

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

VOLUME 73

INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI—JUNE 1996

NUMBER 6

Awareness—A True Measure of Faith in God

Faith is the life-fluid in our relationship with God. How does it come about?

An ancient king in America said it this way:

"Believe in God; believe that He is...and ye shall grow in the knowledge...of him that created you—" Mosiah 2:13, 23.

Awareness of, and faith in God, are rooted in belief and are mutually supportive: each grows in proportion to the other.

Awareness is sustained and enlarged as we by choice and practice recognize God in our living, giving heed to His commands and promises. We sense His presence at our side, and our faith blossoms into knowledge.

With our awareness of God there is a communion with Him. He responds and supplies spiritual witness.

Our awareness of Him is important to God: His blessings, miracles, and answer to prayer are provided to enlarge our awareness of and trust in His promises.

I can best measure my faith in God by my awareness of Him: how real He is to me, how much I associate Him with my living and recognize the motions of His hand and power in my life.

My Awareness Measures My Faith.

Tom S. Maley—Church of Christ Reporter—April 1986

—In This Issue—

| | |
|---|-----|
| ARTICLE—Our Answer to a Criticism of the Book of Mormon - <i>Apostle William A. Sheldon</i> | 95 |
| 1996 CONFERENCE REPORT— <i>Melissa Seibel</i> | 99 |
| 1996 LADIES' LUNCHEON REPORT— Women's Christian Issues - <i>Carrie Geier</i> | 101 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| PATHLIGHTS— <i>Betsy Trudgen</i> | 103 |
| PATHLIGHTS—Three Fathers - <i>Diana K. Dewaele</i> | 104 |
| OBITUARY | 105 |
| LOCAL NEWS | 106 |
| ANNOUNCEMENTS | 107 |

Zion's Advocate is the official publication of the Church of Christ, with headquarters on the Temple Lot, 200 S. River Blvd., P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472. Telephone (816) 833-3995 or 833-3914.

Published monthly by the Church of Christ. Second Class Postage paid at Independence, Missouri.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Zion's Advocate (USPS 6993-0000), P. O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Church of Christ members' subscriptions are paid from general Church funds, but donations are requested (suggested: \$4.00 each year). In bundles of 12 or more for missionary purposes: \$2.00.

Non-member rates: \$4.00 (one year); All foreign add 50¢.

Send Subscription requests with appropriate fees; Donations to Church funds (Temple & Storehouse); Consecrations; Tithes; and all other Offerings to the Business Manager at Church headquarters as listed below.

THE APOSTLES' MISSIONARY FIELDS

NORTHWEST: Marvin E. Ely, 546 Dogwood Lane, Houston, Missouri 65483-2016. In charge of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and Western Canada west of a line between Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

NORTHEAST: William A. Sheldon and Smith N. Brickhouse. In charge of Ohio, the provinces of Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec, and east of the St. Lawrence River and the Maritime provinces, Canada.

MIDWEST: Robert H. Jensen, 2230 Clay, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005. In charge of Montana, North & South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Nebraska and Iowa.

SOUTHWEST: Donald E. McIndoo, 18830 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85024; Alvin J. Moser, 18829 N. 29th Pl., Phoenix, Arizona 85042. In joint charge of California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana and the Republic of Mexico.

CENTRAL: Roland L. Sarratt, 15910 E. 36th Terrace, Independence, Missouri 64055; Smith N. Brickhouse, 5713 Logan Road, Kansas City, MO 64136. In joint charge of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Illinois, and Indiana.

EAST: William A. Sheldon, 1011 S. Cottage, Independence, MO 64050. General Church Representative in the office. Smith N. Brickhouse, 5713 Logan Road, Kansas City, MO 64136. In joint charge of all Atlantic coast states and Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Vermont and the European field.

WORLDWIDE: Contact the Secretary, Council of Apostles.

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICERS

SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF APOSTLES

Apostle Smith N. Brickhouse
5713 Logan Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64136

SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF BISHOPS

Elder Leslie P. Case
8312 Lee's Summit Rd.
Kansas City, Missouri 64139

GENERAL CHURCH SECRETARY

Elder Robert W. Oldham
5709 Logan Rd.
Kansas City, Missouri 64136

BUSINESS MANAGER

Elder Alvin L. Harris
Church of Christ
P. O. Box 472
Independence, Missouri 64051-0472

ZION'S ADVOCATE STAFF

EDITOR

Elder Michael McGhee
18907 E. 6th Street N.
Independence, Missouri 64056

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Ron Temple
5621 Logan Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64136

David Rudd
4917 Casey Court
Independence, Missouri 64055

FEATURE EDITOR - "Path Lights"

Melissa McGhee
2533 Glen Lane
Independence, Missouri 64052

PRODUCTION STAFF

Rickey J. Olson
Harvey L. Seibel



Zion's Advocate is ...

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.

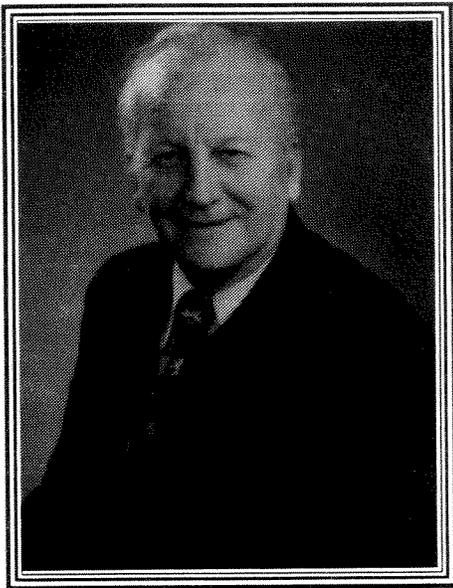
STATUS OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES

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.

ARTICLE

Our Answer to a Criticism of the Book of Mormon



**By Apostle
William A. Sheldon**

The following item is entitled "Search the Scriptures." It was written by Mr. Paul Smithson who appears as a spokesman for a "Church of Christ" at Manchester, Tennessee.

He evidently alludes to the LDS Church at Salt Lake City in their promotion of the Book of Mormon through the public media, and then to Joseph Smith in his translation of that book. We have no disposition to defend the LDS Church, but do

applaud their efforts to inform the public relative to the Book of Mormon. However, we might well protest the doctrines of innumerable churches which profess a faith in Christ, but whose doctrines and practice may be wide of the mark of the teachings of prophets, apostles and of Christ as found in the Bible. We will pass by some historic inaccuracies and only answer his attack upon the Book of Mormon. The text of his attack follows:

I have received a question from one of our readers asking whether or not one should believe in the teachings of a particular well-known religion.

Due to the standards of this newspaper no names will be mentioned.

However, the members of this particular religious group believe the book containing the basis of their religious belief is more important than the Bible; for they do not think the Bible, as we have it, is correctly translated. They contend a certain individual received visits from the Father, and the Son, and from an angel in the early 1820's. He also supposedly received ancient writings on golden plates that were hidden in a hill near New York.

This individual published a book in 1830 which is said to be his translation of the alleged golden plates. This book is the basis of the particular religion in question and is offered to the public via TV. commercials as a companion to the Bible.

However, this book is not of divine origin and there are many ways in which this fact can be proven. In our limited space we list only a few of them.

1. This book denies the claim of inspiration by its own words. It's writers make such

statements as "I make it according to my knowledge...I think it to be sacred...and if I do err...I have written to the best of my knowledge...Because of the imperfections which are in it...I should write upon these plates a few of the things which I consider to be most precious." Thus, these statements from the book itself are proof that it is of human origin.

2. Also found in this book in question are over 25,000 words taken directly from the King James version of 1611. How could such a document have originated from ancient times (600 BC to 421 AD) and be written in the King's English of 1611 AD? For example, one passage in this book reads... "Whereof they shall be judged, every man according to his works, whether they be good or whether they be evil." Anyone can turn to 2 Cor. 5:10 of the King James Version of the Bible and see where these words come from. Other lengthy passages have been copied as well.

3. The book in question contradicts the Bible in many places. The following are just a couple of examples. The book in question says Jesus was to be born "at Jerusalem." The Bible says, "in Bethlehem of Judea." (Matt. 2:1) The book in question has the church in existence more than a century before Christ. Jesus said, ten months before His crucifixion, "I will build my church" (Matt. 16:18). No one can believe both the Bible and the book in question to be the word of God.

This is only some of the overwhelming evidence that proves the human origin of the book in question. Jesus instructed His apostles to teach "all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:18-20). The apostles did not teach the book in question for it was not published until 1830. Therefore, Jesus did not command the teaching of such a document. Jesus said the Holy Spirit would guide the apostles into all truth. When the Holy Spirit came He did not guide the apostles into this book published nearly 2,000 years later. Therefore, such a book is not the truth and we should not believe it. In fact, we are warned not to believe or teach anything other than what was proclaimed through the apostles of Jesus Christ (Gal. 1:6-9).

We will now proceed to examine Mr. Smithson's allegations of error in the Book of Mormon which show it to be "not of divine origin." In the paragraph shown as "1," he proceeds to quote from several references which he believes will support his contention of errors to be found; that these statements deny the inspiration of the book; that there are "imperfections in it."

Those statements are not admissions of error as to the knowledge of truth, but simply the admissions of human frailty in the manner of expression, to which all may truly be subject. Is this not the reason for the many translations of the Bible—that such scholars have detected what they felt were imperfections in translations of preceding versions?

The very admissions of weakness in the expression of truths by Nephi, Mormon, etc., do not invalidate those truths even though they may put faith to the test and require occasional effort to reconcile a text with other truths which have been established by the Holy Ghost in the hearts of those who truly love the Lord and His word.

Job admitted possible error, saying:

"Teach me and I will hold my tongue: and cause me to understand wherein I have erred" Job 6:24.

David confessed his faults, including those of speech:

"Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults... Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer" Ps. 19:12, 14.

Apostle Paul counseled wives whose husbands were dead as being "at liberty to be married... only in the Lord. But she is happier if she abide (being single/w.a.s.) after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God" 1 Cor. 7:39, 40. Here he gave wise counsel, but acknowledged the possibility of human error. Here is a parallel from the Bible; so the Book of Mormon DOES NOT deny the claim of its divine origin either.

In paragraph "2," Smithson takes exception to "over 25,000 words taken directly from the King James version of 1611." We wonder what he might say concerning many places where there are significant differences from the parallel texts as found in the Bible. An example:

"And the Lord will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud of smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defense" Isa. 4:5.

As in our Book of Mormon, which text is numbered differently from that of the LDS edition:

"And the Lord will create upon every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory of Zion shall be a defense" 2 Nephi 8:59.

The King James version shows the words "shall be" in italics, which indicates a translation insertion. Would Mr. Smithson say that those words should not have been placed there? Our Book of Mormon has, between "glory" and "shall be," the words "of Zion." Will he say that this is an error, or will he acknowledge that it is inferred by the preceding words of the paragraph? Just incidentally: the Lamsa translation, taken from the original Aramaic Hebrew language says: "...for the glory of the Lord shall be a shelter over all." Is he prepared to say that "the glory of Zion" is not "the glory of the Lord," or that, in any case, the same sense is not intended?

We wonder, too, if Mr. Smithson would like to discard Micah 4:1-3 because it is almost identical to Isa. 2:2-4? If not, how can he object to a prophet of God on this continent as practically expressing the same language to the native Americans? Is our heavenly Father not their God as well as being the God of Israel in Palestine? May He not be allowed to express the same concern and prophetic insight to people on different continents? Well, He will do just as

He pleases despite the objection of Mr. Smithson!

But the real hang-up seems to be that the King's English of 1611 A.D. is expressed in the Book of Mormon in like texts from the Bible. Consider this: Joseph Smith's biblical understanding was according to the King James translation, and he had at least a basic comprehension of that form of English expression. Then why would we expect God to reveal the ancient record, written in a "reformed Egyptian" language, in any other English dialect than would be understood by Joseph Smith, and he to translate accordingly?

Our critic did not mention (though is probably aware) that at one point in the Book of Mormon, the word "adieu" is used; a French term meaning "good-bye" or "farewell." Why was it used? Of course, Joseph Smith understood the meaning, and it was probably given of God in the translation process so that such hyper-critics as we have will have something to stumble over, while they reject the counsels of God.

We think we have answered his criticism of why the Book of Mormon passage— "...they shall be judged every man according to his works," etc.— accords with 2 Cor. 5:10. It is the same God over all; His doctrine is the same for all men.

Paragraph "3" concerning contradictions with the Bible: "Jesus was to be born 'at Jerusalem.' The Bible says, 'in Bethlehem of Judea'" (Matt. 2:1).

The term "at Jerusalem" is appropriate, as a distinction from "in Jerusalem." "At" means also "nearby." Bethlehem is approximately five miles from Jerusalem. It is near (nearby) to Jerusalem. The text referenced says, "...he shall be born of Mary at Jerusalem, which is the *land* of our forefathers..." So Jesus was born in the "land" of Jerusalem, which includes Bethlehem. No contradiction here.

"The book in question has the church in existence more than a century before Christ." Granted that the pure Church of Christ of the New Testament era did not exist for many centuries before the time of Christ and his apostles, but does our critic suggest that there was no knowledge of Christ before that time? There did exist an imperfect body of Christ (His church) before His coming in the flesh, those of Israel who followed Moses out of Egypt and finally entered into Canaan. Moses spoke of Christ as a prophet like unto himself, and whose words they were commanded to receive (see Deut. 18:15-19). Of Moses it is said that he esteemed the "reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt" (Heb. 11:26), and this for "the people of God" (v. 25), that imperfect church in the wilderness which looked for a better land.

Before this, Abraham offered his son Isaac as a type of the sacrifice required of God to bring about the atonement for the sins of mankind. Yet, the

promise of God was that in him and his seed (Jesus the Christ) should all nations be blessed. This was the beginning of the ancient Church of Christ, centuries before the Messiah should come in the flesh.

All this does not contradict the words of Christ which our critic has quoted ("I will build my church"). Jesus perfected the ancient church by establishing it more firmly on better principles, and in fulfillment of the words of the prophets. He very pointedly stated that "The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached..." Luke 16:16.

Mr. Smithson's concluding paragraph is so ridiculous it would be laughable if it were not really a tragic exposé of popular conceptions which have no real foundation in the Bible. "Jesus instructed his apostles to teach 'all things whatsoever I have commanded.'" Just so; but to conclude from this that "the apostles did not teach the book in question," and "therefore, Jesus did not command the teaching of such a document" — this is silly reasoning to say the least.

Firstly, let him bring forth his strong reasoning showing that the teachings in the Book of Mormon are contrariwise to the teachings of the ancient apostles. He cannot do so, for this book supports and enhances the gospel of Christ as found in the Bible, which he seems to cherish.

He affirms that the apos-

tles were taught by the Holy Spirit. I would credit him in believing that he, also, has received that same Spirit of truth. However, his words convince me otherwise, for that Spirit would not teach him to discredit a book which is quite obviously a second witness for Christ and his gospel to those who really believe in that Holy Spirit of truth. I doubt that the man has really examined the Book of Mormon, in order to be a true witness against it. He is prejudiced, not by testimony of the teachings of Christ and his apostles, but by the traditions of men in his espoused faith which cannot truly stand the test of the words of God as found in the Bible.

Does he believe in the words of Jesus Christ as found in John 10:16; or does he really understand them?

"And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."

If so, perhaps he can tell us who those "other sheep" were to which Christ referred. But, I would insist that they would be of the house of Israel (not gentiles, who were to receive the gospel through the ministry of the apostles, etc.):

"...I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel" Matt. 15:24.

Note that these other sheep were to "hear my voice," and

thus would be, through obedience, a part of the Church and kingdom of God. The Book of Mormon tells of the coming of Christ to the American continent after his resurrection, and of setting up His church like unto the body at Jerusalem, and with the same doctrine.

In garbled fashion, because of the passing of time in which even pure principles and historical events undergo change, we may yet detect the thread of truth as found in ancient traditions of American Indians throughout the continent, describing a bearded, white personage and his teachings among them long before the time of Columbus, which can only have revealed the Christ as having been in their midst. They literally heard the words and experienced the marvelous ministry of the Son of God, though they have named him in accord with their ancient concepts which varied from tribe to tribe. Their very traditions, as recorded by the Spaniards, etc., many centuries later, are yet available for research, and do most marvelously bear witness of the truth of the Book of Mormon accounting of the visit of Christ. This book was published a few years *before* there was any knowledge by the white invaders of the American continent of those traditions. Certainly, Joseph Smith had no prior knowledge of the ancient culture of the American Indians until revealed at the translation of the Book of Mormon.

We suggest that Mr. Smith-

son should indeed "search the scriptures": objectively in the interest of truth, which could not fail to reveal that the whole word of God is not limited to the 66 books as found in the Bible. There are many books referred to in the Bible, of which we have only limited access if at all available, even in the New Testament era.

We further suggest that he seek for *real* understanding concerning the "stick of Judah" and the "stick of Joseph" as referenced in Ezekiel 37. If it proves too much of a puzzle, we might help him out, but do confess a feeling of futility for any such effort on our part because of past experience with those who think they already have all the answers. "A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still." Let Mr. Smithson bring forth his strong reasoning to find actual error in the doctrinal matter found in the Book of Mormon, or of its factual historic expressions, and we will reason with him until truth prevails, or unless such proves unfruitful through stubbornness of heart or the spirit of contention develops.

1996 Conference Report

“Nevertheless, they did fast and pray oft, and did wax stronger and stronger in their humility, and firmer and firmer in the faith of Christ...”

The 1996 Solemn Assembly began at 9 a.m. on Friday, March 29th, 1996, and ended on Saturday afternoon around 4 p.m. Our purpose in assembling was to seek humility so we would be blessed with the Lord's Spirit and strength. We were repeatedly admonished in all of the Solemn Assembly services of our need for repentance and humility so that we could be more worthy of the blessings of the Lord.

We were given a list of several specific needs for which we should pray, including:

- ◆ Pray that the Lord's will would be accomplished and that unity might prevail during the coming Conference.
- ◆ Pray for a greater outpouring of the love of God in our hearts.
- ◆ Pray for greater humility.
- ◆ Pray for forgiveness, that the Lord would purify and sanctify our hearts so that we can accomplish His will.
- ◆ Pray for the ministry that they might be faithful in their

responsibilities.

- ◆ Pray for our families, for parents responsibilities to God and their children; for our children and young people that they might have strength to resist the temptations of the world; and for the youth and their duties toward God and their parents.
- ◆ Pray for endurance of faith and Christian unity in service to God.

We had many prayers and testimonies and were blessed with a spirit of peace and unity. We shared a bond of love for one another that was evident not only during our services, but also during the hours in between, as friends and relatives visited with one another and new friendships were formed.

On Sunday, the 31st of March, at 9 a.m., we enjoyed an Easter Sacrament service, and were once again blessed with prayers and testimonies of love and thanksgiving, and of the many wonderful blessings we have received as individuals, families and locals. Apostle Don McIndoo reminded us of the blessing of Jesus Christ as our advocate to our Heavenly Father, and our opportunity through the sacrament to renew our covenant with Him.

Sunday afternoon we heard a Book of Mormon cantata di-

rected by Martha Bruner.

Following the cantata we heard a sermon by Apostle Roland Sarratt. He told us we must obtain a higher righteousness by following the laws of God—we must make and keep our covenants. We are bound by the truth in the scriptures, and by it we will be judged. The Lord uses our weaknesses to humble and then strengthen us. We must always trust the Lord, for He has, in everything, His purpose.

On Monday, the 1st of April, at 8 a.m., we began the business portion of the 1996 Conference with a prayer service. We were reminded in preparation of the meetings to follow that we were not to be contentious, but that we must search for the love of God in the hearts of all people. We had a full service of prayers, in which the sentiment was one of relinquishing our wills to do the will of the Lord.

Although the conference business ended Monday afternoon, we were still blessed with three evenings of sermons. Monday evening Frank Fann told us, “I know that Christ gives the victory!” He went on to admonish us to rely on Jesus and follow His example. We also learned that the beatitudes tell us what we need to be and

do to please God. We all have problems and fears, but trouble is a stepping stone to growth, and we needn't be afraid, because the Bible and the Book of Mormon promise us victory through serving the Lord. We must repent and turn from the things we do that are contrary to the will of God, and we can have the victory now!

On Tuesday, April 2nd, there was a 10 a.m. prayer service, during which we continued to enjoy testimonies of thanksgiving for our many blessings, and prayers for guidance.

Tuesday evening Jay Moser preached on the secret of all unity: submission. To be in unity with any one or group we *must* submit. We are often called to do what we do not want to do, but we can and must ful-

fill the Lord's requirements, not our own. We can do even what we humanly do not want to do by doing exactly what God has told us to do. Our goal must be to satisfy our Lord, not ourselves.

In the closing service of our Conference on Wednesday evening, April 4th, Joel Yates warned us of the dangers of lukewarmness. Our attitudes can reduce our strength. One way we have illustrated this is by not taking a stand on issues—by not making a decision. We are called to judge right from wrong, for there is no gray, only right and wrong! We need to find God's way and take responsibility for our actions and decisions. We are made humble by taking responsibility for our mistakes. He also talked of our

responsibility to be a Godly example, to meet together oft and to support our church's activities and services by our reliable attendance. We need to stop being content with what we have, to be active in doing good and right things. We need to stop justifying our actions which take us away from the Lord—and judge them according to the Lord's standards.

As always, the prayers, testimonies, and sermons of Solemn Assembly and Conference served to strengthen and renew our spirits.

*Conference Reporter,
Melissa Seibel*

Notice

This is to let everyone know that the Church has available "Book of Mormon Concordances" that can be used with the old 1908 edition and also our new 1990 Independence Edition of the Book of Mormon. You can obtain one for a donation of \$8.00 plus \$1.75 postage.

Please send request to:
Church of Christ
P.O. Box 472
Independence, MO 64051
Attn: Isaac Brockman

1996 LADIES' LUNCHEON REPORT

Women's Christian Issues

At the annual Ladies' Luncheon during the 1996 Conference we were privileged to not only socialize with our friends and loved ones, but we also had the opportunity to discuss some issues relevant to the women of our church.

We were all given five questions and divided into several groups for discussion. When all the groups were finished one person from each group related their group's answers and some personal testimonies to the entire audience. Since not everyone could attend we would like to share our answers with other members.

Question 1

What does submission to your husband mean, in your opinion? What was a time in your life when submission was challenging in your life and how did you handle it?

Among the answers:

- ◆ Husband makes the final decisions.
- ◆ Stand for what is scripturally right (even if husband doesn't agree).
- ◆ Keep the home and children in

order.

- ◆ Commitment to each other and to God.
- ◆ Come together in partnership.
- ◆ "Submit" sometimes means "Get out of the way."
- ◆ When it is right with the Lord, you must submit. You cannot risk your salvation.
- ◆ Make sure your husband hears your opinion, then trust him to be the spiritual leader and trust his decisions.

Question 2

What can your husband give you spiritually in your marriage?

Among the answers:

- ◆ Strength.
- ◆ Men can be more focused.
- ◆ We want our husbands to be the spiritual leader in *all* things.
- ◆ Participation within the family.
- ◆ Husband can read to wife and children while they are doing other things.
- ◆ Support.
- ◆ Help.

- ◆ Ability to look at things without emotion.
- ◆ Be a good example; he will strengthen the whole household.

Question 3

What can you do if your husband isn't being the spiritual head of household? Give an example in your life.

Among the answers:

- ◆ Support husband.
- ◆ Go to church by yourself.
- ◆ Pray for him to come to the gospel and his spiritual position.
- ◆ Set a good example for your husband and children, then relinquish the responsibility when he does take it.
- ◆ YOU have to do it.

Many examples were given for Question 3. We have a wealth of testimonies within our body. If you need encouragement, just ask.

Question 4

Do women have a ministry (not like men's) and what does it entail?

Among the answers:

- ◆ Singing.
- ◆ Cooking.
- ◆ Raising and teaching children (Sunday School or at home).
- ◆ Serving and nurturing.
- ◆ Being an example.
- ◆ Ministry to children—your children will minister to their children to set a Godly example to the world.
- ◆ Support your husband in God's work.

Question 5:

What is our role as women in Christ within our church? What is our role outside the church?

Among the answers:

- ◆ Be an example.
- ◆ Be a light unto the world so others can see the Christ in us.
- ◆ Start a neighborhood Bible study.
- ◆ We speak with our hearts.
- ◆ Living the gospel and keeping the commandments.
- ◆ Support husband in the ministry.
- ◆ Showing others the way to our church.
- ◆ Use talents and set an example for children to use their talents.
- ◆ Witness to people.
- ◆ Be steadfast and founded in the word of God to be able to teach it to the children.
- ◆ Having the same role within and without the church shows true

Christianity.

I would like to thank Lisa Gill for this great idea. I know personally I enjoyed hearing the wisdom from other women within our church. I would encourage all who read this to reach out to those around you and grasp the knowledge of experience that is abundant within our locals.

I pray that this article may encourage others and help us to always glorify our heavenly Father.

*Submitted,
Carrie Geier*

You Will Never Be Sorry

For telling the truth,
For living a pure life,
For your faith in Christ,
For doing your very best,
For thinking before acting,
For hearing before judging,
For forgiving your enemies,
For helping a fallen brother,
For being honest in business,
For thinking before speaking,
For being loyal to your church,
For stopping your ears to gossip,
For bridling a slanderous tongue,
For harboring only pure thoughts,
For being courteous and kind to all,
For money given to the Lord's cause,
For faithfulness in keeping your promises,
For asking pardon when you have done wrong.

PATHLIGHTS

PATHLIGHTS

I hear so often of men or women who do not want to work. Their motto "Someone else will do it." I ask myself, how do I raise our child with the idea that you must work, that you do not let others carry your load?

What does she learn when I pick up her toys, feed the dog, make her bed, dress her, pick out her clothes, put her toothbrush away and rinse her paste down the sink?

"Someone else will do it."

I can not tell her to do it and expect it to be done or done right. I must teach her as Christ taught His disciples.

I do, you watch
I do, you help
You help, I help
You work, I watch.

As our six-year-old

Her dad, listening in the next room, said, "The Bible says if you don't work, you do not eat."

Are we raising little Pharaohs or slaves? No, we are raising children of God. Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Your sister in
Christ,
Betsy Trudgen



helped me load the dishwasher she asked, "Why do I have to do this? I was not born to work." I asked, "Do you think some are born to work and some are not?"

PATHLIGHTS

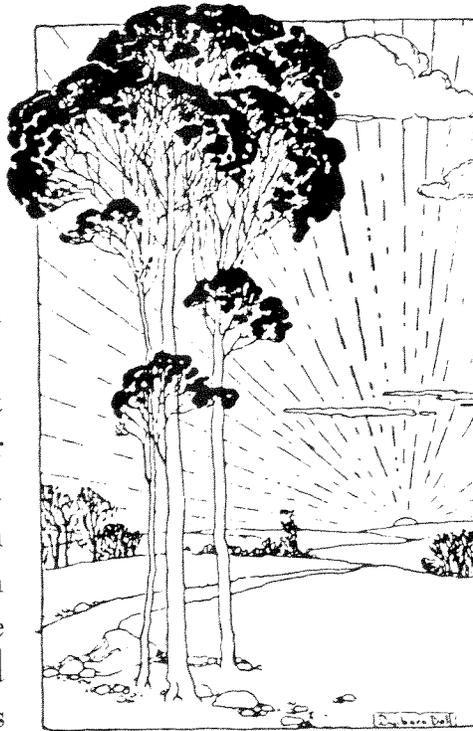
Three Fathers

I am privileged to have three fathers in my life. My first father, Paul, was the one who suffered with my mother through the loss of twins. Now, after another difficult pregnancy, he waited to find out if his wife and new child would both survive delivery. Prayers were answered. He was the one who was there through lots of skinned knees, and, later, was just as excited about his daughter getting her driver's license as if she had been a son. While not an outwardly religious man, in his quiet way he tried to make sure his daughter was raised right and to know she was loved.

My second father, Raymond, didn't have the fun of suffering with me through the skinned knees because I didn't come into his life until I was full grown and stayed off bicycles. Still, he welcomed his new daughter-in-law with open arms and with

just as much love as if he had been instrumental in raising me.

My third father has been



there since I came into being. He was there helping with my birth, and was there for the other bumps and bruises one gets while they are growing up. Even when I had not realized he was there for me, yet, he was still waiting patiently for me to come to the

knowledge of him. My Heavenly Father was there, and is there, any time of day or night I need him.

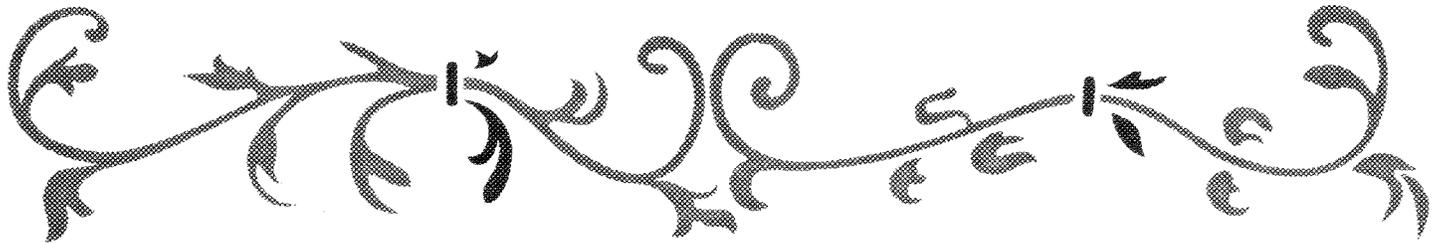
As my "earthly fathers," Paul and Raymond, are failing, my Heavenly Father is there to help me as I now help to support them in various ways—to give back some of the love and care I received from them over the years. My Heavenly Father gave me the privilege of having my other fathers help shape my physical life, and with their gentle, quiet ways, help me look at Him as having the same gentle manner.

After my other fathers are no longer with me, my Heavenly Father will be there to hold my hand, and help support me much as they tried in their day. Then, one day, my heavenly Father will be there to hold me close in His arms and welcome His daughter home.

Diana K. Dewaele

OBITUARY

Death Notice



Mrs. Prayer Meeting died recently, at the First Neglected Church on Worldly Avenue. Born many years ago, in the midst of great revivals, she was a healthy child, fed largely on testimony and scriptural holiness of life. She soon grew into world-wide prominence as one of the most influential members of the famous Church Family.

For the past several years Sister Prayer Meeting has been in failing health. Gradually wasting away, until rendered helpless by **stiffness of knees, coldness of heart**, inactivity and weakness of purpose. At the last, she was but a shadow of her former happy self, and her last whispered words were inquiries concerning the strange absence of her friends, busy in the marts of trade, and

places of worldly amusement.

Experts, including Dr. Works, Dr. Reform and Dr. Joiner, disagree as to the cause of her fatal illness. They administered large doses of Organization, Socials, Contests, Drives, but to no avail. A post mortem showed that a deficiency of spiritual food, coupled with a lack of faith and heartfelt religion, shameless desertion and non-support, were the contributing causes of her death.

Only a few were present at her death-bed, sobbing over her past beauty and power. Carefully selected pall bearers were urged to bear her remains away, but failed to appear. There were no flowers. Her favorite hymns, "Amazing Grace," and "Rock of Ages," were not sung. Miss Ima Modern rendered "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere,"

but nobody had any idea where this isle was.

The body rests in the beautiful Cemetery of Bygone Memories, awaiting the summons from above. In honor of her passing, the church doors will be closed on Wednesday nights, save on the third Wednesday of each month, when the ladies' Pink Lemonade Society serves refreshments for the Men's Handball Team.

—Selected

Found in the February 1948
Zion's Advocate

NEWS

EAST LOCAL, INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI

On April 29th the East Local held their yearly election of officers for the coming year. The new roster personnel and the office they hold follows.

Church of Christ East Local 1996
Officers and Committee Members

- PASTOR Larry Beem
- ASST. PASTOR Steve McGhee
- SECRETARY Diane Brockman
- TREASURER Bick Brockman
- AUDITOR Mike Smith (Trudy's)
- ADVOCATE REPORTER Amy Schrader
- COLLECTION SUPERVISORS Jeff Oldham & Kyle Temple
- SOCIAL COMMITTEE Carol Fann, Jewell Beem,
Patty McGhee
- DINNER SUNDAY COMMITTEE Becky Olson, Becky Rudd,
Christy Magill
- INSIDE CUSTODIAN Rick Olson
- OUTSIDE CUSTODIAN Pat Fisher, Mike Smith (T)
- CHORISTER Melissa Seibel
- PIANIST Darl Temple
- ASST. PIANIST Jennifer Oldham
- LIBRARIAN Harvey L. Seibel
- SUNSHINE PERSON Gladys Nast
- FLOWER ARRANGER Jeri Adams
- RECORDER Mike Smith (Trudy's)
- ASST. RECORDER Ron Temple
- MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE Bob Oldham, Jeff Oldham,
Sam Gould, Rick Olson,
Pat Fisher, Ron Temple
- JR. YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEADER Becky Sheldon
- OUTREACH COMMITTEE Sam Gould, Frank Fann,
Bob Oldham, Randy
Sheldon
- HISTORIAN Harvey E. Seibel
- MO REUNION REPRESENTATIVE Michele Fisher

On Sunday May 5th during the Sunday School class, Sister Gladys Nast, who has angina, developed chest pains so severe she could scarcely wait till the class was over to ask for administration. This was quickly given. After the opening of the Sacrament Service a season of prayer was called for in her behalf. More prayers were offered, and to the point, than we've had in any regular prayer service for a long time, and the pain was relieved, for which we praise and thank our Heavenly Father.

In the evening of that day the newly elected pastor delivered a sermon on Charity, defining every aspect stated, a good mirror to judge oneself by. And there is no escaping the concluding statement of 1 Corinthians 13:2, "And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could move mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing."

*The East Local Reporter,
Amy Schrader*

MISSOURI REUNION

The Missouri Reunion Committee would like to invite all to attend the 1996 Missouri Reunion, which will be held August 16th, 17th, 18th, 1996. All meetings will be held at the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) building located on the Temple Lot, Independence, Missouri.

For information please contact:

Isaac Brockman, Sr.

1203 Baker Dr.
Independence, MO 64050
(816) 254-8190

Roland Sarratt

15910 E. 36th Terr.
Independence, MO 64055
(816) 373-6605

Smith "Buzz" Brickhouse

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MICHIGAN REUNION

This year the Michigan Reunion will be held at the Bradley Local. We are happy to invite ALL to come and share the joy of our new Church Home.

DATE: June 15th and 16th (Father's Day Weekend)

PLACE: 129th Ave. Bradley, Michigan

We have plenty of room for campers of any size, contact:

Bernie Ritsema

4889 Chief Noon Day Rd.

Hastings, MI 49058

Phone: (616)-945-5173

Housing available by contacting:

Elder Adam Porter

9 Market St

Middleville, MI 49333

Phone: 616-795-2694

Duane Lee

2054 Fawn Ave

Middleville, MI 49333

Phone: 616-795-7420

We look forward to many spiritual meetings, and fellowship with our brothers and sisters.

Elder LaVerne Lussenden, Pastor

MISSOURI CAMP FOR ALL AGES

This year's camp will be June 28-30. Camp will start Friday evening at Camp Aurora near Windyville, Missouri, and end Sunday noon. Meals will be provided Saturday and Sunday.

For more information contact:

Rickey Olson

5629 Logan Rd.

Kansas City, MO 64136

ARIZONA CAMP FOR ALL AGES

July 5-July 7, 1996

The ranch will be open on July 4th and 5th for camping, hiking and fellowship; however, no meals will be provided until the evening of July 5th.

Location: Walnut Ranch, Heber, Arizona (a map is available upon request).

Join us as we worship God, study His word, and grow in love for one another in a beautiful mountain setting. Activities are planned for all ages. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Please let us know if you can attend so that we can plan more accurately for meals and activities.

NEW YORK RALLY

Hogansburg New York

July 12th-July 14, 1996

Your Brothers and Sisters of the Akwesasne New York Local of the Church of Christ welcome all of our Brothers and Sisters in Canada and the United States to come fellowship and worship with them starting on Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. July 12th thru Sunday afternoon July 14, 1996.

In order that the proper preparation may be made we would appreciate it if you would call or write the following:

IN CANADA:

Wayne and Susan Miller

868 Tollgate Rd

Cornwall, Ontario

Canada K6H5R6

Phone: (613) 953-5469

IN THE UNITED STATES:

Paul and Debbie Grant

Box 2 A. B.

Fort Covington, New York 12937

Phone: (518) 358-9409

Dale and Terri Waldruff

187 State Hwy 37C

Massena, New York 13622

Phone: (315) 764-9571

Eli and Gretchen Tarbell

Box 21, Rt. 37

Hogansburg, New York 13655

Phone: (518) 358-2911

We are looking forward to worshipping with you.

PHOENIX REUNION

Join with us for a weekend of spiritual refreshment. Come and enjoy the fellowship of the many loved ones in Christ and feast upon the word of God with us.

Reunion dates are Friday, November 29th through Sunday, December 1st, 1996.

For more information, or if you plan to attend, please contact:

PASTOR:

Elder Joel Yates

2924 E. Rockwood Dr.

Phoenix, AZ 85024-3436

(602) 569-9296

ASSISTANT PASTORS:

Elder Gordon McCann

18808 N. 30th St.

Phoenix, AZ 85024-3436

(602)569-2341

Priest Glenn Orsted

1327 E. Wescott Dr.

Phoenix, AZ 85024-2393

(602) 780-8764

If you cannot attend, please remember the reunion in your prayers.

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1997 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 6. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 7. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, on April 4 & 5. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 1996 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 21 through 23, at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

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

| Zion's Advocate Subscription Rate: | Price Each |
|--|------------|
| 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 Companion, A (hardbound) | 12.00 |
| Book of Mormon Companion, A (softbound) | 5.00 |
| 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, A, 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 |
| Zion's Hymnal | 12.00 |

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
 Christian Sabbath is the Lord's Day, The
 Concerning Marriage and Polygamy
 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
 Last Maya King and the Liberation of Jerusalem, 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: 6-50c / 100-\$5.85 plus postage)

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.

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

Speed delivery of your *Zion's Advocate* by sending us your new address immediately. Each undeliverable *Zion's Advocate* costs the church more than the value of a first class stamp, in addition to regular postage.

ZION'S ADVOCATE
 (USPS 6993-0000)
 P.O. Box 472
 Independence, MO 64051-0472

Second Class Postage Paid
 Independence, MO 64051

Mr & Mrs Aaron Heath
 3740 Ida
 Fruitport, MI 49415

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, Missouri 64051-0472.

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 TAPE

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 Road, Kansas City, Missouri 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 Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85022, or Ron Temple, 5621 Logan Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64136

SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS

Send orders for SS materials to Debbie Vogel, 403 Colonel Drive, Independence, Missouri 64050. 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 Teacher's Guide

Jesus' Life and Teachings—4 Quarterlies for ages 8-10

Who Am I?—Bible game on cards; free to Sunday Schools/\$1.30 to individuals.