

# 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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AND THE ANGEL ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO THE WOMEN, FEAR NOT YE:  
FOR I KNOW THAT YE SEEK JESUS, WHICH WAS CRUCIFIED. HE IS NOT HERE:  
FOR HE IS RISEN, AS HE SAID. COME, SEE THE PLACE WHERE THE LORD LAY."

—MATTHEW 28: 5-6—

## *~ In This Issue ~*

ARTICLE—Charity, The Love of God - <i>Elder Arthur G. Smith</i> . . . . .	45
ARTICLE—Think on Good Things - <i>Elder Allen Kauffman</i> . . . . .	48
COMMENT—"Oh, the Wonder" - <i>Janice Welch</i> . . . . .	51

PATHLIGHTS—Snowflakes - <i>Helen Taubert</i> . . . . .	54
ANNOUNCEMENTS . . . . .	55
NEWS . . . . .	56
OBITUARIES . . . . .	56

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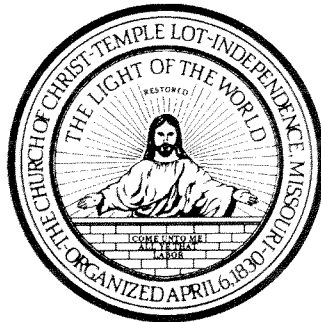
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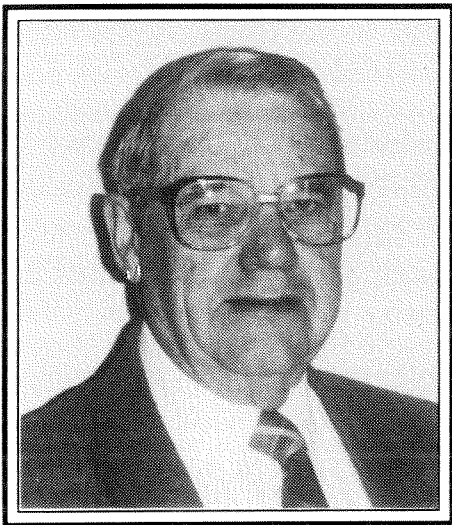
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## ZION'S ADVOCATE IS...

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.

# Charity

## THE LOVE OF GOD



**Elder Arthur G. Smith**

I Nephi 3:68-69: "And it came to pass that I beheld that the rod of iron, which my father had seen, was the word of God, which led to the fountain of living waters, or to the tree of life; which waters are a representation of the love of God. And I also beheld that the tree of life was a representation of the love of God."

A study of the scriptures, the Bible and the Book of Mormon, reveals to us all we need to know about God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, to have faith. The gospel teaches us what we need to do to enjoy a relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ, that we might have this love of God and all its blessings. The love of God is also expressed as charity, and we need to have charity to become a righteous people of God.

Alma wrote, "And now as I have said concerning faith; Faith is not to have a perfect knowledge of things; therefore if ye have faith, ye hope for things not seen, which are true" Alma 16:143.

Yes, we have to do something besides acknowledging that there is a God in heaven. We need to believe the word of God, and have faith in the promises given. If we believe and

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have faith in God we can then hope that the promises given will be fulfilled. Faith and hope are inseparable and usually have a common end of a future fulfillment. Also we are told that we must also have charity, that it is greater than faith and hope, to assure our salvation and acceptance with God.

Apostle Paul wrote to the Hebrews that we need to go on to perfection after we have been obedient to the principles of the gospel. There is something else

to do in this life to be counted worthy of the love of God beyond baptism by water. He wrote to the people at Colosse:

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**To "put on" charity in our hearts is our part in the process of perfecting ourselves before God.**

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"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness" Col. 3:12-14.

He also wrote to the Corinthians,

"...And though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing" I Cor. 13:2-3.

The instruction to "put on" tells me that this must be a deliberate conscious action on our part, something we need to do and practice every day. Jesus

said, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect" Matthew 5:48.

To "put on" charity in our hearts is our part in the process of perfecting ourselves before God. What does this entail? Does the scripture tell us what this means?

Again we look at what Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians:

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things,...charity never faileth..." I Cor. 13:4-8.

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

Moroni writes the very same doctrine:

"Behold, I say unto you, that ye shall have hope through the atonement of Christ and the power of the resurrection, to be raised unto life eternal; and this because of your faith in him according to the promise; wherefore, if a man have faith, he must needs to have hope; for without faith there can not be any hope. And again, behold I say unto you that he can not have faith and hope,

save he shall be meek and lowly of heart; if so, his faith and hope are vain, for none is acceptable before

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**We have to relate and treat others as we would have God do unto us.**

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God, save the meek and lowly of heart; and if a man be meek and lowly of heart, and confesses by the power of the Holy Ghost, that Jesus is the Christ, he must have charity; for if he have not charity, he is nothing; wherefore he must have charity" Moroni 7:47-50.

Moroni continues with a description of the qualities of charity that is similar to what Apostle Paul wrote in the above quote from I Corinthians 13th chapter, and closes with these words:

"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 forever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with them" Moroni 7:52.

In II Peter 1:5-7, we have another viewpoint of the values of righteousness. Peter wrote,

"And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue

knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that you shall be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

These qualities of charity addresses our feelings and emotions, how we relate to others, and control our innermost desires. We have to relate and treat others as we would have God do unto us. As it has been expressed so well, we must grow in grace spiritually and become godly. It is a lifelong struggle for most of us, and we are told we must endure to the end to be saved.

The world around us teaches and practices what they call charity, as communities and organizations call for giving to the needy. They may do much good for those who are in need and we have no reason to deny their intentions are good and God will judge them according to their hearts. If we give to them we must recognize the limitations of these organizations, that there are most often commercial and personal interests involved that are not dedicated to the honor of God, but the honor of man.

What we are interested in is the kind of charity that becomes a part of our own personal character, deep in our

hearts, that makes us responsible for our conduct in every way and every day. We are used to the common fate of humanity in that we are carnal and subject

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to temptations. To become a child of God we must strive daily to overcome the sins that so easily beset us, and we have the hope of the gift of the Spirit also promised us that can lead us to victory. If we do our part and put on charity, keep our faith strong, and our hopes in our Lord's promises out in front of us, we, too, can overcome and be a partaker of the gifts of God.

We are going to be judged according to our works as taught in our scriptures.

"And see that ye have faith, hope, and charity, and then ye will always abound in good works"  
Alma 5:41.

Our Lord will come in a little while and the end of earthly life as we know it now will come to an end. We need to prepare ourselves; every one needs to heed the word more diligently and put on charity.

"But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto

prayer. And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover a multitude of sins" I Peter 4:7-8.

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# Think on Good Things

By Elder Allen Kauffman

**W**e opened our service this morning with a song found in our red hymnal, number 367, called, *Have You Counted the Cost*. The chorus goes like this "Have you counted the cost, if your soul should be lost Tho' you gain the whole world for your own?.... Even now it may be that the line you have crossed, Have you counted, have you counted the cost?"

I think that we would be well off if we take the time to count the cost of losing our souls while we are in this day of probation, and not put it off until we are standing before Jesus Christ, our Judge, and giving answer to Him for the lifestyle that we have lived. The scriptures say that our righteousness must exceed that of the Pharisees. When we leave this life and go to that God who created us, what will He say? "Well done thou good and faithful servant." Or will he say, "Depart from me ye workers of iniquity, I never knew you." He will separate His sheep from the goats. I hope we are all His

sheep. It also says that "My sheep will hear my voice. And I know them, and they follow me."

**I wonder if all too often we fill our minds with evil or bad thoughts, instead of thinking on the things that God wants us to think on.**

I would like for us to also consider the things that we think about in our daily lives. I wonder if sometimes we fill our minds with the wrong thoughts. Human instincts are, all too often, to think on negative things.

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those

things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you" Phil. 4:8-9.

I wonder if all too often we fill our minds with evil or bad thoughts, instead of thinking on the things that God wants us to think on. It tells us to think on things that are true. The world is full of false and negative things. If Satan can keep us thinking on these things he keeps our minds away from godly thoughts. It is the design of Satan to keep us in a state of turmoil. If he can keep us arguing over an issue, he wins. It says in Matthew 12:34, "...For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." So we can see that if we harbor any bitterness, strife, or hatred in our hearts (our minds), that is what our life consists of.

"O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the

evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof

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**If we have things that we feel are wrong, we need to repent and set ourselves right before Him.**

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in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned” Matt. 12:34-37.

I feel that we all probably have difficulty controlling our thoughts. That comes from the standpoint that perhaps we haven't totally put off the old man and put on the new. I don't stand to condemn you—I have problems the same as you do. The question is, how do we control those thoughts? With God all things are possible. We can't control them by ourselves. We have to receive the Spirit of God. And only through God can we do it. (See I Corinthians 10:13.)

We look forward to the second coming of Christ, as we should, but we don't know if we will live until that time. Our lives may be taken tomorrow—there's no guarantee. We are told not to procrastinate the day of our salvation. Let us not also continue in those things that are displeasing to God. If we have things that we feel are

wrong, we need to repent and set ourselves right before Him.

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ” I Cor. 2:9-16.

In verse 9 it says that we can't imagine what God has in

store for those that love Him. I believe that we spend a lot of time trying to figure out what it's going to be like in heaven, or during the millennial reign,

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**I believe that we spend a lot of time trying to figure out what it's going to be like in heaven, or during the millennial reign, when we need to think on how we are going to get there!**

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when we need to think on how we are going to get there! We can't conceive in our minds what it will be like. In verse 14 it says that the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God. We must put off the natural man and put on the new man of God to receive those things that God would have us to receive.

“For the natural man is an enemy to God, and has been, from the fall of Adam, and will be, forever and ever; But if he yields to the enticings of the Holy Spirit, and putteth off the natural man, and becometh a saint, through the atonement of Christ, the Lord, and becometh as a child, submissive, meek, humble, patient, full of love, willing to submit to all things which the Lord seeth fit to



inflict upon him, even as a child doth submit to his father" Mos. 1:119-120.

Have we put off the humanness in our lives? The natural man? Those things that offend God?

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" 2 Tim. 4:3-4.

I believe that we are living in the very times that are spoken of here in these scriptures. This nation doesn't want the truth, as long as their pockets are filled with money and the good things of life. They will turn their heads away when there are immoral acts being committed. Our government is filled with such things (not Democrats or Republicans, but the government in general). As the government goes, so goes the nation.

Christ's birth, and the things that He taught, are considered fables and fairy tales today by the religions of the day. They're changing the scriptures with their new versions of the Bible and polluting the true word of God.

The Pharisees had a problem with the followers of Christ because they didn't wash their hands. Christ gave the multitude this answer found in Matthew:

"Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man," Matt. 15:11.

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**If we have a problem with a brother or a sister, go to them and make things right, and reconcile yourself. It's better to swallow our pride, than to lose our soul. If we don't forgive others, God will not forgive us.**

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If we harbor evil thoughts in our mind, eventually those thoughts become action. If we hold a grudge against anyone, eventually we will suffer for that grudge. If we have a problem with a brother or a sister, go to them and make things right, and reconcile yourself. It's better to swallow our pride, than to lose our soul. If we don't forgive others, God will not forgive us.

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath..." James 1:19.

We all have a tendency to want to be heard. James tells us to be slow to speak. We need to think about what we're going to say, and not just blurt it out.

Consider the consequences of what we're about to say. Sometimes we might have the right answer, but give it in the wrong way. We don't always want to hear what others may have to say.

"SWIFT TO HEAR."

As we view the things that are going on around us in the world (the crime, the lack of morals, the things that our neighbors are doing, the things that our brothers and sisters might be engaged in that we don't think is right), we wonder, what must God think? We are always ready to judge others. But let's look at our own lives and say, "I WONDER WHAT GOD THINKS?"

The Lord knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity" Psa. 94:11.

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# "Oh, The Wonder"



## It is Written:

"Wherefore, the fruit of thy loins shall write; and the fruit of the loins of Judah shall write; And that which shall be written by the fruit of thy loins, and also that which shall be written by the fruit of the loins of Judah, shall grow together, Unto the confounding of false doctrines, and laying down of contentions, and establishing peace among the fruit of thy loins..." 2nd Nephi 2:19-21.

**A collection of scriptures from the Bible and the Book of Mormon to show the wonder of God's greatest gift—His Son:**

"And on the morrow come I into the world, to shew unto the world that I will fulfill all that which I have caused to be spoken by the mouth of my holy prophets. Behold, I come unto my own, to fulfill all things which I have made known unto the children of men, from the foundation of

the world, and to do the will, both of the Father, and of the Son of the Father, because of me, and of the Son, because of my flesh" 3rd Nephi 1:13-14.

"Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me..." Hebrews 10:5.

"For behold, I say unto you, There be many things to come; and behold, there is one thing which is of more importance than they all: For behold, the time is not far distant, that the Redeemer liveth and cometh among his people. Behold, I do not say that he will come among us at the time of his dwelling in his mortal tabernacle; for behold, the Spirit hath not said unto me that this should be the case" Alma 5:13-15.

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the

glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" John 1:14.

"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent" John 17:3.

"And behold, he shall be born of Mary at Jerusalem, which is the land of our forefathers, she being a virgin, a precious and chosen vessel, who shall be overshadowed, and conceive by the power of the Holy Ghost, and bring forth a son, yea, even the Son of God..." Alma 5:19.

"...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" John 10:10.

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill Matthew 5:17.

"Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men" Ephesians 4:8.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" John 3:16.

"Therefore blessed are ye, if ye shall believe in me, and be baptized, after that ye have seen me, and know that I am. And again, more blessed are they who shall believe in your

words, because that ye shall testify that ye have seen me, and that ye know that I am" 3rd Nephi 5:47-48.

"Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent" John 6:28-29.

"And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment" 1st John 3:23.

"He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" Matthew 16:15-16.

"Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulcher, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulcher was nigh at hand" John 19:41-42.

"The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early when it was yet dark, unto the sepulcher, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulcher. ... But Mary stood without at the sepulcher weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulcher, And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the

other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him" John 20:1, 11-13.

"For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead" John 20:9.

"And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again" Luke 24:4-7.

"And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have" Luke 24:38-39.

"And it came to pass that the Lord spake unto them, saying, Arise and come forth unto me, that ye may thrust your hands into my side, and also that ye may feel the prints of the nails in my hands, and in my feet, that ye

may know that I am the God of Israel, and the God of the whole earth, and have been slain for the sins of the world" 3rd Nephi 5:14.

"Behold, I say unto you, that there is no resurrection; or I would say in other words, that this mortal does not put on immortality; this corruption does not put on incorruption, until after the coming of Christ" Alma 19:29.

"Behold, he bringeth to pass the resurrection of the dead. But behold, my son, the resurrection is not yet" Alma 19:30.

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory" 1st Corinthians 15:51-54.

"And it is requisite with the justice of God, that men should be judged according to their works; and if their works were good in this life, and the desires of their hearts were good, that they should also, at the last day, be re-

stored unto that which is good; And if their works are evil, they shall be restored unto him for evil: therefore, all things shall be restored to their proper order; everything to its natural frame; mortality raised to immortality; corruption to incorruption; raised to endless happiness, to inherit the kingdom of God, or to endless misery, to inherit the kingdom of the devil..." Alma 19:66-67.

"What, do ye suppose that mercy can rob justice? I say unto you, Nay; not one whit. If so, God would cease to be God" Alma 19:107.

"For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all" 1st Corinthians 15:27-28.

"Verily, verily I say unto you, that this is my doctrine; and I bear record of it from the Father; and whoso believeth in me, believeth in the Father also; And unto him will the Father bear record of me; for he will visit him with fire and with the Holy Ghost; And thus will the Father bear record of me; and the Holy Ghost will bear record unto him of the Father and me; for the Father, and I, and the Holy Ghost, are one. And again I

say unto you, Ye must repent, and become as a little child, and be baptized in my name, or ye can in no wise receive these things. And again I say unto you, Ye must repent, and be baptized in my name, and become as a little child, or ye can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God. Verily, verily I say unto you, that this is my doctrine; and whoso buildeth upon this, buildeth upon my rock; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against them" 3rd Nephi 5:36-41.

**Now once again, as it is written, See the wonder, as Alma saw it:**

"For behold, I say unto you, There be many things to come; and behold, there is one thing which is of more importance than they all: For behold, the time is not far distant, that the Redeemer liveth and cometh among his people. Behold, I do not say that he will come among us at the time of his dwelling in his mortal tabernacle; for behold, the Spirit hath not said unto me that this should be the case. Now as to this thing I do not know; but this much I do know, that the Lord God hath power to do all things which are according to his word" Alma 5:13-16.

*Submitted by Janice Welch*

# Snowflakes

Have you ever seen the sparkle  
Of the newly fallen snow,  
As the tiny little snowflakes  
Oft reflects the sun's bright glow?  
Their glitter is enchanting  
As one passes by;  
"Diamonds" in the snowdrifts,  
Dropped from out the sky.  
And it seems they tell a story  
On a bright and sunny day,  
Of a Father's radiant blessing  
As He sent them on their way.

As we contemplate this aspect  
And our blessings from above,  
Let us emulate the snowflakes  
And reflect our Father's love!

~Helen Taubert



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ATTENTION PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS AND TEENS ~

# TEEN CHALLENGE

AUGUST 1-6

**P**lan now to attend! Camp is for all Youth ages 12 through 18 and will again be held at Camp Far Westa near Cameron, Missouri. Additional information will be presented in future issues of the Zion's Advocate. Now is the time to make your plans. For additional information contact:

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

## COLORADO REUNION

**O**n **June 11, 12, and 13, 1999**, the Colorado Reunion will be held at the Church of Christ, 3233 B½ Road, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Our meal planners very much appreciate knowing in advance how many to expect. Please contact one of the following people for lodging arrangements, or other information.

**John E. Bell**  
572 34 Road  
Clifton, CO 81520  
(970) 434-7100

**Karen L. Bell**  
P. O. Box 1137  
Palisade, CO 81526  
(970) 464-4624  
Kbell@bwn.net

**Allen D. Downs**  
515 - 28½ Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81501  
(970) 245-8344

We look forward to seeing all who can come to meet with us in the worship of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

*Enid E. Bell, Secretary*

## MICHIGAN REUNION

**G**reetings~ This year the Michigan Reunion will be held at the Bradley Local. We are happy to invite ALL to come.

**DATE:** July 17th and 18th  
**PLACE:** 129th Ave., Bradley, Michigan

We have plenty of room for campers of any size. **CONTACT:**

**Bernie Ritsema**  
4889 Chief Noon Day Rd.  
Hastings, MI 49058  
(616) 945-5173

Housing available by contacting:

**Elder Adam Porter**  
9 Market St.  
Middleville, MI 49333  
(616) 795-2694

**Duane Lee**  
2054 Fawn Ave.  
Middleville, MI 49333  
(616) 795-7420

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

*Elder Adam Porter*

## NEWS

## TEMPLE LOT

Here's a BIG "Hello!!" from the Temple Lot Local in Independence, Missouri. We have some great news, (we are going back a little): **Duane and Diane (Case) Wheaton** had a little baby girl, December 11th. Her name is **Angelica Lee Wheaton**. She weighed 7 lbs., 5.8 oz., and was 21 and 1/4 inches long.

Also we have another new little girl in our church that was born December the 16th. **Don and Tamara Grimm** have a new little one. Her name is **Mikalla Ryanne Grimm**. She

weighed 7 lbs., 7 oz., and was 20 inches long.

Also in January we had another baby that has been born. **Dennis Crull**, the son of **Lorellia and Darin Crull**. Congratulations to all the families with the new little ones in their lives.

**Jeremy Pennington** was baptized at the Temple Lot, on December 27th at 5:30 p.m. **Elder Bob Oldham** baptized Jeremy and **Apostle Buzz Brickhouse** and Bob did the laying on of hands. It was a very nice service. Congratulations Jeremy!! Please pray for Jeremy as he builds a relationship closer to God.

On January 14th, our sister **Ber-**

**tha Case** passed away. The visitation was held on the 15th of January and the funeral was held on the 16th. Both were held at the Speaks Funeral Home across from the Temple Lot. Please keep the family in your prayers as they have lost a loved one. Thank you.

Our prayer list is getting longer. Please continue to keep our local in your prayers, and also remember all of the other locals too. Thank you and may God Bless You.

*Love in Christ,  
Rachelle Bruner  
Temple Lot Local  
Independence, Missouri*

## OBITUARY

## In Loving Memory of Marie J. (Weaver) Piatt

January 11, 1931 ~ February 5th, 1999

Sister Marie, age 85, passed suddenly from this life on February 5th, 1999, having been a Church of Christ member for 68 years. Marie was baptized January 11, 1931, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, by Elder Wm. Postma, and has confirmed her love for Christ and His Gospel for the remainder of her life; she is survived by her husband, Allen Piatt, of Michigan, a grandson, Scott Weaver, of California, three brothers, all of Michigan, Floyd Heath, Cleo Heath, and Attwood Shelly,

many nieces and nephews, and a host of friends and church family.

Services were held in Ravenna, Michigan, March 3rd, 1999, officiated by Elder Gale I. Brantner and assisted by Apostle Smith N. Brickhouse; two vocals were sung by her nephew, Elder Aaron Heath, accompanied on the organ by Sister June Haines.

Marie was quick, all her life, to bear testimony of her love for God and His goodness, stating often that "she did not

know how she could get along without God and Christ in her life, and did not understand how any one else could either." Those who knew Marie loved her, and will miss her, but can REST in the knowledge that she has earned her reward, and know they were blessed for having known her.



## OBITUARY

# Rhondal Laughlin Shaw

June 14, 1904 ~ March 17, 1999

Rhondal Laughlin Shaw was born June 14th, 1904, near Stanbury, Missouri. His parents were Will and Mary (Laughlin) Shaw. He was preceded in death by his parents and all four of his sisters, Etta, Velma and Nola, who were older, and Ila who was two years younger. He was literally the last of the generation, both in family and acquaintances.

When he was very small the family lost almost everything they had in a fire; they moved to Kansas, and then on to Colorado. In 1910, the family traveled over the entire Rocky Mountain chain from southern Colorado to the Meeker, Colorado, area, where they homesteaded on Strawberry Creek, a few miles west of Meeker, Colorado. The trip took all summer.

Rhondal drove a team of young stallions and tended them like an adult. He exhibited unusual common sense and responsibility at an early age. At an early age he made a decision that he would never drink or smoke. This decision was made on the basis of logic and reasoning, not because of any religious fervor.

He was raised by a Methodist family; however, they never attended church in anyone's recollection.

He was married in Grand

Junction, Colorado, to Irene Fletcher on June 26, 1926. Of this union a son, Jim, was born on May 29th, 1928. Another son, Larry, was born on June 20, 1932.

Rhondal and his family lived on the western slope of Colorado until 1962, when they moved back to Missouri after having sold their ranch.

Rhondal was also preceded in death by his wife, Irene, in 1993. Rhondal was active in the Louisburg, Missouri, Lions Club, where he was a charter member. He was active in the Church of Christ, and contributed greatly to the music programs of the church.

He was baptized into the church near the Grand Junction local about 1958. When they moved to Louisburg, Missouri, on the last day of 1962, they began attending the Collins Missouri local, and were active in the church until age began to take its toll, and the long drive became too difficult. He attended some of the churches around Buffalo, but his real love was the church in Collins and the wonderful people there.

He often sang and played the guitar, and while Irene was alive they sang together a great deal. They were noted for the several novelty songs they sang. He lived with his youngest son

most of the last ten years of his life, except for a two year period during 1996, 1997, and part of 1998, that he lived in Buffalo with a wonderful caregiver named Betty Williams. We will always be grateful for the care and happiness she gave him.

He passed away at the Balanced Care Nursing home in Springfield, Missouri, on March 17, 1999. He did very well until the last six days after he had suffered a massive stroke. He was very aware and mentally alert right up until the time of his passing.

He is interred in the Memorial Gardens cemetery near Buffalo, Missouri.

He is a man who lived a sermon and will be missed by all who knew him. His passing signifies the passing of an era, with the exception of three sisters still left in the church. He would have been 95 in June. The burden of being the "old bunch" will soon pass on to the next generation. We accept the responsibility with pride, for a wonderful example has been set for us by the people of Rhondal Shaw's generation. We should do so well!



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### CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 1999 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 4. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 5. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, on April 2 & 3. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 1999 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 9, 10 and 11, 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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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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