

The Greater Light

The End Time Messenger

'... Let all have Faith. Turn to The Lord and obey His Commands. Heed Repentance and Baptism that The Way of The Lord shall be among men. His Kingdom shall fill the whole earth. The hands must be laid upon all that THE GREATER LIGHT might come to them'

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In Remembrance of Leonard H. Draves



November 8, 1949-February 13, 2016

**The Church of Christ With The Elijah Message
THE ASSURED WAY OF THE LORD, Inc.**

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE AMERICAS, AFRICA, ASIA, AUSTRALIA, AND EUROPE



Articles of Faith and Practice

1. We believe in God The Eternal Father, who only is Supreme; Creator of the Universe; Ruler and Judge of all; Unchangeable and without Respect to persons.
2. We believe in Jesus Christ The Manifestation of God in the flesh, who lived, suffered and died for all mankind; whom we own as our Leader, Witness and Commander.
3. We believe in The Holy Ghost, The Spirit of Truth, The Comforter, which searcheth the deep things of God, brings to our minds things which are past, Reveals things to come, and is the medium by which we Receive Revelation of Jesus Christ.
4. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins and not for Adam's transgression, and that as a consequence of The Atonement of Christ "all little children are alive in Christ, and also all they that are without The Law. For The Power of Redemption cometh on all they that have no law; wherefore, he that is not condemned, or he that is under no condemnation, cannot repent, and unto such, baptism availeth nothing." (Moroni 8:22)
5. We believe that through The Atonement of Christ all men may be Saved by Obedience to The Laws and Ordinances of The Gospel; viz. : Faith in God and in The Lord Jesus Christ; Repentance and Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; Laying on of Hands for: (a) Ordination, (b) Blessing of Children, (c) Confirmation and The Gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 8:17), (d) Healing of the sick.
6. We believe in the literal second coming and Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ; in The Resurrection of the Dead, and in Eternal Judgment; that men will be rewarded or punished according to the good or evil they may have done.
7. We believe in The Powers and Gifts of The Everlasting Gospel: viz: The Word of Wisdom; The Word of Knowledge; The Gift of Faith; The Gift of Healing; Working of Miracles; Prophecy; Discerning of Spirits; Divers kinds of Tongues; Interpretation of Tongues.
8. We believe The Fruits of The Spirit to be Love, Joy, Peace, Long Suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance.
9. We believe that in The Bible is contained The Word of God; that The Record of the Nephites is an added Witness for Christ, and that these contain 'The Fullness of The Gospel.'
10. We believe in the principle of Continuous Revelation; that The Canon of Scripture is not full, that God Inspires men in every age and among all people, and that He speaks when, where, and through whom he may choose.
11. We believe that where there are six or more regularly Baptized members, one of whom is an Elder, there The Church exists with Full Power of Church extension when acting in Harmony with The Law of God.
12. We believe that a man must be Called of God by Revelation and Ordained by those having Authority, to enable him to Preach The Gospel and Administer The Ordinances thereof.
13. We believe in the same Church Organization as existed in the time of Christ and His apostles. The highest office in The Church is that of an Apostle, of whom there are Twelve, who constitute Special Witnesses for Jesus Christ. They have The Missionary Supervision and The General Watch care of all The Churches.
14. The primary function of The General Church, of which each Local Church is a component part, is Missionary and the building up and extension of The Kingdom of God in all the world.
15. We believe that Local Churches should govern their own affairs and that General Church officials should not dominate or interfere therewith. On invitation such general officers may, with propriety, give counsel and assistance. Local congregations are subject to The Articles of Faith and Practice and must be governed thereby.
16. We believe The Church of Christ comprehends The True Brotherhood of man where each esteems his brother as himself and wherein The Divine Command to 'love your neighbor as yourself' is demonstrated by the prevalence of social equality.
17. We believe that all men are Stewards under God and answerable to Him not only for the distribution of accumulated wealth, but for the manner in which such wealth is secured. The primary purpose of Stewardship is not the increase of Church revenue or the mere contribution of money by those who have to those who have not, but to bring men to a realization of The Common Fatherhood and the universal brotherhood of man in all the affairs and expressions of life, and to maintain such social adjustments that each may enjoy The Bounty and Gifts of God, and be free to exercise his talents and ability to enrich the life of all.
18. We believe that men should labor for their own support and that of their dependents. Ministers of The Gospel are not absolved from this responsibility, but when Chosen or Appointed by The Church to devote their entire time to Missionary Work, their families are to be provided for out of General Church fund. The Admonition of Christ that The Ministry should not provide purse or scrip for their journey, but go Trusting in God and the people, is applicable.
19. We believe that the temporal affairs of the General Church are to be administered by The General Bishopric under the supervision and direction of the general conferences of The Church. The temporal affairs of The Local Churches shall be Administered by local Bishops under the supervision and direction of the local congregations.
20. We believe that marriage is Ordained of God, and that The Law of God provides for but one companion in wedlock for either man or woman. In case of breach of this covenant the innocent one may remarry.
21. We are opposed to war. Men are not justified in taking up arms against their fellows except as a last resort in defense of their lives and to preserve their liberty.
22. We believe in The Literal gathering of Israel, and in The Restoration of The Ten Lost Tribes.
23. We believe a Temple will be Built in this generation, in Independence, Missouri, wherein Christ will Reveal Himself and Endow His Servants whom He Chooses with Power to Preach The Gospel in all the world to every kindred, tongue and people, that The Promise of God to Israel may be Fulfilled.
24. We believe that a New Jerusalem shall be Built upon this land 'unto The Remnant' of The Seed of Joseph. (Ether 6:6-8; III Nephi 10:17), which city be Built, beginning at The Temple Lot.
25. We believe The Ministry and Membership should abstain from the use of tobacco, intoxicating liquors and narcotics and should not affiliate with any society which administer Oaths or Covenants in conflict with The Law of God, or which interfere with their duties as freemen and citizens.

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Message 53:3, **'Give ear, Oh ye people of the earth. Hear The Warning today. I speak The Words and Will of The Lord. Let all have Faith. Turn to The Lord and obey His Commands. Heed repentance and baptism that The Way of The Lord shall be among men. His Kingdom shall fill the whole earth. The hands must be laid upon all that THE GREATER LIGHT might come to them.'**

Message 53:10, 'Yea, I have brought a **Warning and few prepare for THE GREATER LIGHT**, but be thou Faithful even all who hear, for The Lord's Will shall be fulfilled in all things. All have their work to do and the day comes when The Lord shall breathe upon The Chosen and they shall do His Work in Mighty Power for their love toward the brethren. All that offend and that do not keep His Commandments shall not be His in the Last Day. Moreover, it is Christ's Words that shall judge all men.'

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It is the agreement of *The Quorum of Twelve of This Church*, that no Minister is to Ordain any man into *The Ministry* until said candidate has with all his heart and soul confessed he agrees with everything written in *The Articles of Faith and Practice*.

It is each Elder's duty to Seek Guid-

ance from and to keep The Territorial Apostle informed of his works in the region he is laboring.

Secretary For The Twelve
Apostle Leonard H. Draves

FOREWORD

THE GREATER LIGHT, the official publication of *The Church of Christ With The Elijah Message, The Assured Way of The Lord, Inc.*, comes to YOU as an expression of the Hope we have in Christ.

In its pages are found the thoughts and expression of a united people, whose only aim is to promote *The Cause of Christ* by spreading abroad to every nation, tongue and people, *The True Gospel of Christ* that through Obedience to His Laws we might be found worthy of *Eternal Life*.

In this publication, *The Record of The Nephites* is quoted many times. This Book was Revealed and Translated by *The Gift and Power of God*: the year 1829 marked the beginning of *The Restoration of all things*. It is a history of the people who once lived in the region around *The Great Lakes*, some of whom are Ancestors of The American Indians. Though it contains a Record of two other groups of people who once lived here, it is for the most part a Record of The People of Nephi.

The Messages so often mentioned in this publication are Messages from The Lord, brought to earth by His Chosen Servant, John The Baptist, who comes to earth in a Glorified Body to finish The Work given to him of God; that of Restoring all things (Matthew 17:11). The Angel first came in 1829, and Restored *The Authority Of The Son Of God*, that *The Church of*

Christ might be Established as in The Days of The Apostles.

In 1927, The Angel Messenger again appeared, and on numerous subsequent visits, has brought to us ***The Word Of The Lord*** that *The Church of Christ* might be set in Order, that a people might be Prepared to be *The Bride Of Christ*. This is *The Elijah Message* so many have looked for, *The Midnight Cry* has been Proclaimed, *A Warning of Destruction*, but to *The People Of The Lord*, a Message that Christ's soon Coming is near at hand. Fear God and give *Glory to His Name*, for *The Hour of His Judgment* has come. Awake thou that sleepest and Arise from the dead, and Christ will give you *Light*.

We hope that whosoever reads these pages might make it a matter of Prayer and Fasting in Humility before God, that they may know for themselves, that God has again Spoken and Revealed *His Will* from Heaven. To this end, we Dedicate ***The Greater Light***.

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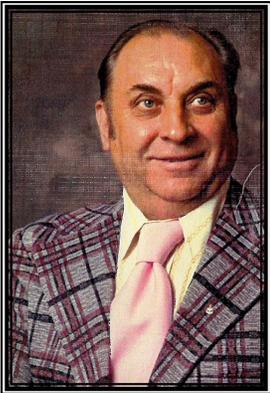
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Secretary-Treasurer of Bishops'
Bishop Reece Johnson

THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY

To All People

Thirty- First Message



The messenger of the Lord came to me at my home, Nucla, Colorado, Monday morning, October 4, 1937. Sunday night, after coming home from church, I retired with earnest prayer from my heart, asking God for direction and that I might live to please him. I also thanked him greatly for the blessing I had received.

I had awakened several times in the night and went back to sleep praying. I awakened with a startle, hearing footsteps on the ground floor. I raised up in bed and looking toward the staircase I noticed a light coming or beginning to shine up the stairway. A light seemed to radiate from him, lighting the whole room, while immediately around him it was much brighter. His beard was radiant, his eyes which shone like neon light, though piercing and bright, were gentle and pleasant, his looks kind. I was somewhat afraid, but his smile helped to drive away my fear. I thought perhaps it may be an angel of God. When he appeared on the top stair he seemed to float quickly to my bedside, I trembled and pulled the covers to my chest while sitting up in bed. He smiled and began to speak kindly. His tone was convincing and his voice slightly heavier than that of an ordinary man. When he spoke I seemed to be lifted in space, yet I knew I remained on the bed. Although this happened so very quickly, all fear had left me and I set my faculties to give attention and listen carefully. He said:.

W. A. Draves

1. “Fear not, let peace be with you; your prayers have been heard; God hears the prayers of his children; he knows your hearts before you ask. Some are pleading to him in your behalf, and God has looked on you in favor. The year has been good to you. Blessings have been yours to enjoy. Yea, be humble before your God.

2. Truly God has used you as an instrument in his hands- by the power of that righteous Spirit He spoke through you. Many have been made glad and some have gone through sadness and will, before they will hear him, but God will not fail the honest- those that seek him diligently. Seek him early while it is called today. Man is all selfishness unless he is filled with the Spirit of God.

At this juncture the visitor raised his right arm and seemed to reach almost over me swaying his arm gently. I watched every move he made and especially his lips as he spoke on with sternness and firmness as one speaking the truth.

3. Now hear ye the words of the Lord, all that tremble in his sight, and at his word, ‘Yea, seek me and walk righteously before me, heed my voice and great shall be your blessings. Remember your Lord and master who drank of the bitter cup- all must drink of the cup of trial to know what I have suffered for you. Lift high you banner, hold firmly to the iron rod. Yea, the righteous call unto me and my countenance shines upon them.

4. I say unto thee all, for none have progressed as I would have you, the longing in your hearts is still unsatisfied because of that which brought broken confidence in each other and discouragement and shaken hope; thus speaking hard of each other, making hardness of heart. Behold, I would have you love one another; do good to them that despitefully use you.

5. My sheep know my voice; many false delusions are going out; but again I say my sheep know my voice and heareth not another. Some have

lost their affections for my work. This ye must not do, but uphold my work, or darkness will shake you one and all, and the gathering you long to accomplish shall come to naught. I know your desires; yea, when seasoned by my Spirit, much good will come from your works. Humble yourselves more before me. In not doing this, we do foolishly before me.

6. Stand more firmly together, for I desire it of thee, that you may stand when greater powers of darkness shall come over you. Yea it is, that dark clouds of deceitfulness and dangerous sayings shall come among you, which shall try many and some may fall. Pray for thy brethren. Cry unto God.

7. Indeed the angel that revived the work is till at the helm, and verily has not come since the visit with the message, that all must drink of the bitter cup, to thy brother Fetting, but shall come again. Yea, and indeed, I, your maker, knoweth all that taketh place, when yea hear it said, 'A shining light,' 'A great star,' I say unto you, know ye this, it is not of me; be not deceived by it.

8. Much is folly before me and man is nothing of good when he heeds not my voice. Know ye the witness of my Spirit, how that it caused the hearts of men to mellow before me. Is this Spirit still with you? Heed ye the still small voice and the promptings of the divine Spirit. Be not conformed to the works of darkness nor the ways of the world. Work with an eye single to my glory. When I speak answer by you actions; abide in my doctrine. Let your works and deeds be that to my honor and glory. Return your love and service to me that your works may show your faith.

9. Ye that name my name give thanks

unto you master; in so doing I will bless you that you will be a blessing, and bless others. Let my Spirit rule your lives. Be ye long suffering. Be not as sounding brass and tinkling cymbal. Be filled with charity and let peace rule you minds and your lives. The fire of joy shall burn within you. Yea, the Lord will walk and talk with those that keep his law in fullness. Seek not the praise of men. Be not heady nor high-minded. Seek to do good. A good tree cannot bear corrupt fruit, nor a corrupt tree, good fruit.'

10. Verily, the courts from above have sounded these words, and you have heard. Yea, be at peace, let not your heart be troubled. Be at peace with all men. Hear the works that are true and faithful sent from the realms above.

By this time I was fully convinced that my visitor was an angel. As he spoke the last words he floated back to the head of the stairs, directly in front of a window. I rubbed my eyes, hoping to get a better look at him and then to ask his name, should he pause, but I could see him no more. The light remained in the room for an hour or more. I fell asleep and when I awakened the influence remained with power and as I write I can feel the tingling influence of that Spirit. This is as near correct as I can remember and I think it is all given.

From The Apostles There is a Balm for Healing

*Apostle Richard Johnson
Iowa*

Jeremiah 8:22: "Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?"



Yes there was balm there, the most excellent in all the world. It was made there from the trees that grew near Jericho on one side of the Jordan River and not beyond it, in the land of Gilead. It was exported from there for the healing of the nations as noted in

Genesis 37:25: **“And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt.”**

Yes there were physicians there well skilled to apply it yet Jeremiah was mourning the sickness of the Lord’s People.

Jeremiah 8:20-21: **“The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved. For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt; I am black; astonishment hath taken hold on me.”**

He used the metaphor to picture the spiritual disease and sickness of their sins. They are warned by the prophet of the pending destruction to come while offering them deliverance by the effectual balm and healing of the Divine Physician. He was mourning because the people were not saved knowing that their salvation would bring deliverance from the ways of death and sin. They had patiently been warned by the prophets God had sent to repent yet they continued with their traditions by mixing true worship with that of Balaam.

Using Jeremiah’s metaphor what would the balm represent for us that had the healing power of deliverance to save God’s people?

Message 115: 16: **“It is through and in atoning blood of Christ that mankind is**

saved.”

Message 94:5-6 **“...All that come this Way, repenting of evil ways and the traditions of the world must be humble and be baptized in water in the authority I bring, for the remission of their sins through the atoning blood of Christ Jesus.**

6. Let the hands be laid upon all that His Spirit might come in Holy Unction to them in greater Power, for the promise is that He will send His Spirit to all those that are humble and full of love; shaping their lives by the Assured Way.”

There is no shortage of doctors and physicians in Zion today that know this is the remedy for all sin but there is no unity or agreement on prescribing and administering the cure among them that would deliver its efficacy and power in the way of the Lord.

Paul said that in the last days perilous times would come for God’s people and they would have a form of godliness but without the soul saving Power of God.

He said men would be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God and to turn away from them.

The messenger has told us that the soul saving Power of God is found in the Authority of God that he brings again to earth that is the Pure Love of God so that men might be saved by the Power of His Atonement. Christ sacrificed His body and blood-rose from the dead-received all Power and Authority in heaven and in

earth. This Power and Authority is after the Order of God, after the Order of the Son of God

Message 58:4: "...I have chosen and appointed you. My anointed with authority.

His words are plain and faithfully given for mankind to find Salvation, Hope and Deliverance.

Message 104: 1-8: "Behold! Harken and write the words I will give you. I bring peace and a Message of Hope, to all that accept my coming, with Authority I bring from the Lord. Deliverance is found only in the teachings of Christ. Only through His atoning blood can mankind find remission of sins through obedience to the Gospel.

2. I come from the Lord's presence to fulfill the words of the prophets.

3. I am that prophet spoken of, the prophet of the Highest. I am the elect one, the Messenger sent of the Lord.

4. The planning and covenant of God shall have its fulfillment. The Gospel of the Kingdom of God shall roll forth until it fills the earth. Shape your lives by the words of life, in God's Holy Plan.

5. Hear the loud Voice of God. Hear the still small Voice. Oh! You people of the earth. Come out of the ways of the world, the Voice of God saith 'Come all the way.'

6. Through faith, repentance and the baptisms, the deliverance will be upon you.

7. Be no more oppressed and the Lord will bring you through to the truth and work of my coming.

8. It is good to know the Scriptures and learn the fulfilling of all things."

Message 90:12. "In ancient times, it

has been told of my coming in this day and time: the end time, the closing time, the Midnight Cry, the time of purifying of the ministry, leading all Christendom into one Fold, wherein is One Shepherd, the Christ Jesus who shall rule all nations and peace shall be from one end to the other of this world."

Message 73:5-6: "Let the faithful take courage and lift up, for the authority and trust is placed upon you and you have not denied..."

6. The Lord knoweth the hearts of mankind and wherein they desire to learn and do His Will, it shall be like precious ointment poured upon the faithful to dwell in this Light of Life and Salvation..."

Message 93:20: "Then shall be the healing of the breach of His people, no more divided in classes or boundaries."

Revelation 22:2: "In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there* the tree of life, which bare twelve *manner of* fruits, *and* yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations."

Psalms 133:1-2: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

2. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;"

Ephesians 4:11-14: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13. Till we all come in the unity of the

faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

14. That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;”

Message 69: 9: “This is a Holy Work and mankind must come humbly before the Lord. Let repentance and baptism be the answer in action by each one coming into this Work. Let the hands be laid on all that the Spirit might come to them in great Power and Deliverance in time of trials. Let great faith rule in love. Let peace be in each heart and soul, in your homes, and avoid contentions. Trust not in traditions of men, nor the ways of man, nor flesh. They will not save you.”

Message 92:10: “There is no greater authority or gift, or gifts given to man than that which I bring of the Lord God, after the order of His Son.”

Message 113:3, 5-7: “This Message is to the appointed and anointed ones of this Work to be taken to all the world. All that hear and obey will find peace to their souls. My Message is one of love to all that obey it.

5. I bring the Authority that His Bride, The Church of Christ, shall be fully established and prepared to bring in the Zion of the Lord, the Way of Eternal Peace.

6. I speak in all due regards. This is the Assured Way. Make straight the path of the righteous for the Way is one Eternal Round.

7. May the people of the Lord take on

new courage, for He will give a new heart to all that hear and come this Way of Authority and Deliverance. The servants of the Lord speaking kindly to all and to one another.”

*There is a balm in Gilead,
To make the wounded whole;
There is a balm in Gilead,
To heal the sin-sick soul.*

*Some times I feel discouraged,
And think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit
Revives my hope again.*

*If you cannot sing like angels,
If you can't preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
And say He died for all.*

*Don't ever feel discouraged,
'Cause Jesus is your friend,
And if you lack for knowledge,
He'll never fail to lend.*

*There is balm in Gilead,
To make the wounded whole;
There's power enough in heaven,
To cure a sin-sick soul.*

There is a slightly different wording by another source that I personally appreciate.

*How lost was my condition
Till JESUS made me whole!
There is but one Physician
Can cure a sin-sick soul.*

‘Praying’ In The Name of Jesus

*Apostle Donald Thompson
Missouri*



John 14:7-17, **'If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also; and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him. Philip saith unto Him, Lord, show us The Father, and it sufficeth us.**

Jesus Saith unto him, Have I been such a long time with you, and yet hast thou not known Me, Philip? He that hath Seen Me hath Seen The Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us The Father?

Believest thou not that I am in The Father, and The Father in Me"? The Words that I Speak unto you, I Speak not of Myself' but The Father that Dwelleth in Me, He Doeth The Works.

Believe Me that I am in The Father, and The Father in Me; or else Believe Me for the very Work's Sake.

Verily, verily I say unto you, he that Believeth on Me, The Works that I do shall he do also; and Greater Works than these shall he do, because I go unto My Father.

And whatsoever ye shall Ask in My Name, that will I Do, that The Father may be Glorified in The Son.

If ye shall Ask anything in My Name, I Will do it.

If ye Love Me, keep My Commandments.

And I will Pray The Father, and He shall Give you another Comforter, that He may Abide with you forever;

Even The Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him; but ye Know Him; for He Dwelleth with you and shall be in you.'

Developing a vibrant Prayer Life will transform the way you live and see things. Through Prayer, The Lord can change your weakness into His Strength, your ignorance into His Wisdom and your emptiness into His Fullness. Jesus made an Awesome Promise that whatever you ask in His Name, He is Committed to Accomplish. *But what does this really mean?*

Praying in His Name means Recognizing that Jesus has Paved The Way for you to have Access to The Father. Anyone who Believes in Christ's Death as Full Payment for his or her sins and who has Received Him as *A Personal Savior* can, Amazingly, Approach *The Throne of Almighty God.*

Hebrews 4:16, **'Let us therefore, come Boldly unto The Throne of Grace, that we may Obtain Mercy, and find Grace to help in time of need.'**

Praying in His Name denotes Exercising The Authority He has given to each Born again Child of God. Jesus, The Heir of all things, has made us 'fellow heirs' with Him.

Romans 8:14-18, **'For as many as are led by The Spirit of God, they are the Sons of God.'**

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have Received The Spirit of Adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

The Spirit Himself Beareth Witness with our Spirit, that we are The Children of God;

And if children then heirs-Heirs of God, and Joint Heirs with Christ-if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also Glorified together.'

Understanding your position should give you confidence and boldness as you

Humbly ask and Expectantly look for God's Awesome Answers. We are on a Mission that Requires us to be People of Prayer-always Connected with The Holy Spirit's Power, always Crying out to The Father, always Depending on Him as our Source.

Praying in The Name of Jesus Signifies Agreement with His Will. You are asking The Father to grant your need or desire as Jesus would, were He in your position. When you Pray with this Attitude, God is going to Reveal His Will because you want nothing less than what He wants. This is the kind of Prayer that changes the world.

The struggle in our Daily Lives.

One of today's popular magazine uses the slogan '*Life is Complicated, Simplify.*' The slogan does not just apply as a marketing scheme to sell journalism. It applies to the struggles you and I face on a daily basis. Sometimes we forget that life does not comply with the goal of skating through it easily. On the contrary, life is often complicated, challenging, and tough, to say the least.

To do that, it is important to acknowledge what the real struggle is. It is not the traffic jam on your way home, nor is it the co-worker who mocks your Faith. Your struggle is not your employer or you lack of employment.

Ephesians 6:12 tells us, as Believers, our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, and against the spiritual forces of wickedness in high places. **'For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this**

world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.'

The first step to Victory is Realizing that our friends, neighbors, employers, family, or government are not the sources of struggle. Our struggle is against the evil spirit-realm, which has been conquered by The Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Suiting up with The Whole Armor of God

Once we Realize who we are dealing with when it comes to attack, we can better understand passages like the following.

Ephesians 6:13-18: **'Wherefore, take unto you The Whole Armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.**

Stand, therefore, having you loins girded about with Truth, and having on The Breastplate of Righteousness,

And your feet shod with the preparation of The Gospel of Peace;

Above all, taking The Shield of Faith, where with ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take The Helmet of Salvation, and The Sword of The Spirit, which is The Word of God.'

Satan's method of captivity are foiled the moment a person Receives Jesus Christ as his or her Savior. He can never snatch a Christian from God's Control.

Yet the enemy will still try to make '*The Abundant Life*' described in John 10:10 not so abundant.

'The thief cometh not but to steal, and to kill, and to destroy; I am Come that they might have Life, and that they might have it more Abundantly.'

Satan will use any angle he can to discourage you, make you feel defeated,

and twist what is evil to make it seem Good.

However, God has Given His Children a Suit of Armor for Protection against the devil's schemes. God, though, will not take on responsibilities that He has Given to us.

Ephesians 6:11, says to '**put on The Full Armor of God.**' He has Given us The Command to Dress ourselves in . . .

(His Truth) You must Know and Understand The Truth about yourself, God, and your Relationship to Him. Studying The Scriptures, Fellowshiping with Christian Friends, being Active in a Gospel-Believing Church, and Praying will help you Under-stand and Receive The Truth.

(His Righteousness) Rather than responding to life's circumstances based on how you feel, God wants you to Respond based on The Truth you Know and Believe. Then, your life's actions, words, and thoughts will reflect The Righteous Character of God.

(Faith In The Lord) What you Believe about Jesus Christ is your Shield against the enemy's devices. Stay True to it, and Stand Firm in it. Refuse to budge from The Faith given to you as a Gracious Gift of God.

(Gospel of Peace) You are to Stand upon *The Foundation Of The Gospel*. Jesus' Awe-some Sacrifice for your Salvation gives you a Peace that unbelievers do not have. It is a Peace that surpasses your deepest under-standing. Hold tightly to that Peace, which floods your thoughts, your desires, and your emotions.

(His Salvation) The Helmet of Salvation is a Helmet for a very important reason. It is to Protect your mind, where

satan's attacks begin. He Loves to coerce you into doubting what you know is True, so wear The Salvation you Received as a Helmet through which every thought should be filtered.

(His Word) This is Called *The Sword of The Spirit*. Knowing God's Word, and Understanding it, are *key elements* to being able to use it in time of need. Our only offensive weapon, in The Scriptures is to be used in statements like, '*It is written*' as Jesus did when under attack.

Matthew 4: 1-11, '**Then was Jesus led up by The Spirit unto the wilderness to be tested by the devil.**

And when he had Fasted forty days and forty nights, He was afterward a hungered.

And when the tempter came to Him, he said, If thou be The Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

But He Answered and Said, It is Written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that Proceedeth out of The Mouth of God.

Then the devil taketh Him up into The Holy City, and setteth Him on a pinnacle of The Temple,

And saith unto Him, If thou be The Son of God, cast thyself down, for it is Written, He shall give His Angels charge concerning Thee, and in their hands they shall bear Thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy fool against a stone.

Jesus Said unto him, It is Written again, Thou shall not temp The Lord Thy God.

Again, the devil taketh Him up into an exceedingly high mountain, and showeth Him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them.

And saith unto Him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

Then Saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, satan, for it is Written, Thou shall Worship The Lord, thy God, and Him only shall thou Serve.

Then the devil leaveth Him, and Behold, Angels Came and Ministered unto Him.'

Knowing that your *'Armor is Christ'*, how do you *'Put on Christ'*? Daily you must Live According to what you Believe. It may help to make a card of *'I Believe'* statements to carry with you at all times. When you are tempted to do or say things or dwell on thoughts you know are wrong, affirm your Faith by Speaking these words to The Lord.

I Believe you are The Way, The Truth, and The Life and that if I follow The Leading of your Holy Spirit, You will never Lead me astray. I Trust You to Show me what to do in the situation I am facing right now.'

'I Believe Your Righteousness is Imparted to me through The Holy Spirit and that as I Obey Your Commandments, You will Manifest Your Character Traits in me.'

Remember, your stance when under attack is primarily one of Resistance. While resisting satan's craftiness, you are not positive; conversely, your resistance is cloaked in Acknowledging that Your Power is in The Holy Spirit of God. When tempted, say to The Lord, 'I can't, say You can. With You and in Your Armor, I stand.

The Source of Our Life

Have you ever seen an army that was prepared in every way, except it had no

communication with its commanding general? No matter what state-of-the-art weapons or defense strategies the army possessed, without direction from their leader it's a losing battle.

The same is True when Speaking of Spiritual Warfare. No matter how much you Prepare by Reading The Scriptures, Saturating your mind in its Truth, and Dressing in The Armor of God, you will get nowhere against the enemy without getting Direction from The Lord. He, after all, is your *'Life-Source'*.

Ephesians 6:18-20, teaches us that Communication with The Lord is Vital to our Protection. We must Talk and Listen to God.

(At all times) We are Instructed to Pray without Ceasing in 1 Thessalonians 5:17. Don't just delegate a time of day to Pray; Pray throughout your day.

(In The Spirit) Romans 8:26, reminds us of our weakness to Pray intelligently about the situations that we and others face. However, God has Graciously given us His Spirit to Lead us in Knowing what and how to Pray. Ask for His Help to Discern how to Pray, and Pray for Discernment also.

(With Persistence) Acts 1:14 describes *The New Testament* Believers who Devoted themselves Continually to Prayer. Don't give up!

(In View of all Believers) Because every Christian faces the same attack you do, Pray especially for them, including The Ministry.

Philippians 4:6, teaches us to Pray with Thanksgiving, and to let God know about our Requests. He already Knows what you need before you ask Him, but He Loves to Fellowship with you. He Loves to Display

His Glory by Answering you when you Call.

Ecclesiastes 5 shares The Importance of Listening to God when we Pray. It takes Discipline to develop Listening Skills in Prayer, but God will Help you when you ask. He has much to Say, and wants you to Open your Ears to Hear with your Heart bent toward Obedience.

What areas of your 'Prayer Life' need to be Strengthened? Ask The Lord to Show you and to Help you, more effectively to Communicate with Him.

Some References on Prayer

(The Holy Bible) Matthew 6:6, & 8, Matthew 7:7-8 & 11, Matthew 21:22, Isaiah 30:19, & 58:9, & 65:24, 1 John 3:22 & 5: 14-15, John 14: 13-14, & 15: 7, & 16: 23-24, James 5:16, Job 22:27, Psalms 43:17, & 55:17, & 65:2, & 91:15, & 145: 18-19, Proverbs 15:29, & Jeremiah 29:12.

(The Record Of The Nephites) Alma 34: 19-27, 111 Nephi 27: 1-2.

(The Word Of The Lord) Message 94:11, Message 95:2, & Message 102: 11.

There are many more Scriptures on 'Prayer', but that is all I have at this time. Hopefully, I have brought out something that will Benefit you all Spiritually. Thank you for listening to me. *'Keep Sweet'* and *'God Bless'*.

Let Us Walk In The Light In The Light Of God

Leonard Johnson

Iowa

Reprinted from The Voice of Peace, May, 1979)

Yes, Dear Readers, How sweet it is to walk in the Light and bright the path grows from day to day, as we walk the Old Old

Path, with the glorious light of Jesus to illumine our pathway, being brought by His chosen servant, even John, the greatest prophet born of woman.

Speaking of light, the subject of this article, come with me, if you will, down memory lane; the time, August, 1929, to the shore of a small lake, known as the home pond, the water supply from home town of Lamoni, Iowa.

Here you would see a little group of people gathered at the waters' edge, including Elders Otto Fetting and Thomas Nerren, as some were going to be baptized by Brother Fetting.

My, wife, her mother and myself were there. They had agreed to be baptized (not without some hesitancy); but as for myself, I said for them to go ahead without me, as I knew my baptism was all right (Imagine.)

Now we had been talking and praying about this for some time, and that morning in our family prayer we had prayed to be led.

So just before the baptisms, Brother Nerren called for us to kneel at the waters' edge, and in that prayer, he prayed that by being baptized, in obedience to the command of the Messenger, we might receive more Light.

After the prayer, mother said to us that was the answer to her prayer.

Well, when the first baptisms were over, Brother Fetting turned to us and I found myself following my wife and her mother out in the water for baptism.

Here, we see, by the foregoing, how the Lord was feeling after and leading His people, those that were to be added to the Church.

Now the great force that drew us at that time was the wonderful love manifest

through the Messages and through His servants the apostles and elders.

If we refer to the Messages that had come up to that time, (the first twelve); we find no mention of a great light or light, only to Brother Fetting in the Twelfth Message, eighth verse, where the Messenger laid his hands on him that the greater light and power might come to him.

What we do find is a number of warnings and admonitions to be very humble and to labor in love.

Turning to Message 3:9, we find the words; "Go in faith, your mission is one of love..." Then in Message 5:4, "...And if you men and brethren will work in peace with the love of God in your hearts, then God will bless you, and also the Church for your sake, and God will love you, and will bless you and the people and your work." Also in verse 11, "...and if you will present your message in love you will win your brethren and many will help..." Moving on to Message 11:10, "...Many of the Lord's people will accept the message, but remember this is a work of love." Also the last line of verse 12, in the above Message, "...My message is one of love to them that will obey it."

Now, getting back to our subject matter, light; we find in Message 18:17 in speaking to Brother Fetting, the words, "...I come to you in light..." Then pursuing the subject in Message 19:14, we find a promise being given with a condition attached, "To all those that will repent and be baptized and prepare themselves and walk humbly, the promise is that they shall receive the greater light and power to carry on the work of the Lord. In Message 20:8 the same qualification is mentioned again, "... Let the hands be laid upon those that I have

told you, that the light and power of God may come to them to the extent that they will humble themselves, that light may come to them..."

Keeping in mind that the Messenger says He "comes in light", just what does this mean or bring to pass? There is a difference in coming in light and/or giving or revealing a special light.

Brother Fetting and Brother Draves have been permitted to see and bask in the actual and literal glorious light that the Messenger comes in, making their faith whole with a perfect knowledge, and brought to them a greater portion of that light (The Spirit of God); that would enable them to stand and bear witness to the world of that light and of the coming of the Messenger.

Just what is the Messenger's coming in light bringing to pass in the world at this time? It is bringing to pass the Midnight Cry, also the parable of the great supper and the parable of the five wise and five foolish virgins.

There are many of the people of the world today wandering and blindly groping their way through the mists of Spiritual darkness that is over their minds, being bound by the sins and traditions of men. Some of them are honestly seeking for truth and light, not knowing where to turn to find it.

In the Bible in Jeremiah 6:16 there are some instructions and advice about the matter, "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk in it, and ye shall find rest for your souls..." In Message 37:7 we find the much needed thing to help them find the old old path, "The light that I, your Lord will send shall point the

way. He that cometh to me through the door will I baptize with fire and the Holy Ghost...”

Going back to the parable of the ten virgins, the wise ones had a little oil left in their lamps (God’s Spirit); and would be able to see through the darkness, not only to see, but hear the Midnight Cry also.

Turning to the Bible in Chapter 1 of Saint Luke, verses 76 through 79, we find more reference to this light in the prophetic mission of John the Baptist when He was yet a little babe, “And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest; for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; to give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, To give the light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

These words, if we understand them, give us a beautiful comparison between the light of the Messenger and the dayspring. What does dayspring mean and what is it? Dayspring means dawn, the dawn of a new day, those few minutes in the early morning, when the first light begins to emerge through the morning’s mists and soon driving them away.

This light of the dawn is synonymous with the Light of God, His Spirit, as it penetrates the mists of Spiritual darkness in the minds of the children of men.

Message 39:4 says, “...The earth shall be filled with the light that I bring and have brought from the Lord. Will the people heed it, that their feet might be guided in the way of peace and be led out of darkness and contention and away from the shadow of death?”

To all that have heard and obeyed the Midnight Cry, being led by that light into the waters of baptism and having the hands laid on for the gift of the Holy Ghost, there is more light, even a new light promised. But with that promise there is a warning and a preparation given. Just because we have entered the sheepfold and have our feet in the straight and narrow way doesn’t automatically make use recipients’ of all the greater things the Lord has promised for His people.

Coming through the door into the Church made us eligible for the promise, but to receive the gift of the promise requires a preparation. Message 47:8 mentions the promise, “...All that come must be baptized and the hands laid on them that the greater promise of light might be given.”

Message 46:3 says, “To all those that repent of sins and be baptized, preparing themselves in deep humility, yea, the Lord promises that they shall receive the greater light and power that they might be able to carry on the work of the Lord.”

One of the first requisites, or prerequisites, is to rid ourselves of all the old sins and traditions of man made ideas, coming in with an open and clean mind, willing to be led by the light and word of God.

Unfortunately, many of us have thought that we did all this when we went through the water only to discover later on that there was still a skeleton or two in the closet that we missed, myself being one of those who ran into a stumbling block, and it was only through the tender mercy of our God that I was able to step over it, ridding myself of that old tradition and receiving the greater light.

As we read on in The Word of the Lord

we find that God has been warning His people and especially His servants to prepare and prepare for this gift of greater light.

Message 47:1, "...This is a day wherein a light shineth even in power from the Lord God..." In Message 39:9 the Lord speaking in prophecy through His Messenger says, "...In me is the light that shineth in darkness and by my servant I give these words unto you I send a great light, and few there be that perceive it because of the precepts and commandments of men." Verse 11 further states, "The greater light and power shall come as my people prepare for it."

In Message 52:10 we find another; "Yea, I have brought a warning and few prepare for the greater light, but be thou faithful even all who hear, for the Lord's will shall be fulfilled in all things."

It is very evident by the foregoing words of the Messenger that the Lord has been gradually and prudently trying to prepare His people and servants for something greater and special, even to the extent of calling it a new light.

In Message 51:4-5 we find a new promise; "Therefore, the new light is promised. Continue to prepare for it...Some do not understand but let be humble and the greater light shall come in its fullness. Live in the Lord, walk in the way of salvation. The Lord has not yet entrusted the greatest unto his servants, but it shall be, for all must learn the full plan of God." In verse 7, "Fear not, the words I bring are from the Lord. I speak at his command. Greater things shall be revealed for in principle and in power by the Spirit of the Lord all righteousness shall be brought about."

If the foregoing words and quotations

have aroused your curiosity concerning this great and new light, well and good. "Going back one year to Message 48:12 the Lord gave us a clue in one very positive statement that takes in the whole earth, "...I will make known to all the earth that I am God, and there is none else,' saith your Lord."

Just four months after the new light was promised, we find another statement of similar meaning in Message 52:4. "But, to the faithful, thus saith the Lord, 'Hearken! Ye, my servants; arise to your calling. Oh, I have plead! Few have heard. If you believe in God believe also in me, for it is my words that shall judge you in the end, for I am the eternal one!'"

The Palmist David says in Psalm 43:3, "Oh, send out thy light and thy truth; let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles."

Psalm 36:9, "For with thee is the fountain of life; in thy light shall we see light."

Message 72:4, "I bring glad tidings to the faithful and those that love the truth. I speak the truth. I bring light to the blind in the light of time."

The Lord has sent out His light and truth in the Bible, the Nephite Record and The Word of the Lord, and He keeps telling us to study and obtain His word thereby illuminating our minds that the mysteries of God will no longer be hid.

Message 73:7, "Be not contentious. Speak the truth and be firm. A great light has been given but few there be that perceive it, because of the precepts and commandment of men; which bind and destroy, closing their understanding. Remember, the greater your study and illuminating of your minds with the words and will of the Lord, the greater your understanding and light shall be; freeing your lives from the bands

of Satan and all his powers; making you a blessing among mankind.”

These great truths have been couched in the Sacred Records all these many years, but because our minds have been clouded by the ideas and traditions of men, they have been hid from us; but now the Lord is sending the light to drive away the clouds and illuminate our minds, if we will but heed His advice and instructions and listen to the still small voice that is whispering to us at this time to come all the way.

Message 74:12, “A word to those that endure. Yea, greater things are yet. The unfolding of much is before you. The mysteries of God will no longer be hid, if you will have great faith and endure.”

For twenty-seven years God has pleaded with His people and ministry to arise and prepare of this greater light and power. Message 39:11 in 1939 gave the following, “The greater light and power shall come as my people prepare for it.”

The culmination of all the foregoing came with the eighty-fourth message in November 1966 with the following proclamation:

“I am he that is called I Am. I am the Great White Spirit. I am he that is called Shiloh. I am all in all. I am the only living God, creator of the universe, ruler and judge of all. I am the chief corner stone, I am the stone the builders rejected. I am the Christ, the son of man.

I am God, I change not, I am he that was called Jehovah. I am Jesus Christ, I am the beginning and the end. I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, I am the Lord. I am he that was manifested in the flesh, in the flesh-death and resurrection. I am he that is risen. I am the Lord God.” (Verses 16-17)

Now going to verse 36 of Message 84 we have the sum total of it all, “...**This is light and truth that Jesus is the Christ the eternal God.**” For another witness to the above, in the Restored Palmyra Edition of The Record of the Nephite in the Book of Mosiah we find in chapters 15 and 17 that the prophet Abinadi gave his life at the stake for this, the true and full doctrine of the Godhead; also another witness is in the Book of Ether, chapter 3.

Dear readers, as I bring this article to its close I pray that we may throw off the shackles that bind us, shake off the coals from the garments and arise in the strength of our Lord and put on the whole armor of Christ, enabling us to withstand all the fiery darts of the adversary, that in the end we may find there is laid up for us a crown of Eternal Life.

Five Minute Sermon

Joseph H. Camp

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You have probably heard the little story of “spots” used in “chalk talk” exercises, Sunday schools and class rooms, or whatever people are given example illustrations of character impressions on the public mind.

The instructor simply draws a circle on the blackboard or, preferably, on a large sheet of drawing paper, then criss-crosses and zig-zags the crayon marks until the circle becomes a solid spot, then turns to the class and asks, “What do you see?”

In every case ninety-nine per cent of spectators will readily answer, “A big spot.”

And so it is, they do see a spot; but what of the other objects in the scene? Why, there are lots of things to see and look at: the clean blackboard around the spot, the clean paper, the crayon, the pointer used by the instructor, the instructor himself in his nice Sunday suit and all that but,

It is the spot most in evidence.

The exercise is used to show the fault of most people in looking for character spots in people and of course, it is the black ones that always get first attention. The clean background and general surroundings are just things that exist naturally but the spot is like a hawk on a fence; it is there and causes a scatteration and something must be done about it.

The Gospel is a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ and it too, is guilty of pointing out spots—spots that should be noticed and erased. But by whom? The one the spot is on should first see it and get cleaned up before appearing in public.

An old saying, “The noblest hero after a hundred victories well won, loses all when once he meets defeat.” This is so in our daily life. You may be ever so good, do ever so well but just make one mistake and down you go. Talked about, avoided, not invited to functions, we don’t want him around here, rather he’d stay away, and all such just because in all probably, somebody else put a spot on his back.

Often, we can’t help it if and when we run into complications. Complications are little things in themselves but grow like mushrooms.

If when walking on ice your foot slips, it is not the slip that does the damage but the length and duration of said slip. Then and there complications begin to build up.

If you do not get up hurt and scratched up, you are almost certain to be wet or muddy.

Can a leopard change its spots? The prophet asks. Not been known to do so, or a method prescribed. And my good friends, if you do not want to go through the rest of your life spotted as a leopard you’d better walk the straight and narrow and keep out of complications. But of spots, there are the seen and the unseen. Man sees the outside or visible, while God looks mostly for the spots not visible to man. A man may walk bodily amidst the public, but if his thoughts were written on his forehead, he would most certainly pull his hat low.

Did you ever think of that? If not, here is a good exercise for you; stand before a mirror, size up what you see, take the anatomical measurement of yourself, then close your eyes and look within for moment and give your thoughts, past and present, the same going over and if artist enough, go to your drawing board and produce the two pictures you have just been looking at. After it is done: Is the one under your hair as pretty as the hair?

You know you slick the hair down with ever thing from goose grease to a list of cosmetics especially designed for the hair and complexion. But these lotions simply won’t soak in.

If I could get my own spots off, I’d gladly pass along the remedy to others. We made them, or helped make them or were there when they were made and probably liked it at the time, so now it is wear them, grin and bear them. The consequences fall heavily upon society, the church, the family to say nothing of the person himself.

This social upheaval comes of the mental state of the public man in his natural state. This is the one thing in the picture

subject to modification. We are all sinners I to a certain extent; some worse and some not so bad, but all sinners just the same. But we do not have to remain in sin.

An old, dirty garment does not show each addition of dirt quite so much as a newly washed one. We cleanse our mental and spiritual garments with the Gospel process—faith, repentance and baptism, daily walk and conversation, and after that spots show up like the full moon. Yes, and people talk about them much more than when you was a cussed old sinner and did not care.

And speaking of mental states, sinners, spots, etc, do you know what is actually back of much of this social unrest and upheaval? Plainly speaking, it is the class, caliber and character of the mind. True to the old saying:

“Little minds think and talk of people, the average minds think and talk of things, great minds think and talk of ideas.”

Now just what kind of a mind is propelling you around? If you possess a great mind the chances are often to one you won't notice half the spots on society as the average or little mind. And the littler the mind, the bigger the spots. I will quite right there and leave that one with you to think over.

With God, all things are possible in altering or forgiving the course of man. Man can do much of himself if he will but try. Some things man must do before God will take a hand in the matter. In the first place man must have faith in God, repent of his sins and keep up the process daily. After that if any spots cause excitement and social unrest they will appear also on the scoffer. In other words, don't be a tale bearer; don't speak evil of your neighbor, if

you have anything go say, go to the spotted one him.

In conclusion may I cap this whole subject with the oft repeated statement in the various prophets concerning the latter days. It is summed up in this, “For I, the Lord, have set every man's hand against his neighbor.” It is not that God actually wants you to be angry, at a cross or at odds with your neighbor, but He just knew it would be.

Now here is a warning; since the days are upon us in whom this social unrest is to be, watch your step and see how much of it you can keep out of. And is wisdom ways you would wisely see, five things you must observe to whom you speak, and how you speak and why and when and where.

May the good Lord bless us all and help us to be no longer children of darkness but of the light, the love and the glory of which we so much preach to others.

Junior Department

*Editor: Thresa Ray
Missouri*

Dear Youth,

Did your mother or father ever tell you, “If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all.” ? I can remember my mom telling me that many times.

In the Holy Bible, Proverbs 16:21 and 32 says, **“Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones. He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.”**

This is telling us that a kind word is nourishment to our soul and to our body. Someone that is slow to anger and can



control their spirit and actions, is better than the mighty—someone in a very high position or mightier than a warrior that can take a city. We need to practice showing kindness in all we say.

Message 91:13 says, **“Be thou clean that bear the vessels of the Lord. Let your conversations be clean. Let realness of charity (love) rule your lives. Lift up a standard.”**

Message 93:6 **“Be harsh with no one...”**

Message 118:7 **“Be pleasant at all times and the spirit will guide you in all Truth. As I speak to you, so speak I to all.”**

Message 95:10 **“...Love is your mission....”**

People normally respond well to kindness but not to something said in a hateful or ugly manner.

One verse I heard my father quote many times is Proverbs 15:1. **“A soft word turneth away wrath but a harsh stirs up anger.”** I have been in many a situation that a kind word or reply changed the attitude of someone else.

Message 99:9 **“Be very care what you say, how you speak, and where you are, so is my Message to all.”**

We are accountable for what we say and even how we say our words. The tone in which we say them is very important. We can ruin good words by saying them in an ugly manner. We are also accountable for where we are. We can put ourselves in some very unnecessary, unpleasant situations that might have been avoided if we were careful about where we go. So think,

before you speak and before you act.

Message 84:4 **“Be wise in works and humble in your talk and the Lord will direct in all things.”**

Message 73:7 **“Be not contentious. Speak the truth and be firm...”**

Message 87:13 **“...Be kind to all men and you will win favor with God and man. My mission is one of love.”**

God hates a liar and hates gossip.

Proverbs 6:16-19, **“These six things doth the Lord hate; yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood. An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.”**

One of the ‘Ten Commandments’ speaks of lying. Exodus 20:16 **“Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.”**

Proverbs 11:13 **“A talebearer (gossiping person) revealeth secrets, but he that is of a faithful spirit, concealeth the matter.”**

Proverbs 34:13-14 **“Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. (crafty deceit) Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and persue it.”**

Our words can hurt and hinder someone- even ourselves.

Proverbs 15:4 **“A wholesome tongue is a tree of life; but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.”**

Proverb 19:9 **“A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall not escape.”**

Proverbs 12:19 **“The lips of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment.”**

We must strive to please the Lord in all

we do and say.

Message 90:23 “...Let peace rule your lives-watch what you say and do, and where you are.”

Remember what your parents have told you, “If you can’t say something good, don’t say anything at all.”

Remember the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” See Matthew 7:12 and Luke 6:21. This includes how we speak and how we act.

May God bless you as you strive to please Him in your words and your actions.

Obituary

Leonard H Draves

Leonard H. Draves, 66, Raytown, Missouri died Saturday, February 13, 2016, at Research Hospital after a long illness.

Leonard was born on November 8, 1949 at Prairie Grove, Arkansas. He lived in Kansas, Colorado and finally settled in this area in 1963. He was born to William and Ruby Jessie (Bryant) Draves. He taught art at Blue Springs, Missouri and St. Joseph, Missouri. He served as President in the Missouri Middle School Association.

Leonard became a member of The Church of Christ at an early age of six in 1956. At age 17 he was ordained an Elder and a year later he was ordained an Evangelist. In 1974 at the age of 24 he was ordained an Apostle.

His greatest desire was to work in the Church office. The Lord granted this wish in Message 93:26 when he was called to the office of an apostle and that he was to work in the office. He remained in this capacity until his death in 2016.

He is survived by his wife, Ellen Draves; daughters Ruby Draves and Joy Ellen Draves-Dreher of the home: brother David Draves, Colorado Springs, Colorado, sisters: Dianna Draves, Stover, Missouri, Oladawn Thompson and Thresa Ray both of Independence, Missouri and Barbara Parker of Odessa, Missouri and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother: Dale Sieffert, Texas, sisters: Patsy Graf, Cherry Valley, Illinois, Barbara Long, Independence, Missouri and Ida Mae Johnson, Curtis, Wisconsin.

His favorite saying was Message 84:6 “Keep the faith and endure and the sunlight of righteousness shall arise over you, with healing in his wings and ye shall be preserved in the hour when trials are upon you. Deliverance will come. Command peace and it will bring you through.”

Services will be held Saturday, February 20th at the Cornerstone Community of Christ Church located at 1316 South Osage Street, Independence, Missouri 64055. Visitation from 3:00-3:30pm with Memorial Service to follow.

Letter



Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Church of Christ with the Elijah Message, Assured way of the Lord, Inc.

“Home Going of Apostle Leonard H. Draves”

He will be Greatly missed in the vineyard of the Lord Jesus Christ, bitter sweet. Bitter

because we are going to greatly miss him here on earth. Sweet because He went home to meet his family of God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Upon arriving for Sunday morning service, at the Independence Local, we were singing out of the Hymn book a song of Glory. The Holy Spirit of God Almighty met with us, comforting us, state of freedom from pain or constraint of feeling of grief or distress over the loss of our dear brother Apostle Leonard H. Draves. With my eyes I directly glanced to look out the window. Briefly, something very quickly at the window, a floating object "a Rose Bud, a white Rose flower" floating through the window of the Church and onto the floor of the Church. Apostle Eddie Lee was standing next to me: witnessing, observing, reaction to what was taking place on the weekend of Leonard H. Draves going home.

The white rose symbolized/represents purity, innocent and sympathy, spirituality as the symbol of true love, the true love of God. Taken and given to us a new start of expression of hope for the future. Hope for the people of God a sweet smelling Savior.

It is now time for all in the Churches of Christ with the Elijah Message, take on new courage of hope standing in the pure love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us rejoice to stand together.

Your sister in Christ. -- Gladys C. Moore

Notice

Attention Readers

A Call for Articles

Dear Readers of the Greater Light,

We need your help. We would like to put current articles in the paper, but we cannot without your support. Any member who would like to submit an article or letter would be welcomed.

We cannot give you a good paper without **you**. Please help us.

Please send anything that you have to Reece Johnson, 1801 Cheyenne Court, Greenwood, Missouri, 64034

Thank you for your support.

"Remember Me"

By Sandy Bottorff

I may had died
but I am not gone.
My body may rest
but I still exist.

When you see me in your dreams
you see my smile.

When you see my smile
you hear my laugh.

When you hear my laugh
you remember my spirit.

When you see old photographs
my eyes look at yours.

When your eyes fill with tears
it is me in your heart.

"Remember Me," I whisper
I may not be alive today
but in your heart.

I know I hold a very special place
A forever place where I still live.
You see, I am not gone I live in you.
"Remember Me"

In Memory of
Leonard Draves
11-08-1949 02-13-2016