

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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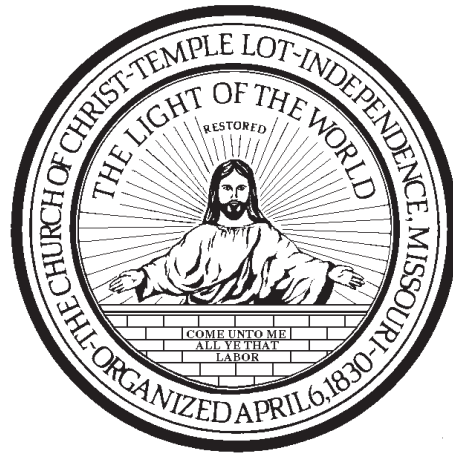
NUMBER 4



*"...And there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."
—John 10:16—*

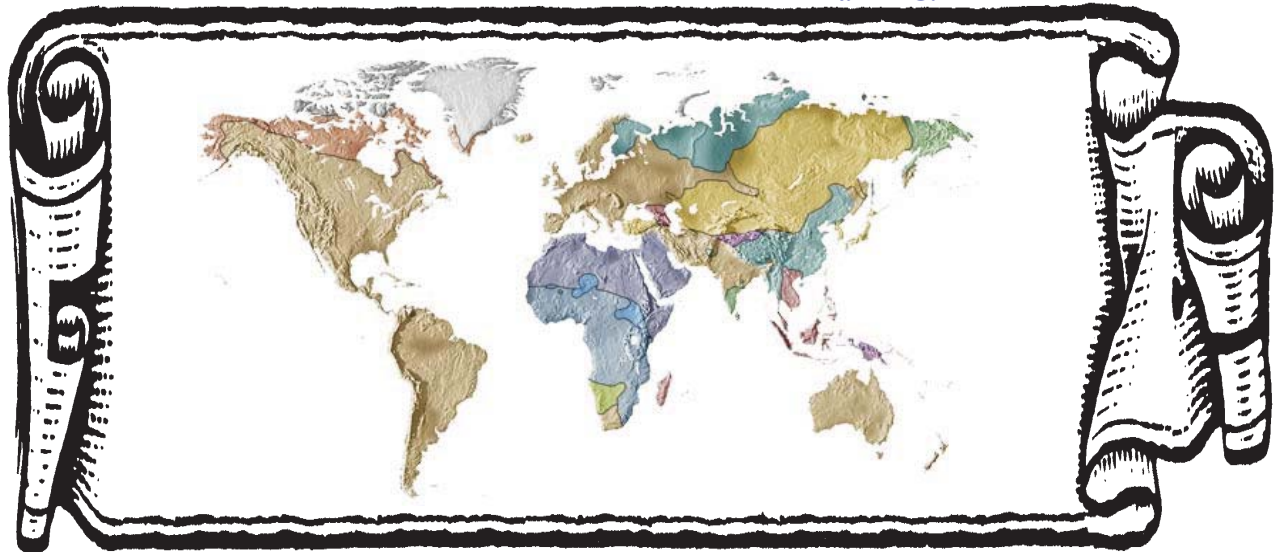
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ZION'S ADVOCATE IS...

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.

God's Reaction TO MAN'S ACTIONS



By Apostle Roland Sarratt

The word *consequence* often comes to mind when I read Bible and Book of Mormon history. When man disobeys God he suffers the consequence. At a point, man may suffer total destruction as a result of disobeying God, such as the flood in Noah's time, and the raining of fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah when those cities became wicked.

It is obvious that there is a time when people become blind to the will of God. Their minds

To many, sin is not sin, but simply the right to live one's life as they choose.

have turned against the truth and they willfully disregard God's warnings. So it is today: many who have known the truth ignore the signs of warning God has given.

In today's world, the willfulness to sin against God has been demonstrated in many ways. Blaspheming God has become so common that it no longer seems ugly to most people. In fact, when it is accompanied by a little humor it actually becomes attractive enough to pass on and embellish with various comments. There seems to be no real fear in showing disrespect to God.

To many, sin is not sin, but simply the right to live one's life as they choose. At that point, an attitude is developed where one stands on his personal right to do what he is inclined to do, even if it is immoral in the eyes of God. His sinfulness is two-fold: attitude and action. If he doesn't suffer a consequence sufficient to cause him to

change his attitude and correct his ways, he will continue in that lifestyle and give a bad example to all those around him.

It is well to reflect upon the scripture that says, "*My Spirit shall not always strive with man...*" (Gen. 6:3). There are several scriptures which indicate God's limit of striving to warn and correct the erring human. When God has provided the greater truth, particularly the fullness of the Gospel of Christ which has come to us in these latter days, we have to think that the consequence of rejecting that greater truth will bring greater punishment.

The scriptures indicate that when a people fall away into wickedness, the Lord will strive with them for a time. When they refuse to repent after they have been warned, He will allow them to be deceived by their own desires and lusts.

Solomon, at a time when it appears he was more righteous and wise, made this statement:

“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Prov. 14:12).

Another scripture that is truly prophetic in describing the popular attitude which we are facing is:

“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter” (Isaiah 5:20).

Jesus Christ warned his disciples of this day of deception:

“Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many” (Mat. 24:4, 5).

Jesus gave His warnings with one specific purpose: He wanted His people to avoid the deception. He gave this warning in Luke 21:34-36:

“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”

This scripture should be

very important to the Bible student. We are warned that there will come a day when deception will be so great that it will lead us into a snare unless we watch and pray. The real test is that we prepare ourselves to be worthy to escape all those things. Surely, the prophetic aspect of Jesus' warning is true and points to our time. We are surrounded by deception on every hand. The Lord warns us not to be so involved in the cares of this life that we fail to be aware of the signs of the time of His coming.

There are so many variations of deception in the world today, even within the so-called Christian movement, that we could easily get lost in an effort to expose them. The burden of this writing lies mostly in the concern of our being influenced by the attitude of disregarding God's warnings which leads to an attitude of rebellion against God. It is not just a matter of a few false teachings; it is the attitude of the world that would leave us open to be deceived by the false teachings. The snare, of which Christ speaks, is more attitude than action because we can reason and justify action by our attitude toward God. For instance, if we think of God as being nothing more than a warm, fuzzy feeling then we can foolishly mold Him into being congenial to all the sins we might desire to commit.

It is imperative that we get the facts straight: we are subject to God; God is not subject to us or our opinions of Him. God is God regardless what we think

of Him. God reveals to us what He wants us to know about Him and leaves us ignorant of some things that we might exercise faith in Him. We prove to Him that we truly believe Him by our efforts to continue to contact Him. If we are content to remain in our ignorance, then He has no reason to strive with us. He will correct and teach us of His ways if we exercise faith in Him. As soon as we get to the point that we think we know it all, then our faith in Him dwindles and He ceases to teach us of His ways.

We are living in the “last days,” also referred to as the “time of the end.” It was revealed to Daniel, that at the time of the end, many would run to and fro and knowledge would be increased (Daniel 12:4). Surely we see running to and fro like it has never been in the history of man with people traveling at great speed from all parts of the world to all parts of the world. Also, knowledge has been increased beyond what man has ever known with all types of technology in these last days. It appears that God has poured out an abundance of blessings giving us knowledge of temporal things, but that does not mean that man has increased in Godly knowledge or wisdom. Many have no real comprehension of the divine source of these blessings and they are not aware that these blessings can be taken away by the same Being Who gave them.

We are nearing “the day of the Lord,” the time when Jesus Christ is to return to the earth.

Many prophecies have been given down through the ages warning us of this time. To the avid student of prophecy, the time is far spent when certain events should have occurred, but the Lord has His own timetable by which He will bring about His acts of consequence. He has made it plain that we will not know when they will occur, except for the various signs that will be given.

The question is: will we recognize the signs when they occur? More importantly, do we know, from scriptural study, what those signs are? Are we looking for them or have we set them aside to give place to other matters that seem more important?

Another question often asked is: what can we do to prepare and protect ourselves if we do recognize the signs that indicate danger and deception?

This last question is the most difficult one to answer because, at present, there is no physical place of protection for us that would separate us from the adverse conditions of the world. We are in a mixed civilization that offers police and military protection from the greater threats to our physical safety while our spiritual well being is subject to all kinds of influences that can endanger us by leading us into false security and the evil ways of life.

Being taught the moral standard given in the fullness of the gospel, we might despair having to rub shoulders with those who live immoral lives in our places of employment,

schools, etc. Our association with others in this world requires being an example to them while we are trying our best to refrain from the bad influences that are so common in today's social activities.

Ether 1:31-35.)

We also have reason to believe that somehow in the process of His sweeping, the righteous will be gathered and a place of safety will be established. That happening can't be

He has promised to protect us if we remain faithful to Him.

We have to keep in mind the purposes of the Lord. He is aware of our uncomfortable situation and He knows how to remedy the problem. Our patience in the matter is our proof that our desires are worthy of the promises that He holds out to us. He has promised to protect us if we remain faithful to Him. His protection is both spiritual and physical. The spiritual protection is the most important for some of us may have to give our lives for His cause just as others have done in earlier times.

We have reason to hope for the time when the righteous will be separated from the wicked, when we and our families will not have to endure the influences of the wicked any longer. The events leading up to that time are prophesied in the scriptures. The Lord has declared in His word just how long He will strive with those to whom He has given His word. When the people reject His word and become ripened in iniquity, the Lord will sweep them off His promised land. (See

far off for certain signs have been given. Nahum, the prophet, gives us the assurance that the Lord will recount and prepare His people. The sign of that happening is the chariots will be with flaming torches, shall rage in the streets and shall run like the lightnings (Nahum 2:3-5). Surely, the prophet has seen our day.

Has the Lord had reason to recount His worthies? How many have embraced this gospel and have fallen away to follow leaders of deceit and false teachings? Many have accepted new and strange doctrines which satisfy their carnal desires. Their teachers easily convince them by toying with their emotions and sympathies.

Jesus Christ spoke to the Gentiles of our day through Mormon which could apply generally to most of the more developed nations of our day:

"Hearken, O, ye Gentiles, and hear the words of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, which he hath commanded me that I should speak concerning you, for, be-

hold he commandeth me that I should write, saying, Turn all ye Gentiles, from your wicked ways, and repent of your evil doings, of your lyings and deceivings, and of your whoredoms, and of your secret abominations, and your idolatries, and of your murders, and your priestcrafts, and your envyings, and your strifes, and from all your wickedness and abominations, And come unto me, and be baptized in my name, that ye may receive a remission of your sins, and be filled with the Holy Ghost, that ye may be numbered with my people, who are of the house of Israel” (3 Nephi 14:1-3).

This scripture is factual. The Gentiles are guilty of lyings, deceivings, whoredoms, secret abominations, idolatries, murders, priestcrafts, envyings and strifes. Apparently the Lord has named the most significant evil doings, but also included all sins under the terms of wickedness and abominations, there being so many that He has not included them in this list.

This scripture was written in ancient times, but it came to the Gentiles as published scripture over one hundred and seventy years ago. It is apparent, that on the most part, the Gentiles have not heeded those words but have increased in wickedness. They are to turn from their evil doings, come unto the Lord, be baptized in His name, receive a remission of

their sins and be filled with the Holy Ghost. If they do so, they will be numbered with the House of Israel.

Jesus also prophesied concerning the Gentiles of our day when he ministered to the Nephite people when He appeared to them:

“And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you, At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all the people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner of hypocrisy, and murders, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and of secret abominations; And if they shall do all these things, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fullness of my gospel from among them; And then will I remember my covenant which I have made unto my people, O house of Israel, and I will bring my gospel unto them; And I will shew unto thee, O house of Israel, that the Gentiles shall not have power over you, but I will remember my covenant unto you, O house of Israel, and ye shall come unto the knowledge of the fullness of my gospel” (3 Nephi 7:34-37).

There is an option still

open to the Gentiles. First, Jesus says, “when the Gentiles shall sin against his gospel.” Then He says, “if they shall do all these things and shall reject the fullness of my gospel.” The Lord gives them a warning which has a consequence. If they reject His gospel, He will bring the fullness of His gospel from among them. Exactly, what does that mean?

He tells us He will remember His covenant which He made to the House of Israel. If the Gentiles reject the fullness of the gospel, we know for sure that the fullness of the gospel will go to the House of Israel and will no longer be available to the Gentiles because the Lord has removed it from them. Today the fullness of the gospel is among the Gentiles and available to them if they choose to accept it. There will be a time when it is not available to them because they have rejected it. Further, the Gentiles will not have power over the House of Israel. There are some significant changes to occur in the near future among the Gentiles, all of which will be the result of the Gentiles accepting or rejecting the fullness of the gospel of Christ.

Jesus goes on to say:

“But if the Gentiles will repent, and return unto me, saith the Father, behold, they shall be numbered among my people, O house of Israel; And I will not suffer my people, who are of the house of Israel, to go through among them, and tread them down,

saith the Father:

“But if they will not turn unto me, and hearken unto my voice, I will suffer them, yea, I will suffer my people, O house of Israel, that they shall go through among them, and shall tread them down, And they shall be as salt that hath lost its savor, which is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of my people, O house of Israel” (3 Nephi 7:38-41).

Having the fullness of the gospel taken from among them is one thing, but to be trodden down by the House of Israel is yet another thing. Both are consequences of rejecting the fullness of the gospel.

What happens when a people reject the fullness of the gospel of Christ? They become subject to their own natural desires and fall away into sin. The Lord sufficiently details the wickedness and abominations that a people are apt to turn to when they reject the truth. He has spoken plainly concerning the consequences of doing so. The prophets have spoken the word of the Lord. We dare not ignore His word of warning!

There is still another warning given of the Lord to the Gentiles significant to our present situation:

“And now I, Moroni, do not write the manner of their oaths and combinations, for it hath been made known unto me that they are had among all people, and they

are had among the Lamanites, and they have caused the destruction of this people of whom I am now speaking, and also the destruction of the people of Nephi; And whatsoever nation shall uphold such secret combinations, to get power

awake to a sense of your awful situation, because of this secret combination which shall be among you, or wo be unto it, because of the blood of them who have been slain; for they cry from the dust for vengeance upon it, and also upon those who build it up.

The consequence of man's wickedness is inevitable and is declared in the Word of God.

and gain, until they shall spread over the nation, behold, they shall be destroyed, for the Lord will not suffer that the blood of his saints, which shall be shed by them, shall always cry unto him from the ground for vengeance upon them, and yet he avenge them not; Wherefore, O ye Gentiles, it is wisdom in God that these things should be shewn unto you, that thereby ye may repent of your sins, and suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain, and the work, yea, even the work of destruction come upon you; Yea, even the sword of the justice of the eternal God, shall fall upon you, to your overthrow and destruction, if ye shall suffer these things to be; Wherefore the Lord commandeth you, when ye shall see these things come among you, that ye shall

“For it cometh to pass that whoso buildeth it up, seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations and countries; And it bringeth to pass the destruction of all people; for it is built up by the devil, who is the father of all lies; even that same liar who beguiled our first parents; Yea, even that same liar who hath caused man to commit murder from the beginning; who hath hardened the hearts of men, that they have murdered the prophets, and stoned them, and cast them out from the beginning.

“Wherefore I, Moroni, am commanded to write these things, that evil may be done away, and that the time may come that Satan may have no power upon the hearts of the children of men, but that they may be persuaded to do good continually, that they may come unto the fountain of all righteousness and be saved” (Ether 3:94-102).

This scripture is seldom read or even mentioned from the pulpit or in our classes. The obvious reason is that we can't prove or sufficiently detect the existence of a secret combination which is planning to overthrow the freedom and destruction of peoples of all lands, nations and countries. Who are they and where are they? We don't know because it is a well kept secret. We are told plainly that we will awake to our awful situation when we see evidence of that secret combination (singular) which is among us.

Won't it be too late when we see these things come among us? Yes, but we, who have the word of God and have studied it to know what to expect, have been warned already. We have been preparing ourselves for the time when these things will manifest themselves. We will not be deceived by them if we are aware of the prophecies. More importantly, we will not have partaken of the attitude of the world in the many self-indulgencies and various types of wickedness.

It is difficult to bring these things to mind without discouraging our people, but the prophecies pointing to our time have been taught for many years. The reality of our situation has been known and declared without apology. The power of deception has increased from the time the fullness of the gospel was restored when the greater number of the Gentiles rejected it. The deception has increased until the world has become full of deviations of religious teach-

ings obscuring the truth as only the devil can do. The truth is masked by a great cloud of untruths.

The reality of our situation has lessened over the years because it has become a depressing subject to many of our members. The "gloom and doom" effect is repulsive to those who struggle with daily cares. The ministers of the church feel obligated to avoid preaching that which will discourage the membership and have felt the more immediate need to concentrate on encouraging them. This can be a dilemma.

What is the will of God in this matter? Certainly we are commissioned to feed the flock that which will nourish their souls. Can we see that the Lord can both feed and warn us at the same time? The simple truth is that we must have the desire to see the greater picture of God's plan. His plan is to bring correction and salvation to those who will heed His word. The increasing deception and wickedness ever about us is not compatible to His plan. The consequence of the ripening in wickedness is about to happen. There are many prophecies in the scriptures telling us of the great success of God's plan yet future. Our hope is to be a part of that plan.

The consequence of man's wickedness is inevitable and is declared in the Word of God:

"Wo unto them that turn aside the just for a thing of nought, and revile against that which is good, and say

that it is of no worth: For the day shall come that the Lord God will speedily visit the inhabitants of the earth; and in that day that they are fully ripe in iniquity, they shall perish.

"But behold, if the inhabitants of the earth shall repent of their wickedness and abominations, they shall not be destroyed, saith the Lord of hosts" (2 Nephi 12:19-21).

The great success of God's work among the children of men is also inevitable and a thing to look for in the future. What more can we want than that which the prophet Isaiah has declared:

Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people.

"Behold, the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

"And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken" (Isaiah 62:10-12).

AN AFRICAN EXPERIENCE



By Apostle Don McIndoo

It was an extremely happy occasion to be able to accompany Apostle Brian McIndoo on his recent trip to Africa. Because of the violence that followed the presidential election last January, no one had been able to travel to Kenya until this trip. Certainly the missionaries in charge of the work in Africa were concerned to see how the work was progressing.

I have always retained fond memories of each of my missionary trips to Africa, but the recent trip, made in June and July of 2008, stands out in my mind. I believe the reason to be the wonder and awe which fill my mind as I have considered the magnitude of God's work with these peoples, their leaders and their ministry.

I have developed a great respect for the ministry here. Elders

Moses, Michael and Simon have divided the western portion of the nation into three areas, one of them in charge of each area. They make great sacrifices to serve the congregations of their respective areas. In addition, Brothers Moses and Michael travel to distant reaches of Kenya, to Tanzania and Congo, which are without ministry. And when we have a meeting with a congregation in one area, it is always a pleasant surprise to see other leaders and members of the ministry who have made great effort to be present and participate. And not only the ministry, but members of other congregations make the journey on foot to be present. Each meeting resembled one of our reunions.

Three long days of travel, and on the fourth we met with Moses, Michael and Margaret in the church office in Kisii. Brian, the two elders and Margaret outlined a detailed plan for our time in Kenya. It had to have been a good plan for it was completed without a hitch, except for one cultural roadblock, the necessity for an entire congregation to be present at a funeral for a member of their village. In addition to maintaining the church's office work, setting up a visiting schedule for our time in Kenya, Sister Margaret made all the arrangements for our special days of Leaders' Meetings, made copies of our lessons for each participant, collated and stapled, saving the ministry hours of extra work. Her home is full of orphan children she has taken in, people

with special needs, etc. An inspiration!

After two days of meetings in Kenya congregations we spent another day of travel, crossing the border into Tanzania. On this trip we were accompanied by Elders Moses and Michael who always help us with translation (and any other problem we might encounter). After crossing the border we stopped in Tarime to pick up Brother Elphas, the leader who coordinates the work in this country, and then drove on to the city of Musoma, on the banks of Lake Victoria. That evening Brother Elphas met with Brian and the two elders to outline our plan of activities in Tanzania.

The next day we drove south along the highway, turning off to go to the Kiabakari area. We stopped at the home of the leader, where we were treated to several chipatis and a cup of hot tea laced with milk and sugar. However, they always had another thermos with sugarless tea for Brian. Then we drove another half-hour along cattle trails into the bush toward the village of Geniva. It would be my turn to preach, and Brian had told me there were about 16 or 17 baptized members here. We arrived at a number of small mud-plastered homes scattered through the brush. One house was much larger, about 18 by 25 feet. Homes and churches are very dark inside for lack of large windows and electricity. This poses a real problem for me, with my eyesight; however, this building was



► ROAD TO GENIVA

well-lighted in the interior by the numerous holes in the grass roof. It was easy to find a spot where the sun shone directly on my books.

Inside were about 15 people singing hymns in Swahili, just as I expected from what Brian had told me. Elphas began our meeting with prayer, greetings, testimonies and song. By the time I was introduced as the speaker there were about 125 people crammed into every available niche. After the sermon there were some more testimonies and then Brian, Moses, Michael and I administered to about 25 people. After this, women began bringing in food and we were served a meal. These people have a keen sense of hospitality. After the meal, we took a number of people back to Kiabakari and drove on another 50 miles to the city of Mwanza.

The next day, Sunday, Brian preached to the congregation of Mwanza. After the service we went to the home of Julius, the leader, where we had a nice meal and visit. On Monday we drove northward

again to the Kiabakari area. One of the leaders met us on the highway and directed us off the road and onto a large trail which soon took us to a number of grass-roofed houses, the village of Pida. Nearby they had tied a cou-

ple of "tarps," made of plastic rice sacks sewn together, into the surrounding trees. Beneath these tarps were a number of chairs and two tables up front. There are only 13 members of the church in this village, but about 90 people were present for the service, many preparing for baptism. Few had books, but they paid attention to Moses' translation of the sermon. After the sermon we were treated to a meal once again.

Then John, their leader, led us back toward the highway where he showed us a piece of land the congregation wished to purchase for a church building. It was a good location, and these extremely impoverished people had raised 50,000 schillings (about \$50) to make a down payment on the land. Again, I stand in awe at their dedication and the way in which the Lord is adding faithful people to His church. We do not see that in the U. S., Mexico or Honduras, where converts are now made with difficulty. But I well remember it was that way when the work first



► GENIVA



► PIDA

began among an impoverished people of Yucatan. The Gospel work thrives in the midst of poverty.

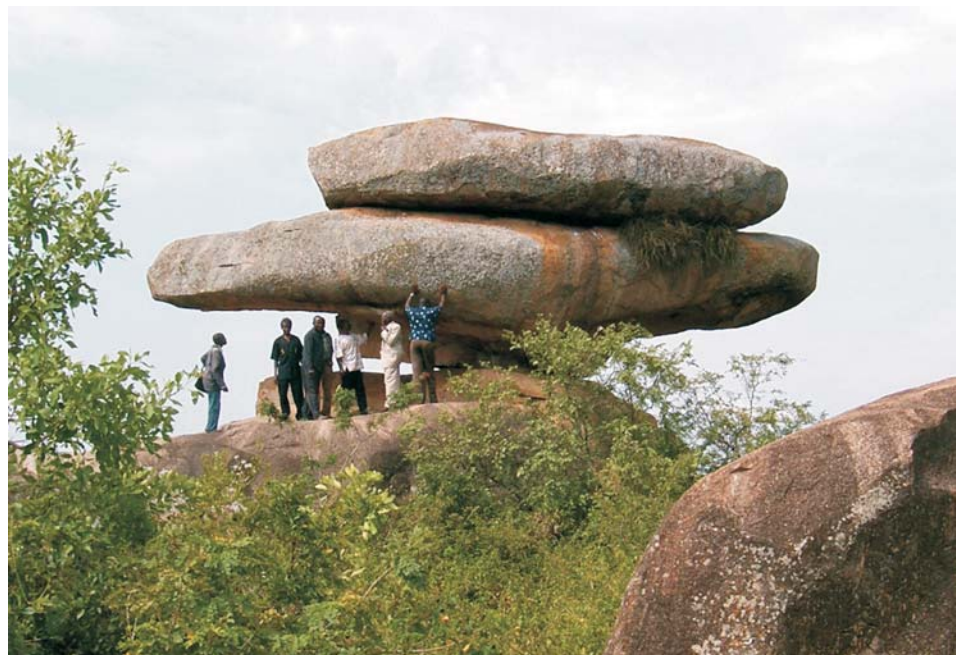
The next two days were spent in Musoma, where we had special classes for the leaders in Tanzania. Brian had two classes about the Scriptural qualifications for the ministry of the Church of Christ, and I had two classes about the prophecy of Jesus concerning the abomination of desolation spoken of in the prophecies of Daniel.

During the two days following we were guided by Elphas to new villages where the work is opening. You cannot say these were villages at the “end of the road” for they were far beyond the last vestige of a road. The first day we drove through the bush, winding our way through the boulders to a village called Nyangero. The setting was marvelous; the kind of view you see on calendars. The people were hospitable, serving us a breakfast of rice, beans and hot cocoa. Then we walked to a shady clump of trees, walled in by huge

granite boulders, where we had our service. There are six members here, but 25 people gathered for the service. After the service we were led back to the house for another meal and then guided on a beautiful walk to view the nearby spectacular scenery.

As we began our next journey Brian asked Brother Elphas if the road would be any better today. “No,” responded Elphas, “it is worse.” We drove on a dirt road for about 45 minutes. Near the town of Kitembe we met Baraka, the young leader of this congregation of Muluma. We drove on another ten minutes and he directed us onto a footpath leading into the bush of Africa. We wound through clumps of trees, peoples’ front yards, beside fields of corn and cassava, boulders, etc. It got so bad Baraka got out and walked ahead of us through the brush to lead us around the stumps and boulders hidden there. We finally came to the end of “the road” in the yard of a small house.

The owner of the home was one of the members of this group, but he had cut his leg severely and lay on a blanket in the yard. We administered to him and then walked another fifteen minutes to another mud house with a grass roof. Beside the house they had erected a shady area where we would have our service. There



► NYANGERO

were present three young families and a few older people. One of the young women present with her young child in her arms was the wife of Baraka, who had walked there earlier. Brian preached a good, basic sermon about the Church of Christ and its beliefs. After the sermon three young men stood and bore positive testimonies about the work. The young owner of the home where we met stood and said it was only because of the love of God that the Gospel had come to them here in this remote area.

Our last service in Tanzania was with the good congregation of Kitembe, where Brother Elphas is the leader. We had a nice service there in the church building and after the service Brian took a truck full of people through a blinding hail storm back to a river where he baptized a number of them. We then drove back to Kitembe for the confirmation service, followed by a meal for all.

Three services were held in cities or towns of Tanzania, but the



► MULUMA

four services out in “the bush” of Africa will always be memorable to me – the dedication of the congregations and their leaders touched me deeply. They live in areas completely isolated; yet their children walk every day to a distant school

where they learn to read and write Swahili. What a blessing!

Returning to Kenya we continued our services with a number of congregations. I thoroughly enjoy the drives (since Brian is doing the driving) through the beautiful back roads of the Kisii highlands as we go to these churches. We had services at Magwawa, Sai, Nyamrambe and Maasai Kilgoris. People followed along in their Scriptures and I often noticed people taking notes on everything that was said. Often there were people from as many as three other congregations who had walked to the service, so when we left for home the truck was usually overflowing with people we dropped off on our journey homeward. (Kilgoris’ Maasai Congregation.)

On our last Saturday in Kenya we had two services at the church in Kineni, where Brother Moses is the pastor. We picked up a number of people walking along the way. There were members from eleven congregations pres-



► ROAD'S END



► KILGORIS

ent. There were a lot of special numbers and testimonies. I preached the first service and then we went outside and shook hands with over 200 people. The children couldn't get enough of shaking our hands. We were then led into one of the classrooms of the school sponsored by this local for a delicious meal, served up by Nora, Moses' wife and director of the school. Then Brian preached another sermon in the afternoon. On the way home we drove over unbelievable and beautiful back roads dropping off people along the way.

On Sunday we enjoyed two services in Kisii. They meet in a large room of the city library. Our first service with electric lights, big windows, a podium and a pulpit! I almost forgot where I was. That was compounded when Margaret and six young people beautifully sang *How Great Thou Art* in English. Brian spoke in the morning and I in the afternoon. Margaret served the six ministers and leaders a nice lunch in the entryway. After the morning service a

well-dressed visitor stood up and introduced himself as the head of the library, saying he really enjoyed the service and was glad he had come.

The last two days of our services in Kenya were the two days of

Leaders' Meetings for the eight ministers and ten of the leaders in Kenya. The interest, dedication and enthusiasm of these men were inspiring. They are extremely interested in not only the Holy Scriptures, but also the history and geography associated with the Scriptures. A gauge of their interest is seen in the number of searching questions they ask after a study. Many of them long for the day when Brian and Smith can bring them sets of Encyclopedias so they can continue their studies.

I can truthfully say that in spite of the problems that troubled Kenya the work is growing rapidly all the time and the Spirit of the Lord is evident among His children. I just pray that those who helped us, those we traveled with and ministered to, enjoyed the time as much as I did.



► KISII

A CALL TO LEADERSHIP



By Apostle Don McIndoo

Our first installment about the qualities that prepare one for leadership ended with the words of Mayor Giuliani: Vision, Confidence, Creativity, and Optimism. Such qualities seem to be a little contrary to the next important aspect of real leadership we shall consider. Solomon expressed this next quality of good leadership like this: "...For men to search their own glory is not glory" (Proverbs 25:27). Yes, a good leader must develop humility.

Moses is an excellent example of a powerful leader. He overcame the most powerful ruler of that time; he brought God's Word to the world, and he made a nation out of a rabble of slaves. But we never read of him saying to that rebellious people, "We'll do it this way because I said so." Numbers 12:3 characterizes Moses like this: "Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth."

Moses, the Apostle Paul and King

Part 2

Benjamin all assumed that attitude of a servant, and it enabled them to demonstrate some of the world's best examples of leadership. King Benjamin told his subjects,

"For I have not commanded you to come up hither to trifle with the words which I shall speak, but that you should hearken unto me, and open your ears that ye may hear, and your hearts that ye may understand, and your minds that the mysteries of God may be unfolded to your view. I have not commanded you to come up hither, that ye should fear me, or that ye should think that I, of myself, am more than a mortal man; But I am like as yourselves, subject to all manner of infirmities in body and mind; Behold, I say unto you, that because I said unto you that I had spent my days in your service, I do not desire to boast, for I have only been in the service of God. And behold, I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom; that ye may learn that when ye are in the service of your fellow beings, ye are only in the service of your God. Behold, ye have called me your king; and if I, whom ye call your king, do labor to serve you, then had not ye ought to labor to serve one another?" (Mosiah 1:39-41, 48-50).

With these simple words King Benjamin did unfold one of the great mysteries of God. It is a concept little understood by man, for it seems contrary to our reason and our human nature. Jesus taught the concept to His disciples by His example, and then verbalized it when He saw their lack of understanding of the mystery.

"At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye

shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 18:1-4).

Later, when the Lord saw again the personal ambitions of some of the disciples, He reinforced the lesson about this mystery:

"But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:26-28).

A wise person once wrote, "There are not great men except those who have rendered service to mankind." We would all agree that the greatest leader the world has ever known was Jesus Christ. His humility was one of His outstanding characteristics. The Apostle Paul urges Christians who would serve the Lord to follow in His example:

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross" (Philippians 2:4-8).

And so, young people, a leader among Christ's warriors is not necessarily a person of high office; rather, it is one who has lost himself/herself in service to the high purposes of Jesus Christ.

A Philippine Travelogue



Roger Manali and Raffy, our Driver 2004 7



Colorful Tribal Dress 2004 7 8



2004 7 8



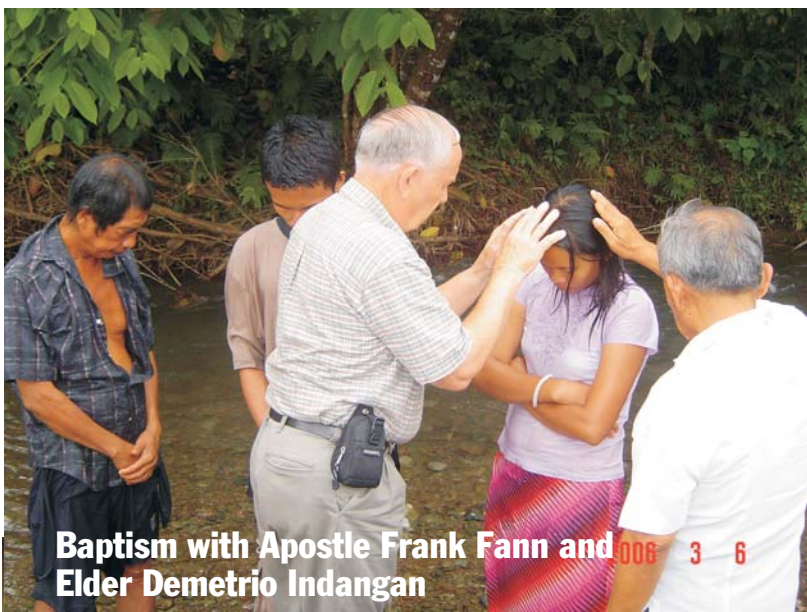
1st Anniversary of the death of Elder Prudencio Alameda 2004 7 7



Teacher Ben Retanal lecturing at Ilang 2007 7 12



Thanksgiving at Pandaitan 2007 11 3



Baptism with Apostle Frank Fann and Elder Demetrio Indangan



2004 7 8



Lecture by Teacher Ben Retanal with self-made Holy Scriptures Exposition Banner



Song Special at the Cabalao Local



Jonathan's Assistant Leader in Toril Mission, Enego, with Raffy on right.



Leaders at a Training Meeting



The future of the Panabo Local



Talent at Mission Pandaitan



Teacher Ben Retanal at New Bataan Mission



Mission Pigdalahan



Grandsons with grandparents Priest Arturo Superio and Elder Tobias Operio and family



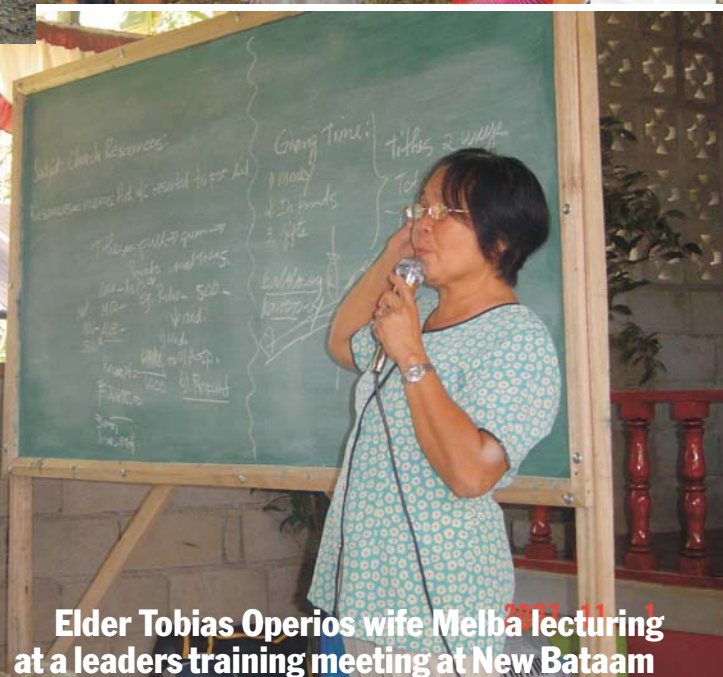
Boys chowing down at Mission Luayon



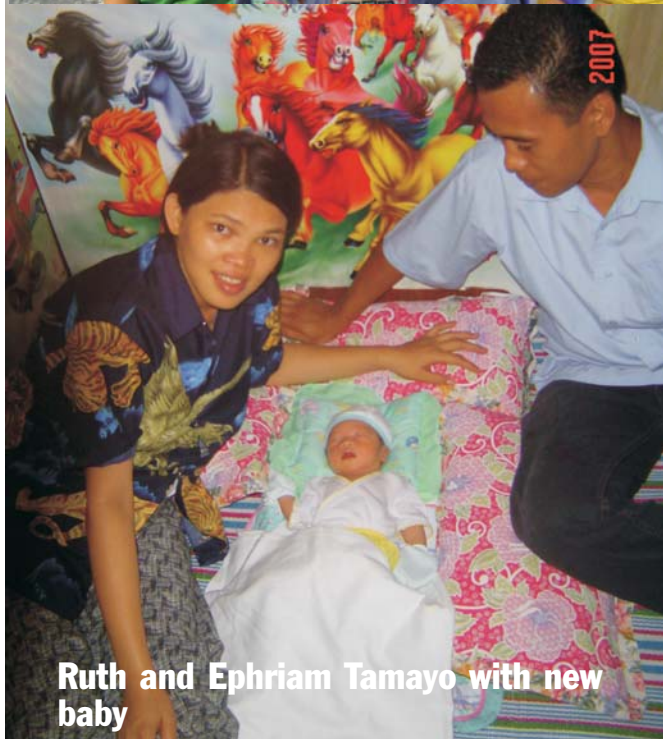
Elder Charles Brantner with children at the Ilang Mission.



Baptism with Apostle Frank Fani and Elder Demetrio Indangan



Elder Tobias Operios wife Melba lecturing at a leaders training meeting at New Bataam



Ruth and Ephriam Tamayo with new baby



Elder Demetrio Indangan, Ruth Tamayo, Remy Indangan and Ephriam Tamayo with new baby



Welcome to Thanksgiving Celebration at Mission Pandaitan



Repast following a sermon

Through these eyes she has seen the Gospel Truth



Salmingkong Mission



Some of these "smile babies" are being helped through members from the US

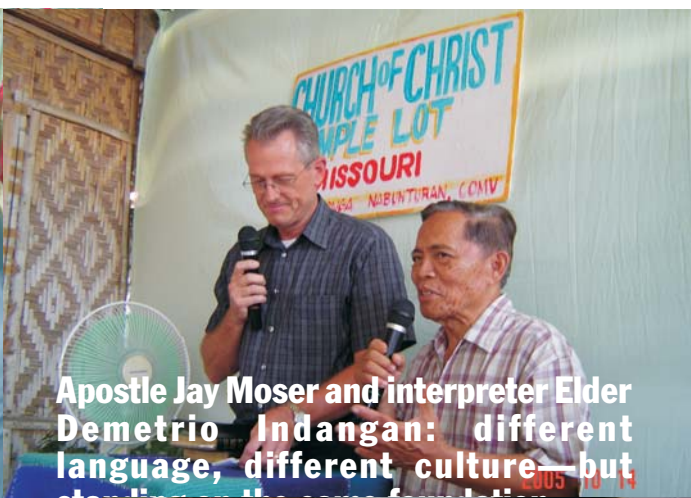


Children posing



Missionary work begins at a young age.

2005 10 15



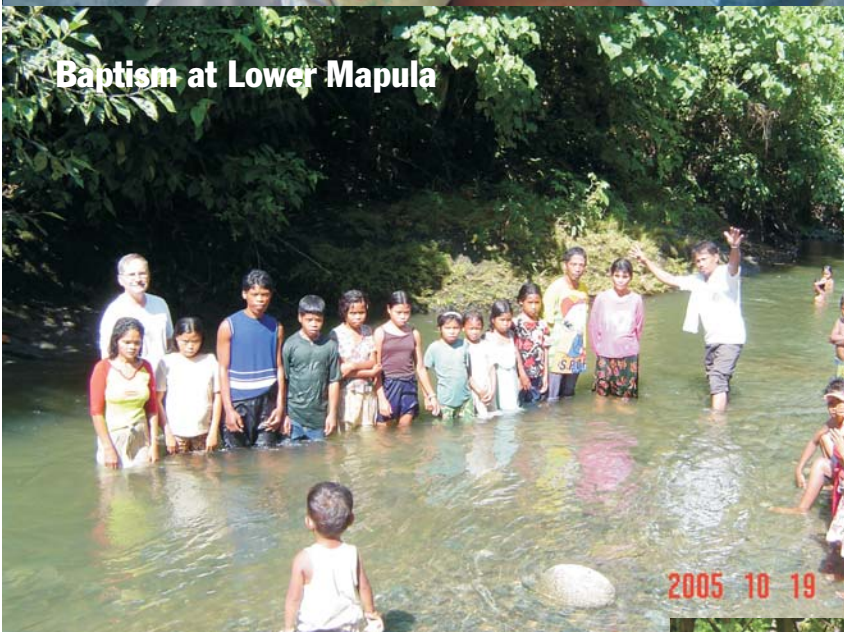
Apostle Jay Moser and interpreter Elder Demetrio Indangan: different language, different culture—but sta

2005 11 14



Children at a Baptism lecture, Pandaitan Mission

2007 11 11

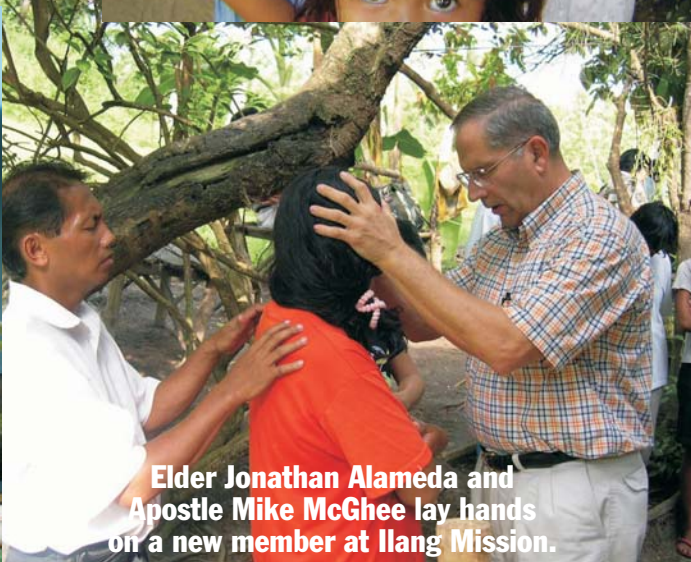


Baptism at Lower Mapula

2005 10 19



Elder Jonathan Alameda and Apostle Mike McGhee give a baptism lecture at Baracatan Mission



Elder Jonathan Alameda and Apostle Mike McGhee lay hands on a new member at Ilang Mission.

INDEPENDENCE EAST LOCAL REPORT



By Sr. Deb Haines

We send our love and greetings to you all from the East Local. We pray that God's blessings have been upon you and yours. We are very thankful to our Lord for our blessings and would like to share some of them with you now.

On October 9th, a baby boy, Christopher, was born to Br. Nathaniel and Gina Seibel. Welcoming him was three year old sister Emily. Grandparents are Br. Harvey E. and Sr. Irene Seibel.

In December, Br. Bruce Haines underwent prostate cancer surgery. He was very blessed with his surgery and recovery, for which we are thankful.

On December 21st, a baby boy, Gavin Ryan, was born to Br. Ryan and Cheryl Fisher. Happy first-time

grandparents are Sr. Michele and Br. Pat Fisher. On Jan. 27th, one-month-old Gavin was blessed by Apostle Frank Fann, assisted by Elder Steve McGhee.

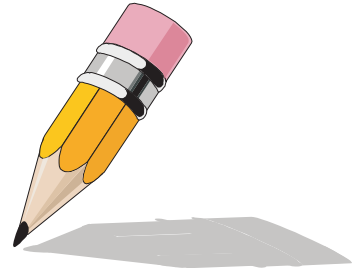
At the end of January Apostle Buzz Brickhouse made a missionary trip to India.

Sr. Courtney Rudd completed a semester of college in Italy, and at the same time Sr. Erica Olson completed a semester of college in England.

On March 4th, Apostles Frank Fann, Michael McGhee and Jay Moser left for a missionary trip to our brethren in the Philippines. This was Br. Frank's first trip back since his illness and surgery last summer. The Lord has blessed him greatly with his recovery and being able to travel and administer to others in foreign lands. We know our brothers and sisters across the waters are very pleased and thankful to see him among them again.

Br. Mike Smith had surgery the end of March to remove all the pins and plates that held his ankle and leg together while it healed after having three previous surgeries.

On April 2nd, twins Emily Mae and Aiden Matthew McGhee were born to Br. Steven and Sr. Stacie McGhee. Grandparents are Br. Steve and Sr. Melissa McGhee. This is their



third set of twin grandbabies!

On April 23rd, Olivia Rene Olson was born to parents Br. Joseph and Sr. Pamela Olson. Grandparents are Br. Rick and Sr. Becky Olson, and Sr. Annette Whitehead. Great-grandparents are Sr. Betty Olson, and Br. Hubert and Sr. Louise Yates. On June 1st, little Olivia was blessed by Grandfather Elder Rick Olson and Elder Andy Brown (from Phoenix, Arizona).

During the night of May 1st and 2nd, Independence was hit with three different storms, one with a reported tornado. Some of our brothers and sisters had damage to their homes during that storm. We are very grateful to the Lord for His blessings in that the damage was not worse and no one was injured.

On June 8th, Apostles Frank Fann and Mike McGhee made another missionary trip to the Philippines. On their return they reported that just while they were there 81 baptisms took place! In between visits there were over a hundred baptized.

They also reported that there was a calling to the office of an elder, and the ordination took place. We are very thankful to the Lord for His blessings!

On July 3rd, a baby boy, Austin, was born to Br. Matt and Sr. Elizabeth Gahner. Welcoming him home were big brothers Alex (age 6) and Andrew (age 3). Grandparents are Br. Mike and Sr. Belinda Smith.

In July our Apostle Buzz Brickhouse was hospitalized with a blood infection, and since then has been diagnosed with prostate cancer. We ask an interest in your prayers for him with whatever treatment he is led to follow, and for his recovery after.

Our Sr. Melissa Seibel has been hospitalized because of her high blood sugar, as well as surgery to re-



June Olivia's blessing

move a benign tumor. We are very thankful onto the Lord that she is re-

ported to be doing better. We pray that her recovery will be smooth and that she will be back with us again soon.

We ask for your prayers for all those with continued health difficulties. We pray for God's blessings upon them.

May God bless you all is our prayer.



Gavin Fisher blessing

OBITUARY

Fern Naomi Sarratt

March 7, 1930 – July 16, 2008

Fern Sarratt died July 16, 2008, at Centerpoint Hospital after an extended illness.

Fern loved the gospel. She loved to read her Bible and Book of Mormon. She loved attending church and visiting with the saints. And she loved to sing. Often during the day she would open up the hymnal and sing the hymns to God and whoever was in the room with her. Warren called her his songbird. He knew she was happy when she was singing.

Fern won't be written up in the history books for her great accom-



plishments while here on earth. But this thing she did do: Once she entered the gate, she walked the straight and narrow path, holding onto the rod of iron, which leads to

eternal life.

Fern was preceded in death by her parents, Harvey and Alvina Bell, Lenard Dale, an infant son, Andrea, an infant granddaughter.

She is survived by her husband Warren Sarratt of Bates City, five sisters and one brother: Alice Larson, John and Lois Bell, of Grand Junction, Irene and Edith Case and Caroline Hedrick of Independence; three children: Lawrence Sarratt, Marjorie Seppings and Beth Orsted; and six grandchildren.

NOTICES

AVVAA WEBSITE

The Church of Christ AVVAA Committee is pleased to announce the launching of our Web Site. On this site you will be able to access media such as sermons on-line, studies, *Zion's Advocate*, Bible and Book of Mormon, and much more. We invite you to take a look and discover what a useful tool this can be in expanding your knowledge and faith.

The site is cofcavvaa.net.

CORRESPONDENCE COMMITTEE

The General Church Correspondence Committee would like to extend the opportunity for any who wish to communicate through written correspondence to contact one of the following three committee members:

Pat McCann (Committee Chairman)

18808 N. 30th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85050

Marlene Cobb

630 S Pickwick

Springfield, MO 65802

June Haines

11589 Genuine Rd
Clare, MI 48617

CHURCH HISTORY PHOTOS ON CD

As a fundraiser for the Philippines missionary effort we are offering a CD of church history photos. On each CD there are over 800 photos of various church buildings, activities and members from 1887-2006. Included is a file with photo information.

If you would like a copy, please contact:

Deb Haines (816) 478-6839

debruhaines@juno.com

Barbara Kimball (816) 252-5829

michael.and.barbara@comcast.net

Pat McGhee (816) 796-6255

mcgheeme@msn.com

Please send your Philippine Fund donation (amount to be determined by you) to the Church of Christ, East Local, P. O. Box 2243, Independence, MO 64055-9243.

PRIESTHOOD VISITATION

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.



Church of Christ

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Book of Commandments (hardcover)	11.00
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 (hardbound)	12.00
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Temple Lot Deed30
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- 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
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- 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.