



May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

H.I.S.\* Ministries, Acts 4:12

## H.I.S. Ministries May and June 2015 Newsletter covering April 2015

In Finland the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, **May-Day** is celebrated as “*Vapunpaiva*” with flowers, balloons, parades, parties and gatherings –fun times for young and old, greeting each other with words, *Hauskaa Vappua!*

Spring brings new life and hope. Let’s celebrate God’s promises of New Life. Happy Spring to you!

In March we wrote about a day we call **Palm Sunday**, which was the day when **YSHUA**, Jesus Christ, rode to Jerusalem on a colt of a donkey (Luke 19:37-42) presenting Himself as **the Lamb of God who takes away sins of the world**. (John 1:29.) In our calendar that day this year was March 29<sup>th</sup> which in the Hebrew calendar would have been **10<sup>th</sup> of Nisan**. That was the Day when all lambs to be offered on **Passover** were presented, and then, 4 days later, killed, on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Nisan. (Exodus 12:2-6.) Our Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, was presented, and then, on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Nisan, killed, “*not for Himself, but for His people*”. (Dan. 9:26.)

We celebrated **Easter on April 5th, the Resurrection day**, which is one of the feasts of Israel, **Feast of the First Fruits**. Easter to us represent God’s gift of eternal life that He gave to all who repent and receive Jesus’ **perfect blood sacrifice** in their behalf (Lev. 17:11; Rom. 3:25; Col. 1:14) and are born again. (John 1:12; 3:3.)

Fifty days after Easter is the **Feast of the Harvest**, known also as the **Day of Pentecost** (Greek word meaning 50), the coming of **the Holy Spirit**, which completes the work of the Triune God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for salvation to all who will receive it as the grace-gift of God. It was on that day, about 2000 years ago, when **the Holy Spirit came to permanently indwell believers in Jesus Christ**. (Acts 2:4.) Up until that day, **the Holy Spirit of God**, who had been **with** the disciples, now came to take up **His residence in them** as Jesus had promised, “[He] **will be in you**”. (John 14:17.) This verse (Acts 2:4) marks an important turning point in the **Holy Spirit’s** relationship with men. In the Old Testament (and even in the New Testament, prior to this day) **the Spirit** came “**upon**” men to be **with them**, but **not in them** as an **abiding Resident**. **Beginning with the Day of Pentecost, the Spirit of God indwells all true believers permanently. He came to stay.** (John 14:16.) [We recall from Psalm 51:11 that David prayed after he had committed horrible sins, “**Do not take Your Holy Spirit from me**”. When men did not walk in obedience with God, God Holy Spirit would leave, but after Pentecost the Holy Spirit resides permanently in every born again believer, and He will not leave him/her even if they disobey.

From Acts 2:4 we read that they were **filled with the Holy Spirit**. What is the difference between “**indwelling of the Spirit**” and being “**filled with the Spirit**”? When we are saved, we are, from that moment on, indwelled with the Holy Spirit. We are “**filled with the Holy Spirit**” when we open our hearts and souls to God and allow Him to work through us. Thus we need to diligently study the Word of God, spend time in prayer and meditation of the Word and live in willful obedience to the Lord to allow the Holy Spirit to use us for the glory of Jesus Christ. The coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost also marked the day of beginning of the Church when believers became part of the **Body of Christ (which is the Church)**. (Col.1:18, 24; 1 Cor. 2:13.) *By one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, thus all believers, be they Jews or Gentiles, are new persons in Christ Jesus and members of the same Body.* (Eph. 2:11-22.)

The disciples “were filled with the Spirit, [and they] began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” (Acts 2:4.) From the verses, 5-13, we see that they received a gift and power **to speak the actual foreign languages which they had never studied or known**. It was not ***gibberish or ecstatic babbling*** but definite languages spoken in other parts of the country and the world. **Miracle was with those who spoke, not with those who heard. Regardless of which area these people were from, each heard the mighty works of God in Christ Jesus in their own language.** The word “**language**” used in verses 6 and 8 in Acts 4 is the same word we get our English word “**dialect**” from. This **gift of tongues** was one of the **signs or wonders** which God used to bear witness of the truth of apostles’ message. (Hebr. 2:3-4.) **Miracles were needed because the New Testament was not yet written.** Now that we have the complete Word of God, the need for the “**sign gifts**” has passed, even though God could still use any “**sign gift**”, as tongues was, **if He so desired and a need for that was present.** We must keep in mind that **tongues were for sign, but not to those who believe, but to unbelievers**. (1 Cor. 14:22.) [Thus “**speaking in tongues**”, (i.e. in other languages) in Christian meetings in our day, where all can understand the same language, does not make any sense.] These occurrences during the beginning of the Church era, when **unbelievers of different dialects** were present, should not be used to make people think that now, in our day, they are a sign of the Spirit birth. **These “sign gifts” were then, when the New Testament was not written yet, proving to those who heard that apostles were speaking the truth about Jesus Christ and that they were gifted by God.**

Now we live in expectation of the **Second Coming of Christ** for the signs of His soon coming are evident for those who have spent time in studying the Word of God. However, only God knows the time or the hour of Christ's return. He has given us clear instructions that we are **to be about His business** until that glorious moment. We do not have to be Biblical scholars to understand passages found in Matthew 24; 2 Timothy 3; 2 Peter 3, and elsewhere, **pointing to us clearly that we are in the last days**. His coming must be very soon. We are often asked if we believe in the Rapture of the Church and if we do, are we “**pre-trib, mid-trib or post-trib**”- believers? Absolutely we believe in the Rapture of the Church, which is when **He calls His Bride, the Church, to come home, just before the 7-year Great Tribulation**. (John 14:1-3.) The only biblically logical time for that, in our opinion, is the **pre-tribulation Rapture**. We base our belief in scriptures, one of them, 1 Thessalonians 4:11-18. In verses 11-12 Paul teaches that even though we are looking for Christ's coming, it does not relieve us from our responsibilities in life. The world is watching those who say they are Christians and **judging our Savior** by our behavior. Paul says that we should walk properly, **mind our own business**, not mingle in **other people's business**, respecting others, sharing the gospel and working to support ourselves. Paul stressed the importance of his teaching, beginning of verse 13, saying “**I do not want you to be ignorant** (in this case) **concerning those who have fallen asleep**”, i.e. those who have died. **Sleep** in the NT is used to refer to Christians who have died, but **never to their spirits or souls**. There are some, as **7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists**, that have confused v. 13 to mean “**soul-sleep**”. They teach that dead are not aware of anything, not until resurrection. That is not what the Bible teaches. Jesus taught that a person is **fully conscious while bodily dead**. (Luke 16:19-31.) The story of the “**rich man and Lazarus**” that Jesus told before His death, resurrection and ascension, describes that dead were housed in 2 places – Hades and Paradise (Abraham's bosom), and they were fully aware where they were and what it was like. The New Testament teaches that after the Lord's ascension to heaven, **all who die as believers in Him, will go immediately to the presence of the Lord** (2 Cor. 5:8; Phil 1:21, 23), while those who die as non-believers in the true Jesus, will be in **torment** until **the Great White Throne Judgment**. (Rev. 20:11-15.) Many non-believers in God think that at death people cease to exist –i.e. in **annihilation**. That is not true. A person who dies as a believer enjoys eternal life with God (Mark 10:30) and an unbeliever suffers **in torment** (Luke 16:24) and **after the Last Judgment, receives eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire**. (Rev. 20:15; Mark 9:48.)

When our believing loved ones die, even though we have a deep sorrow, it is not a **hopeless sorrow**, for we know that we will see them again – even very soon, as the Rapture could take place at any time.

We have a promise, in John 14:1-3, from the Lord (referring to Rapture), that He is coming to take us to be with Him. In 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 we are told how it will happen and 1 Corinthians 15:50-52 tells that our bodies will, at that moment, be suddenly changed. In Rapture the *dead believers will be raised incorruptible*, and we who are alive will hear the trumpet and *in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, we also will receive our resurrection bodies*.

*The Book of Revelation promises a special blessing to all who study this Book*, which is “*The Revelation of Jesus Christ*” (Rev. 1:1-3), given to John when he was a prisoner of Rome on the island of Patmos. The first 3 chapters in this *revelation of Jesus* describe the condition of the Church age we are still in – from Pentecost to Rapture. Verse 1 in Chapter 4 begins with the words “*After this*” (KJV) or in NKJV, “*After these things...*” After what? After the Church, the Bride of Christ, is taken to heaven is when the 7-year Tribulation begins. The proof that the Church (i.e. all born again believers in Christ) is not on earth during the Tribulation is in that the Church is not mentioned, not at all, after Chapter 3 ends, not until Chapter 19, when believers come back with the Lord, which, of course, means that we have gone there earlier. In the Rapture, the Lord comes “*for His saints*”, but at that time He does not come to earth – we will meet Him in the air. (1 Thess. 4:17.) After the Tribulation He comes with His saints, that is the Second Coming, when the entire world will see Him. (Matt. 24:30.) [Thus we know that the Church has been raptured just prior to 4:1.] Studying Matthew 24 and Luke 21 reveal many signs for the coming Tribulation we are to watch for in order to know when His coming draws near. (Luke 21:25-28.) These signs we are to watch for are the warnings of the coming Tribulation for Israel, to bring them to repentance and realization that they had missed their Messiah’s First Coming. (Zach. 13:6; Hosea 5:15; Luke 18:41-44.) There are no signs given for the Rapture, but students of the Bible know that Rapture comes before the Tribulation, the Great Trial of Jacob/Israel. (Jer. 30:7; Matt. 24:21.) The Lord has promised that His Bride will not experience His wrath that is revealed during the time of the Great Tribulation. (1 Thess. 5:9-11; Rom. 1:18.) When Paul was teaching in his letters to Thessalonians about the end times and coming of the Lord for His saints, he also taught that “*that Day* (Tribulation) will not come unless the falling away comes first”, [i.e. apostasy from God’s truth takes place – we see it advancing fast], “*and the man of sin (the anti-Christ) is revealed, the son of perdition...*” Paul said that it cannot happen until “He (the Holy Spirit) who restrains is taken out of the way.” That takes place “*after this*”, after the Church, i.e. all born again Spirit filled Christians, are raptured. “*And then the lawless one will be revealed...The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of Truth, that they might be saved...*” (2 Thess. 2:3-12.) Jesus warned, “Take heed that no one deceives you, for many will come in My name...” (Matt. 24:4-5.) His Word is Truth, as He is Truth. (John 17:17; 14:6.) Those who do not love His Word, do not love Him, for it is the love of Truth (one of the titles of Jesus - John 14:6) that brings men to salvation.

We are very concerned about our LDS friends and loved ones who are not interested in Truth even now when we see deception and violence flourishing in our country and around the world. These indeed are the times of the signs. Many may think and even say that after they see that Rapture was true when all born again Christians have suddenly vanished, maybe then it would be time to take Jesus Christ seriously, maybe then they can accept Him... and live for Him. That is a very big “*maybe*”, for if they reject Jesus and His Truth now, they may have already fallen under the “strong delusion” that Paul talked about that captures those who have not received the love of Truth, but instead believe the lie of Satan and be condemned for not believing the Truth. (2 Thess. 2:10-12) We pray for these people every night while there is still time, but how long, no one can say.

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**From Our Mailbox:** A Mormon lady asked: “*We have been taught in our Church that we preexisted, but I have learned that Christians do not believe that. How come? This is why I am asking: If there is no preexistence, how do Christians explain feelings we get when we meet someone that seems familiar or as a*

*soul-mate or a kindred spirit? We have also been taught in our church that we feel that because we perhaps knew each other in our heavenly Father's home, before coming to this earth."*

**Reply:**

We know that mankind did not preexist because the Bible teaches that **God forms the spirit of man within man when we are developing in our mother's womb, not in preexistence.** (See Zach. 12:1; Isa. 44:2, 24; 45:4, 12, etc.) God, who knows the end from the beginning, by His foreknowledge, knew us before we existed. (Rom. 4:17; Isa. 46:10; 48:5.) I know that the LDS Church teaches that we were born to God and his wives as spirit children long before we were born physically here on this earth. However, the Bible teaches that we **were born first natural (physical) and afterwards spiritual.** (See 1 Cor. 15:46.) Our spiritual birth takes place when we receive Jesus and are born again, "born of the Spirit". (John 1:12-13 and 3:3, 7.) That is when we **BECOME children of God.** Until that time we are simply Adam's posterity, **"children of the flesh"**, and as Romans 9:8 says, **"they are NOT children of God"**. The Bible teaches that humankind is from this world, not from heaven. Only Jesus, who is God who became a man, came from "above". (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1, 14.) **He said so.** (John 3:13, 31; **8:23-24**).

We may have many inherited similarities with other people, because we all descended from the same original parents, Adam and Eve. In addition to that, those coming from similar cultural and ethnic backgrounds have many same likes or dislikes they have learned and absorbed as they were growing up. There is also such a thing as **physical chemistry** that causes us to draw toward some with a similar **"match"** and that may make us **"feel"** as if we had known them before. - Let me know if I can help you further.

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**This same LDS lady wrote again, asking 2 more questions:**

**"1. If Joseph Smith was not a prophet, how did he come up with the Book of Mormon? 2. Also if the first vision was not taught until 1842, what did Joseph Smith teach about how he founded the church and what did he say about the origin of the Book of Mormon before that time?"**

**Reply:** 1. A large portions of the Book of Mormon are taken, plagiarized from the Bible; 17 chapters are from the Book of Isaiah alone. The story-line is mostly from **the View of the Hebrews**, a religious novel, written 7 years before the Book of Mormon by Rev. Ethan Smith who was Joseph Smith's scribe Oliver Cowdery's family's pastor! (Big connection there!) There are no historical or archeological evidences for the Book of Mormon or for the people of the Book of Mormon— it is simply a **"plagiarized fiction"**. For more information, I would suggest that you'd get the late LDS General Authority, B.H. Roberts' well researched book, **"Studies of the Book of Mormon"**. It was edited by two Mormon professors, Brigham Madsen and Sterling McMurrin. 2. Joseph Smith claimed that he had been visited by an angel, whom he had originally named **"Nephi"**, who, he said, had led him to the Hill Cumorah, where the **"gold plates"**, written in **"reformed Egyptian language"**, were hidden. [By the way, there is no such a language as **"reformed Egyptian"**!] Joseph Smith claimed that he **"translated"** the BoM from those plates. However, it has just in recent years been admitted by authorities of the Church that instead of **"gold plates"**, Joseph Smith used his **"seer stone"**, a rock that he put in his hat and placing his face over the hat, he dictated his **"translation"** from that stone to his scribe Oliver Cowdery, without even needing the **"gold plates"**. One of the so-called witnesses of the BoM, David Whitmer, testified that Joseph Smith used the **"rock in the hat"**-method when writing the BOM, the same rock he had used when looking for **"buried treasures"** (witchcraft). The LDS Church has that rock in their possession.

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**[Since we are obviously in the Last Days, many LDS people are starting to ask questions wondering if LDS Church and Bible believing Christians agree on interpretation about what the Bible says about those days.]**

**Question #1:** **"In Rev. 6:1-2, who is the person who opens the first seal and is riding on a white horse? Our most respected biblical scholar, apostle Bruce R. McConkie, has written 3-volume "Doctrinal New Testament Commentary", and in it he says it is Enoch. Who do Christians believe this person is?"**

**Question #2:** **"Who do you think are the 144,000 in Rev. 7:4-8 and 14:1-5? Apostle Bruce R. McConkie, in his "Doctrinal New Testament Commentary", quotes from D&C 77:11 that says "...they are high priests,**

*ordained unto the holy order of God...*" McConkie continues and explains *"...12,000 from each tribe, [are] converted, baptized, endowed, married for eternity, and sealed up unto eternal life, having their calling and election made sure."* Do you agree with this interpretation?

**Question # 3.** *"Who do you think that two witnesses in Revelation 11:3-12 are? Quoting from Apostle McConkie's NT Commentary, that says, "...these two shall be followers of that humble man, Joseph Smith, through whom the Lord of Heaven restored the fullness of his everlasting gospel in this final dispensation of grace. No doubt they will be members of the Council of Twelve or of the First Presidency of the Church."* Do you agree with this explanation, or who do you think they are and where does this take place?

These are indeed very interesting LDS interpretations. I will try to reply as briefly as I can, even though these would require much lengthier answers that I have room here to write.

**Answer to question # 1:** Rev. 6:1-2. First note that this takes place during the coming **Tribulation time** that lasts for 7 years. (Dan. 9:27.) There are six seals opened during the first half of the Tribulation. [*The Great Tribulation* is the last half of it, or 3.5 years, which coincides with Matt. 24:15.] **V. 1:** The Lamb opens the first seal. **V. 2: A rider on a white horse has a bow and a crown on his head.** This is obviously someone who presents himself as a victorious leader going to war: **a bow, a white horse and a crown** indicate that his goal is to impress. [A number of years ago I had two *Jehovah's Witnesses* at my door saying that they came to "bring a message from Jesus Christ" to me. I invited them in. They quoted Rev. 6:1-2 and asked if I knew that **this rider is Jesus Christ?** (Dennis and I had, just a short time before, done a word-study of this, checking the meanings of the words from Greek as well.) I explained to them that in our studies we observed that **this is the Anti-Christ, pretending to be the real Christ. What also proves this rider to be an Anti-Christ** (who will be revealed at the beginning part of Tribulation), **is that those who ride with him (Rev. 6: 3-9) bring war, famine, pestilence, plague and death.** I opened my Bible and respectfully asked them to look at this with me and *hear me* out: The verse 2 says the **he had a bow**, but a bow without any arrows is useless, and the weapon of the real **Christ would not be a bow**, but **a sword**. "**A crown**" here in Greek is *stephanos*, which is not a real crown, but like **game-prize or a tinsel crown**. When the real Jesus Christ comes, He will have many crowns (Rev. 19:11-16), the real ones, **not "game-prize crowns"**. In Greek **crowns** in Rev. 19:12 is *diadema*. *This rider who is Jesus*, has **a sword, not an arrowless bow**. **These JW's did not want to hear more** – they slammed their Bible shut (their *New World Translation*) and literally ran out. As they were exiting, I asked them to come back, even later, but they never did.]

**The biblical view is that this rider in 6:2 is the coming Anti-Christ and absolutely NOT Jesus Christ!**

As we saw, Jehovah's Witnesses' interpretation is that this rider in Rev. 6:2 is Jesus Christ.

**The Mormon interpretation of this rider is Enoch!!!**

**Why Mormons believe that it is Enoch, even though it is clearly an Anti-Christ, is that in LDS theology Enoch and Joseph Smith are the same. Joseph Smith identified himself as Enoch. He identified with the Masonic Legend of Enoch, and he played that part many times. [The Masonic legend tells of Enoch, his gold plate and translation of it...Sounds like Joseph Smith and his "gold plates" and "translation", doesn't it?] If you have a prior to 1981 edition of the D&C, go to Section 78:1. It reads "The Lord spoke to Enoch [Joseph Smith, Jun], saying Harken unto me, saith the Lord your God..." Verse 4 "...the city of Enoch [Joseph], for a permanent and everlasting establishment and order unto my church..."** As you can see Joseph Smith named himself as **Enoch**, and he says that Enoch, i.e. Joseph, **had a city, "City of Enoch [Joseph]"** (v. 4). Joseph Smith in the **Pearl of Great Price, the Book of Moses**, elaborates and writes that not only **Enoch, but his city also were taken to heaven**. (PoGP, Moses 7:19-23, 69). Interesting side note in this Joseph Smith's dream-city is **that the only City of Enoch that the Bible mentions is a city built by CAIN, and that Cain, named it after his son, Enoch**. (Gen. 4:17.) I think Joseph had not read Genesis 4 carefully enough and got confused. **There are two men named Enoch in the Bible. One is a son of Cain (Gen. 4:17), whose seed, Joseph said, was black** (Moses

7:22), and the other Enoch was a righteous son of Jared who was *the Enoch taken to heaven*. (Gen. 5:18, 24.) Note: Cain's son, Enoch, is not the one who was taken to heaven. Interesting connection: It was **Cain's grandson, Lamech, who was the first polygamist in the Bible**. Joseph Smith seemed to have mixed these issues – and he even became a polygamist, polygamy originating from wicked Cain's family.

**Answer to Question #2** (about 144,000 in Rev. 7:4-8 and 14:1-5): Rev. 7:4-8 tells us clearly who they are – they are unmarried Jewish believers and virgins, not married high priests of the Mormon Church!

The LDS Church and its “apostles and prophets” are wrong, again!

Let's read first Rev.7:4-8 and see which tribes are included and which ones are not. - 12 tribes, 12,000 from each tribe are listed, but you'll notice that there are differences when compared to OT records listing 12 sons of Jacob/Israel. Most often this list excluded Levi and Joseph, and included Joseph's two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. In this list the Tribe of Joseph was added instead of his son Ephraim, and the Tribe of Levi was added in place of Dan. Joseph's other son, Manasseh, was listed to make it 12 tribes. [Tribe of Levi in the OT was most often not included, for it was the priestly tribe. Levites did not go to war nor had land inheritance (those were two main reasons why the tribes were counted). Now that “*Levitical priesthood was abolished*”, after the death and resurrection of Jesus, Levi's tribe is listed.]

[Please note that the Tribes of Ephraim and Dan are absent for they took part in idolatry (Hosea 4:17; 8:11; Gen. 49:17). This is very interesting in a light of LDS teachings, where *Ephraim is the greatest tribe*, and *nearly all Mormons are said* (in their patriarchal blessings) *to be from the tribe of Ephraim!* Dan likewise is an important hero to Mormons. We know about “*Danates*”, also called Joseph's, and later Brigham's, “*Destroying angels*” (sort of “body-guards”) protecting both Joseph Smith and Brigham Young and later also other LDS “prophets”.]

This list of 144,000 from 12 tribes is one of the most important qualifying list of tribes, for their calling will be to evangelize the rest of the Israel and other unbelievers during the Tribulation time. During the first part of the Tribulation, soon after the Rapture, these 144,000 Orthodox Jewish young men will become believers in the Messiah of Israel and are then saved. They already have a zeal for God and His Word, which to them, before the Rapture and conversion, is the OT, and when they come to understand the rest of the story of how their forefathers rejected Jesus, their Messiah, they will become the most proficient evangelists the world has ever seen. God will use them in such a powerful way that millions of people living during the Tribulation world will rather live for Christ and die on this earth rather than line up with the New World Leaders and Anti-Christ's agenda. (Rev. 7:9.) The Seal on their foreheads brands them as belonging to God and guarantees that they will be preserved alive during the ensuing seven years. Rev. 7:14 tells more about their future, after the Tribulation is over, saying “*These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb*.” God's reason for 7-year Tribulation is to bring Israel back to faith in God and in their Messiah, Jesus Christ. We have read reports (by Bill Perkins, Compass International) from Israel that there are already now, among Ultra-Orthodox Jews in Jerusalem, approximately 150,000 unmarried young men, virgins literally, from age 18 to 35, who do not date, but remain single, and they practice Orthodox Judaism to the extreme. They are the only group of Jewish men who can fulfill this prophecy! Imagine what they will be like after the Rapture when God suddenly opens their eyes to the biblical truth, and they come to trust Jesus as their Messiah, and that conversion marks them for His service as evangelists. Mind-boggling and amazing indeed!

As you can see, Christianity believes what the Bible teaches. The Book of Revelation, that is *Revelation of Jesus Christ*, gives us a prophesy of the Last Days, even though we are not expecting to be present when the 7- year Tribulation is in process. We have, by then, been raptured! We may have a “*balcony-view*” of what is taking place here – or we may not, but anyway we will come back after it is over, and then enter the Millennial Kingdom to serve the Lord there. What a wonderful plan of God we have ahead of us as believers in Jesus Christ, who is Almighty God with us.

**Answer to Question # 3.** *“Who do you think that two witnesses in Revelation 11:3-12 are? We, of course, cannot say for sure, but most of the best Bible scholars agree that they more than likely are going to be **Moses and Elijah**, based on several identifying characteristics of them and their ministries and how these fit to these two witnesses. First : the miracles performed by Elijah and Moses were the same as what these two witnesses are going to do. **Elijah brought fire from heaven** (1 Kings 18:38; 2 Kings 1:10, 12 (Jer. 5:14) and **shut heaven that it did not rain for 3.5 years** (1 Kings 17:1; Luke 4:25; Jas.5:17), same as these two witnesses will do. **Moses turned water into blood** ( Ex. 7:19-20) and **caused plagues in Egypt.** (Ex. 8 through 12.) **Both Elijah’s and Moses’ ministries were unfinished.** (Moses: Num. 20:12; Deut. 3:26-28; Elijah: 1 Kings 17:1; 19:13-16; 2 Kings 2:11.) ***Elijah was taken to heaven without tasting physical death*** (2 Kings 2:11), and there is a mystery about *Moses death, for God took him, and no one knows where his body is.* (Deut. 34:5-6; Jude 9.) Rev. 11 takes place, of course, in Jerusalem, Israel. Text itself clarifies that. (Rev. 11:9.) I hope this answers these 3 questions. Please let me know if these answers are not satisfactory.*

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April has been very busy month. We have spent hours and hours throughout the month in phone conversations with several LDS persons, some with good results, some not so definite, and I have also daily answered their questions or arguments via email. Dennis recently has had long discussions with a Florida-man who says he is a Baptist, but is seriously considering joining the Mormon Church. His wife is very concerned about him. We have just a few days ago sent a package of books, booklet, 5 DVDs and other written doctrinal materials to them to help him see that **Mormonism is not** what LDS missionaries, LDS bishops and other Mormon leaders ,with whom he has been meeting, are telling him. The Mormon Church has for decades boasted that they convert hundreds of Baptists every month in the *“Bible-belt”*. It is amazing to us to see how little people who attend, even regularly, in their Baptist or other Christian churches, understand who God of the Bible is, who Jesus really is and what salvation in Christ means! They do not seem to have a problem in accepting *progressive gods of Mormonism* and *their Jesus* who is a created being just as they are, and even a brother of Lucifer! It is understandable that people who are totally *“unchurched”* and *biblically illiterate* can be impressed with wholesomeness of Mormon missionaries and richness of their organization. Observing Mormons and *their plan of salvation*, they have no problem in accepting that God is a man like they are, and that living according to the *“laws and ordinances of the Mormon Church”* can make gods out of them also. But what is wrong with the picture of active members of Christian churches joining cults? We wish we could stress the importance of **solid and clear doctrinal Bible teachings to every pastor**. They may teach well about topics like how to have a good marriage, and how to raise obedient and well-behaving children, but too many people walk away from churches without ever knowing God. This makes us cry, for we too were once deceived, and did not know the God of the Bible. People are going to hell in droves... Our hearts are broken for the lost; many of them are our relatives and former close friends. We must work harder and rescue more. **Please pray with us that we will have strength and adequate health to keep on working in this ministry. Ministries to Mormons, as ours is, must do more than point out errors in Mormonism. If we only help them to see that Mormonism is false, but do not bring them to Christ of the Bible and to His salvation, we have not done the work that the Lord has given to us to do. We must direct those who are in a process of finding out the truth about Mormonism to become God-loving, Bible-loving disciples of Jesus. We write our newsletters with that purpose in mind. We are not just reporting of our efforts and successes in exposing Mormonism, or sending pictures of our meetings etc. but we have wanted from the beginning that as we have learned the Word of God, studying earnestly since 1982 with excellent Bible teachers like Chuck Missler, Chuck Smith, Dave Hunt and more, we also must share our learning so that those who receive our letters can pass information to those whom with they communicate. In every newsletter we try to clarify some harder to understand Bible-issues. We want to share our love for the Lord, and what the Bible teaches**

about His will and His love for all. Some have complained that our newsletters are a bit long, but some have asked for more... For those who are not interested in our Bible teaching pages, but only want to read about our *"Mormon-talk"* (selected 2-3 letters from LDS and our answers to them) can do so by skipping the first 1-3 pages, and go to *Mormon-issues* faster... ☺

We want to thank you for praying for us and for our ministry-needs. We are not doing very well in financial part now, but we trust that even though we are *"running near empty"*, God knows it, and since our work is His work, we also know that He will take care of all that is absolutely needed. I was reading about George Muller, a man who took care of thousands of orphans in England without asking help from anyone but God, and someone said to him, *"Mr. Muller, you are a man with great faith."* Muller replied: *"No, I am a man with little faith, but my faith is in a Great God. He supplies all my needs through His people."* (Phil 4:6-7, 19.)

We want to thank you for praying for Dale, Sharon, Suzi, Max, Pat, Merridy, Dave, Tom, Bruce, Sam, Becky, Dick, Patti, Heber, Tim, David, Caryl and Aira. The Lord knows their needs, their sorrows and struggles, and He will respond according to His perfect will and love for them. (1 John 5:14-15.)

We thank you for praying for Dennis' surgery on 3/3/15. He is totally healed and well now. Thank You, Lord.

We received a praise report from Becky about Sam, who had a seizure while working in Texas about a month ago. (We sent a special urgent prayer request to you all then.) Praise be to God: Sam is doing well.

They had taken a lot of tests, including MRIs etc. and Neurologists determined that it was not a *neurological seizure* but perhaps one that *"acted like seizure"*, but was caused by stress, exhaustion and dehydration. No wonder: Sam has been under a lot of stress from his work, and they both have much sorrow caused by their adult LDS children who are rejecting the truth. Their sons have served LDS missions, are temple-married also and now their daughter is going on her LDS mission. These things can make parents literally sick, and when you add work-stress that Sam is under, it is no wonder that he passed out and got hurt. We have been in prayer for them for a long time. Sam and Becky have now given their worry about their children to the hands of the Lord. They have done all that any parent can do for their children's eternal salvation, but they have rejected it. Old saying, *"You can lead horse to the water, but you cannot make him drink"*, applies to people as well. Becky and Sam, of course, will continue to pray for their salvation. We likewise pray for our children and grandchildren, for our heart's desire is to have all of them with us throughout eternity, but as they are adults, they have to make their own choices and if they reject the truth of Jesus, we have to allow them to do even that, but it hurts a parent's heart.

We appreciate you and your support in every way you give it, and we pray for you as you pray for us. God will reward your faithfulness to Him.

Serving the Lord with gladness,

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