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!

"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."

John 3:16

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

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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 affaires 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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EDITORIAL STAFF EDITOR/BUSINESS MANAGER

Reece Johnson, 39602 E. Boswell Rd. Lone Jack, MO. 64070 Send all materials for Publication and Subscription to the Editor/Business Manager

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Donald Thompson, 507 N. Chestnut St., Cameron, MO 64429

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

Joy Ellen Draves, 16400 E Cogan Dr., Independence, MO 64055

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

Thresa Ray, 1231 S. Spring St., Independence, MO 64055

YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT

Karen Wilkin, 1205 A Westwood Dr., Branson, MO 65616

All articles and letters must be submitted by the 5th of the month preceding publication.

HEADQUARTERS' OFFICES

P.O. Box 199, Independence, Mo, 64050

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14500 East 42nd Street South, Independence, MO. 64055

CHURCH HISTORIAN COMMITTEE

Apostle Jairus Yates & Apostle Reece Johnson

SEND ALL TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE BISHOPS' OFFICE 14500 East 42nd Street South, Independence, MO. 64055

CHURCH GENERAL RECORDER'S OFFICE

14500 East 42nd Street South, Independence, MO. 64055

BOARD OF PUBLICATION: The Twelve

CHAIRMAN OF THE TWELVE

Jairus Yates, 35994 County Road 150, Preston, MO 65732 Phone: 417-722-9733

SECRETARY OF THE OUORUM OF TWELVE

Reece Johnson, 39602 E. Boswell Rd. Lone Jack, MO. 64070

WEBSITES

http://www.johnthebaptist.info http://www.theassuredway.org http://www.ancientofdays.org

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know and a hard copy will be mailed to you.

Message 53.3, "Give ear, Oh ye people of the earth. Hear The Warning today. I speak The Words and Will of The Lord. Let all have Faith. Turn to The Lord and obey His Commands. Heed repentance and baptism that The Way of The Lord shall be among men. His Kingdom shall fill the whole earth. The hands must be laid upon all that <u>THE GREATER LIGHT</u> 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."

THE GENERAL MISSIONARIES

Every Elder's Duty is Missionary where opportunity permits.

APOSTLES

Ashley Beckham, McKinney, TX, ashley@johnthebaptist.info Reece Johnson, Lone Jack, MO, reece@johnthebaptist.info Richard Johnson, Lamoni, IA, richard@johnthebaptist.info Meshak Kebasi, Kenya, Africa meshak@johnthebaptist.info Adam Stokes Beverley, NJ, adam@johnthebaptist.info Donald Thompson, Cameron, MO, donald@johnthebaptist.info Jairus Cree Yates, Preston, MO, jairus@johnthebaptist.info

BISHOPS

Ethan Johnson Lee's Summit, MO ethan@johnthebaptist.info Alexander Simiyu Wafula Kenya, Africa alex@johnthebaptist.info

THE QUORUM OF TWELVE TERRITORIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Ashley Beckham— Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Mexico. (254-717-4836)

Reece Johnson- Missouri, Montana, Idaho, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, Eastern Canada (816-366-2038)

Richard Johnson- Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, California, New York, Central Canada, and Western Canada. (641-784-3451)

Adam Stokes- Virginia, West Virginia, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maine, Delaware, New Hampshire, Vermont, Delaware, Vermont, Massachusetts. (443-487-3374)

Donald Thompson- Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Alaska, Hawaii. (816-804-4556)

Jairus Cree Yates- Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, North and South Carolina, Bahamas. (417-722-9733)

HANDMAIDENS OF THE LORD

14500 East 42nd Street South, Independence, MO 64055 Chairlady: Tammy Thompson 816-284-9123 Vice Chairlady: Krystal Ogline 816-209-2239

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*.

THE BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS THE QUORUM OF TWELVE

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Thank you.

THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY To All People

Nineteenth Message

The Messenger came at 12:10 a.m., and was with me till 12:55 a.m. February 28, 1930, at my home at 441 Rural Street, Port Huron, Michigan.

-Otto Fetting

- 1. "'I come to you with a Message of warning. First, have no part in the work with those that reject the Messages I have brought from the Lord.
- 2. Second, don't commit yourself to them; satan will temp you to do wrong. I will show you a vision of the world, and nations in it.'
- 3. It seems that I was in a large gathering in a city and everything was in commotion. There was fighting, and some were lying in the streets. It looked as if they had been killed. And it seemed as if everyone was in opposition and against the other. Things were in general turmoil. Then that vision disappeared.
- 4. Then I saw a beautiful landscape; the vey best of soil which was smooth and covered with a heavy growth of grass and clover. A beautiful scene. There was a man plowing with a pair of fine horses that seemed to be well fed: good harness and plow. Everything seemed to be in the very best condition.
- 5. The man was in the prime of his life. He had a beard and was well dressed and seemed to be in a perfect state of contentment. His wife came to him, also his child, about five years old. They seemed to bring him refreshments. They were also well dressed. As far as I could see, there seemed to be peace, happiness, contentment, and

prosperity. The vision disappeared."

- I don't know whether this was representing different conditions at different periods of time, or whether it was only in different locations.
- 6. "To them must go the warning that Christ's coming is near. From it will the Lord gather the honest in heart.
- 7. Those who have rejected the Message I have brought, their minds have become dark. They cannot see, for they are following the whisperings of satan.
- 8. The Temple will be built by a people whose hearts are pure. God will not accept any unclean thing; nor the work from men that will not follow the instructions given by His servant that He has sent.
- 9. But prepare ye a people for the Lord. Prepare a place of safety for the people of the Lord. Gather the honest in heart. Prepare a place, for there is no place among the wicked for God's people to abide.
- 10. 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 it is now, but be careful in your work, for they will seek to destroy you.
- 11. For one hundred years the Lord waited and yet they have not heeded His words, this people that profess His name; but the Lord will establish His Church in its fullness, and will do the work among nations, but the work will be done in haste.
- 12. Those that have rejected the Message have rejected the Lord, and the Lord has also rejected them and their work until they repent and are humble, and are baptized, that they may cleanse themselves of their sin.
- 13. Fear not man nor the works of man, but fear God and do right. Write no more to those that oppose the Message I brought, but encourage those who are willing to do the things I have told you.
 - 14. To all those that will repent and be

baptized and prepare themselves and walk humbly, the promise is that they shall receive the great Light and Power to carry on the work of the Lord.

- 15. Behold, there are those whose hearts are full of adultery and selfishness. There are those that have taken that which is not their own. There are those that hate their brother and seek to destroy him. Behold, I say unto you, they cannot have any part in this work, and are not of the Household of Faith.
- 16. Separate yourself from all those, and have no part with their works. If you will seek the Lord in prayer often, He will give you the light you need. Save your strength. Be humble. Be wise in you work. Use love in your work, but yield not to the traditions of men.
- 17. I have come to you this time to encourage you in your work, but greater trials will come to you. Your faith will be tried more and more as this work will go on, for greater things will be done, and greater things will be required at your hands.
- 18. Many will help you, but other will oppose you and the Message I have brought. Fear not satan nor his works, but trust in the Lord and He will lead you.
- 19. Preach the Gospel of Life. Send it to all nations and people. See the wickedness of man. See satan and his work. Again, look at the suffering of those who cannot help themselves.
- 20. I will come to you again shortly, and will direct you in the that must be done.
- 21. I am John the Baptist. I am he that shall prepare the way, and direct in the Lord's work."

From The Apostles The Record of the Nephites in the Word of the Lord

Apostle Adam Oliver Stokes

As the New Testament is inseparable from the Old, so the Record of the Nephites is an inseparable part of our Scriptural tradition. The Word of the Lord mentions the Record of the Nephites numerous times. The listings below serves as a devotional aid for readers interested in where the Record is referred to and what the Messenger says about it.

Message 12:5, "Let not the building of the Temple hinder the preaching of the gospel, but let those that have been appointed and set apart for the Temple work, see that all things be done after the pattern that I shall give. And let those that have been called and set apart to carry the Gospel Message to the nations of the earth do their work, as they have been instructed. Let them preach the things as they are found in the Bible and The Record of the **Nephites.** Let them take the message to Jew and Gentile, to all classes, tongues and peoples. Let the men who have been placed in charge and appointed to look after and receive the tithes, offerings and oblations, be mindful of their work, that the moneys so received are spent wisely. Let them give an accounting to the Church, that things may be done in justice to all, always being mindful that they are Ambassadors for Christ and the Church, and that they will be without excuse to God, for everyone must be faithful to their trust for this is the Lord's Work, and so shall it be required of him in the last day."

Message 54:9, "Let all labor that can, that the Work may go on in all parts, but see that all preach and teach the same thing as is found in the Bible and **Record of the Nephites** as I told you."

Message 74:3, "Likewise, a day wherein satan has great power and seeks to destroy all he can of the good, but he shall fail in the end. He has swayed men for this long time to follow traditions of men and not the Way of God; having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof. They turned from the former Commandment and remembered it not. until now, the faithful are holding to the truth, even The Record of the Nephites and all the Lord's Words wherein there is but one Lord, one God, one Salvation, one Plan of Redemption and a place in the hereafter for the faithful with God, and for those that doubt and are evil, captured by satan, absorbed in his ways, shall remain so till the resurrections shall be,

where the judgments are spread. It shall be man's own ways while here that decides his decree. Woe to the doubtful, the wicked, the heedless, and those that plan to destroy."

Message 81:24, "Heed my message for this is my mission. The Doctrine is given, and is set forth in the Bible, **The Record of the Nephites** and The Word of the Lord, the words I bring."

Message 86:60, "In the Bible and Record of the Nephites contains the teachings and pattern of the Fullness of the Gospel in its plain and precious parts. But my words and authority gives the right to set the Church in order- The Church of Christ with the Holy Priesthood Authority and Power to act in the establishing the Kingdom of God on earth and bringing in the Zion of the Lord. The Kingdom and the Dominion shall be for the saints of the Most High."

Message 86:68, "The Book shall be called, **The Record of the Nephites**."

Message 90:14, "From another language and tongue the Lord has spoken to this people through the Book- The Record of the Nephites- the language of the Nephites and Jaredites; which to hear in their language would appear as stammering lips- but what the Lord doeth He doeth well."

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."

Message 102:52, "I speak that all Christendom may flow together and abide by the 'Bible' revealing great Truths; the coming forth of 'The Record of the Nephites,' the Book, and 'The Word of the Lord:' Behold the Books that will lead all mankind to Eternal Hope and Salvation, Deliverance in the Lord."

Message 106:17, "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."

Message 115:14, "Those inquiring of this

Work, teach them the Way of Life, and as they come this Way, they will bring others to the truth, they shall be in this ministry. This is the Lord's anointing and appointed way of Peace. Finding the truth in the 'Bible,' 'The Record of the Nephites,' and the book, 'The Word of the Lord,' the words I bring and will yet bring. Worship and find the gifts."

Articles of Faith and Practice #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."

Articles Sixty Questions on The Godhead

With Biblical Answers

J. F. Solomon

- 1. Is the word trinity in the Bible? No!
- 2. Does the Bible say there are three persons in the Godhead? No!
- 3. Does the Bible say there is a Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? Yes!
- 4. Does Matthew 28:19 mean that there are three separate and distinct Persons or Offices in the Godhead, which? Offices.
- 5. What does the Bible say about three? We only fine one scripture in the whole Bible that openly speaks of Three; it leaves out the Son of God and uses "the Word" in places of the Son, then concludes saying: *These Three Are One.* 1 John 5:7
- 6. Is the word *One* used in the Bible in reference to the Godhead? Yes! Read the following scriptures: Zech. 14:9; Malachi 2:10; Matthew 23:9; Mark 12:29; John 8:41: John 10:30; Romans 3:29-30; I Corinthians 8:4; Galatians 3:20; Ephesians. 4:6; 1 Timothy 2:5; James 2:19.
- 7. Can the mystery of the Godhead be understood? Yes! Read Romans 1:20 and Colossians 2:9.
- 8. Has the Christian only one Heavenly Father? Yes! See Matthew 23:9.

- 9. Then why did Jesus say to Phillip, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father?" Because the scriptures say that Jesus "is the Express Imaged of God's Person." Hebrews 1:3; Hebrews 11:1. The Greek word for "person" is substance.
- 10. Does the Bible say there are two Persons in the Godhead? No!
- 11. Does the Bible say there is one person in the Godhead? Yes! Job 13:8; Hebrews 1:3; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Colossians 1:19; Colossians 2:9.
- 12. Is the Mystery of the Deity hidden from some people? Yes! Luke 10:21-22.
- 13. Where was God while Jesus was on earth? 2 Corinthians. 5:19; John 14:10. "The Father was also in heaven and omnipresent."
- 14. Did Agur the prophet inquire about the Mystery of the Godhead? Yes! Proverbs 30:4.
- 15. Did the prophet Isaiah say that Jesus was the Father? Yes! Isaiah 9:6.
- 16. When God said "Let us make man in our image," was he speaking to another Person in the Godhead? No! Genesis 1:26; Malachi 2:10.
- 17. How much of God's qualities were in Christ? Read Colossians 2:9.
- 18. How may we see the God that sent Jesus into the world? Read John 12:44-45.
- 19. Does the Bible say that Jesus is the Almighty? Yes! Revelation 1:8.
- 20. Who do some say is the first Person in the trinity? God!
- 21. Who do some say is the last Person in the trinity? Holy Ghost. Which did Jesus say he was? *First and Last!* Revelation 1:17-18.
- 22. How many Persons did John see sitting on the Throne in Heaven? One! Revelation 4:2.
- 23. If Jesus is the first and the last, why did God say that He was the First and last? Because they are ONE in person. Isaiah 44:6; 48:12.
- 24. Did Jesus tell satan that God alone should be worshipped? Yes! Matthew 4:10.
- 25. Does the devil believe in more than *One* God? No! James 2:19.

- 26. Does the Bible say that God who is the Word, was Made Flesh? Yes! John 1:1, 14.
- 27. For what purpose was God manifest in the flesh? Hebrews 2:9, 14.
- 28. Was Jesus God in form of man? Yes! 1 Timothy 3:16.
- 29. Can Jesus be on Earth and in Heaven at the same time? Yes! John 3:13.
- 30. **Does the Bible say there is but one Lord?** Yes! Isaiah 45:18. Ephesians 4:5.
- 31. Does the Bible say that Christ is Lord? Yes! Colossians 3:24.
- 32. Does the Bible say that the Lord is God? Yes! 1 Kings 18:39; Zechariah 14:5; Acts 2:39; Revelations 19:1.
- 33. Is He that ascended the same that descended? Yes! Ephesians 4:9-10.
- 34. Will God give his Glory to another? No! Isaiah 42:8; Isaiah 45:5.
- 35. Was there ever a God formed before Jehovah and will be after? No! Isaiah 43:10-11.
- 36. Has Jehovah the knowledge of the existence of a God besides himself? No! Isaiah 44:8.
- 37. How many Gods should we know? *One!* Hos. 13:4
- 38. How many names hath the Lord? *One!* Zechariah 14:9.
- 39. Is it good that we think upon the name of the Lord? Yes! Malachi 3:16
- 40. Does the scripture say that God alone treadeth upon the waves of the sea? Yes! Job 9:8.
- 41. **Why did Jesus walk upon the Sea?** He was God the Creator Matthew 14:25' Colossians 1:16.
- 42. Who can forgive sins but God only? Mark 2:7; Isaiah 43:25.
- 43. Has Jesus the power to forgive sins? Yes! Mark 2:10; Matthew 9:2,6.
- 44. **Is Jesus the** *True God?* Yes! 1 John 5:20.
- 45. If God and the Holy Spirit are two separate Person, which is the Father of the Christ Child? Matthew 1:20 says the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:6; 2 Corinthians 11:31; Ephesians 1:3 says God is the Father. Be-

loved, there is but *One Spirit*, Ephesians 2:18; I Corinthians 6:17; 1 Corinthians. 12:13; Philippians 1:27; 2 Corinthians 3:17.

- 46. When Paul asked who the *Lord was*, what was the answer? I Am Jesus. Acts 9:5.
- 47. Did Stephen call God Jesus while dying? Yes! Acts 7:59.
- 48. Did Apostle Thomas ever call Jesus God? Yes! John 20:28.
- 49. Does the Bible say that Jesus is God with us? Yes! Matthew 1:23.
- 50. Did Jesus ever say "I and the Father are One?" Yes! John 10:30.
- 51. Can people scripturally say that Jesus and Father are One in the same sense that man and wife are one? Positively No! The Godhead was never compared to a woman.
- 52. Does the Bible say there is only *One Wise God?* Yes! Jude 1:25.
- 53. If the Holy Spirit is a Person, how can He be poured out? The Bible does not say that the Holy Spirit is a person. Joel 2:28; Acts 2:4; Titus 3:5-6; Acts 2:17.
- 54. Can the Trinitarian prove that there were three persons present at the Baptism of Jesus by John? Positively No! It only proves that there are three manifestations of *One God*. There was only One Person present, and that was the Person of Christ Jesus the Lord.
- 55. Then what were the other two that the Trinitarian speaks of? One was a *Voice* that Spoke, see Genesis 3:8; and the other was the Spirit of God with the Bodily Form of a dove. Matthew 3:16.
- 56. What did the Voice at Jesus' Baptism say? "Thou are my Beloved Sone, *In Whom I Am Well Pleased.*" Mark 1:11. Therefore, it seams to please the Father to be *in Jesus*.
- 57. What is the *One Thing* that God does *Not Know?* Another God. Isaiah 44:8.
- 58. What is the *One Thing* God *Cannot* **Do?** Lie! Titus 1:2
- 59. Does the Bible say that God shed His blood? Yes! Acts 20:28.
- 60. Does the Bible say that Christ died? Yes! 1 John 3:16!

Testimonies

July 31st 1968, John the Baptist delivered the 86th Message to Brother W.A. Draves. This is such a wonderful Message – the one where John laid his hands on Brother W.A. Draves and blessed him with the Holy Unction renewed.

Our church assembly was in early August that year. I was a young girl – just 14 years old

One of the Prayer and Testimony Services was overflowing with the Lord's Spirit. It ran very long past the normal allotted time. There were many beautiful, heartfelt prayers, many testimonies of God's goodness, beautiful songs of worship, and many administrations. Brother Draves, my father, was blessing all with the blessing John bestowed upon him, passing on the blessing of the Holy Unction.

I was sitting on the edge of a church pew by the middle aisle, tearful and overcome by the Spirit of the Lord. I felt a tap on my head and it felt like warm oil was poured on me and I could feel it moving down my body. I've heard people say that before and thought it was probably more of an expression – but it was so real and I felt the oil move from the top of my head down my body. The tap was so real, I knew someone really touched me.

After service, I asked Dad if he saw John the Baptist in our midst and he said, "Yes, and there were many angels all among us!"

Wow! How blessed we were! How blessed we are to have angels help us, guide us, inspire us and protect us! Praise the Lord!

I just wanted to share this testimony with you. It blesses me every time I think of that experience and I can still feel that tap, the oil and the Holy Spirit.

May God bless each of you! Love in Christ, Sister Thresa Ray Dear Brothers and Sisters.

I would like to share a testimony with you.

After our daughter died, I missed her so much. I used to day dream that we would all die and go to heaven, so we could be all together again. It was a horrible state of mind to be in, because I loved Delsie and Brinlee (our daughters), but I also loved Aavely (av-ellee). I wanted us all to be together so all our sadness would go away and our family would be whole again. This went on for about 6 months. I even day dreamed a few times that we would all die in a car crash.

On the way to work one morning I got in a real bad car crash. The other driver was blinded by the sun and didn't see my suburban at all.

My first thought after the hit was "Why is it so bright, am I alive?" It was so bright in my car, I couldn't see. My second thought was "Thank you so much Jesus, for letting me live so I can be here for Delsie and Brinlee. Thank you so so much." And I started crying.

Then the other driver came to my door and opened it. He asked, "What is that light?" He peaked his head in and looked around "Where is the other person?"

I said, "It's just me."

The man said, "I saw two people in here." I said, "It's just me."

He walked around the car and looked on the other side and on the ground. Then he came back to my side as I was getting out. He opened up the back door and looked around.

He said, "You have car seats, is there a kid in here?"

I said, "No I already dropped my kids off at daycare."

He said, "I saw two people in the front seat."

Again, I said, "It's just me."

I was so scared and shaken up; I was shaking uncontrollably. Big shakes, not like a little shiver, my whole body was shaking. I guess maybe it was fear and adrenaline. I went and sat on the curb. My car was smashed and leaking fluids.

Another woman, our witness, came over and told me she called the police and they are on their way. She asked if I was ok. I said, "Yes." Then she asked if the guy was ok.

I said, "I guess so, he's over there."

She said, "No the guy that's with you, where is he?"

I told her I was the only one in the car and she also said she saw a guy in the passenger seat.

I didn't think anything of this man they saw, because I could do nothing but shake.

The fire truck got there first. Firemen wrapped me in a blanket and asked some questions. What hurt and if this and that hurt.

When the ambulance got there, they had me go sit inside it because they were worried about how bad I was shaking. They thought I was freezing. It was February, but I told them I wasn't cold at all, I'm just shaking, and I can't stop. They checked me over and could not believe I didn't have scrapes on my face. Because three airbags went off by my face. One in front and two on the sides. I told them, I don't think my face touched the air bags and the only thing that hurts were my wrist and thumb. They were confused how I didn't have more injuries. They wanted me to go to the hospital because they said I probably have more injuries and my body is in shock right now.

I didn't go with them. I had my husband come get me and take me to the hospital.

My car got towed away, so a police officer took me to my work. It was just two blocks from the crash. My husband picked me up from there and we went to the ER.

The ER doctor did x-rays and other things. He said he talked with the paramedics and expected more injuries. He said at the very least, I should have seat belt marks.

He said "You are lucky to be alive, there must be an angel watching over you."

That's when I realized. The bright light, the person the other two drivers saw. I think it was an angel. The angel must have protected my whole body and that's why the airbags didn't touch me. That's why I didn't get marks from the seatbelt.

From the moment that crash happened, I was so thankful to be alive. I do still look for-

ward to the day we all get to see Aavely again, but I am so grateful to be here with my other kids. They need me. Aavely doesn't need me, she has God. She gets to live with Jesus. I'm so blessed and thankful that God saved my life that day. I still thank him often for that.

Even in your darkest of times, try not to forget to be thankful for your life. It's a blessing. And although we might not see them, there are angels watching over all of us.

Your sister in Christ, Jessica Evans

Young Adults

Karen Wilkin

Luke 22:12-20, "And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready.

- 13. And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover
- 14. And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him.
- 15. And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer:
- 16. For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God.
- 17. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves:
- 18. For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.
- 19. And he took the bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.
- 20. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you."

Matthew 26:26-30, "And as they were eat-

- ing, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, **Take**, eat; this is my body.
- 27. 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.
- 29. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.
- 30. And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives."

This whole event took place because Jesus knew what was about to take place and he also knew that Judas was about to betray him. It is called The Last Supper because of the significance of it all leading up to His crucifixion. Not only did He say to do this in Remembrance of Him but He also indicated when we partake of the communion (Sacrament), it is a remission of our sins. This is one reason why we are given a time to repent of our sins before we partake of the emblems so we might not take them unworthily. When we repent of all of our sins and transgressions before God before taking of the sacrament, we are forgiven of those sins. What does it mean to partake unworthily? This is why in the church we have closed communion because if a person has not truly repented of their sins and has not been baptized, they could actually drink damnation to their souls.

Moroni 4:1-3, "The manner of their elders and priests administer the flesh and blood of Christ unto the Church. And they administered it according to the commandments of Christ; wherefore we know that the manner to be true; and the elder or priest did minister it.

- 2. And they did kneel down with the church, and pray to the Father in the name of Christ saying,
- 3. O God, the Eternal Father, we ask thee in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this bread to the souls of all those who partake of it, that they may eat in remembrance of the body of thy Son,

and witness unto thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they are willing to take upon them the name of thy Son, and always remember him, and keep his commandments which he hath given them, that they may have his SPIRIT to be with them. Amen."

Moroni 5:1-2, "The manner of administering the wine. Behold, they took the cup, and said,

2. O God, the Eternal Father, we ask thee, in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ, to bless and sanctify this wine to the souls of all those who drink of it, that they may do it in remembrance of the blood of thy Son, which was shed for them, that they may witness unto thee, O God, the Eternal Father, that they do always remember him, that they may have his Spirit to be with them. Amen."

Jesus died on the cross on Good Friday and He arose again on the third day as He said He would (Luke 24:46). Before He went through all He was about to go through, He brought His disciples together to do this sacred ordinance with them. From that time on, generations have served the sacrament to Christian believers. There are very few churches that do this sacred ordinance as we do. Easter is a time we celebrate Jesus's death and resurrection. Jesus knew that prophecy must be fulfilled and He knew what all this entailed (Luke 24:7). He even prayed when in the garden.

Luke 22:41-42, "And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed,

42. Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done."

It was because of His great love for His children that He endured the suffering He went through. I love the saying, "While He was on the Cross, we were on His mind."

If you are baptized and partake of the sacred emblems, I pray you will experience the depth of beauty and sacredness in doing so. Jesus set the example and He gave His very life so we might have eternal life with Him. He said, "Do this in remembrance of me," re-

membering what He did and why He did it. Place yourself in the prayer that is prayed over the bread and the wine. Make it personal, adding your name to each one and it becomes even more real and special. When you partake of the sacrament emblems you are experiencing the love of Christ, the experience He went through on Good Friday and the third day He arose. Allow yourself to sense it, feel it, bless your heart and spirit as God intended for it to do. May the Holy Spirit fill your heart with the true meaning of Easter, filling your heart with much JOY in knowing just how much Jesus Loves You!! So much that He died on the cross for you. Amen.

Junior

Thresa Ray

Dear Youth,

Luke 2:10-11, "And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

I John 4:9, "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him."

John 3:16-17, "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.

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

From these verses you can see that God gave His only Son, He manifested himself in the flesh to come to earth, to show us the way, how to live, and how to treat others. Jesus explained the secrets of the gospel to us. The only way to come to God is through Jesus.

John 14:6, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh

unto the Father but by me."

Ephesians 5:2, "And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour."

Jesus was willing to sacrifice Himself, taking upon Himself the sins of the world, and die on the cross so that through belief in Him, repentance and obedience to the word and endurance, we may have our sins forgiven and receive eternal life. He loves us so much that He was willing to do that! Jesus suffered much! He was betrayed by one of His disciples for 30 pieces of silver. He was spat upon, spat in His face, he was beat, slapped, blindfolded and slapped in the face, mocked, bound, and beat with a whip. Then he had a crown of pointed thorns placed on His head. He carried the cross He was to be nailed on until Simon helped him. He was nailed to the cross with nails hammered into His hands and feet. After he died, he was pierced in the side with a sword. Can you imagine the pain and suffering He endured to fulfill the prophecies, to be a means for you and I and everyone to be forgiven of our sins to receive eternal life with God? What love He had and has for all mankind!

Jesus loves mankind so much that while on the cross, He asked God to forgive them for all they did to Him. Luke 23:34, "Then said Jesus, Father forgive them; for they know not what they do..."

Right before Jesus died, He said, "It is finished." (John 19:30) What all does that mean? The prophecies of Jesus life and death were fulfilled. But that is not the end, Jesus was RESURRECTED three days later. HE IS ALIVE! The old traditions under the old law is finished. God no longer wants us to sacrifice animals on the alter to show our love and obedience to Him. He wants us to come to him with an repentant, humble, and contrite heart.

Message 84:13, "<u>It is finished</u>, no more the old law of burning of sacrifices on the altar and its spilt bloods, the worship of day or days. But keep ye the Lord's day, the first day of the week for worship and service in respect to the resurrection. Herein was the gospel restored to a nation and nations bringing forth fruits thereof."

Message 85:22, "There was the incarnate God in the flesh to offer the sacrifice of ending all spilling of blood and the altars of figurations and shadows. That men give a broken heart and contrite spirit to serve a Living God."

Message 85:14-15, "The Lord rested in the hands of evil men and they caused to be brought about the Plan of God – redemption and 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.

15. He is the Father of our spirits and the Savior of our souls, the Redeemer of mankind that was lost to an eternal hope, and eternal King over all."

After Jesus was resurrected, He visited the people that was on this land, that we now know as North America. He said in 3 Nephi 15:5-9, "Behold, I am he that gave the law, and I am he which covenanted with my people Israel; therefore, the law in me is fulfilled, for I have come to fulfill the law; therefore it hath an end.

- 6. Behold, I do not destroy the prophets, for as many have not been fulfilled in me, verily I say unto you, shall all be fulfilled.
- 7. And because I said unto you, that old things hath passed away, I do not destroy that which hath been spoken concerning things which are to come.
- 8. For behold, the covenant which I have made with my people is not all fulfilled; but the law which was given unto Moses, hath an end in me.
- 9. Behold, I am the law, and the light; look unto me, and endure to the end, and ye shall live, for *unto him that endureth to the end, will I give eternal life.*"

Jesus had told His disciples that when He left them, He would send the Holy Spirit, or Comforter to help them.

John 15:26-27, "But when the Comforter

is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Sprit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

27. And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning."

John 16:7, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."

Jesus visited with His disciples after He was resurrected.

Matthew 28:18-20, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

- 19. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
- 20. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Mark 16:15-18, "And He (Jesus) said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

- 16. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- 17. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
- 18. They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

Jesus dying on the cross was not the end. He is Resurrected and alive! The great work has begun! We are to take God's word to all the people of the earth so that mankind will know this great Gospel and have the opportunity to accept Christ, follow Christ and receive Eternal Life.

Message 25:4, "The Church of Christ shall receive greater Power as I told you, and the Lord will draw the honest in heart to Him by His Spirit, and they shall keep His Law, for the Gospel of Christ shall be preached to all

nations and then shall the end come." (Jesus' return to earth and the Millennium begins.)

Message 26:1 tells us, "...For no greater responsibility was ever placed upon man than taking the Gospel to the nations of the earth in its purity..."

Message 62:8, "Many will help, many are reserved for a great work, and the Gospel must be preached that the greater Work can be done, of the preparing a people, and the greatest entrusted to mankind shall be accomplished."

This all was made possible because Jesus was sacrificed on the cross so that mankind can believe on Him and receive eternal life! But all mankind needs to receive the word: The Holy Bible, The Record of the Nephites and The Word of the Lord Brought to Mankind by an Angel! There is much work to do!

Psalm 119:105, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

Psalm 119:50, "This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me."

Romans 12:11, "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;"

John 17:17, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth".

I Peter 3:8, "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:"

May God bless each of you. Please pray for the return of John the Baptist to direct this Great work. Pray for the Church and ministry and for each of us to reach out to others and share this great gospel as God tells us we must do!

> Love in Christ, Sister Thresa Ray

Primary

Ruby Draves

In the Garden

Genesis 2-3

If you remember, God created the heavens and earth in six days; His last creation before

resting on the seventh day was man. God formed him out of the earth and breathed life into him, giving him a living soul. God also made a home for him; a special garden to live in called Eden. Do you know what that man's name was? God called him Adam and it was his job to take care of everything God made.

When Adam arrived in the garden, God told him "Of every tree of the garden, thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."- Genesis 2:16-17. In other words, Adam could do anything he wanted in the garden except eat the fruit from that one tree. Pretty simple, right? God only gave him one rule.

Adam obeyed God and focused all of his efforts on taking care of the garden. He foraged for food, named the animals and took care of them; but it was Adam was lonely because there was nothing or no one like him. God saw that it wasn't good for Adam to be alone and He wanted to make a helper for him to give him company.

One day, God caused Adam to fall in a deep sleep. While he slept, God took one of Adam's ribs and made another human from it. When God brought her to Adam, Adam said, "...she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."- Genesis 2:23. But Adam was not just called "Man" so he, too, gave her another name so he could call her something other than "Woman." Her name became Eve.

Together, Adam and Eve lived in the garden taking care of it. They did not have any cares or worries. They lived in peace. One day, Eve ran into a snake who was the sneakiest animal in the whole garden. He asked Eve, "...hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Eve replied, "...We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die."- Genesis 3:1-3.

Now the snake was really tricky; he knew God told Adam and Eve not to eat of the tree of knowledge but he wanted to see if he could get Eve to do it anyway. The snake told Eve that God wouldn't really hurt them and if she ate the fruit, she would be more like God knowing good from evil, right from wrong. When Eve saw how good the fruit looked and found out that it would make her wise, she took the fruit and ate it. Then she gave it to Adam to eat. Both of their eyes were opened. They suddenly realized that they were naked and began hide themselves covering up with leaves.

Then Adam and Eve heard the voice of God walking in the garden and they hid themselves from God. God called out. "Where art thou?" Adam answered, "I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and hid myself." God responded, "Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?"- Genesis 3:9-11.

Adam was so ashamed that he disobeyed God. Like many of us who get caught after doing some wrong, Adam began to make excuses. He told God that Eve gave him the fruit and that he ate it. God asked Eve if this was true and she said that the snake tricked her into eating it.

Realizing that both Eve and Adam was tricked, God decided not to let them die for eating the fruit like He initially told them. Instead He punished them all, including the snake, for their disobedience. From that moment on, all snakes had to slither on their bellies and eat from the earth. Now that Adam and Eve knew right from wrong, good from evil, the worries and troubles of the world will now be known to them. Eve will know pain and sorrow through childbirth and Adam would have to work hard for everything he needed and wanted. Nothing would be given to them like it was in the garden. In fact, Adam and Eve had to leave the garden never to return. –Genesis 3:14-24.

Obedience is very important to God. God never tells us to do or not to do something without a really good reason. God knew that if Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the tree of knowledge that they would no longer be sheltered from the worries of the world. He knew there would be consequences for their actions. Initially, He told them it would be death but He was merciful.

Just like God, our parents set rules for us and expect us to follow them. They do this not to be mean or to keep us from doing something cool. They do it to keep us safe and help us learn.

Obedience is a hard choice but an important one. Our actions have consequences. If we make a poor decision, fail to follow the rules, or disregard a warning, bad things could happen. Getting grounded or having our privileges taken away, is a way for us to learn from our mistakes, hopefully making us think about doing it again in the future. Being punished doesn't mean that our parents don't love us. Just the opposite; its because they love us and want us to learn right from wrong. So when you are faced with a hard choice or you think about disobeying God or your parents, remember to pray about it. God will help you.

Paper Plate Snake

Materials

- 1. Paper Plate
- 2. Crayons/Markers
- 3. Scissors
- 4. Yarn
- 5. Glue (optional)
- 6. Google Eyes (optional)

Instructions

- 1. Draw a spiral shape onto the plate with the tail at the edge of the plate moving inward to the head in the center.
- 2. Color both sides of the plate.
- 3. Cut along the spiral line to make the snake.
- 4. Poke a small hole in the middle of the

- head and tie a long piece of yarn through it.
- 5. Glue google eyes to the head.



Announcements

The Church General Headquarters has Moved

The General Headquarters of the Church of Christ with The Elijah Message, The Assured Way of the Lord, Inc. has moved to 14500 East 42nd Street South. Sunday Service will be held there every week starting at 10:15am.

A Special Thanks

A special thanks to Karen Wilkin who has written the Young Adults section for that past several years. The wisdom she has imparted to our youth has been invaluable!

We hope all had a Happy Easter!