

# The Greater Light

*The End Time Messenger*

*‘... Let all have Faith. Turn to The Lord and obey His Commands. Heed Repentance and Baptism that The Way of The Lord shall be among men. His Kingdom shall fill the whole earth. The hands must be laid upon all that THE GREATER LIGHT might come to them’  
Message 53:3*

## In This Issue

Message 31	93
From the Apostles	94
- Donald Thompson, Submitted by	
Primary	95
-Joy Draves-Dreher	
Junior	96
-Thresa Ray	
Young Adults	97
- Karen Wilkin	
Handmaidens	98
- Brenda Humpert	
Articles	99
Peace in a World of Turmoil	
- Thresa Ray	
Christmas Just Past:	101
What Christmas Means	
- W.A. Draves	

## Merry Christmas

**“...And I Beheld the city of Nazareth; and in the city of Nazareth I beheld a virgin...**

**And he said unto me, Behold the virgin which thou seest, is the mother of God, after the manner of the flesh.**

**And I looked and beheld the virgin again, bearing a child in her arms.**

**And the angel said unto me, Behold the Lamb of God, yea even the Eternal Father!...”**

1 Nephi 11:13, 18, 20-21



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

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

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## Articles of Faith and Practice

1. We believe in God the Eternal Father, who only is Supreme; Creator of the universe; Ruler and Judge of all; unchangeable and without respect of persons.

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

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

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

5. We believe that through the atonement of Christ all men may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel; viz.: Faith in God and in the Lord Jesus Christ; Repentance and Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; Laying on of Hands for: (a) Ordination; (b) Blessing of Children: (c) Confirmation and the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 8:17); (d) Healing of the sick.

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

7. We believe in the powers and gifts of the everlasting Gospel; viz.: The word of wisdom; the word of knowledge; the gift of faith; the gift of healing; working of miracles; prophecy; discerning of spirits; divers kinds of tongues; interpretation of tongues.

8. We believe the fruits of the Spirit to be love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.

9. We believe that in the Bible is contained the Word of God; that The Record of the Nephites is the added witness for Christ; and these contain the "fullness of the gospel."

10. We believe in the principle of continuous revelation; that the canon of scripture is not full, that God inspires men in every age and among all people, and that He speaks when, where, and through whom He may choose.

11. We believe that where there are six or more regularly baptized members, one of whom is an elder, there the Church exists with full power of church extension when acting in harmony with the Law of God.

12. We believe that man must be called of God by revelation, and ordained by those having authority, to enable him to preach the Gospel and administer the Ordinances thereof.

13. We believe in the same Church organization as existed in the time of Christ and His apostles. The highest office in the Church is that of an apostle, of whom there are twelve, who constitute special witnesses for Jesus Christ. They have the Missionary Supervision and the General Watchcare of all the Churches.

14. The primary function of the General Church, of which each Local Church is a component part, is missionary and the building up and extension of the Kingdom of God in all

the world.

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

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

17. We believe that all men are stewards under God and answerable to Him not only for the distribution of accumulated wealth, but for the manner which such wealth is secured. The primary purpose of stewardship is not to increase of church revenue or the mere contribution of money by those who have to those who have not, but to bring men to 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 the responsibility, but when chosen or appointed by the Church to devote their entire time to missionary work, their families are to be provided for out of the General Church fund. The admonition of Christ that ministry should not provide purse or script for their journey, but go trusting in God and the people, is applicable.

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

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

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

22. We believe in the literal gathering of Israel, and in the restoration of the ten lost tribes.

23. We believe a Temple will be built in this generation, in Independence, Missouri, wherein Christ will reveal Himself and endow His servants whom He chooses with power to preach the Gospel in all the world to every kindred, tongue, and people, that the promise of God to Israel may be fulfilled.

24. We believe that New Jerusalem shall be built upon this land "unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph," (Ether 6:6-8; III Nephi 10.1-4), which city shall be built, beginning at the Temple Lot.

25. We believe that ministry and membership should abstain from the use of tobacco, intoxicating liquors and narcotics, and should not affiliate with any society which administer oaths or covenants in conflict with the Law of God, or which interfere with their duties as freemen and citizens.

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

Message 53.10, **“Yea, I have brought a  
 Warning and few prepare for THE  
 GREATER LIGHT, but be thou Faithful  
 even all who hear, for The Lord’s Will shall  
 be fulfilled in all things. All have their work  
 to do and the day comes when The Lord  
 shall breathe upon The Chosen and they  
 shall do His Work in Mighty Power for  
 their love toward the brethren. All that of-  
 fend and that do not keep His Command-  
 ments shall not be His in the Last Day.  
 Moreover, it is Christ's Words that shall  
 judge all men.”**

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**It is the agreement of *The Quorum of Twelve of this Church*, that no Minister is to Ordain any man into *The Ministry* until said candidate has with all his heart and soul confessed he agrees with everything written in *The Articles of Faith and Practice*.**

**It is each Elder's duty to Seek Guidance from and to keep The Territorial Apostle informed of his works in the region he is laboring.**

Secretary For The Twelve

## FOREWORD

**THE GREATER LIGHT**, the official publication of *The Church of Christ With The Elijah Message, The Assured Way of The Lord, Inc.*, comes to YOU as an expression of a united people, whose only aim is to promote *The Cause of Christ* by spreading abroad to every nation, tongue and people, *The True Gospel of Christ* that through Obedience to His Laws we might be found worth of *Eternal Life*.

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

*The Messages* so often mentioned in this publication are Messages from The Lord, brought to earth by His Chosen Servant, John The Baptist, who comes to earth in a Glorified Body to finish The Work given to him of God; that of Restoring all things (Matthew 17.11-13). The Angel first came in 1829, and Restored *The Authority of the Son of God*, that *The Church of Christ* might be Established as in The Days of The Apostles.

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

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

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Thank you.

# THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY

## *To All People*

### THIRTY-FIRST MESSAGE

*A Messenger of the Lord came to me at my home, Nucla, Colorado, Monday morning, October 4, 1937.*

*Sunday night after coming home from church, I retired with earnest prayer from my heart, asking God for direction and that I might live to please him. I also thanked him greatly for the blessings I had received.*

*I had awakened several times in the night and went back to sleep praying. I awakened with a startle, hearing footsteps on the ground floor. I raised up in bed and looking towards the staircase I noticed a light coming or beginning to shine up the stairway. I was somewhat astonished to think someone would be walking in my house, when I knew I had locked the doors. Immediately I saw it was a man dress in a white robe, and with no light in his hand as I had supposed. A light seemed to radiate from him, lighting the whole room, while immediately around him it was much brighter. His beard was radiant, his eyes which shone like neon light, though piercing and bright were gentle and pleasant, his looks kind. I was somewhat afraid, but his smile helped to drive away my fear. I thought perhaps it may be an angel from God. When he appeared on the top stair he seemed to float quickly to my bedside, I trembled and pulled the covers to my chest while sitting up in bed. He smiled and began to speak kindly. His tone was convincing and his voice slightly heavier than that of an ordinary man. When he spoke I seemed to be lifted in space, yet I knew I remained on the bed. Although this happened so very quickly., all fear had left me and I set my faculties to give attention and listen carefully. He said:*

- W.A Draves

1. "Fear not, let peace be with you. Your prayers have been heard; God hears the prayers of His children; He knows your

hearts before you ask. Some are pleading to Him in your behalf, and God has looked on you in favor. The year has been good to you. Blessings have been yours to enjoy. Yea, be humble before your God.

2. Truly God has used you as an instrument in His hands— by the Power of that righteous Spirit He spoke through you. Many have obeyed His voice. Many have been made glad and some have gone through sadness and will, before they will hear Him, but God will not fail the honest— those that seek Him diligently. Seek Him early while it is called today. Man is all selfishness unless he is filled with the Spirit of God."

*At his juncture the visitor raised his right arm and seemed to reach almost over me swaying his arm gently. I watched every move he made and especially his lips as he spoke on with sternness and firmness as one speaking the truth.*

3. "Now hear ye the Words of the Lord, all that tremble in His Sight, and at His Word. 'Yea, seek Me and walk righteously before Me, heed My Voice and great shall be your blessings. Remember your Lord and Master who drank of the bitter cup— all must drink of the cup of trail to know what I have suffered for you. Lift high your Banner, hold firmly to the Iron Rod. Yea, the righteous call unto Me and My countenances shines upon them.

4. I say unto thee all, for none have progressed as I would have you. The longing in your hearts is still unsatisfied because of that which brought broken confidence in each other and discouragement and shaken hope; thus speaking hard of each other, making hardness of heart. Behold, I would have you love on another. Do good to them that despitefully use you.

5. My sheep know My Voice. Many false delusions are going out, but again I say My Sheep know My Voice and heareth not another. Some have lost their affections

for My Work. This ye must not do, but uphold My Work, or darkness shall come over you. Yea, it is, that dark clouds of deceitfulness and dangerous sayings shall come among you, which shall try many and some may fail. Pray for thy brethren. Cry unto God.

7. Indeed the angel that revived the Work is still at the helm, and verily has not come since the visit with the Message, that all must drink of the bitter cup, to thy brother Fetting, but shall come again. Yea, and indeed, I, you Maker, knoweth all that taketh place. When yea hear it said, “A shining light,” “A great star,” I say unto you, know ye this, it is not of Me; be not deceived by it.

8. Much is folly before Me and man is nothing of good when he heeds not My voice. Know ye the Witness of My Spirit, how that it caused the hearts of men to mellow before Me. Is this Spirit still with you? Heed ye the still Small Voice and the promptings of the Divine Spirit. Be not conformed to the works of darkness nor the ways of the world. Work with an eye single to My glory. When I speak answer by you actions; abide in My doctrine. Let your words and deeds be that to My honor and glory. Return your love and service to Me that your works may show your faith.

9. Ye that name My name give thanks unto your Maser; in so doing I will bless you that you will be a blessing, and bless others. Let My Spirit rule your lives. Be ye long suffering. Be not as sounding brass and tinkling cymbal. Be filled with charity and let peace rule your minds and your lives. The fire of joy shall burn within you. Yea, the Lord will walk and talk with those that keep His Law in the fullness. Seek not the praise of men. Be not heady nor high-minded. Seek to do good. A good tree cannot bear corrupt fruit, nor a corrupt tree, good fruit.

10. Verily, the Courts from above have

sounded these Words, and you have heard. Yea, be at peace, let not your heart be troubled. Be at peace with all men. Hear the Words that are true and faithful sent from the Realms above.’ ”

*By this time I was fully convinced that my visitor was an Angel. As he spoke the last words he floated back to the head of the stairs, directly in front of a window. I rubbed my eyes, hoping to get a better look at him and then to ask his name, should he pause. But I could see him no more. The light remained in the room for an hour or more. I fell asleep and when I awakened the influence remained with Power and as I write I can feel the tingling influence of that Spirit. This is as near correct as I can remember.*

- W. A. Draves

## From the Apostles

### T’was The Night Before Christmas

Donald Thompson,  
submitted by

T’was the night before Christmas and all through the town Not a Sign of Baby Jesus was anywhere to be found.

The people were all busy with Christmas time chores like decorating, and baking, and shopping in stores.

No one say ‘Away in a Manger, no crib for a bed’. Instead, they say of Santa dressed-up in bright red.

Mama watched Martha Stewart, Papa drank beer from a tap. As hour upon hour the presents they’d wrap.

Then what from the T.V. did they suddenly hear? ‘Crept an ad . . . which told of a big sale at Sears.

So away to the mall they all flew like a flash . . . buying things on credit . . . and



others with cash!

And, as they made their way home from their trip to the mall, did they think about Jesus? Oh, no . . . not at all.

Their lives were so busy with their Christmas time things, no time to remember, Christ Jesus, The King. There were presents to wrap and cookies to bake. How could they stop and remember who died for their sake?

To Pray to The Savior . . . they had no time to stop. Because they needed more time to 'Shop till they dropped!'

On Wal-mart! On K-Mart! On Target! On Penney's! On Hallmark! On Zales! A quick lunch at Denny's.

From the big stores downtown to the stores at the mall, they would dash away, dash away, and visit them all!

And up on the roof, there arose such a clatter, as grandpa hung icicle lights up on his brand new step ladder.

He hung lights that would flash. He hung lights what would twirl. Yet, he never once Prayed to Jesus . Light of The World.

Christ's Eyes how they twinkle! Christ's Spirit . . . how Merry! Christ's Love . . . how Enormous! All our burdens . . . He'll Carry!

So instead of being busy, overworked, and uptight. Let's put Christ back in Christmas and enjoy 'The Season'.

Merry Christmas my friends!

## Primary Department

### What Christmas Really Means

*Joy Draves-Dreher*

Christmas has taken on so many other things over the years. We have the story of

Santa. We have the gift giving. These things aren't bad in themselves, as the gift giving started with *The Wise Men*. But it can take away from The Real Meaning of Christmas.

*What happened that First Christmas? Why do we celebrate it?* The Bible Answers all these questions in Luke 2:6-18: ***'And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.'***

***And she brought forth her Firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a Manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.***

***And there were in the same country Shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.***

***And, lo, The Angel of The Lord came upon them, and The Glory of The Lord Shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 'Fear not: for, Behold, I bring you Good Tidings of Great Joy, which shall be to all people.***

***For unto you is Born this day in The City of David a Savior, which is Christ The Lord.***

***And this shall be a Sign unto you; Ye shall find The Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a Manger.***

***And suddenly there was with The Angel a multitude of The Heavenly Host Praising God, and saying,***

***Glory to God in The Highest, and on earth Peace, Good Will toward men.***

***And it came to pass, as The Angels were gone away from them into Heaven, The Shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which The Lord hath made Known unto us.***

***And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and The Babe lying in a Manger.***

***And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told***

*them Concerning This Child.*

*And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by The Shepherds.'*

As we read here, Jesus, The Savior of the world, was Born. He came as a Baby, then grew to be a man that gave His Life for you and me, so we could Live with Him forever when we die. We Celebrate His Birth because of our Faith in Him, and His Birth was The Beginning of a Life-changing Event - The Cross. So let us Celebrate Jesus' Birthday together, and remember why He Came.

## Juniors

*Thresa Ray*

Dear Youth,

As we celebrate thanksgiving with our family and friends it is a time to reflect on all our blessings and give thanks to our Dear Lord for all His bounty, for all we have, for our loved ones and friends, for God's love and watch care!

We are so blessed to have a God that loves us so much that He not only provides for us, "...He gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have Everlasting life." (John 3:16) God manifested Himself in the flesh that we might have an example to follow. Jesus died on the cross taking the punishment for all of our sins, that through belief in Him we could be forgiven. We can have everlasting life!

You know that our Father in Heaven is God, and Jesus is God's Son, manifested in the flesh. The Holy Spirit is also God. All three of them are God, and yet They are not three Gods but only One (1) God.

If that is hard for you to understand, perhaps you could picture a three leaf clover. A clover has three leaves- yet it is still

just one clover! Another example is to think about water. Water can be wet, a liquid, like what you drink or bathe in. Water can be very cold and become frozen- ice. Water can also be heated and become steam. Yet it is all still water. Just as the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost (or Holy spirit) are all One!

I hope these examples help you to understand. Even if it is difficult to understand, we must believe, because the scriptures tell us it is so.

The Holy Bible, John 10:30, Jesus says, "**I and My Father are one.**"

The Record of the Nephites, 3 Nephi 11:27, "...**The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost are one; and I am in the Father, and the Father in me, and the Father and I are one.**"

The Word of the Lord, Brought to Mankind by an Angel, Message 84:16-19, God is speaking. He tells us many names that He is called and things He has done.

**16. "I am He that is called I AM. I am The great White Spirit. I am He that is called Shiloh. I am all in all. I am the only Living God, Creator of the universe; Ruler and Judge of all. I am the Chief corner stone. I am the Stone the builders rejected. I am the Christ, the Son of Man.**

**17. I am God. I change not. I am He that was called Jehovah. I am Jesus Christ. I am the beginning and the End. I am Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, I am the Lord. I am He that was manifested in the flesh, in the flesh-death and resurrection. I am He that is risen. I am the Lord God.**

**18. All they that hear Me and learn of Me, hearing My decrees and obey, shall have the right to Eternity with Me, your Lord God Christ forever.**

**19. I am He that formed the Heavens and the earth and all things that in them are. I am He that placed man in the gar-**



**den and preserved Noah over the flood. I am He that chose Abraham for his great faith. His seed is as the sands of the sea-shores, innumerable. I am He that led Israel through the Red Sea and over Jordan and I will deliver My people today, if they will watch and pray and serve Me, your Master and Lord God.”**

As you can see, the scriptures really prove The Father- God, The Son- Jesus, and The Holy Ghost are one! God must truly love us to come to earth in the flesh and die for our sins so that through belief in Him we might have everlasting life! Remember to take time to thank God for all your blessings including His plan of Salvation for everyone!

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

May God bless and direct you in all things. Merry Christmas! May your hearts be filled with love and the joy of this wonderful season as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

## Young Adults

*Karen Wilkin*

There are many things going on within our nation as well as the whole world right now that is taking place just as the Lord said it would.

Even through all the turmoil and discontent with our nation we know God is still at the helm and in control. His timing is not our timing. He is ALWAYS Right On Time!! Even though God rules high in the heavens, we know He is in control of what happens on this earth.

1 Nephi 17:39, “He ruleth high in the heavens, for it is his throne and this earth is

his footstool.”

Even though many things are coming to pass that Christ prophesied would happen, we know He is still in charge and we can count on Him to lead, guide and direct us through it all.

November is a time we gather together as a nation, state, town and family to Give Thanksgiving unto God for all the blessings He has blessed us with throughout the year. Alma 37:37, “Counsel the Lord in all thy doings, and he will direct thee for good; yea, when thou liest down at night, lie down unto the Lord, that he may watch over you in your sleep; and when thou risest in the morning, let thy heart be full of THANKS unto God: and if ye do these things, ye shall be lifted up at the last day.”

Our counsel from God is to rise with thanksgiving and end our day with thanksgiving. God wants us to be mindful that all gifts are from Him and He wants us to acknowledge Him for all the gifts He gives us each and every day. Otherwise it is just taking Him for granted in the blessings we have. Some people think their wealth, intelligence, career's, accomplishments and physical attractions are because of what they have done themselves, not what God did for them.

We are so Thankful Jesus was born into this world. We are thankful He chose Mary and Joseph to be His parents. Read out of Matt, Mark, Luke & John about His birth. We are thankful He lived for 33 years on this earth among men and then He gave His life on the cross (also found in the 4 gospels) so we might have eternal life with Him. November and December are months of reflecting on all the wonderful gifts and blessings He bestowed upon us throughout the year. Ephesians 5:20, “Giving Thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

While things are unsettled in our nations and a lot of confusion is happening,

we know where the true peace of God is. We know through His Word that these things must come to pass as was prophesied throughout the scriptures. However, He also has shown us in His Word how to keep His peace within us and to Trust Him through it all. This is a time when drawing close to the Lord, reading and studying His Word daily and praying diligently is very important for us all. It is a confusing time in life. We hear and see many things that are false. If you are familiar with what the Word of God says, then you won't be as easily deceived.

During these two special seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas think upon the good things God has done for you. Remember the hymn, Count your blessings, name them one by one, count your many blessings see what God has done! It is a wonderful time to give God all the Praise, Honor and Glory He so deserves. It is a time to look to Him and seek Him for all truth, daily.

Alma 37:35, "O remember, my son, and learn wisdom in thy youth yea, learn in thy youth to keep the commandments of God." Verses 33-37 is very good also. The challenges you face daily build character and help you to make good choices for bigger problems that might come your way. I like the saying when another trial would strike, "Here We Grow Again."

Here are a few more scripture references to consider as you think upon Thanksgiving, why it is important to be Thankful and how to express Thanksgiving to Him.

1 Thessalonians 5:18, "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

Philippians 4:6, "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with Thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

Psalms 107:1, "O give thanks unto the

Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever."

James 1:17, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow or turning."

Also read; Psalms 7:17, Matthew 6:25-34; Psalms 50:14, Hebrews 13:15; 2 Corinthians 2:14.

Learning to lean on Jesus is part of growing and seeking to become closer to Him. If there was ever a time you need to Seek and Find what is true, what is just, what is right, and what is real is now. Don't allow all the confusion going on around you define how you think, what to think, when to think it or what the outcome will be. If you follow Christ and look to Him daily you will not be led astray but will stay on that straight and narrow path- Matthew 7:14-15.

Look for the beautiful, look for the true in what you do, people you hang with, things you enjoy doing, and if you can see the beauty of God in them, things that are good true, then you truly are on that straight and narrow path that leads you into the truth and Thanksgiving. You will begin to experience what it really means to be "Thankful" for your life, every breath you take, every accomplishment you make, every success you conquer, every meal you eat, your home, your parents, your friends, your church, your school, your friends and just being you!

Have a blessed and wonderful time of Thanksgiving unto the Lord for all He has done for you and as you celebrate the birth of the very one who made it all possible, you will have even more to be thankful for.

## Handmaidens

*Brenda Humpert*

Handmaiden's meetings were held on

September 27 and October 18<sup>th</sup>.

On September 19<sup>th</sup> we had our Fall Fun Days and hayride. It was wonderful to see everyone and enjoy this time of fellowship. For those who were not able to make it you were missed.

Our next Handmaiden meeting will be November 15<sup>th</sup> proceeding church services. We will again be making cookies and accepting donations for Noyes Children's Home for Christmas. Anyone who would like to donate items, personal care; toothbrushes, toothpaste, hair brushes, combs, baby diapers, school supplies, are items that are always needed, as well as clothing, toys etc. Donations need to be received on or before December 6<sup>th</sup>.

December 6<sup>th</sup> we will be having our children's program during Sunday morning church service.

Romans 12:2- "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Message 90:25- "Pray the Lord of the vineyard to send forth men of renown and faith to work in this Way. Let the women help all they can -there is much to be done."

## Articles

### Peace In a World of Turmoil

Thresa Ray

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I pray you are well in health and happy in the Lord as you celebrate Christ's birth. We have so much to be grateful for. What a blessing to be part of God's true Church with His true priesthood authority! We are so fortunate to have the 'three measures of meal', 'The Holy Bible', 'The Record of

the Nephites', and 'The Word of the Lord, Brought to Mankind by an Angel', as our guide-lines to live by. We can find the answers to all our questions about life in God's words. We are a blessed people, in this latter day, to have the words of John the Baptist, 120 Messages, directed by God, to guide the Church and also us as individuals.

Our nation, the United States of America, is at peace now, but there are areas of the world that are not. People are at war in different places. I believe this is the *end time* and that *Armageddon* has already begun.

Message 86:18, 34, "Warring powers will continue to conspire and a day of decision will come when Armageddon will begin in the nineties (90's) and when it ends - few men left in battle alive. But God will appear to the delivering of the righteous and as Christ places His feet on the earth - there shall be a great trembling; terrible and dreadful for the wicked, but great relief and deliverance for the righteous. Then the saints of God shall know the days of trouble are over.

34. In the late nineties (90's) contentions shall again grow worse. The great wars will be so bitter- great worldly confusion- Armageddon shall come in and ere the times of mankind shall be six thousand years, the Millennium shall break forth. Then all that serve the Christ shall be one people- delightful in the Lord- if they obey and trust the very eternal God the Father, who is Jesus Christ the Savior and Redeemer of mankind."

Before the millennium starts, worldly confusion will get much worse. We will have more war and more trials.

Message 88:12, "...However, the Lord shall come as His plan folds into being and action and the necessary evils try the people, testing their faith, to determine if they be the Lord's chosen, tried and faithful, or

will fall with the evil one. Yet they say they love the Lord.”

Message 105:6, “There will be signs in the earth, the sun and the moon, and great shaping. Perplexity among the nations, men’s hearts failing for what they must pass through.”

Message 108:19, “The greatest days of tribulations is yet ahead, when all turmoil will break loose and few there be that shall understand. But be ye peacemakers, thus receive the greater blessing.”

Message 111:2, “...You have seen the changes in the world activities- the powers not of God are going down. A more peaceful way is coming. However, the greatest havoc is yet to come.”

Even though there is war and evil happening continually, we can be at peace inside. God will help us through the trying times.

Message 46:10, “Blessed are the meek and all those that consecrate themselves unto Me. I will be with them” saith your Lord, “and stand you in Holy places, protecting you when the great indignation cometh. You shall be called Mine when I make up My jewels.”

Message 68:10, “ ‘Let the Message go far and near, preaching the same things of the Gospel of peace and Lo,’ saith the Lord, ‘I will stand you in Holy places while the indignation passes over.’ ”

Message 98:11, “Let not the contentions of the world destroy hope, for the Lord will stand all His in Holy places until the indignation passes over. They shall be called His when He makes up His jewels, for He intercedes for those that love Him.”

Message 105:7, “The Lord has prepared a place and a way for the righteous and those that come this way, through the waters of baptism and the laying on of hands in this Authority I bring to you and the Church, keep it sacred.”

Many times the scriptures say, “many

are called but few are chosen.” Who are the ‘chosen’ ones? Message 88:2 says, “... *Many are called, those that prepare are the chosen.*” So, it is up to us to be God’s chosen. Each individual has the choice. We each have to prepare ourselves. How do we prepare?

Message 102:7, 11, 18, 52, “Shape your lives and works by the Words I bring, have brought and will yet bring.

11. “Knowledge cometh from the study of the books and Grace from much prayer, Salvation by obedience, Deliverance by endurance.

18. Prove all things by the Words of Truth in the ‘Bible’, ‘Record of the Nephites’, and ‘The Word of the Lord’. All this is established for mankind, the guidelines of hope and deliverance. Man’s idealisms will come to naught.

52. ...Behold the Books that will lead all mankind to Eternal Hope, and Salvation, Deliverance in the Lord.”

Message 97:7, “Read and study the Words, ‘The Word of the Lord’, that I bring and have brought and will yet bring; shape your lives by them and it will be well with you.”

Also, through studying and praying, preparing ourselves to be God’s chosen, we receive a special blessing!

Message 9:1, “...satan is at work to fill the hearts of men with doubts and fears. There are those who read the Words of the Lord and the prophets and have faith therein. Upon these satan has no power.”

Message 88:36-38, “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 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.

37. Therefore come against him, break his yoke by true belief and study the Word – obey the Lord’s Spirit and make ready.

38. There will come trials, but they cannot destroy. Yea, read these words and follow through, find worship and deliverance.”

Message 73:7, “Be not contentious. Speak the truth and be firm. A great light has been given but few there be that perceive it, because of the precepts and commandments of men; which bind and destroy, closing their understanding. Remember, the greater your study and illuminating of your minds with the Words and Will of the Lord, the greater your understanding and Light shall be; freeing your lives from the bands of satan and all his powers; making you a blessing among mankind.”

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

Message 115:13, “Study deeply the Message I bring- illuminate your minds with this power of deliverance- victory in the Lord.”

What a blessing- as we study God’s words, have faith therein, and obey, we will be preparing ourselves to be God’s chosen *and* satan will have no power over us! We can have victory in the Lord! We can have inner peace – even in a world full of turmoil!

Message 108:20 says, “Hold the Truth and Faith of the Church in great Honor- which shall mean salvation to all that will hear this way. Assured in the Lord’s planning. Peace be unto all. The peace of life is gentle and kind to mankind if he will but let peace and joy rule and obey the injunctions and words I bring. My words shall

have their place in the hearts of the honest.”

May God bless each one that we may all rise above our trials, that we may be diligent in preparing ourselves to be pleasing in the sight of God through much study, prayer, faith and obedience, that we will become the people that He would have us to be with clean hands and a pure heart. May we have victory in the Lord! May God bless each one with His sweet peace and happiness this holiday season and always!

## Christmas Just Past What Christmas Means

*W.A. Draves*  
*written in 1985*

I want to speak to you on three aspects of Christmas to define its real meaning.

**FIRST:** The Miracle aspects of Christmas.

The Bible says, “Behold a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interrupted is, God with us.” Matthew 1:23.

The Angel said to the Virgin Mary, “The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the Power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that Holy thing which will be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.” Luke 1:35. Our Christian faith is based on this miracle.

In this generation communism and atheism are rampant. Boasts such as, “our rockets have bypassed the moon but we have not found God,” and jeers like, “we will soon relegate Jesus Christ to the myths of by-gone centuries,” challenge the Christian faith today worldwide.

At college and university campuses a new young generation in joining masses, forming one voice, to discredit the miracu-

lous in Christianity. Atheism has become popular today. Agnostics are jeering: “We are penetrating your heavens but your God is not there. Your faith is a myth!”

Synchronized with this international atheism is a modern Church which has little more to say. She has educated her clergy until they are discrediting the miraculous conception of Jesus Christ— that Jesus’ Blood was not really any different than any other man’s; the resurrection did not actually take place; the miracles of Jesus were not really like they sound; the Bible is not really a supernatural Book.

To all of this the youth of this generation responds: “ Long live our intellect! Miracles are myths. The Bible is not divine. Christianity is a traditional farce. There is no God. Let us eat, drink and be merry.”

The miracle aspect of Christmas has never been so challenged.

For years we have preached Christ to the people of the world. We have had to prove and practice what we have preached— we have become accustomed to the world saying “prove that Jesus Christ is God or prove that He has risen; prove it and we will follow Him.”

We have accepted these challenges. Hundreds of thousands of signs and miracles and wonders have been wrought by God to give evidence that Jesus is God, born of a virgin, raised from the dead. Millions have witnessed these wonders.

But we are shocked to find that while we have been evangelizing the world— the pagan— the heathen, atheistic forces have been enslaving the minds of our own people. Now we come home to find a new generation of wonderful youth becoming educated pagans. Now our own youth are saying: “Where is God?” “If there is a God, prove it!”

And the modernistic Church has no answer. But there is an answer. God is real. Christ was born of a virgin. He lives today!

1 Timothy 3:16, “God was manifest in the flesh.”

John 1:14, “The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory.... As of the only begotten of the Father.)”

2 Corinthians 5:19, “God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself.”

God was in Christ to demonstrate how He can be endue. When a man is converted – genuinely saved– it is a great miracle as the day when God clothed Himself in human flesh and was born of a virgin. Being born again is a miracle. A genuine conversion is a miraculous today as it was the day wicked Saul of Tartus met Jesus and was changed to an Apostle. This is Christian faith.

Young people, once you really meet Jesus you will never be the same again. One genuine touch of Him upon our life and you will never question His reality again. Unbelievers cannot know this. Scientists cannot prove God. God is a miracle God. It is as foolish for them to say there is no God, because they cannot see Him, as for a man born blind today, there is not color in the rainbow because he cannot see it.

Christianity is a miracle. This Christmas let Christ’s miracle power come to you.

**SECOND:** I want to talk to you about the evangelistic aspect of Christmas.

“She shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name Jesus: for he shall save His people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21.

Evangelism is at the very core of Christmas. “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.” 1 Timothy 1:15.

Christmas was the birthday for soul winning. “God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world: but that the world through him might be saved.” John 3:17.

President Kennedy said: “Christmas is the most spiritual and highly significant



day on our calendar; yet the real significance of Christmas is generally lost amidst its celebrations.”

Christmas signals to us the beginning of evangelism... of soul winning. Yet it is a fact that in most of our churches today Christmas is the least evangelistic season of the year. More Christians participate in church activities during the Christmas season that all of the rest of the year combined... from children to the aged.

Yet in spite of all of these Christians activities, December is the weakest month of the year from the standpoint of winning souls in the church. Personal work grinds almost to a standstill. Missionary giving sags. Evangelistic crusades, revivals are practically eliminated. There is not time for them. The time is taken up with holiday preparations and celebrations.

The churches as a rule are occupied with programs and activities, but not evangelism.

Christmas, the celebration of God in flesh, is the greatest opportunity of the year for the Church to reach out and win lost souls with rich and real significance, and yet it is actually a time of spiritual dearth among many congregations.

Amidst the multitudes of taxpayers, travelers, sightseers, merchants and resident milling about in Bethlehem that first Christmas season, they all missed the significance of this extraordinary event. But thank God there were some who did not miss it: It was the shepherds. As soon as the angel had announced to the “good tidings of great joy,” telling them, “unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord,” these men believed this announcement and did something about it. At once they responded decisively: “Let us now go.... And see this thing... which the Lord has made known to us” Luke 2:10-11,15. in other words, they said, “this is a miracle: Let us do something

about it!” is that your attitude at this Christmas season?

What these shepherds did sets the precedent for the evangelistic aspect of Christmas.

As soon as they had gone and had seen, the Bible says, “they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child” Luke 2:17.

Is it fair for us to know these things and never tell them, or should we follow the shepherds’ example and “make known abroad the sayings which have been told us of Christ?” Can we be selfish? Can we go to heaven and leave others to go to hell? Can we be blessed and live in peace and let others live in turmoil?

Let us put evangelism into our Christmas this year. No greater dedication could ever be made at this season of the year. It will give you purpose in your Christian living.

Carry tracts with you. Make a personal dedication to evangelism this Christmas.

I beg of you, let this Christmas season bring to you a new resolution that you will do more than you have ever done before to “make known the sayings that have been told you of the Lord.” that is our mission!

**THIRD:** Let me talk to you about the personal aspect of Christmas.

John 1:11-12 says, “He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God.” Have you received Him? That is the personal aspect of Christmas.

The Bible says that He came into the world to save sinners. Have you accepted him? He came that we might have life... abundant life. Have you accepted Him? You are celebrating His birthday, but has He been born in you?

The first person who ever had the opportunity to receive Christ in his own home, missed it. It was the Innkeeper. He

could accommodate the merchant, the traveler, the taxpayer, the sightseer, but he had no room for the God Child.

My Brothers, He has come to you in hundreds of ways during this last year; and now at this Christmas season. He is coming to you afresh, with new meaning. Will you have room for Him, or miss your opportunity?

Did you ever think about the Innkeeper? In the years that followed, when the fame of Jesus spread through the land, because of the miracles wrought, can you imagine the Innkeeper looking back with remorse, thinking to himself: "Imagine! He was born in my stable, with my cattle, because I would let not Him in my house." Perhaps the old man in later years became diseased and wanted help, but shame and remorse kept him away. May God grant that you will not miss your opportunity today.

Why did the Innkeeper miss his opportunity? Perhaps it was because he was too busy. Business was good. He was occupied. There was no more room in the inn. Are you too busy to recognize Christ this Christmas?

Or maybe it was because he was not expecting the Messiah. Perhaps he was tired of the religious idea that The Messiah was coming. Are you tired of the message of the Second Coming of Christ? Are you tired of the message that Jesus can be real?

Have you become too occupied to recognize Him and give Him room in your life?

Or, this Innkeeper might have missed his opportunity because he was blind to the real significance of this Christmas. He did not realize that God was trying to visit Him. Do you realize that God is trying to come to you at this Christmas season? Do not miss the significance of God paying you a visit.

And last of all, maybe the Innkeeper missed it because he just did not want God

in his place. Is that your attitude? Remember, God never imposes His way on anyone. He will not force His blessings upon you. He comes to you today as He came that first Christmas in the form of that Baby "to save His people from their sins." Have you room for Him? That is the personal aspect of Christmas.

May God take this message and this truth to your heart and may you open your life today to receive this Jesus, if you have never received Him before. If you have turned your back on Him, at this Christmas season may you turn around and come back to Him and let Him live afresh in you.

This is my prayer: "O God in Heaven, I ask that **You** take this message to everyone who has heard it. May they open their heart and let **You** come in to dwell in their life. May they not make the mistake the Innkeeper made in days of old, but shutting **You** out and ignoring **Your** visit. May this Christmas season bring a fresh significance to every person that has heard this message.

And may we, who know You, purpose this season to spread the sayings that have been told us of You, that the whole world might know that unto them this day is born a Savior which is Christ the Lord, Who came into the world to save sinners and to give them life more abundantly. We ask this in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen."

*Merry  
Christmas  
and a Happy  
New Year.*