

Zion's Advocate

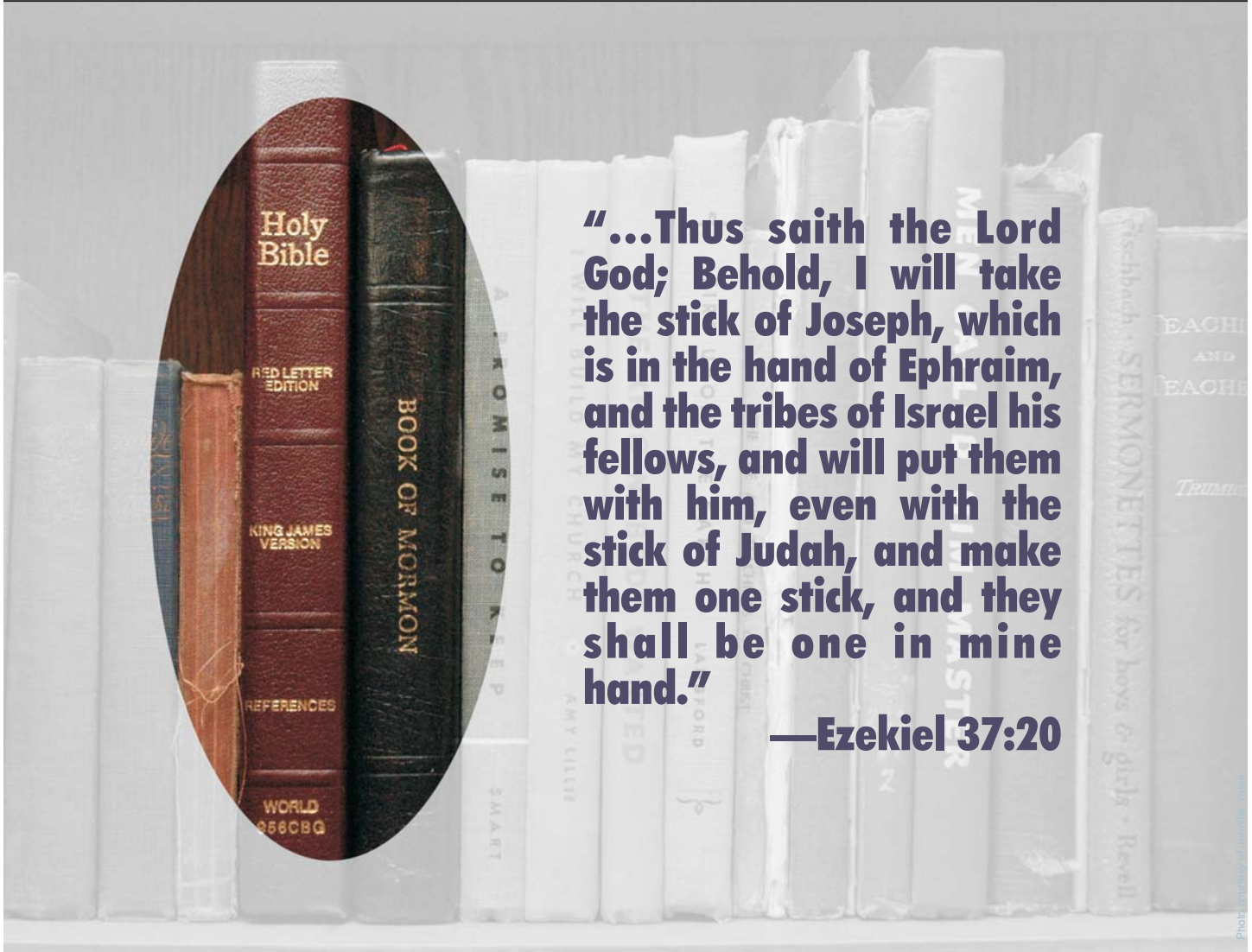
*"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day,
for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost...."*

1 Nephi 3:187

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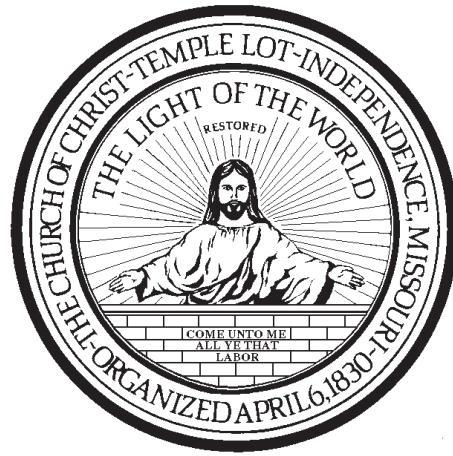


"...Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand."

—Ezekiel 37:20

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To promote Jesus Christ as our only Saviour;
To promote His Teachings and His Church,
the Church of Christ;
To be a voice of warning to His people; to be
Zion's advocate.

ARTICLE

The BOOK of MORMON

A Record of Records



By Apostle Roland Sarratt

The Book of Mormon is an abridged record of the writings of several men who were given the responsibility of recording ancient history by the Lord. The particulars of how it all came together as a book of scripture to be distributed worldwide in modern times should interest any theologian in today's world. However, many have hearkened to the negative teachings of those who have rejected it and have closed their minds to

the validity of the book, i.e. what the book claims to be (Moroni 10:4, 5).

The defenders of the Book of Mormon find evidence for its existence in Ezekiel 37:15-20:

The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying,

Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim and for all the house of Israel his companions:

And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand.

And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these?

Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes

of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand.

And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes.

Each stick contains writings as commanded by the Lord. One is written for the Israelite tribe of Judah; the other is written for the Israelite tribe of Joseph. The Holy Bible is a book of scripture and a history of the Israelites written and carried forth by the tribe of Judah down to the time of Christ. The New Testament portion contains the ministry of Christ. The disciples of Christ preserved it, as well as the Old Testament, for His church, the Church of Christ. The Old and New Testaments were combined into one book, which has been distributed worldwide, and it is the single book of scripture for most churches today which claim a Christian heritage.

The Book of Mormon is a record of a people who were of the Israelite tribe of Joseph. Although the book contains a brief history of the Jaredites, who were not a part of the Israelite nation, the book otherwise is a history and a book of scripture for the descendants of Joseph who was sold into Egypt, and his son, Manasseh. Particularly it was written by and for the natives of the lands known today as the Americas.

The Book of Mormon was translated from ancient plates of ore in the early 1800's by Joseph Smith, who was given the gift from God to translate as a seer. The first edition of the book was printed in 1830 in Palmyra, New York. It is presently printed and distributed by several churches that defend its claim as a true book of history and as being the holy word of God. The Book of Mormon and the Holy Bible are found in the hands of those who believe that the two books are the fulfillment of the scripture in Ezekiel quoted above.

This article is simply an effort to search out references of the various writings of history and scripture mentioned in the Book of Mormon which are yet to come forth. It appears all writings of history and scripture prepared by the Lord through

His servants will in time be brought forth by the hand of God, from wherever they may be hidden and preserved, to be read by those who have faith in God's special works in these last days.

To be able to research the record intelligently we have to follow the story of the Book of Mormon itself. The first writer is Nephi, the son of Lehi (1 Nephi 1:1, 2). Nephi himself wrote an abridgement of his larger record, both of which were called the record of Nephi. The abridgement is what we read in First and Second Nephi in the Book of Mormon. We do not have the larger record. Nephi said these plates were to contain the account of the ministry of his people while the larger plates were to record an account of the kings, wars and contentions of his people (1 Nephi 2:93-95).

The reason for his writing this abridgement was not made known to him but he was prompted by the Lord to do so (1 Nephi 2:96-100). As we follow the story we will find that the Lord did this because of His foreknowledge of things to come.

Toward the end of his life Nephi instructed his brother Jacob to continue writing both records, the larger and abridged records, and this was done for several generations following Jacob's de-

scendants (Jacob 1:1-4; 2:67-69; 5:45-47). The writers were Enos (Enos 1:1, 18-26), Jarom (Jarom 1:1-5), Omni, Amaron, Chemish, Abinadom and Amaleki (Omni 1:1-18). Amaleki gave the plates to King Benjamin (Omni 1:40-45). It appears that King Benjamin did not continue writing the abridged record as had been done by those who preceded him, but he did write the more detailed record as did those who followed him. Up to this point (Amaleki's time) we have covered over 200 pages of an abridged record written by nine different men over a period of three hundred years. Some of the writers have merely written a brief note, while others have labored diligently to give a more complete account of their ministry.

When we read the book titled, "Words of Mormon" we briefly jump forward over 500 years in time. Mormon was a descendant of Nephi who was also prompted of the Lord to write an abridgement of the larger records which were left in his care. He was witnessing the final end of the Nephite people as they continued to fight against the Lamanites. Under very hard circumstances Mormon labored to do this great work with only limited knowledge as to why he should do it.

After Mormon had made an abridgement of the larger record of Nephi, and of the same period of time which Nephi, Jacob and the others had written their abridgement, he found the plates containing their abridgement and decided that he should place those plates in with his plates (Words of Mormon: 1:4-11). He also continued to abridge the writings of King Benjamin and his son Mosiah. Mosiah gave the plates to Alma, the son of Alma (Mosiah 13:1, 2) and the writers continued to pass the records down from father to son: Alma (Alma 17:31-33; 20:100), Helaman (Alma 29:63; 30:1, 14-17), Helaman, the son of Helaman (Helaman 2:33; 5:140), Nephi, Nephi, the son of Nephi (3 Nephi 1:1-3, 46), Amos (4 Nephi 1:22, 23), Amos, the son of Amos (4 Nephi 1:24) and Ammoron, the brother of Amos (4 Nephi 1:56-59). From King Benjamin's time to Ammoron's time was around five hundred years. This included the coming of Christ to the Americas and the two hundred years of righteousness and peace among the people on this land.

When Mormon was ten years old Ammoron came to him and told him where the records were hid and instructed him to go there

when he was twenty-four years old (Mormon 1:1-6). Mormon did so and he wrote an abridgement of all those larger records beginning from Nephi, the son of Lehi, to Ammoron's writings. He continued writing the larger record and the abridgement until just prior to his death, which covered the history of this people for nearly one thousand years (Mormon 1:42-45). Just before his death Mormon turned the plates over to his son Moroni (Words of Mormon 1:1-3; Mormon 3:7, 8).

Moroni continued to write for a time after Mormon's death (Mormon 4:1-3). He wrote a brief history from the records of a people known to us as the Jaredites (Ether 1:1, 2). This history goes back to the time of the tower of Babel and comes forward to the time the Nephites and Lamanites had inhabited and spread out upon the land of promise, around two hundred years before the coming of Christ.

The Book of Mormon history tells of three migrations of people coming to the Americas: the Jaredites from the Tower of Babel around BC 2000, Lehi and his people from Jerusalem, BC 600, and another group coming from Jerusalem just a little later than Lehi who were led here by Mulek, the son of

Zedekiah, king of Judah (Helaman 2:129). The people of Mulek had no records, but a genealogy was written of their fathers which was not recorded in the Book of Mormon, but in another record (Omni 1:26-33). They occupied the land called Zarahemla when the Nephites discovered them.

Moroni finished his writings and then hid up the plates that were to come forth in the latter days to the Gentiles (Moroni 10:1, 2). It is apparent that not all the plates were hid up together (Mormon 3:8; 3 Nephi 12:1-5).

Church history tells us of an incident which happened early in the translation of the Book of Mormon. Joseph Smith began translating from the plates by using the "interpreters," with Martin Harris acting as scribe. When one hundred and sixteen pages of manuscript were written Martin Harris requested Joseph to let him take the manuscript to show his wife and some friends to see. Joseph was reluctant, but finally allowed him to take them. As a result the manuscript was lost and the Lord wouldn't allow Joseph to retranslate that part of the record again.

We suppose Mormon's abridgement of Nephi's larger record was the manuscript which was lost. The

Lord, foreknowing that was going to happen, prompted Nephi and Mormon to write an abridgement of the same period of time. We don't have Mormon's abridged account but we do have the abridged account written by Nephi, Jacob and Jacob's descendants.

Let us now give a brief account of the records, which are mentioned in the pages of the Book of Mormon which we do not have today. Some we can put names to, but there are others that are a mystery to us. We believe the Lord has led other peoples, other than the Nephites, to various lands unknown to us, and He has caused them to write His word.

THE LARGER RECORDS CALLED THE RECORD OF NEPHI FROM WHICH THE BOOK OF MORMON HAS BEEN ABRIDGED

Nephi began writing the large records, which he called the Record of Nephi, six hundred years before Christ. That record ended with Mormon's writings around three hundred eighty years after Christ. The plates of that large record are yet to come forth to be translated.

WRITINGS OF LEHI

Nephi referred to the writings of his father, Lehi. Although Nephi quoted some of Lehi's words, we do not have

all of them (See 1 Nephi 1:15-17).

PLATES OF BRASS

The "plates of brass" were in the hands of Laban in Jerusalem at the time Lehi and his family commenced their journey into the wilderness. That record contained the five books of Moses, including the creation of the world and also of Adam and Eve and the prophecies of the holy prophets down to the time of the reign of King Zedekiah (1 Nephi 1:159-163). It was kept and preserved by the tribe of Joseph. There were names of some of the prophets mentioned which we do not have in the Holy Bible today: Zenock, Neum and Zenos (1 Nephi 5:240-242).

Laban was a descendant of Joseph who was sold into Egypt, as was Lehi (1 Nephi 1:165-168). The Lord directed Lehi to send his sons back to Jerusalem to obtain the brass plates from Laban. Laban's reaction was to kill anyone who tried to get his records and the sons of Lehi had to flee for their lives. Nephi succeeded in obtaining the plates, but he had to take the life of Laban to do so. By the command of God Nephi slew Laban with Laban's own sword. Nephi then took the plates of brass and Laban's servant, Zoram, with him to the camp in the wilderness.

From the description given by Nephi, the record contained in the plates of brass is essentially a duplicate history of most of the Old Testament of the Holy Bible that we have. Nephi was shown in a vision the book, which we know as the Holy Bible, coming forth by way of the Gentiles (1 Nephi 3:157-164). It was the Lord's will that both peoples, the Jews at Jerusalem and the people of Lehi who came to this land, should each have a record containing the creation and the Mosaic Law, as well as the several prophecies of the prophets down to the time Lehi left Jerusalem.

The plates of brass were written by the tribe of Joseph, the Joseph who was sold into Egypt. It was written in Hebrew but the tribe of Joseph, being half Egyptian, also had a language called "reformed Egyptian." This was the language in which the abridged account was written (1 Nephi 1:1; Mormon 4:98, 99).

THE JAREDITE RECORD

The Book of Ether is the abridged record of the people called the Jaredites. The original record had to be translated by a seer using the interpreters back at the time that the Nephites discovered the people of Zarahemla. Mosiah had the gift to trans-

late and he translated the Jaredite record into their language (Mosiah 5:57-83; 12:12-23). Many years later Moroni, the son of Mormon, abridged that record. The more full record of the Jaredites is yet to come forth.

THE SEALED RECORD OF THE BROTHER OF JARED

The sealed writings of the Brother of Jared were found with the record of the Jaredites. They are to come forth to the Gentiles when the Gentiles exercise faith in the Lord as did the Brother of Jared (Ether 1:86-101).

OTHER TRIBES AND NATIONS HAVE WRITTEN THE WORD OF GOD

In a prophecy given through Nephi, the Lord says this:

For behold, I shall speak unto the Jews, and they shall write it; And I shall also speak unto the Nephites, and they shall write it; And I shall also speak unto the other tribes of the house of Israel, which I have led away, and they shall write it; And I shall also speak unto all the nations of the earth, they shall write it.

And it shall come to pass that the Jews shall have the words of the Nephites, and the Nephites shall have the words of the Jews: And the Nephites and the Jews shall have the words of the lost tribes of Israel; and the lost

tribes of Israel shall have the words of the Nephites and the Jews:

And it shall come to pass that my people which are of the house of Israel, shall be gathered home unto the lands of their possessions; and my word also shall be gathered in one” (2 Nephi 12:67-73).

According to this revelation the coming forth of the word of God has only begun. We realize the fullness of the gospel, in word and in priesthood authority, has been restored, and has given us the opportunity to avail ourselves of the plan of salvation. The Book of Mormon was given to this people in plainness for that purpose, but the Lord has also given it to us as a test of our faith with the promise that more is to be given when we exercise our faith sufficiently.

Nephi, in prophecy, has said: “Yea, wo be unto him that saith, We have received, and we need no more” (1 Nephi 12:32).

In closing, I quote the words of a hymn in our Zion’s Hymnal:

*We limit not the truth of God
to our poor reach of mind
By notions of our day and sect,
crude, partial and confined,
No, let a new and better hope
within our hearts be stirred;
The Lord hath yet more light*

*and truth to break forth from
his word.*

*Who dares to bind to his dull
sense the oracles of heaven,
For all the nations, tongues,
and climes, and all the ages
given?*

*That universe, how much
unknown! That ocean
unexplored!*

*The Lord hath yet more light
and truth to break forth from
his word.*

*From darkness our forefathers
came the first steps of the
way,*

*’Twas but the dawning, yet to
grow into the perfect day.*

*And grow it shall; our glorious
sun more fervid rays afford;*

*The Lord hath yet more light
and truth to break forth from
his word.*

*O Father, Son, and Spirit, send
us increase from above;*

*Enlarge, expand all Christian
souls to comprehend thy
love,*

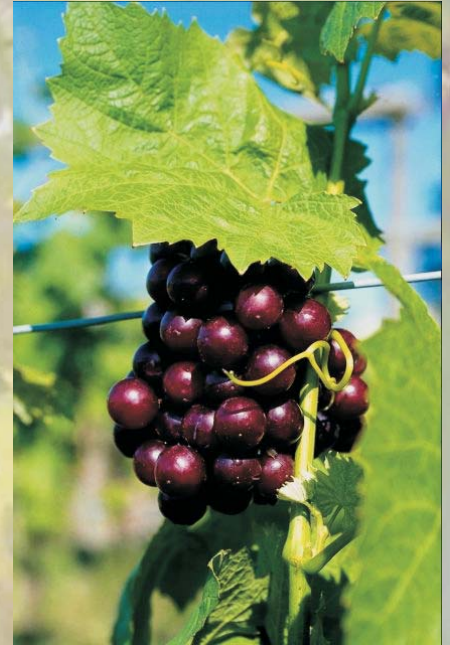
*And make us all go on to know,
with nobler powers
conferred,*

*The Lord hath yet more light
and truth to break forth from
his word.*

Fruit of the Spirit



Gentleness



sionate.

“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you” Ephesians 4:31-32.

By Elder Duane Ely

Gentleness is kindness. It is behavior that suggests a deliberate or voluntary kindness or forbearance in dealing with others. It is not wanting to hurt anyone or give them pain. It is an absence of bad temper or violence. A gentle person is amiable, mild, moderate, honorable, respectable, polite, merciful and compas-

We are commanded to be kind to our fellow man, forgiving one another. This includes our family, our friends, our neighbors, our brothers and sisters, and even our enemies. We need to have a gentle spirit and learn to control our anger.

The following scriptures are examples of the gentleness that Christ demonstrated while he walked on

earth. He gave us that perfect example.

“Jesus went unto the mount of Olives. And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them. And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery: and when they had set her in the

**“But the fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, Temperance: against such there is no law.”
Galatians 5:22-23**

midst, they say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? Hath no man condemned thee? She said, no man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more” John 8: 1-11.

The scribes and Pharisees were tempting Christ. They were trying to trap Him into answering incorrectly so they could unjustly accuse Him of breaking the law. But Christ handled this situation in a gentle manner and turned their question around

on them. He convicted them to look within themselves, at their own sinful lives, instead of openly condemning their actions.

Christ also treated the woman with kindness. She was guilty of a serious sin and the scribes and Pharisees would have stoned her to death, but Christ was willing to forgive her. He was not condoning her sin, but was giving her an opportunity for repentance. He did not condemn her, but gave her a chance to obtain salvation if she was willing to “sin no more,” and stop living in adultery. Christ is very kind and loving and wants everyone to obtain eternal life. But if this woman had continued to live in sin and had not heeded His words she would surely have lost her soul.

“And it came to pass that he commanded that their little children should be brought. So they brought their little children and sat them down upon the ground round about him, and Jesus stood in the midst: and the multitude gave way till they had all been brought unto him. And it came to pass that when they had all been brought, and Jesus stood in the midst, he commanded the multitude that they should kneel down upon the ground.... And they arose from the earth, and he saith unto them, blessed are ye be-

cause of your faith. And now behold my joy is full. And when he had said these words, he wept, and the multitude bear record of it, and he took their little children, one by one, and blessed them, and prayed unto the Father for them. And when he had done this he wept again, and he spake unto the multitude, and saith unto them, Behold your little ones. And as they looked to behold, they cast their eyes towards heaven, and they saw the heavens open, and they saw angels descending out of heaven as it were, in the midst of fire; and they came down and encircled those little ones about; and they were encircled about with fire; and the angels did minister unto them, and the multitude did see and hear, and bear record; and they know that their record is true, for they all of them did see and hear, every man for himself;” III Nephi 8:12-14, 22-26.

Christ demonstrated His gentle love towards the little children. Here He blessed each one of them, and then the angels descended out of heaven to minister unto them. Christ has a great deal of love for all of His children and He cares about each one of them. In Matthew 18: 3 we read, “Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.” Christ is

gentle with us but He does require us to commit our lives to Him.

Goodness

Goodness is virtue. Virtue is goodness that is consciously or steadily maintained even in spite of temptations. It is a zeal for truth and righteousness, and a dislike for sin. It is love in action. It is moral excellence, generosity, honesty, uprightness and integrity.

“And behold, it is written also, that thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy; But behold I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them who despitefully use you and persecute you, That ye may be the children of your Father who is in heaven...” III Nephi 5: 89-91.

We are commanded to love our enemies and to do good to them that hate us. This may be a real test of our righteousness. We live in a world that is filled with hatred, a world that says it is all right to hate your enemies. Some even profess that it is your duty to hate your enemies. But if we are to be the children of our Heavenly Father, we are to do good to

those that hate us and persecute us. Jesus Christ set the example for us and it is what He has commanded us to follow. This will certainly separate the true followers of Christ from the rest of the world.

“Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life” Proverbs 31:10-12.

God puts a high value on virtue. This scripture talks about a virtuous woman whose worth is far above rubies. Rubies are a precious stone and they are of great value to man. Virtue is precious to God and it is of great value to him. A virtuous woman remains righteous even when being tempted, and she does good all the days of her life. She makes a conscious effort to do what is right and to avoid evil. This is a good example to all of us on how we should manage our lives.

“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son

ask bread, will give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets” Matthew 7:7-11.

The natural man can overcome evil and give good gifts to those that he loves. But this does not compare to the good things that God has for all those that serve Him. God knows what we need and He will provide those things for us if we are faithful to Him. God has blessed us in so many ways that we cannot even count them all. His goodness is far above ours, and He has prepared unspeakable and wonderful things for us. But if we are to receive these things from God we must freely do good to those around us. We are to treat others the same way that we want to be treated. However, it is not just doing good to others that God requires. We need to do the right thing in all aspects of our lives.

Christ Lives

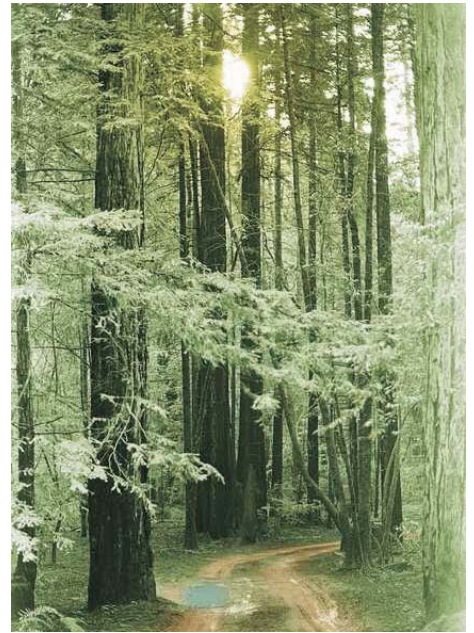


Dear Brothers in Jesus Christ, I was married to my wife, Mirna Rebeca Chan, when we were sixteen years of age. Since I did not know Christ my life was very sad at this time because of alcohol and the things of the world. I was called by the Spirit of Christ to the waters of baptism in 1992. I began to worship the Lord, but without an understanding of His truths. I began my “new life” confused about the commandments of God, and for this rea-

son I fell into errors again the following year. I was surrounded by the seven angels of Satan as it says in St. Luke 11:26 and my life was worse than it had been in the beginning.

But in 1995 a most marvelous miracle took place in my life. Because of the prayers of our pastor, Elder William Serralta, my mother and the brethren of the church, the Lord took compassion on me. Christ rescued my life and transformed my being. Because of many testimonies I now understand the miracle the Lord performed for me and my wife, even as the water was transformed into wine so long ago. My brothers, I write this to tell you that Christ lives and is all powerful.

After a few months had passed the evil spirit began to tempt me once again. This time I was not tempted by vices or things of the flesh, but it was a battle against “...the rulers of the darkness of this world...” In April of 1997 a group of Jehovah Witnesses came to my



PATHLIGHTS

home and began to speak of their doctrines, speaking ill of the Church of Christ. Later a group from the Church of the Latter Day Saints came to teach me. On another occasion people from the Adventist Church came, offering me opportunities to labor in their missions. At first I did not recognize that all of these were but evil designs of the Devil. Yes, I say this because one group denied the power of Christ, another denied the need of one

baptism, and the other had changed the revelations of God and believed in the "baptism for the dead." On this occasion I began to be more confused than when I had been living in

Scriptures to prove what had taken place in my dream. I saw that the Scripture did say what I had heard in my dream. Some days passed when I had another dream. In my dream I

elation that which men are unable to do. I always plead that if it is His will, He will give me the opportunity to labor in His vineyard. Amen.

Oh, how beautiful it is when the Lord God manifests His truth by His Holy Spirit!

*Your brother in Christ,
José Esaúl Ku
Dzán, Yucatán*

the vices of the world.

The power of God is so great: At this time it began to work in helping me find a solution. One night I felt led to pray about my problems in the church. Afterward I testified to the congregation that which had occurred and I asked them to pray for me. During the next four days I prayed to God without ceasing, because those groups continued to visit me: one would come, then another and then the other. One night the Lord gave me a dream. I dreamed that I was in a tomb, but was shouting, "I am still alive!" There came from the heavens a hand and raised me up, but it did not remove me from the tomb. I was shown all the world, and a voice told me, "This is the world: You must test the spirits, to know if they are from God or not." Then this voice said, "This is written in 1 John 4:1."

In that same hour I awoke, crying, and went to find my

saw a congregation singing hymns, but I did not recognize who it was until I drew closer to see, and I saw it was the members of the Church of Christ. I saw our Pastor, Elder Serralta and I also saw Brother Donald and Brother Alvin and there was a great multitude. I saw that they had hold of a book, but I could not see what it was. It was like a great scroll and they said, "Come here, this is for you." Because of the multitude I could only draw closer little-by-little until I arrived in the sanctuary. There it was as if it had been engraven on the wall behind the altar— "The Church of Christ, the Light of the World." I stood there in that congregation singing and speaking the Word of God. Oh, how beautiful it is when the Lord God manifests His truth by His Holy Spirit!

It was about 2:00 A.M. when I awoke more happy than I had ever been, because God had shown me through His rev-

(Note: Several years ago Brother Esaul was called to be an elder in the Church of Christ. He now serves as the pastor of the Mayapán Local and he ministers on a regular basis to the congregations of Rancho Kancabchén and Chunhuhúb, Quintana Roo. He has accompanied me on trips to Honduras twice. Don McIndoo.)

God Showed the Way

Years ago I was going through a very difficult time in my life. I laid awake most every night crying and just not knowing what to do. I had to take pills to go to sleep and more pills to wake up. I had been to several different churches in my area but just never felt at home. I had been raised Catholic so I knew I should pray, but didn't understand the part about bringing your troubles before God.

While I was helping at a local food pantry stocking shelves and talking to the owner he invited me to his church. The following Sunday I headed out on my way to meet him. My path took me past the Church of Christ in Bradley, Michigan. I had driven right past the church for about fifteen years. This day, for some reason, my car turned into the parking lot. I didn't think I knew anyone who attended there. I went in after the service had begun. I sat glued to my seat as the sermon addressed my situation to a "T". I left just before the singing was done so I couldn't be caught by a church member that might want to talk.

I was impressed by the message, seemingly written just for me, yet I had no intention of going back. The main reason, I remember thinking, was because of

the Book of Mormon. The whole week after the service, in my mind, I went over and over the message that had been given by Elder Adam Porter.

The next Sunday I headed out to church. I had no plans of going back to the Church of Christ in Bradley. But again, as I was on my way past, my car seemed to turn into the Church of Christ parking lot. I went in. The second message from Elder Adam Porter hit my situation square on again. I sat there in disbelief. How could he know what I was dealing with? There was no possible way he could. I again left the church before anyone could reach me. I pondered over this second sermon all week, still in total disbelief.

I was intrigued, but still come the following Sunday morning, I can honestly say, my destination was not the Church of Christ. When my vehicle again ended up in the parking lot I knew it was more than coincidence. The impossible happened again that Sunday; Elder Adam Porter's message was exactly what I needed to hear. I was dumbstruck.

After the service that morning I didn't run out. I knew beyond a doubt I was meant to be in this church. Even after passing

by the church for over fifteen years, never stopping or having any thought of going there. In fact, I remember thinking they were crazy for rebuilding there after the fire. Who would have thought I would call that church my church?

For the next three years I went to services at the Church of Christ, yet not sure I wanted to become a member. Deep in my heart I knew this was where the Lord wanted me to be, but what about that Book of Mormon? Everything I heard in any message was always backed up by the Bible. By the end of the third year I knew there was no longer any doubt. It was time to be baptized.

The Lord works in many ways. I thank God He literally showed me the way. I am at peace, and I am home.

*Sr. Lana Clairmount
Member of the Church of
Christ in Bradley, Michigan*

Strength in Christ



I had to repent and leave behind all of the bad to follow the commandments of God.

My acceptance of the church came by a dream. I was walking in a very pastoral landscape. The entire area was green and all around me were sheep, white sheep. I walked a path through this field for a very long time and finally I arrived at the end where there was a shepherd holding a staff. As I came close to the shepherd he said, "Finally you have arrived so that I may leave you to watch these sheep." I responded saying, "This is very boring." And he replied, "But you must watch them." I did not want to watch the sheep, but he had told me that I had to do it because it was an order. He handed me the staff and when I grabbed it I felt a strength come over my whole

body. I began to walk and I saw a great light. Then I woke up. When I awoke I felt a great desire to accept God, but I knew that He had told me that I could no longer do things that I had been doing. I could not drink alcohol or beer and I could no longer keep friends who would take away my desire to get closer to God.

I was in this struggle a long time and I saw that I was losing my family and had to do what God had ordained. I had to repent and leave behind all of the bad to follow the commandments of God. I am happy in the Church of Christ, light of the world. I owe much to God and thank Him.

On the 20th of September, 2005, I was in bed resting at about 8:00 p.m. The room was light and I could see clearly. I rose and went outside to see if the moon was shining so brightly but when I got outside I saw a great surprise. It was not the moon but a star that shown in the direction of the church. This was very important

to me because God was illuminating my own life. In that same moment I called my wife to come and see this vision. She saw the clarity and said, "God is with us." I went inside to pray and search the scriptures. I wanted to find in the scriptures what the light was telling me, and upon reading every indication was that God was talking to me so that I might have a testimony of Him. I was also told to write this vision, that it would go to other brothers and help them, that through this vision others may know that the light of Christ is for all of us. This is all that I can write.

Adalberto Juarez

(Adalberto donated the land for the church building in Oculi. He faithfully maintains the church and witnesses of the Church of Christ to everyone he knows.)

The Bread of Life



My name is Mirian Yolanda Colindres. I was born on the 17th of May 1967. The following is my testimony.

When we are sick we do not visit the doctor because we have faith that God can cure any sickness.

and spiritual poverty, but we do not live like that anymore.

Thanks to God my life has changed since my husband and I were married and I was baptized. I have been greatly blessed by God through every trial and I pray that He will keep my husband and myself always in His hands.

I am very happy that my husband is also is part of the Church of Christ. When we are sick we do not visit the doctor because we have faith that God can cure any

prayers because only two of our daughters are members. I am a mother of 11 children and I am expecting another child this November.

This testimony is for those who do not know Christ, Who is the bread of life and Whom we are nothing without.

I am thankful to my sister Marlene and her husband for requesting this testimony and I would like to send my wishes to all of my brothers and sisters who meet throughout the world. Though we do not know each other now, one day we will meet together...until then.

Mirian Yolanda Colindres

(Mirian is the wife of Luis who is now the Pastor of the Oculi local.)

This testimony is for those who do not know Christ, Who is the bread of life and Whom we are nothing without.

I was raised to be very timid and have always been so, even with my husband who treated me badly because neither he nor I knew the plan of our Savior Jesus Christ. I left my husband because of his treatment of me and because he had other women. He did not care for our children or myself but only for the pleasures of the world. We continued to live in physical

sickness. I thank God that He has blessed my family not to have sicknesses.

I am also thankful for our brothers and sisters in the United States who remember us in their prayers. Also, I thank God for our brother Roni and his wife who always remember us in prayer and who are like parents to us.

Please remember us in your

With God All Things are Possible



Dear Brothers and Sisters, Jesus told us, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin**" (John 8:34). Perhaps nowhere can we see the truth of this statement more clearly than in the lives of those with a drinking problem. In my country (Mexico) millions of lives are destroyed because of the abuse of alcohol, and those who misuse alcohol certainly become, as Jesus said, slaves to it. I would like to share with you my testimony.

Before I really knew God my life was filled with woe and sorrow because of the vice of drunkenness. I often worked day and night, and the greater part of what I earned was spent on drinking. Many times I never arrived home at night, lying drunk in the streets. Two times I was taken to jail.

Meanwhile my wife, waiting for me at home, was crying and worrying about where I was. She was suffering for my errors and begged me to quit drinking, but I was unable to do so.

I told my wife that I was going to quit drinking, but I felt sure that I was unable to break the habit. My wife had attended the Church of Christ once in a while with my mother, who lived in a little town called Uayalcéh. She had heard how the brethren prayed, and so she began praying for me. About this time Brother Roger Can came to our city of Mérida and asked our neighbor if he could hold church services in her home, but the neighbor declined to do so. Then he asked my wife if he could hold church services in our home and she was willing to do it. He held services there, and later Elder Plácido Koyoc Yam was responsible for the services. I did not enjoy the services and on those days when there were services I did not come home early; I preferred to go to a movie because I did not want to hear the preaching. At times I would arrive home in the middle of a service.

These brethren counseled me to leave behind the things of the world, and I did begin to attend services once in a while. One day I returned to our home town of Uayalcéh with my wife for a celebration and a dance. That night I dreamed that I went to the dance, and in the dance hall I saw fire falling from the ceiling. My wife begged me not to go to the dance because God was calling to me, but I didn't pay any attention to her. I went to the dance and I got drunk. I spent all

my money and was robbed of my ring. With this my wife had enough and told me she was going to leave me.

I promised her that I would change; that I would serve God, and I did begin to go to services regularly. However, I felt that I would never be able to quit drinking. But one night as I listened to the words of a hymn, "My Redeemer," I felt the power of the Spirit of God. I began to cry and then understood that I must serve my God. Then I heard a sermon which explained how with men many things are impossible, but with God all things are possible. I began to plead for the help of God, and the Lord granted me that for which I asked. I was able to worship God with all my heart and I made a covenant with Him. Today I am very happy serving my God. I enjoy participating in the church reunions and the study of the scriptures. Now I never feel alone: whatever sickness or problem we have, God is present to help us. We have received many blessings while in the hands of our God.

*God bless you each,
Sergio Uluac
Mérida, Yucatán*

(Note: Brother Sergio was an elder in the Church of Christ, serving as the faithful pastor of the Mérida Local until his untimely death in a tragic accident that took the lives of five of the members of this congregation.)

Missouri Reunion 2007



On Friday morning we entered into the House of the Lord at the Temple Lot in Independence, Missouri, for the opening prayer service of the 2007 Church of Christ Missouri Reunion. Elder Andy Brantner and Priest Bill Malone were in charge. Br. Bill told us we need to be active in our service to God and to others—to humble ourselves sufficiently that we may be used in some way. Many voices were then lifted in prayer, and many testimonies followed. Just two of them are:

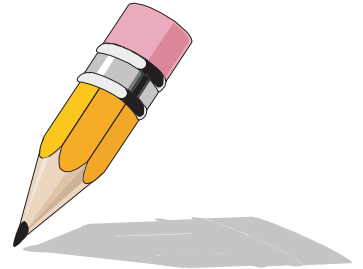
- A brother told of the inspiration to a brother many years ago to begin a visiting ministry program within the church. It went beyond Missouri into Oklahoma. The brother passed away, but the program has kept working, and it's even grown. He sees the hand of God working; the Spirit is resting upon those to do His will, and he rejoices.
- A brother told us in detail of a day's work in the missionary field in the Philippines. He gave us many examples of how much effort is going forth to be able to reach a people God has prepared to

hear His Gospel. It is wonderful to see how they treasure up the Gospel with the special efforts they put forth under very extreme conditions. He asked us to remember the work in the foreign fields.

Our first sermon of the Reunion was given by Elder Gerald Cox. Br. Gerald used the first chapter of Hebrews to show us there is a "better way of life." Br. Gerald then told us the answers to five common questions asked of Christians: Why did Jesus have to be born? (John 1:18); Why did Jesus have to die? (Gal. 1:4); Why was Jesus resurrected? (1 Corinthians 15:14); Why did Jesus have to ascend, and what happened to Jesus? (Hebrews). Br. Gerald read Psalms 46 where we are told to "be still and know that I am God." This means to settle down and let God lead. He also taught us the "Let us" exhortations of Hebrews 4, 6, and 10. He read Hebrews 13:13-16, and admonished us to follow these exhortations.

Our afternoon sermon was given by Elder Brandon Tarbell. Br. Brandon told us that as he and his family drove here from New York he was thinking of the Holy city, New Jerusalem, which will be built here. He hopes he will be found worthy of being part of the Elect, those chosen of God, those who will have repented, been baptized, have entered in and endured.

Br. Brandon read from 2nd Nephi 13:27-30. He admonished us that we have to be more righteous! Enduring is to press forward, not to stand still. We need to feast on the words of Christ, as in 2 Nephi 14:4. Br. Brandon read John 1:1 where it tells us the "Word" is Christ. If we had all our questions lined up to ask Jesus He would answer, "It is written." Pressing forward is "Enduring." Reading our scriptures is a



requirement.

Br. Brandon read Alma 5:33-39. We are admonished to awaken to a sense of our duty to God. Also, in Alma 10:27, we are told not to procrastinate the day of our repentance. We must press forward to be called "the elect."

We were warned in Revelation 12:9 that Satan has many deceptions. God is unchanging and will not deceive or tempt us: that is Satan's work. Satan is deceiving the whole world into believing "freedom" is to do whatever we want. What we have is the freedom to serve God and Christ. He read Ether 1:30-33 to show us that we cannot be swept off this nation if we are doing what God directs.

Br. Brandon read from Alma 5:38-39, where we are told our differences are seen by our humility and gentleness. We are commanded to walk blameless before God: be humble, temperate and diligent. In Alma 19:114 we are told of humility and to keep PRIDE out.

Br. Brandon read Malachi 3:6-10. We have a duty to give Him what belongs to Him. Our duty (in Matthew 5:14-16) is to be an example and "let our light shine"...this is not an option, it is a requirement. In Matthew 22:1-14 we are told, "many are called but few are chosen." Awaken to responsibility. Do not procrastinate awakening to your sense of duty to

God!

Our evening sermon was given by Elder Randy Sheldon. Br. Randy explained to us the contrast between believers and unbelievers using Ephesians 6. The unbeliever has no protection against the world and is in a state of confusion. We must strive to become righteous to have the protection we need from Satan's darts. A Christian has some protection and hope but without his Scriptures is unprotected.

The will of the Father is that we have a united church, that we have no other gods before Him, that we do not forsake gathering together, that divorce stops, that adultery and fornication stop. We need to separate from the world and its evils for a friend of the world is an enemy to God. The will of our Father is for us to exercise our faith and rely on God. There should be teaching of a spiritual nature in our homes. Parents should all be pleasantly ignorant of worldly entertainment, and teach the Scriptures to their children. We should ask God what to do, and then do it! Be like a faithful dog waiting for his master who just can't wait to do his master's work! There should be a mighty contrast between the believer and the unbeliever!

The Saturday morning prayer service began with Elder Jim Case and Scott Harris in charge. Opening remarks were given by Br. Scott. He read 2 Nephi 3:28-50, as Nephi pleads to God, "Awake, my soul," and speaks of writing what is on his heart. In verses 51-66 we are told to be contrite and humble. Br. Scott reminded us that the "Reunion" is between us and God. Many voices were lifted up in prayer and many testimonies followed. Just are three of them are:

■ A brother gave an admonition and also reminded us that we are told, "Behold this is not my doctrine, to stir up the hearts of men with anger one against another." God is not the author of confusion. If you are not of the fold of God—of what fold are ye? Humble

yourselves and follow the commandments of God.

■ A sister testified of God's blessings to her and marveled at God's blessings in the efforts at camp. She sees the bond the campers have with each other and the church. She is sad at the lack of desire in other church members—sad at what they and their children are missing. It has to be a priority; then God will make it a possibility. The joy and blessing received will last a lifetime as they partake of the Spirit of God.

■ A brother told us that years ago he had a profound dream and knew he had to tell everyone at church. He was standing on the top landing of the outside stairway here at the old church. He stood there and looked: there was an awful storm, with black clouds covering the entire western horizon. God was telling him there was a storm coming and they (the church) weren't prepared for it. Years later his wife had a dream: that cleaning the church, nothing she did made any difference; she couldn't clean it. He knew what they'd been shown is coming yet. Take this to heart, for the storm is coming and we are not ready. Ask that a stumbling block be not put in your way. Are you willing to let go of things that hold you down? There is a terrible storm coming. We're not ready.

Our afternoon sermon was given by Elder Gerry Case. Br. Gerry told us that he had received an answer from the Lord as to what to preach today. He was told, "Gerry, tell them that my Holy Spirit is working out there in the hearts of men." Br. Gerry told us he longs for an AWAKENING. He read 1 Corinthians 12:1-31, where the body of Christ is spoken of. He referred to Matthew 5:14-17 and also 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

Br. Gerry read Romans 5:1-11. He read from 2 Nephi 13:27-32 and admonished us that we have to study! He read Luke 5:1-11, where we are told that Christ turned men from fishermen to fishers of men. If the Lord tells us to let our nets

down—will we? Will we keep fishing? The Lord is out there working. We need to be awake and ready.

Br. Gerry asked if we learned a meteor was about to strike the earth and all life would be killed. . . what would you do and who would you call? Then WHY haven't you done it? Awaken, and wait upon the Lord!

Our sermon in the evening was given by Elder Robert Hedrick. Br. Bob told us he had been impressed by the Spirit to preach on, "Trusting in the Lord and not leaning unto your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5-6). He will do his best to illustrate that by using the book of Genesis and the story of Abram beginning in the 12th chapter. In chapter 22 we learn God tested Abraham. God told Abraham to take Isaac and use him for a burnt offering. Abraham bound his son and laid him on the altar. Abraham put everything on that altar, even though without his son he would have nothing! Isaac meant everything to Abraham, but he followed God's direction. He put HIS ALL on the altar of sacrifice!

Do we put conditions or limits on what we do or give for God? He wants ALL our will, ALL our SACRIFICE! In 3 Nephi 4:49-50 we are told that God desires of us a broken heart and a contrite spirit. God wants our heart, our life, our future, and that anything less is a polluted offering (Malachi 1). He wants all of us. Anything less is an impure sacrifice, less than our best. If you love someone, a job, a car, a doctrine, or anything more than you love God—you are not worthy (Matthew 10). Christ came and did the will of the Father. We should come with the attitude that nothing comes before God. All we do should be submitted to God's will.

The Sunday morning sacrament service began with Apostle Michael McGhee and Elder Rick Olson in charge. Br. Mike welcomed us to share, grow, glean and trust in the Lord, and he read from John 15:1-8 and 3 Nephi 8. He admonished us that we

have borne fruit but the Lord desires more; to renew our commitment and to receive of His Spirit. He read John 15:9-14 and asked if we are a friend of Christ? He explained that in remembering Him, loving Him and following Him we become His friends. We prepare and build for that day to come when we will see our Friend at the judgment bar.

After the blessing and serving of the emblems we were led into a season of prayer by Br. Mike, followed with many voices in praise and thanksgiving, and the lifting of our concerns for loved ones unto God. The service was then opened to us for the leading of the Spirit, in song, prayers or testimonies bearing witness of God's goodness. Many wonderful testimonies were heard of God's workings amongst His children. Just three of them are:

- A sister spoke of being claustrophobic and having to endure an MRI. She was impressed by the Spirit, "Perfect love casteth out all fear." She got through it praying and clinging to that love. She also told of raising her sons, that one struggled with reading. When he finally took an interest the books he chose were not innocent as they had hoped. He began with the books by Tolkien, then with the Dungeons and Dragons games. The devil used every power on him. He says he believes in God but his life doesn't show it. She testifies that these types of books (including Harry Potter) are NOT INNOCENT! This is a part of the world that we need to come apart from! Her son is now in a mental institution; he was arrested and taken there. She wants ALL of our children to be here in the church. These things have crept in among us; the devil is after our youth. Parents, make wise decisions for your children!
- A brother told us he believes there will be a terrible storm, both physical and spiritual—before our Lord's coming. He believes WE are living in that generation of those who will see His face when

He comes. He reminded us a New Jerusalem is to be built upon this land—here, for the preservation of gathered saints. Christ will come; He'll cleanse the earth and bring peace for 1000 years.

- Another brother stood and bore witness to a dream he had heard at the Tri-State Reunion last year telling of a storm, and wished he had a copy of it. (At that very moment God provided and a copy was handed to him by a sister across the aisle!) He read it to us. This dream was given to Br. Merlin Eddy in which he was shown people lined up single file on a vast area of pure clear ice. The people were slowly walking in a line as if there was a path. All were carrying or pulling luggage. Off in the distance was a large rock island where this line was headed, and there was some sort of stone structure there. Suddenly a storm came with fierce and steady winds. People were being blown off the path. Some people were spared as they let go of their luggage and laid down flat on the ice. Those who had prepared for the wind held picks in each hand which they plunged into the ice to hold on. Many would not let go of their baggage and were swept away. Our brother then commented that he felt the camp theme for this year was very fitting... "Trust in the Lord and lean not upon your own understanding." He commented further that part of our baggage is our leaning on our own understanding; we should be leaning on our Lord Almighty.

The final service for the 2007 Missouri Reunion was to be brought to us by Apostle Roland Sarratt.

Br. Roland told us the topic of his sermon is the power of God, for He spoke and the world was. Paul, in 1 Corinthians 4:20 said, "For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power." God uses His power. Br. Roland read from 1st Thessalonians 1:5. The authority to preach was re-

stored... that is what the ministry preach when out in the foreign fields. People became examples and the work grew. The evidence is in works; changes in lives and attitudes testify of the power of God.

Jesus called men, saying, "Follow me." In Matthew 28:18 Jesus gave the twelve final instructions, giving them all power and the authority. In Acts 1:5 we learn about the Holy Ghost which was to be given to the apostles at Pentecost. They received the power of the Holy Ghost at that time. Reading from Acts 20:28 and 1st Peter 5 we learn that they were told to "feed the flock of God." What sets us apart is our unpaid ministry who are servants to the Lord and His people.

In 2nd Timothy 2:15-16, we are told to study to show ourselves approved. The Lord has already made all the laws; if we change them then we are apostatizing. People can fall away. We cannot humanize the words of God. God is God regardless of whether we like what He says or not.

Paul understood the power of God. In Romans 1:16-17 we read about the power of God unto salvation. We sometimes just don't seem to realize what we have. God uses the weak ones; Br. Roland feels he is among the weakest. God uses whomever He will. We don't decide things, God does. He just uses us to accomplish HIS WILL.

This brought the reunion to a close, sadly. We were also blessed to have had one baby blessing, three baptisms, and numerous administrations. There seems to have been a clear message: "There is a better way, AWAKEN, prepare in righteousness, wait upon the Lord, trust in Him, turn our will over to Him, lean NOT unto our own understanding and behold the power of God."

*May God bless you and yours,
In Love & Gospel Bonds,
Sr. Deb Haines*

Reunion Snapshots



Nicholas Denham and Sarah Brantner from Missouri, both 96 years young! (Not pictured: Sr. Lois Harris who is also 96.)



Jack & Kathy Bell from Texas and parents Enid and Johnny Bell from Colorado.



Musical Presentation of "The Holy Bible" (as originally done by the Statler Brothers) was performed by (L to R) Steven Gill (Lead), Dennis Malone (Lead), David Welch (Lead), Jacob Seibel (Tenor/Alto and Guitar), Daniel Malone (Baritone/Guitar), Milo Housknecht (Tenor/Alto), Jeff Oldham (Bass), and D.A. Vogel (Bass/Guitar). With Kate Malone on the Piano, Andrew Stayton on the Upright Bass, and Martha Bruner (Director). All are from the State of Missouri.



Heather (Palmer) Smith from Washington, Sharon Leikness, Shaela Heard, Czerna Kauffman, and Martha Bruner from Missouri.



Sarah Kimball, Meleah Hedrick and Anna Kimball, all from Arizona.



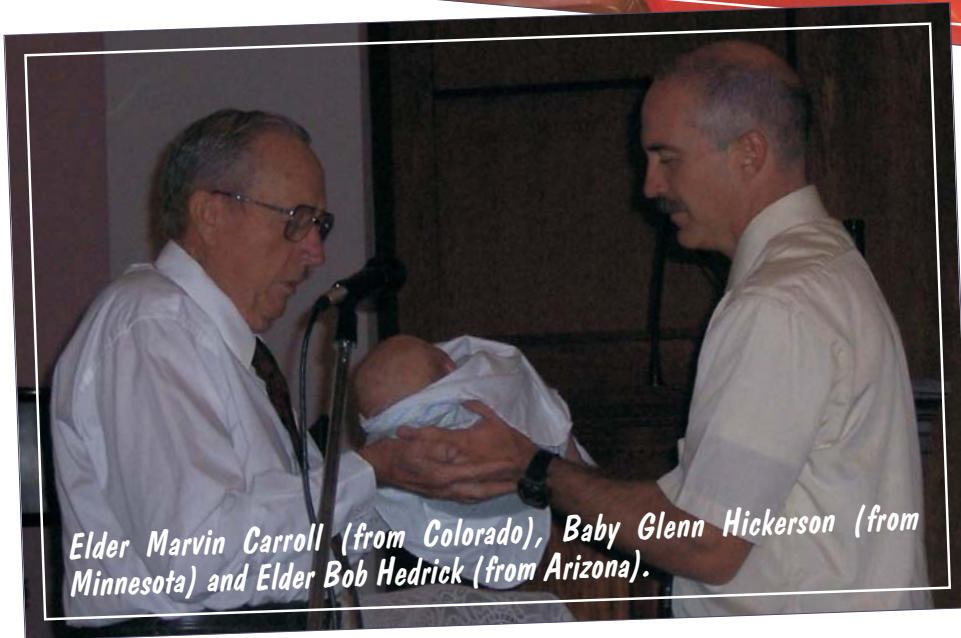
Becky Sheldon and Tabitha (Sheldon) Case from Missouri.



Irene Seibel, Kathy Bell (from Texas), Helen Kidd, Karin Malone, Dave Vogel, Kathy Clark and Harvey E. Seibel, from Missouri.



Helen Kidd (from Missouri), Charlene Rigdely (from Missouri), Jack Bell (from Texas), Eli and Gretchen Tarbell (from New York), Harvey E. and Irene Seibel (from Missouri), Amy Schrader (from Minnesota) and Dave Vogel (from Missouri).



Elder Marvin Carroll (from Colorado), Baby Glenn Hickerson (from Minnesota) and Elder Bob Hedrick (from Arizona).

NOTICES

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Ladies 18 and over: Plan now to attend the 2007 Women's Retreat, October 5th and 6th, at Lake Maurer Retreat Center, Excelsior Springs, Missouri. The cost is \$30.00, which includes one night's accommodations and three meals. There is absolutely no "kitchen duty." This is your time to relax and fellowship with your sisters in Christ. Join a group leaving the Temple Lot at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, October 5, to eat together on the way to the retreat center or go directly to Lake Maurer anytime after 2:00 p.m. for an afternoon of fellowship. There will be scrapbooking supplies and instruction available at that time for those interested. Supper will be served between 5:00-7:00 p.m. The opening session begins at 7:30 p.m. This year's theme is "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me" Psalms 51:10. Over fifty women attended the 2006 Women's retreat. Come and join us this year. For more information or a registration form contact:

Carrie Geier

14609 East Phelps Court,
Independence, MO 64055
(816) 836-0035

Accept this year's challenge: Before the retreat, read the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John from the Bible.

NOTICES

WOMEN'S RETREAT

- October 5-6, 2007
- Lake Maurer Retreat Center, Excelsior Springs, Missouri.
- The retreat program will start at 7:30 p.m. Friday evening.
- Cost: \$30/person (includes one night's accommodation and three meals).
- Scrapbooking supplies and instruction available on Friday afternoon. Bring photos and join the fun or just sit and fellowship.
- For more information contact:
Carrie Geier
14609 E. Phelps Ct.
Independence, MO 64055
(816) 836-0035

CAMP for ALL AGES

- October 13-14, 2007
- Paradise Lake, Missouri.
- Fishing & softball tournaments, hiking, miniature golf, campfire.
- For more information contact:
Matt Gahner
17801 E 25th Terr.
Independence, MO 64057
(816) 373-8756

PHOENIX REUNION

- November 23-25, 2007
- For more information please contact:
Pastor Duane Ely
18814 N. 30th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85050
(602) 569-1516
duanekathyely@aol.com
Assistant Pastor Bob Hedrick
2908 E. Rockwood Dr.
Phoenix, AZ 85050
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CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The **2008 General Conference** of the Church of Christ will commence on Sunday, April 6th. The business sessions will start at 9:00 a.m. Monday, April

7th, at Independence, Missouri.

A **Solemn Assembly** will be held prior to the conference, on Friday and Saturday, April 4th and 5th. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

The **2008 Ministers' Conference** of the Church of Christ will be the three days following the General Conference.

ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be two days of fasting and prayer held at the Temple Lot preceding the General Conference on April 4th and 5th, 2008. We encourage all members of the Church of Christ who are unable to attend these meetings to dedicate the same period to fasting and prayer in their locals or homes that the whole Church may be united in one heart and mind.

*Smith N. Brickhouse,
Secretary Council of
Apostles*

If you or someone you know (member or non-member) would like to be visited by a member of the Priesthood of the Church of Christ, please call or write to the Council of Apostles at Church Headquarters in Independence. The phone numbers and addresses are listed on the inside front cover.

PRIESTHOOD VISITATION



Church of Christ

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS TEMPLE LOT
200 S RIVER BLVD PO BOX 472
INDEPENDENCE MO 64051-0472

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CHURCH OF CHRIST PUBLICATIONS

Zion's Advocate Subscription Rate Members (optional)	\$4.00
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Book of Commandments (plastic bound)	6.00
Book of Commandments Controversy Reviewed	4.00
Book of Mormon (1990 Independence Edition—plastic)	12.00
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Book of Mormon Companion, A (plastic)	5.00
Book of Mormon Companion, A (hard bound)	12.00
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THE FOLLOWING GENERAL CHURCH PUBLICATIONS ARE FREE OF CHARGE:*

- Ancient Prophecies Fulfilled in 1830
- Apostasy from the New Testament Church
- Articles of Faith & Practice of the Church of Christ
- Article of Faith, #1 (concerning God; earliest Restoration history)
- Article of Faith, #9 - (concerning the Bible and Book of Mormon)
- Baptism for the Dead—A Fallacy
- The Book of Commandments - Its Role in the History of the Restoration
- Brief Commentary: Book of Commandments & Doctrine and Covenants
- A Brief History of the Church of Christ
- A Call to National Repentance - Hearken to the Words of Jesus Christ
- The Christian Sabbath is the Lord's Day - Sunday
- Colored Tracts to Native Americans: 1) Book in the Stone Box, 2) Did you Know?, 3) Epistle to American Indians, 4) Promises of God and Straight Talk
- Concerning Marriage and Polygamy
- The Cost of Salvation
- Does it Make a Difference to Which Church You Belong?
- El Libro De Mondamientos - Su Funcion En La Historia De La Restauracion De
- La Iglesia De Cristo (Spanish Book of Commandments Commentary)
- Evidences of the Book of Mormon
- First Presidency or First Apostles?
- God's Promises to Israel
- God's Purpose in America
- The Great Plan of Redemption
- Is Marriage for Time and Eternity?—A Fallacy
- The Last Maya King and the Liberation of Jerusalem
- A Latter Day Apostasy
- The Latter Day Restoration
- Priesthood—Divine Authority
- Principles of the Gospel—Baptism
- Principles of the Gospel—Faith & Repentance
- Principles of the Gospel—Laying on of Hands
- Resurrection and Eternal Judgement
- Sermonettes on the Teachings of Jesus
- Some Misconceptions about the Book of Mormon
- A Synopsis (Compares beliefs of three Restoration churches)
- That Sacred Spot is Definitely Located
- What about the Book of Mormon?
- Why? (Amplifies absence of a First Presidency in Scripture)
- Zion and the Temple of the Lord

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

CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE

To insure your membership records remain as current as possible when moving or relocating, fill out this form and return it to the Church of Christ (Temple Lot), Attn: General Church Recorder, P.O. Box 472, Independence, MO 64050-0472, or e-mail the information to cofcrecorder@sbcglobal.net. One form per family, please.

MEMBER'S NAME: (First) _____ (Middle) _____ (Last) _____

OLD ADDRESS: (Street address) _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

NEW ADDRESS: (Street address) _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

NAMES of all Church of Christ (Temple Lot) members residing at new address: _____

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

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