

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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The Virtuous Woman

*Who can find a
Virtuous woman? for
her price is far above rubies.*

*She looketh well to the ways
of her household, and eateth not
the bread of idleness. Her
children arise up, and call her*

*blessed; her husband also, and
he praiseth her.*

*Favor is deceitful, and
beauty is vain: but a woman
that feareth the Lord, she
shall be praised.*

~ Proverbs 31:10, 27-28, 30

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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.

Faith and Trust

By Elder Arthur G. Smith

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" Hebrews 11:1.

"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man" Psalms 118:8.

Faith in God gives us the reason to hope. Faith and hope are the foundations of charity, and charity is the pure love of Christ.

"Wherefore, cleave unto charity, which is the greatest of all, for all things must fail; but charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth for ever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with them" Moroni 7:52.

Faith in God is necessarily the first step we learn to take in the gospel of Christ. If we have not faith, nothing else has any reason for we would have nothing to hope for. Repentance would mean nothing if we have no hope in being forgiven. Baptism would be an empty gesture, observed by others but not honored by God. The laying on of hands would not assure us of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Faith

in God is necessary for the salvation of our souls.

Faith is one of the first principles of the gospel according to Paul's message to the Hebrews: read again chapter 6, verses 1 and 2. In the 11th chapter, verse 6, we are told,

"But without faith it is impossible to please him (God. AGS): for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

It is also the shield in the armour of God against evil that he admonished the saints at Ephesus to put on. Read Ephesians chapter 6, verses 13 through 18.

There are persons who might say to you that they have no need of faith. They would say that this is religion and want no part of such foolishness. At the same time that person would quickly tell you that they trust their banker and the insurance company that they deal with. In our materialistic world there is a common failure to recognize God, that we were created both spiritually and physically. We are all religious about something, and have gods that may be false gods, even if

we deny being "religious." We all put faith and trust into many things in our daily lives, and experience hope, successes, and failures.

In most instances the meanings of the words *faith* and *trust* are quite similar, the usage, of course, may convey a recognition of God as a factor of accountability. The unbeliever in God is the foolish one for he will in time be held accountable long after his money is gone and the insurance policy is a scrap of paper. This is true of all material wealth we hold in this life; we cannot buy eternal life or save our own soul.

Important to all is our daily bread, our clothing, and the shelter we need. Someone needs to plant the seeds, harvest the crops of the fields and trees of the forest, mine the minerals from the earth to make all our needs available. Where did these things that are so important to our daily lives come from? Who made them or brought them into being? Can you name and identify anyone else other than God, the creator of heaven and earth?

When we recognize that it is our Father in heaven, God, who is the creator, we are invited to worship Him and the

Son, Jesus Christ—to believe and have faith in God. Paul wrote to the Romans in chapter 1, verses 17-20:

“For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them (refused to accept it. AGS); for God hath shewed it unto them (they could see it. AGS.). For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse....”

Faith is the first most important step we take in life and it begins with our relationship with our earthly parents. As a child we grow and learn by trusting and having faith in our parents; it is a natural process. Likewise there is always in this process of learning the values of right and wrong, and associated lessons of rewards and punishments. We soon learn that our faith or trust is rewarded only after a period of time has passed.

Likewise, faith is the first step we must take in being converted to the gospel of Christ.

To become a child of God and become part of the kingdom of God we must be as humble as a child and have faith in our

Faith in God gives us the reason to hope. Faith and hope are the foundations of charity, and charity is the pure love of Christ.

Heavenly Father. Lesson by lesson we will learn of His will, of the promises of reward for our obedience to the commandments. Faith will remain a necessary ingredient of our daily living, bringing comfort and blessing as it grows stronger, giving us hope, and causing us to experience charity for others, the pure love of Christ. In due time we will be rewarded or punished according to our works and faith in God.

In the 11th chapter of Hebrews Apostle Paul names many of the well-known people of the old testament of the Bible. Because of their faith they were blessed and did many things pleasing to God.

We are acquainted with the many, many miracles that Jesus was able to do when He found faith in God. The early apostles also were acquainted with the power of God in miracles that they witnessed and gave testimony to in the new testament of

the Bible.

The Book of Mormon is filled with testimonies of faith in God from the first chapter to the last; nothing was accomplished without faith, nothing ever will be accomplished without faith.

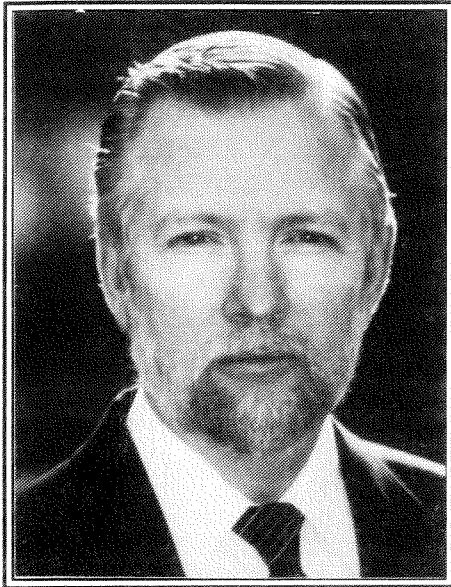
The story of the Brother of Jared stands out as a really extraordinary example. He had made eight small boats and needed something to give light in them. He made sixteen small stones and needed them to shine and give off light. In his prayer of faith he asked the Lord to touch them with His power. He was shown the finger of God, a finger that appeared as flesh and blood. He not only saw His finger but the Lord showed himself and spoke to him to reveal that he was Jesus Christ. This story is in the book of Ether, chapter one, verses 60 through 85.

Faith eventually brings us to a perfect knowledge of God; we then will have no need of faith; we will know and doubt not. Can you believe this? Do you need to have faith in God?

ARTICLE

THE PLACE OF THE NEW JERUSALEM

—THE CITY OF ZION OF THE LAST DAYS—



By Harvey E. Seibel

"And behold, this people will I establish in this land (America), unto the fulfilling of the covenant which I made with your father Jacob; and it shall be a new Jerusalem. And the powers of heaven shall be in the midst of this people; yea, even I will be in the midst of you" 3 Nephi 9:58-59.

"By faith he (Abraham) so-journed in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" Hebrews 11:9-10.

"But if they (the Gentiles) will repent, and hearken unto my words, and harden not their hearts, I will establish my church

among them, and they shall come in unto the covenant, and be numbered among this the remnant of Jacob, unto whom I have given this land (America) for their inheritance, and they shall assist my people, the remnant of Jacob; And also, as many of the house of Israel as shall come, that they may build a city, which shall be called the New Jerusalem..." 3 Nephi 10:1-2.

While the Book of Mormon positively identifies this land as being the place of the New Jerusalem, we must appeal to other sources to identify the specific country referenced in the above scriptures. Some have felt that the spot for this city could be at some point in Mexico or Central America or perhaps at some location other than that specified in latter-day revelation. Others have questioned whether we can know for a certainty that the place where Independence now stands is that place intended by the Lord for this city.

In the Book of Ether we read the following account:

"For behold, they rejected all the words of Ether; for he truly told them of all things, from the beginning of man; and how that after the waters had receded from off the face of this land, it became a choice land above all other lands, a chosen land of the Lord; Wherefore the Lord would have that all men should serve him,

The mountain, or nation, of the Lord's house is this very country, the United States of America...

which dwelt upon the face thereof; and that it was the place of the New Jerusalem, which should come down out of heaven, and the holy sanctuary of the Lord. Behold, Ether saw the days of Christ, and he spake concerning a New Jerusalem upon this land; and he spake also concerning the house of Israel, and the Jerusalem from whence Lehi should come; after that it should be destroyed, it should be built up again a holy city unto the Lord; Wherefore it could not be a New Jerusalem, for it had been in a time of old, but it should be built up again, and become a holy city of the Lord; and it should be built up unto the house of Israel; And that a New Jerusalem should be built up upon this land, unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph . . . Wherefore the remnant of the house of Joseph shall be built upon this land; and it shall be a land of their inheritance; and they shall build up a holy city unto the Lord, like unto the Jerusalem of old; and they shall no more be confounded, until the end come, when the earth shall pass away" (Ether 6:2-6, 8).

It is obvious that this

prophecy of Joseph and the city New Jerusalem to be built upon this land has not yet seen fulfillment. It is also true that Joseph was promised this land of America in both Genesis and Deuteronomy. (See Genesis 49:22-26 and Deuteronomy 33:13-17). Having identified the land of the western hemisphere as being the location of this holy city, it now remains for us to identify which of the countries in this hemisphere is the specific one referenced in the scriptures.

It is interesting to note, in this regard, that according to the prophecy in Daniel 2, the little stone kingdom was to be cut out of the mountain. That mountain was the nation of the United States, the same land to which Zion in Isaiah 40:9 was commanded to get up into. Even Nephi makes particular reference to our nation when he states that *"this land (the U.S.A.) shall be a land of liberty unto the Gentiles: and there shall be no kings upon the land, which shall raise up unto the Gentiles. And I will fortify this land against all other nations; And he that fighteth against Zion (our country), shall perish, saith God; for he that raiseth up a king against me, shall perish"* (2 Nephi 7:18-20). It was in this very nation or mountain that the plates of the Book of Mormon were hid up. It was also in this very land that the Church was restored again in the earth. Nephi quoting Isaiah writes,

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, when the mountain

of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it, And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (2 Nephi 8:18-19).

The mountain, or nation, of the Lord's house is this very country, the United States of America, and all nations have already flowed unto it, and the Lord's house, His church and kingdom, have been set up in this land as prophesied. The greater fulfillment of this prophecy is yet future, and that is when all people will come up to the house of God to learn of His ways. The very next verse of this prophecy states,

"And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plow shares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (2 Nephi 8:20).

The following quotations show that when the Gentiles are referenced, it is the people of this country in which we now live as opposed to those of the American nations to the north or south. Consider:

"And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles which had gone forth out of captivity did humble themselves before the Lord, and the power of

the Lord was with them; And I beheld that their mother Gentiles were gathered together upon the waters, and upon the land also, to battle against them; And I beheld that the power of God was with them; and also that the wrath of God was upon all them that were gathered together against them to battle. And I, Nephi, beheld that the Gentiles which had gone out of captivity were delivered by the power of God out of the hands of all other nations" (1 Nephi 3:152-155).

Again, *"Nevertheless, thou beholdest that the Gentiles which have gone forth out of captivity, and have been lifted up by the power of God above all other nations upon the face of the land, which is choice above all other lands, Which is the land which the Lord God hath covenanted with thy father that his seed should have for the land of their inheritance; wherefore, thou seest that the Lord God will not suffer that the Gentiles will utterly destroy the mixture of thy seed, which is among thy brethren; Neither will he suffer that the Gentiles shall destroy the seed of thy brethren..."* (1 Nephi 3:176-178).

Which Gentiles? The Gentiles which came from north-western Europe and settled our land! These Gentiles will not be suffered to utterly destroy the seed of Nephi nor Laman. It is certain that U.S. Gentiles have had little influence in destroying the seed of Nephi or Laman in Mexico, Canada, Central, or South America. Rather, our particular land, the land of freedom is the one here pinpointed.

"Wherefore, after that I have visited them in judgment, and

smitten them by the hand of the Gentiles; And after that the Gentiles do stumble exceedingly because of the most plain and most precious parts of the gospel of the Lamb which have been kept back, by that abominable church...I will be merciful unto the Gentiles in that day, saith the Lamb, inasmuch that I will bring forth unto them in mine own power, much of my gospel, which shall be plain and precious, saith the Lamb..." (1 Nephi 3:182-183). Again the scenario centers specifically around the Gentiles and Indians of our own country. "And it meaneth us in the days to come, and also all our brethren which are of the house of Israel. And it meaneth that the time cometh that after all the house of Israel have been scattered and confounded, that the Lord God will raise up a mighty nation among the Gentiles, yea, even upon the face of this land; **AND BY THEM SHALL OUR SEED BE SCATTERED.** And after that our seed is scattered, the Lord God will proceed to do a marvelous work among the Gentiles, which shall be of great worth unto our seed; Wherefore, it is likened unto their being nourished by the Gentiles, and being carried in their arms, and upon their shoulders" (1 Nephi 7:14-18).

It is certain that the Gentiles of our country did not scatter the Indian peoples outside our own borders. Our land, therefore, is specifically identified as the place where the great drama of the last days is to commence. The same is true of the wickedness of those Gentiles described in verses 34 and 35 of 3 Nephi 7:

"And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you,

At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, **and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all the people of the whole earth,** and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner of hypocrisy, and murders, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and of secret abominations; And if they shall do all these things, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fullness of my gospel from among them...."

Speaking further the Lord says,

"And after that ye (the people of Nephi) were blessed, then fulfilleth the Father the covenant which he made with Abraham, saying, In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed, unto the pouring out of the Holy Ghost through me upon the Gentiles, which blessing upon the Gentiles, **shall make them mighty above all, unto the scattering of my people, O house of Israel: and they shall be a scourge unto the people of this land**" (3 Nephi 9:65). "Verily, verily, I say unto you, When these things shall be made known unto them of the Father, and shall come forth of the Father, from them unto you, **for it is wisdom in the Father that they should be established in this land** (the USA), And be set up as **a free people** by the power of the Father, that these things might come forth from them unto **a REMNANT of your seed**, that the covenant of the Father may be fulfilled which he hath covenanted with his people, O house of Israel..." (3 Nephi 9:89-90).

I believe this pretty well establishes that the drama of the last days is to take place within the borders of the United States, the mountain of the Lord's house, the land of Joseph of which the promised material blessings of Genesis 49 and Deuteronomy 33 are amply fulfilled more so than in any other part of the Americas. This land (America in particular) is truly choice above all other lands. It is also the nation within which the New Jerusalem will be built. But can it be pinpointed even further than this?

On the 24th of April, 1864, a revelation was given to the Church of Christ commanding a return to the land of Missouri. I will quote the part that applies.

"Hear, O Ye people and hearken to the counsel of your Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who are called by My name, and keep My commandments. You who have sought to know My will concerning My people, who have professed My name, and entered into the new and everlasting covenant, to keep all My counsels and commandments of the only true and living God. Hear then, these things which are revealed unto you by the power of His Holy Spirit. Prepare O Ye people yourselves in all things that you may be ready to gather together upon the consecrated land which I have appointed and dedicated by My servant Joseph Smith and the first Elders of My Church in Jackson County, State of Missouri, for the gathering together of My saints, that they might be assembled in the day of My chastening hand, when your Lord will

pour out His wrath and indignation upon the ungodly, and inasmuch as My Church and people have been driven and scattered, therefore take counsel of Me, your Lord and Director, who says unto you, prepare yourselves and be ready against the appointed time which I have set and prepared for you.

"That you may return in the year A.D. 1867, which time the Lord by your prayers and faithfulness in all things will open and prepare a way before you that you may begin to gather at that time" *Revelation to Granville Hedrick*.

This shows that, despite the confusion that entered into the church in the early day, the land upon which Independence is now situated is the spot for the city of God. It would certainly be strange that the Lord, after having revealed His hand in restoring His church, bringing forth the Book of Mormon, and giving authority to officiate in the ordinances of His gospel, that he would not also reveal the place of the city. Thus in a revelation given in Kirtland, Ohio, June, 1831, we read,

"Behold, thus saith the Lord unto the elders whom he hath called and chosen in these last days, by the voice of his Spirit, saying, I the Lord will make known unto you what I will that ye shall do from this time until the next conference, which shall be held in Missouri, upon the land which I will consecrate unto my people, which are a remnant of Jacob, and them who are heirs according to the covenant" *Book of Commandments 54:1*.

Again in a revelation given

in Zion, July, 1831, we read,

"Hearken, O ye elders of my church, saith the Lord your God, who have assembled yourselves together, according to my com-

This land (America in particular) is truly choice above all other lands. It is also the nation within which the New Jerusalem will be built.

mandments, in this land which is the land of Missouri, which is the land which I have appointed and consecrated for the gathering of the saints: wherefore this is the land of promise, and the place for the city of Zion. And thus saith the Lord your God, if you will receive wisdom here is wisdom. Behold the place which is now called Independence, is the centre place, and the spot for the temple is lying westward upon a lot which is not far from the court house..." *Times and Seasons, vol. 5, p. 434*.

Another line of evidence is contained in the dream or vision by Elder George D. Cole sometime in 1870. In this experience he found himself upon a rock high above the Temple Lot. Looking down he saw a beautiful stump, out of which grew a small branch with six or seven large, healthy looking buds ready to put forth when the time came. He was told that this was the Church of Christ that was organized on the 6th of April,

1830. Then he was shown the top of the tree which had been cut down, and was told that it was cut off as the church, but not as individuals. This tree extended for miles northward and finally bent to the west. Finally, he saw the elders of Israel going through the dead top and pruning out the green twigs.

It is evident from the foregoing that God is recognizing His church as founded (or rooted) on the Temple Lot, the spot to which He commanded Granville Hedrick and those with him to return just a few short years earlier. If this is not true, then why did not God permit those early saints to remain in Illinois instead of bringing them back to Missouri? That the Lord was with them in their trek here is evidenced by the miraculous way in which they were able to safely cross the Missouri river on the ice. The little Church of Christ was the only people in the restoration who were commanded to return to Jackson County. Is it mere coincidence that neither the LDS nor the RLDS have possession of that lot? Think what might otherwise have been built there had they returned first. Is it also just a coincidence that the world peace society attempted to gain permission from us to allow them to build their world church headquarters on the Temple Lot? It is obvious that Satan understands the true significance of this area and would plant his seat on that spot if he could.

Some years ago I read of an account which told of a number of Indian tribes who were warring among themselves when a personage appeared to them, rebuking them for their warrings and telling them that the ground upon which they fought was sacred ground. He told them that it was the place where the lodge of the Great Spirit would one day stand. The various tribes then ceased their warrings and brought stones to mark the place where this lodge was to be built.

There are some who discount this story, giving reasons for their stand, so necessarily I cannot have as strong a conviction of this matter as I could if I had had firsthand knowledge of it. Consequently all I have to go on are the testimonies of others who do affirm this. Some also discount the temple idea because of the temple building confusion that was created in the early church. I don't know but what this was done by Satan to obscure the truth of a single temple, and thus discrediting it in the process. But to continue:

The following is an excerpt from *Lodge of the Great Spirit*, by Gladys Barr Loyd. I had not, heretofore, read this account, but now give the following quote:

"The first of the many beautiful and individual 'songs' Longfellow wrote concerning Hiawatha is *The Peace Pipe*. This song, more than all others, tells the story of legend related by present-day Indians of the event that took place in ancient

times at the point where the Temple Lot is now located in Independence, Missouri. According to legend it was here, during a time of warfare, that the Great Spirit descended into the midst of His people, persuaded them to cease their fighting, and commanded that they bathe in the river, washing the war paint from their bodies. Afterward He instructed them to go to their homes, and to send back young braves carrying each a stone, native to his own land. Those stones, we are told, were deposited at the 'hub of the wheel,' the crossroads of all the Indian trails in that area, to mark the spot where, one day, a Lodge would be built in honor of their Great Spirit.

"Longfellow makes no mention of those stones, or of the promise concerning the Lodge or Temple, but he does relate how the Great Spirit, descending, commanded His people to cease their fighting, and to cleanse themselves by bathing in the waters of the nearby river, which event took place at the same time He gave instruction concerning the stones that were to mark the place of His Temple...

"Surely it is not coincidence that the legend related today by the Indians is the very one Longfellow wrote that was told to him by their forefathers; a legend that had come down from very ancient times to them. The only difference is that, whereas Longfellow failed to do so, present-day Indians include the account of that 'significant little pile of stones,' which was to mark the site of the temple...

"When the tribes reached their home lands, each sent a runner, carrying a small stone, back to the place where the Great

Spirit had met with them, and there, at the cross-roads of the Indian nations, at the hub of that mighty wheel, they deposited, each one, the stone brought by him from his individual tribe, in testimony of the covenant that had been made, and to mark the spot where the Temple was to be erected in the last days."

Out of all the countries of the western hemisphere the finger of God has pointed out the one country which is named chief of the nations to whom the house of Israel came, the place where many are at ease, the designated place of Zion. It is this great Gentile nation whom the mother gentiles could not overcome, the land of freedom, the place where God has raised up his house, and brought forth his gospel and kingdom once again upon the earth. It is the mountain (nation) of the Lord's house, the place where the Zion of God shall stand. It is the land of Joseph as promised by Jacob and Moses, even to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills, containing the blessings of the heaven above, the earth below, and the deep beneath. It is the promised land, the new Israel, the modern Samaria, the land of Zion, the place of the New Jerusalem. (See. Amos 6:1.). It was to this country that the pilgrim fathers were brought. It is the United States of America, whose beginning, course, and destiny, unlike the nations of the rest of the Americas, was given to the father of our country, in his famous vision given during that terrible winter of

(1777-78) at Valley Forge.

That part of the vision applying to us is the final scene, a scene which, if true, must see fulfillment before this century ends.

"Again I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, the end of the century cometh, look and learn.' At this the dark, shadowy angel placed a trumpet to his lips and blew three distinct blasts; and taking water from the ocean, he sprinkled it on Europe, Asia and Africa. Then my eyes beheld a fearful scene; from each of these countries arose thick black clouds that were soon joined into one. And throughout this mass there gleamed a dark red light by which I saw hordes of armed men who, moving with the cloud, marched by land and sailed by sea to America, which country was enveloped in the volume of cloud. And I dimly saw these vast armies devastate the whole country and burn the villages, towns and cities that I beheld springing up.

"As my ears listened to the thundering of the cannon, clashing of swords, and the shouts and cries of millions in mortal combat, I again heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.' When the voice had ceased, the dark, shadowy angel placed his trumpet once more to his mouth, and blew a long and fearful blast.

"Instantly a light as of a thousand suns shown down from above me, and pierced and broke into fragments the dark cloud which enveloped America. At the same moment the angel upon whose head still shown the word 'Union' and who bore our national flag in one hand and a

sword in the other, descended from the heavens attended by legions of bright spirits. These immediately joined the inhabitants of America, whom I perceived were well nigh overcome but who, immediately taking courage again, closed up their broken ranks and renewed the battle. Again, amid the fearful noise of the conflict I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.' As the voice ceased, the shadowy angel for the last time dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it upon America. Instantly the dark cloud rolled back, together with the armies it had brought, leaving the inhabitants of the land victorious.

"Then once more, I beheld the villages, towns and cities springing up where I had seen them before, while the bright angel, planting the azure standard he had brought in the midst of them, cried with a loud voice: 'While the stars remain, and the heavens send down dew upon the earth, so long shall the Republic last.' And taking from his brow the crown on which blazoned the word 'Union' he placed it upon the standard while the people, kneeling down, said, 'Amen.'

"The scene instantly began to fade and dissolve, and I, at last, saw nothing but the rising, curling vapor I had first beheld. This also disappearing, I found myself once more gazing on my mysterious visitor who, in the same voice I had heard before said, 'Son of the Republic, what you have seen is thus interpreted. Three great perils will come upon the Republic. The most fearful is the third, passing which, the whole world united shall never be able to prevail against her. Let every child of the Republic learn to live for

his God, his land and the Union."

This scene is confirmed in a dream given to General McClelland during the Civil War. On this occasion the solemn voice of Washington spoke these words,

"And now she has been brought to her second great struggle, this, so far the most perilous ordeal she has to endure....But her mission will not then be finished for ere another century shall have gone by, the oppressors of the whole earth, hating and envying her and her exaltation, shall join themselves together and raise up their hands against her. But if she be found worthy of her high calling they shall surely be discomfited, and then will be ended her third and last struggle for existence."

What can 'her last struggle' mean but that the end has come, the Lord returned, and the reign of peace commenced? And what is 'her high calling' but to be the place of Zion, the City of our God? And who is it that 'shall join themselves together' to 'raise up their hands against her' but those who shall fight against this Zion? These shall all be discomfited, however, and then shall Zion be redeemed and peace reign among the children of God for a thousand years.



BOOK REVIEW



"Hearken, O ye people of my church, saith the Lord your God, and hear the word of the Lord your God, and hear the word of the Lord concerning you; the Lord who shall suddenly come to His temple; the Lord who shall come down upon the world with a curse to judgment; yea, upon all the nations that forget God, and upon all the ungodly among you. For He shall make bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of their God. Wherefore, prepare ye, prepare ye, O my people. Sanctify yourselves. Gather ye together, O ye people of my church, upon the land of Zion, all you that have not been commanded to tarry. Go ye out from Babylon. Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord. Call your solemn assemblies, and speak often one to another. And let

every man call upon the name of the Lord. Yea, verily I say unto you again, the time has come when the voice of the Lord is unto you, Go ye out of Babylon. Gather ye out from among the nations, from the four winds, from one end of heaven to another" (Revelation given through the Prophet Joseph Smith, Jr., November 3, 1831; Doctrine & Covenants Appendix Verses 1-2, 1835 Edition).

Babylon's Fall and the Way of Escape, *by William A. Sheldon*

**This summary
recommendation
was submitted by
Elder Samuel S. Gould**

While reading this precious book, I was strongly impressed by the Spirit of God concerning our ever approaching personal and national future with regards to the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ and the resulting fall of Babylon. This book, published in May of 1996, by the Church of Christ (TL) Board of Publications, treats on the subject matter that should be of utmost impor-

I encourage all to obtain a copy of this book and begin to fully comprehend the day in which we live and contemplate the strength of the message in *Babylon's Fall and the Way of Escape.*

tance to the Saints and Christian world in view of the fast changing world events surrounding us and the uneasiness with which we embrace our ever approaching future as foretold by the holy prophets of God. A very good explanation of the term "Babylon" is given along with the various aspects used in prophetic utterances of the past. A strong contrast is then drawn between "Babylon" and the "Church of the Lamb of God" restored April 6, 1830, by the hand of God through the instrumentality of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Jr.

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and

to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people..." Rev. 14:6.

"And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory" Rev. 18:1.

"And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication" Rev. 14:8.

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird" Rev. 18:2.

A very straightforward delineation is made between those who will bear the "Seal of God" upon them, versus those who will be destroyed with the "Mark of the Beast" upon their life.

"For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts" 2 Cor. 1: 20-22.

"And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads" Rev. 9:4. See also Rev 7:1-10.

"And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is

poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the

A very straightforward delineation is made between those who will bear the "Seal of God" upon them, versus those who will be destroyed with the "Mark of the Beast" upon their life.

holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name" Rev. 14:9-11.

The very strict and often repeated warning and commandment to come out of the world is clearly given that all Saints and Christians alike may understand it.

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

The book also describes for us the world wide conflicts between these two organizations down to the time when "Babylon" will fall and the "Church of the Lamb of God" is victorious in the building of the holy City of New Jerusalem and the establishing of Zion's peaceful reign throughout all the earth.

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

"Contend against no church, save it be the church of the devil" B of C 15:22.

"The mighty God, even the Lord, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined. Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people. Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice" Ps. 50:1-5.

I encourage all to obtain a copy of this book and begin to fully comprehend the day in which we live and contemplate the strength of the message in *Babylon's Fall and the Way of Escape*. The book ends with Ten Steps you can take right now to begin this vital journey out of the path of the Babylonian curse and destruction. I have taken the liberty to add some additional scriptural references within the brackets [] after quoting each step as given in the book.

Step 1: Rule out of the mind a belief that other churches are equally acceptable to God as the Church of Christ; that all churches claiming a belief in Christ are in fact His church. Joseph Smith was instructed by

Remove from Advocate and make copies as needed

1997 Teen Challenge Youth Camp

To Register for the Classes you want, you must complete and return the following 1997 Teen Challenge class schedule.

How to fill the class schedule form:

1. Write your name, social security number, and phone number in the spaces provided on the form.
2. If you plan to ride the bus from the East Local to camp, write "YES" in the space provided.
3. Mark Camp T-shirt, size.
4. Mark the 10:05 a.m., 11:05 a.m., and 1:30 p.m., classes you would like to take, indicate 1st 2nd 3rd choice!!
IMPORTANT: If you have already taken the rappelling class, you may not choose this class.
5. Mail your complete class schedule and registration form, **IMPORTANT:** We must have your registration fee before we can process your class schedule.

Directions to Camp Far Westa from Kansas City:

Take Interstate 35 north to 36 Highway, west at Cameron, Missouri. Continue west on 36 for approximately 5 miles. A sign for camp Far Westa will be on the right side of Highway 36. (The camp grounds are approximately 1 mile east of Stewartsville, Missouri.)

Transportation:

For those needing a ride from the Kansas City area, a bus will be leaving the East Local at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, the 3rd of August, Check-in for campers is from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m..

Check List:

We must have the following before we can assign your classes to you:

- Registration fee — make check out to Teen Challenge, \$85.00 if paid by July 1, \$95.00 after
- Class schedule form — completed 1st, 2^{ed} and 3rd choices for each open hour.
- Registration form with parents and camper signatures.

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

CHAPERONS: There will be an adult for every eight campers.

LIFE GUARD: The camp provides a certified life guard.

FOOD: The facility provides the food service—SNACK BAR AVAILABLE.

AGE GROUP: Junior and Senior High—ages 12—18.

DATES: August 3-8 1997

Mail Forms to:

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

Mailing Address for Camp:

Camp Far Westa
P. O. Box 257
Stewartsville, MO
64490 (816) 669-3359

WHAT TO BRING LIST

This is a "suggested" list. Where clothing items are listed, bring enough for the five days, packing may be in a suitcase, duffel bag or camp box.

Please see that all items are marked with your name or initials.

PLEASE BRING:

- **Bible, Book of Mormon and notebook are a must!**
- Flashlight
- Lightweight sleeping bag or 2 twin size sheets and 1 light blanket.
- Pillow and pillowcase
- Tennis shoes (old and worn are best)
- Extra shoes
- 6 pairs of socks
- 1 pair of jeans/pants
- Modest shorts or cutoffs
- Short sleeve shirts
- 1 long sleeve shirt
- 1 lightweight raincoat, poncho or jacket
- 1 laundry bag/pillow case
- Kleenex
- Underclothes
- Thongs

PERSONAL ARTICLES:

- Toothpaste, toothbrush, comb hairbrush, shampoo, soap, towels, deodorant, etc...
- Insect repellent (we recommend Cutters or Deep Woods Off)
- Please do not bring expensive jewelry which might be lost or broken.

OPTIONAL ITEMS TO BRING:

- Camera and film
- Fishing pole and favorite lures

- Stationery, envelopes and stamps
- Musical instrument
- Day pack or knapsack
- Baseball gloves
- Bring money for snacks—canteen will be available for snacks.

PLEASE LEAVE AT HOME:

- *Immodest and inappropriate clothing*
- *No fear and concert-shirts*
- *Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes*
- *Video games*
- *Knives of any kind*
- *Electronic games*
- *Radios, tape players, etc...*
- *Candy or pop (they attract critters)*
- *Fireworks or firearms*

RULES:

- *You will be expected to behave in a Christian manner at all times.*
- *No leaving the camp grounds.*
- *You are required to stay with the group unless special permission is granted.*
- *Phones will be available for emergency calls only.*
- *You are expected to wear modest apparel*
- *You are asked to follow all safety rules.*
- *Each camper is required to participate in all activities.*
- *If cars are brought to camp you will be required to leave the keys with the camp counselor.*
- *There will be no pranks—any materials for pranks will be confiscated!*

Make copies (if needed) and mail this form to Smith Brickhouse, 5713 Logan Road, Kansas City, MO.

Teen Challenge 1997 Summer Youth Camp Registration form

Camper's name _____
Camper's age & birthday _____
Camper's SSN# _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone number (include area code) _____
Parent's name _____
Street address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Home phone number _____
Insurance Carrier & Policy number _____
T-shirt size _____
Bus ride to Camp-Leaving from East Local Sunday 1:30 _____

I have read the rules of this camp and my Signature shows I will comply with the stated rules. In the event of medical emergency, by my signature on this document, I give permission for the camp personnel to administer and or obtain the necessary treatment for my minor child. **NOTE:** Please have this notarized and list any medical conditions (allergies, asthma, etc.) that we should be aware of.

Parent or Guardian's signature: _____

Campers Signature _____

MEDICAL: _____

Note to Parents: Campers will be dropped off at the Missouri Reunion on August 8. If other arrangements are needed, please specify. If Parents are unable to attend the Missouri Reunion and youth is to be the responsibility of another adult for the balance of that weekend, please specify who: _____

Those riding the bus to camp must leave on the bus unless written permission is given.

Subscribed & sworn to me this _____ day of _____, 1997

Notary Public _____

County of _____

State of _____

My Commission Expires: _____

1997 Teen Challenge Camp Schedule

Name:

Phone:

Class/Activity	Days	Time	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Counselor meeting	<i>Daily</i>	6:30			
Campers wake-up		7:00			
A.M. Devotional		7:30			
Breakfast		7:45			
<i>Choose 1 daily 9:00 class below, Include a 2nd and 3rd choice</i>					
Archery	<i>Daily</i>	9:00			
Soccer					
In the Beginning (creation)					
Sign Language					
Screen printing					
Character building					
Orienteering					
Fly tying					
<i>Choose 1 daily 10:05 class below, Include a 2nd and 3rd choice</i>					
Choir	<i>Daily</i>	10:05			
Volleyball					
First Aid					
Aerodynamics, model building & flying					
Wood carving					
Calligraphy					
Camp Journal					
Study	<i>Daily</i>	11:05			
Devotions		12:05			
Lunch		12:15			
<i>Choose 1 daily 1:30 class or 1 Mon. & Wed. and 1 Tues. & Thur.</i>					
Photography: Combining artistic composition and dark room experience	<i>Daily</i>	1:30			
Aviation (<i>consent forms will be provided for Parent signature</i>)					
Canoeing					
Electronics					
Rappelling (<i>No first year campers or repeats</i>) (<i>consent forms will be provided for Parent signature</i>)					
<i>Circle one — a= All 4 days, b= Mon. & Wed., c= Tues & Thur.</i>					
Art	<i>Circle</i>				
Beginning crochet	a b c				
Craft—glass etching	a b c				
Candle making	a b c				
Candy making (Monday/Wednesday only)	M/W				
Boating, Fishing, Swimming, Sports	<i>Daily</i>	2:30			
Free Time		4:30			
Cabin Time		5:00			
Dinner		5:50			
Quest Class		7:30			
Free Time		8:30			
Sports					
Camp Fire		9:00			

the Lord to join none of them, for their creeds were an abomination in His sight.

["And thus, if the people of this generation harden not their hearts, I will work a reformation among them, and I will put down all lyings, and deceivings, and priestcrafts, and envyings, and strifes, and idolatries, and sorceries, and all manner of iniquities, and I will establish my church, like unto the church which was taught by my disciples in the days of old" *B of C 4:5.*

"And verily, verily I say unto you, that this church have I established and called forth out of the wilderness: And even so will I gather mine elect from the four quarters of the earth, even as many as will believe in me, and hearken unto my voice..." *B of C 35:4-5.*]

Step 2: If the choice is ours, then refuse to break the Christian Sabbath, which is the Lord's day (or Sunday), by indulgence in labors and activities which will not produce rest to the body and mind, nor be acceptable as the worship of God. Do not thine own pleasure on His holy day.

"If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it" Is. 58:13-14.

Step 3: Do not engage in social activities, or pleasures of any sort which, as matters of personal preference and frequent

occurrence, separate us from the body of Christ and breaks the bond of fellowship and service to each other.

The book also describes for us the world wide conflicts between these two organizations down to the time when "Babylon" will fall and the "Church of the Lamb of God" is victorious in the building of the holy City of New Jerusalem and the establishing of Zion's peaceful reign throughout all the earth.

["Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" Heb. 10:23-25.]

Step 4: Shun association on a personal basis with those who have little or no moral direction in their lives, as judged by the gospel of Christ, except as it may assist them to come up higher.

["Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what

part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty" 2 Cor. 6:14-18.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" 1 Jn. 2:15-16.

"But behold, your days of probation are past: ye have procrastinated the day of your salvation, until it is everlastingly too late, and your destruction is made sure; Yea, for ye have sought all the days of your lives for that which ye could not obtain; and ye have sought for happiness in doing iniquity, which thing is contrary to the nature of that righteousness which is in our great and Eternal Head" Hel. 5:51-52.

"Nevertheless the children of God were commanded that they should gather themselves together oft, and join in fasting and mighty prayer, in behalf of the welfare of the souls of those who knew not God. Al. 4:6.]

Step 5: Refuse to watch or permit our children to watch suggestive programming of sex on the TV and movies; programs of loose moral and marital standards; programs which foster use

of alcohol and drugs as acceptable stimulants; programs devoted to violence and bloodshed, even in so-called cartoons. In a word: being quite restricted in the viewing of the TV, etc. Many today are not sensitive to loose standards.

["I will sing of mercy and judgment: unto thee, O Lord, will I sing. I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me. A froward heart shall depart from me: I will not know a wicked person. Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer. Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me. He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight. I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the Lord"] Ps. 101.]

Step 6: Restriction in literature or music which is immoral or suggestive toward sex, drugs, or the gratification of other carnal desires.

["Remember, to be carnally minded, is death, and to be spiritually minded, is life eternal"] 2 Ne. 6:74.

["Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reprov-

ed are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light"] Eph. 5:10-13.

["Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and everyone that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"] 1 Jn. 5:1-5.]

Step 7: *["But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience"] Eph 5:3-6.*

["And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God"] Eph. 5:18-21.]

Step 8: Let fighting by physical or mental force, or by the tongue, as a means of conquest,

be put away. Put away a spirit of contention.

["And there shall be no disputations among you, as there hath hitherto been; nether shall there be disputations among you concerning the points of my doctrine, as there hath hitherto been; For verily, verily I say unto you, He that hath the spirit of contention, is not of me, but is of the devil, which is the father of contention, and he stirreth up the hearts of men to contend with anger one with another..."] 3 Ne 5:29-30.

["And ye shall grow in the knowledge of the glory of him that created you, or in the knowledge of that which is just and true. And ye will not have a mind to injure one another, but to live peaceably, and to render to every man according to that which is his due. And ye will not suffer your children, that they go hungry, or naked; Neither will ye suffer that they transgress the laws of God, and fight and quarrel one with another, and serve the devil, which is the master of sin, or which is the evil spirit which hath been spoken of by our fathers; he being an enemy to all righteousness; But ye will teach them to walk in the ways of truth and soberness; ye will teach them to love one another, and to serve one another..."] Mos. 2:23-27.]

Step 9: Narrowing of financial credit obligations to only essential needs, with the purpose of ultimate elimination.

["Behold it is said in my laws, or forbidden to get in debt to thine enemies..."] B of C 65:37.

["But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich

fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness" 1 Tim. 6:6-11.

"And now my brethren, do ye suppose that God justifieth you in this thing? Behold, I say unto you, Nay. But he condemneth you, and if ye persist in these things, his judgments must speedily come unto you. O that he would shew you that he can pierce you, and with one glance of his eye, he can smite you to the dust. O that he would rid you from this iniquity and abomination. And, O that ye would listen unto the word of his commands, and let not this pride of your hearts destroy your souls. Think of your brethren, like unto yourselves, and be familiar with all, and free with your substance, that they may be rich like unto you. But before ye seek for riches, seek ye for the kingdom of God. And after that ye have obtained a hope in Christ, ye shall obtain riches, if ye seek them; and ye will seek them, for the intent to do good; to clothe the naked, and to feed the hungry, and to liberate the captive, and administer relief to the sick, and the afflicted" Jac. 2:17-24.

"And except they should have charity, they were nothing; wherefore, if they should have charity, they would not suffer the laborer in Zion to perish. But the laborer in Zion shall labor for Zion; for if they labor for money,

they shall perish" 2 Ne. 11:108-109.]

Step 10: If possible, do not trust in stocks, bonds, the interest system in any way, or economic means other than that produced through honest labor of the body and mind to sustain your livelihood; and this only with the mental reservation that our real trust must be in God.

["Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved" Ps. 15.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, in truth. The remnant shall return, even the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God" Is. 10:20-21.

"In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even everyone that is written among the living in Jerusalem..." Is. 4:2-3.]

"Send forth the elders of my church unto the nations which are afar off; unto the islands of the sea; send forth unto foreign lands; call upon all nations; firstly, upon the Gentiles, and then upon the Jews. And behold and lo, this shall be their cry, and the voice of the Lord unto all people: Go ye forth unto the land of Zion, that the borders of my people may be enlarged, and that her stakes may be strengthened, and that Zion may go forth unto the regions round about. Yea, let the cry go forth among all people; Awake and arise and go forth to meet the Bridegroom. Behold and lo, the Bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet Him. Prepare yourselves for the great day of the Lord. Watch, therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour. Let them, therefore which are among the gentiles, flee to Zion. And let them who be of Judah, Flee unto Jerusalem, unto the mountains of the Lord's house. Go ye out from among the nations even from Babylon, from the midst of wickedness, which is spiritual Babylon. But verily thus saith the Lord, let not your flight be in haste, but let all things be prepared before you. And he that goeth, let him not look back, lest sudden destruction shall come upon him" (Revelation given through the Prophet Joseph Smith, Jr., November 3, 1831; Doctrine & Covenants Appendix verses 3-4, 1835 Edition).

■ **To order your copy of *Babylon's Fall and the Way of Escape*, please see the back cover of the *Zion's Advocate*.**

Purpose of the 1997 Solemn Assembly

(And this Conference year)

In past years the importance of humbling ourselves before the Lord has been stressed. We feel that again the importance of humility should be emphasized. In Helaman 2:31 we can read where members of the church were persecuted by their own brethren: *"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..."* We are also reminded that our forefathers humbled themselves before the Lord, and the power of the Lord was with them. In like manner the Lord can be with us in greater power if we humble ourselves sufficiently.

We should have mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness and longsuffering in each of our lives. It is important that we forbear, or bear with one another, as well as forgive one another (see Colossians 3:12-13). *"And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts..."* Colossians 3:14-15. *"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you"* Ephesians 4:32.

In every aspect of the Lord's work there is the need for the presence of the Holy Ghost. We must pray that the Lord will call laborers into His harvest and that the promise of the Lord will be with them: *"And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following"* Mark 16:20. *"God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will"* Hebrews 2:4.

The following is a list of some specific needs for which we should pray:

- 1 Pray for the continuing conference year, that the Lord's will might be accomplished and that unity might prevail in our midst.
- 2 Pray for a greater outpouring of the love of God in our hearts. (Moroni 7:52-53)
- 3 Pray for greater humility in our lives. (Mosiah 1:119-120)
- 4 Pray to God for forgiveness of our sins, and that the Lord would purify and sanctify our hearts so that we can accomplish His will.
- 5 Pray for the ministry that

they might be faithful in their responsibilities.

- 6 Pray for the young families and the whole family structure that we might have strong families who can endure the stress of the world and the problems of life.
- 7 Pray for the responsibility of parents to God and to their children. (Ephesians 6:4 and Mosiah 2:25-27)
- 8 Pray for our little children and our young people that they might have the strength to resist the temptations of the world.
- 9 Pray for the duties of our youth toward God and their parents. (Ephesians 6:1-2)
- 10 Pray for the endurance of faith and Christian unity in service to our God. (Matthew 24:13; Colossians 3:12-15; 1 Corinthians 15:58)

DEFINITION

Unto

By Don Hitt

Matt. 3:11:

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I..."

The phrase "Unto repentance" is only found once in the Bible but thirty-three times in the Book of Mormon. About fifteen of them are in reference to baptism. Therefore I think it is important to know the definition of the word *unto*.

So if we place some of the definitions into our first scripture we get something like this: "I baptize you with water as an action for which you are particularly fitted, for a direction toward repentance." Or, "I baptize you with water as a person spoken to, and effected by the action of repentance." The possibilities are many, but the thing that interested me most was the preciseness of this wonderful, amazing, and perfect word.

You probably thought you were done with repentance as a first principle of the doctrine, but your life has been filled with more and more repentance since you were baptized. You

know that is true from experience, and the word "unto" brings that out. So keep on keep'en on. It's what you've come this far for.

The definition of the word "unto" from *Webster's Third International Dictionary*:

Used as a function word to indicate (UFWTI) direction and completion of movement toward a place, destination, or object.

Function: n. 1. The action for which one is particularly fitted or employed.

2. a. Assigned duty or activity.

Used as a function word to indicate (UFWTI): movement, inclination, or tendency toward an enriched object.

UFWTI: aim, purpose or destiny.

UFWTI: a person spoken to, or the recipient of an action, or the person effected by an action ("unto you is born this day...a savior" Luke 2:11.)

UFWTI: something arousing a response of responsive action.

Having Little...But Possessing Much

Her house is a home
nothing elaborate you see,
it is decorated in love
and comfort to me.

There are no fancy paintings
no glitzy formal affair,
just happy family reminders
that are special and rare.

Our family pictures
of sweet childhood memory,
cover the old fireplace mantel
for all to see.

The kitchen is so warm
modern appliances are few,
hardworking hands and
homemade food
are clearly the sight to view.

The hallway is long
and bears scars of our plays and
fights,
thru this we recall
God's protection day and night.

All alone in this home
lives the most satisfied and caring
Mother,
who wouldn't trade her treasures
for any other.

Now I look back
and thank the Lord every day,
for blessing me with my family
and protecting our every way.

~Dianne Welsb
Submitted by Sr. Louise Grzincic

NEWS

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Greetings from Phoenix! Please accept my apology for my negligence in keeping up on the Phoenix news last year. I pledge to make 1997 a better year.

Joel Yates has been elected our pastor for another year and Gordon McCann will be our assistant pastor.

On January 9, we gathered in a memorial service for Esther Caviness. Don McIndoo spoke about the inspiration that Esther and all the founding families of the Phoenix local have been to him. Esther Caviness was the first editor of *The Hand of Fellowship*. We're grateful for her willingness to serve. The little paper that began in 1956 continues to strengthen and inspire us 41 years later. Esther's family reminisced about her courage, humor and determination, qualities we all need to strive for.

The first sacrament service of 1997 that our family was able to attend was very uplifting. The theme of the service seemed to be "Be Patient in Prayer." Melissa Briggs, a friend of the Mosers (and becoming a friend to all of us!) who has been worshipping and studying with the church for some time gave a beautiful testimony. She testified that as she strove toward the gospel she got more opposition from family and worldly acquaintances. She received a direct manifestation from God to be patient for He was with her. I won't give you the details of her experience because I know she'll want to share that with you later herself! Sister Debbie Brown spoke of a commitment to fast until certain things were resolved in her life. She had been very faithful but had weakened one day and broken the fast. In her remorse, she was given the testimony that God is listening and will answer her prayers.

On January 22, we had a special worship service in which members of the congregation shared favorite scriptures.

On Valentine's weekend, the Phoenix ministry met in fasting and prayer. Pastor Yates asked the ministry to focus their prayers on six needs:

- 1 Seek the Lord's forgiveness and sanctification to be more effective in our ministry.**
- 2 That the power of God might be more fully manifest in our priesthood responsibilities and duties.**
- 3 The need for a greater outpouring of the gifts of the spirit on the priesthood and the people.**
- 4 Help against the power of the evil one that is working to destroy our church.**
- 5 A greater outpouring of the love of Christ so that we can be more receptive to the cries of our people.**
- 6 The spiritual needs of the local congregation.**

On February 16, Priest Bob Hedrick preached to us about *The Purpose of Trials*. "A trial is a test of progress. If God wants us to take a test and we say, 'No, I can't,' we're not going to progress. When we fail a trial God will give us another. He will keep working with us. He will say, 'Remember that test I gave you? It's still here.' Don't get upset by trials; expect and overcome."

That evening, Elder Joel Yates preached about *What it means to be a servant*. Speaking to the ministry, he said, "It doesn't matter what part you have; those who have this are to be down there in the trenches." And addressing all of us he said, "We're caught up in 'What I want to do' so much that we forget others. If everything we do as a family unit is for us, how can we teach our children to serve? We do ourselves and our children a great disservice when we don't spend time in service. We may be guilty of vanity in our prayers if we pray for our brother who is sick and don't visit. Let's not pray about things and leave them there—let's act. That's being a servant."

In the Adult Sunday School class we've been studying the story of Jacob in the book of Genesis. We've learned how throughout time God has transformed sinful men into servants

when their hearts turned toward Him. God transformed **Jacob** from a supplanter, a schemer (the meaning of his original name), into **Israel**, which means prevailer, he who strives with God. Yet Jacob's human nature remained. When he was slothful or self-willed, his life faltered; when he relied on God, he was a powerful servant.

In a recent prayer service, Sister Chris Moser testified of praying about a particular need and waking in the night with the scripture that answered her prayer.

Sister Helen Kidd shared an experience that her mother, Blanche Martin, had in caring for Helen's uncle. Blanche's brother Clyde was seriously ill and had been sent home from the hospital to die. Sister Martin was caring for him. She was told by the spirit to have her brother administered to but was fearful about suggesting this to him, as he was not a spiritual man. The spirit spoke to Blanche twice more, and she responded. Clyde agreed to administration. He began to gain strength and later turned his life around to become a Christian who was to live for quite a few more years.

Our pastor admonished us to give more time to fasting and prayer for greater power and blessings in our lives, particularly the gift of healing. He has asked us to pray for these signs in our work with our Native American brothers and sisters.

Please continue to pray for the work on the Navajo Nation. The ministry are making shorter, more frequent trips to minister to people on a more regular basis. Whenever possible, they leave children's lessons with young families in hopes of awakening them to their spiritual heritage.

Until next time, God be with you all.
Marlene Oar

COLLINS, MISSOURI

Fresh green leaves are beginning to color the trees in our area. Today I noticed tiny lilacs starting to bud out. In only a day or two they will be in full bloom and fragrance. There's nothing much sweeter than the scent of new lilacs. I hope your spring flowers bring you joy.

I noticed some folks planting a garden today as I went for a walk uptown. Folks were outdoors, busy and friendly. Of course, maybe they were waving because I was strolling my two-year-old granddaughter. Silly me! And I supposed they were glad to see me out walking again after a long, cold winter!

Some good news to report: our relationship with the community churches has been restored! I can't really explain how it has all taken place, but for some reason the Baptist minister took a new job and moved away. He wasn't fired; he just up and left. Since then things have settled back down and we (Marvin and Samantha Cook, Allen and I) were even invited to sing one evening at the Baptist Church for a community dinner—without the dinner. Anyway, it was very enjoyable. Marvin and Sammie were the main attractions since

they are from Nebraska—and more talented. Aunt "Normie" was very proud to have all of her family there that night, as well as the following day at our Easter program.

Sunrise Services were again hosted by the Christian Church with all three community churches represented. There was a closeness that day as we all greeted one another and visited after the service. Perhaps, as Allen said, we have received a blessing that has strengthened our community and our bond as Christian friends. I hope so.

Our sister, Betty Martin, lost her brother, Dick Gentry, to lung cancer on the 17th of February. Betty and her two sisters, Bonnie and Bea, assisted with the care of Dick for about a year when the Veteran's Hospital released him to in-home care. He was much happier and more content at home. I think Dick and his sisters drew much closer together during this time and have added much to their cherished memories.

Time is a strange thing. It seems to go by so quickly—until it stops—and then it stops quickly. Allen is to preach a funeral service tomorrow for a young couple in their 30's who were killed in a motorcycle accident. They were about three blocks from their home.

This makes me think of how quickly time passes and I wonder what use I'm making of it. What would be my condition before God if suddenly, when I least expected it—time stopped.

In closing, I'll share a few sermon quotes for you to consider:

- ◆ *Life is a period of change.*
- ◆ *We have choices to make in life, folks; choices and opportunities.*
- ◆ *You don't accomplish much being safe and comfortable.*
- ◆ *Any time you climb higher, there is work and pain involved. If you stand still you slide back.*
- ◆ *It's nice to be "remembered" in the family of God.*
- ◆ *Referring to a statement: "The gospel is free"...when we're good, it's free—but when we're bad, it usually costs us a lot.*
- ◆ *Being a servant of Jesus Christ is very serious business.*
- ◆ *Don't complain about things you didn't do anything to change.*

Your reporter,
Czerna Kauffman

MOGOLLON LOCAL

Members and visitors have made it safely traveling through the winter storms. We are fortunate enough to live close to a large local. Many brothers and sisters come to see us in Payson and Show Low. Bill and Karin and kids—thanks always for your love and fellowship. Gordon McCann—it was so good to see you again; it's been a long time. Jim and Wanda Yates are always taking time to come and see us. Jay, Chris, Erica and Melissa Briggs make the long haul and sacrifice for the Lord again and again. Andy and the boys are our friends and helpers indeed. Jim Yates, Jr. sees to our needs diligently. We humbly presume the Lord will bless each of you who are in His service. We know of your busy schedules and appreciate you all the more.

I would like to report Betty Brown's

cataract surgery went very well. She is doing and seeing fine.

Allergy season is upon us. Karli gets it the worst. She was administered to by Jay, and had a few days of peace, and still hasn't gotten as bad as at the first.

The Cloyds are remodeling their kitchen. Just another mess, not worthy of thought or turmoil on Sunday.

I am writing from beautiful Lake Powell as spring breaks. The kids and I are up here visiting Jerry, who is working in Page. As I sit and look at God's creation, I cannot help but compare it to our human nature. What to do, which way to go—I wish our path was as clear as this sparkling water, and that His words would be written in our hearts as easily as you can scratch your name in this sandstone; that we would stand as solid as these rock formations which have been shaped by His hand and His creation. But surely this is why He left us

His word, to be able to accomplish this very thing. And what about His spirit, which is stronger than we are, and wiser. He has given us the tools we need to build and succeed. All scripture is profitable. Gordon quoted some of this: Job 6:10: through all troubles God does great things. Romans 13, put on Christ, make no provision for the flesh. II Timothy 1:7: be a prisoner of the Gospel, be in bondage to the Lord which brings peace and happiness.

We went to another part of the lake. Once you leave the main road, there is no other road to the lake shore, just sand. There were other cars in front of us, so we headed straight too, but we got stuck. We dug our way out with our hands and went back and parked by the main road. When you get off the good path, who knows what awaits! May the Lord guide and build each of you strong and firm in these last days. Our love to the brethren in the world.

Kathy Cloyd

EAST INDEPENDENCE

The preachers of the month were Brothers Glen Gill, Frank Fann, Andy Brantner, Larry Beem, Randy Sheldon, Ron Temple, Marvin Ely and Jay Moser. Their sermons were full of timely admonitions to which we all need to give heed.

When Jesus appeared to the people on this continent, he prayed unto the Father for them that they might be one with Him as He and the Father are one. He prayed that the Holy Ghost would be given to all that believed on His words. Through the Holy Ghost we can have that oneness, even as the oneness between the Father and Jesus Christ, with them and with one another (III Nephi 5:29-43; 9:20-29).

The elements that comprise oneness are obedience, humility, submission, and love. We make these choices every day. The pure love of Christ can be made evident to the world through us. No man can serve two masters. Outside influences are afflicting the Church. We must not underestimate this problem. Our vocation is to be a child of God, to live as one. The gift of the priesthood is for the perfecting of the people until we all come to the measure of the stature of Christ. We are to be perfect (Matthew 5:48). To have the Spirit abide in us we must live holy.

Parents, live that example of a true disciple of Christ for your children's sake. If any are lost it must be by their own choices, not by our failing to be and live as He has commanded. What do we spend our time on? There is a song: Take time to be Holy. Take time with Jesus alone, run not before Him, each thought and each motive in His control. Speak oft with the Lord, morning, noon and night, and all the time in between.

Psalms 101 says to behave wisely in a perfect way, view no wicked thing or make friends of wicked persons, those who live by lies and deceit. We are to walk in a perfect way, abiding in Him, feeding on His word, being obedient. God has made many pledges for this life, all good things we stand in need of—if we are obedient.

Matthew 7:21: Why do we call Him Lord yet not do what He says to do? There is more to faith than just believing that He is. That belief includes obedience and living Christlike in our daily lives. Christ came that the world might be saved. That salvation begins with a commandment. John 15:12-13: "...Love one another as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." The first commandment is to love the Lord with all thy heart, might, mind and strength; the second to love the neighbor as thyself. All of His law is encompassed in these two.

We need to take time to be holy; we need to learn what that means, because the things of this world have become more important than the things of God. These things keep us from living holy. Romans 12:1: We are to be a living example, a living sacrifice, which is a reasonable requirement, to prove what is the good, acceptable and perfect will of God. We are to be patient in tribulation, instant in prayer, blessing those that persecute even to serving the needs of our enemy, thus overcoming evil with good.

Faith and works are like two oars of a boat; one without the other propels us in circles. Our walk with the Lord is a straight and narrow path. The road to Zion is both spiritual and temporal, and they must be in harmony with each other. The spiritual comes first, that desire for His will in our lives that we can come to that measure of the stature of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-13).

The necessity for Zion on this earth is apparent for our temporal well being. Book of Commandments 64:25: The will of the Lord concerning his saints, then and now, that they be assembled unto the land of Zion. Acts 2:44 says, "And all that believed were together, and had all things common..." Isaiah 53:8 speaks of laying all on the altar as Christ did. Do we need all that we have? No. This is a temporal step.

A great and marvelous work is to be accomplished, the field is already white. None can assist except they are humble, full of love, having faith, hope and charity. We are to be the example of Christ to the world, as persons, as

a people.

Apostasy is to turn away from that which one has believed. Becoming entangled in sin leads to apostasy. Such things as pride and anger can lead to apostasy. If these afflict us we must repent or we cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven. To repent is to cease from those sins. We must become humble, gentle, patient, temperate and diligent in keeping the commandments of God. It was pride that destroyed the people after Jesus was here (Alma 5:39).

Church apostasy begins in individuals, by personal failure in obedience, by acts of omission, as well as commission. If our personal testimony is weak we become subject to deception. We begin to excuse our errors. To withstand the onslaughts on our faith we need to love our faith, not only to say but to do.

Moroni 6:6-7: They met together oft to fast and to pray, and were strict to see that there was no iniquity among them, and conducted their meetings as the Spirit led. Jesus went to the cross willingly because He knew what the result of His sacrifice would be. We have reason to know what the result of our choices will be. What we do, what we choose, predicts the future both here and hereafter. We need to stop and think if what we are doing is worth the cost. Sometimes it's a fearful thing to do the right thing. But not to can be a fearful thing too.

The scripture is a testimony of the presence of God in all circumstances both in time and eternity. We should fill our hearts with the desire to live to His honor, to never bring shame upon His name because we claim to be His followers but live contrary to His will and teachings. We are called to sacrifice our will for His, even as he sacrificed His will for the Father's. We need to start laying up treasure in heaven today. Tomorrow may be too late. We pray, Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Are we ready for that?

In III Nephi 9:65 the Father said to Abraham, "...In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed, unto the pouring out of the Holy Ghost through me upon the Gentiles..." Verse 67: "And I will remember the covenant that I have made with my people..."

That covenant is referenced in Duet. 33:13; and of Joseph he said, there follows the blessings of his land, this land. Verse 17: "...And they are the ten thousands of Ephriam and they are the thousands of Manasseh." The sign of the fulfillment to be when these words of Christ would be brought forth from the Gentile to the seed of Lehi upon this land, then they may know that the Father hath commenced the fulfilling of His covenant to the people of Israel. In that day a great and marvelous work will be done among them.

If the Gentile repents His church is to be established among them (III Nephi 10:1). Is it? Has it not been? That Church is to assist both the repentant of the seed of Ephriam and the native American to build the city, the New Jerusalem (verses 2-3). "And then shall the power of heaven come down among them; I also will be in the midst, and then shall the work of the Father commence, at that day even when this gospel shall be preached among the remnant of this people" III Nephi 10:4. III Nephi 7:16-26: at that time the work is to commence among all the dispersed of Israel to gather them back to the land of their inheritance.

Book of Commandments 48:59-62 states that His people are to be established in righteousness in a place of safety called Zion. Steps we may take towards that end: pray to desire it; pray for His will for us as individuals; pray for a work to do; pray that He open the

way; pray for strength; pray we learn to listen for His will; pray to be submissive to Him and each other; and pray that we be able to attain to that righteousness required to be permitted to have a part in Zion, and be protected from the calamities to come.

John 3:16-17: God so loved the world that he sent his son, not to condemn but to save. We must come to the Father through faith in Jesus. Without faith it is impossible to please Him (Hebrews 11:6). Romans 5:1-2: we are justified by faith and by faith can have hope. If we love him we are to be obedient (John 14:15). He waits for us to come: He alone has the answers to this life's problems. We must be of a broken heart and contrite spirit, to be meek and lowly. Without faith there is no hope; and then there must needs be charity, for without charity our faith and hope are in vain (Mormon 7:167). Our faith and hope lie in sacrifice, the death and resurrection of Christ.

He is the light and life of the world. We can share in that light by following Jesus. To do so we must do the things He said to do. Our lives should radiate Jesus to all about us. Then where He is we may be also. We must use today to prepare to be there at the right hand of God tomorrow.

God works in marvelous ways. The resurrection of Christ is of utmost importance to each of us. God sees all things, every problem, even all our sins, and He prepared a way that

we can be saved from them. Christ sacrificed Himself to rescue us from the result of our sins. All we can do is repent. Without that sacrifice we would have no hope. There is no situation we cannot be saved from if we yield to Him.

We must seek Him with all our heart; we must let God's word dwell in our minds and hearts. We must learn His instructions and follow them. God can change the life of any and all that come to Him. To be forgiven we must also forgive others. And to forgive we must also forget. In order to forget we must not dwell upon the matter in our minds, or speak of it to others. James 3:2: if any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man. We need, with Paul (Phil. 3:13), to forget those things which have offended if our forgiving be read (Phil. 4:8), and to think on whatsoever thing is true, honest, of virtue and praise. There is always something nice to say about everyone. We can do all that the Lord requires with His help. We must stay our hearts upon Him knowing He is able to supply all our need. This is the hope that draws people to Jesus, His love and forgiveness for us in His sacrifice made, and the promise that He will wipe away all tears. His death and resurrection affects all things.

Reporter,
Amy Schrader

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Houston Rally

~May 24-25~

Saturday, May 24, 1997

- ◆ 7-9pm Special Song Service—refreshments served afterwards

Sunday, May 25, 1997

- ◆ 9-10am Prayer Service
- ◆ 10-11am Rally Sermon
- ◆ 11am-12pm Rally Sermon

- ◆ 12-1:30pm Lunch
- ◆ 1:30-2pm Song Service
- ◆ 2-3pm Rally Sermon

Everyone is invited to attend and the Houston local would welcome any prayers for the rally.

**For anyone needing a place to

stay Friday night, please contact Pastor Marvin Ely at (417) 967-5873 for information.

***Anyone interested in participating in the Saturday Special Song Service and/or Sunday Song Service, please contact Donald Gill at (417) 962-3226 after 6pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcing the 1997 SCRIPTURE THEME CAMP

~May 16-18~

"How Can We Demonstrate Our Faith?"

The 1997 Scripture Theme Camp, sponsored by the Church of Christ, Temple Lot local, will be held at Knob Noster State Park's *Camp Shawnee* on Highway "D" between Knob Noster and Warrensburg, Missouri. Camp Shawnee, with its fine, modern facilities and green, secluded grounds, has been in use and thoroughly enjoyed by Scripture Theme Campers in rain or shine for several years now. Check-in at the main cabin (dining hall) begins Friday, May 16, at 2:00 P.M.

This year's theme asks us to explore how we might be "doers," not just "hearers" of God's word. It is hoped that each attendee will leave camp determined to "do" just that! Please bring some of your favorite scriptures and inspired stories regarding the demonstration of our faith.

Various activities are scheduled including roasted wieners, singing and fellowship Friday evening, Saturday

recreation, theme discussion and evening campfire service, Sunday school and preaching, and much more! Basketball, volleyball, bicycling and lots of heart-warming fellowship are tucked in between these activities, along with sunrise prayer services Saturday and Sunday.

Meals are provided Friday evening through Sunday noon. Donations are accepted to help recover costs to procure the camp, food, etc. Each family is asked to assist in kitchen and cleaning duties for at least one shift. Clean, comfortable cabins are provided—plenty for everyone.

Absolutely NO PETS, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, fireworks or firearms allowed at Camp Shawnee. This is strictly enforced, so please make other arrangements for your pets.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join your brothers and sisters, young and old, member and non-mem-

ber at the best Theme Camp ever! Please bring your own brooms, dustpans, rags, cleaning solutions, sleeping bags, flashlights, bicycles, Frisbees, basketballs, scriptures and appetites for a good time and some "soul" food.

For directions and other details, call any member of this year's camp committee:

ELDER IN CHARGE:

Gary Housknecht
11308 E. 78th St.
Raytown, MO 64138
(816)737-3240
E-mail: #4@bigfoot.com

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Don Case (816) 584-2429
Mark Hill (816) 690-7887
J. Paul O'Haro (816) 220-1047
Gary Welch (816) 228-7530

Missouri Reunion

~August 8-10~

For information please contact:

The Missouri Reunion Committee would like to invite all to attend the 1997 Missouri Reunion, which will be held August 8th, 9th and 10th, 1997. All meetings will be held at the Church of Christ headquarters building located on the Temple Lot in Independence, Missouri.

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

Michigan Reunion

~June 14-15~

Greetings:

This year the Michigan Reunion will be held at the Bradley local. We are happy to invite ALL to come.

Date: June 14th and 15th (Father's Day weekend)

Place: 129th Avenue, Bradley, Michigan

We have plenty of room for campers of any size. Contact:

Bernie Ritsema

4889 Chief Noon Day Rd.

Hastings, Michigan 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

Elder Adam Porter, Assistant Pastor

1997 New York Reunion

~July 11-13~

Hogansburg, New York

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 pm, July 11, thru Sunday afternoon, July 13, 1997.

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, NY 12937

Phone (518) 358-9409

Dale and Terri Waldruff

187 State Hwy. 37C

Massena, NY 13622

Phone (315) 764-9571

Eli and Gretchen Tarbell

Box 21, Rt. 37

Hogansburg, NY 13655

Phone (518) 358-2911

We are looking forward to worshipping with you.

Colorado Reunion

~June 13-15~

The Colorado Reunion will be held June 13, 14 and 15, 1997, at the Church of Christ, Orchard Mesa Local, 3233 B½ Road, Grand Junction, Colorado. The Lord has graciously blessed us in the work on the addition of our church, and we hope to have it ready to occupy when reunion time arrives. We ask for your prayers in our behalf. To inquire about housing with our local people or motel accommodations, please contact any of our Reunion Committee members:

Robert L. Ely

3201 B½ Road

Grand Junction, CO 81503

(970) 434-8090

John E. Bell

572 34 Road

Clifton, CO 81520

(970) 434-7100

David D. Larsen

3043 B Road

Grand Junction, CO 81503

(970) 434-7830

We look forward to seeing all who can attend to join in worship of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Enid E. Bell, Secretary

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

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CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1998 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 5. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 6. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, on April 3 & 4. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 1997 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 11, 12 and 13, at Independence, Missouri.

CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

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

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- 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?
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- 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)
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Church of Christ

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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.

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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.

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