

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.”
Message 53:3

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**“Therefore if any man
be in Christ,
he is a new creature:
old things are passed away;
behold, all things
are become new.”**

2 Corinthians 5:17



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

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The 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 of persons.

2. We believe in Jesus Christ the manifestation of God in flesh, who lived, suffered, and died for all mankind; whom we own as our only 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 this to come, and is the medium by which we receive the 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 the added witness for Christ; and 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 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 Watchcare 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 the General Church fund. The admonition of Christ that 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 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 a breach of this covenant the innocent one may remarry.

21. We believe oppose to war. Men are not justified in taking up of 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 New Jerusalem shall be built upon this land "unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph, (Ether 13:4-8; III Nephi 10:17), which city shall be built, beginning at the Temple Lot."

25. We believe that 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 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 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 history of the people who once lived in the region around *The Great Lakes*, some of whom are Ancestors of The Native Americans. 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 Judgement* has come. Awake those 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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Thank you.

THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY *To All People*

ONE-HUNDRED SIXTH MESSAGE

The morning of November 25th, 1989, I awoke at 4:30 a.m., I got out of bed, dressed, and was sitting in the front room when the door opened and in walked the angel Messenger of the Lord. The light that accompanied him filled the whole house, brighter than at noonday. He took me by my right hand as he had times before, saying: "Take the Message I will give you."

I quickly stepped to the kitchen table where I had writing pads and a pencil. He sat in a chair facing me and began speaking.

He had on the same white robe and strong countenance as always before. He spoke plainly and with firmness, watching and waiting as I wrote the words he spoke. Following is the Message. He left about 6:30 a.m., the light remaining as I sat reading over the Message.

-W.A. Draves

1. "Behold! I come from the Lord's presence. Take the Message I will give you.

2. Yea, take heed at this time, the need is great that I speak on this work and plans of the Lord. Write the words I speak.

3. Many are praying to know the truth and the will of the Lord. The authority and trust is upon you and your brethren. Keep it sacred.

4. Let none destroy the plan nor the power or sacredness of the holy priest hood.

5. As was my coming anew to the remnant on the Temple Lot to the Lord's servant, Otto Fetting, your fellow servant and leader who was faithful in his day of work- yet blindness had befallen them; they sought not further light nor direction, moreover closing their minds to my Message which the Lord has sent me to bring for the work in these latter days- yet they have preserved and kept sacred the holy spot pointed out by the

voice, eye and finger of the Lord- this is their blessing.

6. Now hear ye this Message and be firmly established in obedience to the commandment of this baptism I bring to rid yourselves of the sins and traditions of man-made doctrines wherein satan has deceived and befuddled the work of God.

7. Thus blindness has been in part. Now arise above it, bring it to pass of God's great plan. Receive this baptism. Build yourselves in the circle of the Lord. Will it come to pass?

8. Remember the Lord Jesus Christ is the truth, the way of life and salvation- deliverance from all sin. No other way can mankind be saved in the life of the flesh, this life of probation only. Thus mankind chooses this day what his destiny shall be in the hereafter- in the resurrection.

9. All that obey and defend this cause shall be the favored of the Lord. Try the Lord and see if He will open the windows of heaven and make you a delightful people- mighty in His strength.

10. He that hardeneth his heart receives the lesser portion of the word, but he that will not harden his heart, to him is given the greater portion of the word and knowledge of the work in God's plan, until it is given unto him to know the mysteries of God, until he knoweth them in full.

11. Be not deceived nor tied down by the chains of the devil.

12. Can any justly say in your heart, you know nothing of my coming?

13. I am John the Baptist, a resurrected being, the Messenger of the Lord, the forerunner of the Christ, His comings. I bring the Elias or Elijah Message spoken of by Christ and the prophets. I am the elect one, he to give meat in due season, the Ancient of Days, the Messenger of the covenant, the

promised one to come. I speak the Lord's will and proclaim the word again before the Christ shall come. I shall be with Him when He comes to claim His Bride, the Church, His jewels. Let all mankind hear.

14. Behold, seek to please the Lord. Pray not in confusion, nor of a great noise, for God loveth serenity and quiet comity, words well-said, well spoken from the heart. Who heareth a roaring noise? Can God hear?

15. He will not bless confusion neither will He hear same.

16. The need is great that I speak on this. Swing wide the gate, let the Church grow. Let the work continue everywhere. By His working Spirit great things will come to pass.

17. I bring the authority, the everlasting gospel. Heed it and the words of life and truth as taught in *The Bible* and *The Record of the Nephites* with my words.

18. Those that know the scriptures wherein speaks of my coming, the prophet like unto Moses, and all who will not hear me, 'that prophet,' shall not be there when the Lord counts His jewels.

19. The law and the prophets spoke until I come- now I speak for the Lord, that the work and plans of God will be carried through and accomplished and the holy sanctuary be made possible, the Temple of the Lord.

20. Why is the rejection and contention of the Lord's people? Will you accept this baptism I bring? Rid your minds of the sins, traditions and doctrines of men.

21. Thus saith the Lord, 'If you will hear and obey I will lift that which has befallen and will close up the breach thereof. I will cleanse the ruins and it shall be built as in the days of old, even the Temple of the Lord.

22. These are My people. They have kept sacred the special spot for the Temple, the

holy sanctuary of My planning' saith the Lord.

23. Choose a man who is no mocker, who is humble and of good report, to bring up the prints and plans from the instructions I have brought and will bring.

24. Do not bring the wrath of God upon your failing. Your houses will be laid waste- your children void of inheritance- if you come not into the will and circle of the Lord. Hear this Message, obey this baptism, cleanse your minds of bitterness, of separations, of divisions over doctrinal points. Learn the truth, the humble gospel way.

25. The Lord does not change His mind or plans, and is no respecter of persons. He will not forget His promises, nor will He alter His standard or ways of values, but merciful and long suffering, He would that none ignore His laws forever. Yea, not even His chosen people- lo, the work is not yet finished. His Message is valid today as when it was first uttered.

26. Thus saith the Lord, 'I will give you a new heart and put a new Spirit within you, and you shall walk in My statutes. I will put My laws in your minds. There shall be peace throughout the land of Zion, and Jerusalem, and the remnant, whom I shall call My strongholds, deliverance will be there.'

27. The Lord hath power to do all things which is according to His word.

28. Bring forth repentance. Prepare the way of the Lord. Walk in His paths which are straight, for behold, the kingdom of God must come- awaken to His plan. Seek ye the extra oil in your lamps and vessels, your lives and your work.

29. The Lord has waited long and now pleadeth to bring reconciliation and obedience to this way and it will be well with

you.

30. Let more be added to be in the fields of labor.

31. Let all labor diligently and great blessings will follow where ever you go. The Lord wills it, and speaks it. So shall it be.

32. Lift high the standard and peace and power will be your portion.

33. Let there be added to the elders, moreover evangelists, and more as they come into this work. Before you stands an open door, enter and receive this authority: Earl Smith, Ronald O'Brien, M. Green, John Brisson and Thomas D. Schwartz.

34. Give this Message to the Church and the brethren of the Temple Lot group, and to all restoration. Hear the call of God.

35. You that shall be spared and favored of the Lord, heed the words I bring. Be converted to this great assured truth and the Lord will heal you.

36. I leave peace with you and will come again as the need may be. Amen."

From the Apostles

The LORD is My Light And My Salvation

Psalm 27 & Message 120

Richard Johnson

Background

One day while studying, I was reading Psalm 27, and I did a search in the Word of the Lord Messages using part of the first verse. I found one reference in Message 120:8, that has not yet been footnoted. Given that the Lord had referenced the Psalm in the

last Message to Brother Draves, I began by searching for the prophetic significance, if any, for the number 120 in the Scriptures and then with the Word of the Lord. When I used it at Church, I was asked if I would submit it for the Church Publication of "The Greater Light." Since then, I found a couple more references when broadening my search using just "salvation" and looking at each result.

I have edited the study by expanding its historicity that denotes its historical actuality and the authenticity of the 120 Messages¹. With the *Bible* and *The Record of the Nephites*, they raise a Standard of Truth² that we might not be deceived by the false proclaims of men or follow after strange gods or spirits.

¹ Message 81:23-26, 85:16-18

² John 6:63, 16:13, and 17:17

The Prophetic Significance¹ and overview of the number 120 in the *Bible* is rich with meaning, symbolizing periods of waiting, preparation, and the fulfillment of divine purposes. *The number can represent a divinely appointed time for spiritual readiness, and preparation for God's work.* Its occurrences in the lives of key biblical figures and events underscore its importance in the biblical narrative. *It often relates to a divinely appointed time limit before judgment, representing God's patience and a period of probation, as well as symbolizing a transition from the age of flesh to the age of the Spirit, as with the gathering of 120 believers at Pentecost in Acts 1:15.*

¹ WWW search for prophetic significance of the number 120 in the Bible using Google AI top response.

In The Word of the Lord:

"I have come to you from time to time, to instruct you as to the work of building the Temple, and the organization of The Church

of Christ, and re-establishing it again in its fullness, that the church may again receive the power and Holy Ghost as in the days of old, and that as on the day of Pentecost, the servants of the Lord may be filled with the Spirit of God, that they may take the message of the Gospel of Christ to the nations of the earth, for the Lord has reserved unto Himself this remnant on the Temple Lot, to set the Church in order. I have come to you in your own language that you may understand, and impart it to the children of men, and that the Message might be understood by all people, in its plainness, that they may have no excuse at the judgment day, for verily these things shall come to pass.” -Message 12:1, 1929.

“The Lord changes not, and He speaks now unto the children of men as He spoke in days of old.” -Message 37:25, 1938.

“The church is organized. I have given the type and leadership, the way through the gates is open. Repentance and faith are the beginning, worship and receive the gift. The hands must be laid upon all that the Spirit might come to those that prepare for it.” -Message 81:23, 1965.

“Again, as the children of Israel heard and obeyed the injunctions of the Lord through Moses were delivered, so will the people be delivered today if they will hear the words I bring preparing themselves to follow through. *For there is the way of salvation and preservation, the way of deliverance in the fulfilling of the words of the Lord spoken by the holy prophets of old—as they were moved upon by the Holy Spirit of God.*

29. I come fulfilling and to do His will. This is the assured way, the Elijah Message. The curse is lifted as belief and obedience comes.

30. This is the midnight cry- the great confusion must fall. *Pentecost must come, the*

outpouring of the Spirit must be even to those that are afar off.

31. I am the Messenger to restore all things. I bring a book of instructions, prophecy and commands to all men, to every branch of the house of Israel.

32. Fear not, let the Spirit fill you to overflowing for it will come to all who make ready. The Lord sets His hand again the second time, to recover His people.” -Message. 85:28-32, 1967.

“Keep the standard and the work will not suffer. It has been established to move to every nation and the people of this world.

6. The Lord Jesus is the Christ and He changes not. He is the light of salvation to all that hear His voice.

7. Let the work continue in the foreign fields. Let it be established everywhere. The Lord will bless and bring success by His Spirit.

8. Give this Message to the brethren. I leave peace with you. Amen” -Message 120:2, 6 -8, 1994.

In the Bible days of old:

Genesis 6:3 (before the flood), “And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.” *This is seen as a time limit for humanity to repent, a period of grace before the end of an era,* and not the future lifespan of men following the flood, rather than a universal lifespan limit, even though the lifespan of man diminished over time after the flood.

Noah lived 350 years after the flood, A decrease from before by hundreds of years, but remained long for several generations: Shem lived to 600, Arphaxad to 438, and Jacob to 147. By Moses’ time, most lived 70 to 80 years, similar to today. Then Moses

wrote a prayer in Psalms 90:10 about life's shortness saying, "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." Interestingly, Moses and Aaron reached 120 years.

The 120 years the Lord would strive with man by His Spirit being after the pattern of the six days of the calendar of the generations of the creation in Genesis. Peter told us in 2 Peter 3:8 that a thousand years is as one day to the Lord or six thousand years equaling the six days of creation.

In Leviticus 25:1-4, we find the calendar of Jubilee cycles of 49 weeks of 7 years each, followed by a year of Jubilee is 50 years. 120 Jubilees of 50 years each being equal to 6000 years. While Genesis uses genealogies, Jubilees provides a prophetic framework for the events like the Flood using God's Divine Law, and ere the days of man shall be 6000 years when the 1000 year millennial Day of the Lord¹ shall break forth.

¹Message 86:34, Revelation 20:1-6, Psalm 90:4.

In The Record of the Nephites

The disciples He had chosen were asked by Jesus what they desired of Him when he would leave them. They told him that after we have lived unto the age of man, that our ministry, to which thou has called us may have an end, that we may speedily come unto thee in thy kingdom. "And He saith unto them, Blessed are ye, because ye have desired this thing of me; therefore after that ye are seventy and two years old, ye shall come unto me in my kingdom, and with me ye shall find rest." -3 Nephi 28:3.

In the Bible:

David testifies of his faith and trust in God as his protector in the Psalm. He has

confidence there is no reason to fear anyone or anything. He wrote this when he was in mortal danger, being threatened and hunted by his father-in-law, King Saul, who sought to kill him before and long after Samuel anointed him as the future King.

Saul had developed a deep, obsessive hatred for David. He was driven by jealousy and loss of his position and power. It was sparked by David's success that led him to relentlessly hunt him and seek to kill him.

Psalm 27:1-3

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

2. When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

3. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident."

In The Word of the Lord:

"The Lord knoweth the hearts of mankind and wherein they desire to learn and do His will, it shall be like precious ointment poured out upon the faithful to dwell in this light of life and salvation. For unto them shall be great joy, that which the mind of man has not yet attained to.

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 commandments 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.” -Message 73:6-7.

“Read and study the words I bring. Shape your lives by what I bring, for this is the assured way.

6. I bring life and a light of the Lord to all that will hear the instructions I bring. The day comes when I will appear to all the faithful. I will be with the Christ when He comes...” -Message 89:5-6.

“The Lord Jesus is the Christ and He changes not. He is the light of salvation to all that hear His voice.” -Message 120:6.

Whom shall we fear or be afraid?

“Fear not man nor the works of man, but fear God and do right.” -Message 19:13, 22:5.

“Fear not, satan:” -Message 19:18; 41:4; 44:8; 62:9; 72:11; 73:18; 94:3.

“...Fear God and keep His commandments, and it will be well with thee.” -Message 22:5.

“...Fear not those who depart from you. They are as clouds without water, empty vessels tossed about in doubt and fears. But fear the Lord insomuch that obedience is your answer...” -Message 69:10.

“Fear not those who grind their teeth — yet say, ‘I love the Lord,’ but show hate to the brethren. Woe unto all such, even in the world. Their house will be left desolate and their wealth destroyed.

...There are those that stand in the way and would destroy you and the work you do, if it would not first destroy them...” -Message 103:13, 23.

In the Bible:

“And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.” -Joel 2:32.

In The Word of the Lord:

“Fret not nor worry not; this is the Lord’s work. I have come to you and given the Message. The authority and trust is upon you. No one nor none other can take it from you. All that they have, you have given them of the Lord’s calling.”

6. Now you have been faithful to set firm, legally establishing the line of authority, preserved into the remnant whom God shall call- through whom His work shall be accomplished.” - Message 81:2 and 6, 1965.

“You are the remnant of the faithful down to this day and time in which the Lord will do a work, and deliver His people as in the days of old.”

5. Be faithful and the word shall deliver you and all the faithful but to those that doubt and reject shall not be there.” -Message. 82:4-5.

“How oft have I told you, worry not over what men may say of you. The Lord knows your repentance and your righteous desires to ever be in His will. You have done the Lord’s bidding in the establishing the Church and its holy priesthood authority according to the laws of the land. Those that are with you and defend the words I bring are The Church of Christ in deed and works. The Church with the Elijah Message, set in 1829 by my hands when the holy priesthood authority was restored and kept sacred through the branch and remnant on the Temple Lot and reaffirmed upon Otto Fetting in his day- and I continue to come. Be delivered from the

sins and traditions of men and lifted from the awful curse the prophet of old told of, lest the Lord should smite the earth and all men be in vain.” -Message. 84:38 in 1966.

“Worry not, the command has long been to see that the work be more firmly established. This, you, my fellow-servant have done in the incorporation you have established, that according to the laws of the land the Church does rightly, and legally exist.” -Message 86:27, 1968.

“Fret not over what men may say of you. You have those to stand by you and this work. Respect ye one another and lift each other by being faithful to this work of redemption, the plan of God.”

8. Some you think to be your friends is laboring for satan, seeking to destroy your good and this work.” -Message 90:6 and 8 in 1970.

“Worry not about what is said against you by the unlearned and haughty or high minded. They destroy themselves.” -Message. 102:29 in 1985.

“Fear not evil lurking at the heart and thoughts of man’s conspiracy; from such turn away. -Message 103:15 in 1987.

The Messenger again warned Brother Draves, in 1991, there were men seeking to destroy him and those with him;

“You are the Lord’s scribe. For this work were you born. The Lord is your shield and preserver. His strength is given to sustain you.”

3. Worry not about false claims by ungodly persons; they seek to destroy, but first to destroy themselves.”

14. Fear not, the Lord has sent me, and I have spoken His will.” -Message 110:2, 3 and 14, 1991.

“Fret not nor worry not, this is the Lord’s work, mankind cannot run it his way. I come to you, to give encouragement. The authority and trust is upon you. No one or none other can take it from you.

3. Some let satan drive them into bitterness and evil acts against you.

6. You have done the Lord’s will and work, preserve it and keep it sacred.

9. Take your place as an apostle, likewise Leonard H. Draves and Mervyn Johnson. Let Leonard H. Draves keep the records as he has been told to and other works instructed in the office

10. Mankind cannot do the Lord’s work his way. It must be the way of the Lord, or therefore their own destruction.” -Message 118:2, 3, 6, 9, and 10 in 1994.

Psalms 27:4-6

One thing is David’s desire for God’s presence.

“One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in His temple.

5. For in the time of trouble, he shall hide me in His pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

6. And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.”

In the Bible:

“Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool:

where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

2. For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word."

5. Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed." -Isaiah 66:1, 2 and 5.

In The Word of the Lord:

"And inasmuch as My people build an house unto Me, in the name of the Lord, and do not suffer any unclean thing to come into it, that it be not defiled, My glory shall rest upon it, and My presence shall be there, for I will come into it, and all the pure in heart that shall come into it, shall see God; but if it be defiled I will not come into it, and My glory shall not be there, for I will not come into unholy temples.

9. ...The house shall be a sheltering rock to them, a haven of rest, wherein they will find spiritual food and knowledge, a school wherein they will learn of God's goodness." -Message 6:5, and 9.

"The 2300 days of Daniel's words are being fulfilled in the Lord's Church, the gospel and the rock.

'But to this man will I look,' saith the Lord, 'who is humble and of a contrite spirit—I have spoken as of this day.' -Message 85:36-37 in 1967

"Lo, the Lord is grieved because of the churches, the people called restoration, not heeding the plan of God; the authority I bring; nor the instructions even of the prophets of old; nor Christ's words- pertaining to the

Temple of the Lord, the sanctuary of the Lord.

4. Thus saith the Lord, 'Where is the house built unto Me?...'" -Message 111:3-4.

Psalm 27: 7-9

David's plea when seeking God's face.

"Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

8. When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

9. Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation."

In The Word of the Lord:

"Some try to serve the Lord standing afar off. Some fail to fully dedicate their lives to His service- they seek to serve two masters. Until they meet the Lord face to face and repent of their error, they will not fully find peace." -Message 86:53.

"...Seek God and His righteousness and much will be added unto you." -Message 91:29.

Psalm 27:10-12

He is to trust in God's steadfast love when abandoned by all else.

"When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

11. Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path because of mine enemies.

12. Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen

up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.”

In the Bible:

A person's enemies may be members of their own household, because some may reject their faith in the Way of the Lord.

-Matthew 10:34-37.

In The Word of the Lord:

“Moses was hated by his own people, and those that should have been his friends became his enemies. This has been the case in all ages. So is it now, but be careful in your work, for they will seek to destroy you.”

-Message 19:10.

“...The Lord's hand is known toward His own and His indignation towards the enemies...”

-Message 63:6.

“...trust in His words, and He will make you free...” -Message 114:12.

Psalm 27:13-14

David's anticipation of God's goodness.

“I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

14. Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.”

In the Bible:

“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”

-Isaiah 40:31.

“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto

you, they are spirit, and they are life.” -John 6:63.

John 8:12, “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

In The Word of the Lord:

“You have seen that man is continually evil unless he is filled with the Spirit and goodness that cometh from God...”

-Message 41:5.

“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.”

-Message 113:7.

“Where are those with patience that believe in God's words and plan?

9. Blessed are all those that defend this cause believing all the words I bring. Truth shall live and bring to naught all error. Shape your lives by the words I bring to you and it will be well with you.” -Message 82:8-9.

“Yea, the faithful shall mount up as eagles in understanding and knowledge of God's planning.” -Message 87:18.

“Mankind faileth of himself, he faileth to hear and obey. Many set their hearts to be secure and will not hear nor seek further light. What more shall be given to stir mankind, that they may see and learn the truth of the full plan of God?

6. I speak light and life, will they hear it?” -Message 99:3 and 6.

Amen.

My final thoughts to reiterate and leave with you this day.

“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?” - Psalm 27:1.

See and hear the Words of light and life in Christ, found in the 120 messages that shall lead you to life eternal.

The divinely appointed time for spiritual readiness, and preparation for God's work with the remnant the Lord shall call, through whom His work shall be accomplished.

Then turn and discern¹ them that be the Lord's, or them that serve Him not. They that serve Him shall have right to the tree of life.

¹ Malachi 3:16-18.

Young Adults

Joy Draves-Dreher

Judge Not

First off, I want to apologize if I begin to ramble in this article. This article is not what I had originally set out to write about at all. I know I have been working my way through the Fruit of the Spirit with you all. I had started the next fruit and had an article three quarters of the way written. But when I sat down to finish it, I just could not find the words. Something else has been weighing on my heart and heavily at the time. And that brings me to the next thing.

Secondly, I want to talk about what has been weighing heavily on my heart. Message 5:8 says **“...great will be the desire of the people to come to the Lord's house, and the Lord will meet them in the hour of their great need, when they confess their sins unto Him, and the weak shall be made strong.”** So, I confess that lately I have been struggling with judgmentalism. My heart has

been hurting with all the passing of judgment I hear on a daily basis:

- I can't turn on the news any given day without political parties blaming each other for all the moral strife and anguish the country is in or countries blaming other countries for world problems. *Nothing but judgement.* No one takes responsibility for any of it.
- I can't drive down the street without seeing homelessness everywhere and people that claim they did it to themselves. *Nothing but judgement.* No one knows everything an individual is going through or how they got where they are in life.
- I can't go into a place of business without thinking or hearing someone ask why it is so hard for people to do their jobs. *Again, nothing but judgement.* Again, no one knows what that person is going through. Maybe they are just having a bad day and need a little grace.

These are just a few examples. One more example and the worst of all for me, and the one that hurts my heart the most, are my own judgmental thoughts. Here is an example: I came home the other day, after everything that could go wrong went wrong, to a house that looked like a disaster zone. Dirty dishes that should have been placed in the sink were placed on the counter just inches from the sink. Dirty towels and clothes were left on the floor in the bathroom instead of being placed in the clothes hamper. Dog kibble left scattered on the floor from the last feeding time. All I could think is why are my kids so lazy; Its not like they had much to do during the day. I was judging my kids. If I am being brutally honest, I went to bed that night angry. I prayed that the Lord would give me patience

with my kids, so that I wouldn't fuss at them and say something that would hurt them.

That night, the Lord answered my prayer. Just not the way that I had hoped. You see, I got up the next morning and started cleaning the mess around the house. The more I cleaned, the more I realized that I was just as bad as my kids. Yes, I cleaned up their dishes, picked up their dirty clothes, and swept up the dog food they left on the floor, but had I not also picked up the shoes I took off when I came in last night? Did I not just put my dirty tea mug from the previous night in the dishwasher? Had I not left my coat draped over a chair instead of hanging it up?

The reality of the situation hit me hard. I was not just as bad as my children. I was far worse than them. I was worse, because I judged them for the same things I was doing. That realization made me cry hard as I went to the Lord in prayer again. This time I was asking for my own forgiveness. I had done exactly what Christ warns us about at the end of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 7.

1. **"Judge not, that ye be not judged.**
2. **For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.**
3. **And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?**
4. **Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye?**
5. **Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."**

I was given a few lesson reminders that day. I was reminded not to judge others for I too will be judged. I was given a lesson in patience. I need to be more patient with those

around me or else I could fall into harsh and unjust judgments towards them. I was given a lesson in forgiveness. I must be willing to forgive myself for my thoughts. I need to actively work on changing the way I think or else fall into hypocrisy and judgmentalism.

I know I have rambled on, but my hope is that by sharing my story, it will help you all learn from my mistakes. Now I leave you with a few more thoughts but first know that I love each and every one of you. Please pray for me on this journey. You are all in my prayers.

Luke 6:37-38, **"Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven:**

38. Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

Ephesians 4:2-3, **"With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;**

3. Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

May God bless you all.

Junior

Thresa Ray

Dear Youth,

When you wake up each morning, are you happy and in a good mood or are you grumpy? We make choices all day, every day. The way we react to things that happen around us can have very impactful results on our life. Some things may just affect us for

the moment; other choices may change our life forever. We can choose to be positive, kind, and helpful to others or we can choose to be negative, grumpy, mean and treat others poorly. We DO have control over our actions. I want to share some verses with you to help you make good choices.

In *The Holy Bible*, Psalm 118:24, “This is the day the Lord hath made: we will rejoice and be glad in it.” So, start your day happy, count your blessings, rejoice and be glad. The happiness you share with others will also help them to have a better day!

Do you have friends that try to influence you to do things that your parents would not approve of— things that you know in your heart are wrong? Are you a leader to your friends, helping them to do good things or do you feel weak and follow someone doing wrong because of peer pressure? *The Record of The Nephites* has some great verses that help us to tell right from wrong, good from bad.

Moroni 7:12-19, “Wherefore, all things which are good, cometh of God; and that which is evil cometh of the devil; for the devil is an enemy unto God, and fighteth against Him continually, and inviteth and enticeth to sin, and to do that which is evil continually.

13. But behold, that which is of God, inviteth and enticeth, to do good continually; wherefore, everything which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to love God, and to serve Him, is inspired of God.

14. Wherefore take heed, my beloved brethren, that ye do not judge that which is evil to be of God, or that which is good and of God, to be of the devil.

15. For behold, my brethren, it is given unto you to judge, that you may know good from evil; and the way to judge is as plain, that we may know with a perfect knowledge,

as the daylight is from the dark night.

16. For behold, the Spirit of Christ is given to every man, that they may know good from evil; wherefore I shew unto you the way to judge; for everything which inviteth to do good, and to persuade to believe in Christ, is sent forth by the power and the gift of Christ; wherefore ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of God,

17. But whatsoever thing persuadeth men to do evil, and believe not in Christ, and deny Him, and serve not God, then ye may know with a perfect knowledge it is of the devil, for after this manner doth the devil work, for he persuadeth no man to do good, no not one; neither doth his angels; neither doth they which subject themselves unto him.

18. And now, my brethren, seeing that ye know the light by which ye may judge, which light is the light of Christ, see that ye do not judge wrongfully; for with that same judgement which ye judge, ye shall also be judged.

19. Wherefore I beseech of you, brethren, that ye should search diligently in the light of Christ, that we may know good from evil; and if ye will lay hold upon every good thing, and condemn it not, ye certainly will be a child of Christ.”

Matthew 7:1-2, “Judge not, that ye be not judged.

2. For with what judgement ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with that measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.”

As you can see, we are not to judge one another but to discern right from wrong, discern good from evil. When you know what is good and what is bad you can make better choices.

In the world today, people say that things that are bad are okay because they like doing those things; but that does not make it okay.

What God considers sin is still sin no matter how people try to justify their own actions. Remember, we love all people. We love someone even if they sin, but we do not love the sin.

Isaiah 5:20, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness, that put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!"

Romans 12:9 & 21, "Let love be without dissimulation (hypocrisy). Abhor (hate) that which is evil; cleave (hold fast) to that which is good.

21. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

Just because someone likes a certain thing or activity, if it is a sin in God's eyes- it is sin- no matter how 'good' the world wants it to be considered.

Think about the things you say to others:

Proverbs 15:1-4, "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

2. The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.

3. The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

4. A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the Spirit."

Choose your words to uplift and do good. Message 91:13 says, "Be thou clean that bear the vessels of the Lord. Let realness of charity (love) rule your lives. Lift up a standard."

The Messages tell us that we should be careful in all we do and say. We need to remember that we represent Christ and behave in a way that would please Him.

Message 99:9, "Be very careful what you say, how you speak, and where you are, so is my Message to all."

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

Sometimes our choices of what we choose to say, what we choose to do, or where we choose to be can have very bad consequences. Don't just go along with others out of peer pressure, think about what you are doing and the choices you are making.

God tells us to study the scriptures and to learn His words, to put them in our heart and live our lives according to them. You can find answers to your questions in the scriptures.

Message 102:18, "Prove all things by the words of truth in *The Bible*, *Record of the Nephites* and *The Word of the Lord*. All this is established for mankind, the guidelines of hope and deliverance. Man's idealisms shall come to naught."

As we already read, satan will try to influence your decisions and choices, but satan only has the power over us that we allow him to have:

Message 9:1, "...There are those who read the Words of the Lord and the prophets and have faith therein. Upon these satan has no power..."

Message 113:11, "Keep the faith, be diligent, hold to the vigilance and the Sunlight of Righteousness shall over shadow with healing in His Wings. Study deeply the Words I bring and it will work well with you. As you believe the Words of the Lord and the prophets, and obey, satan has no power on you."

How beautiful! If we do what we just read- satan will have NO power over us! It will be easy to be kind, loving and to choose the right things to do and say! We will have a good attitude that will please God!

One of Jesus' most well-known sermons

is referred to as “The Sermon on the Mount.” He taught about the wonderful blessings people would receive because of the way they acted, which includes their attitude. These are called the “Beatitudes.” I like to think of them as the ‘be-attitudes’ or the way we should be or act. (Matthew 5:1-12). In these, the word ‘blessed’ can also be translated as ‘happy.’

Matthew 5:3-12, “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Those who recognize their spiritual needs.)

4. “Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.” (Those that experience deep grief or are truly sorry for their sins.)

5. “Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.” (Those that are not easily angered and are patient and mild.)

6. “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.” (Those that desire God’s Word.)

7. “Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.” (Those that show compassion will receive mercy from God.)

8. “Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.”

9. “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.”

10. “Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Those that endure unfair suffering for doing right and following Christ.)

11. “Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.”

12. “Rejoice and be exceedingly glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.” (Those that were treated badly for following God’s commands.)

The blessings are in the glorious rewards to come! If we have good attitudes with our hearts and eyes looking to Christ, we will receive these wonderful rewards. You will also see more rewards immediately from your parents and those around you, because you will have a better, more happy, more pleasing attitude in the way you act. All this is your choice: Choose to do right, choose to be happy, choose to say ‘no’ to temptations, choose to be a blessing to others and to please God with your attitude, words and actions. God does not force us to do anything. He does not even force us to love Him. It is our choice. Every decision and action you make is YOUR CHOICE. How you react to good and evil around you is your choice. Make good choices! If someone does something bad or unkind to you, do not do bad or be unkind back to that person. Remember: Two wrongs do not make a right- it just makes two wrongs. Choose to do the right thing always.

Joshua 24:15, Joshua said, “...choose you this day whom ye will serve... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”

I Corinthians 10:31, “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”

Everyday you wake up is a NEW day with the Lord. If you have fallen short and have done something you regret, repent and tell God you are sorry and ask God to forgive you. Start anew and strive to always do better and make good choices. Your choices also affect those around you. You can help to make their day better. Your good actions can also help to lead others to Christ. May God bless and guide you! May you make good choices every day!

Love in Christ,
Sister Thresa Ray

Primary

Ruby Draves

Isaac & Rebekah

Genesis 24:1-67

It came a time when Isaac must get married. Back then, people did not choose their spouse. Instead, their parents chose for them. As Abraham grew older, he wanted to make sure that Isaac was taken care of. He asked one of his servants to find a wife for Isaac but he gave him very specific instructions. The people that lived in the area did not love God. They worshiped idols instead. Abraham wanted Isaac to have a wife who also loved God. So he told the servant to travel to the land where his family came from and choose a bride amongst them. And whatever you do, do not take Isaac with you. The servant had concerns and was afraid that he would not be able to do what Abraham asked of him. Abraham told him not to worry; God would send an angel before him to find a wife for Isaac. (Genesis 24:1-7)

The servant prepared 10 camels, loaded them with gifts and supplies, and headed on his journey. He stopped in Nahor for water. The servant walked to the well, knelt and prayed to God asking Him to help him find Isaac's wife. He asked that Isaac's future bride come to the well and offer water to himself and the camels. Before the servant stopped praying, Rebekah approached the well for some water. The servant ran to her asking for a drink. Rebekah was kind, willingly gave the servant water and even offered some to the camels (Genesis 24:10-21).

The servant was so thankful that God

took care of him. He began to ask Rebekah about her family and found out that she was a relative of Abraham's family. This is exactly the type of person Abraham had asked him to find. Because of Rebekah's kindness, the servant gave her gold bracelets and earrings. Rebekah ran back to her home to tell her family what had happened. They too wanted to meet the servant and ran to the well to meet him. They offered the servant and his camel a place to stay and food to eat (Genesis 24:22-32)

At dinner, the servant told Rebekah's family why he was there. He shared that Abraham, his master, is looking for a wife for his son, Isaac. He told them how God had blessed Abraham, how he was given flocks, herd, riches and land. He told them about Isaac and that he was born to Abraham and Sarah in their old age. He spoke of Abraham's requests for Isaac's wife and how God showed him at the well who that woman would be. After hearing this, Rebekah's father realized that God arranged their meeting and she was to be Isaac's wife. Abraham's servant was so excited and thankful that God provided. He gave Rebekah's family the gifts he had brought with him (Genesis 24:33-54).

In the morning, Rebekah, her nurse and Abraham's servant left Nahor to return to Canaan. As they approached, Isaac, who was meditating in the field, saw the camels approaching and went to meet them. When Rebekah saw Isaac, she asked the servant who he was and found out that he was Isaac, her future husband. As Isaac approached, she covered her face with a veil as was customary. The servant told Isaac what he had done and who Rebekah was. Isaac took Rebekah to his mother's tent so that they may meet. There he married Rebekah (Genesis

24:55-67)

Matthew 7:7 says, “Ask and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:”

All we have to do is ask. Abraham asked God to help him find a wife for Isaac. Abraham’s servant prayed to God asking that he reveal Isaac’s future wife to him. In both cases, God provided. God will do the same for us. If we ask for His help, He will hear us. If He feels it is what we need, then He will provide for us. But remember, God has a plan for all of us and He will always help us.

1 John 5:14-15, “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us;

15. And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him”

Craft: Water Jar

Materials

1. Glass Jar
2. Masking Tape
3. Shoe Polish
4. Paper Towel



Instructions

1. Clean out a glass jar. Remove all of the labels.
2. Cover the outside of the jar with small pieces of masking tape overlapping each piece.
3. Cover the entire jar with shoe polish wiping away all the excess.
4. Now you have a leather/suede looking jar to carry water just like Rebekah.

LOVE:

“And charity suffereth long, and is kind, and envieth not, and is not puffed up, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh not evil, and rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things;

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, if ye have not charity, ye are nothing, for charity never faileth. Wherefore, cleave unto charity, which is the greatest of all, for all things must fail;

But *charity is the pure love of Christ*, and it endureth for ever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with them.”

Moroni 7:45-47