

The Greater Light

The End Time Messenger

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

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2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 2025 General Assembly News Part 2

**“...Meet in your assembly in peace
and let the Lord by His Spirit remain
among you...”**

-Message 42:2

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

VOLUME 23 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER, 2025 NUM. 9/10

Articles of Faith and Practice

1. We believe in God the Eternal Father, who only is Supreme; Creator of the universe; Ruler and Judge of all; unchangeable and without respect of persons.
2. We believe in Jesus Christ the manifestation of God in flesh, who lived, suffered, and died for all mankind; whom we own as our only Leader, Witness, and Commander.
3. We believe in the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth, the Comforter, which searcheth the deep things of God, brings to our minds things which are past, reveals this to come, and is the medium by which we receive the revelation of Jesus Christ.
4. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins and not for Adam's transgression, and that as a consequence of the atonement of Christ "all little children are alive in Christ, and also all they that are without the Law. For the power of redemption cometh on all they that have no law; wherefore, he that is not condemned, or he that is under no condemnation, cannot repent, and unto such, baptism availeth nothing." (Moroni 8:22)
5. We believe that through the atonement of Christ all men may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel; viz.: Faith in God and in the Lord Jesus Christ; Repentance and Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; Laying on of Hands for: (a) Ordination; (b) Blessing of Children: (c) Confirmation and the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 8:17); (d) Healing of the sick.
6. We believe in the literal second coming and millennial reign of Jesus Christ; in the resurrection of the Dead, and in Eternal Judgment; that men will be rewarded or punished according to the good or evil they may have done.
7. We believe in the powers and gifts of the everlasting Gospel; viz.: The word of wisdom; the word of knowledge; the gift of faith; the gift of healing; working of miracles; prophecy; discerning of spirits; divers kinds of tongues; interpretation of tongues.
8. We believe the fruits of the Spirit to be love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.
9. We believe that in the Bible is contained the Word of God; that The Record of the Nephites is the added witness for Christ; and these contain the "fullness of the gospel."
10. We believe in the principle of continuous revelation; that the canon of scripture is not full, that God inspires men in every age and among all people, and that He speaks when, where, and through whom He may choose.
11. We believe that where there are six or more regularly baptized members, one of whom is an elder, there the Church exists with full power of Church extension when acting in harmony with the Law of God.
12. We believe that man must be called of God by revelation and ordained by those having authority, to enable him to preach the Gospel and administer the Ordinances thereof.
13. We believe in the same Church organization as existed in the time of Christ and His apostles. The highest office in the Church is that of an apostle, of whom there are twelve, who constitute special witnesses for Jesus Christ. They have the Missionary Supervision and the General Watchcare of all the Churches.
14. The primary function of the General Church, of which each Local Church is a component part, is missionary and the building up and extension of the Kingdom of God in all

the world.

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

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

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

18. We believe that men should labor for their own support and that of their dependents. Ministers of the Gospel are not absolved from this responsibility, but when chosen or appointed by the Church to devote their entire time to missionary work, their families are to be provided for out of the General Church fund. The admonition of Christ that ministry should not provide purse or scrip for their journey, but go trusting in God and the people, is applicable.

19. We believe that the temporal affairs of the General Church are to be administered by the general bishopric under the supervision and direction of general conferences of the Church. The temporal 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 13:4-8; III Nephi 10:17), which city shall be built, beginning at the Temple Lot."

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

THE GREATER LIGHT

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GENERAL MAIL BOX: P.O. Box 199, Independence, MO 64050
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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 the
 website bimonthly by *The Church of Christ
 With The Elijah Message, The Assured Way
 of The Lord, INC.* 14500 East 42nd Street
 South, Suite 240, Independence, MO. 64055.

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Greater Light from a computer or make a hard
 copy to read, then let The Headquarters Office
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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 worthy of *Eternal Life*.

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

The Messages so often mentioned in this publication are Messages from The Lord, brought to earth by His Chosen Servant, John The Baptist, who comes to earth in a Glorified Body to finish The Work given to him of God; that of Restoring all things (Matthew 17: 11-13). The Angel first came in 1829, and Restored *The Authority of the Son of*

God, that *The Church of Christ* might be Established as in The Days of The Apostles.

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

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

THE BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS THE QUORUM OF TWELVE

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Thank you.



THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY

To All People

Eighty-Sixth Message

The angel, the Messenger of the Lord, appeared to me and gave the following Message. He instructed me to arise and write the Message. He spoke distinctly and slowly as I wrote: he repeated when necessary to wait upon my correctness of writing.

He had on a white robe, with a purple cord, with gold tassels, around his waist. He brought the light of the resurrected with him. The light filled the room.

The Spirit of God was mellowing and powerful that was upon him. I felt it very much. He is a resurrected person, John the Baptist, the Elias, the forerunner of the Christ soon to come. He spoke of dates and assuredness, his words are forceful with the peace and power of God. He appeared July 31, 1968 at 1:15 a.m. and was with me more than 3 hours.

-W.A Draves

1. "Behold! Arise and write a Message I will give you. I come from the Lord's presence. I speak His will. His words shall judge all men, color and kind.

2. Make haste. Are you ready? Will the people hear that they might live and have life in the hereafter?

3. This is the closing time, to open to the millennium reign of peace, with Christ on earth ere there cometh a new heaven and a new earth.

4. There have been losses, loved ones have been taken from you. This is the Lord's planning. Your companion also has been taken. Changes come, yet greater service and greater things will come to pass. The Lord has and will give you comfort.

5. I bring a warning and a deliverance. All they that believe and obey the gospel shall find it.

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.

7. If they speak against this work believing not that I come, they have not God-and will not be of the Bride, the Lamb's Church in the end.

8. He that believeth not these words nor cometh not to obedience, hath not God.

9. God's plan will not change to suit them that believe not, they must conform to His will.

10. Some are almost persuaded to believe, but they will not follow because of their personal dislike of you, my fellow servant. For this, they lose and their end will be sad.

11. Be ye repentant and humble and your work will be accepted of man and God. As I speak this to you, I speak it to all.

12. Let come what may, and let go what will. You will see them fall on your right hand and on your left, for all that will not hear me-"that prophet" shall be cut off from among the people. I speak the assured way.

13 Every tree the Lord has not planted shall be rooted up. If they hear not this Message, the light they claim to have will fade away. This is the midnight cry the scriptures speak of- are you ready?

14. A peaceful solution and condition for the colored people will be underway by 1980.

15. The great powers, not of God's will, will find their failing and end. This will consummate in 1989.

16. Merchants will weep and howl because their future of craft making and merchandising to get gain will be wounded and broken.

17. There will be a better way and some will join in the pace for peace to be set up.

18. 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 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.

19. The binding of satan will be and a reign of peace shape into place.

20. Unless the servants of the Lord arise and be no more oppressed- arise to their place and calling; cease their error of negligence and hindrances turn away from, their choice and work will come to nothingness. The Lord will call others to work and carry this work onward.

21. Let come what may, let go what will-weary not in well doing.

22. Some are born to be with you in this cause- lest they stay with you defending the words I bring, they destroy their gift. Some are true and will yet be true to their righteous calling- not thinking themselves to be great.

23. 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.

24. 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.

25. A prophet represents, and Christ is God Himself. I represent Him.

26. The carnal mind will not see this, the selfish will not see this, nor they that set themselves up. But they that God has set up will see, will come to understanding, obey and follow through in this work.

27. Worry not, the command has long been to see that the work be more firmly established. This, you, my fellow-servant have done in the incorporation you have established, that according to the laws of the land the Church does rightly, and legally exist.

28. God has set in pace and given the authority and trust; but man through weakness and seeking prominence has hindered the work. Yet they say they love the Lord.

29. Fret not, in time The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message will move forward. Already the Lord has prepared multitudes and those to be with you in greater love, respect to God and my words and support it. It shall bring forth fruit meat for the Father’s kingdom. That eternity with God may have place for the

faithful- all those that obey my words shaping their lives by the instructions I bring from the Lord.

30. Let the apostles lead the Church and carry the work on: preaching and teaching the same things, in the way of peace, in Christ Jesus- the Gospel of life and salvation.

31. The day comes when all Christianity will flow together, a mighty people in righteousness.

32. By the year 1989 many great powers will unite, will change. The righteous planting will bear much fruit but that which is not in God’s will, will fold up and be no more.

33. The sun in her place shall become seven times hot. The water of the oceans will much of it pass to the firmament. Then suddenly, as though at once, the sun in her heat will be hid, to burn no more the face of mankind, beyond the waters. And the earth shall bring forth as it was in the beginning.

34. In the late nineties (90’s) contentions shall again grow worse. The great wars will be so bitter- the 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.

35. There will be those that cannot endure sound doctrine- they lift their hands against this work. They set their face as steel to not let the words I bring to have their way with the people. But keep ye this way sacred and the Lord will give you faithful ones to help in this work.

36. Some you have trusted will walk no more with you, but many more will come.

37. Some will return to this work and faithful ones will awaken to this call and bring forth much fruit.

38. There will be great changes in the unsafeness of peoples, homes and travel- dangers will arise. This will tie things up here and navigation will be at a low ebb.

39. Many will seek to run to and fro, still conditions will be hard at times. However, again a change will come and all men will

begin to respect one another and work together, bearing one another's burdens and comfort will come to the humble.

40. Distress of nations and perplexity will be felt everywhere. However, none can save but themselves and that through the Lord.

41. Man will say, "Oh that these things were hid from me and I knew them not." Have you not been warned of the things to come?

42. There will be riots, strikes, outbursts against the government, picketing and much destruction of property and people, confusion and dismay, emptiness and untrust toward many people. Labor shall rise up against the hand that feeds them: unrest everywhere.

43. For a time these conditions will be terrible, then suddenly a change will come, and peace will take hold of all that look to the Lord and a better way.

44. Deliverance will come as the people seek to work together and love one another: even all, lifting the fallen, the down trodden, the outcast and preserving hope in mankind.

45. Salvation is free to all that will hear and take hold and work this way.

46. There are many the Lord has called that represent His word and are doing a mighty work. But when they hear this Message, the words I bring from the Lord, and the Spirit reveals to them it is true, they shall accept it and their calling to higher work. They will be filled to overflowing with power to represent Christ and His Church, the Lamb's Bride: overwhelming with the power and the Spirit and the working of miracles on many of the gifts of the gospel. Hear, oh hear! Ye ministers of peace and God will give you the soul winning power. Come all the way.

47. Fellowship not with those that twist the word to thwart the plan of God to justify their own evil means.

48. God's plan is plain and simple converting the soul and a deliverance to those that truly obey.

49. Worry not about those that will not hear my Message now, they will know of it if they are to be found in fellowship with the Lord.

50. I come that the restoring of all things shall take place. I am the forerunner of the

Christ. I am the Elias. I bring a Message of life and hope."

At this juncture he arose and lifted both his hands and said:

51. "Blessed be the people of the Lord. I bring peace for all."

He then lowered his hands.

52. "There are some that once walked this way are almost persuaded to return. The Lord will bless them when they do.

53. 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.

54. I laid my hands upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery and ordained them to the holy priesthood after the order of God, after the order of His son. This has been preserved and reserved to this day and time.

55. Again I laid my hands upon Otto Fetting and gave him special help to do the work in his day. That Holy Unction is upon the servants today."

He arose again from the chair near me, while I sat on the foot of my bed writing the Message on the table, then he said:

56. "Now again, I lay my hands on you to bless you in your work that you are to do- that lies before you. That you may have the gift enlarged and power to accomplish the work and to bless others with this Holy Unction renewed, and help in completing the great plan in your day and time. I bless you that you may bless others. Amen."

He sat down and repeated what he said as I wrote it down. My soul was filled and indeed I felt the gift surge over me and more love and the Spirit mellowed my whole being. He said:

57. "Let those that the Spirit calls be set apart in this work. Send them forth to do the Lord's will- with all proclaiming the Message I bring.

58. Hearken! Hasten! Obey! Be about the Father's business.

59. There are those that place themselves upon the altar of service for the Lord's work: teach the decrees and help in this way of life.

60. In *The Bible* and *Record of the Nephites* contains the teachings and pattern of the fullness of the gospel in its plain and precious parts. But my words and authority gives the right to set the Church in order- The Church of Christ with the holy priesthood authority and power to act in the establishing the kingdom of God on earth and bringing in the Zion of the Lord. The kingdom and the dominion shall be for the saints of the most high.

61. The honest in heart that hear, that have heard the Spirit in the past, will hear this Message now and in obedience receive of this authority and add my words to their teaching and training to become joint heirs in the body of Christ and members of the Bride, the Lamb's Church, for when He comes to claim His jewels. Let them come in by the door, the hands laid on them and take the name: The Church of Christ with the Elijah Message.

62. Take the Message to the pastors, the leaders, if they believe the scriptures, they will believe my coming and follow through.

63. That which will bring about a quick relief, help and deliverance to the situation of the colored people will be by their acceptance, belief and obedience to this Gospel Message. Let them come in by the door- all the way and the Lord will be their deliverer. They shall be a mighty people, delightful in His sight. As the Spirit calls, let them come and move onward, Godward.

64. The isles of the sea will wait for this Message. Take to them the Gospel of salvation, this way of life. The Message I bring is the call from God to service and deliverance in His Church. Canada will work hand to hand with the United States and many of the isles will become states to this union, a great nation.

65. Kings shall shut their mouths at the words I have to say.

66. Let the article in *The Articles of Faith and Practice* read "conferences," the several yearly meetings of the quorum of twelve in

their planning and programming this work and it will be greater in the future even with proper representation.

67. Let not the work be frustrated by the way of man.

68. The book shall be called, *The Record of the Nephites*.

69. The assembly is for the people to learn this great work and follow through. The work of the ministry is in the hands of the apostles- lead them aright.

70. Much of the leadership rests with you in defending my words. Keep the holy order holy and right. Let this be done in the way of the Lord.

71. Take this Message, send it forth to the world, that all may hear and read and know the Lord has sent me. He has spoken, let it be so.

72. The Church will obey and put on her brighter garments of righteousness.

73. Praise ye the Lord. Let the hands of faith carry on. Zion must come forth.

74. Let the quorum of apostles be filled. Let R. David Temple be set apart as soon as it can be arranged.

75. Let these be added to the apostles: Tommy Gargus, Herman Hylander and Chuck Hubbell. The Lord will bless their efforts and water the seed they sow, and it shall bring forth. Let these prepare as the vacancies occur.

76. Let Conerd E. Crownover take his place among the twelve, the Lord will continue to bless him in his faith and good works. The translations thus has been accepted, let it continue.

77. The translations of the Message in German are pleasing to the Lord in this work: let it continue.

78. Let these prepare: Charles Isaac Resler, Tracy Jacques Pittman and Larry E. De Cocq for the apostleship when vacancies occur.

79. Let these come into this work as elders, moreover, evangelists: R. R. Rich and A.W. Bryant. The Lord will bless their work.

80. Let Richard F. Ream and Leo LeVerne Ream as evangelists, labor in California as much as they can. Establish the work there.

81. Let these be set apart as elders: Gerald Lee Savage, James Clinton Savage and John

Eldon Savage.

82. Let these in Germany be set apart as elders, moreover evangelists: Emil Burk and Friz Single.

83. Let Martin Huonker be set apart as evangelist. The Lord will bless this mission. Let Bruno Kobs care for the finance in his parts and help will come when the work moves onward.

84. I will come again. Be not worried or dismayed. The Message I bring will bring joy to the honest of heart. Many look for my coming and the Message I bring. It will mean life and fullness of joy when they obey.

85. I leave peace with you and to all. Amen."

2025 General Assembly

Monday, June 23, 2025

1:00 p.m. Preaching Service

Richard Johnson

Greater Light

Revelation 22:16. "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star."

Message 47:1 "...This is a day wherein a light shineth even in power from the Lord God..."

8. ...This is the way whereby mankind can be brought to the presence of God. All that come must be baptized and the hands laid on them that the greater promise of light might be given.

9. There shall be wars, pestilence, and plagues sweep the land; suffering among the people, for the people must learn that God has spoken."

In 2 Peter 1:19, he said: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts." 2 Peter 3:7 states that the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, waiting for the day of judgment con-

trasting the destruction of the world by water, as in Noah's day.

Joel 2:32, "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the Remnant whom the Lord shall call." See Messages 52:7, 81:6, 82:4, & 106:26.

See and hear the light and life of Christ's Words that he has put in the mouth of His Messenger to testify of the dawning of the new day with the greater light and power of the Day Star's sunlight of righteousness for a thousand years where there cometh a new heaven and earth. The imagery of the light of moon being as the light of the sun with the transformation found in the spiritual light in the new Jerusalem of a new heaven and earth.

1 Corinthians 15:43-47 indicates that physical things precede spiritual things. 46. "Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual."

Message 86:33, "The sun in her place shall become seven times hot. The water of the oceans will much of it pass to the firmament. Then suddenly, as though at once, the sun in her heat will be hid, to burn no more the face of mankind, beyond the waters. And the earth shall bring forth as it was in the beginning."

Isaiah 30:25-27. "And there shall be upon every high mountain, and upon every high hill, rivers and streams of waters (cleansing and restoration) in the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall.

26. Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound.

27. Behold, the name of the LORD cometh from far, burning with his anger, and the burden thereof is heavy: his lips are full of indignation, and his tongue as a devouring fire:"

Isaiah 64:2, "As when the melting fire burneth, the fire causeth the waters to boil, to make thy name known to thine adversaries, that the nations may tremble at thy presence!"

The people of Israel are pleading for God to intervene and restore them. The metaphor of the melting fire and boiling waters emphasizes the fervent desire for God to make his name known and his presence felt by their adversaries, causing them to tremble in fear. The imagery of fire and boiling waters conveys the effects of God's presence bringing purification, judgment and transformation.

Isn't the physical sun a symbol of God's great glory and light of the son when Christ returns. I noticed that the messenger refers to the heat of the sun shall be seven times hot and Isaiah points out the light of the sun shall be seven times as much light as the light of seven days and voice of the Lord is full of his indignation and the words of His tongue as a devouring fire. There will be rivers and streams of waters (again cleansing and restoration) in the time he will bind up the wounds of his people when the earth is returned to her former beauty as in Eden

Example: What the Messenger said in the twelfth message how to be able to stand in the presence of God and I remembered Mt. Horeb and how Moses stood his presence and Israel had not prepared (sanctified) themselves and would have perished.

In Revelation 21:23, the New Jerusalem is seen as having no need for the sun or moon because God's presence and glory illuminates it. This light is emphasized by the perfect number of seven days of creation that can be associated with the completion of a cycle of events with the light of the resurrection and judgment of the wicked with the greater power and light of the day of the Lord.

Message 84:6 & 31, "Keep the faith and endure and the sunlight of righteousness shall arise over you, with healing in His wings and ye shall be preserved in the hour when trials are upon you. Deliverance will come. Command peace and it will bring you through...

31. The heat of the sun (judgment of the son) shall no more burn upon their faces for the Lord shall be the light (of God's grace, glory and truth) upon them."

Message 86:34, "In the late nineties (90's) contentions shall again grow worse. The great wars will be so bitter- the great worldly confu-

sion- 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."

Message 90:17, "When the rivers of the seas flow towards the heavens, then many that believe not, shall say, 'The Lord He is great, He doeth all things well. Surely, these things are true and He has spoken.' Some will believe, but woe to the slow to hear."

The Messenger told John in the vision that the sea is a symbol, representing the masses of people, nations, and languages. The restless and turbulent nature of human society, and even chaos (caused by false doctrines and rule of the forces of evil) in Revelation 13:1 and 17:15 or even death in Revelation 20:13.

Rivers can symbolize refreshing and restoration of life, abundance, spiritual renewal and cleansing. The return of our love and prayers to God. Our acceptable offerings that make glad the City of God.

Psalms 46:4-6, "There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High.

5. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

6. The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted."

Ecclesiastes 1:7, "All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again."

Those that will drink of the waters of life having their lives refreshed and cleansed of all impurities of the sea having returned their lives to God the sea will become like glass until there is no more sea in the New Heaven and earth- Revelation 21:1. The old world replaced with peace and unity following the destruction of Babylon in Revelation 18:6.

The historic fall of Babylon happened in 539 BC when Cyrus the Great conquered the empire of Nebuchadnezzar. It marked the end of the Babylonian Captivity for the Israelites

allowing them to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple.

The fall of spiritual Babylon is happening now and is called Armageddon. She is a symbol for the world as ruled by the devil that opposes God's will. Her fall marks the end of false religious, economic and governing systems that includes earthly kingdoms that reject God's authority in heaven and on earth for their human traditions and power replaced by the better way of the Kingdom of God made without hands. See Daniel 2.

Revelation 18:1-3 & 6, "...I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

2. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

3. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

6. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double."

Revelations 16:8, "And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire."

The imagery represents a complete and irreversible destruction, both physical and spiritual of evil. Babylon has fallen, fallen twice and rewarded double.

Message 113:11, "Keep the faith, be diligent, hold to vigilance and the sunlight of righteousness shall over shadow 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 the prophets, and obey, satan has no power on you."

Isaiah 66:16, "For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many."

Hebrews 4:12, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing

asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Jeremiah 5:14, "Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, Because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them."

Jeremiah 23:29, "Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?"

Message 63:6, "Yea, the day comes when all men will come to worship the Lord, lest His arm will shorten and they perish in their sin. He who is master of men will extend peace like a river and the glory of the faithful like a flowing stream; so will the Lord comfort. The Lord's hand is known toward His own and His indignation towards the enemies. He shall appear to your joy and the nations shall come together to work peace among them for the Lord shall roar from Zion and the standard shall be established in peace for all shall learn- and speak that language, loving all men. Moreover, in a day and at once- for Zion travaileth and shall bring forth her children."

Message 120:6, "The Lord Jesus is the Christ and He changes not. He is the light of salvation to all that hear His voice."

Amen.

2:00 Membership Meeting:

Brother Reece Johnson gave an update concerning the state of the Church. Financials are doing well. Tithing is coming in regularly allowing the Church to print and stock up on books- *The Word of the Lord* and *The Record of The Nephites*. As such, we have been able to acquire ISBN numbers for both books allowing for online sales of both through outlets like Amazon. This also aided in placing the books in area library catalogs.

The Church website is seeing regular traction and has been instrumental in connecting the ministry to interested individuals throughout the world. The ministry is currently in contact with individuals from England, Brazil & Vietnam. The gentleman from England has

family in Portugal and Namibia whom he has also been talking to. The gentleman from Brazil is reviewing *The Word of the Lord* and translating it into Portuguese, updating previous translations. And the gentleman from Vietnam has expressed interest in coming to the States for baptism.

3:00 Prayer & Testimony:

Brenda Humpert and her husband, Ken, recently took a trip to Colorado. She did not want to go at first because they had returned from visiting family in Kentucky. However the trip turned out to be wonderful. Their 2nd day at the resort, their microwave and ice maker stopped working and called to have it serviced. While the maintenance man was working on the appliance, Brenda and Ken was studying the Word and the Lord put it on Brenda's heart to ask the man to pray with them. However, before she could ask, the man had completed his work and was heading for the door. As he approached, the door, that had been propped open all morning, suddenly slammed in his face startling all in the room. Brenda asked the man, if he would like to stay and pray with them; he agreed. By the time they were finished, the Spirit was strong amongst them and the man was in tears. Brenda and Ken gave the man their contact information telling him that he was welcomed to call them for anything. They now study together over Facetime every Saturday. Brenda is thankful for the doors the Lord opens (or shuts, as it would be).

Ola Thompson thanks the Lord for all the blessings in her life. After her husband passed, she often wondered if the Lord would take her home as well. She supposes she not "seasoned enough" yet. She thanks Him for her health and noted that during a recent appointment, the doctor told her that her memory is 99% in tact and her body is that of a 58 yr old. She and her family lovingly jokes that she will make 105 years of age.

Brenda Humpert testified again, thanking the Lord for the Church and all the blessings He has given her. In a recent trip to visit fami-

ly, she witnessed the Lord working in all of their lives. Her son was able to visit his grandparents and had the opportunity to serve them Sacrament. He also administered to his uncle. One of her cousins received news that she had a tumor which was later found to be benign. Another cousin was hospitalized with a difficult pregnancy. Despite an early delivery, the twins and mother are healthy and doing well. Brenda is so thankful that we can call upon the Lord and that He listens. She sees Him working and moving in each of their lives. He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.

7:00 p.m. Preaching Service

Adam Stokes

Steadfastness

(written from notes taken during service)

Welcome everyone. I have a bit of a double feature for all of you tonight. I will be pulling from *The Word of The Lord* and *The Record of The Nephites*. But before I do so, I want to tell you a little bit about myself and how I got here.

In 2013, I was celebrating my 1 year anniversary with my wife. As she was out getting dinner for us, I began rummaging through the drawers of the hotel and ran across the *Book of Mormon (The Record of the Nephites)*. I started reading it and had a mystical experience. I felt as if I was transported to the Nephite world and instantly understood the truth of the book.

Years later, I connected with our late brother, Mike Greenwell, who gave me *The Word of The Lord*. I instantly knew the truthfulness of the book and its relation to *The Record of The Nephites*.

The last 21 messages were given to W.A. Draves during my lifetime. My childhood was rough and as I read the last messages, I find encouragement. My all time favorite is the 120th Message. This message is special to me. It was given April 22, 1994, six months from my acceptance to seminary. So I see this message as the beginning of my Spiritual journey.

Message 120:1-8:

1. "I will give you a Message that all may know the Lord has sent me to speak His will. I

come from His presence to give instructions so this work may progress.

2. Keep the standard and the work will not suffer. It has been established to move to every nation and the people of this world.”

Here is the first commandment of this message. “Keep the standard...” We are to remain obedient. If we do “the work will not suffer.”

3. “Let Anthony Wangai be set apart as a disciple to work among his people.

4. When there cometh vacancies in the bishop quorum, let these prepare to fill vacancies: Richard Massman and Marvin Zink.

5. Likewise of the apostles; Alan Crownover, Jim Rolfe, Darrell Bellamy and Mike Greenwell. The Lord will bless by His Spirit as they take up their calling.”

Mike Greenwell, in particular, was very important to me. He is one of the reasons why I am here today. The Lord says here, that He “will bless by His Spirit as they take up their calling.” Note that He doesn't say when He will bless, just that He will. Mike was called in 1994; I did not meet him until 2016-2017. He certainly blessed me by taking up his calling years before.

6. “The Lord Jesus is the Christ and He changes not. He is the light of salvation to all that hear His voice.”

This is perhaps my favorite verse. It seems to be the standard- “The Lord Jesus is the Christ...” How simple and straight forward, but I think we need reminding of this. There are so many false gods in the world that we can fall into. Jesus is THE ONE. He is our anchor and will always be there for us. “The Lord Jesus is the Christ...”

7. “Let the work continue in the foreign fields. Let it be established everywhere. The Lord will bless and bring success by His Spirit.”

When I have read this verse in the past, I always took “the foreign fields” as meaning a far off place— somewhere in Africa or Asia. But I have come to realize that any place that is strange to us or that you are a stranger in is ‘foreign’ to us. So no matter where we go, if it's new it is a perfect chance to preach God's Word.

8. “Give this Message to the brethren. I

leave peace with you. Amen.”

This is an interesting closing verse. Notice that John did not promise to return like he has in so many others. But he does leave his peace with us and that is so special.

Ok now let's switch gears and turn to the 7th chapter of Jacob in *The Record of The Nephties*. This is my favorite story in the book. It is about Sherem who wanted to overthrow the doctrine of Christ and Jacob who did not waiver.

Jacob 7:1-12, “And now it came to pass after some years had passed away, there came a man among the people of Nephi, whose name was Sherem.

2. And it came to pass that he began to preach among the people, and to declare unto them that there should be no Christ. And he preached many things which were flattering unto the people; and this he done that he might overthrow the doctrine of Christ.

3. And he labored diligently that he might lead away the hearts of the people, insomuch that he did lead away many hearts; and he knowing that I, Jacob, had faith in Christ, which should come, wherefore, he sought much opportunity that he might come unto me.

4. And he was learned, that he had a perfect knowledge of the language of the people; wherefore, he could use much flattery, and much power of speech, according to the power of the devil.

5. And he had hope to shake me from the faith, notwithstanding the many revelations, and the many things which I had seen concerning these things: for I truly had seen angels, and they had ministered unto me. And also, I had heard the voice of the Lord speaking unto me in very word, from time to time; wherefore, I could not be shaken.

6. And it came to pass that he came unto me; and on this wise did he speak unto me, saying: Brother Jacob, I have sought much opportunity that I might speak unto you: for I have heard and also know, that thou goest about much, preaching that which ye call the gospel, or the doctrine of Christ;

7. And ye have led away much of this people, that they pervert the right way of God, and

keep not the law of Moses, which is the right way: and convert the law of Moses into the worship of a being, which ye say shall come many hundred years hence. And now behold, I Sherem, declare unto you, that this is blasphemy; for no man knoweth of such things; for he cannot tell of things to come. And after this manner did Sherem contend against me.

8. But behold, the Lord God poured in his Spirit into my soul, insomuch that I did confound him in all his words.

9. And I sayeth unto him, Deniest thou the Christ which should come? And he sayeth, If there should be a Christ, I could not deny him; but I know that there is no Christ, neither has been, nor never will be.

10. And I sayeth unto him, Believest thou the scriptures? and he sayeth, Yea.

11. And I sayeth unto him, Then ye do not understand them; for they truly testify of Christ. Behold, I say unto you, that none of the prophets have written, nor prophesied, save they have spoken concerning this Christ.

12. And this is not all: it hath been made manifest unto me, for I have heard and seen; and it also has been made manifest unto me by the power of the Holy Ghost; wherefore, I know if there should be no atonement made, all mankind must be lost.”

When I was in seminary, we studied many of the early theologians. There was on that I had a love-hate relationship with: St. Augustine. He believed in an allegorical reading of the Bible, meaning that there is a spiritual story that exists along side the literal interpretation. In the story of Sherem and Jacob there are two types of people: 1. the steadfast obedient believer and 2. the wavering, uncertain unbeliever. In this allegory, Sherem is the latter and Jacob being the former.

Sherem goes wherever is pleasing to the people not where God goes. He does not see the steadfastness of the scriptures. In contrast, Jacob in verse 5 “could not be shaken.” He remained steadfast knowing God and His Word.

Jacob 7:13-15, “And it came to pass that he sayeth unto me, Shew me a sign by this power of the Holy Ghost, in the which ye know so much.

14. And I said unto him, What am I that I should tempt God to shew unto thee a sign in the thing which thou knowest to be true? Yet thou wilt deny it, because thou art of the devil. Nevertheless, not my will be done; but if God shall smite thee, let that be a sign unto thee that he hath power, both in heaven and in earth; and also, that Christ shall come. And thy will, O Lord, be done, and not mine.

15. And it came to pass that when I, Jacob, had spoken these words, the power of the Lord came upon him, insomuch that he fell to the earth. And it came to pass that he was nourished for the space of many days.”

Because of Jacob’s obedience, he was endowed with “the power of the Lord” to overcome the adversary. We can have that same power through our own obedience. Stay steadfast like Jacob.

I hope you found this encouraging. Thank you for being here tonight. God Bless.

Before closing the service, Brother Jairus Yates gave some closing remarks. The Spirit carried into a discussion with several verse readings, testimonies and the administration of 14 people:

Jairus Yates: When we come to the Assembly we are looking for a fire to burn within us. This fire cannot burn without logs; each and every one of you have brought the logs to fuel the fire. The thing is to keep those logs going when we leave. We want to be like Jacob, whom Brother Adam spoke of. We need to be steadfast, fueling the fire by studying the Word and be up and doing.

Message 9.1 says, “...There are those who read the words of the Lord and the prophets and have faith therein. Upon those satan has no power...”

Thresa Ray read Revelations 2:10, “Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: **be thou faithful unto death**, and I will give thee a crown of life.”

Lane McGinley read 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.”

Brenda Humpert: I have always heard Isaiah 59:19 and wondered what it meant by "...the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him." The Lord helped me understand that the adversary will attack your health, your family, incite your family to attack you, etc. He attacks you from all fronts. The Lord gives us the Standard so that we can fight back and fend off the efforts of the adversary. We need to hold steadfast to the Word and the Standard of the Lord.

Lane McGinley read John 8:12, "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

1:00 p.m. Study

Message 86

3:00 p.m. Sacrament, & Closing Services

Sacrament service was held by Reece Johnson and Adam Stokes. Prayers were offered by Reece Johnson, Thresa Ray, Ola Thompson, Brenda Humpert and Adam Stokes.

Handmaiden's Study

Sanctification

Ola Thompson

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I have been pondering the things that have taken place in the past year and realizing that the difference is because of the lack of Sanctification in The Lord. Lack of The Fruits developed within us to where The Gifts can manifest itself. First of all, we must have God's Fruits within us before we can receive The Gifts of The Spirit given to us from God as we prepare to become the men and women God would have us to be in Service to Him.

This brings to my mind, 'Sanctification.' We must 'sanctify' self to be Holy. To do this is to ALLOW God to work a Work within us by coming to OBEDIENCE to HIS WILL in The Written Words as well as in The Spirit, take upon us The Likeness of our Father, and become Holy as He is HOLY!

Leviticus 11:44. **"For I am The Lord our God, Ye shall therefore Sanctify yourself and ye shall be Holy for I am Holy."**

Leviticus 20:7-8, **"Sanctify yourself therefore and be ye Holy for I am The Lord your God."**

8. And ye shall keep My STATUTES and do them. I am The Lord which Sanctify you."

Through True Repentance with REAL Intent, we can begin our journey into Sanctification. We can cleanse our inner vessels, become Pure in Heart and have Clean Hands- free from sinful thoughts, ways, and actions.

Message 116:7, **"Be discreet, be humble, lift your life style to be tidy, neat, patient and full of Grace. Think again, you represent The Lord's Body and Members in Particular, that your humility will be accepted of God and man. God is Just, He will open The Door before you. My Message is to all that will hear, listen, open and obey. Deliverance will come."**

We have made a commitment to Christ to live upright and Holy. To become Holy we must obey God and get to know Him through The Gospel, Prayer, Meditation, Studying and even Fasting. We need to know Christ's nature, to become like Christ. We need to cultivate within our hearts His Fruits, which are **Love, Joy, Peace, Long-suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance-** Galatians 5:22-23, Articles of Faith and Practice #8, Ephesians 5:8-10, Message 34:6, Moroni 7:1-47, Ether 12:28, and 1 Corinthians 13-14. Take time to read these scriptures.

Our hearts are Purified by Faith in The Scriptures and in our Lord. Acts 15:8-9, **"and God which knoweth the hearts bear them witness giving them The Holy Ghost, even as He did unto us, And put no difference between as and them, purifying their hearts**

by Faith.”

Message 51:4, “**Therefore the new Light is promised continue to prepare for it, the Greater your understanding, the Greater your work shall be, All must Sanctify (become Holy) their lives unto The Lord, for sin cannot receive The Glory of The Lord nor The Power of The Lamb Slain.**”

Be rid of our besieging sins, Rise to a higher ground and be Holy in our every day life. Develop The Fruits of our Lord in our lives. Take upon us the fasting way of life, one where we give up our will and live in God’s Will in all things. Fast from your own desires and will and live in The Fruits of our Lord.

Message 95:14, “**Be ye humble, be fruitful unto The Spirit, even ALL, this is The Assured Way.**”

Sanctification comes by yielding our hearts to God’s Will. The Record of The Nephites, Ether 4:6-8, “**For The Lord saith unto me, they shall not go forth unto the Gentiles until the day they shall repent of their iniquity (sins) become clean (pure) before The Lord.**

7. And in that day exercise Faith in Me saith The Lord, even as the Brother of Jared did, that they may become Sanctified in Me. Then will I manifest unto them the things which the brother of Jared saw, even to the unfolding unto them ALL My Revelations, saith Jesus Christ, The Son of God, The Father of the Heavens and of the earth, and all things that in them is.

8. And he that will contend against The Word of The Lord, let him be accursed, and he that shall deny these things let him be accursed, for unto them will I show no Greater things saith Jesus Christ, for I am He which speaketh.” (read the whole chapter of Ether).

God wants us to be strong in His Power, and His Will, to know His Voice in all things and be filled with His Holy Spirit, to take upon yourself The Fruits of His Spirit and to Walk as Children of Light.

We must take upon us God’s Nature to become Holy through The Word and be OBEDIENT.

We need to apply these things to our every day life, be Sanctified in The Word, cleansed

from our besieging sins, be strong in Christ’s Love to overcome our weakness, ‘**MAGNIFY**’ the Lord. (Psalm 34:4).

James 4:7-8, “**Submit yourself therefore to God, Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

8. Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands ye sinners and purify your hearts, ye double minded.”

So, let us be single minded unto The Lord. Strong belief and directed by His Spirit. Know your God in Word and in Spirit.

Remember, The Lord will bless and bring success by HIS Spirit. Message 120:7.

Let us tidy our lives by being True to The Gospel of Christ, ridding ourselves of sin and applying The Word to our everyday living.

Take time to Be Holy. If you are to busy to spend time with the Lord, then you are just too busy, and you are heading for disaster in our life.

Ask God to Show you things in your life that are not bearing Fruit and change that part of your life. Look at yourself in the mirror and ask, “*What image do I bear?*” Are you carrying The Fruits of The Lord in your life? Be honest and True and know where you are in your Relationship with Christ!

God says, “*Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.*”- Ephesians 5:14.

Make the most of your time because the days are evil (Ephesians 5:14-16), be Sanctified with the Washing of The Water by The Word (Read Ephesian 5), and learn the Will of The Lord.

Ephesians 6:10-11. “**Put on the Whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

11. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but... against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

Take time to be Holy, grow into the person God can use to bring about His Design and His Kingdom here on earth.

When we are Truly Satisfied, we are Pure and will do a Pure and Holy Work in Honor of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Message 52:13, “**Unto the Servants of The Lord: except you make ready and**

quickly prepare your hearts before The Lord, The Greater Light will not come to you. But you that overcome, bearing The Fruits of His Spirit, do and shall understand Great Things of The Plan and Design of God. Much will yet be revealed- even The Records that shall prove and reprove all men, berating them before God and their fellowmen that a NEW DAY may come forth."

May we all be found with God's Fruits in our lives, a Living Testimony to our Lord and His Gospel. May our Fellow Servant John The Baptist come again SOON!

Youth Classes Junior

Faith

Thresa Ray

What is faith? Hebrews 11:1-3 tells us: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2. For by it the elders obtained a good report.

3. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."

So faith is believing without seeing. We have faith in God but we do not see him.

Message 1:1 tells us: "Don't change The Articles of Faith and Practice, because the Lord inspired the men that wrote them. See to it that they are not changed.

The Articles of Faith and Practice are the guidelines for our Church. They contain two verses that talk about faith.

AFP v. 7 &8, "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."

When Jesus was talking to Thomas, His disciple, He said: "because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."- John 20:29.

The ones that believed that Jesus had risen from the tomb, but had not seen Him, believed by having faith that it was true. We believe things about Jesus because the Holy Spirit reveals the truth to us- even though we have not seen Jesus. That is faith.

Romans 8:24-25, "For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

25. But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it."

The Record of the Nephites also speaks about faith. Ether 12:6, "And now, I Moroni, would speak somewhat concerning these things; I would shew unto the world that faith is things which are hoped for and not seen; wherefore, dispute not because ye see not, for ye receive no witness until after the trial of your faith;"

Alma 32:21, "And now as I said concerning faith: Faith is not to have a perfect knowledge of things; therefore if ye have faith, ye hope for things which is not seen, which are true."

One day when Jesus was walking to see a man's daughter, a woman from the crowd, who had a blood disease for 12 years came behind Jesus and touched the hem of His robe. This woman knew inside herself if she could just touch the hem of Jesus' garment that she would be healed!

When she did this, Jesus felt her touch. He turned and looked at the woman and said, "Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. (Matthew 9:18-22) The woman was healed because of her faith.

Message 5:13, "Let all your work be done in faith, for behold you can do nothing without faith. Faith will make you strong. Prepare yourselves to be a people who can meet the Lord at His coming."

Matthew 17:20, "And Jesus said unto them... If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove;

and nothing shall be impossible unto you.”

You can see by the last two verses how important it is to have faith! The following verse tells us how we can increase our faith.

Message 7/8:11, “ Let your faith be strong in the Lord your God. Read the eleventh chapter of Hebrews. Read it often. By faith you shall do your work....”

The eleventh Chapter of Hebrews tells of many acts of faith and the results God produced. As you read it 'often' and ponder you will understand the greatness of these acts and your faith will also be increased.

We already read verses one through three, so we will start at verse four and study the chapter.

Abel: Hebrews 11:4, “ By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.”

We find this story in Genesis 4:1-10, “ And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.

2. And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

3. And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.

4. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

5. But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

6. And the Lord said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

7. If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

8. And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

9. And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

10. And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.”

Abel was faithful and offered to God the best firstling and fattest of his flock. He had an attitude of respect and reverence. Cain's heart was not in the right place and he did not honor God. He became jealous of Abel because God approved of Abets offering, Cain sinned even more and committed the first murder.

Enoch: Hebrews 11:5-6, “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

6. But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

We find this story in Genesis 5:22-24, “And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:

23. And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years:

24. And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.”

Enoch did not die. He was a faithful servant of God and God took him- meaning that Enoch was changed from mortal to immortal and God took him up to heaven.

There is a riddle that my dad use to tell me: Who is the oldest man that ever lived but died before his father? Crazy sounding, right? Enoch's son, Methuselah was the oldest man that ever lived. He was nine hundred sixty nine years old when he died. He died before his father, Enoch, because Enoch never met death. Enoch was translated. Ask someone that riddle and see if they can figure out the answer.

Noah: Hebrews 11:7, “By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the

world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."

You know the story of Noah building the ark so the faithful could be safe from the flood waters. By faith, Noah believed God, that there would be a flood to destroy all of the wicked people. Noah built this ark in the middle of dry land. He was made fun of by many, but because Noah had faith and believed, he continued to build the ark. The world was so wicked that there were only eight people that were righteous and faithful enough to believe, and enter the ark and be saved from the flood waters. You can read the story of Noah and the flood in Genesis chapters 6-9.

Abraham & Sarah: Hebrews 11:8-19, "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10. For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11. Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised. (See Genesis 17:19)

12. Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

13. These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

15. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. (See Exodus 3:6 & 15).

16. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not

ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

17. By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,

18. Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

19. Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure."

You can read the story of Abraham being tested in Genesis 22:1-18. God told Abraham that his seed would be multiplied as many as the sands of the seashore through his only son Isaac. God was testing Abraham, and told him to take his son to a mountain, build an altar and offer his son as a sacrifice to God. As much as Abraham loved his only son, he loved God and obeyed God. He had faith in God and in all that God told him. When Abraham was about to sacrifice Isaac, an angel of the Lord stopped him. Genesis verse 12 says, "And he (the angel) said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me."

God greatly blessed Abraham because of Abraham's great faith and his obedience to God.

Isaac: Hebrews 11: 20, "By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come."

Jacob: Hebrews 11:21, "By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff."

Joseph: Hebrews 11:22, "By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones."

Moses's Parents: Hebrews 11:23. "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment."

Moses: Hebrews 11:24- 29, “ By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25. Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26. Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

27. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

28. Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

29. By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.”

Joshua & Rahab: Hebrews 11:30-31, “ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

31. By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.”

Other Heroes of Faith: Hebrews 32-40, “And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

33. Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions.

34. Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

35. Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

36. And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

37. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

38. (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

39. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

40. God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.”

All of these wonderful stories of faith are from the Holy Bible, about the people that lived in the Israel, and Egypt and that area. Now we will read about stories of faith that happened in the land of promise, ancient America, stories of the first inhabitants of this area, These stories are from the Record of the Nephites.

Ether 12:1-17, “And it came to pass that the days of Ether was in the days of Coriantumr; and Coriantumr was king over all the land.

2. And Ether was a prophet of the Lord; wherefore Ether came forth in the days of Coriantumr, and began to prophesy unto the people, for he could not be restrained because of the Spirit of the Lord which was in him;

3. And he did cry from the morning, even until the going down of the sun, exhorting the people to believe in God unto repentance, lest they should be destroyed, saying unto them, that by faith all things are fulfilled;

4. Wherefore, whoso believeth in God might with surety hope for a better world, yea, even a place at the right hand of God, which hope cometh of faith, maketh an anchor to the souls of men, which would make them sure and steadfast, always abounding in good works, being led to glorify God.

5. And it came to pass that Ether did prophesy great and marvelous things unto the people, which they did not believe, because they saw them not. (They did not have faith.)

6. And now, I Moroni, would speak somewhat concerning these things; I would shew unto the world that faith is things which are hoped for and not seen; wherefore, dispute not because ye see not, for ye receive no witness until after the trial of your faith;

7. For it was by faith that Christ shewed himself unto our fathers, after he had risen

from the dead: and he shewed not himself unto them, until after they had faith in him; wherefore it must needs be that some had faith in him, for he shewed himself not unto the world.

8. But because of the faith of men, he has shewn himself unto the world and glorified the name of the Father, and prepared a way that thereby others might be partakers of the heavenly gift, that they might hope for those things which they have not seen;

9. Wherefore ye may also have hope, and be partakers of the gift, if ye will but have faith.

10. Behold it was by faith that they of old were called after the holy order of God:

11. Wherefore, by faith, was the law of Moses given. But in the gift of his Son, hath God prepared a more excellent way and it is by faith that it hath been fulfilled;

12. For if there be no faith among the children of men, God can do no miracle among them; wherefore he shewed not himself until after their faith.

13. Behold, it was the faith of Alma and Amulek that caused the prison to tumble to the earth.

14. Behold, it was the faith of Nephi and Lehi, that wrought the change upon the Lamanites, that they were baptized with fire and with the Holy Ghost.

15. Behold, it was the faith of Ammon and his brethren, which wrought so great a miracle among the Lamanites;

16. Yea, and even all they which wrought miracles, wrought them by faith, even those which were before Christ, and also them which were after.

17. And it was by faith that the three disciples obtained a promise that they should not taste of death; and they obtained not the promise until after their faith.

Do you remember the story of when Christ visited his disciples in this land; ancient America? Christ asked His disciples what they desired of Him. All but three (9 disciples) desired to live to the age of man (seventy two years old) and their ministry that God called them to do would end, and they would speedily go to be with God. Three of the disciples wanted to remain on

earth to continuing helping people, like John the Beloved desired to do. These three disciples never met death; they were became immortal and remain on the earth, helping people as needed. Bro. William A. Draves has been visited several times by one of these Nephite disciples in his time of need. Some of these visits have been published and you can read about them.

3 Nephi 28:18-40 further discusses the 3 Nephites Ether spoke of: "But this much I know, according to the record which hath been given, they did go forth upon the face of the land, and did minister unto all the people, uniting as many to the church as would believe in their preaching; baptizing them; and as many as were baptized, did receive the Holy Ghost;

19. And they were cast into prison by them who did not belong to the church. And the prisons could not hold them, for they were rent in twain,

20. And they were cast down into the earth. But they did smite the earth with the word of God, insomuch that by his power they were delivered out of the depths of the earth; and therefore they could not dig pits sufficient to hold them.

21. And thrice (three times) they were cast into a furnace, and received no harm.

22. And twice were they cast into a den of wild beasts; and behold they did play with the beasts, as a child with a suckling lamb, and received no harm.

23. And it came to pass that thus they did go forth among all the people of Nephi, and did preach the gospel of Christ unto all people upon the face of the land; and they were converted unto the Lord, and were united unto The Church of Christ, and thus the people of that generation were blessed, according to the word of Jesus.

24. And now I, Mormon, make an end of speaking concerning these things for a time.

25. Behold, I were about to write the names of those who were never to taste of death; but the Lord forbade, therefore I write them not, for they are hid from the world.

26. But behold I have seen them, and they have ministered unto me;

27. And behold they will be among the Gentiles, and the Gentiles knoweth them not.

28. They will also be among the Jews, and the Jews shall know them not.

29. And it shall come to pass, when the Lord seeth fit in his wisdom, that they shall minister unto all the scattered tribes of Israel, and unto all nations, kindreds, tongues and people and shall bring out of them unto Jesus many souls, that their desire may be fulfilled, and also because of the convincing power of God which is in them;

30. And they are as the angels of God, and if they shall pray unto the Father in the name of Jesus, they can shew themselves unto whatsoever man it seemeth them good;

31. Therefore great and marvelous works shall be wrought by them, before the great and coming day, when all people must surely stand before the judgment seat of Christ;

32. Yea, even among the Gentiles shall there be a great and marvelous work wrought by them, before that judgment day.

33. And if ye had all the scriptures which give an account of all the marvelous works of Christ, ye would, according to the words of Christ, know that these things must surely come.

34. And wo be unto him that will not hearken unto the words of Jesus, and also to them which he hath chosen and sent among them, for whoso receiveth not the words of Jesus and the words of them which he hath sent, receiveth not him; and therefore he will not receive them at the last day;

35. And it would be better for them if they had not been born. For do ye suppose that ye can get rid of the justice of an offended God, who hath been trampled under feet of men, that thereby salvation might come?

36. And now behold, as I spake concerning them whom the Lord had chosen,

yea, even three which were caught up into the heavens, that I knew not whether they were cleansed from mortality to immortality.

37. But behold, since I wrote, I have inquired of the Lord, and he hath made it manifest unto me, that there must needs be a change wrought upon their bodies, or else it needs be that they must taste of death;

38. Therefore that they might not taste of death, there was a change wrought upon their bodies, that they might not suffer pain nor sorrow, save it were for the sins of the world.

39. Now this change was not equal to that which should take place at the last day; but there was a change wrought upon them, insomuch that Satan could have no power over them, that he could not tempt them, and they were sanctified in the flesh, that they were holy, and that the powers of the earth could not hold them;

40. And in this state they were to remain until the judgment day of Christ; and at that day they were to receive a greater change, and to be received into the kingdom of the Father to go no more out, but to dwell with God eternally in the heavens.

What incredible faith these three Nephite disciples had! What love for the people to want to remain on the earth helping mankind!

Message 86:29, "...That eternity with God may have place for the faithful- all those that obey my words shaping their lives by the instructions I bring from the Lord."

Message 104:6, Through faith, repentance and the baptisms, the deliverance will be upon you."

Message 105:18, "...Keep the faith, hold high the standard. Endure to the end. Love is your mission."

Message 114:15. "Let all teach faith, repentance, baptism and the laying on of hands and the gifts of the Holy Unction shall be upon them."

Moroni 7:26, "And after that he came, men also were saved by faith in his name; and by faith, they become the sons of God. And assur-

edly as Christ liveth, he spake these words unto our fathers, saying, Whatsoever thing ye shall ask the Father in my name, which is good, in faith believing that ye shall receive, behold, it shall be done unto you."

Moroni 7:33, And Christ hath said, If ye will have faith in me, ye shall have power to do whatsoever thing is expedient in me" (fit for bringing about a desired result).

Moroni 7:40-43. And again, my beloved brethren, I would speak unto you concerning hope. How is it that ye can attain unto faith, save ye have hope?

41. And what is it that ye shall hope for? Behold I say unto you, that ye shall have hope through the atonement of Christ and the power of his resurrection, to be raised unto life eternal; and this because of your faith in him according to the promise;

42. Wherefore, if a man have faith, he must needs have hope; for without faith there cannot be any hope.

43. And again, behold I say unto you, that he cannot have faith and hope, save he shall be meek, and lowly of heart;"

You can see how important it is to have faith! Read and study God's words and know them in your heart. This will increase your faith. As you step out in faith, showing you believe and trust in God, your faith will increase!

Matthew 13:31-32: Parable of the Mustard Seed "Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field:

32. Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof."

Matthew 17:20, "And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

Primary

The primary class studied Faith and John the Baptist. Biblical stories included in the lesson were Noah's Ark, Joshua and the Battle of Jericho, Jesus Walks on Water, Jesus is our Friend and Who is John the Baptist.

A sample of the lesson has been included. If anyone would like a copy of the study in its entirety, please contact Sister Thresa Ray.

Jesus Walks on Water

Matthew 14:22-33, Mark 6:45-52
& John 6:15-21

Jesus wanted some time to Himself to pray, so He told His disciples to go ahead without Him and He would catch up. So the disciples got on a boat and headed out on the Sea of Galilee without Him.

Now the Sea of Galilee is known for having violent storms and rough water. A storm moved in and the wind and water was pushing against the boat. The disciples were scared and cried out. Then in the distance, they saw a man walking towards them. Jesus was walking towards them. How could this be? They thought Jesus was a ghost and cried out in fear because Jesus was walking on the water!

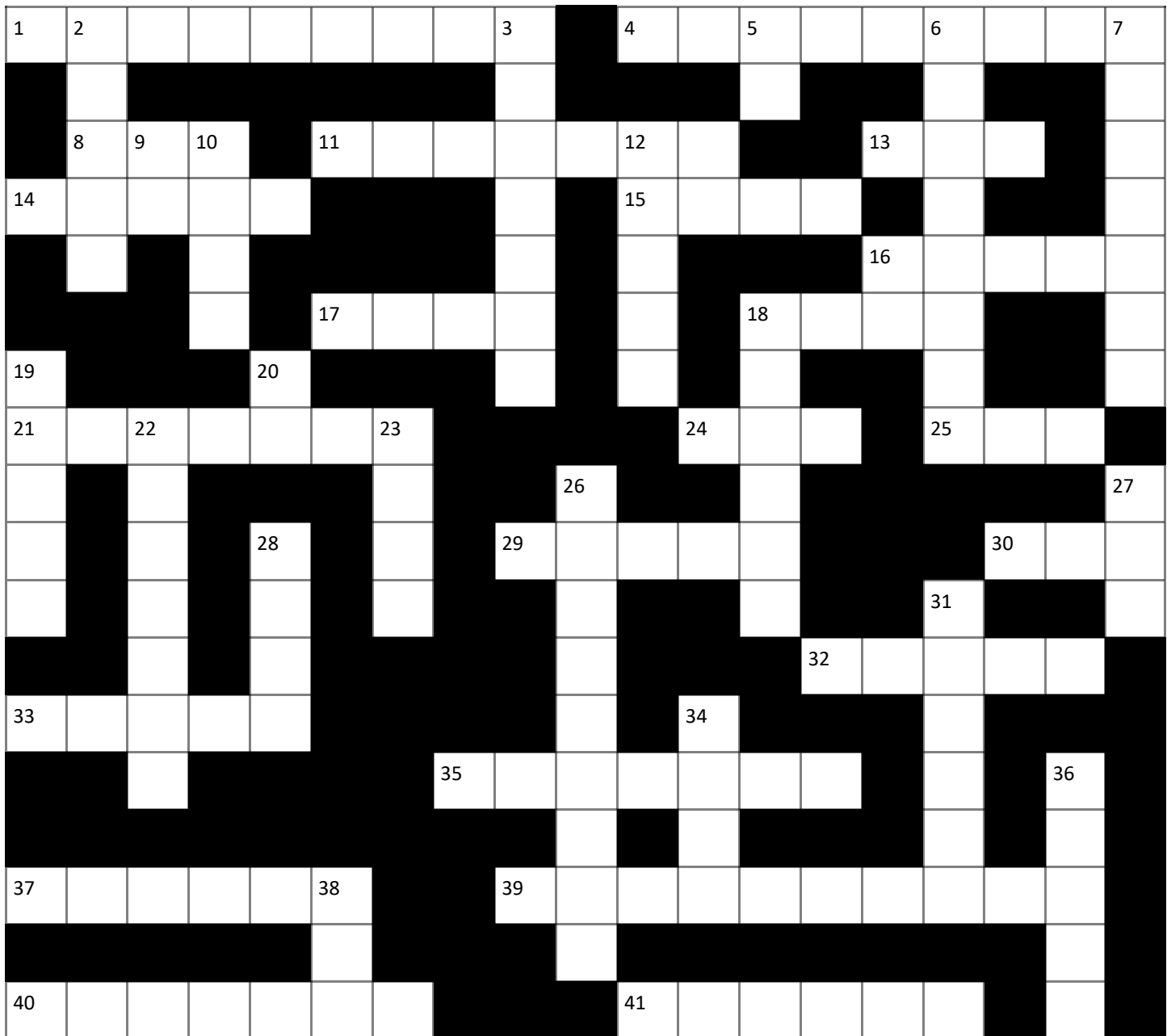
Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Have courage. It is I. Don't be afraid." Peter responded, "Lord is that really you? How are you walking on water?"

Jesus said, "Come," and Peter left the boat and walked on the water to Jesus. But when Peter saw the wind and the waves, he became afraid and began to sink. Peter shouted, "Lord save me!"

Jesus reached out His hand and caught Peter. Jesus asked him, "Why did you doubt me?" Jesus helped Peter get back into the boat and calmed the sea. The disciples were in awe and began worshiping Jesus, saying "Truly, you are the Son of God." With Jesus all things are possible.

John the Baptist Crossword Puzzle

Luke 1, Matthew 3, Mark 1, Luke 3, Matthew 14:1-12, Mark 6:16-30, Message 106:13



Across

1. John's father
4. John's mother
8. John is the Messenger of ____
11. The angel who appeared to Zacharias
13. ____ fellow servant
14. Who imprisoned John
15. "My mission is one of ____"
16. What did Herodias's daughter, Salome, do to entertain King Herod.
17. "My name is ____"
18. Salome asked for John's ____
21. John is the ____ of Days

24. How did Herod feel when keeping his promise to Salome?
25. "I bring meat in ____ season."
29. Where we read about John.
30. Jesus died so ____ may have everlasting life.
32. Holy ____
33. John ate ____
35. John the ____
37. John appeared to W.A. ____
39. John preaches ____ & baptism
40. "I am the ____ one." Msg 82:34
41. John brings messages to direct the ____ & the world.

Down

2. an ____ appeared to Zacharias
3. one who serves.
5. John ____ coming.
6. How did John die?
7. Prophet of the ____.
9. either, ____.
10. When John baptized Jesus, God's Spirit came down as a ____
12. "I am the ____ that was fore to come."
18. John told people about the kingdom of ____.
19. John wore ____ skins.
20. God loves you and ____.

22. How is John & Jesus related
23. John's body was laid in a ____
26. Who put his body in the tomb.
27. Zacharias & Elizabeth thought they were too ____ to have a baby.
28. When ____ met Elizabeth, her baby leapt in her womb.
31. John baptized in the ____ River.
34. John baptized with water, Jesus baptized with the Holy Ghost and ____.
36. "I am the ____ One."
38. Jesus is the ____ of God.