

July 1st, 2005

H.I.S. Ministries Newsletter, covering June 2005

Happy Fourth of July. We, here in Utah, have been promised good weather and we are very thankful for that. We have had enough rain and storms this spring and summer to know to be thankful for this change. We wanted to go camping and have some time to relax, but we decided against it because there will be too many campers at this holiday-time in all close-by-places, and we could not take time to drive far enough to find seclusion. And besides that, gas is too expensive to take long trips. Instead of going now, we might take some time off in a couple of weeks and go camping fairly close by when there are not that many people looking for a place to escape from the city. We have a new Revelation Study to take with us to instruct and refresh us spiritually. There is no better place to study God's Word than a quiet setting in the mountains. We have studied the Book of Revelation carefully many times during the last 20 years, and we have learned something new every time we have taken time to study it again. It is a book of prophecy, future happenings, and it is the only book in the Bible that promises a special blessing to those who study it. (Rev. 1:3.) We want and need God's blessings!

God has given us a burden for Mormons and called us into this ministry to correct and instruct those who have not yet found the truth so that they could be saved. Because we were once Mormons, we understand how they feel, what they believe and how hard it is to change, even after seeing the facts about Mormonism. Only God's Word can give them strength and courage to follow Jesus, no matter what the consequences. That motivates us to study God's Word daily so that we can be correct in our teaching. We must know doctrine presented in the Word and that involves a lot of personal study. The Bible commands Christians to separate themselves from false teachers and teachings. (Romans 16:17; 2 John 9-11.) We could not know what is false and what is true if we do not study. That is a command of Jesus in John 5:39, as well as in 2 Tim. 2:15, that says, "*STUDY to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*" If any of us want to teach the Bible effectively and divide the truth from error, we must diligently study what God has said and then teach it as it is. Jesus said that *God's Word is Truth* (John 17:17). *He is the Truth* (John 14:6), and thus we must teach the Bible as absolute truth, centered in Jesus Christ, who is God. "*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for DOCTRINE, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.*" (2 Tim. 3:16.) "*Given by inspiration of God*" means that His scriptures are infallible and free from error. They are literally God-breathed. When we teach from the Word that is given by God, we can be confident that we are teaching the truth. Our responsibility is to show what the *doctrine* of God is, *who He is*, and what He has done to save us. *Reproof* means that we show evidence and, *correcting is* that we are to set right false notions about God by giving *instructions* from the Word of God. Sound doctrine is very important to sound spirituality. Knowing what the biblical doctrine is makes a person able to discern truth from error, and separate genuine spirituality from fraudulent, even demonic spirituality (1 John 4:1-3; Col. 2:22-23.) True spirituality includes submission of the mind to the teachings of the Bible. Our knowledge of truth comes through our studies and illumination of the Holy Spirit. By studying we are fulfilling one

aspect of God's greatest commandment: that *we love God with all our minds* (Matt. 22:37). This commandment implies that we must make every effort to line up our beliefs and convictions to God's truth - His doctrine. (Rom. 12:2.) All who seek God and His grace and commit themselves to this task, can and will learn, even difficult matters. (2 Pet. 3:14-18.) When John, in 1 John 4:1, instructs us *not to believe every spirit*, he is warning us not to believe everyone claiming to speak by the Spirit, but instead to apply a doctrinal test to what we hear from those making that claim. There are many who claim to know Jesus, but actually believe in "another Jesus" - they are either deceived or deceiving. Those who deny the biblical view of Jesus, must not be identified as Christians, no matter how sincerely they follow their false beliefs. They may speak of "Jesus" but their understanding of Him differs so much from biblical reality that in truth they have not faith in the real Jesus at all. All who have ever talked to a Mormon, or Mormon missionaries, know that they make these claims, and say that they have a testimony of Mormonism *by the spirit*. We must know God's Word well enough not to be deceived by anyone who "*abideth not in the doctrine of Christ*", anyone who does not know God of the Bible. (2 John 9-11.) Please pray for us as we strive to minister, that we do it with genuine love for Christ and the lost.

We get many, many letters every month from Mormons who have doubts and questions and want to know the truth, and also from many who want to challenge our Christian faith, based on the Bible, and argue against it. I chose this following letter from a Mormon in England, because his arguments for Mormonism are so typical.

My answers, below his letter, are numbered according to his comments/questions. I hope you find it informative and helpful to you as you get opportunities to share God's truth with Mormons:

(Spelling etc. as in his original letter):

" 1. You ask me to not accept your word alone of what you preach but to study it out. I have done this and come to this conclusion. The bible cannot contain all the words of god!!

2. And what about missing doctrine taken out???... especially after the nician creed?? and misinterpretations by transcribers etc.... only a prophet has the right to interpret scripture (amos 3:7)

3. Also, many words spoken by apostles are not to the world. they are to baptised members of christ's church and they were called Saints' (first in antioch).

They had the gift of the holy ghost after baptism... by authorised priesthood... "have ye received the holy ghost since ye believed"? "We have not so much heard of this holy ghost" (you should know where that scripture is!) so they sent them to the apostles...It was a separate ordinance!

4. Reading the bible is like picking up someones private letter, some things you may understand, but references to other things will only be known to the receiver who was taught by hearing the word by authorised ministers (chosen before the world was... foreordained...), who taught with the power of the holy ghost, conversion comes by hearing of the Word as it is preached by the holy ghost...

5. If you as ministers claim to preach his word...By what athority?? whats the genealogy of your priesthood?

6. Jesus words were not all written down...look at his 40 days with the church after his ressurection... What did he teach them all that time???? what extra covenants were revealed to the faithful...

7. How many had their calling and election made sure?

8. *Jesus was a high priest after the order of melchizedek...an eternal priesthood...Gods priesthood!!*

9. *Before jesus comes he will prepare his kindom, it will be a missionary church, every country will be visited, to prepare a people (a covenant people) for his second coming. It will be a kingdom setup with out hands (see Daniel) without mans intervention. This kingdom will roll forth thru out the whole earth.*

As far as i can see the only church that resembles this is the Mormon church (i'm not a member by the way)

10. *Their membership is now 13million. They have 80,000 missionaries around the world.*

They pay tithing, they are debt free...they have temples, they believe in eternal marriage and families. They claim priesthood from peter,James and John., who visited joseph smith and by the laying on of hands bestowed the authority to administer the gospel.

Only the catholics claim succession from peter... Matt 16:18 (king james version)

*'And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon **this rock** I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.'*

11. *BIND is a sealing power...they had it in the ancient church!!*

But i think they misinterperet that scripture! "Thou art Peter (Petra,'small rock') upon this rock(Petros,the large rock of revelation) Jesus church would be build on Revelation thru prophets who hold the mechizadek priesthood the same as jesus...

12. *How confusing to have so many Churches claiming they know the right way etc. When Jesus said himself "One Lord One Faith One baptism..."*

13. *SO, what do you suppose will happen when he comes a second time and administers the law from the new jerusalem? [Independence, Missouri, USA. See Doctrine and Covenants 84:1-5.] which church do you think will administer his gospel?*

It will have to be a church with Apostles and prophets, deacons teachers priests, patriarchs etc who have the priesthoods, who have been foreordained for the lasts days (which is now).....the same church Jesus set up when he first came.

14. *It will have to be a church that knows where the new Jerusalem is to be built...[On the American Continent, Independence, Missouri] and prepare a people of jewish descent to build it, these will be a covenant people who have temples, because the ordinances of salvation are administered in them. And they will meet ZION out of the heavens there, [in Missouri]!*

15. *What do you think? "*

My answers, numbered in same order as his questions:

1. When you say that you have done your studies and concluded that "the Bible cannot not contain all the words God", are you saying that you have done in-depth study of the entire Bible and base your statement on that? I don't think so. At least I did not find that demonstrated in your comments or questions concerning the Bible. If you had studied the entire Bible, in context, you would have seen that it indeed contains all that God has revealed and all that is needed for us to know Him and be saved. The purpose of the Bible is to show us God, and to let us know what He has done to prepare mankind for salvation that He gives as a gift to those who believe in Christ Jesus, as the only Way, Truth and Life. (John 14:6; Acts 4:12.)The Old Testament has over 300 prophesies of Messiah that were fulfilled in Jesus, who is God, born of a Virgin. (Isa. 7:14.) Those Jews who knew the scriptures were able to see who He was when he came and ministered to people. The four Gospels in the New Testament are a testimony of His life and His mission, and that He indeed is God with us (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1, 14). The letters by Paul, Peter, James, John and Jude are instructions and counsel to the believers who have found faith in Jesus. We do not have prophets any more. As Luke and Matthew wrote (Luke 16:16; Matt. 11:13), the time of the prophets ended in John the Baptist, who came as the promised messenger (Malachi 3:1; Luke 7:27) to remind Israel what the prophets in the Old Testament had said about the Messiah, and that He was now in the midst of them. The writer to the Hebrews (possibly Paul) also reminds readers that God, who "in time past spoke to the

prophets" (Hebr. 1:1-2), does not do so any more. He has already revealed all that we must know to be saved, and Paul predicts, in Hebr. 1:1-2, that God will reveal the rest of the future through Jesus Christ, as He did through John (Rev. 1:1-). In the Book of Revelation the entire future of the mankind is indeed revealed by Jesus Christ. It is a book telling of "meta tauta", "after these things". It includes *the Rapture of the Church, Tribulation, 1000 year Millennial Kingdom, the Great White Throne Judgment*, and takes us even past that to the New Heaven and New Earth (Rev. 21:1-2). There is not anything else to reveal, since it takes us past all earthly life, to the heavenly kingdom. The Book of Revelation is not "revelations", nor "John's revelation" as many have assumed, but **it is the Revelation of Jesus Christ**. (Rev. 1:1.) God indeed does not do anything without revealing His plans to His prophets, as Amos 3:7 says. **We have it all in the Word of God, the Bible**. The problem with most people is that they have not studied the Bible, book by book, verse by verse, in context.

2. There are three known creeds among Christianity. They were established to summarize what the Bible teaches about God, Jesus and salvation. These creeds do not change, nor eliminate what the Bible says. They are quite similar to each other.

a. The Nicene Creed is perhaps the best known of them, was adopted in 325 A.D. **to reject a heresy known as Arianism which denied the divinity of Christ and His equality among the persons of the Trinity.**

b. The Athanasian Creed originated in Europe sometime in the late 300's A.D.

c. The Apostles' Creed is the basis of most other statements of belief.

There seems to be a lot of misinformation as well as lack of information about the creeds and that alone has caused problems.

An other problem with most people is that they have not investigated the history and how the Bible has been preserved. They just parrot the phrases told to them by those who do not want to accept the Bible as God's Final Word and authority to us, and who want to add to it in order to promote their own "special" doctrine.

The **Word of God is complete**. It is infallible and correct. **Please do not question God!** The Old Testament ended 400 years before Christ. It was collected and put together then as a complete canon of 39 books. It was translated from Hebrew into Greek about 300 years before Christ, when Greek had become a universal language of the then known world. That translation is called *the Septuagint*, named after 70 Hebrew scholars who had worked many long years in translating it. **It was the version in common use during the time of Christ**. It has the same books we have in our Old Testament, some books in a different order. **Jesus quoted from all books of the Old Testament. He never even hinted that something was missing, or incorrect in it.** (Luke 24:25-27, 44 - notice how many times He says "all". "All" means ALL - that NOTHING IS MISSING.) The New Testament writers quoted the Old Testament **from the Septuagint**, never mentioning that anything was wrong or missing in it. We can trust them!

The religious cults that want to change or add to biblical doctrine, claim that Bible is not sufficient, or that it is not complete, in order to add their own "special" doctrines. They simply are not telling the truth! **Jesus said that even heaven and earth will pass away, but His Word never will** (Matt. 24:35.) Heaven and earth are still in place, so we can trust that His Word is what He wanted it to be. If anything needed to be corrected or added, surely He would have said so, and done so! **The Word** is one of His titles! (John 1:1, 14.) He is the Protector of His Word. **God holds His Word, and His promises in it, higher than His Holy Name** (Ps. 138:2). **It is blasphemy to attack His Word.**

You say that only a prophet has the right to interpret the scriptures. The Old Testament prophets spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16). The Word of God came to us through them and **God commands us all to STUDY the Word**. Jesus commanded it - John 5:39. Paul advised Timothy to teach that people must **study** for themselves (2 Tim. 2:15) **so that they would know what the doctrine is** and thus be able to reject false doctrines, and counsel others who have gone astray. (2 Tim. 3:16; 1 Tim. 4:1.) The same Holy Spirit who gave us the Word, interprets for us all the harder to understand passages as we diligently study. Bereans were admired as "noble" *because "they searched the scriptures daily" to make sure that what they heard preached was according to the scriptures.* (Acts 17:11.) We are told in the Word to **test all things** (1 Thess. 5:21). We are told to **test the spirits** (1 John 4:1) that try to give us feelings and "testimonies" contrary to the doctrine found in the Bible. God's Spirit **would not** give feelings or approval of something that is against what **God has said in His Word, the Bible**. (2 Pet. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:16.)

3. Born again believers in **Christ Jesus of the Bible** were first time called *Christians in Antioch*. (Acts 11:26.)

We read in many places that **the Holy Ghost came when they believed**. (See Acts 2:1-4; 10:44-46.) They were baptized **after they had believed**. Baptism is an outward testimony of what had already taken place in their hearts. Through baptism we **identify with our Lord**. Baptism is an outward sign of what we believe in our hearts, namely that **Christ Jesus died for our sins, was buried and rose again on the 3rd day (Romans 6:3-4). The gospel is the message of that**. Baptism does not cleanse us from sin, only *the Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin*. (1 John 1:7.) **There are no laws or ordinances in the Gospel of God (Gal. 2:16-21.)** Anything that is added to the Gospel declared in 1 Cor. 15:1-4, makes it "**another gospel**" that only brings God's curse. (Galatians 1:6-9.)

The priesthood ended when Christ fulfilled the law and became our last and ultimate sacrifice. We, as believers in Him, are His chosen people. We have the "royal priesthood" that belongs to all believers in Christ of the Bible. (1 Peter 2:9.) (Please go to our website: www.hismin.com/priesthood.htm and read more about the priesthood.)

4. **The Bible is God's Word to us**. Through it we know that **Joseph Smith erred** when He said that God has not always been God, but that he is a former mortal man with parents, grandparents, etc., who have all "progressed" to godhood. **Joseph Smith erred** when he taught that we can also become Gods and create our own worlds and populate them with our spirit children who in turn will worship us.

That is false! The Bible is clear that **God is Eternal God** - no Gods before Him, no Gods after Him. He has never been less than God! (Isa. 43:10; 44:6; Ps. 90:2.) It was the idea the devil came up with to tempt Eve. (Gen. 3:5) **It was Satan who wanted to be as God**. (Isa. 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:13-15.) The Bible is adamant that **God is not a man** (Numbers 23:19; Hosea 11:9; Job 9:32 etc.) He did not progressed from a mere man to a God!. **Jesus is Eternal God** (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1, 14), who became a man, in the "*likeness of man*" (Romans 8:3; Phil. 2:7) to pay the death-penalty we deserve, and to die for us. "*Wages of sin is death*". (Romans 6:23.) When we receive Jesus, we BECOME children of God (John 1:12). Before that we are **not** children of God, only children of the flesh, Adam's posterity (Romans 9:8) - that is why we **must be born again**, as Jesus said (John 3:7).

After the priesthood ended, **our only Mediator is Jesus** (1 Tim. 2:5). **No more Levitical Priesthood needed**. (Read Hebrews chapters 7-9.) God put an end to the priesthood and the law. We all now have the same rights as priests had - we can approach God without earthly priests. We do it through Jesus after we are born from the Spirit. (1 Peter 2:9; 2 Tim. 2:5.)

5. Priesthood in Israel, Levitical/Aaronic Priesthood, was an **inherited priesthood**. There was a death penalty for those who claimed to be eligible to be priests, from the House of Aaron, if they were not. **The Levitical priesthood was abolished at the death of the ultimate and last sacrifice, Jesus**. That is when the veil of the temple was torn (by God) "*from top to bottom*" (Matt. 27:51), opening the way to **all to come to God through Jesus**, without priests. (Function of the priests was to act as mediators between God and men by offering sacrifices in their behalf and presenting them to God.) - There never was any Melchizedek priesthood in Israel. Melchizedek was a person, *a type of Christ* who appeared to Abraham. He was a prophet, priest and King, as is Jesus. **This priesthood belongs to Christ alone** - it is not transferable, it **does not pass from one to another**. (Hebr. 7:24.) In Israel they had only one High Priest at a time. When he died, they selected another **from among the priests of Aaron**. **Our High Priest, Jesus Christ, never dies. He is our only High Priest, forever**. His priesthood does not pass or belong to anyone else. He is our only Mediator as 1 Tim. 2:5 says. **Our authority comes directly from Christ**. (1 Peter 2:9.)

6. **Jesus taught His disciples, who are now teaching us through the New Testament. They could not have even written all that Jesus did, but they wrote what was needed for people to believe and be saved**. (John 20:30-31.)

There are no "extra covenants". **Salvation is a gift of God, received by asking in faith**. (Romans 10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-10.) **There are no laws or ordinances in the gospel (1 Cor.15:1-4; Gal. 2:16-21)**. (Read Paul's entire letter to Galatians. It is a clear explanation of why there was the law before Christ came and how we are now saved without obedience to the law.)

7. **Born-again believer's calling and election IS sure in Christ**. My calling and election is sure, not because what I am able to do as a believer in Jesus, but what He has done for me. I am in His hands. He

saved me and He keeps me saved. Please read John 10:26-30. Those who do not have God's Spirit, and do not know Jesus personally, they do not believe what He has said and promised. To me it is wonderful to have that assurance from Jesus that I will never perish and that I am in the handclasp of both the Father and the Son. My salvation is secure in Him. (1 John 5:11-13.)

8. I already answered that question. Jesus is our only High Priest. He alone has the right to the Melchizedek Priesthood.

9. You speak like a Mormon, so you must be one. Lying is not a good thing. Those who lie are of the father of lies - that is what Jesus said. (John 8:44. See also Rev. 21:8.) However, not all your information is exactly correct. Membership is about 12 million (not 13), and currently they have about 52,000 missionaries (not 80,000), who act as the door-to-door salesmen for the Mormon church. As to your other comments in this point, I'd like you to be informed that, many, if not most Christians also pay tithing, and that temples are not needed, for the Word of God says that we, as believers, are temples of God, and Holy Spirit dwells in us. (1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19.) Purpose of the temple (one temple for One and Only true God) in the Old Testament was to offer sacrifices until the penalty of sins was paid by the Messiah-Jesus. The Jewish temple in Israel was a literal slaughter house, not a place for marriages and ceremonies as in the LDS temples. After Christ, the temple was no longer needed. Marriages were never performed in the Temple in Jerusalem. Marriage was ordained for procreation during our earthly life. There are no marriages in heaven, as Jesus said (Matt. 22:30.) **Believers will be together in heaven as the Bride of Christ. We belong to Him forever, our marriage to Him is eternal.**

As to Peter, James and John, not one of these three had the priesthood. They were not Levites.

10. Catholics like Mormons make many claims, but we must disregard all claims, doctrines and teachings that are not biblical. We must check the Bible to see what is correct doctrine. (1 Thess. 5:21; 2 Tim. 3:16.) Apostle John said that we must *not even receive them into our houses who do not bring the doctrine taught in the Bible.* (2 John 10-11.) This is found in all versions of the Bible...

"*This Rock*" is not Peter, but Christ, and Peter's confession of who Christ is. (Matt. 16:15-16) The disciples had learned who Jesus was first from John the Baptist (John 1:15-18) and later it was confirmed by their personal knowledge of Jesus and witness of the Holy Spirit. If we look at the Greek text, we see that the Lord is here (16:18) making a play on words. "*Peter*" is "*petros*", meaning a **small stone**. The Rock is "*petra*", meaning a rock mass, **solid and immovable**. (By the way, in Aramaic the meaning is the same.) Peter is a living **small stone** built on the Foundation of Confession of **Christ as the Rock** (1 Pet. 2:5). The "church" is not an organization, but a living body of Christ (Col. 1:18, 24). It is translated from a Greek word, "ekklesia", meaning believers in Christ, or "called-out-ones".

11. "Keys" are not literal keys, of course, it is used as a *metaphor* (similar as you read in Luke 11:52), for a *message that opens the way to salvation to those who respond.* "**Keys**" here means the message, the gospel. Anyone who responds to the gospel message and is saved, receives an assurance that their **confession of Christ** is

likewise "**bound in heaven**" and **is secure**.

As to your other comments under # 11, we have already talked about that only Jesus has the Melchizedek priesthood. Prophets did not necessarily have the priesthood. **Only Ezekiel of all the Old Testament prophets was a priest.** Jeremiah was from the priestly lineage, but he was not a priest - others were not priests nor were they from a priestly line or tribe.

12. Jesus alone is the way. Not any church is the way. (John 14:6; Acts 4:12.) **He is the Lord, we are in Him and saved by Him. After we have been born from above, then we are baptized.** We are baptized into his death, as Romans 6:3-4 says, and raised into a new life in Him, not the other way around.

13. Millennial Kingdom is Kingdom of God on Earth. It will be run by King Jesus, not by any church as such. He will set the organization for His Kingdom when He comes with His saints (Rev. 19 and 20). The gospel is now shared by the believers in Christ and preached by them around the world. Our authority comes from God, from His Word.

The Bible has been translated into about 2,200 various languages. 97% of the world's population has the Bible already in their own language. Many have also heard the gospel through radio and through the Christian missionaries who have been preaching in the jungles and among nations for almost 2000 years.

That is what Jesus said that we must do (Matt. 28:18-20), take the gospel to *all nations*, not necessarily every last individual. God will call those who will hear.

We must also expose falsehoods, and rebuke and correct those who preach "*another gospel*" and "*another Jesus*" and have "*another spirit*". (2 Cor. 11:4.) Mormonism came to Joseph Smith by an **angel of light**. We are warned about that in the same chapter - 2 Cor. 11:13-15, and in Galatians 1:8-9. (See also D&C, Introduction page, prior to 1979 printing, where it is declared that Moroni, who visited Joseph Smith, is an **angel of light, who**, according to the Bible, **is the devil**...)

As to apostles: There could not be apostles after the first Century A.D., for the word "apostle" itself means *the one who is an eye-witness, as was Peter and others* (2 Peter 1:16). They were the apostles of our Lord. You are simply repeating Joseph Smith's false teachings when you talk about "apostles" after the First Century.

There are many callings among believers, based on how God has gifted them. There are pastors, teachers and deacons, who, by the way, had to be mature men, not 12-year old boys. (1 Tim. 3:12.)

14. The New Jerusalem is not built by men, but by God and it comes from heaven (See Rev. 21:2- 22:5 .) **City of Jerusalem has always been and is in Israel**, and that is where the Lord Jesus will come to be the **King of Kings and the Lord of Lords (Rev. 19:16)** and rule the world with the rod of iron for a 1000 years. (Rev. 20.) **Zion is another name for the City of David, which is Jerusalem.** (1 Kings 8:1; 1 Chr. 11:5 2 Chr.5:2;Isa. 40:9; Jer. 31:12; Zech. 9:13.)

15. This is what I think - and there is more to tell if you have a desire to learn that **Jesus is God**, not Lucifer's spirit-brother or a created being. **Jesus is the Creator who created angels, including Lucifer.** (John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16.) Logic says that the **Creator cannot be a brother of His own creation.**

Only God Almighty can save you and me - not "another Jesus", not a church or anyone but Him. If you want to read more, go to our website: www.hismin.com

I'd be glad to continue discussing these matters with you. Sincerely, Rauni Higley www.hismin.com

This month of June we experienced the most wonderful spiritual high with Kalli Stewart's and Matt Corbin's marriage in Vernal, Utah, that I told you about in our last month's Newsletter as a coming event. Kalli is a daughter of Preston and Kathy Stewart, and a granddaughter of Max and Pat Stewart, who all are our very dearest friends and fellow Christians. Dennis was asked to perform the wedding and all went so well. His address to them was very beautiful. Surrounding gardens were gorgeous with water-falls and flowers, 200-300 invited guests, and regardless of predicted stormy weather, rain held till the ceremony was over, just as we all had prayed that it would. We had a very spiritual and enjoyable time from Wednesday (the 8th) till Sunday afternoon (the 12th) with Stewarts and their family and close friends. We pulled our trailer for us to stay in and parked it on Max and Pat Stewart's driveway to give room for other out-of-town family and guests that had come for his great occasion. There is no better blessing than to have **friends in the Lord** we know we will be with throughout eternity. We thank God for all of them and we were glad to see even some former Mormon friends who came to this great celebration. It must have been a surprise to them to see how happy and blessed all these "former-Mormons" were...

I would like to ask your prayers for those Mormons we are working with currently. Please pray for the provision and the needs of our ministry, and for us personally. Dennis needs prayer for his heart-health. His job is taking a physical toll on him. As you might recall, he has had two heart attacks during the last several years. He went this week to see his cardiologist. After the stress test his blood pressure was too high, 280/160. He has to be tested again in a month. It might be that he cannot work much longer doing hard physical labor (remodeling) he has been doing since we lost our business 20 years ago. We need prayer for our finances, since we do not have retirement possibility, and ministry donations just barely cover its own expenses, some months not even all of that. We know that we serve God who is aware of our needs, and we do put our trust in Him. What we are asking is that you who want to see this ministry continue will pray with us for God's provision and direction. I am telling you this so that you know to pray more specifically and ask God what we should do and how you may be directed to help us in this. God has provided for us and for the ministry work in the past - and that is our confidence for the future.

May God be with you and strengthen you in your walk with Him.
In Christ and because of Him,

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