

Zion's Advocate

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

1 Nephi 3:187

VOLUME 79

INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI—MAY 2002

NUMBER 5

Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted. But Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee.

Isaiah 49:13-17

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ZION'S ADVOCATE is the official publication of the Church of Christ, with headquarters on the Temple Lot, 200 S. River Blvd., P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472. Telephone (816) 833-3995 or (816) 833-3914. The Church of Christ web site is: www.churchofchrist-tl.org.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Church of Christ members' subscriptions are paid from general Church funds, but donations are requested (suggested: \$4.00 each year). In bundles of 12 or more for missionary purposes the rate is \$2.00. Non-member rates: \$4.00 per year; foreign orders add 50¢.

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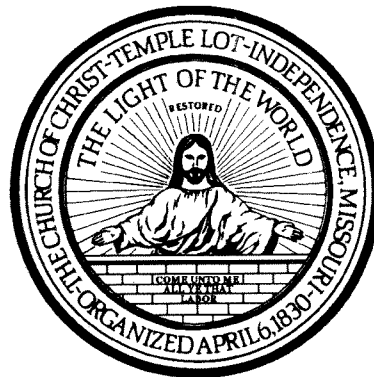
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Format of submitted material: Please type all submissions (if possible), on one side of the paper only. Please avoid overuse of

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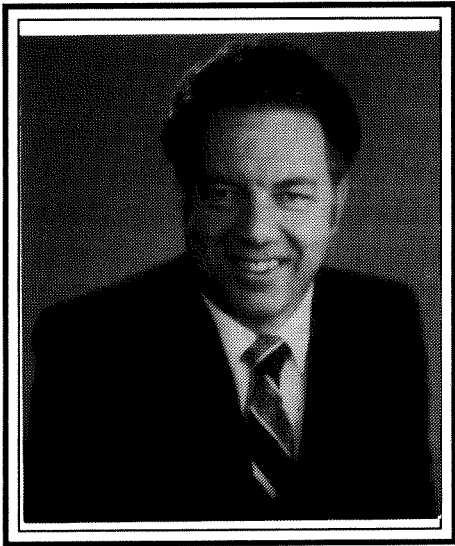
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ZION'S ADVOCATE IS...

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.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF LIFE?



By Roland Sarratt

Perhaps you have asked the question, What is the purpose of life? Or, why do I exist? It is healthy to ask questions such as this, but we need some true authority to answer them. Anyone can give logical answers or speculate about our reason for existence. The One who knows why we exist is the One who conceived our existence in the beginning, our heavenly Father. So let us consult our best authority, the word of God:

“These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent” John 17:1-3.

Knowing God and Jesus Christ is the answer to our question; that knowledge is life eternal. If our existence was conceived of God, and knowing Him is the means of obtaining eternal life, then becoming acquainted with God in this life is our purpose of existence.

How well do you know God? Is He real to you or are you satisfied in just believing in Him? Or are you somewhat timid about getting acquainted with Him?

The greatness of God is intimidating to the normal person. Some are not so timid and show their willingness to risk being rebuffed for their inquisitiveness. Peter was one who was quick to respond to the Lord and didn't hesitate to show his trust in him:

“And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father. From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God” John 6:65-69.

Peter was right on target when he said, “To whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life.” Jesus

Christ is the center of our purpose in life. There is no other way or door (John 10:1, 2). Jesus has declared this truth about Himself and He was not boasting. We will forever know this when we meet Him face to face.

Jesus spoke to the Jews with simple honesty about His relationship with the Father, but He was a stumbling stone to them. The more He tried to tell them the more they rejected Him. They could have met the challenge that He made to them and obtained the witness they needed:

"But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life" John 5:36-40.

John the Baptist was the forerunner of Christ; he was sent as a special witness. Jesus had other witnesses; even His works were witnesses. If that was not sufficient the Jews could have prayed to the Father and He would have given them the witness they needed. Unfortunately they didn't know the Father enough to gain that special witness. One other thing they could do is search the scriptures which testify of Christ. The sad conclusion was that most of them would not even believe scriptures and come to Christ to receive eternal life.

The disciples of Jesus were dedicated to the Lord but they were often mystified by His counseling and He had to explain himself and reassure them:

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we

know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" John 14:1-6.

How reassuring it was to be told by the Lord that he was going to his Father's house and prepare a place for them! Also He was going to come again and receive them so they could be with Him. The difficulty was the statement, "whither I go ye know, and the way ye know." Thomas was frankly honest when he failed to grasp the meaning of the statement, but Jesus was quick to remind them, "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

Peter seemed to have all the right answers:

"When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. 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. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it

unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" Mat. 16:13-18.

Peter knew the answer but he had not just reasoned it in his own mind. The Father had revealed it to him through the Spirit. It may appear to some that Jesus was complimenting Peter. Actually Jesus replied to Peter in the same way Peter had spoken to him. Peter said, "Thou art the Christ." Jesus said, "Thou art Peter."

Some want to believe that Peter is the rock upon which the church is built. Nothing could be farther from the truth. It is the gift of revelation which Peter had experienced that is the rock upon which the church is built. Jesus told Peter that he had been blessed by receiving that special knowledge, but the following incident points out Peter's humanity and inability at that time to fully understand spiritual things:

"From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and

scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men" Mat. 16:21-23.

Most men would have been totally devastated with such a sharp reprimand, but not Peter. He remained at Jesus' side until the soldiers took Him. Jesus continued counseling and instructing His apostles with words of encouragement:

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man

according to his works" Mat. 16: 24-27.

The main thought of Jesus' counseling was the need for a man to deny himself in his service to the Lord. It would be impossible for us to reason against Peter's dedication to the Lord, but the Lord had to prove to Peter that his motivation and resolve was still faulty:

"Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee. Peter answered and said unto him, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended. Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples" Mat. 26: 31-35.

Peter was so sure that he would not deny the Christ. How resolved and strong he felt at the moment, but when the day began to fade so did his resolve:

"Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" Mat. 26: 36-41.

The flesh is weak and will fail us. Jesus was undergoing the greatest of trials, and here He was working with men who were converted by Him and seemingly dedicated to Him. When the actual hour of trial came they showed their humanness and Jesus had to labor with them to prepare them for what was about to happen. They just couldn't seem to grasp the re-

ality of what He was telling them. How very true that is of us even today as we reflect upon our own humanity compared to God's vast wisdom and knowledge.

Except for one, Jesus' twelve disciples came through the tremendous trial of losing their main reason for living, their Savior. They learned the distinct difference of being spiritually minded as compared to being carnally minded when they received the outpouring of the Spirit of God on the day of Pentecost. From that day forward they were accompanied by the Holy Ghost which was given them as a comforter in the place of Jesus Christ.

The change that took place in Peter and the other apostles is something we should remember even as Jacob, the son of Lehi, has told us:

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

God is a spirit and we should seek the spirit of God rather than to rely on our own human abilities. Depending entirely on our own intelligence can lead to spiritual death. Striving to obey the Spirit of God will lead us to eternal life.

Why did Jesus call Peter Satan when Peter so heroically vowed to not let him be crucified? Jesus was undergoing a tremendous trial in facing what He knew was going to happen to Him and we might think that He just reacted harshly to Peter's lack of understanding. In pondering this whole event we find Jesus was totally consistent with the truth He knew. His reaction to Peter was exactly right. We find in King Benjamin's words the real meaning of what Jesus said:

"For the natural man is an enemy to God, and has been, from the fall of Adam, and will be, for ever and ever;" Mos. 1:119.

Peter was merely acting his natural self in defense of the Lord, which by our normal standards is an all right thing to do. But to Jesus, Peter was totally wrong and offensive. How strange it is that just moments before this event Peter had received spiritual knowledge from the Father of who Jesus was and he was able to give the correct answer.

This may tell us more than we want to know about ourselves: we may be absolutely right on target at one time and the next be completely off target. It all depends on whether we are be-

ing guided by the Holy Spirit or not.

King Benjamin more completely explained what we need to do:

"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: 120.

The very things that Jesus was trying to convey to His disciples, King Benjamin was inspired to say to his people several hundred years before Christ came to the Jews. He told them to yield to the enticings of the Holy Spirit; put off the natural man and become a saint. You might ask, "How do we become saints?" The king didn't leave that out; we are to become as a child: submissive, meek, humble, patient and full of love. King Benjamin didn't stop there. He also said we are to submit to all things which the Lord sees fit to inflict upon us, even as a child submits to his father. The greatest example of submission is when Jesus obeyed

the Father by taking of the "bitter cup" and being crucified on the cross.

We are sure that Peter did learn these things, perhaps the hard way. He became a spiritual man, allowing the Lord to direct him in taking the gospel to the Gentiles. After many years of faithful service Peter submitted to being martyred for the cause of Christ.

Paul didn't have the advantage of being taught by Jesus prior to Jesus' crucifixion, but he did learn through the Holy Spirit many truths. He was greatly inspired to write letters which we consider scripture today. To the Corinthians he explained the workings of the Spirit:

"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" 1 Cor. 2:9-16.

Paul described the Spirit of God as being the means of revealing the things of God not commonly known or understood by man. He assured the Corinthians that they had not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit of God, and he concluded with the statement, "we have the mind of Christ." This tells us that they thought like Christ. They were not compatible to the world and the way worldly people think. Paul made it plain that the natural man can not know the things

of God which are spiritually given of God to His saints.

Paul also wrote to the Ephesians telling them that he was praying,

"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all" Eph. 1:17-23.

Paul knew that these people needed the spirit of wisdom and revelation. He

spoke of the eyes of their understanding being enlightened. The light that comes through the Spirit of God is that which gives us that special knowledge making us fully cognizant of the greatness of God and also giving us a fuller understanding of His love toward us.

What other purpose is there for our existence? Is it to obtain some type of enjoyable existence beyond this life which we might be comfortable in our present state of mind? Or is it to accomplish certain goals that we make for ourselves which seem reasonable or achievable to our own minds?

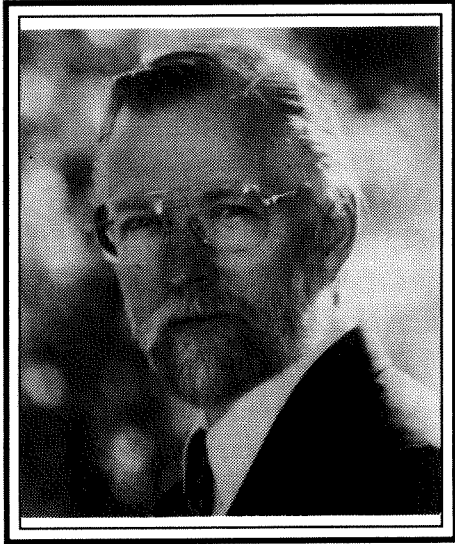
As already stated, the purpose of life is to know God and his Son, Jesus Christ. If our own personal wills and ambitions fade into a lesser importance in our endeavor to learn of the ways of God, then we have begun to accomplish the real goal, life eternal. Striving to know God requires all our best efforts, because the natural man must be overcome and controlled by the influence of the Spirit of God. It is a day by day, even moment by moment, trial. Self importance must be totally crucified to give way to the divine nature of God.

Perhaps John, who was closest to Jesus, describes it best:

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure"
1 John 3:1-3.

The very love of God toward mankind is somewhat unknown to the general attitude of man. His motivation of love for His own creation may seem somewhat mysterious, yet we totally depend upon it for our salvation. Our trust in God is not in us being saved in our humanity, but rather motivating us to be like Him, whereby we continually make changes in ourselves through His Spirit in becoming perfect in Him. Our hope, then, is when we meet Him face to face we shall have become purified even as He is pure.

The Church of Christ



By Harvey E. Seibel

WHY THE CHURCH OF CHRIST?

To the world the little church on the Temple Lot is just another church, not much known, and insignificant as compared to the mainline churches of the world. Some, even within our own ranks have wondered in what way we are different from other denominations, that perhaps one church is as good as another. How, then, did we come to be, and why? If the church our Lord established so long ago has continued down through the vistas of

Part Two

time to our day, then how do we fit in?

Our Lord Himself warned, in His day, that from the time of John the Baptist the kingdom of heaven suffered violence and that the violent would take it by force. Paul also warned that even in his day this mystery of iniquity was already at work. He knew that after his departing grievous wolves would enter in, not sparing the flock, and that a mysterious personage termed the 'man of sin' would arise and sit in the temple of God, showing himself that he was God, or in other words, an evil personage would usurp the place of Christ within the Church, claiming to be His representative on earth.

The early saints knew of these predictions and understood the significance of them for it is recorded in the writings of these early church fathers that they prayed, beseeching the Lord that the empire under which they lived would be prolonged during their lifetime,

This church, unlike other churches, was a fulfillment of prophecy. It is the only church on earth today that was established through the ministration of angels.

despite the persecutions they suffered at its hands. They knew that what would come after would be so much worse than their current sufferings. And they were correct in their anticipations, because for every Christian suffering death at the hands of Pagan Rome, ten more perished at the hands of Papal Rome. And so the period known as the dark ages commenced.

Both John and Daniel spoke of this evil power which would arise within the church and make war with the saints and overcome them. Both stated that this deplorable situation would

continue for the space of 1260 years. Historians, both ecclesiastical and secular, record that this evil reign commenced in 570 A.D. Daniel also records that at the end of that period, in the latter days, God would set up a kingdom which would never be destroyed, and judgment would be given to the saints. John tells of an angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to them who dwell upon the earth, and that the result of the sitting of this judgment would ultimately bring about the destruction of Babylon.

Because of the destruction of the early church at the hands of this evil personage, it became necessary for the Lord to restore His church as He prophesied through His servants the prophets. He also prophesied that along with the restoration of His church a book would be brought forth, called the sealed book by one prophet, and the stick of Joseph by another; and that a short time following the coming forth of this book, the former and latter rains would return to Lebanon. This prophecy was fulfilled just 24 years after the coming forth of this book, when the former and latter rains again returned, after an absence of nearly 1800 years, giving evidence that the book was indeed the book of God.

And so the church was again on the earth, beginning in 1829/30, just as foretold by the prophets of God.

Martin Luther perceived that the ancient and primitive church must...be RESTORED in opposition to the papacy by which it had been so long oppressed.

HOW DOES IT DIFFER FROM OTHER CHURCHES?

The abuses of the Great and Abominable Church, the Whore of all the earth, became so great that men arose and began to attempt to reform those abuses. Martin Luther was the instrument used of God to really start the Reformation, or Protestant movement. This resulted in a breaking away from the Mother Church and the formation of various Protestant denominations. It was a laudatory effort as men attempted to come out of darkness using the Bible as their guide and authority. However, it was also recognized that some-

thing was missing, something was lost which could not be retrieved. This awareness became so pointed that some were caused to record their concerns.

E. Roger Williams, founder of the First Baptist Church in America, wrote that,

"THE APOSTASY OF ANTICHRIST HATH SO FAR CORRUPTED ALL THAT THERE CAN BE NO RECOVERY OUT OF THAT APOSTASY TILL CHRIST SHALL SEND FORTH NEW APOSTLES TO PLANT CHURCHES ANEW."

Sir Isaac Newton wrote:

"THERE MUST BE A STONE CUT OUT OF A MOUNTAIN WITHOUT HANDS BEFORE IT CAN FALL UPON THE TOES OF THE IMAGE AND BECOME A GREAT MOUNTAIN AND FILL THE EARTH. AN ANGEL MUST FLY THROUGH THE MIDST OF HEAVEN WITH THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL TO PREACH TO ALL NATIONS BEFORE BABYLON FALLS AND THE SON

OF MAN REAPS HIS HARVEST."

Martin Luther perceived that the ancient and primitive church must, on the one hand, be **RESTORED** in opposition to the papacy by which it had been so long oppressed.

John Wesley wrote that the wise men of his day "cannot discern the signs of these times! They can see no signs at all of God's arising to maintain his own cause, AND SET UP HIS KINGDOM OVER THE EARTH" - Sermon 71.

Charles Wesley wrote in a verse of song the following words:

"From favored Abraham's seed,

"The new apostles choose,

"In isles and continents to spread

"The dead-reviving news."

This church, unlike other churches, was a fulfillment of prophecy. It was to be set up at the conclusion of that long period of prophesied spiritual darkness through the power and agency of God. It is the only church on earth today that was established through the ministration of angels. This was the kingdom that was to be cut out of the mountain without hands. All other churches are the offspring, or

daughters, of that great mother church from which they all sprang, and from whence they derive their authority. They could not and do not constitute a restoring of that which was lost, but a reformation only.

WHAT PURPOSE OR PLAN DOES GOD HAVE FOR THIS CHURCH?

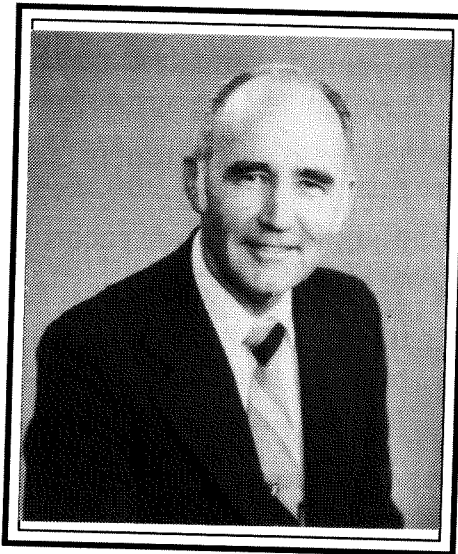
The establishment of this Church of Christ constituted the beginning of the great and marvelous work of these last days. It was the setting of the Father's hand the second time to recover the remnant of His people which are left of Assyria and Egypt and all the nations of the world, and from the isles of the sea, and to restore them from their lost and fallen state. In this land the work shall be to restore the seed of Joseph to the knowledge of their forefathers, and to a knowledge of the true Messiah, their Lord and their Redeemer.

The responsibility of the servants of God in this church will include all of the following:

- To prune the vineyard for the last time.
- To prepare a people for the coming of the Lord.

- To seek to bring forth and to establish the cause of Zion.
- To prepare for the building of the New Jerusalem.
- To carry the Gospel of the Kingdom to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.
- To attain to the faith of the Brother of Jared and to come clean before the Lord.
- To make spiritual preparation for the coming forth of the other records.
- To prepare for the gathering of the house of Israel back to the lands of their inheritance.
- To act as nursing fathers and nursing mothers to the house of Israel in the work of the gathering.

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST TO THE APOSTLE JOHN



By Apostle Don McIndoo

CHAPTER NINE

In the historicist point of view, Chapters Six, Eight and Nine relate to the wrath of God as it is poured out upon the empire of Rome. Many years before, the prophet Daniel had seen in a night vision the four great empires of the ancient world (See Daniel 2:19-43). These four empires made up the body of a great image, the two legs of which represented the Roman Empire.

2 That the two legs of Daniel's image were to represent the Roman Empire is very appro-

SECTION SEVEN:

FALL OF THE EASTERN EMPIRE

appropriate, for the empire had long been separated into two divisions. The western half of the empire was governed by its capital of Rome, while the eastern portion of the empire maintained Constantinople as its capital. This city had been formerly known as Byzantium, but when Emperor Constantine made it his capital the name was changed to Constantinople.

3 The Eastern, or Byzantine Empire "...had survived Germanic and Hunnic tribal migrations and raids in the 5th and 6th centuries (see Chapter Eight) and had stabilized a reasonably secure eastern frontier against the...Persian Empire, but it could not recover, hold, and govern the entire Mediterranean world."¹ It now consisted of southeastern Europe, the

northeastern portion of Africa and the Middle East as far as the Euphrates River.

4 By the middle of the sixth century, 570 A. D., the western half of this once-great world power had fallen, the emperor deposed and the empire broken into ten lesser, independent nations. Meanwhile, the Emperor Justinian of Constantinople was trying to restore the former majesty and geographical limits of the former Roman Empire. This is the setting as the fifth angel sounds his trumpet:

5 "And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth

have power" (Revelation 9: 1-3).

6 As this fifth angel sounded it would appear to the Christian Byzantine world as if all the inmates of hell had broken loose upon the earth. Their leader would be known as "**Destroyer.**" How appropriate the descriptive words of verse three, for just as the plagues of locusts in ancient times had come out of Arabia, so did this new enemy arise in Arabia to sweep across the eastern branch of the Roman Empire.

7 "Between 634 and 642, Arabs, inspired by a new religion, Islam, conquered Palestine, Syria, Mesopotamia, and Egypt. Constantinople weathered major Arab sieges in the 670s and in 717-718, and Byzantine Asia Minor survived almost annual Arab raids."² Their leader and general was none other than their prophet, Mohammed. He began his wars against Christendom in A.D. 629. How successful was he? Gibbons writes, "One hundred years after his flight from Mecca the arms and the reigns of his successors extended from India to the Atlantic Ocean..."³

8 "And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed,

which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them" (Revelation 9:13-16).

9 Barnes equates the sounding of this sixth angel with the invasion of the Seljuk Turks, who came from the eastern side of the Euphrates River. Just as the angel said to loose the angels bound in the Euphrates, these Turks conquered the Muslims and united with them. Gibbons writes that in 1058 A. D. the emperor of the eastern division of the Roman empire was "...suddenly assaulted by an unknown race of barbarians, who united the Scythian valour with the fanaticism of new proselytes.... The myriads of Turkish horse overspread the frontier of six hundred miles from Taurus to Arzeroum, and the blood of 130,000 Christians was a grateful sacrifice to the Arabian prophet."⁴

10 Who was this unknown race of barbarians? Again, it is the historian Gibbons who gives answer: "...a powerful and independent people, (who) were scattered over the desert from China to the River Oxus."⁵ Today this river is known as the Amu Darya. To identify these people by name, they are the Uzbeks, Turkmen, Tadzhiks and Afghanis we are either allied with or fighting in

our present war against terrorism.

11 As they swarmed out of central Asia, they conquered Persia, then Syria, then, crossing the River Euphrates, they attacked the Byzantine Empire. The historian, A. Henri Sava, writes about their leader, "**Khalid fought many signal battles; an immense multitude of infidels were slaughtered, and spoils infinite and innumerable were acquired by the victorious Muslims. Khalid was known as the 'Sword of God, and the Scourge of the Infidels.'**"⁶

12 As Khalid began his campaign, he wrote to the Muslims of Arabia, "This is to acquaint you that I intend to send the true believers into Syria to take it out of the hands of the infidels. And I would have you know that the fighting for religion is an act of obedience to God. His messenger returned with the tidings of pious and martial ardor which they had kindled in every province.... Medina was filled with bands of Saracens who panted for action.... The hatred of the Christians, the love of spoil, and the contempt of danger were the ruling passions of the audacious Saracens."⁷

B A Christian city of the Eastern empire, about to fall before the Muslim might, sent an envoy with a liberal offer of peace. The answer he received—"...*Ye Christian dogs, you know your option: the Koran, the tribute, or the*

sword. We are a people whose delight is in war, rather than in peace; and we despise your pitiful alms, since we shall be speedily masters of your wealth, your families, and your persons.”⁸

14 We should be aware that this delight in war stems directly from the “false prophet” of Chapter Sixteen. *“The sword,” said Mohammed, “is the key of heaven and of hell; a drop of blood shed in the cause of God, a night spent in arms, is of more avail than two months of fasting and prayer.”⁹*

15 Revelation 9:15 tells us that the time denoted for this conquest of the Eastern empire would be 391 years. Constantinople fell before the Turks, and the eastern branch of the empire was in their hands in A. D. 1453 (just 4 years after the time specified by verse 15). Revelation 9:17 states, *“out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone.”* Spicer writes, *“It is remarkable that the siege of Constantinople was the first great siege in which fire-arms and gunpowder played the deciding part.”¹⁰*

16 “Since the first conquests of the caliphs, the establishment of the Turks in Anatolia or Asia Minor was the most deplorable loss which the church and empire had sustained. By the propagation of the Moslem faith, Soliman deserved the name of Ghazi, a holy champion; and a new kingdom of the Romans...was added to the tables of Oriental geography.

It is described as extending from the Euphrates to Constantinople, from the Black Sea to the confines of Syria.

17 “...The divinity of Christ was denied and derided in the same temple in which it had been pronounced by the first general synod of the Catholics. The unity of God, and the mission of Mahomet, were preached in the moschs (sic - dem), the Arabian learning was taught in the schools; the Cadhis judged according to the laws of the Koran; the Turkish manners and language prevailed in the cities; and Turkman camps were scattered over the plains and mountains of Anatolia. On the hard conditions of tribute and servitude, the Greek Christians might enjoy the exercise of their religion; but their most holy churches were profaned; their priests and bishops were insulted...”¹¹

18 “Concomitantly with the Seljuk entry into Asia Minor, frontier Muslim raiders and warriors called ghazis adhered to a semi-military organization dedicated to advancing the frontier of Islam; they supported themselves by raiding Christendom and by obtaining subsidies from interested rulers.”¹²

19 Thus ended the might and grandeur of an empire that had ruled the world for more than a thousand years. Its shameful demise had come even as it had been revealed to Nephi in his vision so long before:

“Thus shall be the destruction of all nations, kindreds, tongues and people, that shall fight against the twelve apostles of the Lamb” (I Nephi 3: 95).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Funk and Wagnalls New Encyclopedia, “Byzantine Empire,” Vol. 5, p. 95
2. *Ibid.*, p.96.
3. Gibbons, Edward, *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Vol. 3, Philadelphia, p. 410.
4. *Ibid.*, Vol. 4, pp. 707, 708.
5. *Ibid.*, p. 696.
6. Saya, Archibald Henry, *Ancient Empires of the East*, Vol. 1, p. 259.
7. *Ibid.*, pp. 266, 267, 271.
8. *Ibid.*, p. 271.
9. *Ibid.*, p. 225.
10. Spicer, W. A., *Beacon Lights of Prophecy*, 1935, p. 243.
11. *Op. Cit.*, Gibbons, Vol. 4, p. 721.
12. *Colliers Encyclopedia*, “Turkey,” Vol. 22, p. 537.

CAMP TEEN CHALLENGE

What to Bring List

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

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

PLEASE BRING:

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

PERSONAL ARTICLES:

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

OPTIONAL ITEMS TO BRING:

- Camera and film
- Fishing pole and favorite lures
- Stationery, envelopes and stamps
- Musical instrument
- Day pack or knapsack

- Baseball gloves
- Money—canteen will be available for snacks
- Alarm Clock (**no clock radios**)

PLEASE LEAVE AT HOME:

- Immodest and inappropriate clothing
- "No Fear" and concert shirts
- Alcoholic beverages and cigarettes
- Video games
- Knives of any kind
- Electronic games
- Radios, players, cell phone, pagers, etc.
- Candy or pop
- Fireworks or firearms

RULES:

- You will be expected to behave in a Christian manner at all times.
- No one is to leave the camp grounds.
- You are required to stay with the group unless special permission is granted.
- Phones will be available for emergency calls only.
- You are expected to wear modest apparel.
- You are asked to follow all safety rules.
- Each camper is required to participate in all activities.
- If cars are brought to camp you will be required to leave the keys with the camp counselor.
- There will be no pranks—any materials for pranks will be confiscated!
- All tank tops must have a minimum of 1 1/2 inch wide shoulder straps and completely cover midriff.

Remove from the Advocate and make copies as needed

TO REGISTER FOR THE CLASSES YOU WANT, YOU MUST COMPLETE AND RETURN THE FOLLOWING 2002 CAMP TEEN CHALLENGE CLASS SCHEDULE.

How to fill out the Class Schedule form:

1. Write your name, social security number, and phone number in the spaces provided on the form.
2. If you plan to ride the bus from the East Local to Camp, write "YES" in the space provided.
3. Mark Camp T-shirt size if you are purchasing one.
4. Mark the 9:00 a.m., 10:05 a.m., and 1:15 p.m. classes you would like to take. Indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice!
5. Mail your completed Class Schedule and Registration Form to the address below.

IMPORTANT: We must have your registration fee before we can process your Class Schedule.

Directions to Camp Far Westa from Kansas City:

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

Transportation:

For those needing a ride from the Kansas City area, a bus will be leaving the East Local at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, the 4th of August. **Check-in for campers is from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Check List:

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

- Registration fee—**make check out to "Teen Challenge."**
- Class Schedule form with completed 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for each open hour.
- Registration form with parents' and camper's signatures.
- The form must be notarized.

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

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

LIFE GUARD: The camp provides a certified life guard.

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

AGE GROUP: JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH, AGES 12-18.

CAMP DATES: August 4- 9, 2002.

T-SHIRT ORDER will be sent in on July 15th. T-shirts cost \$5.00 over camp fee.

Order and money must be received before July 15, 2002.

TOTAL CAMP COST: \$110.00 (\$100.00 IF PAID BEFORE JULY 1—\$125.00 IF PAID AFTER JULY 15, 2002).

Mail forms to:

Michelle Oldham
602 NW 20th St.
Ankeny, IA 50021
Fax: (515) 963-0984/Phone: (515) 963-0971
E-mail: jnmham@hotmail.com

Mailing Address for Kids at Camp:

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

CAMP TEEN CHALLENGE 2002 Registration Form

Camper's Name: _____

Years in school, Fall 2002: _____

Age: _____ Birth Date: _____

SSN#: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number (include area code): _____

Parent's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Insurance Carrier & Policy Number: _____

Mark T-shirt size: S, M, L, XL, XXL

Bus Ride to Camp leaving the East Local on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.: Yes No

I have read the Rules of the Camp and my signature shows I will comply with the stated rules and will bring Bible, Book of Mormon and book bag. **NOTE: Campers are asked not to arrive before 3:00 p.m.**

In the event of a medical emergency, by my signature on this document I give permission for Camp Personnel to administer and/or obtain any necessary treatment for my minor child. **NOTE:** please have this form notarized and list any medical conditions (allergies, asthma, etc.) that we should be aware of.

Parent's or Guardian's signature: _____

Camper's signature: _____

MEDICAL: Any medication brought to camp must be in the original container and given to the camp nurse to be dispensed. **Please list medications that will be brought to camp:** _____

NOTE TO PARENTS: Campers will be dropped off at the Missouri Reunion on August 4. If other arrangements are needed, please specify. If parents are unable to attend the Missouri Reunion and youth is to be the responsibility of another adult for the balance of that weekend, please specify who: _____

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

NOTARIZATION

Subscribed and sworn to me this _____ day of _____, 2002

Notary Public _____

County of _____

State of _____

My Commission Expires: _____

CAMP TEEN CHALLENGE CLASS REGISTRATION FORM

NAME (please print):	PHONE:			
CLASS/ACTIVITY	TIME	1st	2nd	3rd
Choose 1 Daily 9:00 a.m. Class below; include a 2nd and 3rd choice.	9:00 a.m.			
Basic Beliefs Defended				
Comparison: Bible Time/Our Time				
Creation/Evolution				
A Few Good Men (ages 16 and up)				
Women of Excellence				
Women in the Bible				
You're baptized, or thinking about it... so now what?				
Youth Issues				
Choose 1 Daily 10:05 a.m. Class below; include a 2nd and 3rd choice.	10:05 a.m.			
Archery				
Beginning Jewelry Making				
Camp Journal				
Choir				
First Aid				
Girl Talk				
Science Experiments				
Scrapbook Memories				
Soccer				
Volleyball				
Woodcarving				
Study				
Lunch				
Choose 1 Daily 1:15 a.m. Class below; include a 2nd and 3rd choice.	1:15 p.m.			
Aerodynamics				
Archery				
Fishing				
Flute Making				
Photography: combining artistic composition and darkroom work; adjustable 35mm camera required				
Sailing (must know how to swim)				
Smash Ball				
Stamping and Embossing				
T.E.A.M.				
Volleyball				
Woodcarving				
FREE TIME: Swimming, Boating, Challenge Course, Games, Quiet Time, Etc.	2:15 p.m.			
Planned, organized Group Activities available if desired	3:15 p.m.			
CABIN TIME	4:30 p.m.			
Dinner	5:30 p.m.			
Quest Class	7:00 p.m.			
Campfire (8:15 p.m. Thursday night)	8:30 p.m.			

ANNOUNCEMENT

TEEN CHALLENGE 2002

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Hebrews 11:1 & 6

When will camp be?

August 4th - 9th, 2002.

Who should attend?

If you are between the ages of 12 and 18, then we want to see you!!!

Where will Camp be?

Camp Far Westa, a beautiful, spacious, well-kept facility that is only an hour away from Independence, near Stuartsville, Missouri.

Why should you attend?

You will have the time of your life!!! Camp Activities include Scriptural Studies, Classes, Sports, Campfires and Group Activities.

How much will Teen Challenge cost? \$110.00

You can SAVE!!!

If paid prior to July 1st, 2002, you will pay:\$100.00

If paid after July 1st, you will pay:\$110.00

If paid after July 15th, you will pay:\$125.00

Do you want a shirt?

If you would like to purchase a "Teen Challenge 2002" shirt, please include an additional \$5.00 with your camp fee. For example, if you pay prior to July 1st (\$100.00) and would like a shirt (\$5.00), please send a total of \$105.00 with your camp registration.

LOOK FOR YOUR REGISTRATION FORM IN THIS ADVOCATE!!!

Camp Directors: Brother Jeff and Sister Michelle Oldham

602 NW 20th Street

Ankeny, IA 50021

515-963-0971

CIT's...if you would like to be a Counselor-In-Training (CIT), please e-mail Brother Bob Hedrick at bobnliza@juno.com, or call at 602-494-9661. Deadline to sign-up to be a CIT is May 10, 2002.

Labors in the Philippines

The following pictures are only a representation of the work, and were taken on this, our third trip, to the Philippines.

Apostles Frank Fann and Alvin Moser have been privileged to open up this field, with Elder/Bishop Charles Brantner joining them on this last trip in February/March, 2002.

After continued sermons and classes on baptism, many asked for bap-

tism. With the leading of the Spirit, 103 made a covenant with the Lord Jesus Christ, bringing the total to 205 members of the Church of Christ, Temple Lot, found in the Philippines.

The Spirit called forth ministry, as was Aaron, on this last trip. On March 10, 2002, three men were ordained elders in the Church of Christ. They are: Deme-terio Indangan, Prudencio Alameda and Roger Manali.

Currently sixteen locations have been visited, four of these we would consider missions: Cabilao, Panalso, Nabunturan and Compostela. Our expectation is that three to five of these locations will become organized locals.

Donations to this work may be sent to the pastor or treasurer of the East Local, Independence, Missouri, where the Philippine Fund is managed.



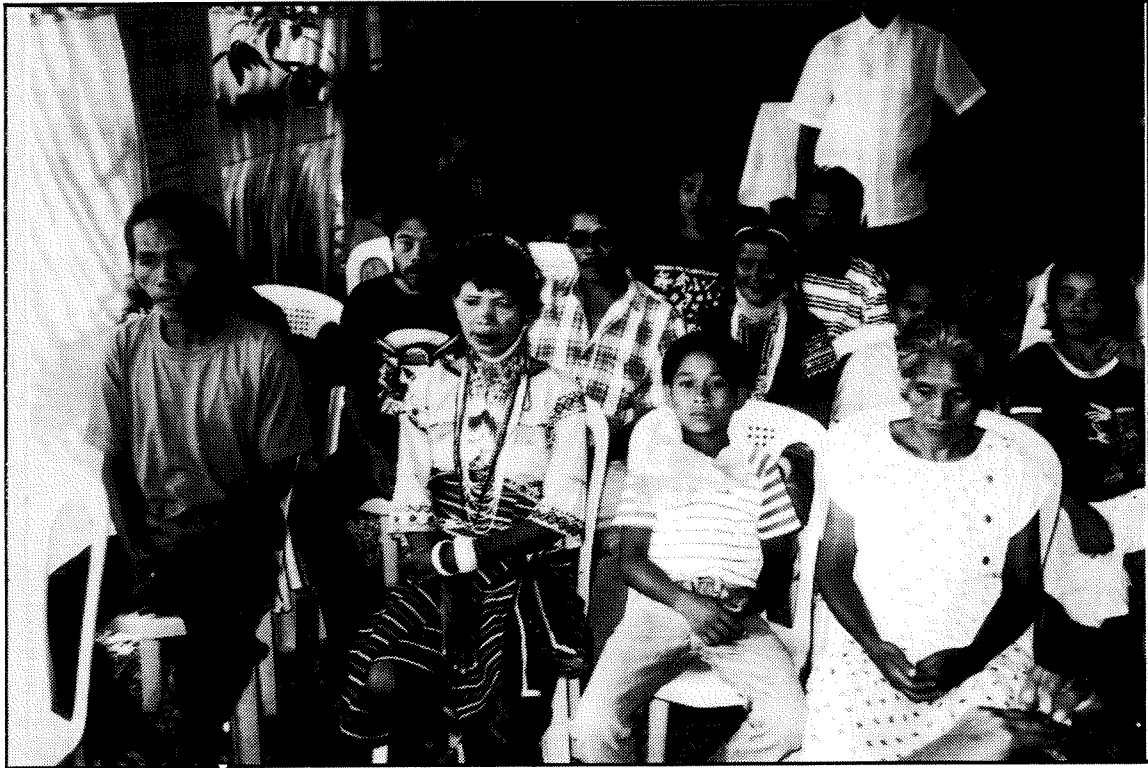
▶ A long hike up the mountain is required to get to our church in Cabilao.



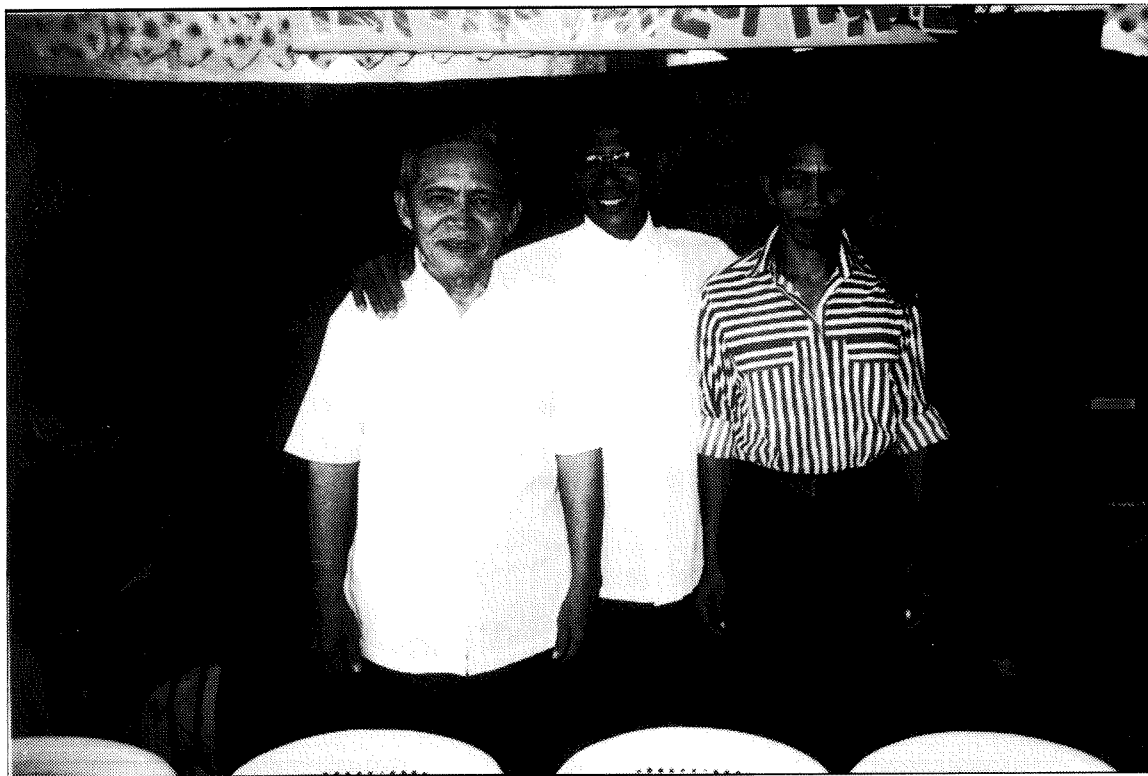
► A beautiful view of the valley on the trail down from Cabilao.



► We were praying for clean water to baptize in, and we were taken to this wonderful spot. Twenty-six were baptized at this time.



► Some new members from the mountain tribes. Notice the native dress on the women.



► Some new Elders, from the left: Demeterio Indangan, Prudencio Alameda and Roger Manali.



► Our new Elder Demetrio, performing his first baptism.

ANNOUNCEMENT

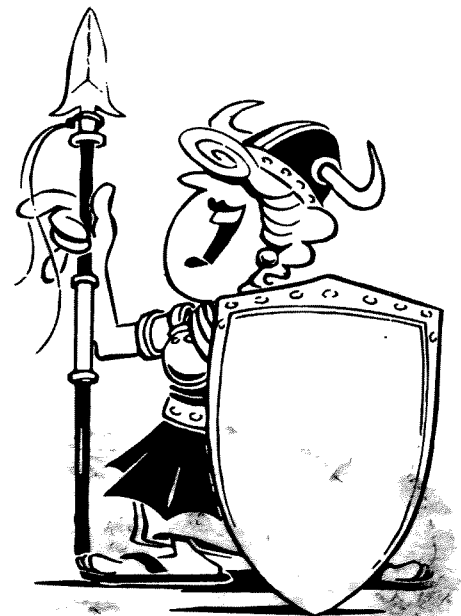
CONCERT IN THE PARK

YOU ASKED FOR IT...YOU GOT IT!

The Teen Challenge Concert in the Park will be held on Thursday, August 8th at 3:15 p.m. at the Gazebo.

We're looking for contributions of Christian vocal or instrumental music that is appropriate for our youth camp. No piano accompaniment is available but a tape player will be ready for pre-recorded music. Don't want to sing alone? Get a group of friends to sing with you. Each person or group should prepare one or two songs to perform.

Want to participate? Contact **KIM YATES** and let her know what you or your group will be performing. Reach Kim by phone at (602) 920-9415 or by e-mail at kimnjim@mindpsring.com.



PATRIOTIC TUESDAY AT CAMP TEEN CHALLENGE 2002!

Show your patriotism by wearing
RED, WHITE & BLUE
On Tuesday, August 6
Get into the spirit!

PHOENIX NEWS

Greetings from Phoenix! The first quarter of 2002 has seen some incredible changes take place. The missionary effort just keeps snowballing and collecting momentum.

We started off the New Year with food and Fellowship on New Year's Eve. The sleepy crowd got some livening up with a Newlywed Game won by John and Deborah Yates.

On January 5, we enjoyed our second annual Christmas Tree Bonfire in the desert.

As we were enjoying the mild Arizona winter in the desert Elder Ken Oar was conducting a youth retreat in the cold north. January 5 and 6 young people from Michigan, New York, Brantford, Ontario and Arizona met for a retreat. They toured the home of Alexander Graham Bell in Brantford and enjoyed an enthusiastic game of Paintball. During the serious part of the weekend they were asked to examine themselves and ask, "Does my life reflect a true image of Christ?" The group joined the Brantford congregation for Sacrament Service on Sunday.

January 9 was our election of officers. After four faithful years of service Pastor Gordon McCann stepped down and Elder Bob Hedrick was elected as pastor. The Assistant Pastors are Priests Glen Orsted and Duane Ely.

January 15, Apostle Brian McIndoo, Elder Andy Brown and his son Andrew headed out for a month long trip to Africa. When they arrived, the Kenyan young people were very excited to see someone their own age coming to visit. Andrew contributed to the services with gifts of song. During one service the voices of the congregation blended softly with his as he sang "Amazing Grace." The brothers were privileged to attend the dedication of the completed church building in Nyansakia and a new congregation in Naykeyo. They also visited the Kakabe local, where the first church

service in Kenya was held. A trip to Tanzania was also on the agenda. The return of the Church of Christ missionaries was a testimony to the believers in Tanzania. They believed that if the Lord wanted the Church of Christ to be in Tanzania, the missionaries would return. Every trip has its mishaps. Brother Brian managed to get so sick one day that he passed out in the street, and another day the car broke down in lion country! The Lord brought them through it all safely! Great news! There are so many new members in Africa it's getting hard to keep an exact count. It's about 400 now!

January 24, Apostles Jay Moser and Don McIndoo headed for Honduras. Each trip the work branches out a little more into the mountain villages. Our brothers were able to minister in 15 different areas: Zamorano, Oculi, Rio Abajo, Sartenejas, Tegucigalpa, Arjelia, Ocotillo, Piedras Coloradas, Empalme, Danli, Jutiapa, Congo and Chiranas. The friendly people in the mountain hamlets greeted our brothers with wonderful hospitality, serving them fresh coffee, beans and tortillas. We welcomed one new brother into the family of Christ on this trip. Construction was begun in Zamarano for a house for the visiting ministry and plans for a new vehicle to navigate the rugged mountain terrain were being discussed.

On February 12, Apostle Don McIndoo left for a missionary trip to Mexico. He was joined a few days later by Brother Ronnie Gill and Elder Ken Oar. Following the Yucatan Reunion, several of the ministry gathered for a day of fasting and prayer, asking the Lord to call more ministry. After some time in prayer, Elder Roger Can rose to tell of a spiritual dream in which he heard a voice he recognized as Christ calling two men to the office of Elder: Tomas of Kopte and Esaul of Dzan. There were many powerful witnesses of the callings. Another miraculous experience occurred later after a service in Dzan. Brother Don gave a presentation in Dzan with some flip pictures that

he had sketched. Following the service, a young man approached Don and told him that he had been shown in a vision one of the pictures Don had used in his presentation. The picture represented the forces of evil aligned against the Church of Christ in the last days. He went on to say that the vision made known to him that at the time of the fulfillment of this vision the church members would be afraid and want to flee. They were warned by a voice to remain within the strength and safety of the church. One woman did not listen and she was destroyed.

On February 13, back on the home front, we commemorated Valentine's Day with a special program. Several couples told their love stories. After some pretty funny courtship twists and turns, the Lord managed to lead the right people to each other.

February 17, Apostle Joel Yates met Elder Rodger Bruner in Yakima, Washington. The brothers traveled back and forth between the states of Oregon and Washington visiting and holding services. As always, they experienced warm hospitality and incredible scenery. In Oregon, they were happy to reconnect with Brothers Henri and Wenceslao Ku-Avila from Dzan, Yucatan. Henri and Wenceslao's roommates Marcos and Joel, who are not church members, also participated in discussion and scripture study with the Elders. From Oregon the brothers traveled to Montana where they battled sub-zero temperatures: -35 degrees one day! While in Montana they administered to Sisters Lola Riley and Evelyn York. Brother Joel returned home with the testimony that our brothers and sisters are growing in strength and remain faithful, though sometimes experiencing great trials in their lives.

On February 22, Apostles Jay Moser and Frank Fann and Elder Charles Brantner arrived in the Philippines. Their adventures ran the gamut from being awakened by mild earthquake tremors to a run-in with a co-

bra, but the greatest adventure of all was experiencing God's powerful spirit. In one service Brother Frank Fann understood a testimony given in the Cebuano dialect. In a Sunday morning service in Panabo, Brother Fann felt led to change the order of the service and called for a season of prayer, asking the Lord to call ministry in the Philippines. Immediately following the season of prayer, Brother Frank was moved to call three brothers to the office of Elder: Prudencio Alameda, Demetrio Indangan and Roger Manali. There were witnesses to the call and after careful consideration the brothers accepted their callings. The new elders wasted no time in getting to work. They began immediately to serve the sacrament and baptize and confirm new members. On this trip our brothers witnessed an example of great dedication. A young unmarried sister with a walking disability lost her home to become part of the gospel. Thanks to the Lord, she later found a new home near Elder Prudencio and his family. We now have 205 members in the Philippines!

God has been working in power here in Phoenix too. While the missionaries were away God touched the hearts of our ministry to admonish us to pray that men be called to care for the flocks who have no shepherds when the missionaries leave. We also had one very special Sunday. Elder Gordon McCann and Priest Glen Orsted both preached powerful sermons about the necessity of allowing the Lord to be in control of all our plans and decisions. We were strongly admonished that we need to make our homes near a church local to remain strong. It's impossible to describe the powerful spirit that was there but it was a day that we will remember for a long time.

On March 9, Apostle Brian McIndoo traveled to Alaska for the weekend to minister to our brothers and sisters up north. Brother Brian reported how happy he was to have Sister Ruth Friend of Kodiak, Alaska, joining the services. It was the first time in two years that Sister Friend has been able to attend a Church of Christ service.

Wednesday, March 20, Sister Kim Yates planned a song-service based on the Psalms.

Brothers and sisters of all ages did specials from the Psalms. The program was beautiful and inspiring. After the service a few people shared Psalms that had special significance for them. We borrowed the idea for the program from Brother Gary Housknecht in Missouri. Thanks Gary!

Our ongoing activities here include: A once-a-month breakfast for men from two to seventy something, a weekly Young Men's Scripture Study conducted by Pastor Bob Hedrick, a weekly Baptism Class taught by Elder Andy Brown and twice-a-month services in Payson and Showlow, Arizona, conducted by Elder Andy Brown and Priest Jim Yates, with Jim's kids and Brother Mark McCollum going along to support the work.

In closing, some excerpts from sermons we've heard the first part of 2002:

- *If we look with the eyes of the Lord, we see through the traps of Satan.*
- *You have to have something that guides you so you're not overcome with emotions over something that came up on the spur of the moment.*
- *If it's worth doing it for God, do it with real intent.*
- *Having a meek attitude is the key to character, to being a blessed and happy person.*
- *God works in our lives when we give ourselves humbly to His cause.*
- *One of the misconceptions of life is that we have to stand alone. We don't have to stand alone. We need each other. We need to encourage each other.*
- *There's things that you have to avoid, to stay away from, to have My blessing in your life.*
- *If you desire to walk in the light, it's here, it's available. If you walk back into darkness, your lamps will be empty.*
- *He died for our sins, but there is something required of us. We must repent of our sins.*
- *You may not accomplish all you want to accomplish. But if you practice these things, the gospel of Christ, at the end of the battle, you'll still be standing.*

- *In other churches the people can fire the minister. I would hate to have to announce my retirement. If you were called of God, how could you?*
- *Jesus said, 'Take my gospel into the entire world.' That world starts at your front door.*
- *This is Satan's last chance. Time is running short. He will employ every tool, every deception, to capture another soul.*
- *What couples argue about is not as important as how they argue.*
- *Christ nourishes us and cherishes the church because we are members of His body. We cannot be one flesh when we're separated, when we're living apart.*
- *We have to have faith that He's going to make the decisions that are best for us, even if we don't think so at the time.*
- *This gospel must get to the point that it consumes us.*
- *Wisdom, rather than being tied to our intelligence, is directly related to the fear of God.*
- *We have to be careful when we choose our scriptures, not to use the ones that have been altered and changed.*
- *Nothing comes easy to the servants of God.*
- *We don't understand our mistakes unless there's a consequence. It's not our nature.*
- *How many times in our lives are we not paying attention and we make wrong choices and we have to pay some very serious consequences?*
- *Those miracles came with Christ, they talked with authority and they better be with us. We need to be in fasting and prayer that our missionaries have the power and authority to do these things.*

*May God be with you all in the coming months,
Marlene Oar*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE THEME CAMP

The Temple Lot Local would like to invite you to the annual Scripture Theme Camp, **May 17, 18, and 19th, 2002**, at Camp Shawnee, Knob Noster State Park, Knob Noster, Missouri.

This year's theme is "Virtue," as found in Philippians 4:8. Please come with a scripture related to the theme and be prepared to have a wonderful time of fun and fellowship.

Hope to see you there!

For more information please contact **Don Case, Dan Lawrence, Tim Eddy, Steve Gill** or **Mark Hill**.

Sincerely,
Don Case
Camp Director

BRADLEY REUNION

The Bradley, Michigan local would like to extend an invitation to join them for their annual Church of Christ reunion. Reserve the dates of **June 22 & 23, 2002**, to join in fellowship and spiritual renewal with your brothers and sisters in Michigan. All are invited!!!

For housing & questions contact:

Duane Lee at (616) 795-7420;
email address:
duane_joyce@hotmail.com

Randy Lee at (616) 948-8971;
email address:
allofuslees@voyager.net

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

Scripture Theme Camp	May 17-19
Colorado Reunion	June 14-16
Bradley Reunion	June 22-23
Wake-Up Camp	July 12-14
Camp Teen Challenge	August 4-9
Scripture Adventure	August 6
Missouri Reunion	August 9-11
Tri-State Reunion	Aug 30-Sept 11
Phoenix Reunion	Nov 29-Dec 1
Women's Retreat	Jan 17-18, 2003

2002 COLORADO REUNION

The 2002 Colorado Reunion will be held **June 14, 15 & 16, 2002**, at the Orchard Mesa Local in Grand Junction, Colorado.

We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to meet with us for a weekend of worship and fellowship. Please let a member of the reunion committee know if you will be attending, how many, and if you will need lodging. It is time to start planning the meals and we need to have some idea of numbers.

The RV parks in the area are always full at that time of year. Here are the addresses and phone numbers for the RV parks in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Big J RV Park

28419 US Hwy 6 & 50
Grand Junction, CO
(970) 242-2527

Grand Junction RV Ranch

3238 I-70 Business Loop
Clifton, CO
(970) 434-6644

1-800-793-0041
www.rvranches.com

Never been there?

See the map at the CCEG web site:
<http://www.cceg.net/members/locals.htm>.

We look forward to seeing you in June!

Karen Bell

Kbell@gvii.net
P.O. Box 1137
Palisade, CO 81526
(970) 464-4624

Kathy Larsen

larsenhuskers@msn.com
3043 B Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503
(970) 434-7830

Daniel Carroll

dan@colorado.edu
417 Ironwood Court
Grand Junction, CO 81503
(970) 523-9047

WAKE UP CAMP 2002

YOU'RE INVITED!!!

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when believed" (Romans 13:11).

The Bemidji Young Peoples group invites you to Wake Up Camp 2002. Wake Up Camp 2002 is scheduled for **July 12, 13, 14**. The camp will be held at a site twelve miles from Bemidji, Minnesota. This camp is for all ages, and everyone is invited to attend. Please come; we know you'll enjoy the experience of making new friends, visiting with old friends and sharing fellowship and fun with all!

For more information or alternative sleeping arrangements, please contact:

Leah Ferrier (218-586-2367)
Pastor Bill Gould (218-586-2443)
Linda Gould (218-586-3759)
Charity Gould (218-586-3362)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSOURI REUNION 2002

The Missouri Reunion Committee would like to invite all to attend the 2002 Missouri Reunion, which will be held **August 9th, 10th and 11th, 2002**. All meetings will be held at the Church of Christ headquarters building located on the Temple Lot in Independence, Missouri.

We will again organize an ice cream social for Saturday evening after the final preaching service of the day. The social will be held either just outside the Visitors' Center or in the basement.

For information, please contact:

- Roland Sarratt**
15910 E. 36th Terr.
Independence, MO 64055
(816) 373-6605
- Mike McGhee**
18907 E. 6th St. North
Independence, MO 64056
(816) 796-6255

TRI-STATE REUNION

The Minnesota Locals invite all to meet with them for fellowship and service at the Tri-State Reunion.

Where: The Indoor Group Camp at Wyalusing State Park. The Park is located just south of Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. It is a beautiful spot, sitting high on the bluffs overlooking the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers.

When: The camp is available for our use from **3:00 P.M. Aug. 30th to 3:00 P.M. Sept. 2nd**. There is no admittance to the park between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.

There are four dorm buildings which can house up to 27 persons each. Campers must bring their own bedding. No pets are allowed in the park. A park sticker must be purchased at the park office.

For more information, please contact:

- Merlin Eddy**
3370 203rd St. W.
Farmington, MN 55024
(651) 463-2218
E-Mail spikeeddy@aol.com

PHOENIX REUNION

The Phoenix, Arizona, local would like to invite you each to join with us in the worship of our Lord at the 2002 Phoenix Reunion, which will be held **November 29th, 30th and December 1st**. Come and enjoy the warm weather and the warm fellowship.

For information, please contact:

- Pastor Bob Hedrick**
2908 E. Rockwood Dr.
Phoenix, AZ 85050
(602) 494-9661
Bobnliza@juno.com
- Asst. Pastor Glenn Orsted**
1327 E. Wescott Dr.
Phoenix, AZ 85024-2393
(623) 780-8764
- Asst. Pastor Duane Ely**
18814 N. 30th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85050-3436
(602) 569-1516

Women's Retreat

Friday, January 17, and Saturday January 18, 2003.

"Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation, on thee do I wait all the day" Psalms 25:5.

To the Sisters of the Church of Christ (Ages 18+): In an effort to follow the teaching of scripture as found in Titus, chapter 2, we invite all women to join us for a Women's Retreat. This will be an overnight fellowship activity and details will be announced through the CCEG.

For further information, contact:

- Carrie Geier**
14609 E. Phelps Ct.
Independence, MO 64055
(816) 836-0035
geiers@kcnet.com
- Lana Hill**
2305 Owing
Oak Grove, MO 64075
(816) 690-7887
mhill@earthlink.net

SCRIPTURE ADVENTURE 2002

Come, come, come! Come to the Scripture Adventure 2002, being held on **Tuesday, August 6th**, at the Church Of Christ, East Independence Local.

The Scripture Adventure is an exciting, fun, day-camp for ages 5 to 11 years old, where we learn about God's love for us and see examples of His love in the scriptures. We will make crafts and treats, sing songs, play outdoor games, and hear of God's goodness through scripture stories. The friendships our children make now can follow them and support them throughout their Christian walk. Encourage these bonds while filling their day with praise and discovery about our Heavenly father!

A lunch will be provided along with the fun! A member of the ministry will

be in attendance. We are asking a \$5.00 donation per family. LOOK for the registration forms to come soon, and send them in as soon as possible so we can get an accurate count for crafts, treats, and lunch. More information will be coming on the CCEG and in the *Zion's Advocate*.

For more information, or to register, please contact:

- Aimee Brockman**
1247 Baker Drive
Independence, MO 64050
(816) 252-9705
Aimee@prskc.com
- Jennifer Yates**
2924 E. Rockwood Drive
Phoenix, Arizona 85050
(602) 569-9296
a2yates@earthlink.net

NOTICE

AID FOR THE ELDERLY AND LOW INCOME FAMILIES

With the passage of Referendum Bill #2 of 2001 concerning the handling of property donated to the Church, and requesting that the General Bishops prepare a report encouraging the members of the Church to take advantage of the various programs and organizations available to assist the elderly, the Bishops submit the following information.

All states have an agency to care for low income people. These agencies are called by different names from state to state. In Missouri it is the Division of Family Services, and in Kansas it is called Social and Rehabilitative Services. The Bishopric will soon have a directory to give the names, place, and phone numbers of these agencies in all 50 states and its possessions. Some of these agencies funds are matched with Federal funds, such as Medicaid. If the income exceeds the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) maximum, there is a spenddown method to determine your eligibility. It is recognized that people still need help even though income is over a certain level. The requirements for qualifying for these benefits also differ from state to state. The only way that these requirements can be known is to apply for the benefit. These agencies have sub-divisions that handle the different kinds of aid. The agency usually has their main office in the Capital of the State, and branch offices in major cities.

In Missouri, the main office of Department of Social Services, and Divi-

sion of Family Services, is located at the Broadway State Office Building, P.O. Box 88, Jefferson City, Missouri, 65103. There is a branch office in Independence, Missouri, at 201 Partridge St., Independence, Missouri, 64055-9858, telephone (816) 325-5879. The Independence office takes care of all requests, food stamps (FS), Child Care, etc., and Medical. The main office for Medical is Missouri Department of Social Services, Division of Medical Services, P.O. Box 6500, Jefferson City, MO 65102-6500.

The qualifying income varies, as does the maximum assets, which includes bank account, life insurance, etc. In Missouri, the maximum resources for Food Stamps is \$3000, Medical \$1000, and Qualified Medicare Beneficiary \$4000. In the State of Kansas the agency is Social and Rehabilitative Services, and to qualify for Medicaid the maximum assets are \$2000.

The Qualified Medicare Beneficiary is a program for those that do not qualify for Medicaid, but need help with medical expenses, that will pay Medicare premiums for the Supplemental Medical Insurance portion of Medicare (Part B), and Hospital Insurance (Part A) if any. It will take approximately three months to begin paying the premiums but the pay will be effective with the month that you become eligible as a Qualified Medicare Beneficiary. The Social Security check will show an increase. Qualified Medicare Beneficiary benefits cover

some services that are not covered by Medicaid.

Medicaid is a program to provide eligible individuals with personal care in their homes to prevent or delay institutionalization. Personal care services are medically-oriented services, provided in the individual's home, to meet the physical needs of the individual, as prescribed by a physician in accordance with a personal care plan.

When one member of a married couple is applying for Medicaid when entering a Long Term Care facility the assets can be divided. The healthy spouse can keep the house, one car, and furniture. All assets, including life insurance, will be divided, with the healthy spouse keeping the first \$18,000; after that, anything up to \$60,000 will be divided 50-50. All over \$78,000 goes to the ill spouse who must spend down to \$1,000. Since the last arrangements are not covered by Medicaid, it is recommended that the funeral arrangements, grave, and stone be paid in spenddown. The ill spouse can keep \$30 per month of their Social Security for incidentals.

There may be more information available, and this will be made available when it is received. Please contact the Bishopric if you have questions.

OBITUARY

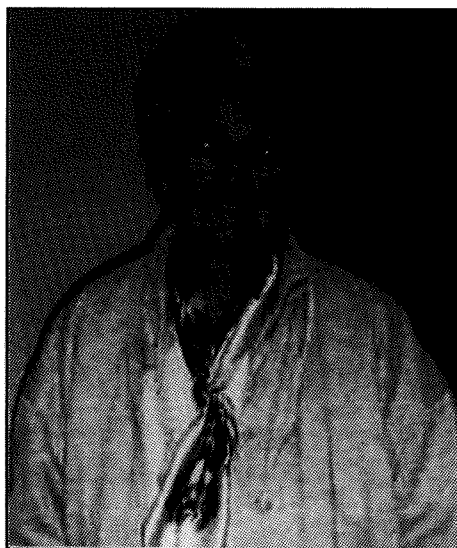
Elizabeth 'Lily' Delville

November 15, 1914~November 8, 2001

Elizabeth 'Lily' Delville, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving children, after a thankfully short battle with cancer at the home of her daughter Sue in Keswick, Ontario, Canada on Thursday, November 8, 2001, in her 87th year. She was the dearly beloved wife of the late William (Bill) Delville, the loving mother of Graydon and Marion Knight of Mount Albert, Ontario, and Susan Watling of Keswick, Ontario, the cherished grandmother of Bonnie, Dan, Kevin, Shawn, Tanya, Carrie-Anne, Michelle and David.

She will be sadly missed by her 15 great-grandchildren; her dear sister-in-law of Don and Barbara Delville, of Holland Landing, Ontario; by her special Aunt of Joan Marie Linington, Margaret (Marn) Ann Vieveen, Edith (Edie) Mary Mountjoy of Brantford, Ontario, Canada, and Robert George Walton of St. Catharines, Ontario.

'Lil, Aunt Lil or Cactus Lil' as she was affectionately known to many, was born Elizabeth 'Lily' Grigsby on November 15th, 1914. She was the twelfth child of William John Grigsby and Ebe Adelaide Grigsby (nee Pugh), market gardeners who resided in Humber Bay, Ontario, Canada. William John and Ebe lost five children in infancy and raised eight: four boys and four girls. Lil



was the last surviving member of this family.

Lil was raised to work on the market garden when she was a small girl, and in later years she worked as a housekeeper for Graydon and Rene Carley. She married Maurice Knight and two children were born of this union: Graydon and Irene May (Sue). After the death of Maurice she was united in marriage to William (Bill) Delville, who preceded her in death in July of 1983. They had moved to the Keswick area to help with the rental business that her son Graydon and daughter Sue were operating. After the death of Bill she moved from her home and resided in an apartment where her son's business was located.

Lil was well known around the apartment complex, and especially the laundromat area where she ac-

cepted the responsibility of cleaning and keeping the washers, dryers and common area in pristine condition. She continued to do this up until approximately a year before her death.

Lil made two trips to Arizona to attend the Phoenix reunions with her nieces, Joan, Marn and Edie. Lil was a dedicated and loving mother to her two children and often made them lunch, and baked her special butter tarts and pies for her son, daughter and grandchildren who worked at the rental business.

In February of 2001, Aunt Lil moved to the home of her daughter. Sue was a most loving and attentive care giver to her mother in her final days. The essence of her love for children was evident at the funeral, presided over by Evangelist Hubert Yates. In his eulogy to his mother, her son Graydon told a story of speaking to his mother just before her death. She asked him to promise her that he would take care of his sister. Later, she asked her daughter Susan to promise her that she would take care of her brother.

For many, with her death, it ended an era for those who loved her dearly. We will see you again, Aunt Lil.

*Written with love,
Your niece,
Edie Mountjoy*

OBITUARY

Gale Irving Brantner

November 26, 1932 ~ December 4, 2001

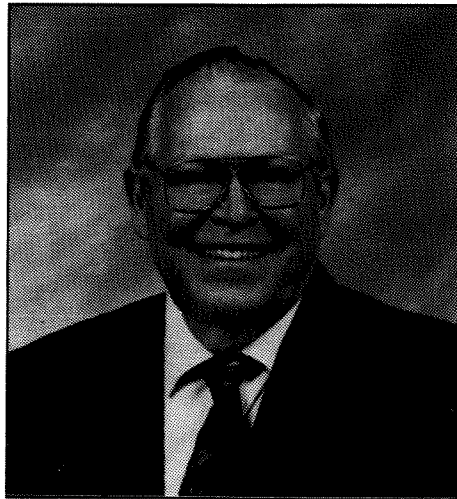
Elder Gale Brantner, 69, of 186 Partridge Place, Whittier, passed away Tuesday, December 4, 2001. He was born November 26, 1932, near Rockford, Michigan, moving to this present address when he and Alice Hughes were married in December 1994.

He pastored the Ravenna, Michigan, local of the Church of Christ, and became the pastor of the Calico congregation of the Church of Christ (TL) at Big Cove, Cherokee, in 1994.

He was a veteran of the US Air Force, serving during the Korean conflict. His duties involved NCO IC of the flight simulator training program in Duluth, Minnesota. He often professed to have more time flying jet fighters than some of the pilots.

After being discharged, he worked as an electronics engineer for Lear Seigler Corporation in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He worked in their test lab. on the so-called black boxes that are in all commercial aircraft today. He was a man of many trades and many talents. He built, or helped to build several homes and a church building.

Gale was baptized into Christ and become a member of the



Church of Christ August 1946. He was ordained an elder in August 1986, and soon became a missionary for the Church.

He was preceded in death by his father, George Brantner, and a brother, Daniel Brantner.

Surviving are his wife Alice, of the home; daughters Lynne and husband Rodd Blakeslee, LuAnne and husband John Mueller, Nancy and husband Bob Rosenzweig, all of Rockford, Michigan; Diane and husband John Raymond of Bruce Crossing, Michigan; sons Donald M. Brantner and Douglas I. Brantner, both of Ravenna, Michigan; mother, Sarah Brantner, of Warrensburg, Missouri; sisters Jeanette Cunningham and Jeanece and husband Ross Stephens, also of Warrensburg, Missouri; brothers Charles and wife Jeanne Brantner, of Lone Jack, Missouri, and Rich-

ard and wife Charlene Brantner of Eagle, Michigan.

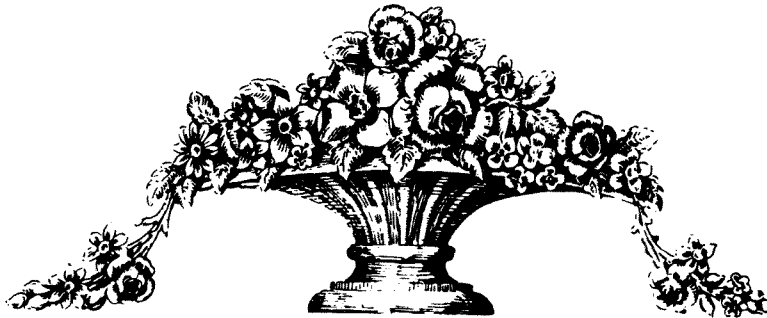
He also leaves behind stepchildren David Hughes and Brian and wife Angela Hughes, Deborah and husband William Smith; plus 11 grand-children and 2 great grand-children, and 1 step-grandson, as well as many nieces and nephews and a host of friends and neighbors.

Services were held at the Shoal Creek Baptist Church on December 7, 2001, at 2:00 P. M.

Officiating were Elder Charles Andrew Brantner and Elder Charles W. Brantner.

Interment was at Thomas Cemetery, Whittier, North Carolina.

Benito Sambugan



Bro. Benito was 73 years old and his wife is approximately 67 years old. He had six married children, one boy and five girls. They lived at a little nipa hut built on his own little piece of land at Brgy. Malasila, Makilala, North Cotabato.

He'd been a Brgy. official for 20 years, and had experience as a tribal president in that area; he was a member of MAP and Senior Citizen in that place. He's a man of honor and dignity, a loving and caring husband, and a responsible father of six children. His wife is weak and ill and needs our constant prayers.

Bro. Benito was planned to be buried Friday, March 29, but no buses were running, so they postponed it until Saturday, because they wanted his brothers and sisters from Panabo to attend the burial, especially the be-

reaved family and the brethren there in Malasila begged us. So, we (ten members, in a rented service car for 1500 pesos) went there for burial and many people attended: Brgy. Officials, Church Workers, friends and relatives. We from Panabo held the funeral service, and committal. People there were so attentive and thirsty for the Word of GOD.

The burial is marvelous and memorable. You know that after the committal they put the coffin in the tomb. There was a quick earthquake that lasted for a few seconds and just occurred only in the place where he was laid. I know God showed His great power in that place, and that Bro Benito was in God's hand. This is the first time that we had experienced such a thing in our lives. It's a marvelous thing that had happened.

You know, a week before he died he tried his very best to study the word of God because he wanted to teach and preach in that place. And the neighbors witnessed that he was always very happy and smiling, and I also observed him when we had leadership training here in Panabo that he was always happy.

*Elder Prudencio Alameda
Church of Christ, Philippines*

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The 2002 Ministers' Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, March 31. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 1. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, on March 29 & 30. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The 2002 Ministers' Conference (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 12, 13 and 14, 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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Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition—Cloth)	18.00
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[†]Cost of mailing will be added.

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 Resurrection and Eternal Judgement
 Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus
 Significant Corrections in the Book of Mormon
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 What about the Book of Mormon
 Why? (Amplifies absence of a "First Presidency" in Scripture)
 Zion and the Temple of the Lord

*Note: Donations will be accepted to cover postage & printing costs. (Multiple copies available: 6-50¢/100-\$5.85 plus postage)

Church of Christ

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AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

The following materials are available on loan to members of the Church of Christ from the Audio, Video, Visual-Aid and Archeology Committee:

SLIDE PROGRAMS WITH TAPED NARRATION

Specify program(s) wanted, anticipated dates of use, and the make of your projector. Slide projectors and tape players are not provided except in the Independence, Missouri, or Phoenix, Arizona, areas.

Allow adequate advance time for handling and shipping, and for your own preview of the programs. Write to the AVVAA Committee, Church of Christ, P.O. Box 472, Independence, Missouri 64051-0472.

LAMP UNTO MY FEET, A (32 minutes)—Directed specifically toward American Indian viewers, compiled from three other programs.

LIGHT AT EVENING (27 minutes)—Story of the bringing forth of the book of Mormon and the restoration of the Church of Christ in the 1820's and 1830.

OUT OF THE DUST (45 minutes)—Tells the story found within the Book of Mormon.

RETURN, THE (12 minutes)—Reveals the significance of the return to the "land of Zion" in 1867 by the members of the Church of Christ, especially as holders of Title to the previously dedicated Temple Lot.

HOLY SCRIPTURES ON AUDIO CASSETTE TAPE

Complete set narrating the King James Version of the Bible New Testament and a set for the entire Book of Mormon. Write to Dan Lawrence, 8420 Lee's Summit Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64139. Specify which set is desired and the estimated length of time you expect to use it.

SERMONS ON AUDIO & VIDEO CASSETTE TAPES

For a sermon on cassette tape write to Dan Lawrence, 8420 Lee's Summit Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64139; on video tape contact your local missionary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS

Send orders for Sunday School materials to Debbie Vogel, 403 West Colonel Drive, Independence, Missouri 64050. All materials are free of charge to members of the Church of Christ, except as noted. Donations will be accepted to cover postage.

Bible Stories to Grow By—52 Lessons about God and Jesus for ages 5-7

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