

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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"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here."

~ Patrick Henry

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THE APOSTLES' MISSIONARY FIELDS

Smith N. Brickhouse, 5713 Logan Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64136; 816-356-9214
Frank Fann, 3808 Queen Ridge, Independence, Missouri 64055; 816-373-4346
Robert H. Jensen, 2230 Clay, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005, 402-291-1951
Mike McGhee, 18907 E. 6th Street N., Independence, Missouri 64056; 816-796-6255
Brian McIndoo, 18824 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85024; 602-569-1900
Donald E. McIndoo, 18830 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85024; 602-569-1240
Alvin J. Moser, 18829 N. 29th Place, Phoenix, Arizona 85024; 602-569-2414
Roland L. Sarratt, 15910 E. 36th Terrace, Independence, Missouri 64055; 816-373-6605
William A. Sheldon, 1011 S. Cottage, Independence, Missouri 64050; 816-461-8956
Joel Yates, 2924 E. Rockwood Drive, Phoenix, Arizona; 602-569-9296

GENERAL CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE IN THE OFFICE:

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GENERAL CHURCH OFFICERS

SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF APOSTLES

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

SECRETARY, GENERAL BISHOPRIC

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

GENERAL CHURCH SECRETARY

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

BUSINESS MANAGER

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

ZION'S ADVOCATE STAFF

EDITOR

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

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Ron Temple
5621 Logan Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64136

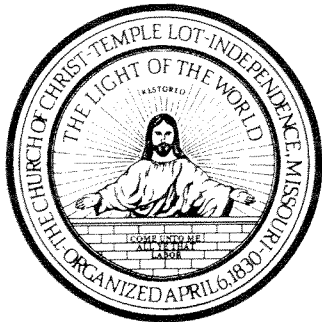
David Rudd
4917 Casey Court
Independence, Missouri 64055

FEATURE EDITOR—"Pathlights"

Melissa McGhee
2533 Glen Lane
Independence, Missouri 64052

PRODUCTION STAFF

Rickey J. Olson
Harvey L. Seibel



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

Format of submitted material: Please type all submissions (if possible), on one side of the paper only. Please avoid overuse of underlining.

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

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

STATUS OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Articles published in this paper do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the Church, nor the opinions of the editorial staff. Declarations and notices authorized by the General Conference reflect the practices and beliefs of the General Church.

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.

To the Members of the Church

Recently several members of the Church of Christ received a paper entitled "Zion Awaken" by mail which contains slanderous accusations against the church, its ministry and members. The obvious intent of this paper is to confuse and destroy the church and should be recognized as such.

We, the Council of Apostles, feel we should welcome constructive criticism which edifies the Body of Christ and has as its purpose the building up of the church and the increase of our faith and trust in our Heavenly Father. Paul cautions us to restore others in the spirit of meekness lest we also be tempted. (Gal. 6:1) We should always be open for any and all sincere expressions humbly given for self-improvement directed our way. More importantly, we should be open to receive any spiritual manifestations admonishing and instructing us in preparation for the things that are to come to pass in our day. Also we should be

aware that this is a day of deception and that there will be false prophets, etc., who will attempt to lead us away from the truth. (See Mat. 24:5, 11.)

For that reason the Council of Apostles declares that the paper referenced above contains false proclamations which are anonymously given, i.e.: the name of the person who penned the proclamations is not given, neither are there witnesses. A revelation given in the name of the Lord is unquestionably false if the person by whom it is delivered is not identified and there are no witnesses named. (See Mat. 18:16; 2 Cor. 13:1; Jn. 5:32-37.)

Only one name is given as an author in part of the paper. That person is not a member of the Church of Christ and has taken unlawful liberty by maligning individual members by name and generally by office. He has also used inappropriate drawings to ridicule and defame them. The obvious goal in the paper is the establishment of a cult with

communal ownership of property and personal possessions. Radical attacks have been leveled against individual ownership of property and being financially self-sustaining while self-abasing poverty has been held up as the right way of life.

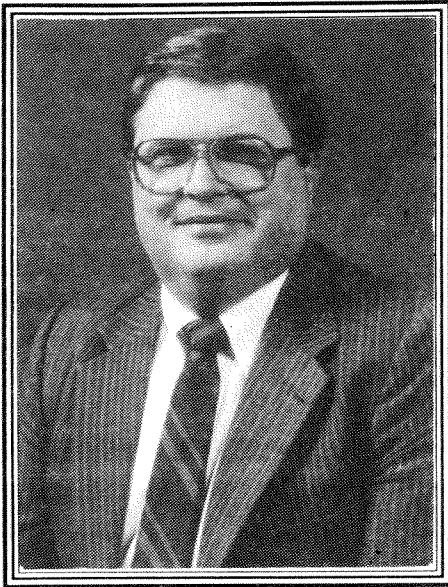
Therefore the Council of Apostles wishes to caution our members and friends to not sympathize nor support those who produced and distributed that paper. We also encourage those of you who have questions concerning the paper to contact your local ministry and/or the missionary in charge of your area.

We regret that our families have been exposed to that paper, and that dedicated, sincere men have been unjustly criticized. However we know by remaining faithful to the Lord and His Word the truth will make us free and the false accuser will be exposed for what he is.

*For the Council of Apostles,
Smith N. Brickhouse, Secretary*

ARTICLE

Authority within the Restoration



By Apostle Smith Brickhouse

The Prophet Amos spoke of a time in which there would be a spiritual famine.

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it. In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst" Amos 8:11-13.

In the 12th Chapter of Revelations we are told:

"And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days."

These two references tell of a time when there would be no

We believe the authority to represent Christ on earth was restored in 1829, and the Church was set in place and organized April 6, 1830....

authority, as represented by the "Man Child" of Revelations 12. On the other hand, we have the knowledge of history pointing to good sincere men endeavoring to serve the Lord who were blessed in their activities. These men of the ministry from various denominations preached and taught the Gospel message as they knew it; however they did not have the "Power or Authority" to do so from God.

Joseph Smith, a lad of 14, believing in the promise of God, as stated in James 1:5, wanted to know which of the many churches was correct. He was told to "join none of them for they were all wrong...that all their creeds were an abomination" (Outline History, page 16).

We are shown in these references that although there

were good, sincere men attempting to serve the Lord, they lacked the "authority" to do so.

The scriptures telling of this period of famine also tell of a time when the Lord would once again set His hand upon the earth a second and "everlasting" time.

The second chapter of Daniel tells of a dream and an interpretation of the dream that is easily verified though historical facts. It talks of a time that was then in the future in which God would "set up a kingdom" which shall never be destroyed. In verses 44 and 45 of that chapter it says:

"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure."

My purpose in this article is not to bring out the detail as to the historical facts of the fulfillment of these references but to show that God gave, sent, and

set up His kingdom and the "power and authority" to represent Him on earth and to show where that "authority" resides

We know that the Lord set in place His church, which is described as His wife, and realize that there can only be one "Bride," or one "Church," or one "Kingdom."

today. This authority was delivered to earth by the hand of an angel, as prophesied of in Rev. 14:6, 7:

"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, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

In I Nephi 3:220-221 we are told that,

"...Behold, there are save it be two churches. The one of the church of the Lamb of God, and the other is the church of the devil...."

Nephi explains that the numbers of the church of the Lamb of God were "few" but they were armed with "righteousness and the power of God in great glory."

This "power or authority" was given of God. It is the legal or rightful power and jurisdiction to represent God on earth and is given to those "called of God as Aaron" Heb. 5:4. Luke chapter 9:1, 2 tells of the Lord giving His twelve disciples power and authority and sending them to preach the kingdom of God. In chapter five of third Nephi verse 18-25 the Lord gives the "power" to baptize and in so doing gave His servant the authority or the jurisdiction to confer citizenship in the Kingdom (see Moroni 6:4).

The above statements and facts are of common belief among the churches of the restoration movement. We believe the authority to represent Christ on earth was restored in 1829 and the Church was set in place and organized April 6, 1830, fulfilling perfectly the interpretation Daniel gave to Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Dan. 2:44. However, just as had happened in the early Church, doctrines and practices of men began to be inserted within the Church. As early as September 22, 1932, a revelation was given in condemnation to these variances.

"And your minds in times past have been darkened because of unbelief, and because you have

treated lightly the things you have received, which vanity and unbelief hath brought the whole church under condemnation and this condemnation resteth upon the children of Zion, even all; and they shall remain under this condemnation until they repent and remember the new covenant, even the Book of Mormon and the former commandments which I have given them, not only to say, but to do according to that which I have written" Times and Seasons, Vol. 5, page 658.

This revelation admonishes the Church to repent or else a scourge and a judgment was to be poured upon the children of Zion, a scourge that was to be the affect of divine punishment upon the Church: a darkening of false teachings, ordinances, structure, systems, pride and vain doings which in part gave honor to the arm of flesh rather than God. Just as happened within the first centuries after Christ and during the Reformation period leading to the Restoration, man began to change the divine plan of God. They began to factionalize.

After the death of Joseph Smith in 1844 there were six main factions from which most all of the present 200 plus factions derive their heritage. Restoration historian Steven Shield writes of this as follows:

"These six churches had their beginnings in the fragmentation period of 1844-1860.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon), The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Strangite),

Christ taught that the Church should bear His name and therefore would be named "The Church of Christ." Therefore, if a church has a different name it can not be His Church.

The Church of Jesus Christ (Cutler), The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, The Church of Christ (Temple Lot), and the Church of Jesus Christ (Brickerton)... Each of these six churches came about due to the need for leadership after the prophet's death... Each of these leadership claims is rational and logical. It would be very difficult for one to point to another, on the basis of organization or successorship claims, and say that it was in apostasy. Perhaps later doctrinal developments could eventually lead to this claim... The Church of Christ (Temple Lot) is perhaps representative of the 1831 period of the church. I base this on the fact that the Book of Commandments is used instead of the Doctrine and Covenants and also that the office of the

First Presidency of three is not considered part of the church, among other things..." (Steven L. Shields *The Latter Day Saints: 1830 to Today*, Restoration Research Bountiful, Utah 1985).

This factionalization grew and has resulted today in many more factions of this movement.

We know that the Lord set in place His church, which is described as His wife, and realize that there can only be one "Bride," or one "Church," or one "Kingdom." Knowing that it is to be an everlasting Kingdom, it must be in place today.

How do we recognize it? By it's teachings, practices, doctrines, and comparing them to the teachings of the Bible and the Book of Mormon.

Christ taught that the Church should bear His name and therefore would be named "The Church of Christ." Therefore, if a church has a different name it can not be His Church. Read III Nephi 12:13-24.

The Church is built on the plain and precious things of the Gospel as set in place by Christ Himself, and will not have the innovations of man that was part of the factionalizing of the early Church. This scourge, or extra baggage, resulted in a form of apostasy and removed from those partaking of it their "authority" to represent Christ. They were no longer a part of His Church. The Revelation given in September of 1832 told of a condemnation upon the whole church unless they re-

pent, and that a judgment would be made. (See above.)

During this period of factionalizing there were good men within the various factions (just as there had been in the Reformation) that desired to follow the teachings of Christ. Realizing they all could not be correct they began to search the scriptures and the revelations to determine what was correct.

During this period in the early 1920's the Reorganized Church and the Church of Christ developed an "Agreement of Working Harmony" between the two Churches. This agreement listed their common beliefs on which they were to base the working relationship. During this time, a study of men of these churches discovered that several of the early revelations given to the Church were changed when printed in the 1835 Doctrine and Covenants. This discovery resulted in the Church of Christ no longer able to accept revelations printed in 1835 that were changed as originally given and printed.

Given this clearer understanding of God's commandments to His Church there was a need for the Church to repent of its errors and return to the pure teachings and doctrines and structure taught by Christ. The "scourge" mentioned in the 1832 revelation was beginning to be lifted.

During the next several years the Church repudiated its belief in the structural innovations of man (i.e.: the presiding

elder or president and the office of High Priest) and took a stance that all past, present, and future revelations must be

The Church is built on the plain and precious things of the Gospel as set in place by Christ Himself, and will not have the innovations of man that was part of the factionalizing of the early Church.

in harmony with the Bible and Book of Mormon.

Thus the scourge was being lifted and the Lord began to adorn His Bride with the precious things of the Gospel. Apostles were called, and the Lord had chosen His remnant to accomplish His work in these last days.

During this same period of time the Reorganized Church and the other factions continued under the condemnation that had been pronounced in 1832. Because of this refusal to accept the revelations as originally given, the Lord (as promised) placed a judgment upon them which resulted in them being rejected as His remnant and the Church of Christ being chosen to carry His Gospel with His full Power and Authority.

John 3:34 states that "For

he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him." The Church repented of the errors and misunderstanding caused by changed revelations and was blest with the fullness of the Lord, being chosen His Remnant in these the Last Days.

"...But thus saith the word of the Lord to all my people everywhere, who will open their hearts to hear the voice of my spirit as given through my servant these words: Verily I have rejected the Reorganized church, with its sins and its follies and its system making. Because they have departed from me.... Verily, out of the broken fragments of my spiritual kingdom of these last days I have preserved unto myself a remnant for the carrying forward of my work unto its final completeness, The people of this remnant of my Church on the Temple land which has been consecrated to me, have not been wholly in accord with my will, neither do they this day fashion all their work perfectly in me, but behold, for a wise purpose in me your Lord and your Redeemer, I have held them in the hollow of mine hand..." Revelation given Elder James E. Yates, May 1, 1927.

This revelation further stated that the Apostles of the Church of Christ were his cho-

sen servants for the dispensation of time and this chosen remnant was to be the bearer of the message of life and salvation to the souls of men.

The Lord's judgement had come. No longer was his kingdom to be fragmented. A choice was to be made. The scourge of spiritual darkness upon the Church had begun to be lifted. Knowledge of the changing of the revelations was and is available and the choice was given.

Those who continued in the sins, follies and system making of the Reorganized church and other factions of the church were subject to the same judgement unless they repented. Once the knowledge of the original commandments and the correct structure of the church was made known, those of the various movements were subject to the judgment and were no longer considered ignorant or, therefore, innocent of this apostasy.

The Church of Christ opened its arms and invited all to repent and come into the Church of Christ. Many had been baptized while the Church was in the several factions and had received baptism by one having authority. However, that authority was now in judgement and unless those holding such authority repented and accepted the will of the Lord and partook of the chosen remnant, they too came under the same condemnation and judgement as the organization.

The Church of Christ today

continues to hold out its arms to all the honest of heart and to all those that search for the truth and desire to be of the Body of

...the Church repudiated its belief in the structural innovations of man (i.e.: the presiding elder or president and the office of High Priest) and took a stance that all past, present, and future revelations must be in harmony with the Bible and Book of Mormon.

Christ—His Bride. According to the scriptures, this can only be accomplished through baptism by one having authority given of God. (That Authority, by the decree of God Himself, resides within the Church of Christ, those ministers of the body of believers which represent the remnant of that Church which was organized and "set" April 6, 1830. There is and can be but only one "Bride," His chosen.)

We extend our arms of love to all those believing in the restoration and pray we all will humble ourselves before the Lord that He is able to work His mighty Work among the honest of heart that we all might come

to the knowledge of the truth and submit ourselves as His children. To be adopted into His family that He might bless us with the endowment of His spirit that this "Marvelous work and wonder" might reach its intended fullness.

"And none were received unto baptism, save they took upon them the name of Christ, having a determination to serve him to the end. And after they had been received in baptism, and were wrought upon and cleansed by the power of the Holy Ghost, they were numbered among the people of the church of Christ, And their names were taken, that they might be remembered and nourished by the good word of God, to keep them in the right way, to keep them continually watchful unto prayer, relying alone upon the merits of Christ, who was the author and the finisher of their faith" Moroni 6:3-5.

SERMON

THE ETERNAL PURPOSES OF THE LORD WILL ROLL ON

By Elder Joe Smith

"I am the son of Mormon, and my father was a descendant of Nephi; and I am the same which hideth up this record unto the Lord; the plates thereof are of no worth, because of the commandment of the Lord. For he truly saith, that no one shall have them to get gain; but the record thereof is of great worth; and whoso shall bring it to light, him will the Lord bless. For no one can have power to bring it to light, save it be given him of God; for God will that it shall be done with an eye singled to his glory, or the welfare of the ancient and long dispersed covenant people of the Lord. And blessed be him that shall bring this thing to light; for it shall be brought out of darkness unto light, according to the word of God; Yea, it shall be brought out of the earth, and it shall shine forth out of darkness, and come unto the knowledge

of the people; and it shall be done by the power of God; and if there be faults, they be faults of a man. But behold, we know no fault; nevertheless, God knoweth all things; therefore he that condemneth, let him beware lest he shall be in danger of hell fire. And he that saith, Shew unto me, or ye shall be smitten, let him beware lest he commandeth that which is forbidden of the Lord. For behold, the same that judgeth rashly, shall be judged rashly again; for according to his works shall his wages be; therefore he that smitheth, shall be smitten again of the Lord. Behold what the scripture saith: Man shall not smite, neither shall he judge; for judgment is mine, saith the Lord; and vengeance is mine also, and I will repay. And he that shall breathe out wrath and strifes against the work of the Lord, and against the covenant people of the Lord, which are the house of Israel, and shall say, We will destroy

the work of the Lord, and the Lord will not remember his covenant which he hath made unto the house of Israel, the same is in danger to be hewn down and cast into the fire; for the eternal purposes of the Lord shall roll on, until all his promises shall be fulfilled. Search the prophecies of Isaiah. Behold, I can not write them. Yea, behold I say unto you, that those saints which have gone before me, which have possessed this land, shall cry; yea, even from the dust will they cry unto the Lord; and as the Lord liveth, he will remember the covenant which he hath made with them" Book of Mormon 4:17-28.

Good Morning! Again, it is with pleasure that I greet you in the name of Jesus Christ. I come before you this morning with humble heart, and with the hope that the Lord will help me as I bring the message He has given. We are living in a day that is filled with danger. On all sides we find the

imprint of the adversary's influence. The very society in which we live has been influenced to the extent that without a doubt this people has come under the condemnation of the Lord. This people no longer fears God, no longer has reverence toward God. The tolerance for sin has risen to a new level. Just some ten years ago Representative Hart from Colorado, who was running for President, was required to drop out of the race because the news media reported the he had been out boat riding with a female companion other than his wife. Today President Clinton has an approval rating of 68%, at the same time he has been accused of sexual misconduct with any number of women. Every segment of our society is filled with dishonesty: our county Government, our state, our federal government, commerce, work place, schools. Our radio, TV, movies, books, magazines, advertisements are filled with low morality, filth and violence. To a large extent even the churches have become corrupted. It causes our hearts to tremble and to be concerned for the welfare of our loved ones, and our brothers and sisters in the Kingdom of Christ.

Christ foresaw the condition we are living in and gave us warning. In Matthew 24:10 we read:

“And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And

many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love

He will remember the covenant He has made with all Israel, from Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and on down to the present day. Every commitment He has established, He will fulfill.

of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”

Because iniquity shall abound these things shall be. The Book of Mormon warns of the time when they are ripe in iniquity.

They're even trying to take Christ out of the calendar. It's been proposed that B.C. and A.D. be dropped and replaced with C.E. (Common Era) and B.C.E. (Before Common Era).

It is the necessity to endure to the end as mentioned in Matthew that concerns us. This can not be done without a strong faith—a belief and trust in an unchangeable God, One who is the same yesterday, today and forever, One upon Whom we can rely on to do what He has purposed. Which brings me to the verses I read in my Scripture

reading: “THE ETERNAL PURPOSES OF THE LORD SHALL ROLL ON, UNTIL ALL HIS PROMISES SHALL BE FULFILLED.”

And in the 28th verse: “HE WILL REMEMBER THE COVENANT WHICH HE HATH MADE WITH THEM.”

He will remember the covenant He has made with all Israel, from Abraham, Isaac and Jacob on down to the present day. Every commitment He has established, He will fulfill.

A covenant is a promise. Some are conditional, some are unconditional.

CONDITIONAL

Deut 26:17-19: “Thou hast avouched (to declare, assert, affirm) the LORD this day to be thy God, and to walk in his ways, and to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and to hearken unto his voice: And the LORD hath avouched thee this day to be his peculiar people, as he hath promised thee, and that thou shouldest keep all his commandments; And to make thee high above all nations which he hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honour; and that thou mayest be an holy people unto the LORD thy God, as he hath spoken.”

Page 761, Book of Mormon: having His spirit depends upon obedience.

UNCONDITIONAL

Gen 22:15: "And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies...."

The scriptures tell of many promises the Lord has given to Israel. These are the ones that are of interest to us, those made to Israel.

1. PROMISE TO BLESS

Lev 26:1-9: "Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the LORD your God. Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD. If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. And your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vin-

tage shall reach unto the sowing time: and ye shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely. And I will give peace in the land, and ye shall lie down, and none shall make you afraid: and I will rid evil beasts out of the land, neither shall the sword go through your land. And ye shall chase your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword. And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight: and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword. For I will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, and establish my covenant with you."

2. PROMISE TO SCATTER ISRAEL

Lev 26:14, 31-33: "But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, but that ye break my covenant...And I will make your cities waste, and bring your sanctuaries unto desolation, and I will not smell the savour of your sweet odours. And I will bring the land into desolation: and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it. And I will scatter you among the

heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste."

3. PROMISE TO GATHER

Jer 23:3: "And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase."

4. PROMISE TO BE THEIR GOD (ONE I'M INTERESTED IN)

Jer 32:37-41: "Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely: And they shall be my people, and I will be their God: And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them: And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me. Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul."

Ezek. 11:17-20: "Therefore say, Thus saith the

Lord GOD; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. And they shall come thither, and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof and all the abominations thereof from thence. And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God."

These are just a few of the promises God has granted to man. There is the promise of salvation, the promise that if we fulfill the requirements we can become a child of God. There is the promise that if we ask in faith it shall be given, and many more promises and covenants the Lord has given. I know you are well schooled on many of these promises. Each one can be a sermon in itself. But today we talk a lot about Zion and what that means. Some claim it is a condition, and it is; it is also a place, a time, a situation. Some say it will be established by the Lamanites, others by Israelites; I say it will be both of these, and some Gentiles. But it will be made up of those whose hearts are pure, who are willing to abide the commandments of God. To some degree then we

must say that the promise of Zion is conditional upon our compliance with the provisions delivered of God. The majority of these covenants of the Lord are conditional.

But what did we read in the words of Moroni, verse 26? "...**For the eternal purposes of the Lord shall roll on until all his promises shall be fulfilled** (not dependent on us)..."

He will remember His covenants which He has made to any and all, for He is unchangeable, He turns not to the right nor to the left. His way is set, and He will accomplish His plans, His purposes. He will fulfill His covenants. Ezek. 11:19-20: "*And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: **and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.***"

Think of that, think of the joy of that condition. Think of the load you are carrying today, that you will shed at that time; think of the burden lifted from your shoulders when we are His people and He is our God. We have that promise, but that promise is conditional. And that condition is that we come to Him with a broken heart and a contrite spirit, willing to obey His commandments.

I want to read another promise of the Lord, given

through Nathan the prophet to King David, found in II Sam 7:10: "**Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime...**"

With this reference in mind I want to read a revelation given in 1831. There is a section in the D of C which gives us a very interesting account, found in the 57th section. This section locates the Temple lot and the center place of Zion. "**Hearken, O ye elders of my church saith the Lord your God, who have assembled yourselves together, according to my commandments, in this land which is the land of Missouri, which is the land which I have APPOINTED and consecrated for the gathering of the Saints: wherefore this is the land of promise, and the place for the city of ZION.**"

Here we see the fulfillment of a promise made 3000 years ago.

We cannot begin to reveal the magnitude of it all, in just a few moments, or just a few words. The promises made to us in these latter days, the glory to be given to the faithful, the opportunity to dwell in this New Jerusalem with Christ—to be privileged to help build it, to be involved with the bringing forth of this New Jerusalem, or Zion,

at a time when He will fulfill His promises, fulfill His covenants—what on earth can you compare with this?? But because of the troubles in our past history, do you suppose that the opportunity has passed us by?

In a letter written to W. W. Phelps in 1833, Joseph Smith Jr. had this to say: "For the Lord will have a place whence His word will go forth, in these last days, in purity, for if Zion will not purify herself, so as to be approved of in all things in His sight, He will seek another people, **for His work will go on** until Israel is gathered and they who will not hear His voice, must expect to feel His wrath."

And again in section 97, given in October 1833, the Lord says, "For I will raise up unto **myself a pure people**, that will serve me in righteousness; and all that call on the name of the Lord and keep His commandments shall be saved even so. Amen."

Now if we would refer back to those promises made in Jer. and Ezek. which I quoted earlier, we see how the words of the prophet Joseph Smith Jr. were in agreement with the words of the earlier prophets.

I want to go back to the words of Moroni as found in the Book of Mormon 4:44-51:

"Behold, look ye unto the revelations of God. For behold, the time cometh at that day when ALL THESE THINGS MUST BE FILLED. Behold, I speak unto you as if ye were present, and yet ye are not.

But behold, Jesus Christ hath shewn you unto me, and I know your doing; and I know that ye do walk in the pride of your hearts. And there are none, save a few only, who do not lift themselves up in the pride of their hearts, unto the wearing of very fine apparel, unto ENVYING, and STRIFES, AND MALICE, AND PERSECUTIONS, and all manner of iniquity; And your churches, yea even every one, have become polluted because of the pride of your hearts. For behold, ye do love money, and your substance, and your fine apparel, and the adorning of your churches, more than ye love the poor and the needy, the sick and the afflicted. O ye pollutions, ye hypocrites, ye teachers, who sell yourselves for that which will canker, why have ye polluted the HOLY CHURCH OF GOD?"

This speaks to us today. The holy Church of God of this time that Moroni is seeing in the vision of the Lord is the Church that was restored in April 6, 1830. You may say that what has happened to the Church in the past is not our doing, but what is our doing is the repair of the damage done. It is up to the Saints of today to build up the kingdom of God, His Church. We may sit back and say that we do not wear fine apparel, we do not love money, we do not love our substance. I see no one in rags, we are not poor, we work

for our money, but to what are we committed? Obedience to the Law of Christ?

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Or are we committed to our own version of this law? Are we willing to abide all His law, or only that which we like?

The time is upon us, the time when God will fulfill all His covenants, all His promises. To be a part of His work we must come in obedience to all His words, not just the ones we like. It is time to look back at 1830 and see what it was the Lord had purposed, and what it was that He required for those of that day to be acceptable. It is time to look at ourselves and judge ourselves honestly. Realizing that we have fallen far short of the desires of our God. It is time to push out the spirit of selfrighteousness, and make room for the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of Love, the Spirit of Truth, and to become humble before the Lord and the world. It is time to seek out the pure of heart, the willing, the obedient and come together in Christ, prepared to build up the Holy Church of God. It is time to move forward the Cause of Zion.

The Gathering

A Principle of God



By Apostle William A. Sheldon

(All scriptural emphasis, mine)

"Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice" Ps. 50:5.

"[God] having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth;

even in him" Eph. 1:9-10.

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

It may seem that the last reference above is not compatible with the sense of those as given in the preceding texts. Indeed, they are contrariwise; but if we should inject the term *separation* perhaps we may see that God will eventually gather his saints, or those who are innocent spirits of mankind, into one fold, while he also separates or gathers from among such, all those who love wickedness, the wilfully disobedient. The ultimate end, of course, will be either eternal life (a portion in the kingdom of heaven), or eternal death (a separation from God and his kingdom, with all that is therein implied).

In our human wisdom, we cannot begin to comprehend the inexhaustible patience and love of God for humanity, though

some may unconsciously seek to limit Him in this. Undoubtedly, there are many who have—

"...Died in the faith (so far as they could understand it/w.a.s.), not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country" Heb. 11:13, 14.

It is not our purpose here to discuss the final state of mankind, but rather the physical latter-day gathering of Israel and of all the righteous upon the one hand, while on the other hand, He also gathers, or separates from among them, those who do not merit a place with the redeemed.

Throughout the ages, since the fall of man by the transgression of Adam and Eve, God has reached out to the children of men when they cried unto Him

against their oppressors or for deliverance from that which is humanly impossible to surmount, including the wiles of the devil and of those who are his agents. Still others, for His own divine purpose, have been led from one area of the world to another, they being separated from among the wicked and given an inheritance beyond their greatest imagination.

Noah and his family, through faith in the commandment of God, built an ark for their salvation from the floods of water which were to come, separating them from among the wicked, that God might cleanse the earth, giving them a new world.

Jared and his brother had a mighty faith in God, living as they did when the Lord destroyed the tower of Babel and confounded the language of men because of their corruption. The brother prayed to God that the language of their families should not be confounded, and if it were according to the Divine will that they should go elsewhere: "whither shall we go?" He heard their cries and sent them forth even across the mighty seas—

"...Unto the land of promise, which was choice above all other lands, which the Lord God had preserved for a righteous people" Eth. 1:29.

Father Abraham left the land of his inheritance because of the commandment of God, to receive an even greater inheri-

tance, "not knowing whither he went." In his faith—

"...He looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" Heb. 11:10.

...God will eventually gather His saints, or those who are innocent spirits of mankind, into one fold, while He also separates or gathers from among such, all those who love wickedness, the wilfully disobedient.

God heard the groanings of the children of Israel in their captivity in Egypt, and sent Moses unto them to lead them to a better land, a land "flowing with milk and honey" (Ex. 3:8), and driving their enemies from before them; this, despite their rebellious spirits.

He consequently rebuked them by the voice of prophets, dispersing them among the nations, and otherwise bringing his judgments upon them in the severest ways, by inflicting them with death and suffering. The greatest act of rebellion was in the Jewish nation's rejection of Jesus as the Christ, their Messiah. This resulted in the destruction of the temple at Jerusalem, a horrendous slaying of many Jews, and the remain-

der (except for the few who heeded the words of Jesus to flee beforehand) being finally driven from their homeland. As a result they became a "hiss and a byword and...hated among all nations" (1 Ne. 5:252).

Yet, the whole house of Israel shall be restored to the land of their inheritance in fulfillment of God's covenant to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph (see Mor. 2:42, Deut. 34:13, Isa. 11:12, Ezek. 34:13).

The family of Lehi were led out from Jerusalem before its destruction and the subjugation of the Jews about 597 B.C., being warned of God through the voice of prophets (1 Ne. 1:3; 2 Chron. 36:15,16) and by spiritual dream given to Lehi. They were led into the wilderness and finally into a "land of promise; a land which I have prepared for you; yea, a land which is choice above all other lands" (1 Ne. 1:54).

Of course, we know this land to be the American continent, and this partially fulfilled the promise given to Joseph the son of Jacob (Israel), Lehi's family being descended from Manasseh. Joseph was to have an inheritance separate from that of his brethren (Gen. 49:22-26, Deut. 33:13-17, 2 Sam. 7:10).

The inheritance given to Ephraim, the other son of Joseph, was also upon this continent. This is JOSEPH'S LAND, the place of gathering of his seed especially, though the Gentiles would find a haven here, as well, being led by the

hand of God, even though they might not have recognized it.

We may assume that God's leading of people is based entirely upon their righteous desires, but this is not necessarily so. He leads and even disposes of peoples and nations in accord with His divine will, and as they are willing to yield themselves to principles of righteousness. If we think that God does not have the destiny of nations in His hand, then we need to readjust our thinking; but His ultimate purpose is to exalt the meek and debase those who will seek to exalt themselves.

"When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel" Deut. 32:8.

"Wherefore, this land is consecrated unto him whom he shall bring. And if it so be that they shall serve him according to the commandments which he hath given, it shall be a land of liberty to them" 2 Ne. 1:11,12.

The leading of the descendants of Ephraim (having been scattered among the Gentiles) to this land is a fascinating conclusion to God's promise to bring Joseph (his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, who are most specifically given the name of Israel) to this land for an inheritance.

Ephraim is tied directly to

the Americas, and especially the U.S.A. by reason of the fact that the "stick of Joseph" (Book of Mormon) was to be found "in the hand of Ephraim" (Ezek. 37:19). Of course, this ties Joseph Smith to Ephraim, and broadly speaking, all of those connected with the Restored Gospel, who generally originated in western Europe after their dispersal from Canaan. Settlement of the tribes of Ephraim and Dan in that area is well authenticated. That record was found in New York state, and has had its greatest acceptance in this country, in this land which is choice above all other lands.

Joseph Smith had been given an understanding from God very early in the history of the Church of Christ concerning the "marvellous work and a wonder" (Isa. 29:14) which God was to initiate through him and others. It included not alone the coming forth of the Book of Mormon and the establishment of the Church, but also that this was preparatory to the gathering of Israel. He envisioned that his work was to be principally among those of Israel of the latter days, and that they should be gathered together as the saints of God, in preparation for the second advent of Jesus Christ to reign upon the earth.

He understood that a New Jerusalem was to be built upon this land (3 Ne. 10:1-3, Eth. 6:1-8) and that it was to be built "unto the the remnant of the seed of Joseph" (ibid., v.6). As

previously stated, Joseph's seed is both Ephraim and Manasseh.

This subject has been considered as a general principle with God, and we have touched upon the various times in which He provided for those chosen, because of their faithfulness to Him, to be led or directed to other areas for their well-being, and in which to be separated from wicked nations. He has done this in order to reserve unto himself a righteous nation or people who would keep his commandments (Deut., chaps. 6-9).

That this condition or covenant was continually violated only reveals the stubbornness of heart of those to whom He revealed Himself in great power for their good. One can only marvel at the long-suffering of God, notwithstanding that He was forced by His own holiness to intersperse His kindness with chastisement in order to once more turn their hearts back to Him. We should not consider this propensity simply as a historical revelation, and of no special moment to us, for human nature is the same throughout the generations of man's existence. Exception to this is only when and if the heart has been changed through the operation of the Holy Ghost, producing a voluntary humility and obedience to divine law. We **should** profit by the experiences of our progenitors! But it is seldom so.

The physical building of a city called "New Jerusalem"

and that it should be called Zion, a place of dwelling for the pure in heart to which the saints of God are to be gathered, are unique features of this latter-day Restoration of the Gospel of Christ. Joseph Smith and the early elders of the church were given an understanding of these things through that Holy Spirit of revelation. Were we to simply trust in their verity because of blind faith in the revelations through brother Smith, we would be on shaky ground; but we "have not followed cunningly devised fables" (1 Pet. 1:16), for we are given "the more sure word of prophecy" (v.19) and will do well to take heed.

In general, the Christian churches ridicule the idea of men literally building a "New Jerusalem," and will point to "the holy city New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven" as found in Rev. 21:1,2. However, this is an evidence of their ignorance of the prophecies of God as found in the Bible which they claim to believe.

The New Jerusalem of this text is to be revealed following the millennial reign of Christ (one thousand years) and the "little season" of Satan's release to once again deceive the nations; after his attempt to destroy the "camp of the saints" (Zion, or the New Jerusalem) and also the "beloved city" (Jerusalem in Palestine), in which he and his angels are to be cast into a "lake of fire and brimstone" (see Rev. 20:6-10). After

all this, **then** there is to be a new heaven and a new earth, to which the New Jerusalem shall come from God out of heaven (Rev. 21:1,2).

Jerusalem is identified with the term *Zion* not only as a place in the last days, but as a condition, a gathering of His saints...

The "camp of the saints" (Rev. 20:9) is not identified as to a name at this juncture, but it is evidently the very place pointed out by David, Isaiah, Jeremiah and other so-called minor prophets which was to be revealed in the last days. It is generally referenced as Zion. Again, there is confusion among many who believe that Zion only refers to the hill of Zion as found in Jerusalem upon which the ancient temple was built, and sometimes called, mount Zion. However, a careful study of the Bible prophecies on this subject will reveal a distinction between mount Zion and Jerusalem in the last days, even as to location. It is self-evident that we are not simply discussing geographical locations where nations are gathered, but more importantly, areas wherein the saints of God shall dwell. One is distinctly called

the "camp of the saints," and the other simply, Jerusalem.

This latter will not be the Jerusalem of ancient times, and even to the present, with its mixture of the sacred and the profane, a worship of the God of Israel and of Allah, and where one evidence of spiritual Babylon (mammon, which is the love of money) reigns supreme. Just as Jesus drove the money changers from the ancient temple, so also there will be no pollution of the city of God. The Arab nations will then make no further claim to Canaan, the land promised of God as an inheritance for his people Israel, for the fear of the Lord will have come upon them.

"...Then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more"
Joel 3:17.

"...And in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the Lord of hosts"
Zech. 14:21.

Jerusalem is identified with the term *Zion* not only as a place in the last days, but as a condition, a gathering of his saints:

"For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem..." Isa. 30:19.

(to be continued)

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Book of Mormon

Book of Mormon, through the ages
Hidden by the power of God;
Written by those ancient Sages,
Men who on this earth have trod.
Book of Mormon, Nephite record
Of those sleeping in the dust;
Telling of their faith and efforts
And their never failing trust.

Telling of their wars and conflicts;
Of the errors of their ways.
Pointing us to better pathways;
Come again in latter days.
Book of Mormon, in its fullness
Showing us the Gospel plan;
Bringing back the ancient precepts
That the Savior taught to man.

Book Divine, that to the nations
Of the earth must quickly go;
Bearing to them all the message
That our Lord would have them know.
Giving to them all, the "Welcome"
When the marriage feast is spread;
When the Lord returns in Glory,
With the living and the dead.

Book of Mormon, precious treasure,
By the power of God restore,
Search we now this ancient record;
Find within, God's precious word
That will help us to perfection;
That will bring us peace and love.
Love Divine, that knows no ending
Through the world's of God above.

(Sing to No. 82 Zion's Praises.)
~ W.P. Buckley.
Dec. 29, 1926

My Monument

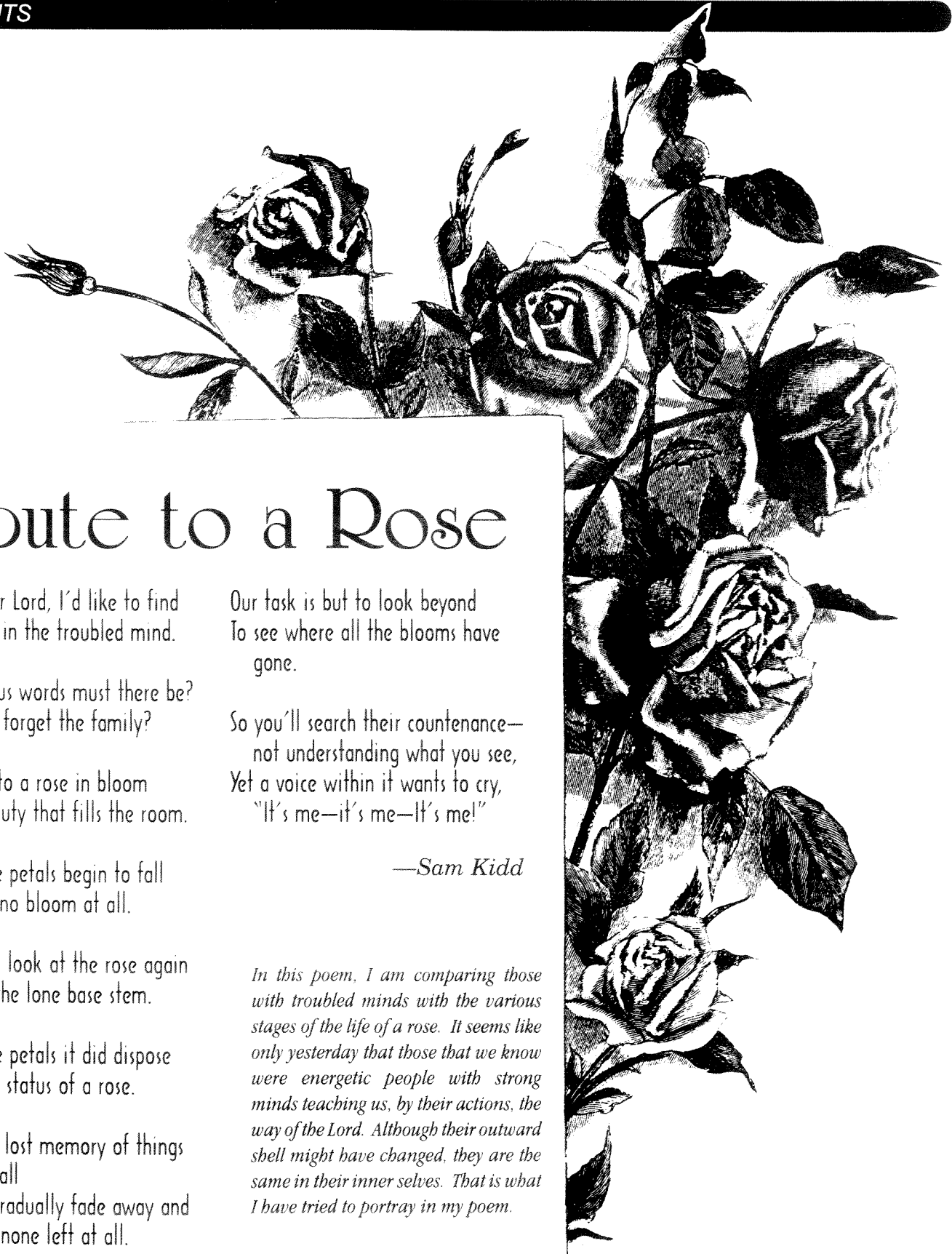
When I have done the earthly task,
The Master Builder gave to me,
And sail beyond the misty shade
That rises o'er life's troubled sea;
May those who wait upon the shore,
As with wet eyes they watch my bark,
Thank God their friend moves toward the
light.

From out earth's turmoil, fierce and dark.

And may they bask in sunny thoughts
Of gladsome days and cheery task;
Of walks 'neath sturdy elms and oaks
Where ghostly shadows trip and bask;
And as the scenes of by-gone hours
Like passing pictures, come and go,
May deeds of kindness to mankind
Leave every saddened heart aglow.

So in the days that come to me
Ere I shall reach the river's brink;
Let hours be crowded with the tasks
From which weak, selfish spirits shrink.
I ask no lofty spire or mound
To mark my lowly resting place,
But such a love and radiance kind
As glows upon a dear friend's face.

~ Charlotte Dryden,
Council Bluffs, Iowa
Zion's Advocate, Vol. 3, No. 2



Tribute to a Rose

Someday, Dear Lord, I'd like to find
What goes on in the troubled mind.

Why repetitious words must there be?
Why must she forget the family?

Compare her to a rose in bloom
And to its beauty that fills the room.

But slowly the petals begin to fall
Until there is no bloom at all.

And when you look at the rose again
You only see the lone base stem.

Though all the petals it did dispose
It still has the status of a rose.

Each petal—a lost memory of things
it can't recall
Soon they'll gradually fade away and
there'll be none left at all.

Our task is but to look beyond
To see where all the blooms have
gone.

So you'll search their countenance—
not understanding what you see,
Yet a voice within it wants to cry,
"It's me—it's me—it's me!"

—Sam Kidd

In this poem, I am comparing those with troubled minds with the various stages of the life of a rose. It seems like only yesterday that those that we know were energetic people with strong minds teaching us, by their actions, the way of the Lord. Although their outward shell might have changed, they are the same in their inner selves. That is what I have tried to portray in my poem.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSOURI REUNION

The Missouri Reunion Committee would like to invite all to attend the 1998 Missouri Reunion, which will be held **August 7th, 8th and 9th, 1998**. All meetings will be held at the Church of Christ headquarters building located on the Temple Lot in Independence, Missouri.

■ **FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

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

—LAWN CHAIR SOCIAL—

- Saturday, August 8, 1998
- 8:00 p.m.

While the "Kids" are away, your reunion committee has suggested a time for us "Old Folks" to gather on the Temple Lot for a social time together. Those interested are asked to bring your lawn chairs, lemonade, ice tea, ice cream makers, etc. We hope to spend the time in song, so you with the talent, bring your instruments. This will be a spontaneous event requiring your usual exuberance.

TRI-STATE REUNION

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior:

The Bemidji local would like to invite all our brothers and sisters to the 1998 Tri-State Reunion at Whitewater State Park, St. Charles, Minnesota. **Friday, September 4 through Monday, September 7**. Please plan to join us for a time of fellowship and spiritual feasting. Hope to see you there.

■ **ACCOMMODATIONS:** There are cabins available for our use. Please provide sleeping bags or bedding for your own use. Also, the weather in Minnesota can be chilly in September, so please plan accordingly.

■ **FEES:** A nominal fee is charged at the camp office.

Maps are available upon request.

■ **FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Elder Peter P. Gould
4060 Islandview Dr., NE
Bemidji, MN
(218) 586-2774

Elder Samuel or Linda Gould
4060 Islandview Dr. NE
Bemidji, MN
(218) 586-2646

MISSOURI CAMP for ALL AGES

Greetings, Young, Old and In-Between,
The Missouri 1998 Camp for ALL Ages will be **September 26 and 27**, Saturday and Sunday. (Some will be going Friday.)

Please mark your calendar and enjoy a relaxing weekend full of family activities on Saturday. Gather with us Saturday evening around the bonfire as we share God's blessings and feel His mighty love.

Sunday we join together for an outdoor service still charged up from the night before, eager to receive more.

We have tentatively planned to camp at Talley Bend, about 30 minutes north of Collins, Missouri, on Hwy 13. We will update you as we get closer to the event.

■ **ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT:**

Fred Campbell at (816) 358-1575, or
Pat Fisher at (816) 358-5682.

*Hope to see you there,
Fred Campbell*

1998 PHOENIX REUNION

The 1998 Phoenix Reunion will be held **Friday, November 27th, through Sunday, November 29th, 1998**. We invite everyone to come and worship the Lord with us.

■ **ANYONE PLANNING TO ATTEND OR WANTING INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Pastor Apostle Joel Yates
2924 E. Rockwood Dr.
Phoenix, AZ 85024
(602) 569-9296

Asst. Pastor Apostle Brian McIndoo
18824 N. 30th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85024
(602) 569-1900

We hope to see you there!

NEWS

EAST INDEPENDENCE
LOCAL, MISSOURI

Greetings to all from the East Independence Local!

We have been blessed recently with a mixture of cool weather and extremely hot and humid weather. It has all been very beautiful.

We have missed the fellowship of those who are on vacation, but glow in the periodic company of guests.

Recently our Sister Geri Adams was released in one day after a successful, pain-free surgery.

Ron and Darl Temple held their annual 4th of July Celebration again this year. Although attendance was down, those who attended had a wonderful time. Among other activities, they played Wheel of Fortune without the Wheel and without the Fortune.

Our local recently had new light fixtures installed in the

sanctuary. Donations made by the members made this project possible.

On June 14, Erica Olson, Courtney and Lindsey Rudd were baptized at the East Local by Apostle Frank Fann. Apostle Frank Fann and Elders Bob Oldham and Larry Beem laid hands on them for the reception of the Holy Ghost.

Sister Becky Adams, Geri Adam's daughter-in-law, was baptized by Elder Larry Beem on July 5th at Charles and Jeanne Brantner's. Apostle Frank Fann and Elder Larry Beem laid hands on for the reception of the Holy Ghost. A picnic completed this joyous occasion.

We have heard many excellent sermons lately, with such appropriate remarks that I feel they must have been directed at me. The guidance of the Spirit is always welcome.

Following the wonderful example of our Sister Czerna, I'll leave you with some

thoughts gleaned from recent sermons:

- ◆ *This Church of Christ represents the Kingdom of God on earth.*
- ◆ *We must look to Christ and be prepared for His coming.*
- ◆ *Do we honestly appreciate the love of Christ? What is the love of God? It is embodied in His daily walk with us.*
- ◆ *Our hope and expectation must be in Christ.*

*Love in Christ~
Sister Melissa Seibel*

NEWS

BRADLEY, MICHIGAN

Hello!
On June 7, we had our business meeting. The main even of this year's meeting was that LaVerne Lussenden announced that he no longer would like to be the pastor of our local. Laverne would like to go into mis-

sionary work in the Eastern states. Laverne has been our pastor for more than 30 years. thank you so much Brother LaVerne! Adam Porter will be the Bradley local's pastor for the upcoming year.

We're getting ready for the Michigan Reunion here in Bradley, Michigan. The dates for this year's reunion are July

18-19. Everyone is welcome! Please Come!

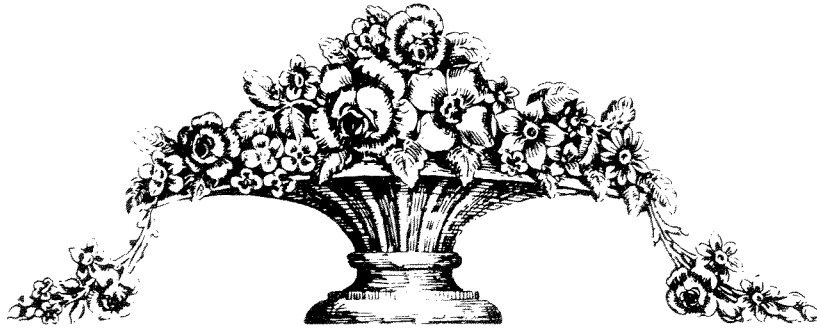
God Bless and Have a good summer!

*Emily Porter,
Advocate Reporter*

OBITUARIES

Dorothy Burgin

MARCH 8, 1909 ~ FEBRUARY 22, 1998



Dorothy Burgin, passed away at 4:05 AM Sunday, February 22nd, 1998, at the age of 88 years. She was born on the 8th day of March, 1909, in Douglas County, Missouri, to J. W. and Anna Burris. Dorothy was a long time member of the Church of Christ of Latter Day Saints, where she attended until her health failed. She spent her life as a kind, loving wife and mother to her seven children. Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Lester, who was known by his nickname "Bunk"; one daughter, Lela Cooper; and three brothers and three sisters.

Lester E. Burgin and Dorothy were united in marriage on November 22nd, 1925, to which union were born seven children. She is survived by three daughters and three sons: Lula Tabor and husband Bennet, and Lester Burgin and wife Barbara, both of Ava, Missouri; Laverne Walker and husband Raymond, of Toppenish, Washington; Ruth Gass and husband Ellis H., of Mountain Grove, Missouri; Wayne Burgin and wife Carmen, of Kelso, Washington; Jerry Burgin and wife Linda, of Yakima, Washington; one sister, Ina Rogers, of Ava, Missouri; 32 grandchildren; 62 great grandchildren; 18 great great grandchildren; many nieces and nephews, relatives, and friends who will miss her very much.

Services were held at the Clinkingbeard Funeral Home, in Ava, Missouri, Elder Joseph F. Smith and Reverend Paul Welch officiating. Internment was at the Basher Cemetery.

He Walks With Me

When time has come, and I must go,
Please do not weep for me
For I know God will hold my hand
When I put out to sea.

Though tides may come, and tides may go
He will take me safely through,
If I have pleased my Savior dear
I will be waiting there for you.

So do not grieve, don't shed a tear,
Although you cannot see.
Our God is holding to my hand,
He walks along with me.

Dorothy Burgin

OBITUARIES

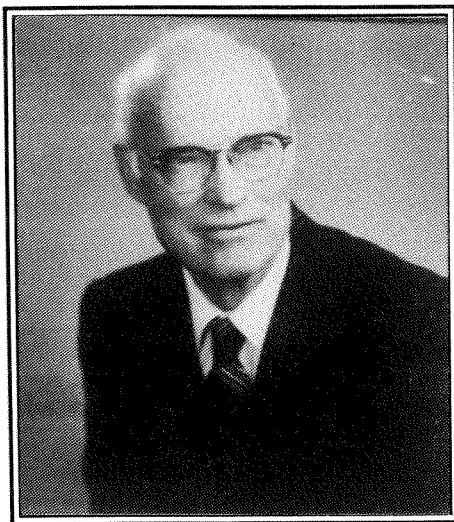
Marvin Ellis Ely was born December 8, 1921, and passed from this life March 30, 1998, by heart attack. His occupation for many years was as a carpenter augmented by his great interest in farming or the production of fruit in orchards, as had been a family occupation from his youth. He served his country in the Army Air Corps in World War II.

On December 5, 1943, he was united in marriage to Margaret Berniece Younker. To this union was born a son, Arden Ely, now residing in Houston, Missouri, and a daughter, Janice Moore, residing in Denver, Colorado, all of whom survived his passing. Also left to mourn his decease is one brother, Robert Ely, of Grand Junction, Colorado, and one sister, Margie Downs of Grand Junction, Colorado, three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

He was deeply concerned with

Marvin Ellis Ely

DECEMBER 8, 1921 ~
MARCH 30, 1998



spiritual matters and obeyed the gospel of Christ in his youth, being

baptized into the Church of Christ on September 4, 1933, and remained a member til the end.

Brother Ely was ordained an Elder on July 25, 1948, and on April 10, 1966, he was ordained an apostle of Jesus Christ. As such he was active in a missionary capacity ever since, traveling extensively into the western and northwestern United States as well as into western Canada. In addition, he served many years as pastor of the church in Grand Junction, Colorado, and as pastor of the church at Houston, Missouri, for the past three years.

Apostle Ely was well-beloved in the Church of Christ because of his loving ministry and affirmation of the gospel of Christ.

In an effort to give as much information as possible to the friends and body of Christ in a timely manner concerning the work and passing of Brother Marvin Ely, the funeral sermon was published without the obituary.

J. E. Smith, 61, 2nd child of James Thomas and Viola (Long) Smith was born June 23, 1936, near Hartshorn, Missouri, and died April 18, 1998, in St. Johns Regional Medical Center, Springfield, Missouri, following a lengthy illness.

He married Delores Jane Bell; to this union one son, James Eric, was born.

He is survived by his wife Dee of the home in Raymondville, his son, Jamie, and wife Carla of Springfield, Missouri, two grandchildren, Kaleena and Luke, a brother, Doyle Smith, St. Charles, Missouri; two

J. E. Smith

JUNE 23, 1936 ~
APRIL 18, 1998

sisters, Evalee Clayton, Licking, Missouri, and Deanna Smith, Raymondville; four nieces, seven nephews, other relatives and a host of friends made throughout the years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Tom and Viola Smith.

J. E. attended school at Round Valley, Raymondville, and Houston High School.

He served his country in France from 1960 to 1962. His occupation as a truck driver enabled him to travel to many areas of the country, which was one of his favorite hobbies. He also enjoyed farming, fishing, hunting, the out-of-doors and all of God's nature.

He enjoyed his family and had a special love for children.

He was converted at the age of ten, and was a member of the Church of Christ.

His family and friends will miss him, but they will have many fond memories of years gone by.

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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 1998 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 10, 11 and 12, at Independence, Missouri.

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