

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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Message 95:10

“The eyes of mankind hath not seen, nor the ear hath not heard what is in store for them that love the Lord, that do his will, that hear and obey the words I bring; shaping their lives by the great plan and will of God. Love is your mission. Charity suffereth long and is kind is not puffed up and seeketh not for prominency. Neither will she dominate, nor destroy.”



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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If you do not have means to read *The Greater Light* from a computer or make a hard copy to read, then let The Headquarter Office know and a hard copy will be made and mailed to you.

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

Secretary For The Twelve

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 17:11-13). 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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Secretary-Treasurer of Bishops'
Larry Crow

THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY

To All People

Message 13

The messenger came to me September 20, 1929, at my home at 818 Pine Street, a little before 3 a.m. and remained until 3:45 a.m. These are his words as he gave them to me:

1. I come to you again. Remember there are, and will be trying times, and as these changes take place, the faith of the children of men will be tried, because they are not used to the things that are, and will take place. Remember the Lord has said that a marvelous work and a wonder is to come forth, which will be marvelous to all people, and will not be understood, except by the Spirit of God from whence it shall come.

2. Satan knows that his time is but short, therefore his power from beneath will work, and oppose the power from above. There is, and will be, distress of nations, and greater trouble shall come to pass. This nation is, and will be in great danger, for there is, and will be a great uniting of power and powers, for Satan will work to destroy all that he can of the good. As the restitution and restoration of all things will be at work, Satan will be there to disturb the minds and peace of men, and to hinder the good that they shall try to do.

3. By the uniting of power, many will be brought from foreign countries, and this will change conditions here. Again this country will be in distress, therefore let those go to the land as I have told you, before these changes will come, for trying times are upon the earth.

4. Churches will unite, and the time will come when there will be only the Church of

Christ and the church of the Devil, so remember while the good is at work, Satan is there to destroy.

5. Your mind has been troubled over the conditions of the church. All these things will come to pass for the two powers are at work; one to build up the Lord's work, the other to destroy. Satan will darken the minds of the people, for many are filled with selfishness and their minds are carnal, and blinded by the traditions of men. As you stand between the good and the evil, you will have Satan to contend with as he seeks to destroy, and the power of the Lord on the other side to direct you, that you may instruct the people.

6. The Church of Christ will never again be destroyed, for it shall continue on its work until Christ shall come, but many hearts will be sad at times because of the things they will have to pass through.

7. As you go and talk with the people, and your brethren, be kind to them; bear with their weakness, for this will make you strong, and as the greater things shall come you may have the strength to stand, for many will fall by the way. Remember, the temple will be built as I have told you; if not by this people, by another people which God will raise up, for thousands are ready too receive the message that I shall bring from time to time, and will accept it.

8. Your life will be in danger from time to time; use wisdom where you are and with whom you are, both with those that profess Christ, and those that are of the world, for many are at enmity with you.

9. Send this not to the world as yet, for I will come to you again to instruct you, for so have I been commanded of the Lord, to come to you. While this may seem strange to you, and many others, yet in the end you shall know the reason that I was sent to you.

From the Apostles

Shalom,

Jehovah is Lord (Exodus 6:3 and Luke 2:11). Beloved in Christ, hope is progressively well with thee according to your faith and dedication in our Lord.

I looked at my life in comparison and measurement to God's standard in the Bible, the Record of the Nephites and the Word of the Lord. This indeed will keep and make one humble, as you see yourself in the light and mirror of Jesus' word, the God and king of love, my Jesus kind of love and the Bible kind of love. Read John chapters 3 and 4 and I Corinthians 13. It is God's reflection on my face when one looks and studies these words. Every time you read this it should cause one to be humble and repent of things of the self.

In the Word of the Lord, in particular the Angel's Message, the Elias for to come it states the Holy Priesthood is the Pure Love of Christ. So if I am not operating in this kind of Love then I need to continually humble myself before whom? Jesus our God. Mankind is waiting to see and behold the true Revelation and Manifestation and demonstration of the true sons of God (Romans 8 and John 30). Even as Elijah he shall stand forth.

I was thinking that being a true servant

of Christ to the end is great. But do you think he wants us as believers to walk as servants alone? He wants us to take our place as warriors. We need to fight and make war to defeat the enemy, Satan or man of evil. You should know who they are in the kingdom and their relationship with their Lord. We need to stand for forth fearless and boldly proclaiming I am what my Father says I am. I can do what my Father says I can do. I fear not. Read II Timothy 1:7, Psalms 27 and 46, II Corinthians 10:4-8, Message 88:35-39 and Revelation 12:8.

While in prayer today I was thinking that I should tell you about this. It may be construed, miss understood even self righteous. However the truth is the truth and reality is reality. Read Message 29, Message 13, Message 4 and I Nephi 13, and Revelation 13 and 18. The papacy claims the Roman Catholic Church is the richest and wealthiest and most influential church in the world. As of now most of its foundation and doctrine is of man/Satan. It is deceiving many, about one billion people. The Mormon Church in Utah is the second richest church which calls them Christians. (Read Message 12:4, Message 102:22-23 and Message 111:2-4.) These churches has great influence and false doctrines measured by the Bible, The Record of the Nephites and the Word of the Lord brought to mankind by an angel, the Elias for to come. God's word is truth.

So if you are offended at me read the books, read the law, the holy prophets and the teachings of Jesus Christ his Gospel and Epistle. There are many good loving people in the Catholic, Islam and Mormon Churches who have been deceived

and are spiritually blind. (Matthew 24) Jesus says many deceivers would come and deceive many. (II Thessalonians Chapter 2, Revelation 13, Isaiah 8:20, II John 2:8-11, and Galatians 1:1) And if possible deceive very elect. (Matthew 24:22) Please read the whole chapter of Matthew 24 and Message 88.

Please understand I don't hate any of these souls. I love them and desire to get the whole truth to them, but we must speak out against false doctrines and fear not man or Satan.

The Mormons have many churches around the world and 8 million members. The Islam/Muslims are perhaps the now becoming the most riches of these churches because of the oil wells. They are powerful and most influential religion of the world, over the whole earth. (The beast or anti-Christ as found in Revelation 13) They hate Christians and are the greatest threat of evil, violence, hatred and they are about 7 billion strong. Yet there are many good souls. I pray they will come to Jesus, but they are blinded by hate, false doctrine, lies and a false God, Allah, and a false prophet, Mohamed. The year 2017 is the tipping point. We hear of reports and testimonies around the world how many good Muslims are receiving visitations from angels. Some have claimed to have been visited by the Lord Jesus himself. They are turning to Christ. I believe it!! Many heathen nations through evangelism of the gospel of Christ are being saved/delivered and set free from bondage of false religions. See Isaiah 60-61.

This morning I asked myself why are these evil false organizations having such success and we The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message and other restoration

groups are not? Not one of these organizations uses the same Bible principals. Do they work by evil or by good? Read and study.

Why beloved are we not succeeding? Is it because of lack of true forgiveness, pride, bitterness, priest craft, self glory, not totally submitting our lives to Christ and the Holy Spirit? (Read Messages 50-53 and 91.) Will we arise and be healed? (Isaiah 60:1 and Message 96:5-6) Let us pray for our Nation, our Church, and our Ministry.

Yours truly

Eddie Lee

Articles

A Little Bit of History Restoration Walking Tour

Independence, Missouri

Ellen Draves

The city calls it the Mormon Walking Tour but I prefer to call it Restoration Walking Tour. This is because it involves all people in the Restoration movement.

Joseph Smith had a revelation that missionaries should go to Independence. In December of 1830 Oliver Cowdery, Ziba Peterson, Parley P. Pratt, Peter Whitmer, Jr. and Frederick G. Williams came to Independence. They started preaching to the Shawnee and Delaware Tribes that were nearby. These missionaries believed that these tribes were part of the last tribes of Israel.

The tour consists of 14 locations.

Number 1: Temple Lot

After the arrival of Joseph Smith in 1831 a part of Jones Hoy Flourney's farm was dedicated as the Temple Lot. Joseph dedicated this spot and a stone with the date was buried. This was before they had bought the land. After this time numerous restoration members started gathering in Independence. Other member went to surrounding counties. The growth was so rapid that non members became concerned that their devotion was unnatural.

Number 2: Present location of Flourney Home

It was in this home that Flourney and Bishop Edward Partridge negotiated for the land, that the Temple would be built on.

It was dismantled and moved to the present location when the First Christian Church needed additional parking space.

Number 3: Partridge Home Site and School

This was the home of Bishop Partridge. In 1833 he was taken from it and taken to the Public Square. He was tarred and feathered. A log school was built at a nearby location. The school house was also used as a meeting house when the weather was bad. In November of 1933 the church members surrounded their weapons to the state militia.

Number 4: Flourney Home Original Location

When friction between the early settlers and the restoration members occurred, the restoration members were expelled from the area. Moses Wilson and his wife owned the house in 1838. They invited Joseph Smith and other church leaders to dine with them. Wilson was a leader among the citizens who wanted to drive the church out of Jackson County.

Number 5: Rathbun House

Robert and his wife, Hannah, owned this lot. They had a blacksmith shop on this location. After he got ran out of Independence he went to Far West.

Number 6: Public Square

This is the area that surrounds the courthouse. In 1832 Sidney Rigdon preached on the courthouse steps. In 1833 Edward Partridge and Charles Allen were tarred and feathered. This was an act of public humiliation. Hot tar is poured on an individual and then feathers from a pillow were poured over him. They were removed by putting lard all over the body and pulling them off. This can leave the skin severely burnt.

Number 7: Gilbert and Whitney Store

The store was owned by Sidney Gilbert and Newell K. Whitney. It sold household goods to individuals who were going west as well as local citizens. Church members met with their opponents here when they demanded the Church members to leave the county. In 1933 five hundred men demolished the store. Later in the year it was again targeted for destruction. When the church members left Jackson County, Gilbert took his family to Clay County. Today the store has been restored and they are again selling household items.

Number 8: Printing House

The first church paper printed in Independence was located here. The paper was called The Evening and The Morning Star. William Wines Phelps and his family lived in the building. When he refused to leave the county, the printing press was thrown from the upper story to the street. At this time they were printing sheets for the Book of Commandments. Some of the sheets were saved and removed to a log cabin that

was behind the building. Two of Gilbert's nieces saved some copies of the book.

After the printing press office was destroyed, church members were hunted and abused. After a time a compromise was reached and the church members agreed to leave the county.

A bank was built on this location and it was the headquarters for the Church of Christ for many years.

In the church library we have a book containing some copies of the Evening and Morning Star.

Number 9 and 10: Log Courthouse

Number 9 is the present location and number 10 is the original location from where it was moved.

In 1827 the courthouse was raised by slave labor. When the county built the courthouse on Public Square, it was bought by Sidney Gilbert and was used for housing of his extended family. It was also used as the church storehouse. Gilbert used it as his store until his store on the square was built.

Number 11: Boggs Home

Lilburn W. Boggs was the county clerk. Boggs gave Peter Whitmer Jr. space in his home for a tailor shop. Peter Whitmer, Jr. was David Whitmer's brother. He was one of the eight witnesses, who saw the plates.

Number 12: Noland House

Noland House was a very popular inn. Joseph Smith and other church leaders were held here under house arrest. They stayed here while they were awaiting their trial. Sometimes they were allowed to walk to the Temple Lot.

Number 13: Jail House

The original building was built in 1827. It had an outside stairway that led to the upper room. Sidney Gilbert, William McLel-

lin, John Carrill and Isaac Morley were prisoners in the lower dungeon of this building.

It was in the present jail that Orrin Porter Rockwell was held. Rockwell was a body guard for both Joseph Smith and Brigham Young. He was arrested for an alleged assassination attempt on Lilburn W. Boggs.

Number 14: Boggs Home

After Lilburn W. Boggs was governor of Missouri, he returned to Independence, Missouri. It was in this house that an attempt was made on his life. Orrin Porter Rockwell was accused, tried and acquitted. Rockwell was known as the destroying angel. He was the church avenger.

Lilburn Boggs when he was Governor issued the Extermination Order in 1838. This order stated the church members would be forced to leave Missouri or be exterminated. Over 5000 church member left Missouri.

After Boggs recovered from his wounds, he moved his family to California.

The city of Independence and the MMTF (a non secular restoration group) saw the importance of these locations. A metal plaque has been placed in the sidewalk at each of these locations.

I have given you a brief history of each of these places. You can find more on the internet. There is additional information of the individuals involved. If you can not find it please write the Church Office and we will try to find it for you.

Be Content

Thresa Ray
Missouri

My grandmother, Sylvia Draves, mother

of Brother W. A. Draves, use to say this little verse:

“Content thee my child in thy lot to dwell,

For in God’s sweet Spirit, all will be well.”

This reminds me of a few verses from the Holy Bible.

Philippians 4:11-13 “Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. 12) I know both how to be abased (made low) , and I know how to abound: (be prosperous): every where and in all things I am instructed to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13) I can do all things through Christ which strengthen me.”

We need to learn to be content. I read that the pursuit of simplicity is the surest route of contentment.

I Timothy 6:6-8 “But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7) For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8) And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.”

Verses 9 and 10 goes on to say that ‘money is the root of all evil’ and that it is easy to fall into temptations and lusts.

Matthew 19:24 (Jesus is speaking) “And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.”

That is because many people think more of their money or ‘things’ than they do anything else. We know several stories of people in the Bible that God blessed them with much land and all kinds of riches. They were holy men that did not

worship the money and they did not put worldly things before God.

Scripture tells us that men are that we might have joy. God also tells us to reap what we sow and enjoy the fruit of our labor. So it is okay to do well and abound if you keep things in perspective and always put God first in you life. We must first seek the kingdom of God and all other things will be added unto us.

But whether we are doing well or not so well, we must learn to be content in any situation we are in. You can try to make things better, but always put God first.

Remember, no matter what is your situation, always put God first. God will help in all situations!

Love in Christ,

Young Adults Departement

Matt and Ellen Thompson
Missouri

Dear Young Adults

I hope to find you well and with your lamps trimmed and burning for the Lord. God tells us in the messages that this is the time of haste. That is why God send John the Baptist, his messenger, to warn the people of the world that this is the closing time and God is warning us that the hour of his judgment is on. His coming is near. Are we preparing our lives for this Great and Dreadful Day? Matthew 24:42 “Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.” What if the Lord came today, would you be prepared? Is your heart right? Have you studied to show yourself approved? Are you serving the

Lord and praying to him daily? Are you wrapped up in the things of the world? Are you watching where you go, what you do, and what you say? Are your hands clean and your hearts pure? Have the works you've done been for the Lord or Satan? These are the questions we have to ask ourselves. Are we ready for Christ's second coming?

We have to prepare ourselves. We need to do away with things not of God. Remember to always seek the Lord in prayer. He is always our best friend and there is for us to call upon whenever we need him. Whenever we pray to the Lord we allow him to be in our hearts and let him guide us. We always need to rejoice in the Lord and have joy and peace in our hearts.

Message 90:23 "There will be many troubles and trials within and without the homes, the nations and the church, until you will rejoice to stand together. Let peace rule your lives—watch what you say and do, and where you are."

We need to stay away from alcohol, tobacco and drugs. We need to be not of the world. We need to refrain from places that have these things so that Satan will not be able to tempt us to do wrong.

It is easier to do wrong than right. Don't be deceived by man and the world. With the Lord in our lives we can do right.

Remember they call evil good and good evil in the end time. Let the Lord give you strength and endurance during the end times. The Lord has warned us what events will occur before the messenger comes again to prepare the way for his second coming.

Continue to pray for one another as we are praying for all of you. We love you all. May God Bless you all.

We would like to thank Brother Matt and Sister Ellen Thompson for writing the Young Adults Department. We would also like to thank Sister Karen Wilkin and Sister Brenda Humpert who will be taking over this Department starting in the March/April paper.

Junior Department

Thresa Ray
Missouri

Dear Youth,

In February we celebrate Valentine's Day. Many think of the love that they have for other their sweetheart, their family and friends. Love includes that and so much more!

Scripture tells us that "God is love." I John 4:8 "He that loveth not; knoweth not God, for God is love."

John 3:16 says "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Jesus lived His life as an example for us to follow. He loves everyone. Do you know the parable of the lost sheep? You can find it in the Holy Bible, Luke 15:4-7. (Jesus is speaking. 4) "What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? 5) And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6) And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. 7) I

say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.”

Jesus tells us that He is our good shepherd and we are His sheep. John 10:14 “I am the good shepherd and know my sheep, and I am known of mine.”

Psalms 23:1 tells us “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.”

If someone has lost their way or does the wrong things, Jesus is saddened and seeks after that person. He knocks at the door (of our heart). We must open the door of our heart and ask Him to come into our heart and life. Revelation 3:20 (Jesus speaking) “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man (any person) hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him (or her) and will sup with him (or her), and he with Me.”

Jesus loves us so much that He gave His life on the cross, died for our sins, that we might have everlasting life. Through belief in Jesus and accepting Him as our Lord and Savior, and repenting of our sins, we will be forgiven and can receive everlasting life.

John 10:11 (Jesus speaking) “I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep.”

John 15:13-14 “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14) Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.”

Message 119:6 “Thus saith the Lord, Ye are my friends...” We are Jesus’ friends and Jesus died on the cross for us because He loves us so much and made a way for us to receive everlasting life! What love!

Proverbs 17:17 says “A friend loveth at all times...”

Let us read from The Record of the The

Nephites, Moroni 7:47-48 “But charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth forever; whosoever is found possessed of it in the last day, it shall be well with them; 48) Wherefore, my beloved brethren, pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart, that ye may be filled with this love...”

There are many gifts of the gospel. (Read I Corinthians 12:1-11)

Record of the Nephites, Moroni 10:9-18, 20-21 “For behold, to one is given the Spirit of God, that he may teach the word of wisdom: 10) And to another, that he may teach the word of knowledge, by the same Spirit. 11) And to another, exceeding great faith; and to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit. 12) And again, to another, that he may work mighty miracles; 13) And again, to another that he may prophesy concerning all things; 14) And again, to another, the beholding of angels and ministering spirits; 15) And again, to another, all kinds of tongues; 16) And again, to another, the interpretation of languages and of divers kinds of tongues. 17) And all these gifts come by the Spirit of Christ; and they come unto every man severally, according as He will. 18) And I would exhort you, my beloved brethren, that ye remember that every good gift cometh of Christ... 20) Wherefore, there must be faith; and if there must be faith, there must be hope; and if there must be hope, there must be charity: 21) And except ye have charity, ye can in no wise be saved in the Kingdom of God...”

I Corinthians 13:1-8, 13 “Though I speak with the tongues (languages) of men and of angels and have not Charity (love), I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. 2) And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and

all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. 3) And though I bestow (give) all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. 4) Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself (it does not push itself forward), is not puffed up. 5) Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; 6) Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; 7) Beareth all things, believeth things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. 8) Charity never faileth; but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away...13) And abideth faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity.”

So we can have other gifts, even all of the gifts, but if we do not have charity – which is love, we have nothing! See how important it is to have love!

Jesus tells us it is easy to love those that love us. It is not so easy to love people that hurts us, persecutes us or is bad to us. But Jesus tells us to love our enemies. Matthew 5:44 “But I say unto you, love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you and persecute you.”

John 15:12 (Jesus speaking) “This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.”

The first and second greatest commandments are found in Matthew 22:37-40 “Jesus said unto him *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.* 38) This is the first and great commandment. 39)

And the second is like unto it, *Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself,* 40) On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

God wants us to love all mankind, care for them, and care for their needs. He wants to be concerned if one person strays, and does the wrong things. He wants us to pray for all people because we have **love** for them.

What we do for others we do for Jesus also. Matthew 25:40 “...Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me.”

Someone may tell you that they love then act bad towards you. If they tell you they Love you and do good towards you – then you “know” they love you – because one’s actions speak louder than words. So when Jesus sees us do good for others, we are doing good to Him also. He knows by our actions that we love Him.

Do you know the “Golden Rule”? Matthew 7:12 (Jesus speaking) “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do you to them; for this is the laws and the prophets” In other words, do unto others as you would like them to do unto you. Treat others with love and kindness because that is how you would like to be treated.

So remember the first and second greatest commandments: *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind,* and *Thou shalt love thy neighbors thyself.*

If you do those two things, you will always do good and show love and kindness to God, to those that love you, and to everyone, even people you do not know. That is what charity or the true love of God is all

about.

I love each of you. May God bless you, guide you, and protect you.

Love in Christ.

Sister Thresa Ray

Primary Department

Joy Ellen Draves-Dreher

A Lesson in Humility

Philippians 2:3-33 “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. 4) Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. 5) Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6) Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7) But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8) And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9) Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10) That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11) And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

We read here how we must have the same attitude of humility as Christ Jesus did. He is our example.

We should always think of other people rather than ourselves. We should care about their interests, their concerns and what they want to do. We shouldn't have a selfish attitude – only thinking of ourselves and wanting to do everything our way. That kind of thinking isn't fair on others. We all want to

do our own thing, but sometimes we need to put aside what we want to do, in favour of what others want. If we don't do this and continue to want everything our way all the time, we may end up having no friends and being alone. Nobody wants to be around someone that only wants to do what they want to do. We need to care about what others want, and to do things their way as well.

You know, we all can have different ideas, and by putting these ideas together, we can accomplish great things. That's working together – and that's fair play!

Local News

In November the Independence Local had their elections. Reece Johnson was elected Pastor for the next year. Richard Johnson was elected assistant pastor. Larry Crow was elected Superintendent of Sunday School and Reece Johnson as his assistant. Sheila Crow was elected as the local reporter. I am sorry that I do not have the other office at this time.

During December we missed two Sundays because of bad weather. On Christmas Day we started an hour later and Reece Johnson read from the story of Jesus birth in Luke and then John's birth in Matthew. This was followed by sing Christmas songs and some specials. We then partook of the emblems.

On January 1 there were very few of us in attendance, because of illness. Instead of having sacrament service since we had it on Christmas Day, we had a very good meeting studying The Record of the Nephites.

The second Sunday of January we partook of the emblems.

The last Sunday of January we were

blessed to have Eddie Lee, Mike and Nawassa Greenwell and Leat Stanley.

The first Sunday in February we were prepared to have Brother Richard Johnson talk with us on the ministry. We had our Sacrament Service. Afterwards we had pray and testimonies. The Spirit was so strong and the testimonies were so good that we were well past our schedule time and Brother Richard did not get a chance to talk with us. We will be looking forward for his next visit.

We would like to ask for prayers for Shelia Crow and Tammy Thompson who are recovering from surgery, Jessica Evans from a car wreck and Shirley James in her treatments, and all of our members who have been suffering with colds, sinus infections and flu.

We would also like to extend a big welcome to members of the Northwestern Local (Holt). They have decided to spend some of their Sunday's with us and the rest in meetings up North.

Please continue to pray for our members everywhere, the ministry and the Church in general. We know that this year there will lots of changes.

H ead of the Church	Col. 1:18
I nward man is	II Cor. 4:16
J oined to the	I Cor. 6:17
K nowledge of the	I Tim. 2:4
L ooking for that	Titus 2:13
M ade nigh by the	Eph. 2:13
N ecessity is laid	I Cor. 9:16
O bey your parents	Col. 3:20
P ray without	I Thes. 5:17
Q uicken us	Col. 2:13
R emember you	I Thes. 1:3
S eek those things	Col. 3:1
T estimony unto	Acts 14:3
U nderstand all	I Cor. 13:2
V engeance is mine	Rom. 12:19
W ages of sin	Rom. 6:23
X marks the time	For decision
Y ou have He	Col. 2:13
Z ealous of good	Titus 2:14

Know Your ABC's

A bsent from	II Cor. 5:6
B lessed for	II Cor. 11:31
C hosen us in	Eph. 1:4
D ead in Christ	I Thes. 4:16
E dify one	I Thes. 5:11
F aith is counted	Rom. 4:5
G od manifest	I Tim. 3:16



