

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.'

Happy Mother's Day

2012

In this Issue...

<i>Sixty-Second Message</i>	169
<i>Word's of Alma</i>	171
<i>Are We Grateful?</i>	172
<i>Salvation</i>	174
<i>Something To Think About</i>	176
<i>Study On Charity</i>	176
<i>Food For Thought</i>	180
<i>Testimonies of The Past</i>	181
<i>2012 General Assembly</i>	181
<i>The Meaning of Our Seal</i>	184
<i>Experience of March, 1938</i>	184
<i>Abraham, Isaac, & Joseph</i>	190
<i>Primary Department</i>	194
<i>Junior Department</i>	195
<i>Young Adult Department</i>	196

The 2012 General Assembly

Of

The Church Of Christ

With The Elijah Message, The Assured Way of The Lord, Inc.

(Information on Page 181)

The 2012 General Assembly

The Community of Christ Church
1315 South Osage Street
Independence, Missouri



The Church Of Christ With The Elijah Message

THE ASSURED WAY OF THE LORD, Inc.

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

Articles of Faith and Practice

1. We believe in God The Eternal Father, who only is Supreme; Creator of the Universe; Ruler and Judge of all; Unchangeable and without Respect to persons.

2. We believe in Jesus Christ The Manifestation of God in the flesh, who lived, suffered and died for all mankind; whom we own as our Leader, Witness and Commander.

3. We believe in The Holy Ghost, The Spirit of Truth, The Comforter, which searcheth the deep things of God, brings to our minds things which are past, Reveals things to come, and is the medium by which we Receive Revelation of Jesus Christ.

4. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins and not for Adam's transgression, and that as a consequence of The Atonement of Christ "all little children are alive in Christ, and also all they that are without The Law. For The Power of Redemption cometh on all they that have no law; wherefore, he that is not condemned, or he that is under no condemnation, cannot repent, and unto such, baptism availeth nothing." (Moroni 8:22)

5. We believe that through The Atonement of Christ all men may be Saved by Obedience to The Laws and Ordinances of The Gospel; viz. : Faith in God and in The Lord Jesus Christ; Repentance and Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; Laying on of Hands for: (a) Ordination, (b) Blessing of Children, (c) Confirmation and The Gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 8:17), (d) Healing of the sick.

6. We believe in the literal second coming and Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ; in The Resurrection of the Dead, and in Eternal Judgment; that men will be rewarded or punished according to the good or evil they may have done.

7. We believe in The Powers and Gifts of The Everlasting Gospel: viz: The Word of Wisdom; The Word of Knowledge; The Gift of Faith; The Gift of Healing; Working of Miracles; Prophecy; Discerning of Spirits; Divers kinds of Tongues; Interpretation of Tongues.

8. We believe The Fruits of The Spirit to be Love, Joy, Peace, Long Suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance.

9. We believe that in The Bible is contained The Word of God; that The Record of the Nephites is an added Witness for Christ, and that these contain 'The Fullness of The Gospel.'

10. We believe in the principle of Continuous Revelation; that The Canon of Scripture is not full, that God Inspires men in every age and among all people, and that He speaks when, where, and through whom he may choose.

11. We believe that where there are six or more regularly Baptized members, one of whom is an Elder, there The Church exists with Full Power of Church extension when acting in Harmony with The Law of God.

12. We believe that a man must be Called of God by Revelation and Ordained by those having Authority, to enable him to Preach The Gospel and Administer The Ordinances thereof.

13. We believe in the same Church Organization as existed in the time of Christ and His apostles. The highest office in The Church is that of an Apostle, of whom there are Twelve, who constitute Special Witnesses for Jesus Christ. They have The Missionary Supervision and The General Watch care of all The Churches.

14. The primary function of The General Church, of which each Local Church is a component part, is Missionary and the building

up and extension of The Kingdom of God in all the world.

15. We believe that Local Churches should govern their own affairs and that General Church officials should not dominate or interfere therewith. On invitation such general officers may, with propriety, give counsel and assistance. Local congregations are subject to The Articles of Faith and Practice and must be governed thereby.

16. We believe The Church of Christ comprehends The True Brotherhood of man where each esteems his brother as himself and wherein The Divine Command to 'love your neighbor as yourself' is demonstrated by the prevalence of social equality.

17. We believe that all men are Stewards under God and answerable to Him not only for the distribution of accumulated wealth, but for the manner in which such wealth is secured. The primary purpose of Stewardship is not the increase of Church revenue or the mere contribution of money by those who have to those who have not, but to bring men to a realization of The Common Fatherhood and the universal brotherhood of man in all the affairs and expressions of life, and to maintain such social adjustments that each may enjoy The Bounty and Gifts of God, and be free to exercise his talents and ability to enrich the life of all.

18. We believe that men should labor for their own support and that of their dependents. Ministers of The Gospel are not absolved from this responsibility, but when Chosen or Appointed by The Church to devote their entire time to Missionary Work, their families are to be provided for out of General Church fund. The Admonition of Christ that The Ministry should not provide purse or scrip for their journey, but go Trusting in God and the people, is applicable.

19. We believe that the temporal affairs of the General Church are to be administered by The General Bishopric under the supervision and direction of the general conferences of The Church. The temporal affairs of The Local Churches shall be Administered by local Bishops under the supervision and direction of the local congregations.

20. We believe that marriage is Ordained of God, and that The Law of God provides for but one companion in wedlock for either man or woman. In case of breach of this covenant the innocent one may remarry.

21. We are opposed to war. Men are not justified in taking up arms against their fellows except as a last resort in defense of their lives and to preserve their liberty.

22. We believe in The Literal gathering of Israel, and in The Restoration of The Ten Lost Tribes.

23. We believe a Temple will be Built in this generation, in Independence, Missouri, wherein Christ will Reveal Himself and Endow His Servants whom He Chooses with Power to Preach The Gospel in all the world to every kindred, tongue and people, that The Promise of God to Israel may be Fulfilled.

24. We believe that a New Jerusalem shall be Built upon this land 'unto The Remnant' of The Seed of Joseph. (Ether 6:6-8; III Nephi 10:17), which city be Built, beginning at The Temple Lot.

25. We believe The Ministry and Membership should abstain from the use of tobacco, intoxicating liquors and narcotics and should not affiliate with any society which administer Oaths or Covenants in conflict with The Law of God, or which interfere with their duties as freemen and citizens.

THE GREATER LIGHT

(The Americas, Africa, Asia, Australia and Europe)
BUSINESS OFFICE: 215 South Lynn St, Indep. MO 64050
 Phone: 816-836-1913

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION
The Church Of Christ With the Elijah Message
The Assured Way Of The Lord , Inc.

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR/BUSINESS MANAGER

Leonard H. Draves, 14612 E. 41st St. S. Indep. MO 64055
 Send all materials for Publication and Subscription to the
 Editor/Business Manager

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Donald Thompson, 17009 E. 4th Terr, S. Indep .MO 64056

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

Joy Ellen Draves, 23167 N. Shore Rd, CR 59, Dexter, NY 13634

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

Thresa Ray, 1231 S. Spring Ave., Indep. MO. 64055

YOUNG ADULT DEPARTMENT

Matthew and Ellen Thompson, 4317 S. Union St., Indep., MO 64055

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

HEADQUARTERS' OFFICES

215 South Lynn Street Independence, MO. 64050,
 Leonard H. Draves: Representative for 12
 Phone: 816-836-1913 Fax: 816-254-2849

CHURCH HISTORIAN

Mervyn L. Johnson, 1904 S. Arlington Ave., Indep., MO 64052

YOUTH MINISTER DIRECTOR

Matthew Thompson, 4317 S. Union St., Indep., MO 64055

Secretary-Treasurer of The Bishops: Reece Johnson

215 South Lynn Street, Independence, MO. 64050
 Phone: 816-836-1913 Fax: 816-254-2849

SEND ALL TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE BISHOPS' OFFICE

Chairman of The Bishops; Reece Johnson

1801 Cheyenne Ct. Greenwood MO 64034

CHURCH GENERAL RECORDER'S OFFICE

Leonard H. Draves, 215 South Lynn Street, Independence, MO. 64050
 Phone: 816-836-1913 Fax: 816-254-2849

BOARD OF PUBLICATION: The Twelve

CHAIRMAN OF THE TWELVE

Jairus Yates Rt. 1, Box 60 D, Preston, MO 65732

SECRETARY OF THE QUORUM OF TWELVE

Leonard H. Draves 14612 E. 41st St. S., Indep., MO 64055
 Phone/Fax: 816-254-2849

DONATIONS FOR TRACTS

(By Availability)

David Whitmer's Address (reprint including Tract) \$2.00 each
 \$2.00 per dozen

Brief History of W.A . Draves What Must I Do To Be Saved
 And If Ye Receive It Prophecy Being Fulfilled

Brief Historical Background	A Great Awakening
Church of Christ, Her Apostasy & Restoration	Authority
Sanctification	Tithing
The Restoration Of The Church Of Christ (A Brief History)	\$.40 each
Reason Why	\$.40 each
The Church Of Christ Established Anew in 1929	\$.40 each
The Coming Forth Of The Record Of The Nephites	\$.40 each
Why The Record Of The Nephites	\$.40 each
The Solution Of The Mormon Problem	\$.40 each
Changing Of Revelations (by Daniel MacGregor)	\$.40 each
Single Messages	\$1.00 per dozen
The Word Of The Lord (120 Messages)	\$8.00
The Word Of The Lord (audio cassettes)	\$25.00
The Record OF The Nephites (soft bound R.P.E.)	\$10.00
Light At Evening Time	\$8.00
Book Of Commandments	\$5.00
Footprints In The Sands Of Time	\$5.00
Is Jesus God?	\$2.00
Concordance To The Word Of The Lord	\$30.00
Testimony of W.A.Draves (On CD)	\$5.00

Address all orders to *The Church Of Christ With The Elijah Message*
The Assured Way Of The Lord , Inc.
 215 South Lynn Street, Independence, Mo 64050

Websites- johnthebaptist.info
theassuredway.org
ancientofdays.org

THE GREATER LIGHT is posted on this web-site monthly by *The Church of Christ With The Elijah Message, The Assured Way of The Lord, INC., 215 South Lynn Street Independence, Missouri 64050.*

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

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

Message 53:10, 'Yea, I have brought a **Warning** and few prepare for **THE GREATER LIGHT**, but be thou Faithful

even all who hear, for The Lord's Will shall be fulfilled in all things. All have their work to do and the day comes when The Lord shall breathe upon The Chosen and they shall do His Work in Mighty Power for their love toward the brethren. All that offend and that do not keep His Commandments shall not be His in the Last Day. Moreover, it is Christ's Words that shall judge all men.'

THE GENERAL MISSIONARIES

Every Elder's Duty is Missionary where opportunity permits.

APOSTLES

Leonard H. Draves, 14612 E. 41st St. S., Indep. MO 64055
 Michael Greenwell, Route 1, Box 60-C. Preston, MO 65732
 Mervyn Johnson, 1904 S. Arlington Ave., Indep. MO 64052
 Richard Johnson, 301 South Oak Street. Lamoni, IA 50140
 Donald Thompson, 17009 E. 4th Terr. S., Indep. MO 64056
 Jairus Cree Yates, Rt. 1, Box 60-D, Preston, MO 65732

BISHOPS

Brad K. Evans, 3210 Speer Blvd., Denver, CO 80211-4726
 Reece Johnson, 1801 Cheyenne Ct, Greenwood, MO 64034
 James Naslund, 2005 S. Lexington, Holden, MO 64040
 Matthew Thompson, 4317 S. Union St., Indep. , MO 64055

THE QUORUM OF TWELVE TERRITORIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Leonard H. Draves- Montana, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, and At Large. (816-254-2849)

Michael Greenwell- New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Bahamas and Mexico. (417-722-4578)

Mervyn Johnson- Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Eastern Canada. (816-461-0995)

Richard Johnson- Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee and Central Canada. (641-784-3451)

Donald Thompson- Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Alaska, Hawaii and Western Canada. (816-257-1832)

Jairus Cree Yates- West Virginia, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. (417-722-9733)

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
Apostle Leonard H. Draves

FOREWORD

THE GREATER LIGHT, the official publication of *THE CHURCH OF CHRIST WITH THE ELIJAH MESSAGE*, *The Assured Way of The Lord, Inc.*, comes to YOU as an expression of the Hope we have in Christ.

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

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

The Messages so often mentioned in this publication are Messages from The Lord, brought to earth by His Chosen Servant, John The Baptist, who comes to earth in a Glorified Body to finish The Work given to him of God; that of Restoring

given to him of God; that of Restoring all things (Matthew 17:11). The Angel first came in 1829, and Restored *The Authority Of The Son Of God*, that *THE CHURCH OF CHRIST* might be Established as in The Days of The Apostles.

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

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

THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION
THE QUORUM OF TWELVE

NOTICES

Please make all checks for Tithes and Offerings, payable to *THE CHURCH OF CHRIST WITH THE ELIJAH MESSAGE*. Please notify any change of address by the fifth of the month, if possible. We would like to keep our records up to date. Your cooperation will be appreciated. Thank You!

Secretary-Treasurer of Bishops'
Bishop Reece Johnson

THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY *To All People*

Sixty-Second Message

The Messenger of The Lord came to my home on the morning of September 4, 1943, and instructed me to give the following Message to The Church. He appeared and commanded me to arise and write. The Divine made me so weak in body that after a part of The Message was given he left me so that I could regain some of my strength. He returned and I felt much stronger. I finished The Message as he gave it.

-W. A. Draves

1. Behold; I have come again to bring a Message from The Lord. He has sent me. I come from His Presence. I am he of whom it is written, 'Mine Elect' in whom The Lord delighteth. I am *The Messenger of The Covenant* and my name is John. My coming is to bring a warning and prepare *The Way* again before The Lord.

2. I come that *Righteousness* shall look down from above. Yea, it shall be poured out upon the earth, for God Himself hath sent me and caused me to speak. I speak His Will. The Words I speak shall bring Peace to many for *Salvation* shall be upon the earth among men. Yea, it is and now waiteth to be carried to the ends of the earth, the isles of the sea, for lo, The Lord has spoken; The Lord that made Heaven and earth and all things that in them are. He that stretched forth Heaven above, He it is that shall confound the liars and maketh diviners fail and turn the wise backward making their knowledge foolish. He it is that shall allow confusion to come upon all of them that stir against The Lord and The Words I bring. I bring a *Way of Deliverance*.

3. I am *The Messenger* to go before The Lord to make the crooked straight; to cause to be broken to pieces all their gates of evil, them that oppose *The Way of The Lord*.

4. Thus saith The Lord, 'O Israel wilt thou come forth that you might be delivered? I have called thee. I have named thee. I have chosen thee. I am *The Great High Priest*. I am He who scattered thee and I am he who shall deliver- who shall gather. I will bring back all the outcast, moreover all those that are dispersed. Learn ye *My Ways* and come unto Me and *Life Eternal* shall be your reward.

5. Yea, I have not spoken in secret or in hiding. I have sent *My Messenger*. He has spoken My Words and Will. It shall stand, for this is *My Pleasure*. I know the end from the beginning and I have planned Deliverance to all that will Call on *My Name in Righteousness*, in Humility before Me,' saith, your God'

(At this juncture he left for a while and returned later.)

6. 'Be ye comforted all that will hear, for the day shall come when as The Light shineth from the east unto the west so shall the Coming of *The Son of Man* be. Every eye shall behold Him. Moreover, every heart shall cry and every tongue shall know and confess He is The Christ, for lo, He comes and *His Words* shall judge both those that live and those that do not; both The Righteous and the wicked; both those that do His Will and those that serve Him not. Some to *Joy and Peace* with Him and some to shame.

7. Those that are His shall be counted *His Jewels, His Bride, The Lamb's Wife*, when He comes. Thus *The Church of Christ*

shall continue on that a people may be fully prepared; therefore, it is my duty to bring *The Message, The Instructions from The Lord* your God to *The Church*, and for the children of men that all might learn this is *The Closing Time* when *The vineyard of The Lord* is being pruned for the last time and the Christ soon comes to make *His Reign* on earth.

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 then *The Greatest* entrusted to mankind shall be accomplished.

9. Therefore, fear not and fret not, but do *The Lord's Bidding*. Save your strength that you may do that which The Lord will yet bring forth that all nations may flow together for Christ shall be Lord of all and *King of Kings* and all men will serve Him. Then shall be no more evil to hinder, but all shall be delightful in The Lord.

10. The Lord has seen your humility and your faith. Continue that He might smile in Peace upon you and *The Church*. Many hearts have bled and will yet bleed if they do not watch and pray. I told you to watch against the days to come. As I speak to you so speak I to all. Be ye comforted. Your companion shall be a comfort to you for *Peace* shall be in the hearts of all those that *Love This Work*.

11. Remember Job in his trials. The Lord set *His Angel to Deliver*, so it shall be to *The Church* for The Faithful. Some Love *This Work* and know it is TRUE but their pride has kept them away and from coming close to The Lord. Some are True and will yet be True and with all their might proclaim *The Truth*, even The

Message I bring. Let them continue on. *Peace* shall be with them.

12. Some hate you and *The Message* I bring and have set their heart to hinder and destroy, but in the end they will lose and grief shall be upon them. This is *The Lord's Work* and it must be done *The Lord's Way in Justice and Righteousness* above the ways and evils of man. Let not man's way hinder.

13. While things look dark to you now, the future will be brighter. As I speak to you so speak I to all. *My Message is one of Love* to all that will Heed and Obey

14. I gave the warning-the conditions are coming to pass as I told you. Some have prepared and are comforted. Be watchful, be ready in *The Lord's Peace*.

15. The Lord will call those to carry *His Work* on even to the end of the earth and all those that are *Faithful will be Blessed*.

16. Let those alone that oppose you and *The Message* I bring. The hate in their hearts will destroy their good if they do not repent and seek to please *The Lord*.

17. Let each one work in his place and calling as *The Way opens*. Let man come all *The Way* in Obedience, for this is *The Assured Way of The Lord* to speak to mankind. Let them not doubt and *The Lord's Spirit* will lead. The Lord has and will yet give *His Spirit in Greater Abundance* to The Faithful.

18. Thus saith The Lord, 'Let my servants Lacey and Garrett, be added to the apostles. Let them always be humble for I, The Lord, will Bless them in *This Work*. Let my servant Redd be set apart as an elder. Let My young servant Floyd know this is *My Work* and I have looked upon him in the past and he shall yet do that special work in *This Cause*. Let all be at

work and I shall send *The Greater Peace*,' saith The Lord.

19. The Lord has sent me that all might be encouraged. Let *Peace* be in the hearts of all. Let *The Work* move on. Let all pay their tithes that they may render to The Lord that which is His. Be at *Peace* will all men. Be filled with *The Spirit* that its *Fruits may Rule*. *Peace* I leave with you and shall come again as *The Lord will direct*. Amen.'

From The Editor's Desk

Apostle Leonard H. Draves
Missouri

Word's of Alma

I would like to read from *The Record of The Nephites*, Words of Encouragement that has always given me a boost in times of trials. I want to share those Words with all. In The Book of Alma, Chapter 26, reading from verses 8,12,16-17,22,35 &37; 'Blessed be The Name of our God; let us sing to His Praise, yea, let us give Thanks to His Holy Name, for He doth work Righteousness for ever . . .

Yea, I know that I am nothing; as to my strength I am weak; therefore I will not boast of myself, but I will boast of my God, for in His Strength I can do all things; yea Behold, many Mighty Miracles we have wrought in this land, for which we will Praise His Name for ever . . .

Therefore, let us Glory, yea, we will Glory in The Lord; yea, we will Rejoice, for our Joy is Full; yea we will Praise our God for ever. *Behold, who can Glory too much in The Lord? Yea, who can say too much of His Great Power, and of His Mercy, and of His Long Suffering towards*

the children of men? Behold, I say unto you, I cannot say the smallest part which I feel.

Who could have supposed that our God would have been so Merciful as to have Snatched us from our awful, sinful, and polluted state?

Yea, he that Repenteth and Exerciseth Faith, and Bringeth forth Good Works, and Prayeth Continually without Ceasing: unto such it is given to Know The Mysteries of God; yea, unto such it shall be given to Reveal Things which never have been Revealed; yea, and it shall be given unto such to bring thousands of Souls to Repentance, even as it hath been given unto us to bring these our brethren to Repentance . . .

Now have we not Reason to Rejoice? Yea, I say unto you, there never was men that had so Great Reason to Rejoice as we, since the world began; yea and my Joy is Carried Away, even unto boasting in my God; for He has all Power, all Wisdom, and all Understanding; He Comprehendeth all Things, and He is a Merciful Being, even unto Salvation, to those who will Repent and Believe on His Name . . .

Now my brethren, we see that God is Mindful of every people, in whatsoever land they may be in; yea, He Numbereth His People, and His Bowels of Mercy is over all the earth. Now this is my Joy, and my Great Thanksgiving; yea, and I will give Thanks unto my God for ever. Amen.'

Those Words are Wonderful Words to my Soul. I have always enjoy them. I Hope you enjoyed reading them.

From The Apostles

Are We Grateful?

W.A.Draves

Grateful, would lead us to GRATITUDE. Although the word gratitude, like the trinity, is not found in *The Bible*, The Sacred Scriptures contain many sentiments on each of these subjects, and these words are the most comprehensive to convey the ideas; they are well adapted.

To deliver our thoughts in a few words on gratitude, we apprehend it includes five things: (1) a deep and lively sense of benefits. (2) an ardent Love to and complacency in the benefactor; (3) an immediate beginning to make all possible returns to the donor, either in repaying or else expressing our thankfulness, (4) in a fixed purpose of heart to make better returns, if even in our power; and (5) a determined resolution to retain gratitude for the benefits or favors to the end of life.

Gratitude

Gratitude is justly said to be the mother of most *virtues*, because that from this one fountain so many rivulets arise; as that of Reverence unto parents and masters, Friendship, Love of country, an Obedience to God. The ungrateful are everywhere hated, being under a suspicion of every vice; but, on the contrary, grateful persons are in the estimation of all men, having by their gratitude put in a kind of security that they are not without a measure of every other virtue. "*My mission is one of Love*", and such is a virtue.

Noble souls are quick to express gratitude- to all about them. They quickly think of others. Under a stern necessity of favors received from the benevolent, who are, as the world would say, under no obligations to bestow them. Free will offer-

ings made by generous hearts, to smooth the rough path, and wipe away the tears of a fellow being.

We Pray in The Lord's Prayer, "*Forgive us as we forgive our debtors.*" Thus, we are saying, "*Judge me as I judge others.*" Deal only with me as I deal with others- as I treat them- so treat me. So we name our own judgment. Let us not be wrapped up in the cocoon of selfish avarice, who live only for themselves and die for the devil.

A very poor and aged man, busied in planting and grafting an apple tree, was rudely interrupted by this interrogation; "*Why do you plant trees, you cannot hope to eat the fruit of them?*"

He raised himself up, and leaning upon his spade, replied: "*Someone planted trees for me, before I was born, and I have eaten the fruit; now I plant for others, that the memorial of my gratitude may exist when I am dead and gone.*" That is a bit of Charity that lives on beyond the grave.

It is a species of agreeable servitude to be under an obligation to those we esteem. Ingratitude is a crime so shameful that the man has not yet been found who would acknowledge himself guilty of it.

Nothing tenders the heart, and opens the gushing Fountain of Love, more than the exercise of gratitude. Like the showers of spring, that cause flowers to rise from seeds that have long laid dormant, tears of gratitude awaken pleasurable sensations, unknown to those who have never been forced from the sunshine of prosperity into the cold shade of adversity. Where no warmth and light communicated from Heaven to the sincerely pious, who alone are prepared to meet, with calm submission, the keen and chilling winds of misfortune. And who, above all others, exercise The VIR-

TURE of gratitude, in the full perfection of its native beauty and colors.

Something to look backward to with Pride and forward to with Hope.

True Hope is based on energy of character. Character building is necessary in our lives. A strong mind always Hopes and has always cause to Hope, because it knows the mutability of human affairs. And how slight a circumstance may change the whole course of events.

Such a Spirit, too, rest upon itself; it is not confined to partial views. Or to one particular object. And if, at last all should be lost, it has saved itself- its won integrity and worth.

Hope awakens courage, while despondency is the last of all evils. It is the abandonment of good- the giving up of the battle of life with dead nothingness. He who can implant Courage in the human Souls is the best PHYSICIAN.

Paul says, that if in this Life only we have Hope, we are of all men most miserable.

Hope in The Eternal Life- this comes when we Learn Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Savior, Lord God and King of The Kingdom of The Lord. Read The Words that The Angel brings. Shape your Lives by them and Eternity with God will have Place for you. Come, before The Door is shut and the Bridegroom Enters in and sits down with The Bride, *The Church of Christ With The Elijah Message*. She will be Prepared by the Character Building, Life Shaping, Righteousness Living, and Obedience to The Word. Yes, we are Bible Believers. It tells of God's Additional Words Coming; The Coming forth of *The Record of The Nephites*, and *The Word of The Lord*, Books.

From The Bishops

Salvation

*Bishop Reece Johnson
Missouri*

This is The Way of Salvation. We learn from The Gospel that this is a Way back to The Lord through repentance and a honest commitment to The Lord asking forgiveness for our sins. By doing so, The Lord will place within us a New Heart to carry us on. I am truly glad that you are here today.

I would like to read some from *The Record of The Nephites* on Hope, Faith and Charity.

Moroni 7: 2-19, ‘And now I Mormon, speak unto you, my beloved brethren; and it is by The Grace of God, The Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, and His Holy Will, because of The Gift of His Calling unto me, that I am permitted to speak unto you at this time.

Wherefore I would speak unto you that are of The Church, that are The Peaceable Followers of Christ, and that have obtained a sufficient Hope, by which ye can enter into The Rest of The Lord, from this time henceforth, until ye shall Rest with Him in Heaven.

And now my brethren, I judge these things of you because of your Peaceable Walk with the children of men.

For I remember The Word of God, which Saith by their Works ye shall know them; for if their Works be Good, then they are Good also.

For Behold, God hath Said, A man being evil cannot do that which is good; for if he offereth a Gift, or Prayeth unto God, except he shall do it with Real Intent, it profiteth him nothing.

For Behold, it is not counted unto him for Righteousness.

For Behold, if a man being evil, giveth a Gift, he doeth it grudgingly; wherefore it is counted unto him the same as if he had retained The Gift; wherefore he is counted evil before God.

And likewise also it is counted evil unto a man, if he shall pray, and not with Real Intent of Heart; yea, and it profiteth him nothing; for God receiveth none such;

Wherefore, a man being evil, cannot do that which is good; neither will he give a good Gift.

For Behold, a bitter fountain cannot being forth good water; neither can a good fountain bring forth bitter water; wherefore a man being the servant of the devil, cannot follow Christ; and if he follow Christ, he cannot be a servant of the devil.

Wherefore, all things which are Good, Cometh of God; and that which is evil cometh of the devil; for the devil is an enemy unto God, and fighteth against Him continually, and inviteth and enticeth to sin, and to do that which is evil continually.

But behold, that which is of God, invited and enticeth, to do good continually; wherefore, every thing which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to Love God, and to serve Him, is inspired of God.

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

For behold, my brethren, it is given unto you to judge, that ye may know good from evil, and the way to judge is as plain,

that ye may know with a perfect knowledge, as the daylight is from the dark night.

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

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

And now, my brethren, seeing that ye know The Light by which ye may judge, which Light is The Light of Christ, see that ye do not judge wrongfully; for with that same judgment which ye judge, ye shall also be judge.

Wherefore I beseech of you, brethren, that ye should search diligently in The Light of Christ, that ye may know good from evil; and if ye will lay hold upon every good thing, and condemn it not, ye certainly will be a Child of Christ.'

FAITH

Moroni 7: 33-34, 'And Christ hath said, If ye will have Faith in Me, ye shall have Power to do whatsoever thing is expedient in Me.

And he hath said, Repent all ye ends of the earth and come unto Me and be Baptized in My Name, and have Faith in

Me that ye may be Saved.'

HOPE

Moroni 7:41-44: 'And what is it that ye shall Hope for? Behold I say unto you that ye shall have Hope through the Atonement of Christ and The Power of His Resurrection, to be raised unto Life Eternal; and this because of your Faith in Him according to The Promise.

Wherefore, if a man have Faith, he must needs have Hope; for without Faith there cannot be any Hope.

And again, behold I say unto you that he cannot have Faith and Hope, save he shall be Meek, and Lowly of Heart;

If, so, his Faith and Hope is vain, for none is acceptable before God; save the Meek and Lowly in Heart, and if a man be Meek and Lowly in Heart, and confesses by The Power of The Holy Ghost, that Jesus in The Christ, he must needs have Charity; for if he have not Charity he is nothing; wherefore he must needs have Charity.'

CHARITY

Moroni 7:45-47, 'And Charity suffereth long, and is kind, and envieth not, and is not puffed up, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, and rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in The Truth, beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

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

But Charity is The Pure Love of Christ, and it endureth forever; and

whoso is found possessed of it at the last day. it shall be well with them.'

Remember, seek to do Good and be Blessed. I thank you.

Something To Think About

*Apostle Donald Thompson
Missouri*

Do wounds mark your life? The pain of suffering those wounds have caused you to have deep, deep roots. Those roots have grown all the way down into the soil of the garden you and I know as Eden. You likely know the story from Genesis 2:9. The Creation of the tree, the Command regarding the tree, the tempter lurking in the tree, and the people standing at the base of the tree listening to the temptation. And, finally, the bite those people each took from the tree's fruit.

Adam and Eve's disobedience left wounds on every single person who would at any moment in history plant their feet on God's Created earth. Well, not on all people. All but one-the One Named Jesus Christ. The Heavenly Father came down as The Son to take the sins of the entire world upon Himself. He did this in order to bring complete Healing to you, to me, to all who would believe in Jesus as their Savior. In Jesus, we have forgiveness for all our sins and The Gift of Eternal Life-right now as we live here on earth. 'The Gift of God' is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:23).

One day, we will experience that Life, that Healing, that Glorious Rescue in The Banqueting Halls of Heaven.

Yes, 'His Story' Jesus' Story-which has through Faith become our story-also involves a tree. That tree rose up from the ground, taking the shape of a Cross. NO one

drove 16-penny nails into tree; Roman soldiers drove spikes into it, spikes that also pierced through The Flesh of The One Named Jesus. While the severity and gruesomeness of our Lord's Wounds makes our eyes turn and weep still today, those Wounds also continues to pierce Hearts and turn Lives toward The Savior in Repentance and Faith. Yes, The Tree of Christ's Cross bore Blessed Fruit.

That Fruit is personal. Because of what happened on The Cross, God has brought Blessing upon Blessing into your life, and mine. God has poured out His Grace upon each of us, and He now considers you His Beloved Child, an Heir of Heaven's Incredible Beauty and Glory.

Let Us Study Together

*Sister Ellen Draves
Missouri*

A Study on Charity

Moroni 7:44-47, 'If so, his Faith and Hope is vain, for none is Acceptable before God, save The Meek and Lowly of Heart; and if a man be Meek and Lowly in Heart, and Confesses by The Power of The Holy Ghost that Jesus is The Christ, he must needs have Charity; for if he have not Charity he is nothing; wherefore he must needs have Charity. And Charity _____ long, and is kind, and _____ not, and is not puffed up, _____ not Her own, is not easily provoked, _____ no evil, and _____ not in iniquity but _____ in The Truth, _____ all things, Believeth all things, _____ all things, _____ all things. Wherefore, my Beloved Brethren, if ye have not Charity, ye are nothing, for Charity never _____. Wherefore, Cleave unto Charity, which is The Greatest of all,

May, 2012

for all things must fail— But Charity is The Pure Love of Christ, and it _____ forever; and whoso is found Possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with them.’

Moroni 8:17, ‘And I am Filled with Charity, which is _____ Love; wherefore, all child-ren are alike unto Me; wherefore, I Love little children with a _____ Love; and they are all _____ and _____ of Salvation.’

I Corinthians 13:1-8, ‘Though I speak with the tongues of men and of Angels, and have not Charity, I am become as _____, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have The Gift of Prophecy, and understand all _____, and all Knowledge; and though I have all Faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not Charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not Charity, it _____ me nothing. Charity _____ Long, and is Kind; Charity _____ not; Charity _____ not itself, is not Puffed up, _____ Doth not Behave itself unseemly, _____ not Her own, is not easily Provoked, _____ no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but _____ in The Truth; _____ all things, _____ all things, _____ all things. Charity never _____: but whether there be Prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be Tongues, they shall cease; whether there be Knowledge, it shall vanish away.’ Message 31:9 ‘Ye that name My name give thanks unto your Master; in so doing I will bless you that you will be a _____, and bless others. Let My Spirit rule your lives. Be ye long suffering. Be not as sounding _____ and _____. Be filled with charity and let peace rule your minds and your lives.

The fire of joy shall burn within you.

Page 177

Yea, the Lord will walk and talk with those that keep His Law in fullness. Seek not the praise of men. Be not heady nor _____. Seek to do good. A good tree cannot bear corrupt fruit, nor a corrupt tree, good fruit.”

Moroni 10:20-21, ‘Wherefore, there must be Faith; and if there must be Faith there must also be Hope; and if there must be Hope there must also be Charity. And except ye have Charity ye can in no wise be Saved in The _____ of God; neither can ye be Saved in The _____ of God if ye have not Faith; neither can ye if ye have no Hope;’

I Timothy 1:5, ‘Now the end of the _____ is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of Faith unfeigned:’

Alma 7:23-24, ‘And now I would that ye should be _____, and be _____ and _____; easy to be _____; Full of _____ and Longsuffering; being _____ in all things; being Diligent in Keeping The Commandments of God at all times; asking for whatsoever things ye stand in need, both Spiritual and temporal; always returning Thanks unto God for whatsoever things ye do Receive, And see that ye have Faith, Hope, and Charity, and then ye will always Abound in Good Works.’

II Peter 1:5-9, ‘And beside this, giving all _____, add to your Faith Virtue; and to Virtue Knowledge; And to Knowledge _____; and to Temperance _____; and to Patience Godliness; And to Godliness Brotherly _____; and to Brotherly _____ Charity. For if these things be in you, and Abound, they make you that ye shall neither be _____ nor _____ in The _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he

that ____ these things is blind, and cannot
Page 178

see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was Purged from his old sins.'

Galatians 6:1, 'Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, Ye which are _____, Restore such an one in The Spirit of Meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.'

I Peter 4:8, 'And above all things have _____ Charity among yourselves: for Charity shall cover the _____ of sins.'

I Peter 3:8-10, 'Finally, be ye all of one mind, having _____ one of another, Love as brethren, be pitiful, be _____: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise ____; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should Inherit a Blessing. For he that will Love life, and see Good Days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile.'

Alma 34:29-30, 'Therefore, if ye do not remember to be ____, ye are as ____, which the refiners do cast out, (it being of no worth) and is trodden under foot of men. And now, my brethren, I would that, after ye have Received so many Witnesses, seeing that The Holy Scriptures Testify of these things, come forth and bring ____ unto _____'.

Hebrews 5:1-2, 'For every high priest taken from among men is ____ for men in things Pertaining to God, that he may offer both Gifts and Sacrifices for sins: Who can have ____ on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity.'

Hebrews 12:13, 'And make straight ____ for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way: but let it rather be ____.'

Isaiah 33:15, 'He that walketh ____, and
May, 2012

____ uprightly; he that ____ the gain of oppressions, that ____ his hands from holding of bribes, that ____ his ears from hearing of blood and shutteth his ____ from seeing evil.'

Message 30:1-4, 'Thus Saith The Lord, Let My Servants, Bennett, Bronson, and Thornton, be set apart to fill the vacancies in My House as Apostles. Let The ____ and The ____ remember that ____ must be their Mantle, for ____ knoweth no evil. Let My Servant Armstrong, labor as an Elder until a vacancy shall come. If he is Faithful to The Trust, he shall occupy with The Twelve. I have given The Plans for The Temple, but My people are not worthy or cannot enter therein.' Thus says The Lord, ' I will not ____ My People if they will Keep My ____ and Serve Me as I have Instructed you; yea, My Spirit Touches the hearts of many who have no understanding of My Law. I have heard The Prayer of My people and all is in My ____.' Thus says The Lord, 'You must ____ of the _____ ____, that you might know that which My Son has _____. For Behold the ____ is after you have fought the fight. Speak not evil of your brother nor of your ____ whose mind is still dark. Go to them in Love. _____ the world by Righteousness; _____ your mind by Humility. Love always. _____ is not your work. I have Called you to Save the world. According to your _____ and _____ in keeping My Commandments so far you will Accomplish. If you have failed yourself.'

Isaiah 58, 'Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a ____, and shew my people their ____, and The House of Jacob their sins. Yet they Seek Me Daily, and

that did ____, and forsook not The Ordinance of their God: they ask of me The Ordinances of Justice; they take Delight in Approaching to God. Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou ____ not? wherefore have we afflicted our ____, and thou ____ no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your Fast ye find Pleasure, and Exact all your labours. Behold, ye Fast for __ and ____, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not Fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high. Is it such a Fast that I have Chosen? a day for a man to ____ his Soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ____ under him? wilt thou call this a Fast, and an Acceptable Day to The LORD? Is not this the Fast that I have Chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy ____, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy ____ to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy ____ shall go before thee; The Glory of The LORD shall be thy Reward. Then shalt thou Call, and The LORD shall Answer; thou shalt Cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the ____, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; And if thou draw out thy Soul to the ____, and satisfy the afflicted Soul; then shall thy Light Rise in obscurity, and thy ____ be as the noonday: And The LORD shall guide thee con-

and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. And they that shall be of thee shall build the old ____ places: thou shalt raise up the ____ of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The ____ of the breach, The ____ of paths to dwell in. If thou turn away thy foot from the ____, from doing thy pleasure on My Holy Day; and call the ____ a delight, The Holy of The LORD, ____; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou Delight thyself in The LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with The __ of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of The LORD hath spoken it.'

I Corinthians 8:1, 'Now as ____ things offered unto idols, we know that we all have _____. Knowledge ____ up, but Charity _____.'

Romans 12:9, 'Let ____ be without _____. ____ that which is evil; cleave to that which is Good.'

Message 91:13, 'Be thou Clean that bear The ____ of The Lord. Let your conversations be Clean. Let ____ of Charity Rule your lives. Lift up The _____.'

Message 91:17, 'They that are of God and are Humble, ____ The Spirit and find it in Righteous Acts. Showing Charity beyond ____, will have The Greater Power and their works will stand The Test.'

Message 91:27, 'They that are Filled with ____ and ____, Charity hath no hold on them.'

Message 91:31, 'There are necessary ____ that come to all that they might Learn ____ and The Love of God. For Charity

knoweth nor doeth no evil.'

Page 180

Message 95:10, 'The ___ of mankind hath not seen, nor the ___ hath not heard what is in store for them that Love The Lord, that do His Will, that Hear and Obey the words I bring; shaping their lives by The Great Plan and Will of God. Love is your Mission. Charity ___ long and is kind, is not ___ up and ___ not for ___. Neither will she ___, nor destroy.'

Message 112:7, 'They that are of God and are ___, ___ The Spirit, and find it in ___acts, showing Charity beyond measure, will have The Greater Power and their works will stand The Test.'

Food For Thought

*Sister Karen Wilkin
Missouri*

Have you ever begin watching your favorite team play a game only to appear they are going to lose big time? You get a bit discouraged and wonder why in the world waste your time watch them get creamed like this and just go ahead and back away from the game, turn off the tv and go do something else.

I did exactly that one time while watching my favorite football team play against a team that we all knew would be a huge challenge for them, but, at the same time we really Believed they could at least look like they knew how to play the game and step up a notch to not lose by a landslide.

I didn't ever Believe in Praying for any sport team to win a game, but I did Believe it was a Good Thing to Pray that they would not get hurt and would do their best. By the time the game was in about the fourth quarter and the score was obviously just

too far gone at this point to win, I decided couldn't bear the pain of watching them lose

May, 2012

so terribly bad. *Why watch them any longer?* They had really played badly in the first half, so I turned the station to another channel and didn't bother to even check where they were at in the game. However, with about 8 final minutes left to play, just out of curiosity I decided to turn it back to see how bad they were losing now. Much to my surprise, they were just a few points away from a win with five (5) minutes left to play and they had the ball.

I was shocked by what I was seeing, but again got excited about a possible win. Sure enough, right at the end of the clock, they scored a field goal and they actually did a comeback thing and won the game. I felt disappointed in myself that I gave up on them too soon. I didn't stay in there and see them through. I lost out on an exciting game by turning the channel too soon. I just plain gave up too soon.

Do you ever feel we give up on our Hopes, Dreams and Answer to Prayers too soon? Sometimes if a Prayer isn't answered just when we think it should be or how it should be, we give up and stop Praying about it. Sometimes God Allows us to wait upon Him for very Special Reasons. He wants to get our Attention. **If it is worth Praying for, then it is worth Waiting for.**

Remember The Phrase P.U.S.H.? It is not in vain to keep on Praying about something that means a lot to you. Giving up is not an Option with God. Sometimes when you least expect it, and when it actually seems impossible, no way it could work out, low and behold, something breaks through and you are Awesomely Amazed at what just happened. God Actually made a way out of no way for you (Isaiah, 40:31).

So when you think something is coming to an end with no Hope left out of the **May, 2012**

circumstances or problems you are having, remember The Lords Time is not your time and He does Things Completely Different than we do. He Thinks Different than we do. He has a Plan already in the making and He is Counting on you to Follow Through with Patience, Hope and Trust in Him to see you through, even when it seems the darkest. God works The Hardest when your back is against the wall.

Never give up! Never lose Hope! Never think things are Impossible, because Nothing is Impossible with God! but always Remember, to Pray it be His Will and Leave it in His Hands. If it works out, then it was His Will. If it doesn't work out, then just Remember, if One Door is closed, He Opens another One, possibly even better than what you had been Praying about. That is what Total Trust in God is all about. Truly Believing The Lord wants what is Best for you and He is there to Walk you through the storms in Life, give you Hope and Encouragement and Lift you up when you feel so lost and alone. He will Never Leave you nor Forsake you (Hebrew 13:5).

If that football team would have given up because they were so far behind, just decided to throw in the towel, losing Hope and just stop trying, look at what would have happened. But their Perseverance paid off. They hung in there, gave it all they had, didn't give up, played even harder and gave it their all, look what happened. The almost seemingly Impossible happened, but they didn't let it bring them down and cause them to just give up. What a Lesson that was for them. What a Lesson it was for the viewers and the fans. Sometimes God Allows Things to happen for a Lesson Plan. He wants to

Teach us, Help us Grow and Learn from The Tests we go through. Never Ever give up.

Page 181

Keep on Keeping on and Great Blessings can come your way. **When God is your Reason to Live, you never have a Reason to Quit!**

Testimonies Of The Past

Thresa Ray, Missouri; I also wanted to Thank The Lord for *The Three Books* and to say how *Blessed* we are to be part of *This Work*. I am Thankful for being Raised in *This Work*. It is Dear to our Hearts.

Barbara Long, Missouri; Sometimes I feel I stand too often. This is a Blessing to be here. *I have been Blessed!* I remember Larry Praying for the right lady-wouldn't have any unless she was from God. I remember Phil Praying for that right lady and Anna came along. I have to stand to Thank God for all of you. *So Thank you God!*

Debra Bogan, Nebraska; We do have to Thank Jesus! Jesus knew I wanted to be here. He brought me here! I am sorry I can't speak right.

2012 General Assembly

NOTICE

June 24-27, 2012

Dear Readers of '*The Greater Light*';

Greetings in The Name of The Lord Jesus Christ. It is that time of the year again that we start thinking and preparing to gather together in *The House Of The Lord* to meet and worship with our Brothers and Sisters from all parts of the world.

We invite and encourage everyone to attend **The 2012 General Assembly** of *The Church Of Christ With The Elijah Message, The Assured Way Of The Lord, Inc.*, as we

Study and Teach The Word Of God in Truth.

Page 182

Come with a Prayer upon your heart that God will Rule and Overrule in all things. The Gospel of The Kingdom Of God must go forth from This Center Place to all the Nations. We shall meet at 2:00 p.m. at ***The Community of Christ Church, 1316 South Osage Street, Independence, Missouri.***

The Independence, Missouri, Local will be holding Services at The General Church Headquarters at 10:00 a.m. 215 South Lynn St, Independence, MO 64050. They invite all to attend that we may Prepare for The General Assembly together.

Message 18:3, ***'The Cleansing time has come. God by His Spirit, will touch the honest in heart in all nations and will gather them together to prepare a people that shall be His Church in very deed. I shall go before The Lord, to prepare The Way and prepare a people to meet Christ. This is my work.'***

Message 43:15, ***'This is the day that ye who are Called must work with your might for The Pruning of The Vineyard of The Lord for the last time. Therefore turn away from the traditions of men and things that cause contention.'***

Attention

Pre-Assembly Meetings of the Twelve and Bishops will be held, ***Saturday, June 23 2012***, at The General Church Head-quarter' Office, 215 South Lynn Street, Independence, Missouri 64050 at ***10:00 a.m.***

Notice

The *Assembly Committee* request any donations to help off set for *The 2012 General Assembly*. Please send any and all donations to The Bishop's Office, 215 South

Lynn Street, Independence, Missouri, 64050.

May, 2012

Motel Listings

(All have 816 area code)

Grain Valley, Missouri (East of Indep.)

Koxy Inn (I-70 & Grain Valley exit) 229-2323
Scottish Inn (I-70 and 24 Highway) 224-3420

Blue Springs, Missouri (East of Indep.)

American Inn (I-70&Wood Chapel Rd) 228-1080
Interstate Inn (I-70 & Wood Chapel Rd). 228-6311
Ramada Inn (I-70 & 7 Highway) 229-6363
Motel 6 (I-70 & 7 Highway) 228-9133
Motel 8 (I-70 & N. 7 Highway)
Howard Johnson Express (I-70 & 7 Highway)
Hampton Inn (I-70 & 7 Highway)

Independence, Missouri

American Inn (I-70&NolanadRd.) 373-8300
Green Crest Motel (15014E.40Highway) 373-7500
Shoney's Inn (I-70&NolandRd) 254-0100
Super 8 Motel (I-70&NolandRd.) 833-1833

Others In area

Best Western (635 Murry) 525-1400
Blue Bird Inn (8920 40 Highway) 252-5488
Budget Inn (9900 E. 40 Highway) 737-1922
Comfort Inn (607 SE Oldham Pkwy) 524-8181
Econo Lodge (8500 E. 350 Highway) 353-3000
Fairfield Inn (2211303 NE Windsor Dr.) 524-7572
Frontier Motel (12015 E. 350 Highway) 356-8340
Holiday Inn (4011 Blue Ridge & I-70) 353-5300
Hyline Inn (15008 E 40 Highway) 373-0956

Message 44:8

'Behold, there is a Cry for Peace, but there is no Peace save in the hearts of them that do The Lord's Bidding, those that heed His Voice. Nations are in distress and kingdoms are crumbling. Fear not, for The Lord shall proceed to do a Marvelous Work and the powers of evil shall lose in the end. Study The Full Word of God and you shall know The TRUTH. Follow The Instructions I bring

and it will be well with you. As I say to you so say I to all.'

May, 2012

Introduction by Apostle Mervyn Johnson

Preaching: Apostle Donald Thompson

Missouri

Page 183

Message 38:2

'The Lord has Blessed His People, those that are willing to hear Him, for the Words I bring are His Words, and they that heareth *The Words of The Lord* and Obey, shall be His Church in very deed.'

2012 General Assembly Schedule (Tentative)

Sunday, June 24, 2012

2:00 p.m. Opening Service

Opening Remarks: Apostle Richard Johnson

Speaking: Apostle Leonard H. Draves

3:30 p.m. Sacrament And Sacrament Service

Apostle Donald Thompson and
Bishop Matthew Thompson

7:00 p.m. Preaching Service

Introduction by Bishop Reece Johnson

Speaking: Apostle Jairus Yates

Missouri

Monday, June 25, 2012

10:30 Priesthood Meeting

The Record Of The Nephites

Apostle Mervyn Johnson

Apostle Leonard H. Draves

1:00 p.m. Missionary Report From The Philippines

Apostle Jairus Yates

Apostle Leonard Draves

2:00 p.m. Preaching Service

Introduction by Apostle Mervyn Johnson

Speaking: Elder Richard Sega

California

3:00 p.m. Prayer And Testimony

Apostle Donald Thompson

Apostle Richard Johnson

7:00 p.m. Preaching Service

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

10:30 a.m. Priesthood Meeting

The Record of The Nephites

Apostle Mervyn Johnson

Apostle Leonard H. Draves

1:00 p.m. Study Class

'Body, Soul and Spirit'

Apostle Jairus Yates

2:00 p.m. Preaching Service

Introduction by Apostle Donald Thompson

Preaching: Apostle Michael Greenwell

Missouri

3:00 p.m. Prayer & Testimony

Apostle Donald Thompson and

Bishop Matthew Thompson

7:00 p.m. Preaching Service

Introduction by Apostle Richard Johnson

Speaking: Bishop Reece Johnson

Missouri

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

10:30 Priesthood Meeting

The Record of The Nephites

Apostle Mervyn Johnson

Apostle Leonard H. Draves

1:00 p.m. Study Class

Apostle Leonard Draves

Missouri

2:00 p.m. Preaching Service

Introduction by Apostle Donald Thompson

Speaker: Bishop Matthew Thompson

Missouri

3:00 p.m. Music & Praise

Apostle Donald Thompson

Apostle Michael Greenwell

4:00 p.m. Testimony Service

Apostle Donald Thompson

7:00 p.m. Preaching Service

Introduction by Apostle Mervyn Johnson

Speaking: Apostle Leonard H. Draves

Missouri

8:00 p.m. Closing of The Assembly

Sacrament

Apostle Leonard H. Draves

Page 184

*Apostle Donald Thompson
Bishop Reece Johnson*

Handmaidens of The Lord

Will Meet Monday through Wednesday.

Hours and Topics will come later.

*If you wish to help, contact Sister Thresa Ray
Headquarters Office*

ARTICLES

From The Vineyard

The Meaning of Our Seal

Revelation 12:1, 'And there appeared a Great Wonder in Heaven; a Woman clothed with the sun and the moon under Her feet, and upon Her head a Crown of Twelve Stars.'

There can be no misunderstanding the significance of this Symbolic Woman. It is *The Church of Christ* as the following citation will show. 11 Corinthians. 11-12, Ephesians. 5:23, Revelation 7:10. John 1:29, and Matthew 15:1-13.

She was clothed with the sun, The Greatest Light of Heaven, The Gospel of Jesus Christ. It shed it's rays of Light in Effulgent Glory upon The Church in Visions, Dreams, Prophecies, Tongues, and Personal Ministration of Angels.

The Moon under Her feet Represents the lesser Lights of Religion, particularly The Mosaic Law, no longer the ruling system. It was a Law of Types and Shadows, Reflecting The Light of Christ in Symbolic Service (Hebrews 10:11). It passed away, nailed to The Cross of Christ, and The Gospel Arose and Shone from The Heavens, Preached in all the world as The Power of God unto Salvation (Romans 2:16).

The Crown of Twelve Stars Portrayed The Quorum of Twelve Apostles. A Crown
May, 2012

Represents a King, and The Twelve, first to be Called, foremost in Authority, closest to their Lord, and foremost Representatives of King Jesus are well Described as a Crown of Twelve Stars on The Head of His Church. From *Light at Evening Time*, Pages 39-40, (Margaret MacGregor: Author).

Message 54:6, 'This Work shall continue on, for Love is The Message I bring. *The Church of Christ* shall never again be destroyed. The evil shall not prevail against Her for She shall be Adorned with a Crown of Twelve Bright Stars and Garments of Righteousness.'

Experience of March 11th 1938

*William A. Draves
Colorado*

I had a Beautiful Experience Friday morning, March 11 1938, About 1 a.m. I was lying in bed awake and heard a Voice shout, 'HARK', much louder and with more Impression than any earthly voice could have been. I raised in bed, leaning towards the window, dropping my hands on the sill, as I sleep near the window where I can look out over the front of my store and gas pumps.

I was Enveloped in such an Atmosphere of Divine Power. I trembled and wept, wondering if any of The Saints who lived nearby were Witnessing the same. The sky was Emblazoned with Light, brighter then the noon day sun. My eyes caught Sight of a Personage in The Heavens to the north-west who seemed to burst through the sky, facing the earth with Arms out stretched.

He seemed to take only a few steps as he darted swiftly from The Heaven to earth and **May, 2012**

he was clothed in a loose White Robe, which rippled as he passed through space. He Appeared to be the same Personage who visited me in my room on former occasions, bringing Spiritual Counsel and Encouragement. My eyes followed Him till he reached the earth. Passing over the street between my home and The Church Lot, where he suddenly stopped directly in front of the store house and instantly I noticed a Concourse of Angels clothed in white Robes. My eyes caught Sight of a Personage in The Heavens to the north-west who seemed to burst through the sky, facing the earth with Arms out stretched, in front of and immediately around the side front corners of the building.

They seemed to be moving toward the front in semi-circular formation facing the east. Collecting about The Personage as if Preparing for a Choir. He spoke something to The Angels; raising His right arm and they suddenly burst forth into Song, in front of and immediately around the side front corners of the building.

The most Perfect Rhythm and Harmonious Spiritual Singing I ever heard, to the tune of *'We're Tenting To-night.'* The words were Beautiful and Inspiring; carrying Message of Warning. I had heard the same Song once before; sung soft and low by Angel Voices when ill in bed and Praying concerned over mother who was ill at the same time. As they finished the last words of The Song, they Arose with ease and Floated Heaven ward; vanishing from my view.

It was bright as day in my room, and I looked at the clock; it was 1:20 a.m. The

Heavens remained Radiant with Light for more than an hour.

As I lay a wake Praising God; my mind

Page 185

dwelt upon His Goodness and Greatness; and His Plan to Redeem mankind. I Thanked God Fervently for this Beautiful Experience of His Mercy and Kindness; His Divine Will and Approval for The Saints to Gather in Worship before Him and in their Desires to Obey and Fulfill His Commandments.

Faith, Repentance and Baptism

*Apostle Leonard H. Draves
Missouri*

I am Thankful and Honored to speak to you. I Love *This Work* with all my Heart, and Soul. I can't imagine Life without *This Precious Gospel*. What I would like to speak on is **'A Call to Repentance'**

1 John 1:9, ***'If we confess our sins, He is Faithful and Just to forgive us our sins, and to Cleanse us from all unrighteousness.'***

The Messages tells us that, *'we all have sinned and came short of The Glory of God'*. We all have The Power to choose between good and evil. God wouldn't have it any other way.

God did not tempt Adam and Eve. He Allowed them to make a Choice. God has always made it possible for mankind to resist evil and to come forth Strong and Victorious.

Message 80:7, ***'Mankind chooses this day, what his destiny in the hereafter shall be.'***

Message 81:13, ***'Remember, The Lord Jesus Christ is The Truth, The Way, and The Life. No other Way can mankind be Saved and that in the life of the flesh, this life of probation only. Mankind chooses***

this day what his destiny shall be in The Hereafter-in The Resurrection.'

Galatians 6:7-8, *'Be not deceived; God is*

Page 186

not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of The Spirit reap Life Everlasting.'

Sin separates us from God. Sin always brings punishment. God hates sin, but He Loves the sinner. That Love is so Great that God Suffers with and for each of us when we sin.

'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.'

Temptation sometime comes disguised as something Good. We must Cultivate a Hatred for sin and watch carefully that we do not ultivate fixed habits of wrong-doings.

1 John 1:2-10, *'(For The Life was manifested, and we have seen it, and Bear Witness, and shew unto you that Eternal Life, which was with The Father, and was Manifested unto us;)*

That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and Truly our Fellowship is with The Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

And these things write we unto you, that your Joy may be Full.

This, then, is The Message which we have Heard of Him, and Declare unto you, that God is Light, and in Him is no darkness at all.

If we say that we have Fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not The Truth;

But if we Walk in The Light, as He is in

The Light, we have Fellowship one with another, and The Blood of Jesus Christ His Son Cleanseth us from all sin.

May, 2012

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and The Truth is not in us.

If we Confess our sins, He is Faithful and Just to Forgive us our sins, and to Cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us.'

1 John 2:16, *'For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of The Father, but is of the world.'*

Do your remember the picture of Christ standing at *The Door* knocking to get in. It is covered with some tangled weeds and has no door handle. It can only be opened from within.

Jesus said, *'Behold! I Stand at The Door and Knock; if any man Hear My Voice and Open The Door, I will Come unto him.'*

My Prayer is that we never close *'The Door'* to Christ. That we never walk a path that is not *God's Path*. That we never turn from *God's Will* to promote self will.

Message 94:8, *'Behold, there is a Cry for Peace, but there is no Peace save in The Hearts of them that do The Lord's Bidding; Hearing His Voice, Refraining from all contentions that disturb The Soul.'*

The Lord wants us all to be Pure and Humble, having no sin in us. He wants us to be in *His Will*. He wants us to have *Peace*.

Message 107:3, *'The power of the adversary has enthroned his influence in the minds of many, ruining the lives of those that will not learn Truth and come to Doctrine.'*

We all have come short of *The Glory Of God*. But God has given us an Avenue to

Return unto Him: *Repentance!*

Christ cannot Save us from sin until we Repent and Come to Him in Faith.

May, 2012

The Apostle Paul told the jailer when he asked, 'What shall I do to be Saved?'

Acts 16:31, '*Believe on The Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shall be Saved, and thy house.*'

Believing in Jesus Christ includes 'Repentance', 'Faith' and 'Obedience.' Without these, The Christian Life is impossible. We need to think more about 'Repentance' and 'Faith'. They are The Beginning of Christian Living and Service.

Repentance is The Acknowledgement of the fact you have sinned— that you are sorry for the wrong and that you Desire to be forgiven.

Furthermore, you are saying that you have 'Faith' in Jesus, and that He Died for your sins.

Jesus said, '*If ye Keep My Commandments, ye shall Abide in My Love.*'

John 15: 1-10, '*I Am The True Vine, and My Father is The Husbandman.*

Every Branch in Me that Beareth not Fruit He taketh away: and every Branch that Beareth Fruit, He Purgeth it, that it may bring forth more Fruit.

Now ye are Clean through The Word which I have Spoken unto you.

Abide in Me, and I in you. As The Branch cannot Bear Fruit of itself, except it Abide in The Vine; no more can ye, except ye Abide in Me.

I Am The Vine, ye are The Branches: He that Abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth Forth much Fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing.

If ye Abide in Me, and My Words Abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Herein is My Father Glorified, that ye Bear much Fruit; so shall ye be My Disciples.

Page 187

As The Father hath Loved Me, so have I Loved you: continue ye in My Love.

If ye Keep My Commandments, ye shall Abide in My Love; even as I have Kept My Father's Commandments, and Abide in His Love.'

And it is because of God's Great Love for us that He has Provided a Way to Come unto Him- '*The Sacrament*'.

Message 118:4, '*My Mission is one of Love, I come from The Lord's Presence. I bring Peace to Fulfill The Way of The Lord. To cause mankind to be made Pure and Holy, Righteous in The Lord's Sight. The Hand of Power and Trust are His. He Giveth as mankind Prepares. I bring Glad Tidings to The Faithful. The Word I bring giveth Salvation to all that Believe and Obey. Will mankind Hear it?'*

Message 43:17, '*Some that have rejected My Words will Repent, others will not. Be at Peace. Look to The Lord and go Onward with The Work. Let all Come in by The Door and Prepare themselves to Walk Humbly before God.'*

As we study *The Scriptures*, we Learn that 'Faith' is a Strong Belief of Truth within our Souls that Motivates us to do Good. This Causes us to ask, '*In whom should we have 'Faith'?*'

'Faith' in *The Lord Jesus Christ* is *The First Principle of The Gospel*. It is Necessary to our Salvation. King Benjamin declared in Mosiah 3:12, '*Salvation Cometh to none . . . except it be through Repentance and Faith on The Lord Jesus Christ.*'

Alma 32:21, '*Faith is a 'Hope for Things which are not seen, which are True.'*

Everyday, we act upon things we Hope for when we cannot see the end results. This is 'Faith'. (Hebrew 11:3)

Page 188

We Learn, Believing, we will Obtain Wisdom and Knowledge. We work each day in Hopes that we will accomplish something. *Would a farmer plant if he did not expect to harvest?*

An important way to increase our 'Faith' is to Hear and Study *The Word of God*. We also Increase our 'Faith' by Praying to our Heavenly Father about our Hopes, Desires, and Needs.

Alma 34:17-27, *'Therefore may God Grant unto you, my brethren, that ye might begin to Exercise your Faith unto Repentance, that ye begin to Call upon His Holy Name, that He would have Mercy upon you;*

Yea, Cry unto Him for Mercy; for He is Mighty to Save;

Yea, Humble yourselves, and Continue in Prayer unto Him;

Cry unto Him when ye are in your fields; yea, over all your flocks;

Cry unto Him in your houses, yea, over all your household, both morning, mid-day, and evening:

Yea Cry unto Him against the power of your enemies;

Yea, Cry unto Him against the devil, which is an enemy to all Righteousness.

Cry unto Him over the crops of the field, that ye may prosper in them;

Cry over the flocks of your fields, that they may increase.

But this is not all; ye must Pour out your Souls in your closets, and your secret places, and in your wilderness;

Yea, and when you do not Cry unto The Lord, let your Hearts be Full, Drawn out in Prayer unto Him Continually for your

Welfare, and also for The Welfare of those which are around you.'

Faith involves doing all we can to bring
May, 2012

about the things we Hope and Pray for.

Hebrew 11:1, *'Now Faith is The Substance of Things Hoped for, The Evidence of Things not seen'*.

Anyone Coming to Christ must have 'Faith'. *Faith is One of The Six Principles of The Gospel*. They are, *Faith, Repentance, Baptism, Laying on of The Hands, Resurrection of The Dead, and Eternal Judgment*.

What I want to speak now about cannot be done unless one has 'Faith' in Christ, and that is *Baptism*.

Message 86:45, *'Salvation is Free to all that will Hear and take Hold and Work This Way.'*

Can you hear? Verse 46 says, *'There are many The Lord has Called that Represent His Word and are doing a Mighty Work. But when they Hear This Message, The Words I bring from The Lord, and The Spirit Reveals to them it is True, they shall Accept it and their Calling to Higher Work. They will be Filled to Overflowing with Power to Represent Christ and His Church, The Lamb's Bride: Overwhelming with The Power and Spirit and The Working of Miracles on many of The Gifts of The Gospel. Oh Hear ! Ye Ministers of Peace and God will give you The Soul Winning Power. Come all The Way!'*

God wants mankind to Hear His Word; ministers of the world as well as you and I.

Message 86:48, *'God's Plan is Plain and Simple Converting The Soul and Deliverance to those that Truly Obey.'*

Message 81:13, *'Remember, The Lord Jesus Christ is The Truth, The Way, and The Life. No other Way can mankind be*

Saved and that in The Life of The Flesh, The Life of Probation only. Mankind Chooses this day what his Destiny shall be May, 2012

Lord has told us, *'This Day'* we Destine our own Destiny. *Will we Live with Christ or will we reject Him?*

Page 189

in The Hereafter-in The Resurrection.'

Message 99:10, *'There are many blind guides: full well The Lord has been with The Word to Bless those that Learn-but when mankind's mind closes to Further Light-The Truth will not fit their Learning. They will not Conform to 'The Full Plan of God', They come not to Deliverance, they are not Convicted of their emptiness and they lose in the end. Why do they blind themselves? A stubborn heart and mind Cannot Please God.'*

Are you Convicted of your Emptiness? I Hope and Pray we all are. We must be Willing to Learn God's Plan and Desires. We must Study to bring ourselves to The Lord.

Message 99:13, *'Before you Stands an Open-Door.'*

Message 106:33, *'... Before you Stands an Open-Door, Enter and Receive This Authority...'*

Alma 32:15-16, 18, 21, *'Yea, he that Truly Humbleth himself and Repenteth of his sins, and Endureth to the end, the same shall be Blessed...'*

... Blessed is he that Believeth in The Words of God, and is Baptized without stubbornness of heart...'

Now I ask, Is this Faith? Behold, I say unto you Nay; for if a man Knoweth a thing, he hath no cause to Believe, for he Knoweth it.

... Therefore, if ye have Faith, ye Hope for Things which is not seen, which is True.'

This Open-Door will not always be Open! The Word of God cannot always be forgotten or put off for another day. The

Message 37:4, *'Behold, Saith The Lord: 'Those that have and will Profess My Name and Diligently Seek Me, yea, I will Open and no man will Close The Door before thee, for I will give unto thee Power to Overcome, and he that Overcometh shall have Right to The Tree of Life to Eternity ...'*

Message 84:23, *'Fear not, The Lord will Raise up those to Defend This Cause. Even now, The Great Power of Peace and Deliverance is Coming and at Work, yea, even till The Bridegroom Comes and The-Door is shut.'*

There will be a time that *'This Door'* will be shut. We cannot feel we have all the time we need. We must bring people to The Knowledge and Understanding that the time is short. To have The Right To Eternity with God Forever. We must Hear *The Lord, His Decrees* and Obey.

God does not Change! His Word has always been The Same! The Lord said in Message 84:20, *'if you will Hear Him, He will Heal your Souls and your Lands'*.

Message 106:25, *'The Lord does not Change His Mind or Plans, and is no Respector 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.'*

The question now is, *'Have we Ignored The Lord's Laws?'* Message 106:24 says, *'Do not bring The Wrath of God upon your failing.'* Do not lose your Inheritance! Come

to The Lord and be in *His Will and Circle of The Lord*. Hear *This Message*, Obey *This Baptism*, Cleanse your Minds of the things
Page 190

of the world. Learn The Truth, *The Humble Gospel Way!*

Message 113:9, ‘... *Forgiveness is to all that Repent and Obey The Call of God. Go Forth, do The Things The Lord Says must be done.*’

Come to The Lord, enter that ‘Door’, be Baptized and Serve The Lord, Receiving *The Gifts and Gift of The Holy Spirit*.

For those of you that are Baptized, Continue on-Teach *The Way of Life*, bring others to *The Truth* (Message 115:13). 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, Brought To Mankind by An Angel*’. Worship and find The Gifts!

Message 115:15,18, ‘*Repentance and Faith is The Beginning, The Baptisms, The Hands must be Laid upon all that The Spirit might Come to those that Prepare for it. Establish The Words I bring in your Lives . . .*

Remember, you are not alone, for far more than ten-thousand times ten thousands are Waiting at The Gate to Enter and be a part of The Kingdom and Zion of God. The Outcast shall Know where they Belong and be Delivered.’

Once you enter through ‘*The Door*’ (Baptism) there is NO TURNING BACK! Thank you and God Bless you all.

Abraham, Isaac, Joseph

‘A Past Missionary Report’

*Apostle Mike Greenwell
Missouri*

Message 25:2, ‘**Some will not Believe**

**until destruction will come, and they will suffer there from. Remember, you will be hated by Friends and Loved Ones, but for
May, 2012**

This Cause were you born, for The Work that is to be done is so Great that man cannot comprehend it, for The Glory of God shall yet be Seen, and His Power Manifested.’

God is gathering Israel. There is something so wonderful about that-Abraham, Isaac, Joseph.

Jacob gave The Birthright to Ephraim and The Blessing to Judah. The Blessing was that *Jesus Christ* would be Born through his Birth Line.

Genesis 48:15, ‘**And he Blessed Joseph, and Said, God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, The God which Fed me all my life long unto this day.**’

Nephi’s decedents came from Manassa-the largest nation. Ephraim, the largest Tribe in Israel, took all the people and dispersed them throughout The Empire so they couldn’t Raise up against them. Ephraim Migrated into Europe.

Message 48:19-20, ‘**The Lord will Turn and Bless His Little Ones, The Colored and The Indians, for many shall come Forth and be made White even as The Whiteness of Saints, for they shall be made Pure, as The Lord has Promised to make Clean a people, and all must be made Clean and Pure and Holy in His Sight.**

The earth will tremble and men’s hearts will fear because of the many changes that will take place. The Saints shall be Tried and made Pure.’

I believe Ephraim was England. Ephraim came over here with *The Holy Bible* and the two brothers came together again when this

Nation was born. I can talk more about this sometime later, however.

I would like to talk about what we have
May, 2012

been doing since January, as I have been in *The Field*. We have put out around 45 hundred flyers of *The Church*, working in Sedalia, Missouri. We have had five requests for *Message Books*.

I went to Chicago to visit *The Church* there. I stayed with the Holdens from Saturday to Thursday. I helped move a lady. Brother Bill rented a 20 foot Moving truck-I drove. That night we went to a dinner that a lady fixed for Exie's birthday.

There was food everywhere, but only three plates were set. I asked the lady to sit and eat with us, she said 'no', this is for Exie and her friends for her birthday. All I want is to serve you.

Brother Bill invited her to *Church*. She said, '*once in awhile, but not every Sunday. I have things to get straightened out before I give my all to The Lord.*' She gave her all for us and that's how she wants to give herself to The Lord. That night was really a Blessing to me.

I needed to leave early Friday morning, but Brother Bill and I talked a little that morning. The time was getting away, but when I put my hand out to shake his hand and say good-bye, I saw a single tear in Brother's Bill eyes. That tear showed me his *zeal for The Work*.

To Alabama, Brother Darrel Bellamy went with me. There are two locals there. Give it Time and Love, they will be one. We were happy to see *The Church Doctrine* being Taught just as it is here: *Faith, Repentance, Baptism*. Went thirty miles away to Sister Moore's house-all the same as is here.

I went to Brother Terry Laws house in

Kansas to help put together African Message Books. The Laws work hard for The Lord, and The Lord will really Bless that.

Page 191

Everywhere I go, I see *The Church Alive and Moving Forward*. I went to Omaha, Nebraska. This Sister, Debra Bogan, I knew some thirty years ago. I found a telephone number, and found her. She had an operation that caused her to lose some memory and lost connection with *The Church*. But through the years, she had *The Three Books*. Her *Books* were worn out. The Lord gave me Discernment that she is one of us.

We had talked some time of the events of *The Church* in 1994. I played her a Testimony of mine and her granddaughter heard The Testimony on her cell phone in another part of the house. *That was God!*

I plan to travel east then out west, for about a month each trip. Please Pray concerning those trips.

In Sedalia, I passed out Messages from door to door. I plan to have Services there without signing a lease. I hope to have a radio spot as well.

I didn't know what to tell you about Door to Door Ministry. You will have to do it sometime. *It is a Blessing!* So that is what I have been doing. I Hope you have been Blessed in knowing my travels.

I would like to read Hebrew 10:12-39, **'But this man, after he had offered one Sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on The Right Hand of God;**

From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

For by one offering he hath Perfected forever them that are Sanctified.

This is The Covenant that I will make with them after those days, Saith The Lord, I will put My Laws into their

Hearts and in their Minds will I write them;

And their sins and iniquities will I
Page 192

remember no more.

Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.

Having therefore, brethren, Boldness to enter into The Holiest by The Blood of Jesus.

By a New and Living Way, which he hath Consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

And having an high priest over The House of God;'

What I am reading here, tells me that there will be a time that our enemies will be a footstool unto us. That our sins are removed and an Offering has been made for us through Jesus Christ. Our Soul's cleansing will Cause us to Walk in Newness with Jesus. What a Blessing this is.

Verse 20, 'By a New and Living Way, which He hath Consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

And having an high priest over The House of God;

Let us draw near with a True Heart in Full Assurance of Faith, having our Hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies Washed with Pure Water.

Let us hold fast The Profession of our Faith without wavering;(for he is Faithful that Promised;)

And let us consider one another to Provoke unto Love and to Good Works;

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much more, as ye see the day approaching.

For if we sin willfully after that we have Received The Knowledge of The

Truth, there remaineth no more Sacrifice for sins.

But certain fearful looking for a
May, 2012

judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

He that despised Moses' Law died without Mmercy under two or three Witnesses:

Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot The Son Of God, and hath counted The Blood of The Covenant, wherewith he was Sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto The Spirit of Grace?

For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, Saith The Lord. And again, The Lord shall Judge his people.

It is a fearful thing to fall into The Hands of Tthe Living God.

But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions:

Partly, whilst ye were made a gazing stock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used.

For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in Heaven a Better and Enduring Substance.

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done The Will of God, ye might Receive The Promise.

For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

Now The Just shall Live by Faith, but

if any man draw back, my Soul shall have no pleasure in him,

But we are not of them who draw back
May, 2012

unto perdition; but of them that Believe to The Saving of The Soul.'

We must be Washed of our sins so that we can find *Power in Faith and Joy* in Faith. This is what *This Assembly* is all about. We must not provoke one another, and we should consider one another in Love.

We cannot make fun of one another. *True Joy in The Lord* is Given by *The Holy Ghost*. You must have Confidence in The Lord and not cast Him off.

I want the same Blessings in The Lord as when I was young, but now, I have to take The Word out. Our patience are being tried.

We must Work all we can to Save Souls through Faith. We must Live by Faith and keep Moving Forward. We cannot be the same as yesterday! *How do you know if you have Faith?* The Lord Said to Read Hebrew, Chapter Eleven and to Read it Often.

In my life now, The Lord told me to take *This Word* out. All I have to do is to give the people a *Message*. I can not make them Believe or Convince them, The Message is True. I Depend on The Lord to Reveal *The Truthfulness of The Word*.

Message 34:3, **'Hearken, Hearken: this is a Day of Haste! Will My Servants do My Bidding? Lo I have waited, yet many are slow to Heed, while many there be that have a Desire to put on The Whole Armor Of Christ, Saith The Master of men. Take to them The Message, for Christ's Coming is Near. Preach and Teach The Written Words and My Spirit will be with you as in the days of yore, for My Gospel must be taken to all nations, for a Mighty Shaking will Come, then An Awakening, and many that Hear will**

Obey.'

Some Servants that are *Called* are not taking *The Word* out. Those people didn't

Page 193

get *The Blessing*. The Lord didn't say for us to take our time, He said '*Hasten*'.

Verse 6, **'Hasten, ye sons of Levi, Hasten to your Calling. Remember your Ancient Choosing, Calling and Promise of your Lord, Let not My Work suffer because of unbelief, but Arise and go Forth in The Strength of The Lord, for Love is your Work. Go in Faith. Bear ye The Fruits of My Spirit that there may be Order in My House. Let The Church of Christ take Her Place with The Gospel of Love to Govern the feet of the weary and the wanderer.'**

What is Belief? I have to answer that myself. If I didn't take *The Message* out, it would be like saying *The Messages* are not TRUE!

Message 104:30, **'There are many, many that will help in The Building of The Temple of The Lord, if it were not for the unbelief, doubt, bitterness and selfishness, among those that claim to Love The Lord.'**

The Lord could of Said '*many*' only once, but He didn't. He Said it twice. Many people in the world today that could Work on *The Temple*, but they first have to have *The Word* to know about *This Work*. I am not telling you what you have to do, but God is telling me what to do. I was told so in *The Message Book*. If we were doing this, what happened in 1994 would not of happened because *The Church* would have been Filled with people that wanted to *Serve The Lord*.

Message 105:9, **'Let The Word be Taught in its Completeness, that The Joy of mankind might be Full under The Plan of Redemption. Indeed men are that they**

might have Joy, and in as much as they have Faith in The Plan of God, they shall find Deliverance.'

Page 194

Right now, this is *The Best Way* to show The Lord I Believe and that is by taking *This Word* out to the world. Through my Obedience, I can show The Lord **'I Believe'**. It is The Evidence of my Faith.

You have to do something in your life to show The Lord you Believe! Abraham Believed by taking his son up the hill. The *Book of Hebrew* Recognized God would Raise his son from the dead to Fulfill His Promises to Abraham, but God stopped Abraham. Abraham showed his Faith.

Message 104:14, **'Thus Saith The Lord; 'I am The Lord that stayed the hand the feet of The Weary and The Wanderer.'**

What is Belief? I have to answer that myself. If I didn't take *The Message* out, it would be like saying *The Messages* are not TRUE!

Message 104:30, **'There are many, many that will help in The Building of The Temple of The Lord, if it were not for the unbelief, doubt, bitterness and selfishness, among those that Claim to Love The Lord.'**

The Lord could of said *'many'* only once, but He didn't. He said it twice. Many people in the world today that could Work on *The Temple*, but they first have to have *The Word* to Know about *This Work*. I am not telling you what you have to do, but God is telling me what to do. I was told so in *The Message Book*. If we were doing this, what happened in 1994 would not of happened because *The Church* would have been Filled with people that wanted to *Serve The Lord*.

Message 105:9, **'Let The Word be Taught in its Completeness, that the Joy of mankind might be Full under The Plan**

of Redemption. Indeed men are that they might have Joy, and in as much as they have Faith in The Plan of God, they shall

May, 2012

find Deliverance.'

Right now, this is the Best Way to show The Lord I Believe and that is by taking *This Word* out to the world. Through my Obedience, I can show The Lord **'I Believe'**. It is The Evidence of my Faith.

Message 104:14, **"Thus Saith The Lord; 'I am The Lord that stayed the hand of Abraham with The Sword in his test of Faith, Obedience, and Trust. Descendants of his Seed today will see The Hand and Power of God Move. The adversary's powers shall be destroyed in the end.'"**

The descendants of Abraham are those who are willing to walk up that hill-in test of their Faith. God gave each of us a Testimony of The TRUTH. But to Prove to God we Believe, we must be Obedient to His Word.

I want to go up the hill-I want to do my part-I want to pass the test!

We can't stop this time. We have to go up all the way. That hill Abraham went up was the hill The Temple of Soloman was built on. Unless you are willing to walk the walk, you will never understand what Zion is really all about.

Something happened in here! Let us go all The Way. I Believe in Miracles. There will be Miracles, Qualify *God's Way!* I want to meet those that have gone on before us, but I do not want to embarrass them. I want to do *God's Work*. I want God to say unto Abraham, this is Mike Greenwell, or Richard Johnson, (etc.) and he Believes the same way as you, and he went up the hill!

Primary Department

Editor: Sister Joy Ellen Draves-Dreher
New York

Junior Department

Editor: Sister Thresa Ray
Missouri

May, 2012

Page 195

Pray In The Battle

'I know Lord I don't always try
and sometimes I don't even care.

I often let all my worries
become such a burden to bear.

I know at times I don't react
any way that I know I should.

Instead my feelings rule my tongue
and I'm often misunderstood.

I'm sick of constantly repeating
the same failures day after day.

I feel so worn down by it all,
maybe I should just give up and Pray.'

*Does this sound at all familiar? Are life's
hassles wearing you out? Do you take time
to stop and Pray?*

So Faith can Replace all your doubts.
God never said it would be easy but He did
say He would be there.

We need to stop battling on our own and
give it all over in Prayer. Prayer is so
Needful in our Lives constantly, throughout
everyday.

We're faced with Spiritual Battles. We
should never forget to Pray. It's important to
Commit each day into The Care Of
The Lord. So we can Walk more Victori-
ously than we had Walked before.

The enemy tries to get a foothold any
way that he can. We must be Aware of his
tactics and Refuse all his evil plans.
For we have Jesus Christ in our Lives and
The Power to Overcome.

As we keep Praying and Standing Firm
all of our Battles shall be Won.

Study and Be Approved

Editor: Thresa Ray,
Missouri

Remember the verse: II Timothy 2:15,
**'Study to shew thyself approved unto
God ...'**

God wants us to study His Words and
The Words of The Prophets, to place them
in our Hearts and to Learn and Grow in His
Grace.

Message 112:4, **'Study The Words I
send that My Messenger brings to you.
Let your Minds be Illuminated in Peace,
and Joy will Rule your Lives,'** Saith The
Lord.

Message 97:7, **'Read and Study The
Words, 'The Words of The Lord' that I
bring had have brought and will yet
bring; Shape your Lives by them and it
will be well with you.'**

Message 99:7, **'All those that Shape
their Lives by The Words I bring, shall
be Blessed. Have Faith in The
Prophets of Old and it will be well with
you, but Heed not the ways of evil men –
such will not Save you.'**

Message 102:11, **'Knowledge Cometh
from The Study of The Books and
Grace from much Prayer, Salvation by
Obedience, Deliverance by Endurance'.**

Message 115:13, **'Study Deeply The
Message I bring. Illuminating your Minds
with This Power of Deliverance –Victory
in The Lord.'**

Message 88:36, **'Satan knows his time
is short and he will work to destroy all
that he can. He will work to hinder and
deceive and lay stumbling blocks for**

mankind to fall over. He will puff up in pride and he will discourage in Hope, and hinder The Faith of many if you do not

Page 196

Watch and Pray. Have Faith in The Words of The Prophets and The Lord and what I bring and he will not have power over you.'

Message 73:7, '**. . . Remember, The Greater your Study and Illuminating of your Minds with The Words and Will of The Lord, The Greater your Understanding and Light shall be; Freeing your Lives from the bands of satan and all his powers; making you a Blessing among mankind'**.

Young Adult Department

*Editors: Matthew & Ellen Thompson
Missouri*

Dear Young Adults,

I wanted to talk about mothers today since this month we Celebrate Mother's Day. When I think about what a mother is I think of some of the following characteristics she might possess. A Mother is Virtuous, Nurturing, Kind, Patient, and Loving. In The Webster dictionary the definition of Virtue is the following, *virtue is a Moral Excellence. A Virtue is a Positive Trait or Quality subjectively deemed to be Morally Excellent and is Valued as a Foundation of Principle and Good Moral Being. It Promotes Individual and Collective Greatness.*

A Good Example of Virtue would be Patience. *Alma 7:23-24 says, 'And now I would that ye should be Humble, and be Submissive, and Gentle; easy to be Entreated: Full of Patience and Long Suffering; being Temperate in all Things; being Diligent in Keeping The Commandments of God at all Times; Asking for*

whatsoever things ye Stand in Need, both Spiritual and Temporal; always Returning Thanks unto God for whatsoever things ye do Receive; And see that ye have Faith, May, 2012

Hope, and Charity, and then ye will Always Abound in Good Works.'

Mothers need to be the kind of person that possesses The Qualities of The Fruits of The Spirit. Again these Qualities as stated in Article 8 of *The Articles of Faith and Practice* are *Love, Joy, Peace, Long Suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance.*

Message 91:31, 'There are Necessary Trials that have come to all that they might Learn Patience and The Love of God. For Charity Knoweth nor Doeth no evil.'

2 Nephi 26:30, 'Behold The Lord hath Forbidden this Thing; wherefore, The Lord God hath Given a Commandment, that all men should have Charity, which Charity is Love. And except they should have Charity they were nothing: wherefore, if they should have Charity they would not suffer the laborer in Zion to Perish'.

Moroni 7:44-47, (says this about Charity), 'If so, his Faith and Hope is vain, for none is Acceptable before God, Save The Meek and Lowly in Heart, and if a man be Meek and Lowly in Heart, and Confesses by The Power of The Holy Ghost, that Jesus is The Christ, he must needs have Charity; for if he have not Charity he is nothing; wherefore he must needs have Charity. And Charity Suffereth Long, and is Kind, and Envieth not, and is not Puffed up, Seeketh not her own, is not easily Provoked, Thinketh no evil, and Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but Rejoiceth in The Truth, Beareth all Things, Believeth all Things, Hopeth all Things, Endureth all Things; Wherefore, my Beloved Brethren,

if ye have not Charity, ye are nothing, for Charity never Faileth, Wherefore, Cleave unto Charity, which is The Greatest of All, for all Things must fail; But Charity is The
May, 2012

Pure Love of Christ, and it Endureth for Ever; and whoso is found Possessed of it at The Last Day, it shall be Well with them.'

We need to have Charity as mothers when we are Teaching our Children about The Lord. We need to Teach them to Love God, and do His Will. We as mothers need to Teach them to Possess these Characteristics and Build on them for when they grow into adults. We want our Children to be Humble, Patient, Kind, and to Love and Diligently Serve The Lord.

Alma 13:28-29, *“But that ye would Humble yourselves Before The Lord, and Call on His Holy Name, and Watch and Pray Continually, that ye may not be tempted above that which ye can bear, and thus Led by The Holy Spirit, becoming Humble, Meek, Submissive, Patient, Full of Love and all Long Suffering; Having Faith on The Lord; having a Hope that ye shall Receive Eternal Life; having The Love of God always in your Hearts, that ye may be Lifted up in The Last Day, and Enter into His Rest’.*

We need to Teach our Children to Pray to our Heavenly Father and always Remember that He is there to Listen to them Always. He is Always and will be a Friend whenever they need Him, they just need to Call on Him in Prayer.

Message 47:7, *‘Teach The Doctrine with Diligent Faith, Patience, and Boldly in Meekness.’*

We as mothers need to Remember these Virtues when we are Teaching our Children about The Lord.

Message 82:11, *‘Teach Dilligently The*

Doctrine of The Gospel of Christ Jesus. Let your Conversations be in Humility . . .’

When we Teach our Children The Ways of The Lord we are Promised that whatso-

Page 197

ever Virtues and Doctrines of The Lord Jesus Christ that we Teach them will Remain Strong within their Hearts and make them The Kind of People that The Lord can use to do His Will. They will be Great Servants for The Lord. This is Promised to us in Proverbs 22:6 which says, *‘Train up a Child in The Way he should go, and when he is old, he will not Depart from It.’*

Let us all Remember to Raise up our Children in The Way they should Go so that they will be Great and Faithful Servants for our Lord Jesus Christ. This is my Prayer for all The Mothers and their Children.

Also Remember to continue to Pray for one another as we all need Prayers. We Love you all. God Bless you all!

Special Notices

The staff of ‘The Greater Light’ would like to dedicate This Issue of our Paper to our Dear Sister Joy Ellen Draves-Dreher and husband Branden of New York. We send our Love, Cares and Prayers to you. May God Bless!

The Editor

The Church has a CD available of ‘The Testimony of William A. Draves’ spoken by himself, for \$5.00. Please contact The General Headquarters Office.

Missionary Journey

Both Quorums are planning a Missionary Journey, hopefully, this May and June

to foreign fields. Any contributions you can help with Travel expenses. The Church will Greatly Appreciate any help. Thank you all. God Bless!

Page 198

Message 66:8-9

‘Let The Church Continue on with Great Power for thus is my Message, that the earth may be Filled with The Glory of my coming for The Lord has sent me and I come from His Presence.

Let The Faithful Rejoice for I come at The Lord’s Command for The Lord has Heard their Prayers and Will Bless’

Message 44:8

‘Behold, there is a *Cry for Peace*, but there is no Peace save in the hearts of them that do *The Lord’s Bidding*, those that heed His Voice. Nations are in distress and kingdoms are crumbling. Fear not, for The Lord shall Proceed to do a *Marvelous Work* and the powers of evil shall lose in the end. Study *The Full Word of God* and you shall know The TRUTH. Follow The Instructions I bring and it will be well with you. As I say to you so say I to all.’

1 John 4:7-11

‘Beloved, let us Love one another; for Love is God; and every one that Loveth is Born of God, and Knoweth God.

He that Loveth and Knoweth not God; for God is Love.

In this Manifested The Love of God toward us, because that God sent His Only Begotten Son into the world, that we might Live through Him.

Herein is Love, not that we Loved God, but that He Loved us, and sent His Son to

be The Propitiation for our sins.

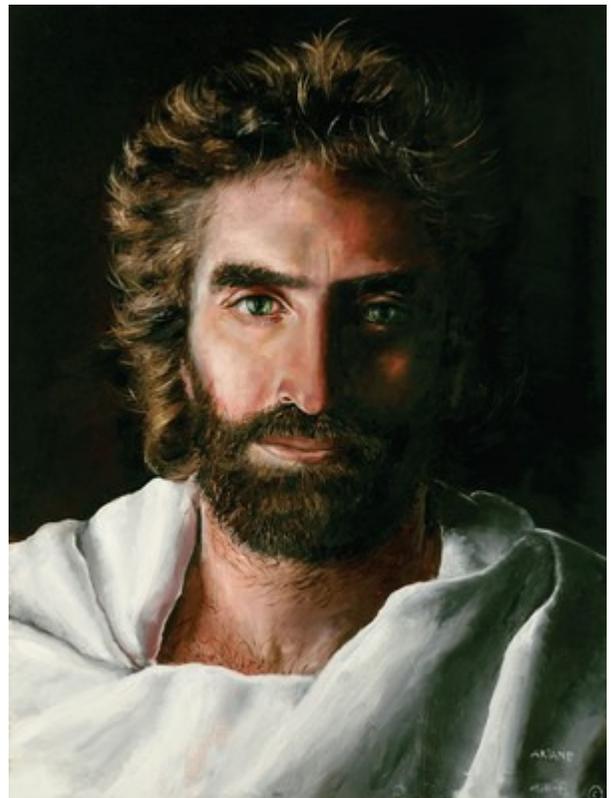
Beloved, if God so Loved us, we ought also to Love one another.’

May, 2012

Message 55:10,

‘Preach Repentance and Baptism that mankind might find Life Eternal in The Way of The Lord. Let The Hands be Laid on all.’

Prince of Peace



Painted by Akiane Kramarik

***God Bess Our
Military Women
And Men.***

The Greater Light

**The Church of Christ With
The Elijah Message**

THE ASSURED WAY OF THE LORD, Inc.

215 South Lynn St.

Independence, MO 64050

www.johnthebaptist.info

