

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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Happy Easter !

Message 113:4

“The Lord Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life. He is the Savior, Redeemer and King of all mankind. All that hear and obey have right to the Tree of Life and to Eternity. His Glory shall overshadow them.”



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 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 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 good 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 6:6-8; III Nephi 10.1-4), 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 I walked the Angel Messenger of the Lord. The Light that accompanied him filled the whole house, brighter than at noon day. 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 Priesthood.

5. As was my coming anew to the remnant of the Temple Lot to the Lords 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 come 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-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 of 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 prophet 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 had 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 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 longsuffering. 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 remanent, 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 wherever 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 the elders, moreover evangelists, and more as they come into this Work. Before you stand 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 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

Easter Sermon

Richard Johnson

The Easter story tells us of the death, burial, and resurrection of our Savior Jesus the Christ, the son of man who descended from heaven is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things. (Ephesians 4:10.)

Message 108:8, "Let mankind respect the Lord Christ, and honor Him; His sacrifice on the cross and resurrection, bearing the sins of all that will come unto Him and receive deliverance and salvation."

We do celebrate and honor His resur-

rection on Easter Sunday, but there would be no resurrection without His suffering death on a cross to be buried in a borrowed tomb! We should remember we meet together every Sunday to do this.

Message 84:3, "Let the Church and all men respect the resurrection, for with it there is hope for all mankind. Come together and worship on the first day of the week- but remember God always. Keep the Lord's day holy."

Let's begin the story with the tomb that Jesus was no longer in. It is part of the story for us along with others that arose from their graves after Him.

Matthew 27:52-53 records that "... many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

53. And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many."

John the Baptist was one of those resurrected when Christ arose from His tomb having the testimony of Jesus. (Message 91:2, 97:21 and 113:2).

Message 91:11, "I am now a resurrected being in and with the redeemed of the Lord. I am body and flesh and bone. I bear the Spirit of the Lord. I speak His words..."

At the Lord's tomb on the third day following His death on the cross:

In Matthew 28:1-4 when Mary Magdalene and the other Mary on early Sunday morning following His crucifixion came to see the tomb where He was buried there was a great earthquake. The angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow and for fear of him the keepers did shake and became as dead men.

In Luke 24:1-7, "Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulcher, bring the spices which they had prepared,

and certain others with them.

2. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher.

3. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments.

5. And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them ‘Why you seek the living among the dead?’

6. He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

7. Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.’”

The angel of the Lord came to remove the stone to show them that death and the sealed grave could not hold the risen Christ. Christ the son of man had been given life within himself and power to lay down His life and take it up again by the Father. This that all men be raised from the dead by the Power of His Resurrection and we not continue in sin, but by His Grace and Mercy inherit (share) His glory of eternal life. Being made righteous before God by our faith and obedience to Him with real repentance and not to be cast off at the Last Day.

Romans 6:3-6, “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

6. Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we

should not serve sin.”

Matthew 27:62-66 tells us that Pilate had sent the keepers who made the sepulcher sure, sealing the stone, and to set a watch. These were regular Roman soldiers. A watch consisted of four soldiers, who was changed every four hours. They would die if their prisoner escaped. These soldiers were not from the temple guard, like the group that came to imprison Jesus. This was done because they remembered Jesus had said while he was still alive, ‘I will be raised after three days.’

Matthew 28:5-10, “And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

6. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

7. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

8. And they departed quickly from the sepulcher with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

9. And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, ‘All hail.’ And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

10. Then said Jesus unto them, ‘Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.’”

No one saw Jesus being resurrected but Acts 1:3 teaches, “To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs...”

Herein is the record of those that saw him.

John 20:11-17 notes Mary Magdalene as the first person to see Jesus alive again.

Matthew 28:1-10 records Jesus also appearing to the other Mary who was Salome, the wife of Zebedee and mother of James and John, that is also mentioned in Mat-

thew, Mark, and Luke on the Sunday morning of the resurrection.

Luke 24:34 notes Jesus appearing to Peter on the Sunday of His resurrection: "... The Lord is risen, indeed, and hath appeared to Simon."

The Two Disciples Walking to Emmaus:

In Luke 24:13-32, two followers of Jesus are walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus on the Sabbath. Jesus appears, though they do not recognize Him until the end of the account. One disciple is named Cleopas (Luke 24:18), while the second disciple is unnamed.

After Jesus appeared to the two men walking to Emmaus, they returned to Jerusalem to tell the apostles. While there, Jesus appeared to 10 of the apostles, all except Thomas (Luke 24:33-49.)

John 20:26-30 records Jesus appearing to all 11 apostles "a week later" at a home in Jerusalem. This likely refers to the next Sunday. Thomas believes and no longer doubts.

The final chapter of John records seven apostles on an all-night fishing trip that occurred on the Sea of Galilee sometime after Christ's appearance, 10 days after His resurrection and before His ascension, 40 days after His resurrection.

This group included Simon Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, James and John (the sons of Zebedee), and two unnamed apostles (John 21:1-14.) John records this as the third time Jesus had appeared to a group of disciples following His resurrection. Matthew's Gospel ends with the risen Jesus meeting the apostles in Galilee (28:16-20.) Jesus receives worship from His followers. He also gives the Great Commission to His followers, telling them to make disciples of all nations.

In 1 Corinthians 15:6 Paul notes 500 people who saw the risen Jesus at one time. He also notes most of these people were

still alive when he wrote to the Corinthians believers about 20 years later.

In 1 Corinthians 15:7, Paul also records Jesus appearing to James, the brother of Jesus. This helps explain why James served as a leader in the early Jerusalem Church (Acts 15) and would be responsible for writing the letter of James. His brother Jude would also become a follower of Christ and write the letter bearing his name.

Acts 1:4-9 records the ascension of Jesus 40 days after the resurrection. This would have been 10 days before Pentecost (Acts 2.) Some believe Matthew 28:16-20 records the same event, though this is uncertain.

Both Acts 9 and 1 Corinthians 15:8 note Jesus appearing to Paul (then Saul) on the road to Damascus. Though outside of the 40 days following the resurrection of Jesus, it was clearly Jesus (Acts 9:5.) Paul called himself one "abnormally born" in connection with this event.

In total, at least 513 people saw Jesus alive after His death and resurrection, far more than needed to establish the accuracy of an event. Further, many of these eyewitnesses suffered and died for their belief that Jesus had risen from the dead.

The overwhelming evidence points to Jesus literally returning to life on the third day after His death, appearing to many people, and ascending to heaven 40 days later.

Therefore, we do not mourn at his grave but come together on Sunday for worship in respect to the resurrection as did the disciples and the church following it.

Under God's Covenant and laws with Israel they were told to celebrate the Passover of the their first born sons by the angel who brought death to others of Egypt. Being instructed to put the blood of a first born lamb they had put aside to eat upon the door posts of the door to their dwelling to obtain their deliverance and freedom. This symbolizing the body and blood of the

Lamb of God.

Jeremiah 31:31-33, "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

32. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt...

33. ...After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Hebrews 8:13, "...A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away."

Hebrews 9:15, "And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."

John 6:4, "And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh," He spoke the following to the Jews and His disciples:

John 6:33 & 53-54, "For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven, and gives life unto the world.

53. Then Jesus said unto them, 'Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

54. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.'

Matthew 26:17-18 notes that on the first day of the Passover ceremonies of unleavened bread when the Passover lamb was to be sacrificed, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where are we going to eat our meal that would include the Passover Lamb?" Jesus replied, "Go into the city and find a man carrying a water jar and tell him, 'Our Master says, my time has come, and I will eat the Passover meal with my

disciples at your house.'" So the disciples did as he told them, and prepared the meal there. Jesus shared His Last Supper with them on that evening.

Matthew 26:3-4, & 15. At the same time, the chief priests and other Jewish officials were meeting at the house of Caiaphas, the High Priest, to discuss ways of capturing Jesus quietly, and killing him. They had consented to give Judas who Jesus said would betray Him money for the opportunity they needed absence a crowd of His followers to arrest him.

While eating their meal Jesus introduced to them the communion of the bread and wine. The Holy Rite that would represent His Body and Blood that He was about to shed on the Cross that would be followed with His resurrection three days later on Sunday. He said to do this in remembrance of me. (See Luke 22, Mark 14, Matt. 26.)

Matthew 26:27-28, "And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

28. For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Message 81:14, "When the saints gather for their prayers and humbly seeking the Lord, in their communion, the Lord's supper or sacrament, let them partake the bread an emblem of the Lord's body; the wine unfermented grape juice from the fruit of the vine, emblem of the blood of the Lamb of God: spilled for all mankind that the sins of the truly repentant that look to Him may be forgiven and have life and find it more abundantly."

Message 77:12, "Long the Lord accepts the first day of the week to gather and worship in respect to the resurrection..." (Also Message 75:4.)

Message 85:14, "The Lord rested in the hands of evil men and they caused to be brought about the plan of God- redemption

and the resurrection through the death of the human and the resurrection of Himself to an example of life eternal. For all mankind, resurrection, but to many a ransom to all that hear and obey—enduring to the end that they might be saved.”

Message 87:23-24, “Let those that come to the Church be baptized in water, and the laying on of hands for the gift and gifts of the Holy Spirit.

24. Let repentance and faith be taught and remission of sin through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ.

Message 101:7, “...with authoritative baptisms I bring.”

Message 108:8-9, “**Let mankind respect the Lord Christ, and honor Him; His sacrifice on the cross and resurrection, bearing the sins of all that will come unto Him and receive deliverance and salvation.**

9. There is no other way but to heed and obey His voice. I speak His will. I bring the Message of life, speaking His words and instructions. Hear, oh hear, all mankind.” (Also see Message 84:13, 17.)

Primary

A Lesson in Patience

Joy Ellen Draves-Dreher

James 5:7-11, “Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

8. Be ye also patient; establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth

nigh.

9. Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

10. Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

11. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.”

How often have you needed to be patient? As mentioned in this passage, a farmer waits patiently for his crop. It doesn't happen over night. Nature needs to play its part in helping the crops to grow. Much like us when we need to wait patiently for things in our lives to happen. Some things take longer than others.

It's very hard to wait for someone, or for something to happen; or to wait to go somewhere, or take your turn when playing a game. Even adults find it hard to be patient. Everyday we are faced with situations where we need to be patient. A lot of the time, these situations are out of our control. We can't make it happen just because we want it right NOW! We all need to learn to wait – and wait patiently – without grumbling.

If we all could just think of others, and put their wants and needs before what we want, then we will develop more patience. I think learning to be patient is one of the hardest lessons to learn, as we tend to want everything right now. We live in a world where everything is 'instant'. You see, even things we think will take a short time to do, may end up taking a long time, because of problems arising we didn't see before we started the task. We need to remember this when we start getting impatient with others. If we learn to be more patient while we're young, it will help shape how we respond

to life's 'hold-ups' when we are older.

Ecclesiastes 7:8, "Better *is* the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: *and* the patient in spirit *is* better than the proud in spirit."

Little Jelly Beans

Author Unknown

Little jelly beans

Tell a story true.

A tale of Father's Love

Just for me and you.

GREEN is for the waving palms.

YELLOW is for the sun above.

BROWN is for the soft earth where

People sat hearing of **HIS** Love.

A **SPECKLED** bean for fish and sand.

RED for precious wine

and **BLACK** is for the sin **He** washed

From your Soul and mine.

PURPLE for the sadness of

HIS Family and Friends,

and **WHITE** is for The Glory of The

Day **HE** Rose again.

Now that you've heard The Story

You know what each color means.

The Story of our Father's Love

Told by some jelly beans.

So every morning take a bean

They're really very yummy.

Something for the Soul, you see

And something for the tummy.

Juniors

Thresa Ray

Dear Youth,

1 John 4:8, "...God is love."

John 3:16 & 17, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,

that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

We are so blessed to have a God that loves us so much. God manifested Himself in the flesh to show us the way. Jesus showed us how to live, how to love, how to pray, and how to resist temptation.

Read about the days before Jesus' crucifixion, the resurrection and ascension in the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Read each one because each one tells some different details of what happened. Matthew chapters 21-28, Mark chapters 11-16, Luke chapters 19-24, and John chapters 12-21.

Before Jesus was crucified, Pilate asked the crowd of people who they wanted to let go free; Jesus, who had done no harm, or Barabbas, who was a murderer. The crowd chose to let Barabbas go free. Jesus took Barabbas' place on the cross and died in his place. Jesus took upon Himself the sins of the world so that whoever believed in Him as their Lord and savior would be saved in eternity. He died on the cross for you and me also, so that our sins could be forgiven – so that we can live in eternity with Him!

But that doesn't just 'happen' for everyone. We have to ask Jesus to come into our heart and live within us.

John 15:4, "Abide in Me, and I in you..." (Put me in your heart and you will be in mine.)

We must truly believe, and desire to live our life pleasing to God. We must recognize our sins and ask God to forgive us. If we are sincere – Jesus will dwell in us. People will see God within us by how we act and speak.

It is so special to have a close relationship with God because He loves us so much! He will always be there for us when things are going well and we are happy. He

will always be there for us when we are sad or in need!

Have you taken the time to tell Jesus how much you love Him? Have you taken time to ask Him to forgive you of your sins and to come unto your heart, and to guide and direct you in all you do and say? If you have not done that – take the time now to do so. If you already have – then take the time to renew your covenant with Him. Keep Jesus in your heart and mind and pray daily to Him. How blessed you will be!

A verse in Isaiah tells us that Jesus can mold us and make us like He wants us to be - like a potter molds the clay to shape it into what he wants; a bowl, or some special shape.

Isaiah 64:8, “Yet, O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are the work of your hand.”

If you ask Jesus to mold you, and to guide you and to help you to be the person He wants you to be – He will do just that!

1 Thessalonians 5:17 tells us that we need to pray without ceasing which means to always have a prayer in your heart and mind. Jesus is only a prayer away. You can praise Him and call on Him any time you want, any time of the day or night. He loves you and wants to abide in you. But remember- He does not force Himself upon anyone. You must make the choice to invite Him into your life!

Revelation 3:20, “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with Him and he with Me.”

Springtime is so beautiful as we see new life all around us! What a beautiful Easter gift God offers us- everlasting life if we accept Jesus as our Savior and live our life pleasing to Him!

May you have a very blessed Easter.

Love in Christ,
Sister Thresa Ray

Young Adults

Karen Wilkin

After going through a long cold winter, we are all happy to see Spring come. We anticipate Spring coming because we are just tired of the cold weather. Spring offers hope for sunnier, warmer and prettier days to come. It is so refreshing to see the trees begin to put forth new leaves, little flowers popping their heads up out of the ground, new baby birds being hatched, and new baby bunnies being born. It is a newness of life. It lifts our spirits and also renews and refreshes our own senses to smile more, sing more, be more motivated and just be more happy.

Springtime also reminds us of the Easter Story. The Greatest story ever told.

Do you know that in The Record of the Nephites there are many prophecies given concerning Christ's birth as well as His death?

2 Nephi 25:12 &13, “But, behold, they shall have wars, and rumors of wars; and when the day cometh that the Only Begotten of the Father, yea, even the Father of heaven and of earth, shall manifest himself unto them in the flesh, behold, they will reject him, because of their iniquities, and the hardness of their hearts, and the stiffness of their necks.

13. Behold, they will **Crucify** him, and after that he is laid in a sepulchre for the space of three days, he shall rise from the dead, with healing in his wings, and all they that shall believe on this name, shall be saved in the Kingdom of God: wherefore, my soul delighteth to prophesy concerning him, for I have seen his day, and my heart doth magnify his holy name.” (559-545 B.C.)

Book of Mosiah 3:5-10 (124 B. C.), “For behold, the time cometh, and is not far

distant, that with power, the Lord Omnipotent who reigneth, which was, and is from all eternity to all eternity, shall come down from heaven, among the children of men, and shall dwell in a tabernacle of clay, and shall go forth amongst men, working mighty miracles, such as healing the sick, raising the dead, causing the lame to walk, the blind to receive their sight, and the deaf to hear, and curing all manner of diseases;

6. And he shall cast out devils, or the evil spirits which dwell in the hearts of the children of men.

7. And lo, he shall suffer temptations, and pain of body, hunger, thirst, and fatigue, even more than man can suffer, except it be unto death; for behold, blood cometh from every pore, so great shall be his anguish for the wickedness and the abominations of the people.

8. And he shall be called **Jesus Christ**, the Son of God, the Father of heaven and earth, the Creator of all things, from the beginning; and his mother shall be called Mary.

9. And lo, he cometh unto his own, that salvation might come unto the children of men, even through faith on his name; and even after this, they shall consider him a man, and say that he hath a devil, and shall scourge him, and shall **Crucify** him.

10. And he shall rise on the third day from the dead; and behold, he standeth to judge the world; and behold, all these things are done, that a righteous judgment might come upon the children of men.”

I won't write out all the other references but if you would like to look them up, they are: 1 Nephi 11:13-24 prophecies about the Birth of Jesus and his work among the people, then verses 32 & 33, prophecies about his going to the cross. 3 Nephi 27:13 & 14 foretells what is going to happen to him and why. The whole chapter is very informative and inspiring.

Matthew 1:18-25 begins telling the sto-

ry of Jesus birth and continues through chapter 2. Matthew 26 begins giving an account of what happens with Jesus and His disciples, then in chapter 27:22, He is being discussed by Pilot about being crucified. The chapter goes on to talk about what Jesus went through before being crucified and afterwards. Mark 15 gives an in-depth account of what He went through and His death on the cross.

Mark 15:22-25, “And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, The place of a skull.

23. And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh; but he received it not. Have you ever wondered why they would give him something so bitter to drink? I think of it as being just more utter disrespect they wanted to inflict upon him. He knew it was not water, so he refused it.

24. And when they had crucified him, they parted his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take.

25. And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.”

Mark 16:6 tells of His Resurrection from the grave. “And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.” The rest of the chapter gives an account of what took place from that point on.

Luke chapters 22-24 also gives an accounting of the crucifixion of Christ. Message 113:4 also speaks of respecting the day of Christs resurrection.

We know Jesus was prophesied long before His birth and of what was going to come to pass. All those prophecies were fulfilled exactly right on time. In His time. We know that Jesus made these sacrifices for us. He died on the cross because He loved us. He gave His life that we might live throughout eternity with Him. He does not hand us salvation on a silver platter. It

is something we work for through obedience and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

From the Cradle to the Crucifixion to Rising again on the third day, Jesus had a plan. It all went exactly as He planned for it too.

Articles of Faith and Practice: 1 & 2, “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 Jesus Christ is the manifestation of God in flesh, who lived, suffered, and died for all mankind; whom we own as our only Leader, Witness, and Commander.”

John 3:16, “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.”

What a beautiful promise: Revelation 22:12 & 13, “And, behold, I come quickly and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

13. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.”

To fully understand what happened the day Jesus died on that cross is very personal between you and God. You must experience by His Holy Spirit just what it truly meant and why it happened the way it did. May you have a most blessed Easter and receive a wonderful testimony about Jesus's birth, His life while here on earth, His Crucifixion, His Resurrection on the 3rd day and His return to earth still to come (The Second Coming of Christ). He could have called ten thousand angels to destroy the world and set Him free. He could have called ten thousand angels, but He died alone for you and me.

Message 108:8, “Let mankind respect the Lord Christ, and honor him; his sacrifice on the cross and resurrection, bearing the sins of all that will come unto him and receive deliverance and salvation. Amen.”

Articles

EASTER

Oladawn Thompson

Jesus was in the upper room with His Disciples. Oh how He Loved them and for almost three years they traveled with Jesus through the country side, teaching people about God's Love and His Laws. Jesus taught them many things and now He wondered if they understood what was before them. Were they strong enough to carry on God's Work?

Jesus picked up a loaf of bread and He Blessed it and He tore a piece for each of them and He said, ‘This Bread is like my Body, It will be broken for you, take it and eat it and in the days to come break Bread among yourselves to remember Me.’

His Disciples were puzzled. What did He mean breaking His Body and how could they forget their Master?

Next Jesus poured a cup of Wine and He Blessed it and held it up before them and said, ‘This Wine is like My Blood, that will mean breaking His Body and how could they forget their Master?’

Next Jesus poured a cup of Wine and He Blessed it and held it up before them and said, ‘This Wine is like My Blood. That will be shed for the sins of the world, Drink of it all of you. Then He told them He could be with them only a little while longer and He gave them a New Commandment - To Love one another as I have Loved you. Everyone will know you are My Disciples if you Love one another.’

Peter asked The Lord “Where are you going? I will go with you also. I will follow you no matter what!” Jesus said, “Peter

where I am going you cannot follow, I go to prepare a place for you then I will come back. For a time you will be sad, then your sadness will turn to Joy!"

Jesus said these things hoping that they would understand about His Death and His Resurrection.

After a time of Prayer, three Disciples went with Jesus to a Garden to Pray; some stayed behind. Judas went to the Elders of Jerusalem and told them where Jesus was for thirty pieces of silver. He betrayed His Lord. While Jesus was in The Garden, Judas walked up and kissed Jesus, and the soldiers arrested Him.

Now the people that laid down palm leaves and giving alms to Him only a few days before, was now yelling 'Crucify Him' 'Kill Him'! He claims to be The Son of God. Our Law says He must die'. Pilate, the Roman Ruler, knew Jesus had not done any wrong, but he did not want to anger the people so he turned Jesus over to the soldiers. They whipped Him with a leather strap, breaking His Skin. He bled but He never cried out. They striped Him and put on Him a scarlet robe and they placed a crown of thorns upon His Head and they mocked Him saying 'HAIL, THE KING OF THE JEWS!' They spit on Him and took a reed and hit Him on The Head. After they mocked Him they took off the robe and put His own raiment on Him and led Him away to be Crucified.

They ordered Jesus to carry His own Cross out of the city to a place called Golgotha. The people were silent as He passed by. He became weak and a man called Simon took up The Cross and carried it.

On the hill side, soldiers nailed Jesus on The Cross and raised it up. Three hours Jesus hung suffering. Someone in the crowd yelled, 'If you are God's Son save yourself!' Jesus looked to the sky and He said, 'Father forgive them, for they know not what they are doing.' By late afternoon,

black clouds had gathered and the veil of The Temple was torn in the middle and Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Father into Thy Hands I Commend My Spirit.'

Now, three days later, Mary and other women went to The Tomb where Jesus was Laid to prepare His Body. They were concerned how they would roll the stone away to get into The Tomb and hoped the guards would help them, but when they arrived to The Tomb they found it empty and a Bright Light shown all around. They thought someone had stolen The Body of Jesus. But Behold, two men stood by them in Shinning Garments and they ask them, 'why Seek ye The Living among the dead?' Don't you remember that The Son of Man must be Delivered into the hands of sinful men and be Crucified and the third day Rise again.

HAPPY EASTER AND GOD BLESS

Message 59:10, "The Lord is The Resurrection and The Life. He that Believeth on Him and Obeys His Will shall have Right to The Tree of Life and to Eternity, and in them shall be seen The Glory of God, for Christ Came to Redeem, and to Provide The Way. Therefore, I come to point The Way and that The Church of Christ, The Lamb's Bride, may be Prepared to meet Him when He Comes, when All men will Live to Serve The Lord, that The Millennium Reign shall be. And The Great Day of The Lord shall Come, when all the earth shall Rejoice and be Glad for a New Heaven and a new earth shall be in The Lord's Planning."