



May 1, 2013

**\*He Is Savior; acts 4:12**

## H.I.S. Ministries May 2013 Newsletter, covering April, 2013

We have waited for warm weather for a long time. This has been a long and very cold winter; spring lasted only 2-3 days...☺ May is the beginning of summer and we are very happy to welcome summer! ☺

**Calvary Chapel held Capstone Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, on April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.** Pastors Terry Long and James Harris demonstrated their love for Mormons by working hard for countless hours in putting together this free conference and covering the cost of bringing to Salt Lake City many distinguished and experienced teachers on the topic of Mormonism. Among them were James Walker from Arlington, Texas; Dr. Phil Roberts from Kansas City, Missouri; Dick Baer via Skype from Sacramento, California; Professor Jill Martin Rische (the daughter of Dr. Walter Martin) from the Twin Cities, Minneapolis, St. Paul; Rocky and Helen Hulse from Texas; and Pastor James Spencer from Boise, Idaho. Carl Moore, a talented Hopi Indian and former LDS presented uplifting dance giving praise to our Lord for deliverance. The rest of the speakers, Pastor Marv Cowen, Doris Hanson and Dennis and I are Salt Lake City locals.

This conference was *where the rubber meets the road*, words of love that anyone can say *became actions of love* warning lost Mormons that there is a great danger ahead, and *"today is the day of salvation"* (Hebr. 3:7-15), for there are many who will end up spending eternity in a very bad place unless we sound the voice of warning and lead them to **Jesus of the Bible** who said, **"I AM the way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."** (John 14:6.) The true Gospel of God is the **Good News**. (1 Cor. 15:1-4.) There can be no **good news** unless we first understand what the **"bad news"** is. A message of the love of God without judgment of God does not have a convicting meaning. **God is just and the wages of sin is death** (Rom. 6:23). **All mankind are sinners.** (Rom. 6:23.) For that reason **God became a man and took all our sins on Him when He died on the cross for us.** (John 3:16.) There we have the **bad news (that all have sinned)** and the **good news (God became a man to save sinners – Rom. 5:8).** But to apply **"good news"** to ourselves, we have to repent and humble ourselves before **Him who alone can forgive sins.** (John 8:24; Mark 2:7, 17; Rom. 10:9-10; 1 John 1:7-9.) **"Another gospel"** (2 Cor. 11:4, 13-15) cannot bring salvation, only the curse of God (Gal. 1:8-9.). The fear of God is essential and foundational to true Christianity. (Matt. 10:28.) Fear of man is a distraction and hindrance that causes people to compromise and perhaps even miss eternal life. We often hear about giving "milk before meat", doctrinally speaking, fearing that the whole truth of God may scare people away. However, if we do not present God as who He is, **God who will judge the world** (Acts 17:31; Hebr. 10:30) **as well as God who so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son** (John 3:16) to pay for our sins on that awful cross, then we are misrepresenting God and misleading hell-bound sinners. All around us we see consequences of deceitful doctrines and judgment errors. We see the true Gospel being watered down for the sake of **"getting along."** We don't often speak up when we see or hear false teachings creeping into our churches, nor do we defend the true Jesus Christ when we see a false Jesus promoted. We may boldly profess His name and truth in the company of other believers, but do we speak up when confronted by a false gospel? We too live **"where Satan dwells"**, as the Lord said to those in Pergamos (Rev. 2:12-16). They endured social pressure just as we do, and outwardly they seemed to be following God's commands, but inwardly they had allowed the culture to weaken their stand for the Lord. They had begun tolerating the customs of their society and

permitted false teaching to infiltrate their church. They remained seemingly as followers of Christ but compromised and mingled with this *false-doctrine-teaching-society* instead of correcting and standing for God's truth. We are not much different, are we? Regardless of their lack of loyalty to the Lord, Jesus commended them for what they did correctly for Him (2:13-15). We can rest assured that the Lord sees our struggles and He is fully aware of everything we face in this city that Satan has taken as his stronghold. The Lord is pleased when we do stand for Him in the midst of pressure. He expects us to stand up for His Name and Truth, and if we trust in Him, we know that we do not have to do it alone - we can count on Him to be right there with us. But if we continue to compromise, we will, sooner or later, face serious consequences. If we have tolerated errors and false teachings among us we must confess them as sin and repent, just as the Lord urged those in Ephesus to do. (Rev.2:4-5.) ***“Finally, my brethern, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”*** (Eph. 6:10-12.) We must, especially in this Utah-mission-field, continually pray for wisdom, for the words to say, and the right time to say them, and ask for His protection as we minister here. ***“Be ye also patient; establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth near.”*** (James 5:8.)

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**From our mailbox:** A young lady, engaged to be married to a Mormon, converted to Mormonism and is regretting it already, but she is worried about their relationship if she would express her confusion and unbelief in Mormon teachings. Not knowing what to do, **she wrote:** *“Thank you so very much for your website, [www.hismin.com](http://www.hismin.com). It offers some hope in my situation. I am feeling trapped and I need help. My fiancé was raised a Mormon and he believes it totally. When I met him I investigated the LDS Church and eventually got baptized. I don't know now what I was thinking... I realize that it was probably the biggest mistake I've ever made. I truly love him and I wanted to be 'on the same page' with him and his religion. I assumed that if I could not prove that the Book of Mormon was not true, then perhaps it was true... I also reasoned that if so many great and educated people went to this church and seemed to believe it all, could they all be wrong? Soon after I became a member I was called to teach Primary (10-11 year olds) about the history of the church. Reading through most of the D&C made me sick. It seems to be deceptive, full of manipulation and lies. And I am supposed to teach this to children!! The whole thing is disgusting and church history is deceptive and just plain wrong. I truly wish I had read the D&C before deciding to be baptized – if I had I would not have done it. Last week's lesson was about how the early church was being chastised by God, followed by a verse proclaiming church leaders to be perfect and innocent of all wrong doing. Joseph Smith would tell lies and offer false promises and when they did not come to pass, he would blame the people and say that God was chastising them... and saying that his word was perfect. Last night father of my fiancé gave a whole diatribe on polygamy and its history in the church and what a great thing it was, and how it will be reinstated one day. I thought I would gag. I feel like I am trapped. I have to sit in church on Sundays and smile and pretend – I just hate it. Yet I am scared to ask to be released from Primary teaching because of the parents of my fiancé. His mother teaches with me there...I feel so much guilt for getting involved in this church. It was always against my better judgment. I am a Christian and I really believe that my fiancé is too. I know that he believes in Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. But when I search former Mormon stories, I see that most of them have abandoned their entire belief system, Jesus included. I believe 100% that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. I fear that if I share with him what I already know about this religion that my fiancé will abandon all religion, and Jesus also. My question is, what was that led you and your husband away from the Mormon Church and to the Bible and Christ? Is there any hope for my fiancé? What can I say to him that will not ignite anger and frustration for both of us? My instinct is not to fly in his face about it. I think I need to be subtle and hope that he will figure it out himself. However I am terrified to talk about this with him – and fear that he will get angry. I am terrified that if he abandons Mormonism, he will abandon his morals also. I don't want him to do that. I am praying every day that something will spark a doubt in his mind – I pray that I will have wisdom on how to proceed with this. I don't want out of this relationship and I know that he doesn't either. We are supposed to get married soon. The only thing I know to do for him at this point is to love him and*

*that I want to always be on his side. I am so grateful for your website. Any hope, advice or encouragement would be helpful. How can I point him towards Jesus and away from Joseph Smith, the Book of Mormon and his belief that the Mormon Church is the only true church? Please help me. Jamie”*

**My reply to her:** I understand. Been there – done that. I too came to see that I had made a huge mistake when I became a Mormon, but when I discovered it, it seemed to be too late – I had served an LDS mission, married in SL temple, had 3 children, and was working for the church. It took me 20 years to get out of my bondage to Mormonism. Your case is different – you are *“not yet that deep in it”*. You are not married yet either. I would suggest that you’d *honestly contend for your Christian faith* (Jude 3) and admit to your fiancé that you made a hasty decision to join *without understanding how different Mormonism is from biblical Christianity*. You can tell him that you love him and want your relationship to continue, but under the umbrella of true Christianity, and faith in Jesus of the Bible. Remind him that since *he says he believes in Christ* you could build on that faith without Mormonism in the middle, and set your heart to correct his understanding on who Jesus is. You could also challenge him to study the history of Mormonism with you – adding that what is truth will always remain truth. There should be no objection from his part to that. - You say that you accepted the Book of Mormon because you could not prove that it is not true. It is hard to prove the negative, but lack of proof for the Book of Mormon is too devastating to ignore. The Bible is evidenced by history and archaeology, and even secular histories report about people of Israel, their cities and kings etc. Every coin mentioned in the Bible has been found in abundance. But nothing of the Book of Mormon, no cities, no people, not even the language that it was supposedly written in is known anywhere in the world, nor one coin among many mentioned in Alma 11:3-19 has been found. These are just some of the issues that brought my husband finally into thinking and reasoning – and after he agreed to study the Bible systematically and in context, he came to conclusion that what he had been taught all his life was not true. That there are many “great and educated people” belonging to many other false religions is not proof that they are true. There are over a billion Buddhists, and about billion Hindus, 1.5 billion Muslims, etc. among them millions of smart and educated people. Their numbers do not prove that these religions are based on truth. Most of these people were born into these religions and they accepted them as their family traditions. These are *different religions*, when Mormonism along with Jehovah’s Witnesses etc. *are counterfeit faiths, often referred to as cults*. What qualifies them as cults is that they present themselves as Christians without believing what the Bible teaches about God, Jesus and salvation, and what Christians have historically believed for 2000 years. They have taken Christian words and terms and given them a different meaning. They have stolen the identity of Jesus. They use His name and the biblical stories about His life and death and have attached this information to their Jesus, but true identity of Jesus of JWs and Mormons is totally different than Jesus of the Bible who is God Almighty. (Rev. 1:8.) You may know that **JW’s Jesus is Michael the Archangel. Jesus of Mormonism is a brother of Lucifer, all angels and men, i.e. a created being rather than the Creator. Jesus Christ of the Bible is God with us who created all things, including men and angels.** (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1-3, 14.) Neither Mormons or JWs believe in Triune God of the Bible, which is a core belief of all Christians. Jesus of the Bible is a Virgin-born Son of God (Matt. 1:18-23; Luke 1:35), **begotten by the Holy Spirit, and in whom all the fullness of Godhead dwells bodily** (Col. 2:9). The JWs and the Mormon Church deny that. Jesus said that **unless we believe that He is I AM** (God), **we will die in our sins**. (John 8:24.) **Only God can forgive sins**. (Mark 2:7; Luke 5:20-21.) Neither one of these faiths believe the **Gospel of Christ** that is declared in the Bible (1 Cor. 15:1-4; Gal. 1:6-9), but have established their own “*gospel of works*”. *Gospel of Mormonism is based on “laws and ordinances” of the Mormon Church* (3<sup>rd</sup> Article of Faith). There are no laws or ordinances in the Gospel of Christ. (Gal. 2:16-21.) Salvation is the gift of God, not of works. (Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 10:9-10.) – It was the simple gospel of the New Testament that brought my husband and I from “another gospel”, warned of in 2 Cor. 11: 4, 13-15, to the true Christ and to a new birth and relationship with God. (John 1:12-13; Rom. 8:15.) Trust the Lord and prayerfully and boldly proclaim His truth to your fiancé. By doing so you’ll prove that you truly love him and want him saved, and also that your love for the Lord is

greater than even your fear of losing your fiancé. **Jesus is the Truth, and His Word is Truth.** (John 14:6; 17:17.) I pray that the Lord God will bless you and give you the courage to stand for Him. – Rauni

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***“Who Do You Say That Jesus IS? Mormons say that He was Lucifer's brother. Jews say He was an imposter. Muslims say He was a prophet. Atheists say He didn't exist. Gandhi admired Him. Hitler hated Him. Jehovah's witnesses say that He was the Archangel Michael. The Bible says He was God in human form, the Christ, the Son of the Living God, that He is the only Door to everlasting life. Pontius Pilate didn't know what to do with Him, so he washed his hands of Him. Who is Jesus of Nazareth to you, and what are you going to do with Him?”*** (Quoted from an article on the Internet.)

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We received a call for help on 4/2/13 from a concerned mother of a young 24-year old Christian man in Washington, who had, unknown to his parents, been dating a Mormon girl, and studying with Mormon missionaries. His baptism date had already been set to be on 4/6/13. After receiving this desperate call from his mother, I emailed her information on doctrinal differences between Christianity and Mormonism, and she went to work – she printed our papers from our website: [www.hismin.com](http://www.hismin.com) : **Mormonism what you really need to know**, and feverishly studied day and night to help her son she loves very much. We also spent hours on the phone during those 2-3 days. I was trying to explain those parts of Mormonism that she had a hard time of figuring out. During the following few days I also received several calls from this obviously very bright young man, and he was able to finally see the truth – and he cancelled his baptism. We sent to him and his parents a box of books and DVDs, and our papers on “*Mormon Missionaries at Your Door*” so that could see how they can convince Christians to join them – their deception methods are incredible. Unless their misinterpretations are uncovered, they will succeed. Mormon missionaries convert nearly 300 thousand Christians into Mormonism every year – and they must be stopped! And they could be stopped if our Christian churches would just teach what the cults are all about and how to combat them. The biblical truth about God, Jesus and salvation must be clearly taught and understood by all Christians so that we do not lose our people to cults. This spiritual war could be won if we as Christians would work for the Truth even half as hard as cults are working for a lie. We praise God that this young man was rescued – just in the nick of time. Many are not! He might not be completely “out of danger” as long as he is still dating this LDS girl, so please pray with us for him and those Mormons he may still be associating with that he will be able to declare God’s truth to them.

**One more amazing rescue story to let you know that our Lord is at work:** We met a young lady at Calvary Chapel on Sunday morning three weeks ago. She came and sat just one chair from me. During the “greeting time” she introduced herself as Carmen. I asked if she comes regularly. (Calvary Chapel has 3 services, so we have not met everyone.) She said that this was her first time. I asked where she normally goes to church. To that she just said, “*I am LDS.*” I said to her that both I and my husband were *former LDS*. When pastor Terry started his teaching from the gospel of Luke and asked us to open our Bibles, I noticed that she did not have a Bible. I asked her to move next to me so I could share my Bible with her, which she did. I could see that she was very interested in what pastor said and also what she read from the Word of God. After the service she asked if I could answer some of her questions since we were former LDS. We went to foyer and found a quiet corner to sit down... She had a lot of questions. Her questions were similar to questions that I had had as a Mormon. We talked and talked...and I presented the biblical gospel to her (1 Cor. 15:1-4), she accepted it and believed and prayed to receive Jesus (John 1:12.). That Sunday just happened to be the Sunday when Calvary has baptisms for all who want to be baptized. She said that she wanted to be baptized as a Christian. I said that there was a class that afternoon about baptism that she would need to take. She registered for it and asked if we could come back and see her baptized. Of course we said we would. Pastor Terry baptized her and 13 others that day. We gave her NKJV Bible as a baptism gift, for she only had “a LDS Quad”. She wanted to come home with us and talk some more. While we talked with her, Dennis fixed us a dinner – and she stayed till later that evening. She told us her amazing story: She was raised a Roman Catholic in California. After high school, she met some Mormons, took missionary lessons and joined the Mormon Church when she was 18. She was very active in her Mormon ward there. Later she met a young man at her work and dated him for about two years, but because he would not accept Mormon teachings, she, 5 years ago moved to Utah. She has been a Mormon for 10 years, and during the last 2 years she has been working in Draper LDS temple on her days off from her regular job. About two months ago she had taken some time off and visited her family in California, and met this same young man she had dated about 7 years ago, and to her surprise, he was now a born again Christian. He told Carmen about the Lord Jesus and asked her to study the Bible. She attended Calvary Chapel with this friend on that Sunday while in California. When she came back she began to read more about Mormonism on the Internet, and she came to see that it is not what she had thought that it was. She watched a few DVDs as *DNA vs. the Book of Mormon, the Bible vs. the Book of Mormon* and studied more about the history of the Church, and she was devastated to find out that it was all a lie. She

decided to come to Calvary Chapel on Easter Sunday, but Easter Sunday service was moved to South Towne Center to accommodate 5000 people... it was the following Sunday, 4/7/13, that she came and *just happened* to sit next to us... The Lord worked a miracle in her heart through pastor's message, and now she is a believer in true Jesus. On the 21<sup>st</sup> of April, she called and wanted to come to our home and have Dennis help her to write her *exit letter*, asking that her name be removed from the Mormon Church. After it was done, she gave her temple recommend to Dennis, saying that she will not be needing it any longer! ☺ She informed her friend in California that she is now also a Christian. He is coming to Salt Lake City to see her in 2-3 weeks! Maybe there might be even a future for them now that they both are the Lord's own? She promised to bring him to meet us. We will be praying the Lord's direction for Carmen and for her future! God is so amazing and so good. He leads us if we invite Him to be the Lord and Leader in our lives.

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I had sent an emergency prayer request for our new sister in Christ, Kim, who less than 3 weeks after receiving Christ, was found with a dangerous tumor in her jaw bone. She had asked prayer saying:

*"I have a prayer request. On Monday (4/15/13) I will have a tumor removed from inside of my jaw bone. Please pray that it is benign, and for a fast healing, and that I will not have any permanent numbness because it is sitting on the nerve. Right now I am in California and will be in New Orleans in a few weeks. Soon I will be in Kuwait... Kim"*

She was operated in California and I received a note from her last week thanking all who prayed for her and saying: *"The surgery went well but I had a minor complication. The surgery took place next to my jaw hinge and the swelling caused a severe tension headache that triggered a migraine that lasted a few days. The pain was pretty relentless and would not subside regardless of the Vicodin or Motrin I was prescribed. I was to the point of not holding any food or liquids down. Now the swelling is almost completely gone and they put me on antibiotics. Don't worry about me. I am fine and pretty strong. If it wasn't for the migraine I would have been fine ;) I would love to hear from your friends and feel much better. Tell them to contact me any time. Oh, I will be visiting a Calvary Church in Manteca, CA tomorrow. Very excited! Kim"* [Our friends she was referring to are Dave & Lisa McCament from California who had wanted to go and see her.] Please continue to keep Kim in your prayers. God is good and loves His own very much.

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**Our friend and mentor, Dave Hunt passed from this life April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013** and entered into the presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. His loving wife, Ruth, was at his side. ***"Precious in the site of the LORD is the death of His saints."*** (Ps. 116:15.) Ever since we read Dave's book ***The Cult Explosion*** in 1983, we wanted to read more. We have read just about all of Dave's books and loved them. We met Dave many times here in Salt Lake City when he came to speak and teach. In 2001 Dave read our self-published booklet *"The Truth About Mormonism"*, and asked if he could publish it for us. We were honored and this little booklet has now gone through four editions, all by the Berean Call, the latest one in August of 2012. Dave has been our mentor through his books and newsletters that we have collected ever since they began in 1992. Dave was to us our *"modern-day Paul"*. His uncompromising zeal and love for God's Word and his firm and kind responses to those who debated doctrinal positions with him set an example for us on how to conduct our ministry to Mormons (H.I.S. Ministry) that we started in 1984. We are honored to have known Dave Hunt here and we are looking forward to the Rapture and going to meet him again at Jesus' feet. We love Dave and Ruth Hunt, and they have been in our prayers for years. We will continue to pray for Ruth till we all are with Jesus.

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What we can say is that the Lord is gathering His own to Himself in very fast fashion now. We have been busy throughout our 30-year ministry, but this seems to be nearing urgency – there are more and more LDS people calling for help with open heart and mind. These people need solid information to get freed from that bondage. We have given away hundreds of our booklets and other materials (DVDs, CD's, Bibles and other books) during the last 2 months, more than ever before! We are so blessed that the Lord has provided these things for us to give away. We are just asking your prayers that we will be able to continue to provide what is needed to free these people. I am busy every day answering emails, phone calls and we are so thankful that the Lord is directing these people to us. Our friends, Preston and Kathy Stewart in Vernal continue to have a very successful "Understanding Mormonism" class, about 70+ people in weekly attendance. They have been teaching it now going on 3 months. Dennis made a trip there 4/10/13 to help them teach about the temple ordinances for Preston had not been through a temple, and they felt that it was better that Dennis

would teach that part of these classes. I stayed home, for the next 3 days we were going to have Dr. Phil Robert as our over-night guest during Capstone Conference, plus other issues that needed my attention. We were blessed to spend some time private time with Jill Martin Rische and take her to see some SLC sights before conference started. This first weekend in May we will travel to St. George to meet with Ida Cates and her church (New Christian Fellowship). Ida and her late husband Sid have been great friends of our ministry over 25 years, and she wanted to introduce us to their new pastor and perhaps help him to see what he is up against in Utah... ☺

We are thankful that regardless of “hard times” the Lord has taken care of us and ministry. We know that your prayers for our ministry and us personally have brought many blessings to our lives. We thank you for your assistance to the ministry. An old Finnish saying, “*A godly person gives from his meager means, an ungodly person does not give even from his abundance*”, rings true in these are hard times for small ministries and small churches. As we get older, having work and reasonable health are huge blessings that we thank the Lord for every day. Please continue to pray for peace and comfort along with health blessings for Dick and Patty, Debbie, Dale and Sharon, Kim, Heber, Max, Pat and Merridy, Al and Sandy and Ruth Hunt.

Your prayers are needed for several LDS persons we are currently communicating with, some here locally, some out of state. We ask that you’d pray that we know how to best help them – and for them that they would put God’s Truth above comfort of staying in deception. There may be a high price to pay for God’s Truth now – but heavenly rewards will surely come. Staying in deception works just the other way around – you may be comfortable now, but after this life it is torment for sure... Choose right!

April has been a great month in this ministry. We are just excitedly waiting what the Lord will do this month of May!

In His love and service,

Rauni & Dennis Higley

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### **Thought for the month:**

False teachers and heretics are enemies of God and the Cross of Christ. (Phil. 3:18-19; James 4:4b.) Expect that when we tell them the truth and warn them, they will consider us their enemies as happened to Paul in Galatia. (Gal. 4:16.)

How should a Christian handle an unrelenting heretic? “*Try them*” (1 John 4:1); “*Mark them*” (Rom. 16:17); “*Rebuke them*” (Titus 1:13); “*Reprove them*” (Eph. 5:11); “*Withdraw yourself*” (2 Thess. 3:6); “*Turn away*” (2 Tim. 3:5); “*Receive him not*” (2 John 10-11); “*Have no company with him*” (2 Thess. 3:14); “*Reject him*” (Titus 3:10); “*Be separate*” (2 Cor. 6:17.) These are hard words, but nevertheless they are God’s words to His own.

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