



October 1, 2010

H.I.S. Ministries October Newsletter, covering September 2010

We send our greetings as our fall season begins and mountains are receiving a display of color, so beautiful just before the trees “*fall asleep*” for winter, to have their awakening and new birth in the spring. “*For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead.*” (Romans 1:21.) All mankind can acknowledge God through nature. When a person acknowledges God and seeks to know Him, we as His own, can direct seekers to His Word that teaches who He is and how much He loves us – so much that He became a man to pay our penalty of sin Himself. We serve the God of love and mercy and grace.

Many wish they had lived during the time of Christ, His First coming, and say how wonderful it would have been to witness His miracles and love, and to see God’s promises in the Old Testament, concerning the Messiah, came true during that time. But many fail to see that we are witnessing great miracles today: God’s promises are coming true in our day. One of those miracles is Israel. After nearly 2000 years of Israel’s exile from their own land, the State of Israel was established on May 14th, 1948. This is a major miracle of God. This assures us that we can believe God and take Him at His Word. All of God’s Word is meant for us to study (Acts 20:17) and see that all the rest of His promises will come true also. God is doing what He had promised to do and we are privileged to live to see it. Let us examine God’s Word to see what He is doing in our day.

God spoke through Ezekiel and said, “...when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings... Wherefore I poured My fury upon them... And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries...And whither they went, they profaned My holy name, when they said to them, [we] are the people of the LORD, and are gone forth out of His land. But I had pity for Mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen...Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the LORD God; I do not this for their sakes, O house of Israel, but for Mine holy name’s sake... And I will sanctify My great name...and the heathen shall know that I AM the LORD, saith the LORD God...I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.” (Ezekiel 36:17-24.) God has done it, not because Israel deserved it, but because God has promised that He will do it, even while the nation Israel was/is still in unbelief. The gathering of Israel to her own land continues. The existence of the State of Israel, though problematic to some, fits perfectly into God’s plan revealed in His Word. Some say that God’s promises to Israel are no longer valid because they rejected their Messiah. But what does God have to say? “*Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by*

day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is His name: If those ordinances depart from before Me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me for ever." (Jer. 31:35-36.) God says that only if the sun, moon and stars go out of existence will Israel as a nation also cease – not before! However, if the sun, moon and stars disappear, not only would Israel cease to exist, but all others nations would also. God told Israel, *"I have loved you with everlasting love."* (Jer. 31:3.) He also has said, concerning Israel, *"...he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of His eye."* (Zech. 2:8.) If God so loves Israel, regardless of their failures, then it is our obligation to do so also. God is restoring Israel for His name's sake – for His glory. As God gets glory for saving those who come to Him through Jesus Christ and His shed blood, He tells us that restoring Israel will sanctify His great name. He also tells us that the unconditional covenant He made with Abraham was the land-covenant and this promise is forever: *"He is the LORD our God: His judgments are in all the earth. He hath remembered His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations. Which covenant He made with Abraham, and His oath unto Isaac; And confirmed the same unto Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant: saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance."* (Ps. 105:7-11.) God could not have made His land covenant to Israel more clear! We must understand that unbelief in *the whole counsel of God* (Acts 20:27), i.e. all of God's Word, has brought anti-Israel policies to many Christian churches, and anti-Semitism that Jewish people have lived under nearly 2000 years – all in the name of Christ! This is what Jewish people know about Christians! We must repent from that and make it known to the world that there are Christians today who know what God has promised in His Word, and that He will never forsake His chosen people, Israel, but in His love He disciplines His own, *"for whom the Lord loveth, He chasteneth."* (Hebr.12:6.) Paul reminded us about this in his letter to the Romans, and asked, *"Hath God cast away His people? God forbid. For I am also an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away His people...blindness [concerning Messiah and the gospel] in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved."* (Romans 11:1-2, 25-26. Please read Chapters 9-11 in Romans to get a better picture.) This time is fast approaching. Hosea foretold that the Lord will go away (Acts 1:9), but He will return when they (Israel) will acknowledge their offence and seek His face. (See Hosea 5:15.)The Lord Jesus will come soon and *all Israel* will recognize Him as the one *"whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for Him as one mourneth for his only son... and will say to Him, What are these wounds in Thine hands? Then He shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of My friends."* (Zech. 12:10; 13:6.) We owe a lot to the Jewish people, and to Israel. The Word of God came to the world through Jewish writers. Our Lord Jesus is a Jew, from the Tribe of Judah. Just about all the first Christians were Jews who spread the Gospel of grace at the peril of their lives to us, the Gentiles. The Gospel was intended *"to the Jew first"* and after them, to the Gentiles. (Romans 1:16.) In order to correctly understand God's plan for salvation of mankind, and His future plan for Israel, we need to know the history of the Jews revealed to us in the Word of God. Israel was birthed by God calling Abraham out of a pagan country – Ur of Chaldea (today's Iraq) and leading him to Canaan, called the Holy Land. Then He brought the Israelites down to Egypt, where they grew into a nation. By the time they fled Egypt under Moses, they numbered in the millions. God gave them the Mosaic Law, which covers the period of Old Testament history in which they were in the Promised Land. Then Israel was exiled

because of their disbelief and idolatry. Later God returned them to their own land, where they remained for several hundred years before Christ's First Coming. During this time Gentiles in the world were in ignorance concerning God's Word and plan. Then came Christ's First Advent, His death on the cross, and His burial and resurrection. (1 Cor. 15:1-4.) Shortly after that the Church began (Acts 2) and the Jewish people (abt. 70 AD) were scattered among the nations of the world. Today we are still living "in the Church Age", but the Bible says that the church will be taken out of this world, "caught up in the clouds" (1 Thess. 4:13-18) we call that the *Rapture*, which will bring the Church Age to an end. Many will come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ after the Rapture, but they will not be part of the church as it is before the Rapture. The church will be in heaven with her Bridegroom, Jesus. Then begins the seven-year Tribulation spoken of by Jesus in Matt. 24. The tribulation has two main purposes: 1. To bring Israel to repentance and reconciliation with her Messiah, and total restoration as a nation; 2. To judge the Gentile nations for their rebellion against God and also for their treatment of the Jewish people during the last 2000 years. At the end of the Tribulation, Christ will return to earth with His saints and set up His Millennial Kingdom (Rev. 19 and 20). He will confine Satan, restore Israel's glory and purpose, establish His throne in His beloved Jerusalem, and rule the world from there for a thousand years. At the end of a thousand years Satan will be freed and allowed to lead a final rebellion against God and His reigning Messiah, but he will be defeated and destroyed. After that the Great White Throne Judgment of all unbelievers throughout the history of the world will take place – followed by the New Heavens and the New Earth. "He which testified these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come Lord Jesus." (Rev. 22:20.) (Some of the information for the above is gathered from "Israel My Glory" magazine's articles, from March through September, written by James A. Showers.)

This is our life - now. There will be no do-overs. Today is the day of salvation. Not only do we need to lead people to the true God, we also need to inform them about God's future plan for Israel. We need to focus on ministering to the lost *today*, for when today is gone, it will never be back. We must be yielded to Him, and allow Him to use us to share the message of love and hope through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Realizing that God has not abandoned Israel for her disobedience, gives us assurance that God will not forsake us for our disobedience. The fact is that life is short. Only God knows when our life is over – but with the time we still have, we have a choice to use it for Him.

From our mailbox:

A former Mormon wrote: *"I am at a lost for words. Finally I found a website that can continually help me. I served a 2 year mission for the LDS church in South Africa Cape Town. I thought I knew what I believed in until someone from Africa educated me on the history of the church, and like every Good strong Mormon I defended the faith until my companion told me the story about Mormons and Blacks. Me myself, I am not black. I'm Polynesian, but that was the day that I decided to learn more about what the church wasn't telling me. After my mission (from 2001-2004) I left the church. I gave my life over to Jesus on NOV 22 2009. I was so confused for a long time, frustrated, angry, bitter, because I felt that I wasted a huge chunk of my life serving in this church. Until I heard the Truth about Jesus Christ and what He finally freed me from. I just wanted to write and say Thank You for doing*

what you are doing. My whole family for Generations are staunch Mormons. Let me be the Second to say next to my Older brother in our generation that we are the only Christians. I don't know how I did it without Christ being in my life. How could I have missed all those times of having a real relationship with Him. I'm glad I found peace. And I'm happy that you guys are doing what you are doing. Keep it up. Seriously they need to know. Thank You, W."

My response: Thank you for your encouraging words. It was great to hear that you have come to know true Jesus of the Bible and received Him into your life.

We have Edward's Story on our website. He was a Mormon missionary, assistant to the mission president, in Kenya, Africa. He served his mission about the same time you did. Edward, who is black, did not know, prior to his mission, about the church's past policy towards the blacks. After he learned about that, he wrote to us and we started conversing about many doctrinal issues that he did not have any knowledge of... Edward came to know true Jesus in February 2006. Ever since that he has done a lot of work in Uganda where he lives, and helped many Mormons out of Mormonism and into true Christian faith. Edward's story is among "*Former Mormon Stories*" on our website.

www.hismin.com/Edward.html It would be nice to meet you someday. If we can help you, please let us know. Blessings, Rauni

[A convert to the LDS church felt a need to testify to us about God of Mormonism. He said that he was using Mormon.org site as his source, while telling us how happy he was when he had met the Mormon missionaries and learned that God is an exalted, resurrected man with a body of flesh and bones!]

[His words are in italics – my explanations of what the Bible actually teaches about God are below his words, in regular text (in red text in email edition).]

He wrote: *"The LDS Church teaches about Creation and pre-existence of mankind and says: God created man in His own image and placed us on the earth so we could receive physical bodies, gain experience, and become more like Him. (Holy Bible, Genesis 1:27.) Under the direction of the Father, Jesus Christ created the earth as a place for you to live and gain experience. To progress and become like God, you had to obtain a body and be tested during a time of probation on the earth. While on the earth, you are out of God's physical presence and do not remember your pre-earth life. Therefore, you must walk by faith rather than by sight. "(Emphasis added.)*

I responded: **There was no pre-earth life of mankind.** There is nothing to remember. Only God pre-existed. Only Jesus, who is God, "I AM", came from heaven. **Men did not come from heaven.** (John 8:23-24; 3:13, 31; 1 Cor. 15:46-47.)

He continued: *"Not only did God create the earth, He also created man physically in His image. And what is the image of God as revealed in the scriptures? In the Old Testament God said, "Let us make man in our own image, after our likeness" (Genesis 1:26)"*

I responded: God created man from the dust of this earth and **"breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul"**. (Gen 1:26; 2:7; Zach. 12:1.) **"God is Spirit"**. (John 4:24.) **We are made into an image of God – that is: His spiritual image. "Spirit does not have flesh and bones."** (Luke

24:39.) ("**Us**" in Gen 1:26-27, is referring to Triune God of the Bible, **three Spirit Persons**, but One God.) Jesus is the **image of the invisible God**. (Col. 1:15. See also, Phil 2:6-8; Col. 2:9; 1 John 5:7, KJV.) Because we are made after God's image, we are able to love, think and reason etc. The Bible clearly says that **God is not a man**. (Num. 23:19; Hosea 11:9; 1 Sam. 15:29; Job 9:32; Isa. 31:3-4.) There is a huge difference between mankind and God. **God is eternal**. (Ps. 90:2.) **He is the Creator**. (John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16.) **We are created beings and thus not eternal**.

He continued: "*Jacob declared that he had seen God "face to face". (Genesis 32:30.) "Moses also spoke with God "face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend." (Exodus 33:11.)*

I responded: *Face-to-face* is an expression of closeness, used many times in the Bible. Even a blind person can have a *face-to-face conversation* with another. However, **no one can see God** as He is, for **He is invisible Spirit**. (John 1:18; 4:24; Col. 1:15; 1 John 4:12.) Physical appearances of God in the Old Testament were appearances of the LORD, who appeared in His future incarnated form. He came to Moses as **the Angel of the Lord** (Exodus 3:1-6, 14), and the **Great I AM**. (See also Joshua 5:13-15.) God speaking to Moses *face-to-face* is likewise an expression of close encounter. (You referred to Ex. 33:11, but you must continue reading.) God explained that **no one can see His face and live** (33:20). Men can only see the **Glory of God**. (Ex. 33:18-23.) Moses did not see God's face, he saw the glory of God. The Bible often uses figurative language when speaking of God. However, **God does not have physical attributes as man has, any more than He has feathers**. (See Ps. 91:4.)

He continued: "*In the New Testament, when the resurrected Christ appeared to His Apostles, He told them, "Handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have" (Luke 24:39)."*

I responded: Jesus is the image of the invisible God, God who is Spirit. (Col. 1:15; John 4:24.) This invitation to see and handle Him after His resurrection was important to help them to understand that when God became a man He became man 100%, even though He was and is 100% God. He will be in a form of a man forever, and when we are resurrected, "**we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is**." (John 1:1, 14; Matt. 1:23; Phil. 2:6-11; 1 John 3:2.) He said, "**It is finished**." (John 19:30.) **Our sin-debt was paid in full. Now His apostles were able to understand why God had become a man, and go on preaching the Gospel of grace of God. (Eph. 2:8-9.)**

He continued: "*Later Stephen testified that he saw Jesus "standing on the right hand of God". (Acts 7:56)."*

I responded: **Read Acts 7, verse 55 first and then verse 56.** It says (v. 55) that Stephen saw "**the glory of God**", just as Moses did in Ex. 33:18-23. (Read also John 1:18.) **No one can see God as He is, but Jesus is God**, the second Person of Triune God, **who BECAME a man to reveal God's heart and love to us. Stephen saw the glory of God and Jesus next to Him, but he did not see God the Father, for God is invisible Spirit.**

He continued: "*Modern-day revelation confirms these teachings from the Bible. God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, appeared to Joseph Smith in the spring of 1820. Joseph revealed that the Father and the Son each have a "body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's" (Doctrine and Covenants 130:22). The Major difference is the Father and the Son have glorified, resurrected, immortal bodies.*"

I responded: The Bible does not teach nor confirm any such a vision. The Bible teaches that **God is Spirit** and that **Spirit does not have flesh and bones.** (John 4:24; Luke 24:39.) The Bible teaches that **God is NOT a man.** (See Num. 23:19; 1 Sam. 15:29; Hosea 11:9.) Joseph Smith's First Vision story in the Pearl of Great Price is contended by his own 7-8 various versions of this same vision he had related prior to this "official" and much later version of it. In none of these first 7-8 versions of his vision story did he say that both God the Father and Jesus had appeared to him. **This story, as it is now published in the Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith History, was not known to anyone until it was first time published in 1842. That is 22 years after** it supposedly had happened. It is evident from Joseph Smith's own words and teachings, from **the beginning of the church in 1830 till 1842,** that he simply made this story up much later. It can also be seen as a later made-up story from **1835 published Doctrine and Covenants,** where, in **Part I -Theology of the Church of Christ,** he taught that **the Father is Spirit** and **only the Son has a body of flesh and bones.** This above mentioned D&C 130:22 was not added to the D&C until 1876, but obviously the church leaders then did not realize that adding this Section 130:22 presented a contradiction in this same book. It took another 45 years before they removed, in 1921, **the Part I, Theology** - entirely from the D&C and by removing it, they got rid of **Lecture 5 that said that God is Spirit.** It is sad that the Mormon Church keeps on deceiving (on purpose) by changing their own scriptures and taking biblical scriptures out of context and building their teachings on obvious false interpretations. It is evident from Gen. 1:1 through Rev. 22:21 that **God of the Bible is One God in three Persons.** We have briefly shown it above. **God is One.** (See: Deut. 6:4; Mark 12:29-32; Neh. 9:6-71 John 5:7; James 2:19; 1 Tim. 2:5.) - The Bible instructs us (Mark 12:30), **"... thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength..."** Jesus said of Satan, **"He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."** (John 8:44.) Let's face it: Satan is a clever liar. In fact, many of his lies sound like the truth. He plays with our minds to confuse us. He lies about the biggest subject of all – GOD. Satan wants to deceive you about the Triune God, and the fact that **Jesus is God,** Satan makes Him "a lesser god", a man who *became a god.* **If he can distort your idea of God, then beyond the shadow of any doubt, he has you in everything else. Jesus is God – and if the devil can confuse that issue "as it is not important who Jesus is", he will have his way, and people may only think they are saved by this "lesser Jesus" of Mormonism, when in fact they are not saved at all.**

A Christian man wrote: *"What should I do with a Mormon lady-friend, who has asked me to study the Bible and Mormonism with her, but when I showed her what the prophets and apostles of the Mormon Church have said about these doctrinal matters (using Mormon Doctrine and Journal of Discourses and other LDS leaders' writings, and also your website or other websites like yours), she refused to accept any quotes or teachings from any books that were not actually published by the LDS Church, even if they are written by their prophets and apostles. She says that she only accepts as doctrine the General Conference sermons, published by the Church in Ensign, and what their Standard Works say. She says that you present things that are not taught in LDS Sunday School lesson manuals, etc. She also says that websites like your website www.hismin.com are full of lies and distortions when you say that Mormonism is not Christian. Can you help me?"*

I answered: This looks to me as her *missionary effort* in response to Mormon Church's urging, "every member a missionary". They are to get into conversations with non-Mormons in an effort to convince them that Mormonism is Christian, and convert them to Mormonism. **Mormonism is not Christian, but**

a counterfeit Christian religion. They use Christian words, but they believe in *another Jesus* (different identity than Jesus of the Bible, who is God), and in a father god who was once a mortal man, and in a *gospel* that is based on “*laws and ordinances*” of the Mormon Church, rather than Gospel of grace of God. These LDS books she mentioned to you that she will not accept contain “meat doctrines” that potential converts are to be kept away from. When she said that our website, or other websites ministering to Mormons and warning Christians about Mormonism, are not telling the truth, ask her to be specific and document what is not true. You can even say to her that you are sure that if we are presented a **correction with documentation**, we would correct what is not right. (And we would!) Just so you know, the Mormon Church’s teaching manuals used in their adult Sunday School classes, quote from these very books (*Mormon Doctrine, Journal of Discourses* etc.). As a matter of fact ***Journal of Discourses*** is mostly General Conference sermons/talks. You need to know also that the LDS Church has announced (Oct. 23, 2004, in the LDS Church News) that **all General Conference talks are “supplement or addition to the Doctrine and Covenants”**. The fact is that General Conference sermons preached by their prophets and apostles, and recorded in ***Journal of Discourses***, are true Mormonism. ***Mormon Doctrine*** is an encyclopedic volume of **doctrines taught by past and current LDS prophets and apostles**. She is limiting herself greatly if she is only reading books “**published by the LDS Church**”. She ought to know that the Mormon Church is not in the general printing business, even though they do print their lesson manuals and such, but most of the LDS leaders’ books are not published by the Mormon Church itself, but by Mormon-owned publishing companies, as **Deseret Book Company, Signature Books, Bookcraft, etc.** It needs to be said that who authors these LDS books is what matters. Printing companies just print what is given to them to print – they do not write the books. If she still insists only using books **published** by her church, I would like to recommend a book, ***The Gospel Through Ages***, by Milton R. Hunter. That book clearly shows the false gospel of Mormonism. **It was published by the LDS Church, “under the direction of the First Presidency and the Twelve”**, for “***The Quorums of the Melchizedek Priesthood***”. It teaches, among many things, *a pagan concept of god(s)* and that this *concept is very similar to Mormon doctrine of god*. It also affirms that Jesus and Lucifer are brothers, who both contended which one would become the savior of the world. I think that you’d find this book from www.amazon.com. If you have more questions or comments, please write again. God bless. Rauni

We started our **Understanding Mormonism** class at Calvary Chapel on the 12th of September. We did not have our usual amount of people for this first meeting, but **we were so blessed to have Adam’s Road Band come and share their testimonies of coming out of Mormonism and into faith in Jesus Christ of the Bible**. The following Sunday we had our usual crowd of enthusiastic people, and we hope that we will even gain a few more who are willing to take time to learn how to make a difference in this *Mormon-state of Utah*. Please pray that our presentation will be according to the will of our Lord Jesus and that many will come to know Him through these classes as they learn to share the true gospel.

For those of you who are not familiar with Adam’s Road Music Ministry, please go to their website to experience their music and life stories. www.adamsroadband.com Their ministry is a Faith Ministry and they rely totally in the Lord’s provision. They do not sell their DVDs or CDs, but give them away, nor do they charge for their concerts. Yet, just like any ministry, they need funds to produce music and travel to present their stories and show what God has done in their lives. **We ask that all who have been inspired**

by their stories and music, give love-donations to help them keep on sharing. You can donate to them through their website: www.adamsroadband.com

Seems as everyone in these days is struggling with financial problems, and especially people in faith-based ministries like ours are having extra difficult time when people generally have less to give. We so relate to Adam's Road, for their ministry is run like ours – *on the Lord's power* – they do not sell anything – we do not sell anything. No one pays them a salary, no one pays us a salary. We are struggling each month. Some may ask, why? - is there anything good that can come from financial problems? Yes, there is. Our faith in our God grows with each difficulty. But our past is a guarantee of our future. We are sure that as long as the Lord wants us to be in **His Ministry (HISMIN)**, we are working for Him and He is our Provider – even though in touchable ways He uses His own people to provide. I would say to all that trials of this nature are wonderful opportunities to put your trust in your Heavenly Father for your daily bread. **It is better to have a Father who owns a bakery than to have a warehouse full of bread!** Our Heavenly Father owns the cattle on thousand hills – we just talk to Him about our needs. **And as He provides, we thank Him and His own who have heard from Him and have come to our rescue! Thank you for your prayers and your assistance to keep us in this Lord's Field.** We thank the Lord that Dennis has had enough work to keep our personal bills paid. The Lord has also blessed us with good health and as we are aging, it becomes more and more valued and special blessing.

Please pray for Bruce for his upcoming court case (Oct. 25th – Nov. 11th) and wisdom for his attorneys to bring good results in this battle with insurance companies that they have been fighting for 6 years. They are trying to avoid compensation for his serious head injuries he received in a car-wreck that was not his fault. - Please continue also praying for Dale who is paralyzed and in a wheelchair after he was hit by a car making a wrong turn. He is confident that he will yet walk and be able to continue in his ministry he loves. - Heber, who is in Federal Prison, is asking prayer. He is still having loud ringing in his ears that makes it impossible for him to concentrate in his studies of the Word of God. - In addition to health needs of our friends, there are several LDS people who have written to us whom we are trying to help. Only prayers in their behalf can open their hearts and minds to receive the truth of the biblical gospel of God. They are so blinded. Just as Paul wrote: *"If our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."* (2 Cor. 4:3-4.)

Serving the Lord with gladness,

Rauni & Dennis Higley

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**Thought for the day: "Tolerance is the virtue of the man without convictions."
G.K. Chesterton.**

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