

Zion's Advocate

*"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day,
for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost...."*

1 Nephi 3:187

VOLUME 82

INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI—AUGUST 2005

NUMBER 8

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" Mark 16:15.

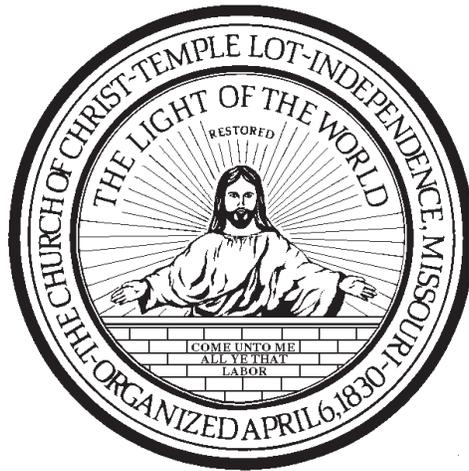


Today there is a large congregation in the town of Lubumbashi, Congo.

~ In This Issue ~

ARTICLE—Flee Youthful Lusts and Fornication -
Elder Don Hill 135
SERIES—The Great Apostasy and the
Restoration, Part 8 - Harvey E. Seibel 138

REPORT—Africa to Date - Apostle Brian
McIndoo 144
NEWS 147



THE APOSTLES of the CHURCH OF CHRIST

Smith N. Brickhouse, 5713 Logan Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64136; 816-356-9214; e-mail: smithbrickhouse@yahoo.com
Frank Fann, 3808 Queen Ridge, Independence, Missouri 64055; 816-373-4346; e-mail: fann212@juno.com
Placido Koyoc Matu, 99h Calle 24 x 17y 19, Yobain, Yucatan, Mexico; #011-52-991-911-3125; e-mail: p_matu@hotmail.com
Placido Koyoc Yam, 99h Calle 24 x 17y 19, Yobain, Yucatan, Mexico; #011-52-911-911-3047
Mike McGhee, 18907 E. 6th Street N., Independence, Missouri 64056; 816-796-6255; e-mail: mcgheeme@msn.com
Brian McIndoo, 18824 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-1900; e-mail: mcindoo@cox.net
Donald E. McIndoo, 18830 N. 30th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85050
Alvin J. Moser, 18829 N. 29th Place, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-2414; e-mail: ajmoser3@cox.net
Roland L. Sarratt, 15910 E. 36th Terrace, Independence, Missouri 64055; 816-373-6605; e-mail: r.sarratt@earthlink.net
William A. Sheldon, 1011 S. Cottage, Independence, Missouri 64050; 816-833-3914; e-mail: cofcti@kcnet.com
Joel Yates, 2924 E. Rockwood Drive, Phoenix, Arizona 85050; 602-569-9296; e-mail: jyates2@yahoo.com



GENERAL CHURCH OFFICERS

SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF APOSTLES

Apostle Smith N. Brickhouse
 5713 Logan Road
 Kansas City, Missouri 64136

SECRETARY, GENERAL BISHOPRIC

Elder Leslie P. Case
 8312 Lee's Summit Road
 Kansas City, Missouri 64139

GENERAL CHURCH SECRETARY

Harvey E. Seibel
 9800 E. 32nd Street S.
 Independence, Missouri 64052

BUSINESS MANAGER

Elder Alvin L. Harris
 Church of Christ
 P.O. Box 472

ZION'S ADVOCATE STAFF

EDITOR

Elder Gordon McCann
 18808 N. 30th Street
 Phoenix, Arizona 85050
 E-mail: gpmccann@cox.net

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Dan Lawrence
 8420 Lee's Summit Road
 Kansas City, MO 64139

Marlene Oar
 19012 N. 29th Street
 Phoenix, AZ 85050

PRODUCTION STAFF

Harvey L. Seibel

STATUS OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Articles published in this paper do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the Church, nor the opinions of the editorial staff. Declarations and notices authorized by the General Conference reflect the practices and beliefs of the General Church.

ZION'S ADVOCATE IS...

To promote Jesus Christ as our only Saviour;
 To promote His Teachings and His Church, the Church of Christ;
 To be a voice of warning to His people; to be Zion's advocate.

Flee Youthful Lusts and Fornication

By Elder Don Hitt

If we repent, receive Christ and are baptized we have the power to overcome everything. Still, many of us have lust problems. Some are even slaves to them.

“Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? (NIV, envies intensely?) But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded (James 4:2-8).

Things we are told to flee from that are with the body:

- Flee fornication (1 Cor 6:18)

- Flee also youthful lusts (1 Tim 2:22)

Things we are told to flee from that are without the body:

- Flee from idolatry (1 Cor 10:14)
- Depart from iniquity (2 Tim 2:19)
- Hurtful lusts (1 Tim 6:9)
- Love of money (1 Tim 6:10)
- Doting about questions (to hanker after) (1 Tim 6:3-5)
- Strife, (1 Tim 6:3-5, 1 Tim 6:3-5)
- Railings, (blasphemy, evil speaking) (1 Tim 6:3-5)
- Evil surmising (a thought or idea based on scanty evidence, to imagine or infer on slight grounds) (1 Tim 6:3-5)
- Perverse disputings (of men of corrupt minds) (1 Tim 6:3-5)
- Withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly (2 Tim 3:6)

Let's look into the ones we are having the most trouble with, the ones that are done with the body: **fleeing fornication and youthful lusts.** We are told in one place to flee to the mountains. Well, when you get there you are away from where you were, and it is behind you. If we try to run away from fornication and youthful lusts, when we get to the place we are

going they are still with us in our minds, and here are the reasons why:

“And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually” (Genesis 6:5).

“...For the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth;” (Genesis 8:21).

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9).

“But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man...” (Matthew 15:18-20).

Let's see how much trouble we can get into if we DON'T try to flee.

“He hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed. With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of

the stocks; Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life. Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth. Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death” (Proverbs 7:20-27).

Matthew Henry, verses 6-27: “Here is an affecting example of the danger of youthful lusts. It is a history or a parable of the most instructive kind. Will any one dare to venture on temptations that lead to impurity, after Solomon has set before his eyes in so lively and plain a manner, the danger of even going near them? Then is he as the man who would dance on the edge of a lofty rock, when he has just seen another fall headlong from the same place. The misery of self-ruined sinners began in disregard to God’s blessed commands. We ought daily to pray that we may be kept from running into temptation, else we invite the enemies of our souls to spread snares for us. Ever avoid the neighborhood of vice. Beware of sins which are said to be pleasant sins. They are the more dangerous, because they most easily gain the heart, and close it against repentance. Do nothing till thou hast well considered the end of it. Were a man to live as long as Methuselah, and to spend all his days in

the highest delights sin can offer, one hour of the anguish and tribulation that must follow, would far outweigh them.”

“*For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life: To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. For by means of a whorish woman a man is brought to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life. Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? So he that goeth in to his neighbour’s wife; whosoever toucheth her shall not be innocent. Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry; But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house. But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul. A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts”* (Proverbs 6:23-35).

“*For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honey-*

comb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell. Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, that thou canst not know them. Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth. Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house: Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel: Lest strangers be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger; And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed...” (Proverbs 5:3-11).

“*Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell”* (Proverbs 9:17-18).

Where we make a mistake is when we think that it will be with the same peace and enjoyment that we have in marriage.

Here is how we should act:

“*I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: (magazines and most television, dh) I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall*

not cleave to me. A froward (distorted; hence false:—crooked, froward, perverse, dh) heart shall depart from me: I will not know a wicked person” (Psalms 101:2-4).

“What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit” (1 Corinthians 6:16-17).

“Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s” (1 Corinthians 6:18-20).

“And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power. Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid” (1 Corinthians 6:14-15).

“...And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart” (2 Timothy 2:19, 22).

“Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say” (1 Corinthians 10:12-15).

“I would not dwell upon your crimes, to harrow up your soul, if it were not for your good. But behold, ye can not hide your crimes from God; and except ye repent, they will stand as a testimony against you at the last day. Now, my son, I would that ye should repent, and forsake your sins, and go no more after the lusts of yours eyes, but cross yourself in all these things; for except ye do this, ye can in no wise inherit the kingdom of God. O remember, and take it upon you, and cross yourself in these things” (Alma 19:11-14).

“Behold, it is written by them of old time, that thou shalt not commit adultery; But I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her, hath committed adultery already in his heart. Behold, I give you a commandment, that ye **suffer none of these things to enter into your heart; for it is better that ye should deny yourselves of these things,**

wherein ye will take up your cross, than that ye should be cast into hell” (3 Nephi 5:76-78).

When all is said and done, it looks like we have to make up our minds not to sin. We are going to have to do like it says about Job in chapter one, verse one of Job:

“There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil (BECAUSE IT WAS WRONG).”

Cross yourself in all these things, flee from idolatry, depart from iniquity, resist the devil, walk within your house with a perfect heart, set no wicked thing before mine eyes, go no more after the lusts of yours eyes, and deny yourselves.

We can do all things through Christ, which strengthens us, and we have been given all things that pertain to life and godliness. Your problem may be that you think you can do it on your own. WELL, YOU CAN'T. Christ says that He is the vine and we are the branches and without Him we can't do anything. In the Bible it speaks of seven kinds of fools. One of them is a self-confident fool. Don't be one of them. Get Christ involved in everything you do. He wants to hear more from you.

THE GREAT APOSTASY AND THE RESTORATION

ATTENTION YOUNG PEOPLE AND OTHER INQUIRERS AFTER THE TRUTH

PERTAINING TO THE CHURCH OF CHRIST WITH HEADQUARTERS IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI
THE ONLY CHURCH ESTABLISHED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS



By Harvey E. Seibel

THE BOOK OF MORMON
ISAIAH 29 - THE GREAT AND
MARVELOUS WORK, THE
SEALED BOOK AND THE



PART 8

FORMER AND LATTER RAINS

“Stay yourselves, and wonder; cry ye out, and cry: they are drunken, but not with wine; they stagger, but not with strong drink. For the LORD hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes: the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered. And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of A BOOK THAT IS SEALED, WHICH MEN DELIVER TO ONE THAT IS LEARNED, SAYING, READ THIS, I PRAY

THEE: AND HE SAITH, I CANNOT; FOR IT IS SEALED: AND THE BOOK IS DELIVERED TO HIM THAT IS NOT LEARNED, SAYING, READ THIS, I PRAY THEE: AND HE SAITH, I AM NOT LEARNED. Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: THEREFORE, BEHOLD, I WILL PROCEED TO DO A MARVELOUS WORK, AMONG THIS PEOPLE, EVEN A MARVELOUS WORK AND A WONDER: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid...IS IT NOT YET A VERY LITTLE WHILE, AND LEBANON SHALL BE TURNED INTO A FRUITFUL FIELD, AND THE FRUITFUL FIELD

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED HOW THE CHURCH OF CHRIST DIFFERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES? OR HOW OUR CHURCH IS BETTER THAN ANY OTHER? DOES IT REALLY MATTER WHAT CHURCH WE JOIN? IF THESE OR SIMILAR QUESTIONS HAVE COME TO MIND THEN THE MATERIAL PRESENTED IN THIS SERIES SHOULD BE HELPFUL.

SHALL BE ESTEEMED AS A FOREST? AND IN THAT DAY SHALL THE DEAF HEAR THE WORDS OF THE BOOK, AND THE EYES OF THE BLIND SHALL SEE OUT OF OBSCURITY, AND OUT OF DARKNESS" (Isaiah 29:9-14, 17-18).

THE SEALED BOOK

"In a New and Critical Translation of Isaiah by Franz Delitzsch, D.D., the following rendition of Isaiah 29:11 is offered: 'And the revelation of all this will be to you like words of a sealed writing which they give to him who understands writing, saying, Pray read this; but he says, I cannot, it is sealed.' - *Prophetic Times*, vol. 10, p. 24" (*A Marvelous Work and a Wonder*, p. 228).

COMMENTARY

This prophecy commenced to be fulfilled with the coming forth of the church out of the wilderness in 1829/30. The sealed book was the record from which the Book of Mormon was translated. And as we have seen from the above, every particular concerning the taking of the words of this book to one that is learned and to one that is not learned was literally fulfilled. A further witness was also provided for He says, 'Is it not yet a very little while, and Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be esteemed as a forest?' This was fulfilled in 1853, just 24 years after the coming forth of the Book of Mormon. The former and latter rains returned to the land of Palestine after an absence of 1800 years. Consider

the following testimony:

THE FORMER AND LATTER RAINS

"Concerning Palestine, Louis Van Buren, visiting that land in 1866, has this to say: 'I arrived in Palestine in the beginning of last December (1866), and remained there till the 20th of March. I found it to be a very good land, with a delightful climate; the fruitfulness of it is truly wonderful; crop after crop can be raised, summer and winter, the former and the latter rain, the dew also, being restored as in ancient times; there is no longer any difficulty in raising grain or any other product' *Saints' Herald*, April, 1867" (*ibid.*, pp. 172-173).

"It is a fact that the rain and dew are restored; recently, in 1853, the former and latter rains were restored, to the astonishment of the natives' *Saints Herald*, April, 1867" (*ibid.*, p. 173).

"I know not whether you are aware of the fact, but it is one that is fully authenticated, that the "latter rain" returned last year to Mount Zion - a rain that had been withheld, so far as our information goes, ever since the dispersion of the people; and he who has brought back the "latter rain" in its season, will also give the "former rain" in its season' *Scottish Presbyterian Magazine*, 1853. *Parsons' Textbook*, p. 205" (*ibid.*, p. 173).

"A correspondent writing to the *Sword of Truth* from Jeru-

salem, in 1864, has this to say: 'During the five years of my sojourn in the land of our fathers, the early and latter rain came down from heaven as regularly as in the days of David and Solomon. Everything grew and blossomed almost visibly to the beholder, and in three days our sacred soil outran the best lands in Europe.' *Sword of Truth*, February 15, 1864" (*ibid.*, p. 173).

"George J. Adams, writing from Palestine in 1865, says: 'I will now explain in relation to the wheat and millet and the other crops; also the rains, as they now come since the restoration of the latter rain. The former or first rain commences in the latter part of October and closes in December.... The latter rain commences in April and continues about six weeks. It is this rain that ripens the wheat and barley. The wheat and barley is sown in December and the first part of January. They reap it in the first part of May. Immediately after harvest, they sow the same land with millet and reap it the last of August. The land then rests about two months, or until the first rain, when they sow turnips and peas, potatoes, and every kind of vegetable. These ripen in time to put the wheat crop in for the next season, making three crops a year on the same land. Where on earth can such a land be found? Nowhere else but in Palestine.' *Sword of Truth*, November 1, 1865 (*ibid.*, p. 173).

"We believe that God has for ages permitted the land to lay waste and desolate, and

withheld the latter rain and even the dews of heaven in direct fulfillment of the testimony of all the prophets, and that the time of that desolation and the withholding of the latter rain has now run out, that rain having been given in its season every successive year since 1853' *Sword of Truth*, February 1, 1866" (*ibid.*, p. 174).

"Lebanon or Palestine lay a barren waste for many long centuries. It is historically stated that after the fall of Jerusalem, in A.D. 70, the former and the latter rains which had made Palestine so fertile, were withheld. This reduced the country to a condition which had never before prevailed there. In the year 1853, however, the rain returned and the land is now fertile. A traveler to the Holy Land wrote thus of the country some years ago:

"I arrived in Indiana a few days since, from the Eastern Continent. I stopped at Joppa nearly the whole winter. For my part I was well pleased with the country. It is certainly a land of most wonderful fruitfulness, with a delightful climate, producing everything, if properly cultivated, and from two to three crops in a year. They have grain, fruit, and vegetables all the year round: in fact, I never was in such a country before. I have seen much good country in Europe and America, but none to compare with Palestine; its fruitfulness is uncommon and the climate the most delightful; even in winter I did not see the least sign of frost, and vegeta-

bles of every sort were growing in perfection in the gardens. It is a fact that the rain and dew are restored; recently in 1853, the former and the latter rain were restored, to the astonishment of the natives' - Pages 216, 217" (*The Fall of Babylon*, pp. 251-252).

"McClintock and Strong's Encyclopaedia, in the article on Palestine, states its condition before the beginning of its restoration as follows:

"Eighteen centuries of war, ruin, and neglect, have passed over it. Its valleys have been cropped for ages without the least attempt at fertilization. Its terraced walls have been allowed to crumble, and its soil has washed down its ravines, leaving the hillsides rocky and sterile. Its trees have been cut down and never replaced. Its fields have been desolate. Its structures pillaged and all its improvements ruthlessly destroyed. A land of ruins without man or beast. Everywhere on plain or mountain, in rocky desert, or on beetling cliff, the spoiler's hand has rested'" (*ibid.*, p. 255).

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE GREAT AND MARVELOUS WORK

Thus the great and marvelous work was begun, the little stone kingdom was cut out of the mountain without hands, the kingdom of God set up which shall never be destroyed nor be left to other people. The Angel indeed has flown in the midst of heaven having the everlasting gospel to preach to

them who dwell in the earth. Consider that this is true:

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the HOUR OF HIS JUDGMENT IS COME: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters" (Revelation 14:6-7).

And what is to follow the flying of this angel?

"And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication" (Revelation 14:8).

Mystery Babylon (the great) was to rule until this angel flew in the midst of heaven. And this is in precise agreement with what we read earlier in Daniel 7 where the prophet declares,

"I beheld, and the same horn (Mystery Babylon) made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, AND JUDGMENT WAS GIVEN TO THE SAINTS OF THE MOST HIGH; AND THE TIME CAME THAT THE SAINTS POSSESSED THE KINGDOM" (Daniel 7:21-22). Further "...He (the little horn or Mystery Babylon)

shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. BUT THE JUDGMENT SHALL SIT and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end” (Daniel 7:25-26).

With the coming of the angel the hour of His judgment had come, and this judgment was given to the saints (1820) and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom (1829-30) and with the sitting of this judgment, they shall take away the dominion of the little horn, or Mystery Babylon, to consume and to destroy it unto the end (the time when Christ will return, at which time “the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High”).

From the testimony which we read in church history we learn that both the Father and the Son appeared to Joseph Smith when he went to inquire which of all the churches was right. Did he by thus saying give us a true witness? Consider again. This little horn was to make war with the saints and to overcome them for a specific period of time or UNTIL THE ANCIENT OF DAYS CAME. Who then is the Ancient of days? The evidence is that it is God, and particularly the Fa-

ther, from the description given in verses 9 and 10 of this same prophecy.

“I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.” Then the prophet saw *“...and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed”* (Daniel 7:13-14).

This latter is the Lord Jesus Christ coming to His Father, the Ancient of days, the Being who is without beginning of days or end of years.

Did the Ancient of days come at the conclusion of the reign of the little horn? The answer must be *yes* according to the testimony we read when the Father and Son appeared to 14-year-old Joseph Smith that morning in the spring of 1820.

But what about the Son? Did He also appear as He testified that He did? Consider this word in Acts 3:19-21:

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing (dawning of a new day after the night of darkness, HES) shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive UNTIL THE TIMES OF RESTITUTION (Restoration, HES) OF ALL THINGS, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.”

EZEKIEL 37 -THE STICK OF JUDAH AND THE STICK OF JOSEPH

“The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying, Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim and for all the house of Israel his companions: And join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand. And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these? Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of

Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand" (Ezekiel 37:15-19).

"ROLL: A book in ancient times consisted of a single long strip of paper or parchment, which was usually kept rolled upon a stick, and was unrolled when a person wished to read it. *Smith's Bible Dictionary*, Peloubet edition, p. 566" (*A Marvelous Work and a Wonder*, p. 214).

"The king being impatient to know the contents, the scribe begins to read immediately: and as the books of the time were written upon long scrolls, and rolled upon a stick, the latter part of the book would come first. - *History of the Holy Bible*, John Kitto, D.D., F.S.A, p. 403" (*ibid.*, p. 214).

EPHRAIM AND MANASSEH

(SONS OF JOSEPH)

We know, based on the testimony of the Book of Mormon, that the Indian of the Americas are of the seed of Manasseh, and that they were brought over to this land in the days of Lehi and Nephi 600 years before Christ. We also know that they wrote and kept a record of all their proceedings (the record of Joseph). Is there evidence for this migration from the old world to the new in the Bible, the record of Judah?

THEY SHALL GO OVER THE WALL! Did a seed of Joseph truly go over the wall (the

sea) and become separated from his brethren in the old world?

Consider the two following prophecies:

"Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; WHOSE BRANCHES RUN OVER THE WALL.... The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, AND ON THE CROWN OF THE HEAD OF HIM THAT WAS SEPARATE FROM HIS BRETHREN" (Genesis 49: 22, 26).

"...Let the blessing come upon the head of Joseph, AND UPON THE TOP OF THE HEAD OF HIM THAT WAS SEPARATED FROM HIS BRETHREN" (Deuteronomy 33:16).

This prophecy was fulfilled when a family of the tribe of Manasseh was taken out of Jerusalem and brought over to this country (America) through the command of the Lord in 600 B. C. just before Nebuchadnezzar took the Kingdom of Judah into captivity. There they became a great nation, as promised in Genesis 48:19 and 35:11.

"Nor shall Judah alone be restored. God will save likewise the house of Joseph, though he appears to have long entirely forgotten them. He will hiss for them and gather them. He will make them as it were the seed of his millennial church and cause them to be instrumental in spreading the

knowledge of his truth to the uttermost parts of the earth. - *General and Connected View of the Prophecies*, vol. 2, p. 271, Reverend G. S. Faber" (*A Marvelous Work and a Wonder*, p. 219).

"Doctor Lowth commenting on Jeremiah 48:32: 'Thy plants are gone over the sea, they reach even to the sea of Jazar.' The words imply that the principal inhabitants are carried away and pass over the sea. - *Horae Apocalypticae*, vol. 3, p. 72, E.B. Elliott, AM." (*ibid.*, p. 221).

"The Totten Memorial Association dedicated to the memory of Professor Totten, America's foremost chronologist and ethnologist, observes: 'The vine of Sibmah was the appropriate emblem of transjordanic Israel. It represented Israel on the frontiers, Israel in close contact with the Gentile and heathen world. The lords of the Gentiles broke down its choice plants, 'which wandered into the wilderness: its shoots were spread abroad, they passed over the sea' (Isaiah 16:8). In spite of the breaking down of the choice branches of the Vine of Sibmah, its shoots were spread abroad. These shoots were men of Israel. 'They passed over the sea.' Jeremiah utters a similar oracle, saying: 'With more than the weeping of Jazar will I weep for thee, O Vine of Sibmah: thy branches passed over the sea, they reached even to the sea of Jazar: upon thy summer fruits and upon thy vintage the destroyer is fallen' (Jeremiah

48:32). But in spite of the ravages of the destroyer of the Gentiles, the outcasts of Israel, his fugitives from the destroyer (Isaiah 16:3,4) dwelt for a while in the dark shadow of Moab, and then passed into the wilderness and passed over the sea...Zechariah says, as translated by Doctor Robert Young: 'He hath passed over through the sea, and hath pressed and smitten billows in the sea' (Zechariah 10: 11). All this was involved in the blessing in the racial covenant of promise, for God gave to Joseph 'blessings of the deep that coucheth beneath.' ...Whence came these ancient traditions of a land beyond the sea? After diligent investigation, I am convinced that they came from the blessings pronounced on Joseph in the racial covenant of promise. The descriptions given of his land by the Patriarch Jacob and the Lawgiver, Moses, indicate a land beyond the sea, beneath which the deep coucheth, and that extends 'unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills.' Jacob was in Egypt when he blessed Joseph. Now if we go from Egypt to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills, and go either east or west, we will come to the United States of America, in the region of the Rocky Mountains, the backbone of the continent. The language, in its strict significance and grammatical structure, indicates this. Do not explain it away by calling it oriental extravagance. It means just what it says.' - *Our Race Quarterly*, September, 1910, pp. 89,91" (*ibid.*, pp. 221-222).

IN THE HAND OF EPHRAIM

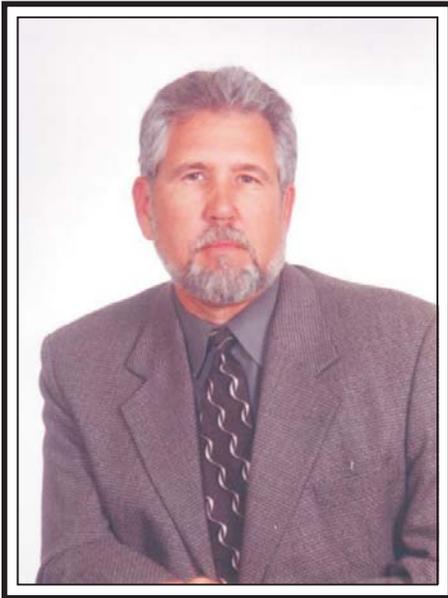
We learned above that the stick of Joseph was to be in the hand of Ephraim. You may wonder how that record which came forth from Manasseh should end up in the hands of his brother. For the sake of brevity and to summarize, when the ten tribes were carried captive in Assyria in 721 B.C. they never again returned to the land of Israel from whence they were taken. Instead, some years later, they migrated out of the land of Assyria and traveled to the northwest until they came to the lands of northwestern Europe. There they mixed among the Gentiles until they lost their identity. When the discovery of the New World was made the people of the British Isles and neighboring nations came to America and established themselves on our east coast. It was to this group of people that the church was restored and the commission given to carry this gospel to the nations. Ephraim was mixed among these Gentiles and so when the Book of Mormon came forth, it came into their hands. This record, as you know, did not come forth to the Lamanites or the Indians, but rather to Ephraimite Gentiles who had come to this land. That Israel is here in this land is shown by reference to Amos 6:1-6.

"Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came! Pass ye unto

Calneh, and see; and from thence go ye to Hamath the great: then go down to Gath of the Philistines: be they better than these kingdoms? or their border greater than your border? Ye that put far away the evil day, and cause the seat of violence to come near; That lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall; That chant to the sound of the viol, and invent to themselves instruments of musick, like David; That drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph."

It seems quite plain that we are at ease in Zion and that we do trust in the Government of our country. And are we not named chief of the nations, and did not the house of Israel come here when our country was settled by the northwestern Europeans? Our wealth is great so that we do create all kinds of instruments of music and live richly on wine and meat, etc. And after all of this we (as a people or as a nation) are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph, or the Indian in our land.

AFRICA TO DATE



EVERY TRIBE AND EVERY NATION

about twenty people met for a preaching service. Following the service we embarked on a two-mile walk across a grassy savanna, arriving at a small stream surrounded by a stand of tall trees. There we baptized Paul and eight others. Having been laboring in Kenya for five years to the month, on April 27, 2005, the church had received for the first time members for the Maasai tribe.

We can see the hand of God in

Paul's story, which brought us to this day. Paul had been a member of a church called The Church of Christ. However, several years ago they had abandoned him and moved out of Kenya. The Church of Christ (Temple Lot) had made a large enough impact on Kenya that the word had reached Kilgoris of our existence. Assuming his church had returned to Kenya, Paul headed to Kisii town to find it. At the time we did not have

By Apostle Brian E. McIndoo

An hour outside of Kisii, Kenya, where the work in Africa began among the Kisii tribe, we dropped out of the highlands into a grassy valley near the town of Kilgoris, the land of the Maasai tribe. Turning off the pothole filled road onto a dirt road, we passed between dry fields of tomato plants and maze stocks. The wilted and thirsty the crops wait for the seasonal rains to begin. A half-mile down the dirt path, Elders Andy Brown, Moses Ohuru and I pulled our Toyota Hillux into a compound and parked in front of the humble home of Paul Kayoki Ole Sayori and family.

Under the sparse shade of a stand of small trees on Paul's property,

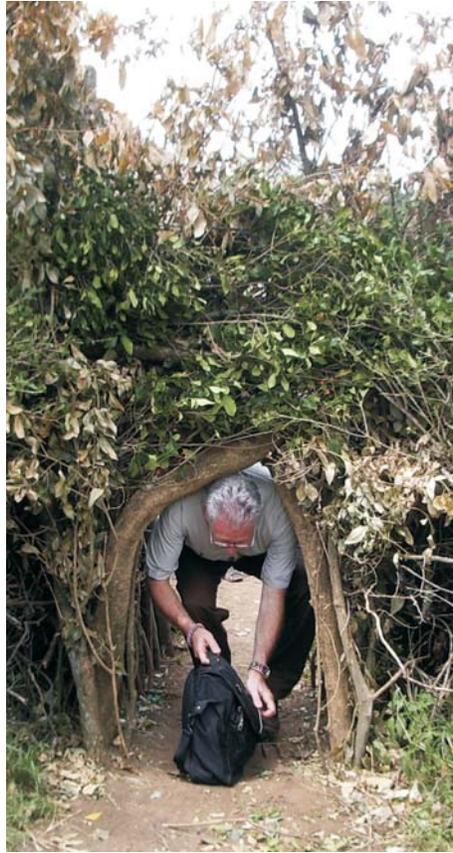


a congregation inside the Kisii Township, so Paul began asking people if they knew anything about The Church of Christ. Eventually someone told Paul there was an elder of the church named Michael who lived in Suneka and drove a green Land Rover.

The people in Suneka directed Paul to Michael Otero's home. Michael was on a missionary trip to Tanzania so Paul spent part of a day talking with Michael's wife Anna. Elder Moses Ohuru made a trip to Kilgoris attempting to find Paul. With much effort, Moses located Paul's home, but Paul was gone. Moses contacted Paul's mother, who quickly told him she had no need of the white man's religion. She was traditional Maasai and wanted nothing else. She would pass the word on to her son.

Paul and Moses finally came together. Paul spent several days at Moses' home to hear about the Church of Christ. He remained there until the weekend in order to attend Sunday services at Kineni; fortunately, this same weekend Elder Gordon McCann and I were scheduled to be there.

During the next several months Michael, Moses and several other leaders from Kisii visited and taught Paul and his family the gospel. Brother Smith and I also had opportunity to go and teach. The day finally came when we were able to do as Jesus commanded his Apostles "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" Mark 16:15.



Paul had wasted no time to begin witnessing the Gospel. Even before his baptism he had gone to tell friends and family about the Church of Christ. The day after the baptism service, six of the nine new members took brother Brown and me to the interior of the Maasai land. From Paul's home in the savanna we headed south into a jungle area where lion, elephant and zebra roam. With the 4WD vehicle we were able to drive across the wilderness and through the jungle where no roads exist.

When we arrived at a traditional Maasai compound, an old bandy-legged Maasai man wearing a traditional red plaid tunic, sandals and a battered straw hat stepped out

of his fortress to greet us we exited our vehicle. As a way to protect themselves from the animals, a tall fence of poles and shrubs surrounded his home. The only access to the home was a small and easily protected opening through the fence. A verse of scripture immediately came to my mind. "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" Mat 7:14.

Soon, more men clad in red tunics, sporting long knives lashed to their waists, women wearing colorful Maasai beaded jewelry and young children joined us under the trees where we began teaching about the Church of Christ. They appreciated our visit and requested further teachings.

Inroads to the Maasai tribe was a great blessing, but not the only blessing we have recently experienced. Where we once only had one congregation in Tanzania located just across the Kenya/Tanzania border we now have seven, spanning hundred of miles. Some congregations are in large towns while others are in remote areas.

Only recently, Apostles Smith Brickhouse and Alvin Moser pursued an invitation to meet a group in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Democratic Republic of the Congo having the reputation as being one of the most dangerous countries in the world gave us some concern about going, but putting our faith in God several trips have been made. Today there is a large congregation in the town of Lubumbashi.



(See cover photo.)

We love our members in the Congo and they are a great blessing

to the Church of Christ. The work throughout Africa continues to increase according to the dictates of

God; we feel very blessed to be a part of it.





COLLINS, MISSOURI

I hope this newsletter finds you all doing well and in good spiritual health. It has been a long time since I have written. We are still holding to the faith here and enjoy getting to meet together every Sunday (and a few of us meet on Wednesday evening).

We all seem to have a “problem” or two in our lives. Our sister Dora Adams has had by-pass surgery and is doing very well and has borne witness to God’s greatness.

Allen (Kauffman) lost his job of twenty-nine years, but has a new one—requiring a lot more physical “attention.” He, however, is getting along well, with the exception of a back (disc) problem—and I know he would appreciate an interest in your prayers concerning this.

Jack and Betty Martin are able, with great effort, to come to services. Marjory and R. C. Routh are faithful to attend, as are Shawna, Aaron and Sheala Herd. Curtis and Margarite Yates have a lot of summer company (grand-children) so we miss seeing Margarite quite a bit of the time. Randy and Renee Livingston and their family attend as often as they can, as do Donald and Bernice Martin. Donald has severe allergies and is hampered from doing all the things he would like to do. We are always glad to see them when they are able to come.

Harvey and Betty Dunning have had some rough times lately, as Harvey has had prostate cancer and

surgery. He is doing well now and bore testimony of God’s blessing to him during this time of uncertainty.

Bob Eddy comes as often as his summer schedule will allow. We always “manage” when someone has to be absent, but oh how grateful we are when they can return and take their place with us again! This is not a “social club” by any means, but it IS a soul strengthening time that we each one need (to give and to receive) to learn and to share, both problems and blessings.

Allen and I had opportunity to attend both the Houston Rally and Springfield Rally. To say that we “enjoyed” these services would hardly do justice to the blessings we received there. I’m always amazed at the way the Spirit of God can touch and work in all of our hearts—in different ways. I feel sure that everyone that was able to attend these services felt a great gratitude to our Heavenly Father.

I have a few sermon quotes I will leave with you to consider. May our great God bless each of you in your homes, your work, your lives—from day to day, giving you strength and energy to serve Him to a greater extent.

- *We need to guard our young people from the evil of this world—it’s so easy to just drift off.*
- *There’s a battle being fought and it’s in your own heart!*
- *You can’t make a “deal” with the*

Lord.

- *Do you have discernment enough to know when you’re being deceived?*
- *What is it that Christ will recognize in us as we meet face to face?*
- *Handle life with faith, hope, and the pure love of Christ.*
- *We, as a nation, have been blessed with a commodity called “freedom”—Liberty.*
- *To be happy and prosperous in this world, we need to apply God’s plan.*
- *We are to become “one”—not just among ourselves, but also with Christ.*
- *It’s not how strong you are—it’s how humble you are!*
- *Don’t let our problems, illnesses, etc., cause our faith to get weak.*

*Your reporter,
Czerna Kauffman*



Church of Christ

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS TEMPLE LOT
200 S RIVER BLVD PO BOX 472
INDEPENDENCE MO 64051-0472

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
INDEP., MO
PERMIT NO. 259



CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

Speed delivery of your *Zion's Advocate* by sending us your new address immediately. Each undeliverable *Zion's Advocate* costs the church more than the value of a first class stamp, in addition to regular postage.

CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES

The **2005 Ministers' Conference** (priesthood membership) of the Church of Christ will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 1, 2 and 3, at Independence, Missouri.

The **2006 Ministers' Conference** (general membership) for the Church of Christ will commence Sunday, April 2. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A.M. Monday, April 3. A **Solemn Assembly** will be held prior to the conference, on March 31 and April 1. All services will be held on the Temple Lot.

2005 CHURCH OF CHRIST REUNIONS

MAY

Scripture Theme Camp

- ▶ May 13-15, Friday-Sunday
- ▶ Camp Shawnee Camp Area at Knob Noster State Park.
- ▶ For information contact:
Mark Hill, Jesse Lawrence, Randy Sheldon, Dan Lawrence, Dan Malone.

JUNE

Idaho Reunion

- ▶ June 3-5, Friday-Sunday
- ▶ The Southwestern Idaho Senior Citizen's Recreation Association, Inc. (S.I.S.C.R.A.).
- ▶ For information contact:
Roy Coon
3995 County Line Road
Emmett, Idaho 83617
(208) 365-34109
racoona21@juno.com or
racoona21@earthlink.net

Colorado Reunion

- ▶ June 10-12, Friday-Sunday
- ▶ The Orchard Mesa Local, 3233 B½ Road, Grand Junction, Colorado
- For information contact:
Karen Bell
PO Box 1137
Palisade, CO 81526
(970) 464-4624
kbell@gvii.net
- John Bell**
572 34 Road
Clifton, CO 81520
(970) 434-7100
jeeb54@gvii.net
- Allen Downs**
515 28½ Road
Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 245-8344
addowns@hotmail.com

Michigan Reunion

- ▶ June 25-26, Saturday-Sunday
- ▶ Bradley Local, Michigan
- ▶ For information, contact:
Duane Lee
2053 Fawn Ave.
Middleville, MI 49333
(269) 795-7420
- Randy Lee**
2953 Wing Rd.
Hastings, MI 49058-9537
(269) 948-8971

Springfield Rally

- ▶ June 26th, Sunday
- ▶ 2251 N. Golden; Springfield, Missouri.
- ▶ For information contact:
Elder Matt Case
(417) 832-8349
tabianhdmatt@hotmail.com
- Priest Martin Addie**
(417) 862-2255
ec05959@earthlink.net

JULY

Wake Up Camp 2005

- ▶ July 1-3, Friday-Sunday
- ▶ Bemidji Local Church, Bemidji, Minnesota
- ▶ For information contact:
Hannah Gould
(218) 586-2774
- Sam Gould**
(218) 586-3759

New York Reunion

- ▶ July 8-10, Friday-Sunday
- ▶ Hogansburg, New York
- ▶ For information contact:
In Canada:
Wayne and Susan Miller
868 Tollgate Road
Cornwall, Ontario
Canada K6H5R6
(613) 933-5469
- In the United States:
Eli and Gretchen Tarbell
PO Box 21
600 State Route 37
Hogansburg, New York 13655
(518) 358-2911
egtarbell@hotmail.com
- Dale and Terry Waldruff**
429 Country Road 34
Canton, New York 113617
(315) 265-1221
terrwald@slc.com

Church of Christ Teen Camp

- ▶ July 24-29, Sunday-Friday
- ▶ Camp Far Westa, near Stewartsville, Missouri
- ▶ For kids ages 12-18
- ▶ Camp Cost: \$115.00
- ▶ For information contact:
Michelle Oldham
5811 Duggleby
Davenport, IA 52807
(563) 359-1693
jnmham@mchsi.com

Scripture Adventure Camp

- ▶ July 28, Thursday
- ▶ Independence, Missouri
- ▶ For kids ages 5-11
- ▶ For information contact:
Randy and Becky Sheldon
(816) 229-6712
r-bsheldon@juno.com
- Jennifer Yates**
(602) 569-9296
a2zyates@cox.net

Missouri Reunion

- ▶ July 29-31, Friday-Sunday
- ▶ Church of Christ headquarters building located on the Temple Lot in Independence, Missouri
- ▶ For information contact:
Roland Sarratt
15910 E. 36th Terr.
Independence, MO 64055
(816) 373-6605
r.sarratt@earthlink.net

Michael McGhee

18907 E. 6th St. North
Independence, MO 64056
(816) 796-6255

SEPTEMBER

Camp for All Ages

- ▶ September 16-18, Friday-Sunday
- ▶ The Pinnacles, about ten miles north of Columbia, Missouri
- ▶ For information contact:
Jesse Lawrence
jesselawrence@earthlink.net

Women's Retreat

- ▶ September 30-October 1, Friday-Saturday
- ▶ Lake Mauer Retreat Center in Excelsior Springs, Missouri.
- ▶ For women ages 18 and up
- ▶ Cost: \$45.00/person (includes one night accommodation and 3 meals)
- ▶ For information contact:
Carrie Geier
14609 E. Phelps
Independence, MO 64055
(816) 836-0035
geiers@kcnet.com
- Geri Adams**
2804 Westbrooke Circle
Blue Springs, MO 64015
(816) 228-8283
admsgeri@cs.com

NOVEMBER

Phoenix Reunion

- ▶ November 25-27, Friday-Sunday
- ▶ Phoenix, Arizona
- ▶ For information contact:
Pastor Bob Hedrick
2908 E Rockwood Dr
Phoenix, AZ 85050
(602) 494-9661
bobnliza@cox.net
- Assistant Pastors:**
Duane Ely
18814 N 30th St
Phoenix, AZ 85050
duanekathyely@aol.com
- Gordon McCann**
18808 N 30th St
Phoenix, AZ 85050
gjmccann@cox.net