative to understanding the prophecies of God.

A "worship of the beast" implies a knowing consent of evil, even of delight in the performance of rebellion against God, and of violence and injustice to mankind.

What is the pit? It is that which is deliberately digged to ensnare or to enslave men unto a temporal and/or spiritual destruction.

The following comes from a taped interview with Dr. Carl Sanders, who is a doctor of philosophy and an electronic engineer of note among his peers in the design of micro-chips, which are being developed and used extensively in communications, medicine, and all other areas of scientific endeavor. As an evidence of

the rapid strides having been made in the development of micro-chips, and which is far surpassed to the present, he has a tie-clasp

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which includes a multi-layered micro-chip, about 1/8" x 1/8" in size. This tiny chip is capable of storing 3 gigabytes (3 billion bytes, or "bits" of information).

Development of micro-chips, which includes micro-miniaturization (making very small) is to the point where they can be inserted into a human body by a hypodermic needle! Larger chips have been surgically implanted for medical purposes, and can be used to affect the adrenalin flow through the body—a "shot" for added strength. The pituitary gland may likewise be affected in the flow of es-

trogen; this affects conception, and would thus be useful for birth control.

However, the purpose for the micro-chip which appears most serious is its use for identification. Already there are Montessori schools (for care of children) in Florida which are being used in test projects to identify children in case they become lost from school or are kidnapped.

Identification of people is a laudable and important project, but like other human endeavors, may be abused and used for wicked purposes. It could be used for the purpose of control, and thus be an infringement upon human liberty.

Thus we come to the very great danger we are facing: a "mark of the beast" imposed, a "great pit" being digged for destruction of nations of men, the means of which do already exist. Preliminary steps are being made which will lead people into acceptance of identification micro-chips.

We are accustomed to credit cards, and debit cards for electronic transfer of funds (no direct money transfer) are gaining acceptance. Now we hear also of smart cards which includes a record of personal income,

tax records and any criminal record. Some stores in Canada will automatically discount prices by 10% for those using a debit card, while those using cash may need to wait in longer lines. But then—an implanted micro-chip containing all information to identify the person, giving his name, social security number (including added international digits), finger print, physical description, family history, address, occupation, bank account, income taxes paid or owed, and criminal record—this would fully identify a person and secure his funds from robbery! Wouldn't that be wonderful (so thinks average John Smith, or whoever might not have run afoul of the law)!

We are really talking about preparation for a one-world government. Who hasn't heard of the "new world order" by those of recent and present administrations of the U.S.A.? President Clinton was asked of his feelings for use of the micro-chip in identification, and he said: "Of course, of course!"

Dr. Sanders said that the larger denominations of money of the U.S. as well as all the European nations, are already marked in a way

to more easily facilitate international exchange.

Now—what about the reception of a mark in the right hand or the forehead,

◆ **Come to know your Savior by trusting Him, by obedience to His word, by unfeigned love toward God and your fellowman, and by rejection of this "world" ...**

without which no man may buy nor sell, as we are informed in Rev. 13:16,17? One must receive that mark, "or the name of the beast, or the number of his name", and v. 18 says that the number of the beast is the "number of a man", and that his number is 666. As previously mentioned, we have identified the "man" as the papacy—a system of church government by a succession of popes; not a single person, but an ecclesiastical system in which proclamations have been made which are blasphemous in nature, and whose power "leadeth into captivity" (see Rev. 13:4-10). The pope has been designated by the authority of that great, abominable

church as "vicarius filii dei" (vicar of God), and the Roman numeral equivalent is 666.

How might one receive that mark representing 666, "the number of a man"? We have mentioned that, according to the prophecy of John in Revelation (sometimes called The Apocalypse), the mark is to be in the right hand or in the forehead. Dr. Sanders suggests as plausible reasoning for this the following:

1 The micro-chip will require a source of energy, which may be obtained through a variation of heat levels, or differences in temperature within the human body.

2 Immediately below the hairline on the forehead is where may be found most easily an elevation of temperature, or a change in temperature.

3 The back of the hand also reveals such temperature change.

Therefore, these areas of the body are most likely to be used for the implanting of micro-chips for purposes of identification.

A suggested source of energy for the micro-chip has been lithium. However, Sanders feared that it could

prove harmful to the body, so he went to a scientist who he felt would be knowledgeable, even though being irreligious, and asked him about it. He said it would produce a great sore, a grievous sore, if injected into the body. This caused Sanders to remember the prophetic statement in Rev 16:2:

"And the first (angel) went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image."

Regarding the present ability to inject a micro-chip into the skin of a person by use of a hypodermic needle, Dr. Sanders felt directed of God to research into the number 666. There is a Greek term for this number as found in Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, which is: *chi xi stigma*. A further break-down of this term defines it: to scratch or stick into (for recognition of ownership). In this we may readily see the possible use of a hypodermic needle to inject a micro-chip into the forehead or the hand for the purpose of identification.

The already existing sci-

entific and practical ability to implement programs of universal identification has set the stage for:

1 A greater trend for a universal church, identified in 1 Ne 3:221-222 as the "church of the devil...which is the mother of abominations", though it need not be considered exclusively as pertaining to a church with a specific name:

"Wherefore, he that fighteth against Zion, both Jew and Gentile, both bond and free, both male and female, shall perish: for they are they which are the whore of all the earth; for they which are not for me, are against me, saith our God" 2 Ne. 7:23-25.

2 A one-world government, including monetary systems more closely inter-related, and with armies subject to a universal control, such as is even now being implemented to a degree with a United Nations command.

All of this should cause us to realize that the devil is using these means to bring about the subjection of nations, and to gather them into a pit of destruction, as it were, and is his attempt to war against Zion, or to over-

throw the work of God in these last days.

The prospects are too attractive for the average carnally-minded man to be able to resist, for he will not be able to buy nor sell without the "mark of the beast", and it will seem so easy! He must conform to the system or perish.

But there is a way of escape as delineated more fully in the aforementioned article relative to the "fall of Babylon". In a few words it is: Come to know your Savior by trusting Him, by obedience to His word, by unfeigned love toward God and your fellowman, and by rejection of this "world", walking, talking, thinking of true spiritual values to the exclusion of any evidence or trend toward violence, the abuse of rights of others, or of any immorality.

The Lord will spare his saints even if He must destroy their enemies by fire (see 1 Ne. 7:35-37 and 2 Ne. 5:30-38). Can we not see the increasing importance of the gathering of the saints, those who are Zion-minded, even to the designated center place of Zion?

"Fear God and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgement is come..." Rev. 14:7.

What Really Ails America

Condensed from a speech by William J. Bennett, Former Secretary of Education and editor of *The Book of Virtues: A Treasury of Great Moral Stories* (Simon & Schuster)

A few months ago I lunched with a friend who now lives in Asia. During our conversation the topic turned to America as seen through the eyes of foreigners. My friend had observed that, while the world still regards the United States as the leading economic and military power on earth, this same world no longer beholds us with the moral respect it once did, as a "shining city on a hill." Instead, it sees a society in decline.

Recently, a Washington, D. C. cabdriver—a graduate student from Africa—told me that, when he receives his degree, he is returning to his homeland. His reason? He doesn't want his children to grow up in a country

where his daughter will be an "easy target" for young men and where his son might also be a target for violence at the hands of other young males. "It is more civilized where I come from," he said.

Last year an article in the *Washington Post* described how exchange students adopt the lifestyle of American teens. Paulina, a Polish high school student studying in the United States, said that when she first came here she was amazed at the way teenagers spent their time. "In Warsaw, we would come home after school, eat with our parents, and then do four or five hours of homework. Now, I go to Pizza Hut and watch TV and do less work in school. I can tell it is not a good thing to get used to." I have an instinctive aversion to foreigners harshly judging my nation; yet, I must concede that much of what they say is true. Something has gone wrong with us.

Last year I compiled *The Index of Leading Cultural*

◆ ...While the world still regards the United States as the leading economic and military power on earth, this same world no longer beholds us with the moral respect it once did, as a "shining city on a hill."

Indicators, a statistical portrait of American behavioral trends of the past three decades. Among the findings: **Since 1960**, while the gross domestic product has nearly tripled, violent crime has increased at least 560 percent. Divorces have more than doubled. The percentage of children in single-parent homes has tripled. And by the end of the decade 40 percent of all American births and 80 percent of minority births will occur out of wedlock.

These are not good things to get used to.

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murder, rape and violent crime. At the same time, our elementary-school students rank at or near the bottom in tests of math and

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In 1940, teachers identified the top problems in America's schools as: talking out of turn, chewing gum, making noise and running in the hall. In 1990, teachers listed drugs, alcohol, pregnancy, suicide, rape and assault.

These are not good things to get used to, either.

There is a coarseness, a

callousness and a cynicism to our era. The worst of it has to do with our children. Our culture seems almost dedicated to the corruption of the young.

Last year, Snoop Doggy Dogg, indicted for murder, saw his rap album "Doggystyle," which celebrates marijuana use and the degradation of women, debut at No. 1 on the pop chart. What will happen when young boys who grow up on mean streets, without fathers in their lives, are constantly exposed to such music?

On television, indecent exposure is celebrated by all ages as a virtue. There was a time when personal failures, subliminal desires and perverse tastes were accompanied by guilt, or at least silence. Today they are tickets to appear as guests on talk shows. In one recent two-week period, these shows featured cross-dressing couples, a three-way love affair, a man who fools women into thinking he is using a condom during sex, and prostitutes who love their jobs. These shows present a two-edged problem: people want to expose themselves, and other people who want to watch.

We have become inured

to the cultural rot that is setting in. People are losing their capacity for shock, disgust and outrage. During the 1992 Los Angeles riots,

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Damian Williams was filmed crushing an innocent man's skull with a brick, while Henry Watson held the victim down. When Williams was finished, he did a victory dance. Watson and William's lawyers then built a legal defense on the premise that people cannot be held accountable for getting caught up in mob violence. ("I guess maybe they were in the wrong place at the wrong time," one juror told the *New York Times*.) When these men were acquitted on most counts, the sound you heard throughout the land was not outrage, but relief.

This is not a good thing to get used to.

What's to blame for this change? The hard fact is that it was not something done to us; **it is something we have done to our-**

◆ **...Our real crisis is spiritual, a corruption of the heart. The ancients called our problem acedia, an aversion to spiritual things and an undue concern for the external and the worldly.**

elves. Thoughtful people have pointed to materialism, an overly permissive society, or the legacy of the 1960's. There is truth in almost all these accounts. But in my view **our real crisis is spiritual**, a corruption of the heart.

The ancients called our problem acedia, an aversion to spiritual things and an undue concern for the external and the worldly. Acedia also is the seventh capital sin—sloth—but it does not mean mere laziness. The slothful heart is steeped in the worldly and carnal, hates the spiritual and wants to be free of its demands.

When the novelist,

Walker Percy, was asked what concerned him most about America's future, he answered, "Probably the fear of seeing America, with all its great strength and beauty and freedom...gradually subside into decay through default and be defeated, not by the communist movement, but from within, from weariness, boredom, cynicism, greed and in the end helplessness before its great problems."

I realize this is a tough indictment. If my diagnosis is wrong, then why, amid our economic prosperity and military security, do almost 70 percent of the public say we are off track? I submit that **only when we turn to the right things—enduring, noble spiritual things—will life get better.**

During the last decade of the 20th century, there is a disturbing reluctance to talk seriously about matters spiritual and religious. We have become used to not talking about the things that matter most. One will often hear that religious faith is a private matter. But whatever your faith—or even if you have none at all—it is a fact that, when millions of people stop believing in God, enormous public conse-

quences follow. Dostoyevsky reminded us in *The Brothers Karamazov* that, **"if God does not exist, everything is permissi-**

◆ **...It is a fact that, when millions of people stop believing in God, enormous public consequences follow.**

ble." We are now seeing "everything."

What can be done? For one, we must once again connect public policies to our deepest beliefs. Right now **we say one thing and do another.**

- We say we want law and order, but we allow violent criminals to return to the streets.
- We say we want to stop illegitimacy, but we subsidize behavior that leads to it.
- We say we want to discourage teen-age sex, but educators across America treat teenagers as if they were young animals in heat, and are more eager to dispense condoms than moral guidance.
- We say we want more families to stay together, but we make divorce eas-

ier to attain.

- We say we want a color-blind society, but we continue to count people by race and skin pigment.

◆ ...America desperately needs to recover the purpose of education, which is to provide for the intellectual *and* moral education of the young.

Furthermore, America desperately needs to recover the purpose of education, which is to provide for the intellectual *and* moral education of the young. Plato made the point that good education makes good men, and good men act nobly.

Until a quarter-century or so ago, this time-honored belief virtually went unchallenged. But having departed from it, we are now reaping the whirlwind. We say we desire more civility and responsibility from our children, but many schools refuse to teach right and wrong. And so we talk about "skills facilitation," "self-esteem" and being "comfortable with ourselves."

Most important, we must return religion to

its proper place. Religion provides us with moral bearings, and the solution to our chief problem of spiritual impoverishment depends on spiritual renewal. The surrendering of strong beliefs in our private and public lives has demoralized society.

Today, much of society ridicules and mocks those who are serious about their faith. America's only respectable form of bigotry is bigotry against religious people. And the only reason for hatred of religion is that it forces us to confront matters many would prefer to ignore.

Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner once declared, "I decline to accept the end of man." Man will prevail because, as Faulkner said, **man alone among creatures "has a soul, a spirit, capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance."**

In our time, we have seen America make enormous gains—a standard of living unimagined 50 years ago, with extraordinary advances in medicine, science and technology. Life expectancy has increased by more than 20 years in the past seven decades. Opportunity has been extended to those who were once denied it.

And, of course, America prevailed in our "long, twilight struggle" against communism.

Today, we must carry on

◆ If we have full employment and greater economic growth—if we have cities of gold and alabaster—but our children have not learned how to walk in goodness, justice and mercy, then the American experiment, no matter how gilded, will have failed.

a new struggle for the country we love. We must push hard against an age that is pushing hard against us. If we have full employment and greater economic growth—if we have cities of gold and alabaster—but our children have not learned how to walk in goodness, justice and mercy, then the American experiment, no matter how gilded, will have failed.

Do not surrender. Get mad. Get in the fight.



A Physician Greater Than Man

I think I told you in a former letter how Brother Wentworth's little girl got along with a ruptured appendix, and to the surprise of the doctor it healed without an operation. He was one puzzled doctor; but we knew there was a Physician greater than he that had a hand in it. She is well as ever now, and running around as lively as a cricket.

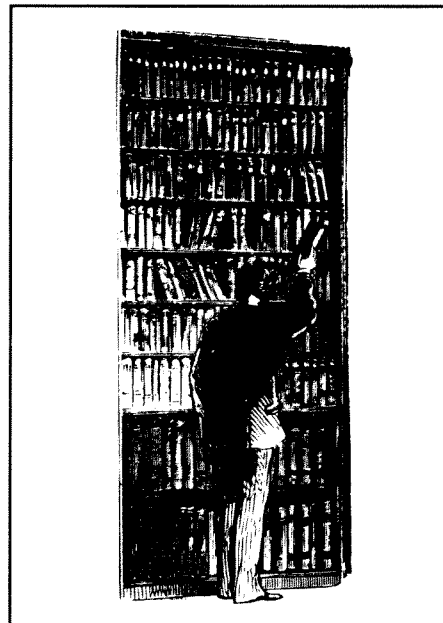
A sister of Michigan had her internal organs covered with green mold, and went to another doctor. He gave her something for it, but when she went back he was disappointed, and said his remedy hadn't accomplished what he thought it could, and gave her another remedy to try, and said, "If that doesn't help, you better try another doctor who may have something I don't know about." Right after that she was administered to by a couple of elders, and when I saw her several months later I asked, "Well, what did the doctor say when you went back?" She said, "I didn't go back. I didn't have to." I haven't seen her since, but I know she is still living.

We got a letter from our daughter in Maryland, and I am going to copy part of

it in regard to a neighbor's family.

"About two months ago the five-year-old son of a neighbor's wife was taken mysteriously sick. The doctors couldn't tell what was wrong, and so suggested an operation to find out. So the child was taken to the hospital. The night before the operation the child's mother was sleeping on a cot in his room. A heavenly visitor entered the room, and speaking to the mother told her that the child had cancer of the liver, which the doctors could neither cure nor help; he also told her what ways she was not living right herself, which included not observing the Sabbath day, or Sunday, having beer in her icebox, and especially not taking the two children God had given into her care to church services—and for this cause had the child been afflicted. Then the messenger told her that if she would repent and change her ways, and do right, that God would heal the boy.

"She promised to make the changes. The next day the doctor operated, and found the boy so bad with cancer of the liver that he gave him up. He told his folks he might not live two hours, and not more than two days. Steadfastly the



FROM the FILES

mother maintained he would get well. Her friends and relatives tried to tell her she was building false hopes, but they couldn't shake her faith. The child grew better and was taken home. By four weeks he was up playing around like any small child and the doctor came out to see him. He said he couldn't understand it, and if he hadn't seen the boy on the operating table, and seen the cancer himself, he would never believe the child had had the disease."

Well, that is in Maryland. It is to be hoped that the mother remembers her covenant to change her ways.

Merida, Yucatan

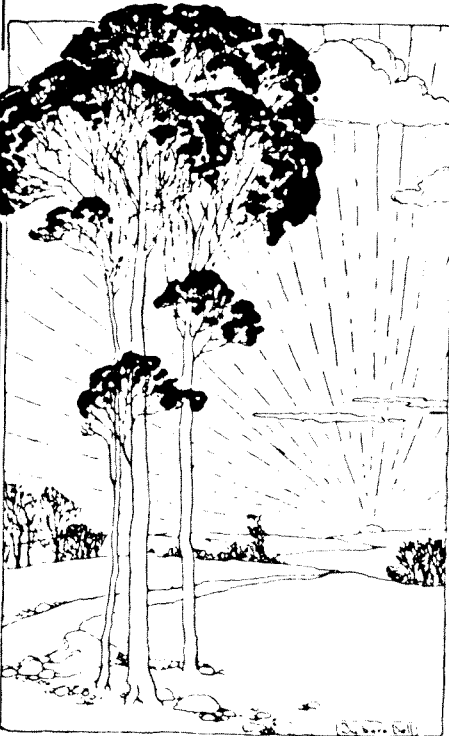
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I would like to share with you this testimony because I know you worship this same God which we worship and receive the same blessings we receive.

Before I really knew God, my life was filled with woe and sorrow because of the voice of drunkenness. I often worked day and night and the greater part of all I earned was spent on drinking. Many times I was taken to the jail. Meanwhile, my wife, waiting for me at home was crying and worrying about where I was. She was suffering for my errors and begged me to quit drinking, but I was unable to do so.

I told my wife that I was going to quit drinking, but I felt that I was unable to break the habit. My wife had attended the Church of Christ once in a while with my mother who lived in the little town of Uayalceh. She had heard how the brethren prayed, and so she began

praying for me. About this time, Brother Roger Can (Pastor of the Motul local—dem) came to Merida and asked our neighbor if he could hold services in her home, but the neighbor de-



PATHLIGHTS

clined to do so. Then he asked my wife if he could hold services in our home and she was willing to do so. He held services there and later Brother Placido Koyoc was

responsible for the services. I did not enjoy the services and on those days when there were services I did not come home early; I preferred to go to a movie because I did not want to hear the preaching. At times, I would arrive home in the middle of the service.

The brethren counseled me to leave behind the things of the world, and I did begin to attend services once in a while. One day, I returned to our home town of Uayalceh with my wife for a celebration and a dance. I dreamed that I went to the dance and in the dance hall I saw fire falling from the ceiling. My wife told me not to go to the dance because God was calling to me, but I didn't pay any attention to her. I went to the dance and I got drunk. I spent all my money and was robbed of my ring. With this, my wife had enough and told me she was going to leave me.

I promised her that I would change; that I would serve God, and I did begin to

attend the services. However, I felt that I would never be able to quit drinking. One night as I listened to the words of a hymn in our hymnal, "My Redeemer", I felt the power of the Spirit of God. I began to cry and then understood that I must serve God. Then I heard a sermon which explained how with men, many things are impossible, but with God, all things are possible. I began to plead for the help of God, and the Lord granted me that which I asked. I was able to worship God with all my heart and I

made a covenant with Him. Today, I am very happy serving my God. I enjoy participating in the reunions, the studies, etc. Now I never feel alone—whatever sickness or problem we may have, God is present to help us. We have received many blessings while in the hands of our God.

May the Lord bless each of you, my brethren.

*Jose Sergio Uluac P.
Merida, Yucatan*

Addendum: Brother Sergio, age 28, has been a

leader in the church work in Merida. He has great responsibilities for the work there and makes many sacrifices to fulfill them. He is an active participant in all the general activities of the church in Yucatan. He shared this testimony at a three-day revival held in Motul this year. In March of this year, Sergio was called to be an elder in the Church of Christ and was ordained on May 21st.



The Four Corners of the Earth

In an Associated Press report of June '65, an interesting item from a scientific source shows that the earth really has corners. The Bible mentions the four corners of the earth in Isaiah 11:12, "And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth".

Skeptics and agnostics have in past times ridiculed this phrase; and again Christians have taken the statement metaphorically.

The report says: "Satellite

Scientists reported that they have found that four corners of the earth really exist. You can journey to them, but you cannot see them with the naked eye. They were discovered by experimental satellites measuring the pull of gravity, so scientists of the Johns Hopkins University applied physics laboratory reported".

One high point centers over Ireland, in the Northern Hemisphere, going north towards the Pole. Another runs north from New Guinea to Japan. The third is south of the African continent, extending

down to Antarctica, whilst the fourth extends southward from a point west of Peru, in the Pacific Ocean.

Satellites reveal that at the center of these high spots or corners the pull of gravity is greater than is expected for the latitude, enough to pull the satellite downwards a few hundred feet.

Surely Daniel's prophecy is being fulfilled that knowledge shall be increased in the latter days. God never leaves Himself without a witness to His marvelous Creation and Universe.

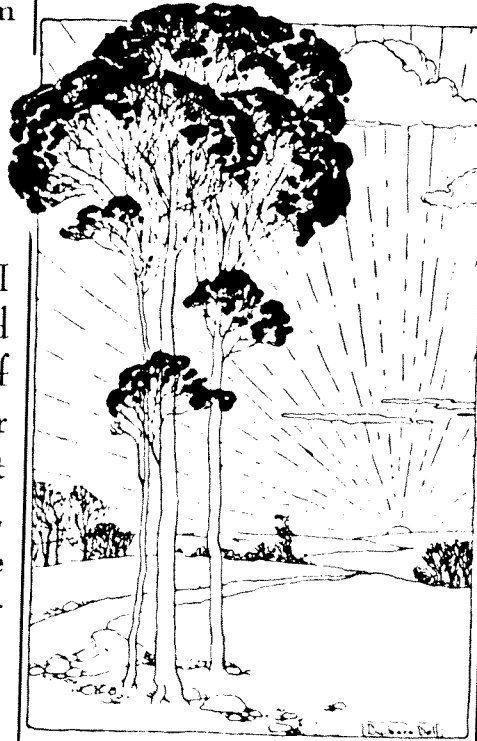
—*Jewish Hope*

Yobain, Yucatan

The reason for this letter is to ask you the following: Dear Brother, I wish to send my appreciation to the General Church and to the church in Phoenix that so lovingly helped me to pay the expenses that resulted from my sickness and those of my daughter, Nelly, for her dental work which has now been completed. Of a truth, I hated to ask for this aid for myself, but I was suffering a great deal and was without any means of paying for an operation. For this reason, I cried a great deal as I asked for this help, and I cry yet, because I owe you so much with no manner of repaying you for all this love you have showered upon me.

We only kneel before the Eternal Lord of the heavens and pray, "Our Father who art in heaven, Creator of all mankind, we pray that thou wilt open the windows of heaven so that Thy rich blessings shall be upon your sons and daughters in the U.S.

that help us with the problems of life. We pray that Thou wilt give them spiritual and material prosperity; that the fountain from which these blessings flow shall be inexhaustible day and night



PATHLIGHTS

and so bless others in great need." This is our prayer. Above all, again we greatly appreciate the unforgettable love you have for us.

Dear one, I pray you will

read our letter of appreciation to the church wherever possible. I also send an affectionate greeting to the honorable conference and to each of the Apostles. We are praying for this holy work always, that the Holy Spirit shall be with you to guide you in all good. I beg your prayers for me. I also send an affectionate greeting to the Reunion of our brothers and sisters from many places, extending to you a strong embrace and a holy kiss, telling you that you are in my heart day and night. Never shall I forget the experience that I had with you last year, and above all, I am infinitely grateful for the opportunity you afforded me to visit you. I ask your prayers for me and all my family. Raquelina is in good health now, thanks to our God. May the grace of our Lord be with each one of you now and always is our prayer.

*Your brother in Christ,
Placido Kayoc and
Family*

L E T T E R S



Teen Challenge 1994 was held August 7-12, 1994, at Camp Far Westa in north-western Missouri. The campers and staff would like to thank each of our brothers and sisters for their support and prayers and for this year's camp.

Attendance at the camp included 78 kids from nine states and 34 staff members from eight local congregations. We realize that the Lord once again truly blessed us.

The weather was perfect and we were able to participate in all the activities that we had planned. This year's activities included two new classes, Character Building and Choir, which were well attended.

Each day classes started and ended with a Bible Study or a Serious Discussion class in which the youth openly participated. Other

activities included Ham Radio, Woodworking, Wood Carving, Cake Decorating, Crafts, Art, Choir, Drama, Signing, Sports, Canoeing, Rappelling, Camp Journal and Camp Video and other challenging activities. Each night we had a campfire with the youth performing skits and singing songs.

The highlight of the week was once again our Thursday evening Testimony Service. It was an experience that will be remembered by each of us who were fortunate to be present.

We are looking forward to next year's camp. Mark your calendars for August 6 through 11. The Camp is for youth ages 12 through 18. The youth are not required to be a member of the Church. In fact, about half of them are not.

We would appreciate your suggestions for the

camp, and if you have a particular talent or interesting hobbies we are looking for new ideas for classes for next year.

Please continue your prayers for the camp and for our youth, and thank you once again for all your support.

Buzz & Sue Brickhouse



N E W S



N E W S

BRADLEY, MICHIGAN

Since our church burned in February we have been seeking a place to rebuild. The church was denied by the Health Department to rebuild on our old location as the existing lot was too small to accommodate the parishioners.

Several months have gone by with discouragement, but with constant prayers for an answer. The battle would not be given up until we found a place to build.

Residents of the community were upset that we were denied rebuilding on our lot as they missed seeing our little church on that small lot that stood for so many years.

We looked for land in the area, but every possibility turned out to be "no."

A lady next to our lot offered to sell us a small plot of land directly behind our lot. With this additional land the Health Department gave the okay and issued us the septic

permit.

Several of the men have been very busy clearing the lot, and are now putting in the septic system.

The blueprints have been drawn up by an architect. We are waiting for the rest of the work permits needed.

Since the fire we have been meeting in a section of a shopping mall.

Everyone has been so very generous. One of our parishioners purchased a piano and a local church has given us an organ. We have new books purchased by some of our dear brothers and sisters.

We are so thankful to all the brothers and sisters for their many prayers, cards and gifts of money.

We are very excited, but a little scared at what lies ahead both financially and physically. We constantly remind ourselves of the miracle of the beautiful building that has risen from the ashes at Independence and it gives us courage to step out in faith for what lies ahead for us.

We ask for your prayers and support that we may be able to finish our dream of a new church home where we may meet together and invite others.

There have been many phone calls regarding sending financial support for our new building. Please send any monetary gifts to our local

church treasurer, Rich Lussenden, 2563 30th St., Allegan, MI 49010.

A joyous event took place in June, 1994, at the Michigan State Reunion: Kallie Jones, daughter of Laurie and Mike Jones, was baptized into the Church.

July 29, 1994, Sister Joyce Lussenden had back surgery where she had a growth removed from her spine that was resting on a nerve and causing her much pain from her back down to her legs. She came through the surgery and recovery just great. She doesn't have the pain and swelling in her legs that she has had for some years. To this we give God all the honor and glory.

Although she is not without affliction, she still needs our constant prayers, as she is battling other problems in her legs and feet from diabetes.

Again, the Bradley local would like to extend thanks to everyone for their prayers and monetary gifts to the new building fund.

Please continue to pray for us: we're praying for you.

*In Gospel Bonds,
Bradley Local, MI*

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

RAVENNA, MICHIGAN

Our pastor is back from the Missouri Reunion and attending the Ministers Conference. He took his granddaughter Danielle Brantner to the 1994 Youth Camp, her first time. Bro. Max Spencer and his wife Vivian are back from taking three of their grandchildren, Skye R. Oudsema, Amber Oudsema and Michael Horn, to the youth camp. Amber and Michael went for their first time. They attended the Missouri Reunion, and Bro. Max attended the Ministers Conference.

On September 18, Bro. Aaron Heath and his wife Sue

will go on a missionary trip to Wisconsin.

Sr. Marie and her husband have been sick with real bad colds.

Amber Oudsema has an ear infection. She fell while bike riding and broke her arm. Several others have colds and they are so hard to get rid of.

September 1st Bro. Max and his wife Vivian are planning on going to the Tri-State Reunion that is held in Minnesota. They plan on taking grandson Jason Oudsema with them. Shortly after they return from Minnesota, they will be getting ready to go to a condo in Virginia, and then on to help with the Indian

Mission in Cherokee.

It was nice to have Sr. June and her husband Ken with us for Sacrament Sunday. Sunday, September 11, will be our annual business meeting.

Our year is fast coming to a close. We thank our ministry each one for all their powerful sermons this year.

Our meeting is now over and we have a new reporter, Sr. Norma Kieth. Elder Max Spencer is our pastor.

Sr. Lois Heath reporting

ANNOUNCING:

A Book of Mormon Companion: Witness to its Validity, written by Apostle Don McIndoo, is now available for purchase in hard or soft cover. This new book describes numerous historical facts and archeological and anthropological evidences in support of what the Book of Mormon teaches about the ancient peoples of America. Many recent findings and commentaries are included. This work will give answer to many of the voices

raised against the Book of Mormon. It will serve as a fascinating collection of information for those of us who like to talk about this "marvelous work" the stick of Joseph and tell others about it. The prices will be:

- \$5.00 for soft cover, "perfect" binding.
- \$12.00 for hard cover, standard book binding.

1994 Phoenix Reunion

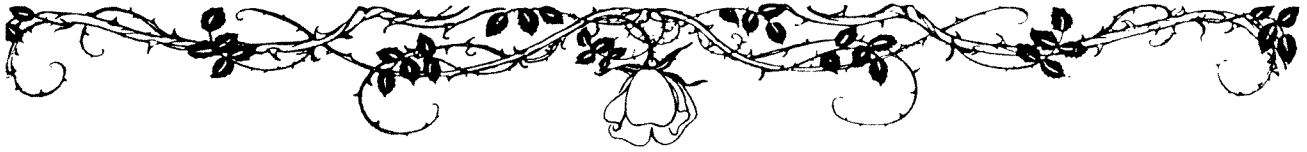
The 1994 Phoenix Reunion will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 25-27, 1994.

We invite all to come and worship with us.

For further information contact:

Elder Brian McIndoo
18824 N. 30th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85024
(602) 867-7063

Elder Ken Oar
19012 N. 29th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85024
(602) 569-2249



---Oren I. Allen---

Oren Isaac Allen was born March 19, 1903, in Lamoni, Iowa, and passed away, September 6, 1994, at Decatur County Hospital in Leon, Iowa, at the age of 91 years and 5 months.

He was married to Opal Irene Smith on August 5, 1934. They had four children, two boys and two girls. He worked for several publishing companies as manager and later became editor of the *Lamoni Chronicle* until he retired.

He joined the Church of Christ (Temple Lot), January 17, 1927, and remained a member until his death. Several of us that did missionary work in Iowa visited him as often as we were able and grew to respect Mr. Allen. We will miss him. He enjoyed pleasant debate on certain subjects and we tried to discuss items of interest with him.

In closing the pages of his life we want to pay our respect to him in allotting

space in this paper, letting people know that one of our member of long standing has left this earthly life. He leaves to mourn his wife, Opal; children, Justus, David, Victory, and Linda; plus relatives and friends, along with those of us who had grown to respect him.

As our final show of respect, brother Charles Brantner and myself, Isaac Brockman, give our final farewell to Brother Allen.

---Kelsey L. Oldham---

Kelsey Luv Oldham, infant daughter of Jeffrey and Michelle Oldham, Independence, died September 22, 1994, at the Medical Center of Independence. Survivors also include her paternal grandparents, Robert and Jennifer Oldham of Kansas City; maternal grandparents, Isaac and Di-

ane Brockman, and paternal great-grandmother, Gladys Nast, all of Independence; paternal great-grandparents, Walter and Ethel Oldham of Harrisonville; maternal great-grandparents, Isaac and Ruth Brockman of Independence; maternal great-grandmother, Ellen Star, Sparta, Wisconsin; and

maternal great-great-grandmother, Georgia Shafer, Sparta.

Graveside services were held Saturday, September 24, 1994, at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Independence, Missouri, with Elders Robert Oldham and Isaac Brockman, Sr. officiating.

---Faye Delores Christiano---

Faye was born February 2, 1925, to the late Leslie and Clarrissa Bowen in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. She went to be with the Lord on August 21, 1994, at the age of 69. She spent most of her life in Racine, Wisconsin, and was married to Arnold Christiano for 46 years. During this time she

was mother to Leslee (Chalk), Charles and Thomas, and grandmother to seven grandchildren. She is survived by her two sisters, Hazel Niedens and Wilma Youngs, both members of the Church of Christ, and nieces and nephews. Faye was baptized into the Church September 4, 1938,

by the late Apostle B. C. Flint. She was a good and faithful member all of her life. Funeral services were conducted by Elder Andrew Brantner with the eulogy given by Elder Charles Brantner. She was loved and respected by all who knew her. We will miss her influence in our lives.

A Testimony

My Aunt Faye Christiano was a lovely and wonderful lady. About five or six years ago she had bypass surgery. She sailed through that beautifully. She had acquired late life diabetes in her fifties, which complicated her heart problems. She was feeling weak for about a month before she really became ill. She went into the hospital on Tuesday, August 16. At her request Elder Andrew Brantner came to Racine and administered to her on Saturday morning. She had a relatively good day Saturday, but went to be with the Master Sunday morning. The funeral was held on

Wednesday morning. The following weekend her daughter was going through her papers and in Faye's will she found a paper in which she requested that the following poem be printed in her memorial card.

After Glow

I'd like the memory of me to
be a happy one
I'd like to leave an after glow
of smiles when life is
done.
I'd like to leave an echo
Whispering softly down the
ways,

of happy times and laughing
times and bright and
sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those
who grieve, to dry before
the sun

of happy memories that I
leave when life is done.

The Lord saw to it that her wish was fulfilled because the family selected that poem without prior knowledge that it was her wish. I believe that she was rewarded for her faith and righteous life. It was also given to us to strengthen us in our faith.

Meredith E. Gage.

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1995 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 1995 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 16 through 18, at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

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

Price Each

Zion's Advocate Subscription Rate:	
Members (optional)	\$ 4.00
Non-Members	4.00
Foreign	4.50
Book of 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
- Book of Mormon, The (tract)
- Brief History of the Church of Christ, A
- Cost of Salvation, The
- Does it Make a Difference to Which Church You Belong?
- First Presidency or First Apostles?
- God's Purpose in America
- Great Plan of Redemption, The
- Latter Day Restoration, The
- Marriage for Time and Eternity? - A Fallacy
- Mighty Acts of the Ages (Spanish)
- Priesthood - Divine Authority
- Principles of the Gospel, The - Baptism
- Principles of the Gospel, The - Faith & Repentance
- Principles of the Gospel, The - Laying on of Hands
- Resurrection and Eternal Judgement
- Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus
- Synopsis, A (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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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.