

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'

In this Issue...

<i>Fiftieth Message</i>	218
<i>The Record of Nephites</i>	219
<i>Light At Evening Time?</i>	221
<i>From The Bishops</i>	222
<i>What Is The RN?</i>	222
<i>Use and Purpose of RN</i>	223
<i>Recapitulative</i>	224
<i>Geography of The RN</i>	225
<i>Words of Mormon</i>	228
<i>Keystone of Our Religion</i>	229
<i>Testimonies of Three</i>	231
<i>Testimonies of Eight</i>	231
<i>Unchangeable God</i>	232
<i>Primary Department</i>	234
<i>Junior Department</i>	225
<i>Young Adult Department</i>	237
<i>Testimonies of The Past</i>	238

God Bless Our Veterans

November 11, 2014

'The Patriot who feels himself in The Service of God, who Acknowledges Him in all His Ways, has The Promise of Almighty Direction, and will find His Word in his greatest darkness, a Lantern to his feet and a Lamp unto his Paths, he will therefore Seek to Establish for his Country in the eyes of the world, such Character as shall make Her not unworthy of The Name of . . . 'A Christian Nation'



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: 4215 S. Hocker St, Indep. MO 64055
 Phone: 816-836-1913

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

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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 4215 South Hocker Street, Suite 110, Independence, Missouri 64055.*

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.'

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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
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 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***.

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Secretary-Treasurer of Bishops'
Bishop Reece Johnson

THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY *To All People* Fiftieth Message

The Messenger of The Lord appeared at 2:30 a.m., March 23, 1941, at my bedside while at the home of James R. Orris, Denver, Colorado. The room was filled with Light, and it remained for sometime after he left. He spoke with Authority, slowly and distinctly. I wrote as he gave The Message, after which we visited a few minutes as two men on many things of The Kingdom. He left at 3:45 a.m,

-W.A. Draves

1. 'Arise and write *The Message* I will give you.
2. Behold, I come again with a Message from The Lord. I am sent of The Lord to you at this place and at this time. I am *The Messenger to bring The Warning*. I come from *The Presence of The Lord*. I am The Elias, and my name is John. *My Message* is one of *Love and Deliverance* to those that Heed and Obey it.
3. The Lord has Designed *His Decree*, and it shall Come to Pass that all who will learn *His Will*, Obey *His Law*, and *Endure*, shall be Counted *His Bride* at *His Appearing*.
4. The greatest peril is on, and destruction upon destruction, suffering and evil, are everywhere, but The Lord shall be Jealous for *His People*, for Israel shall be Delivered and be made His Elect through The Knowledge of The Lord's choosing, in their Faith.
5. The plagues have been let; and to destroy with fury; until the people Cry unto The Lord.
6. Arise, ye Ancient Chosen of The Lord-The Lord is your Deliverer. The Vision

has been; and many will yet Know I have Come of The Lord, and that *This Work of The Lord is True*. Few have Heeded, but many are Seeking. Take to them *The Message of Life*. Let *The Glad Tidings* Ring Forth and *The Words of Deliverance* Sound, even unto other nations. Hasten! The Lord has Spoken! Let The Servants be Swift to *His Command*. Remember Job; his trials did not destroy his Faith. *Yet lacked he anything?* He Endured and Found *Peace* with God.

7. You have seen the weakness of man. You have seen the evil plan to destroy. You have seen darkness cloud the minds of those who doubt and opposed *The Work of The Lord*. Be not moved; be *True*; some have heeded the whisperings of satan, and he has led them astray: let it not be so with you. As I say to you, so say I to all. For this is *The Day of The Lord*, and *His Will* must be Done. *Deliverance* will Come to *The Faithful*.

8. The Lord has Spoken in times past, but few have Heeded, for in their Hearts they have heaped decrees unto themselves, and *The Will of The Lord* they have forgotten. Again The Lord speaks-I Come to bring *His Words*. Let This Message be taken to all parts of this nation, Alaska and Canada. Let *The Message* be taken to Australia. The Lord sees The Efforts of *His Servants*. It is *His Will*, and it shall Come to Pass. *The Great Awakening* is on.

9. *The Harvest* is on, the wheat and the tares have grown together. *The Cleansing Time* has Come. Heed *The Instructions* I bring from The Lord. I have Come that man may Know *The Lord* has Spoken and that Christ's Coming is near at hand. Study *The Word of The Lord* for

The Instruction is sent. Obey, and it will be well with you. Heed ye, you that are afar off! The Lord will Deliver. Let more be sent into *The Harvest Field*. The Time is Ripe. Let those that hinder have no part in *This Work*, The Lord Calls others to Carry *The Work* on. The *Authority and Trust* that was Place on some, they have denied; some have opposed; and doubt has caused them to sin in not defending *The Truth and The Word of The Lord*.

10. I come to bring Courage. Be not moved at the evil, nor the snare that is laid for you. There are those that have been and will be *True*. Their Reward is Sure. Those that are traitors will not be Called *His Jewels* at *The Last Day*. Remember *The Lord*. He is your *Strength*. Let *Peace* follow you wherever you go.

11. Let all Heed *The Will of The Lord*. The *Faith* of many shall be tried. Many will fall by *The Way*. Many are *Called* but few *Chosen*. Few are *Faithful*. They that be with Him when He Comes shall be *Called, Chosen, and Faithful*. Some will be *Called* to take *The Message* afar, for many are *Honest of Heart* and *Seeking for Light*. *His Glorious Voice* shall be Heard, for, in *The Lightning*, the indignation of *His Anger*, and in *The Flame*, Assyria shall be tried, scattered, beaten, and shall fall.

12. The three unclean spirits, have gone out bringing bondage, suffering, and idolatry. They deceive and they are not *The Justice of The Lord*. This generation of mankind shall not all pass away for *The Son of Man* shall come in *His Glory*.

This is The Time *The Prophets* spoke of, in man's inventions, destruction, and war. Like clouds the enemy has gone over, and in noise they destroy: but Is-

rael shall be Delivered and brought to the land *The Lord God* has Decreed her boundary. *The Lord of lords* shall be their *King*, and *The Gospel*, their *Law* forever. For He shall *Rule* from sea to sea and all nations will Obey Him.

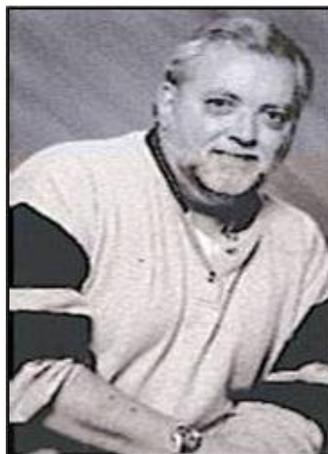
13. Storms and earthquakes shall come and the nations must know *The Lord is God*.

14. Be Pleasant in your work; be of Good Cheer. Let your Hearts be glad. Trust not in the arm of flesh. And to you *My Fellow Servant*, write your letters of kindness, in Love that others may be Encouraged; for this is your work. Let *The Lord* Direct by *His Spirit*. He will Lead you. Worry not what man may say of you. *The Call* goes out and *The Honest in Heart* will Hear. Nothing is Impossible with God and so all *The Faithful* shall Learn *His Law*, and *Obedience* shall bring them Rest.

15. I will Come as *The Lord* Directs. Send *This Message* to The Brethren, and *The Church*, for many have Prayed to Know I have Come. Let not man deceive himself for *The Lord has Spoken*. I leave Peace with you.'

From The Editor

Apostle Leonard H. Draves
Missouri



The Record Of The Nephites

The Record of The Nephites is one of the easiest of The Standard Works to

Read and Understand. Even so, the historical narratives, doctrinal expositions, and geo-graphical relationships occasionally become hard to follow.

The purpose of this Study is to provide the companionship of experienced Guides as you travel. These Guides are Trusted and Inspired Leaders of The Church and Devoted students to *The Record of The Nephites*. They will give you Insights to broaden your Understanding of *The Record of The Nephites* and its more difficult terms and passages.

Study The Record of The Nephites to Feel Its Power and Know Its Divinity

Parley P. Pratt spoke of *The Record of The Nephites* as the principal means in directing the entire course of his life. In describing his first reading of The Book he said: ‘I opened it with eagerness, and read its title page. I then read The Testimony of several Witnesses in relation to the manner of its being Found and Translated. After this I commenced its contents by course. I read all day; eating was a burden, I had no desire for food; sleep was a burden when the night came, for I preferred reading to sleep. ‘As I read, The Spirit of The Lord was upon me, and I Knew and Comprehended that The Book was True’ (*Autobiography of Parley P. Pratt*, p. 20).

Another Testimony of The Book came from an man who read *The Record of The Nephites* for the first time. ‘*May I tell you of a Great Adventure?* As I traveled to a weekend assignment, I took with me an unusual book which was my constant companion. I could lay it down only to sleep, eat, and change trains. It fascinated me, captivated me, and held me spellbound with its irresistible charm and engaging in-

terest. I have read it many times. As I finished it, I closed The Book and sat back, Absorbed as I Relived its Contents. Its pages held me, bound me, The Book was factual, but as has been said, ‘Truth is stranger than fiction.’ . . .

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‘Engineers will learn . . . that . . . centuries ago, men erected buildings, Temples, and highways with cement . . .’

‘The psychologists may find studies in human behavior and the workings of the human mind and the rationalizing processes where men convince themselves that ‘Good is bad, and that bad is Good. . . .’

‘The educator will find Treasures of literature and poetry . . .’

‘This Comprehensive Book should be studied by politicians, government leaders, kings, presidents, and premiers to see the rise and fall of empires, and the difference between statesmanship and demagoguery . . .’

‘Scientists will read of unusual instruments never patented or remade or duplicated, of elements which, without recharging, illuminate dark spaces indefinitely . . .’

‘Military men may learn much in strategy, intrigue, in movements, in morale. . . .’

‘But after all, it is not The Book’s dramatic crises, its history, its narrative that are so important, but its Power to Transform men into Christ Like Beings Worthy of Exaltation.

‘It is The Word of God. It is a Powerful Second Witness of Christ. And, certainly, all True Believers who Love The Redeemer will Welcome additional evidence of His Divinity . . .’

‘My Beloved Brothers and Friends, I give to you *The Record of The Nephites*. May you read it Prayerfully, Study it Carefully, and Receive for yourselves The Testimony of its Divinity.’

From The Apostles

Submitted by Editor: Leonard H. Draves

What The Book ‘*Light At Evening Time*’ Is?

William A. Draves
May, 1942
Age 30



The Book, ‘*The Light At Evening Time*’ was written to shed forth The Light that has come at the evening time of The World.

Included in it a revision and amendment of the ‘*Marvelous Work And Wonder*’ was written in four editions by Elder Daniel Macgregor, now deceased, and is out of print. Many of **The Great Truths** he was permitted to bring to Light are brought to you in ‘*Light At Evening Time*’.

IN the Book, ‘*Light At Evening Time*’, you may be led from the initial step in The Narrow Way, of Faith in God, to its Glorious Triumph in the earth redeemed and habitation in The New Jerusalem which comes down from Heaven.

The Church of Christ is also traced step by step from its Establishment by our Lord Himself, through the triumph of Pentecost and succeeding Power, until the world lay at its feet.

Thus came that curse pronounced by Jesus: ‘**Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you!**’ The Church became popular and lost Her Power. The saddest story the world has ever heard is that of the decline and fall of *The Glorious Church of Christ*; but like the death of Her Husband it was for limited time only. *Why should She not go through the same experiences as Her Royal Bridegroom, die and Rise again?* This was the fate pronounced upon Her by Apostles and Prophet, to be brought about by evil men and devils.

But if the downfall of The Church is the saddest story, Her Rise again and final Victory and Reward in The Presence of God and of Christ in The Grandest surroundings that Divinity could Devise, Eclipse Everything that The Heart of man can conceive of Beauty, Grandeur, Richness and Glory.

In this Book you can follow The Church

through Her Restoration, Her Sleeping period, Her Revival, Her Cleansing, Her Preparation for The Bridegroom, His Glorious Coming, The First and Second Resurrections, The Judgment, The Millennium, The Little Season, The End, and Her Final Triumph in The Highest Glory of Eternity: in *'The City not built with hands'* where God will Abide on The New Celestialized and Glorified earth.

We know that you will obtain The Book. *'Light At Evening Time'* and read it with patience, following *The Church of Christ*, Her Fortunes, etc., and will Partake of Her Benefits to The Fullest Extent and be of those who shall Enter in through The Gates into The City and Partake of The Tree of Life.

From The Bishops

Submitted by the Editor

Genesis 28:22, **'And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's House: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.'**

Leviticus 27:30, **'And all The Tithe of the land whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is The Lord's: it is Holy unto The Lord.'**

Numbers 18:21, **'And, Behold, I have given the children of Levi all The Tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even The**

Service of The Tabernacle of the congregation.'

Malachi 3: 10; **'Bring ye all The Tithes into The Storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine House, and Prove Me now herewith, Saith The Lord of Hosts, if I will not Open you The Windows of Heaven, and Pour you out a Blessing,**

that there shall not be room enough to Receive it.'

Luke 18:12; **'I fast twice in the week, I give Tithes of all that I possess.'**

Hebrews 7:4, **'Now consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave The Tenth of the spoils.'**

Articles

The Book of Nephites.

What Is It?

*Sister Maggie MacGregor from
'Light At Evening Time'*

The Nephites Record purports to be a history of the several nations which inhabited The American Continent in prehistoric times.

The first of these arrived shortly after the confusion of languages at The Tower of Babel, when The Lord Scattered the people abroad upon the face of all the earth, (Genesis 11:8). Becoming a great nation they occupied the whole of North America; but falling into wickedness they were eventually destroyed after occupying the country about two thousand years. Their last Prophet, was Spared and was Permitted to write a history of His People, which He did upon *Plates of Gold*; placing them where they were later discovered by the succeeding nation.

The second colony were Israelites of The House of Joseph, who, leaving Jerusalem, arrived in this land about 600 B.C. They soon became a mighty and populous peo-



ple. Divisions eventuating, they were divided into two nations, called Nephites and Lamanites, after their respective leaders.

The Nephites were The Righteous People, and were Blessed exceedingly. The Voice of The Prophets was heard in the land, urging the people to Righteousness. They also kept their history written upon *plates*, and which was handed down from father to son. The Lamanites were a rebellious people who, because of iniquity, were smitten with a skin of darkness and became a filthy and loathsome race.

It is said that The Savior visited The Nephites, announcing that they were His 'Other Sheep' of who, Jesus at Jerusalem, (John 10:16). Many and Marvelous were The blessings conferred. For several centuries succeeding our Lord's Ministration, the people continued in Righteousness, but finally, as a nation, fell into sin and wrongdoing. A great and terrible war arose between The Nephites and Lamanites, terminating in the extinction of The Nephite nation about 400 A.D.

Previous to the extermination, a Prophet among them, by the name of Mormon, abridged *The Records* of his forefathers, giving it to his son Moroni, who, surviving his people a few years, continued their history,

He informs us that the whole face of the land was one continual scene of wickedness and bloodshed, the people being divided into contending bands.

Retaining *The Records* until about 420 A.D., he received Commandment from The Lord to deposit them in a place of security. This he did, and in that place they remained for 1,400 years, where they were discovered by Joseph Smith.

Exceptions may be taken to *The Nephite*

Record on the ground that it is not exactly what the nations are looking for. **Just so!** But that is appoint in its favor. Did it present itself along the lines of general expectancy, it would cease to be 'Marvelous Work' and, hence, not the sign predicted. The same exception could have been taken to the signs submitted to Abraham, to Moses, or to Gideon. Utterly out of the ordinary!

The Use and Purpose of The Record of The Nephites

Sister Maggie McGregor

It is a valuable as an educational work, bringing to Light the history of a highly cultured and long-extinct people. It is the only *Record* of its kind.

It is of Priceless Worth to the antiquarian, assisting him to locate and follow up his researchers among the ruins. It reveals The Manner of The Lord's Dealing with His People on this continent, relating The Mighty Miracles performed among them.

It teaches The Gospel of Christ in Great Plainness, that none may misunderstand.

It comes as a latter-day Witness to The Gospel of Jesus Christ, The Bible being that other Witness.

It tends to dissolve the ever-increasing clouds of infidelity toward *The Bible*, by Fulfilling its Prophecies, thereby Witnessing for it as a *True Record*.

It comes as an Ensign of The Restoration, an Essential Announcement that *The Kingdom of Heaven* is at hand.

It is a *Record of The House of Joseph* and particular Importance to that people Revealing unto The Lamamites (Indians) what Great Things The Lord hath done for their fathers.

It comes Uniting itself with *The Record of Judah* that the Purpose of God in The Restoration of *The House of Israel* may be speedily accomplished.

It contains Prophecies of Momentous Nature, pertaining to coming events of interest and concern to all.

It comes that *The Meek* may increase their Joy in The Lord and the poor among men Rejoice in The Holy One of Israel, that the eyes of the blind may see out of obscurity, the erring **come** to understanding and the murmuring learn Doctrine.

Recapitulation

Sister Maggie MacGregor

We offer the following summary of The Prophecies pertaining to the bringing forth of an *Inspired Record*.

1. That a Sign will be given.
2. That it will be set up at the time of The Gathering of Israel. *The Nephite Record* was Revealed at this time.
3. That it will be something Extraordinary, a *Marvelous Work and a Wonder*. *The Nephite Record* is surely such.
4. That it will show itself unto all nations. *The Book of Nephites* now printed in many languages.
5. That it will consist of The Revelation of a *Sealed Book*. So far as human ability to translate *The Nephite Record* was concerned, it was powerless; *The Book* was locked, 'Sealed', both to the learned and unlearned. Were it not for The Urim and Thummim received with *The Plates*, *The Book* would still remain a mystery. This Instrument consisted of two transparent stones set in silver bows; looking through them The Prophet received *The Mind of The Lord* on whatever matter was under in-

vestigation. Possession of this constituted a 'Seer' of ancient times. The following texts on The Urim and Thummim will afford additional Light: *Exodus 28:30; Leviticus 8:8; Numbers 27:21; Samuel 28:6; Ezekiel 2:63; Nehemiah 7:65*.

6. That it will be delivered into the hands of an unlearned man. Joseph Smith was an uneducated youth of twenty-two years when he received *The Plates*.

7. That it will not be translated by the wisdom of man. A transcript of the characters or 'words' of *The Book* was sent to a learned man celebrated for his literary attainments, Professor Anthen, of New York City, who, after admitting the genuineness of the characters, confessed that he could not read a 'Sealed' Book.

8. That it would Reveal itself a little while before The Return of Lebanon to a Fruitful field. *The Nephite Record* as discovered just twenty-six years previous to this event.

9. That it would come at a time when the disabilities of The Jew would be removed. *The Nephite Record* was first published in 1829, Jewish emancipation began in 1830,

10. That it would be a *Record of The House of Joseph and Doctrinal Book*. *The Nephite Record* is eminently so.

11. That it would be a *Record of The House of Joseph*. This is the claim set forth in *The Nephite Record*.

12. That it would contain *The Great Things of God's Law*. The reader of *The Nephite Record* will determine this.

13. That it would be brought forth on the land shadowing with wings, America. It was here that *The Nephite Record* was discovered.

14. That it would come forth; 'out of

the ground. Where then, will the reader find anything that Fulfills these Prophecies as does *The Nephite Record*? Nay, find anything that even makes a pretense of Fulfillment? *The Nephite Record* is, in fact, the only *Record* claiming to Fulfill them, and as such, must be *The Predicted Book*.

It has come in **the right manner**. It was Revealed at **the right time**. It sets forth **the right claims**. It is a *Record* of **the right people**. It was discovered in **the right place**, and was brought forth in **the right land**. It must be of **Divine Origin**.

Geography Of The Record Of The Nephites Coming Forth Of The Record Of The Nephites

I would like to talk about '*The Truth*' of some evidence of The Land The Nephites inhabited was indeed the same as the land around *The Great Lakes Region* in *The United States Of America*, and not that of Central America.

The people of *The Record Of The Nephites* did not have a world map. They did not know of the land bridge between North and South America, even if they did know of it, *The Record Of The Nephites* is of the people of The Land Of Promise.

The Northeast part of '*this land*' is where *The Gospel* came forth, *The Record Of The Nephites*, *The Priesthood of God*, and the keys of all the dispensation of the earth, were given not far from The Hill Cumorah. This is the same area the people of *The Record Of The Nephites* lived in!

Every landmark mentioned in *The Record Of The Nephites* can be found there: the four seas (Helaman 3:3-4,8) and the

land of many waters (Mosiah 8:8).

2 Nephi 9:29, **"But to be learned is Good, if it so be, that they hearken unto The Counsels of GOD."** (Ether 13:2-12) Either places the people of Jared near where *The New Jerusalem* is to be. Joseph Smith declares *The New Jerusalem* shall be in Jackson County, Missouri.

Articles Of Faith and Practice # 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), which city shall be built, beginning at *The Temple Lot*.** '

Message 102: 42, **'This is the land where freedom is found and help in *The Way of Zion*, the center of *World Deliverance in Justice and Truth*. There shall be *Deliverance in Mount Zion and Jerusalem* and *The Remnant whom God shall Call*.'** There are four Prophets in as many as 100 Scriptures who Testify there is only one Hill Cumorah and that *The United States of America* is The Land of Promise. There are also 15 landmarks in that area that are described in *The Record Of The Nephites* to perfection. Do we need more?

It has been proven that Lehi and his people built their ship in what is now Oman, on the shores The Sea of Arabia. Many routes and destinations have been suggested. However, *The Lord* gave them only one destination: *The Land Of Promise*, the land choice above all other lands. That land is *The United States of America*. This is the land choice above all other lands of *The Lord*.

The shortest and best route from The Sea of Arabia to the nearest spot a sailing ship can get to *Zion* is up The St. Lawrence River into Lake Ontario. This route

would put them in the very heart of that Grand and Wonderful Land.

There is so much that one can learn in fulfilling *The Lord's Words and Plan* when it comes to this Wonderful and Precious Gospel found in *The Record Of The Nephites*. It is known that 'Truth' will set you free. Knowing and Believing are two separate things. I know that this is 'TRUTH' by *God's Holy Words and Spirit*.

I pray that you will receive this information with an open heart and mind. You will be Blessed!

The Record Of The Nephites Geography

All too often a setting is proposed that has one or two major features which seem to fit while various other lands, cities or seas described in The Scriptures do not fit at all.

Some have even tried to ignore certain landmarks, such as the sea that divides the lands, or use other radical means such as skewing the four cardinal points of the compass to make their setting conform to the Scriptures. But, it is imperative that each and every geographical description given in The Scriptures be accounted for without fudging or in any other way alter the meaning or intent of The Scribes who worked so laboriously to engrave their history onto The Plates.

The descriptions given in *'The Record Of Nephites'* are not complicated. They are completely straightforward and easy to follow. Yet many of the theories thus far presented are so complicated that they become almost impossible to understand. Those who propose such theories suggest, instead, that it is the text that is difficult to understand and thus

it must be altered in some way to make it more acceptable. Never is such a thing justified! This is a Sacred Work, translated by Divine Means into language that each of us can readily understand. Thus, one must *NEVER* resort to fudging to make a setting work. For example, lands should never be placed **within** the narrow neck as some have done, but should simply **by** or **near** it as The Scriptures clearly indicate. Distances should not be altered or changed from those normally accepted in an effort to make a setting conform to The Scriptures. By the same token, directional designations should not be changed, regardless of any suggestion that only the scholarly can understand how the ancients viewed their world. Neither should other types of plants, animals, grains, or metals be suggested as alternatives for those referred to in The Scriptures simply because they cannot be found in their proposed setting. Words mean things and it is not our prerogative to suppose The Ancient Scribes meant something other than what they so carefully engraved upon The Plates. But, of equal importance, reason should not be abandoned. Thus, any theory that must be explained away by strange or convoluted methods should be considered suspect.

Many theories have come and gone over the years, but the standard by which one must evaluate a setting must always be the same. It must, above all, conform to the geographical descriptions given within the text. Thus, the first thing to do in our search for the lost lands of The Nephites and Jaredites is to gather together all the geographical clues the ancient scribes had the foresight to engrave upon The Plates and then study them each individually and collectively for therein lies the formula for the successful placement of

lands and cities within any chosen region. For example, one cannot find a river, claim it to be The Sidon, and then place it in the land of Nephi instead of in the land of Zarahemla, for such would be Scripturally incorrect. Such inconsistencies would only lead to confusion. Any and all maps produced must *above all* conform to geographical descriptions given within The Scriptures, for whatever exotic ruins are found or wonderful artifacts discovered, the layout of the land itself must be the first thing considered—all else would be meaningless without a correct correlation between text and terrain.

There is much more involved in reconciling a region with The Scriptures than just finding a narrow neck someplace. Several requirements must be met, including finding a region which fits the overall dimensions of the land southward as laid out in The Scriptures. One must also find evidence of a sea which was extensive enough to divide the lands, as well as evidence that the land southward was nearly surrounded by water. Every single geographical description found in The Scriptures must fit together precisely with the next and in complete harmony with the various details engraven on The Plates before a territory can be declared the homeland of the ancient Nephites and Jaredites. The following is a recap of just a few of those which need to be reconciled with any given setting.

1. It must have highlands to the south and lowlands to the north to correspond with the various ups and downs described in The Scriptures.

2. The River Sidon must flow northward, not southward, and must have its head in the southeastern portion of Zarahemla. We must remember that The Sidon would not flow

through the land of Nephi in this arrangement since the land of Nephi lay directly to the south of Zarahemla.

3. The land of Nephi must be south of Zarahemla and Zarahemla south of Bountiful. There must also be a dividing line of some kind between the lands of Nephi and Zarahemla. (Alma 50:7)

4. These three territories, with the inclusion of a region between Zarahemla and Bountiful and an eastern border of sorts, (the entire area constituting *the land southward*), must be bordered on the east and west by seas. (See Alma 27:22, Helaman 11:20.)

5. There must also be a sea just to the north of Bountiful which was extensive enough to divide the land northward from the land southward. (See Ether 10:20.)

6. There must be a narrow neck/pass extending through the sea permitting passage from the land southward to the land northward. (See Alma 63:5.) Thus, water would border the narrow neck on both sides as well. (See Alma 63:5.) Thus, water would border the narrow neck on both sides as well. (See Alma 50:34.)

7. The southern tip of the narrow neck must lay near the junction where Bountiful, Desolation and the west sea meet—which would place the narrow neck/pass to the northwest of Bountiful. (See Alma 63:5.)

8. Bountiful must be only the distance a Nephite could walk in a day and a half or approximately 30 - 40 miles in width. (See Alma 22:32.) Attempts to make it wider by suggesting that a greater distance might be covered by a Nephite marathon runner as some have suggested, is to call into question the intent of the scribes who described it as being **ONLY** the distance a Nephite could

journey in a day and a half. Clearly the word only implies a small region. Some also err in equating the distance across Bountiful with the distance across the narrow neck which is totally incompatible with anything found in The Scriptures.

9. The waters that nearly surrounded the land southward must be defined. (See Alma 22:32.)

10. The land northward must be filled with large bodies of water, fountains, and rivers. (See Helaman 3:4,5.)

11. The Hill Cumorah must be in a land of hills and valleys.

12. There should be evidence of ancient warfare.

13. There should be the remains of fortifications such as those described in The Record Of The Nephites.

14. There should be the remains of human bones—including the presence of large bones.

15. Their should be minerals such as iron, copper, silver and gold.

16. It must be a land where grains and fruit would grow including grapes.

17. Evidence of the various animals mentioned in The Scriptures must also be present.

Obviously, many factors must be taken into consideration in piecing the entire puzzle together. Far too many for this brief work. But the limited picture presented here can give the reader at least some of the tools needed to judge for himself whether or not any setting presented fits the geographical description given in The Scriptures. A much more comprehensive study can be found in *The Lost Lands of 'The Record Of The Nephites'*.

From The Record Of The Nephites Words of Mormon 1:1-11

‘And now I, Mormon, being about to deliver up *The Record* which I have been making into the hands of my son Moroni, Behold I have Witnessed almost all the destruction of my people, The Nephites.

And it is many hundred years after The Coming of Christ that I deliver these *Records* into the hands of my son; and it supposeth me that he will Witness the entire destruction of my people. But may God grant that he may survive them, that he may write somewhat concerning them, and somewhat concerning Christ, that perhaps some day it may profit them.

And now, I speak somewhat concerning that which I have written; for after I had made an abridgment from *The Plates of Nephi*, down to the reign of this king Benjamin, of whom Amaleki spake, I searched among *The Records* which had been delivered into my hands, and I found these *Plates*, which contained this small account of The Prophets, from Jacob down to the reign of this king Benjamin, and also many of *The Words of Nephi*.

And the things which are upon these plates pleasing me, because of the prophecies of the coming of Christ; and my fathers knowing that many of them have been fulfilled; yea, and I also know that as many things as have been prophesied concerning us down to this day have been ful-

filled, and as many as go beyond this day must surely come to pass--

Wherefore, I chose these things, to finish my record upon them, which remainder of my record I shall take from the plates of Nephi; and I cannot write the hundredth part of the things of my people.

But behold, I shall take these plates, which contain these prophecies and revelations, and put them with the remainder of my record, for they are choice unto me; and I know they will be choice unto my brethren.

And I do this for a wise purpose; for thus it whispereth me, according to the workings of the Spirit of the Lord which is in me. And now, I do not know all things; but the Lord knoweth all things which are to come; wherefore, he worketh in me to do according to his will.

And my prayer to God is concerning my brethren, that they may once again come to the knowledge of God, yea, the redemption of Christ; that they may once again be a delightsome people.

And now I, Mormon, proceed to finish out my record, which I take from the plates of Nephi; and I make it according to the knowledge and the understanding which God has given me.

Wherefore, it came to pass that

after Amaleki had delivered up these plates into the hands of king Benjamin, he took them and put them with the other plates, which contained records which had been handed down by the kings, from generation to generation until the days of king Benjamin.

And they were handed down from king Benjamin, from generation to generation until they have fallen into my hands. And I, Mormon, pray to God that they may be preserved from this time henceforth. And I know that they will be preserved; for there are great things written upon them, out of which my people and their brethren shall be judged at the great and last day, according to the word of God which is written ‘

The Keystone of Our Religion

Joseph Smith said, ‘I told the brethren *The Record of The Nephites* was the most correct of any Book on earth, and *The Keystone of our Religion*, and a man would get nearer to God by Abiding by its Precepts, than by any other book’ (*History of The Church*, 4:461; see also Benson’s talk in appendix A). ‘The Prophet’s Expression that *The Record of The Nephites* is *The Keystone of our Religion*’ means precisely what it says. The Keystone is The Central Stone in the top of the arch. If that Stone is removed, then the arch crumbles, which,

in effect, means that' Restoration so-called—which actually is The Gospel of Christ, Restored Anew in this day—stands or falls with The Truth or the falsity of *The Record of The Nephites*. . . . *The Record of The Nephites*—which has Come Forth to Prove that God Inspires men and Calls them to His Holy Work in this age and generation—establishes the verity of these Great Truths which Comprise The Message of The Restoration. If *The Record of The Nephites* is True, our Message to the world is Truth; The Truth of This Message is Established in and through This Book . . .

'*The Record of The Nephites* stands as a Witness of The Divine Sonship of Christ; it has Come Forth for ' . . . the convincing of The Jew and Gentile that *Jesus is The Christ, The Eternal God*, Manifesting Himself unto all nations— . . . ' (Preface to *The Record of The Nephites*)

'This Book also is a Witness of The Divine Mission of The Prophet Joseph Smith and of The Divinity of The Church which proves to the world that Joseph Smith is a Prophet, for he Received The Book from a Resurrected Personage and Translated it by The Gift and Power of God. And since *The Record of The Nephites* came by Revelation, which included The Ministering of Angels. Among those Revelations was The Command to Organize The Church. The Church is thus The One True Church because it was Set up by a Prophet acting under Command of God. Thus The Truth of The Message of The Restoration is Established in and through and by means of *The Record of The Nephites* (Bruce R. McConkie). *The Record of The Nephites Is for Our Day* '*The Record of The Nephites*' was written for us today. God is The Author of The Book. It is a Record of a fallen

people, compiled by Inspired Men for our Blessing today. Those people never had The Book—it was meant for us. Mormon, The Ancient Prophet, abridged centuries of Records. God, who knows the end from the beginning, told him what to include in his abridgment that we would need for our day'.

Church Members Must Read The Record of The Nephites as it is most importance of seriously studying *The Record of The Nephites*: 'It seems to me that any member of This Church would never be satisfied until he or she had read *The Record of The Nephites* time and time again, and thoroughly considered it so that he or she could bear Witness that it is in very deed a Record with The Inspiration of The Almighty upon it, and that its history is True. . . .'

' . . . No member of This Church can stand Approved in The Presence of God who has not seriously and carefully read *The Record of The Nephites*. A person's individual's Spirit and Conviction to The Gospel are greatly affected by their knowledge of *The Record of The Nephites*: 'Members of The Church everywhere should know *The Record of The Nephites* better than any other Book. Not only should we know what history and Faith-promoting stories it contains, but we should understand its teachings. . . .'

'I have noted within The Church the difference in Discernment, in Insight, Conviction, and Spirit between those who Know and Love those who do not. That Book is a Great Sifter'.

The Testimonies of Witnesses

The Lord's Law of Witnesses

'Whenever The Lord has Established a Dispensation' by Revealing His Gospel and

by Conferring Priesthood and Keys upon men, He has Acted in Accordance with *The Law of Witnesses* which He Himself Ordained. This Law is: ‘In the mouth of two or three Witnesses shall every word be established.’ (2 Cor. 13:1; Deut. 17:6; 19:15; Matt. 18:15–16; John 8:12–29.)

‘Never does one man stand alone in establishing a new dispensation of Revealed Truth, or in carrying the burden of such a Message and Warning to the world.

THE TESTIMONY OF THREE WITNESSES

Be it known unto all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people, unto whom this work shall come: That we, through The Grace of God The Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, have seen The Plates which contain this Record, which is a Record of the people of Nephi, and also of The Lamanites, their brethren, and also of the people of Jared, who came from The Tower of which hath been spoken. And we also know that they have been translated by The Gift and Power of God, for His Voice hath declared it unto us; wherefore we know of a surety that The Work is True. And we also Testify that we have seen The Engravings which are upon The Plates; and they have been shown unto us by The Power of God, and not of man. And we Declare with words of soberness, that an Angel of God came down from Heaven, and he brought and laid before our eyes, that we Beheld and saw The Plates, and The Engravings thereon; and we know that it is by The Grace of God The Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, that we Beheld and Bear Record that these things are True. And it is Marvelous in our eyes. Nevertheless, The Voice of The Lord Comanded us that we should Bear Record of

it; wherefore, to be Obedient unto The Commandments of God, we Bear Testimony of these things. And we know that if we are Faithful in Christ, we shall rid our garments of the blood of all men, and be found spotless before The Judgment-Seat of Christ, and shall Dwell with Him Eternally in The Heavens. And The Honor be to The Father, and to The Son, and to The Holy Ghost, which is One God. Amen.

*OLIVER COWDERY,
DAVID WHITMER,
MARTIN HARRIS*

THE TESTIMONY OF EIGHT WITNESSES

Be it known unto all nations, kindreds, tongues, and people, unto whom This Work shall Come: That Joseph Smith, Jr., the translator of This Work, has shown unto us The Plates of which hath been spoken, which have The Appearance of Gold; and as many of The Leaves as the said Smith has translated we did handle with our hands; and we also saw The Engravings thereon, all of which has The Appearance of Ancient Work, and of curious workmanship. And this we Bear Record with words of soberness, that the said Smith has shown unto us, for we have seen and hefted, and know of a surety that the said Smith has got The Plates of which we have spoken. And we give our names unto the world, to Witness unto the world that which we have seen. And we lie not, God Bearing Witness of it.

*CHRISTIAN WHITMER,
JACOB WHITMER,
PETER WHITMER, Jr.,
JOHN WHITMER,
HIRAM PAGE,
JOSEPH SMITH, SEN.,
HYRUM SMITH,
SAMUEL H. SMITH*

Every dispensation, from Adam to the

present, two or more Witnesses have always joined their Testimonies, thus leaving their hearers without excuse in The Day of Judgment should The Testimony be Rejected.

The importance of The Witnesses to *The Record of The Nephites*: ‘I do not believe that in any court of justice in the world if a man was being tried for murder and twelve reputable citizens Testified of their Knowledge of the circumstances leading to the murder, and there was no one who could Testify against what they said, there would be a failure to convict the man.

We have The Testimony of Joseph Smith and The Testimony of Three Witnesses to the effect that God gave them a knowledge regarding *The Record of The Nephites*, that an Angel of God Declared from Heaven that The Book had been translated by The Gift and Power of God. These men were **Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer and Martin Harris**, and to the day of their death they maintained their Testimony regarding The Declaration of The Angel, and that they were Commanded to Bear Witness of The Divinity of This Book, and they did so.

Eight men, maintained their Testimony that they had seen and handled The Plates from which The Record of The Nephites was translated, and they remained True to that Testimony to the day of their death. The disbelief of all the world does not prove that those men did not tell The Truth, because there are no Witnesses on the other side.

Points to Ponder

- Carefully analyze the title page of *The Record of The Nephites* to find answers for the following questions: *Who was The Record of The Nephites written to? Why was it*

written, and what were the authors trying to accomplish? What indications are there of The Hand of The Lord in its coming forth? What warning is given to those who might criticize it?

- When an individual comes to know that *The Record of The Nephites* is True, *what other Truths must also be accepted?*
- The Prophets have taught us that *The Record of The Nephites* was written for our time. *What indications are there in This Book that the writers knew of our particular needs? How did they know what to include that would be of value to us today?* (see Mormon 8:25–35; note especially verses 34-35).

The Unchangeable God

(Article on Message 108)

William A. Draves

John 17:5-24 gives us the description of Jesus The Christ. 11 Nephi 27:23, same yesterday, today and forever.

John 1:3-4, **‘All things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made.**

In Him was Life and The Life was The Light of men.’

We find several places in *Scriptures* speaking of *The Unchangeable God*. I change not, etc. and other remarks stating the all sameness of God.

Message 86:6, **‘Many Represent Christ and have Faith to do many Miracles. This is Good, if they Hear the final Call-this *The Midnight Cry* and Obey it. Their works will stand the test.’**

Message 86:20,23-25,28,35-36,47,53,67, **‘Unless The Servants of The Lord Arise and be no more oppressed-Arise to their Place and Calling; cease their error**

of negligence and hindrance turn away from, their choice and work will come to nothingness. The Lord will Call others to work and carry this Work onward . . .

Evil has sought to grip The Church and has long had its effect-eating out Her Soul. When it is removed She will put on *Her Brighter Garments* and many of Her Children will come unto Her.

The great stumbling block put out by the mind of man is to say Jesus Christ is THAT PROPHET like unto Moses when it is I, John The Baptist, The Forerunner— The Messenger called The Elias which was for to come.

A Prophet Represent, and Christ is God Himself. I Represent Him . . .

God has set in Pace and given *The Authority and Trust*, but man through weakness and seeking prominency has hindered The Work. Yet they say they love the Lord . . .

Some you have Trusted will walk no more with you but many more will Come . . .

Fellowship not with those that twist *The Word* to thwart *The Plan of God* to justify their own evil means . . .

Some try to Serve The Lord standing afar off. Some fail to fully Dedicate their lives to His Service—they seek to serve two masters. Until they meet The Lord face to face and Repent of their error they Will not fully find peace . . .

Let not The Work be frustrated by the way of man.’

111 Nephi 21:8-9, ‘And when that day shall Come, it shall come to pass that kings shall shut their mouths; for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider.

For in that day, for my sake shall The Father Work a Work which shall be Great and Marvelous Work among them; and there shall be among them which will not Believe it, although a man shall Declare it unto them.’ See also Acts 13:41.

111 Nephi 20:43-45, ‘Behold, My Servant shall Deal Prudently, he shall be Exalted and Extolled, and be very high.

As many were astonished at thee; (His visage was so marred, more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men) (John The Baptist was beheaded. W.A.D.)

So shall he sprinkle many nations the kings shall shut their mouths at Him, for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider.’

111 Nephi 21:11, ‘Therefore, it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not Believe in My Words, which Am Jesus Christ, which The Father (Power of God) shall cause him (John The Baptist, The Word of The Lord, brought to mankind by an Angel) to bring forth unto The Gentiles, (it shall be done even as Moses said) they shall be cut off from among my people which are of The Covenant.’ (Restoration— W.A.D.)

Acts 13:41, ‘Behold, ye despisers, and wonder and perish; for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise Believe, though a man Declare it unto you.’

1 Nephi 22:21, ‘And now I, Nephi, Declare unto you, that this Prophet of whom Moses spake, was The Holy One of Israel . . .’

1 Nephi 22:20, ‘And The Lord will surely Prepare a *Way* for His People,

unto The Fulfilling of The Words of Moses, which he spake saying: A Prophet shall The Lord God Raise up into you, like unto me, Him shall ye Hear in all things, whatsoever He shall unto you. And it shall come to pass that all those who will NOT Hear That Prophet shall be cut off from among the people (of God'. (W.A.D.).

Thus, this is speaking of an Inspiring God— a Prophet like unto me (Moses) born from among the brethren-(carnal parents).

Jesus said, *'No man gave Him His Life, and no man can take it from Him, nor they that set themselves up.'* (This is the ones having a fixed way.)

Fixed way in what? In doctrine and systems in teachings, imagine authority-false doctrine, probation after death, baptism for the dead, water in place of wine in the Communion, two priesthoods. Three beings in the Godhead, and a mother there????? and much more.

This same Nephi—who said he declared spoke of seeing That Prophet baptize The Lamb of God, The Messiah, The Holy One of Israel. *How could That Prophet Baptize Himself?* This is two personages. Get it straight—he first made a mistake and did not correct it.

Again, when it was said The Lord would Raise up a Prophet, even a Messiah, again two personage. It is the mind of man that likens them to be one person and the same. It is the mind of man that makes a mistake—unlearned-lack of full knowledge.

11 Nephi 31:4, **'Wherefore, I would that ye should remember that I have spoken unto you concerning That Prophet which The Lord showed unto, that should Baptize The Lamb of God, which should take away the sins of the**

world.'

111 Nephi 27:25-26, **'For Behold, out of books which have been written, and which shall be written, shall this people be judged for by them shall their works be known unto men.**

And Behold, all things are Written by The Father; (Power of God) therefore out of the books which shall be written, shall the world be Judged.'

Holy men of God spake as they were moved by The Holy Ghost.

The Law and The Prophets spoke until John comes—now he speaks for The Lord.

John was The Greatest Prophet born of woman. None Greater that has Risen. Hear ye him!

Ether 4:16,19, **'And then shall My Revelation which I have caused to be Written by My Servant John, be unfolded in the eyes of all the people. Remember, when ye see these things, ye shall know that the time is at hand that they shall be manifest in every deed . . .**

And Blessed is he that is found Faithful unto My Name, at the last day for they shall be lifted up to Dwell in The Kingdom prepared for them from The Foundation of the world. And Behold it is I (The Lord) that hath Spoken it. Amen!'

Primary Department

*Editor: Joy Ellen Draves
Missouri*

The Fruit of the Spirit

What is The Fruit of the Spirit?

Galatians 5:22-23, **'But The Fruit of The Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith,**

Meekness, Temperance: against such there is no Law’.

It is a term commonly used by Christians, but it is not always understood. *So what is it?* The Apostle Paul list nine things The Spirit of God Produces for our well-being and Spiritual Growth. They are a product of our Faith and of Christ’s Control on our Lives.

The Fruit of The Spirit is meant to be a list of Qualities we strive to have. If you look at your character and find that you are lacking in any of these areas. We are human beings, and not one of us is perfect. However, God Calls us all to strive for perfection. That was the purpose in Paul listing out The Fruit for The Galatian church. These are qualities any Christian should strive to have in their character, and they take work to get.

But how do we receive The Fruit of The Spirit? The only way to receive The Fruit is by much Prayer, Studying The Scriptures, and by putting forth an effort to bear The Fruit of The Spirit.

In Ephesians 4:22-24 we are told, **‘That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;**

And be renewed in The Spirit of your mind.

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is Created in Righteousness and True Holiness.’

We are told we should try to let go of any bad attitudes or habits. Through Prayer you can ask for The Fruit of The Spirit and ways you can improve yourself so you can become much more Christ-Like in your everyday Lives.

Junior Department

*Editor: Thresa Ray
Missouri*

Choosing God!

Dear Ones;

God Gave Moses The Ten Commandments to give us Instructions on The Laws He wants us to Obey. They are:

1. Thou shalt have no other Gods before Me.

2 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.

3. Thou shalt not take The Name of The Lord Thy God in Vain.

4. Remember The Sabbath Day, to keep it Holy.

5. Honor thy father and thy mother.

6. Thou shalt not kill.

7. Thou shalt not commit adultery (be unfaithful to your companion.

8. Thou shalt not steal.

9. Thou shalt not bear false witness (lie) against thy neighbor.

10. Thou shalt not covet. (Exodus 20:3-17)

Matthew 22:35-40, Jesus tells us about The TWO GREATEST COMMANDMENTS:

‘Then one of them, which was a lawyer asked Him (Jesus) a question, tempting (testing) Him and saying, Master, which is The Greatest Commandment in The Law?

Jesus said unto him, THOU SHALT LOVE THE LORD THY

GOD WITH ALL THY HEART, AND WITH ALL THY SOUL, AND WITH ALL THY MIND.

This is The First and Great Commandment.

And the second is like unto it, THOU SHALT LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS

THYSELF.

On these Two Commandments hang all The Law and The Prophets’.

If everyone totally Obeyed these Two Commandments the world would be at Peace. There would be no evil things done because everyone would Love their neighbor as themselves—they would do only Good and no evil. *Wouldn't that be wonderful?* I do believe the only time we will see a world like that will be during The Millennium. That is when Jesus will Reign for one thousand years. At that time satan will be bound and he will not be able to influence anyone.

There are specific verses in *The Holy Bible* that talk about children.

Children are God's Gift: Psalm 127:3-5, **‘Lo, children are an Heritage of The Lord and The Fruit of The Womb is His Reward.**

As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them . . .’

God Loves children so very much and wants everyone to be innocent of wrong doing and have a Loving Pure hear like a child to get into The Kingdom of Heaven.

Mark 10:13-16, **‘And they brought young children to Him (Jesus), that He should Touch them: and His Disciples rebuked those that brought them.**

But when Jesus saw it, He was much Displeased, and said unto them, ‘Suffer The Little Children to Come unto Me and forbid them not: for of such is The Kingdom of God.

Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive The Kingdom of God as a Little Child, he shall not enter therein.’

And He took them up in His Arms, put

His Hands upon them, and Blessed them.’

The Bible tells children to Obey their parents and even gives you a Promise/ Reward for doing so.

Ephesians 6:1-3, **‘Children, Obey your parents in The Lord, for this is Right.**

Honor thy father and thy mother which is The First Commandment with Promise.

That it may be Well with thee, and thou mayest Live long on the earth.’

Children need to show Respect to adults.

I Peter 5:5, **‘Likewise, ye younger, submit yourself unto The Elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with Humility, for God Resisteth the proud, and giveth Grace to The Humble.’**

The Bible tells children to care for their parents:

I Timothy 5:4, **‘But if any widow have children or nephews, let them Learn first to shew piety (Reverence to God) at home, and to Requite (payback, reward, Care for) their parents for that is Good**

It is very important for children to Obey God.

Deuteronomy 30:2, **‘And Shalt return unto The Lord thy God, and Shalt Obey His Voice According unto all that I Command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine Heart and with all thy Soul:’**

God wants you to always remember Him:

Ecclesiastes 12:1, **‘Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth . . .’**

No matter what you are doing, it is im-

portant to remember God. When you have choices to make, ask yourself, 'What would Jesus do?' If you think about that when you have decisions to make, then you will make The Right Choices. Jesus Showed us, by Example, how we should Live and Act. If we put God First in all things everyday then all things will fall into place for you.

In Matthew, Chapter 6, Jesus was Teaching that we don't need to worry about what we will Eat, or Wear, or where we will Live if we put God First and Seek Him, He will Bless us and Provide for us.

6:33, **'But Seek ye First, The Kingdom of God, and His Righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.'**

Now, even as you grow older, if you Love God with all your Heart and put Him First in all you do—try to Please Him in all you do, then God will always be with you. He will Bless and Provide for you in Ways that you could not even imagine.

God Loves you so much, but He does not force anyone to Follow Him. He lets us make our own Choices. We must Choose God; Choose to Love and Follow Him. In that Choice, we will be very Blessed and know much Peace, Love and Joy!

So Choose God! Choose to Seek His Kingdom and to Live a Righteous Life. The Joy and Inner Peace you will feel is so much more Fulfilling than Joy you can Receive from world things.

Love in Christ,

Young Adult Department

Submitted by

Editors: Matthew & Ellen Thompson

Missouri

RUN! RACE! FINISH!

Dear Young Adults,

By The Sacrifice The Lord made on The Cross for all mankind it allows each and every one of us a chance at Eternal Salvation with our Lord and Savior, but we must be Obedient to The Lord's Plan and Endure to The End, without ever giving up!!

Hebrews 12:1-2, **'Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience The Race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus The Author and Finisher of our Faith; who for The Joy that was set before him Endured on The Cross, despising the shame, and is set down at The Right Hand of The Throne of God.'**

We need to be rid of our besieging sins, the things that hinder us in our Walk with The Lord. Give up the worldly and man-made traditions. Look to God in all Things, and Allow Him to Guide you in your Life, your Thoughts, and your Heart'.

How to Get Into The Race:

Faith, Repentance, and Baptism
2) Give your Life to God, always put Him first in your life and home. Be a Servant for Him.

3) Pray and Study to show thyself Approved before The Lord

4) Be Obedient to God's Gospel; *The Bible, The Record of the Nephites, and The Word of The Lord*

Help Bring Others Into The Race:

Luke 14:23, **'And The Lord Said unto His Servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to Come**

in, that My House may be Filled.'

1) As Servants for The Lord we must get God's Word out.

2) Allow The Lord in our Hearts by being Obedient to His Commandments that others may see God's Light, which is The Holy Spirit working within us. Without this we will fail. The Lord wants to see His House Filled, but it takes effort and work!

Run With Patience:

1) DON'T EVER GIVE UP!!

2) Trials and Burdens will come, but hang in there and Trust God to get you through it

3) Don't get tired and quit- don't be weary in well doing

4) Run The Race with patience, never running ahead of The Lord, but towards The Lord. God is The Leader and we must follow with our Eyes and Heart on only Him. We must never forget that satan is always on our heels just waiting for us to fall'

How Do I Stay In the Race?

Ephesians 6:11-13, '**Put on The Whole Armour of God that ye may be Able to Stand against the wiles of the devil.**

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Wherefore take unto you The Whole Armour of God that ye may be Able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand.'

1) Take a stand against evil. Stand up for The Lord and fight The Good Fight!

2) Keep moving forward, be OBEIDENT to GODS Instructions!

3) Don't stop serving God, Develop Gods Fruits within you.

4) Go to Church and always help where you can, put others first

5) Be True to The Lord, be Committed in your Race for God, set a Pace and stay The Course.

Finish the Race:

Philippians 2:16, '**Holding forth The Word of Life; that I may Rejoice in The Day of Christ, that I have not Run in vain, neither labored in vain.'**

1) Stay focused on your GOAL! Remember we want Salvation with our Lord

2) Keep your Eyes on God! We want to Walk The Straight and Narrow Path

3) Remember what He has done for us

4) Each has to run their own Race. No one can run it for you, but we can help one another, pick each other up whenever one falls, never be a hindrance to another, always be a Helper, a Leader for Christ. Remember who you Represent, God has set The Standard and we all have to Rise to it.

5) ENDURE TO THE END! If we Endure to The End we will Receive our Crown of Salvation with The Lord.

I Pray that we all Continue this Race for The Lord. I want to see everyone of you Receive your Crown! AMEN

Testimonies Of The Past

Brenda Humpert, Missouri: I want to Thank The Lord for being here. I am Blessed to be here. The Sermons are so Good, they Fill my Soul. Thresa and I was walking and we met a man and his son. He had been drinking, but we had a Good talk about The Lord. We Witnessed to him and it felt Good to have something to give peo-

ple. We have answers. Pray for him and his family, that The Lord will Bless them. He had been asking God, *Do you know that I am here?* before we told him of This Gospel. God Bless you all.

Richard Segal, California: I Thank The Lord for my Blessings. My mother died in 2005. I went home to take care of her. It was hard. I couldn't come to The Assembly for seven years, but I made sure that I paid my Tithes, then my bills. I wasn't sure that we could come this year, but my daughter found round way tickets that we could afford. That was a Miracle to me. So here we are. Praise The Lord He Came through. I Know that The Lord had His Hand in that. I am Hopeful that we can come every year now.

I have no problems at work, I asked to go and they agreed. I work for a Bank Card Center. My wife works for a Library in a very nice part of town. That is a Blessing for us both. God gave us a house to live in. It was part of my mother's estate, but I managed to keep it. It was the home that I grew up in. I want to do for The Lord. The world is dying. Don't put your Heart in worldly things.

This is God's Church. God got me out of the entertainment business and the world. I am really Thankful. I am not here because of Betty, my wife, or The Draves', I am here because The Work is True! Aunt Florence knew Brother Otto Fetting, that's nice, but I am here because The Word is True! Something richer than what I had. This is where The Gold is! Can't get any Richer than this. I asked The Lord years ago, *where is The Church?* The churches that I have gone to only deceives you. They lie to you and things didn't make sense.

I am Thankful The Lord is with me. I Love Him. I am Thankful for my wife and that we are together. It has been 21 years now. I was here last in 2001. I could tell then that something was wrong with some of the brothers. When The Revelation came in 2003, I Rejoiced. The Lord Filled His Quorum. We now will have a Full House. Then they did what they did. If your Heart is not right with The Lord, He cannot tell you anything. We are more Blessed than those other churches. Stay Humble! Stay with The Lord and always put Him First. God Bless you all.

River Thompson, Missouri (age 5): Dear Jesus Bless us all and send John The Baptist again. Bless the people in Africa, the poor and the needy. Keep us safe in Jesus Name, Amen!

Special Notices

The staff of 'The Greater Light' would like to dedicate This Issue of our Paper to our Dear Brother Elder Jerry Kloss of Pennsylvania. We send you our Love, Cares, and Prayers.

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: 4215 South Hocker Street. Suite 110, Independence, Missouri 64055, Telephone 816-836-1913 or Fax 816-313-6232.. God Bless!

**God Bless America,
God Bless You!**

The Greater Light

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