



* He Is Savior, Acts 4:12

October 1, 2015

H.I.S. Ministries October Newsletter, covering September 2015

Fall colors are again displaying God's artistry. Utah Mountains are always beautiful, but now they literally *shine*. Every morning we see more and more colors *coming from God's paintbrush* and we thank Him for allowing us to still be here and enjoy all that, and to do what He has commanded: "*Make disciples of all the nations...*" and promising to be with us always, "*even to the end of the world.*" (Matt. 28:19-20.)

September is very important month in the Jewish calendar and for many reasons we as Christians watched **this September** very intently, even **wondering if the Lord would come for us during the Fall Feasts?** Even if He is not coming for us, **yet**, we are to observe what God is doing with Israel, and pay attention to all **Seven Feasts of Israel** (4 of them already fulfilled, 3 more to come), and if we do, we will come to understand as much as possible about **God's commemorative and also prophetic feasts**, "*which are a shadow of things to come...*" (Col. 2:16-17). **They are ordained by God to be observed (see Leviticus 23)**. Even though we as Christians are not required to **keep the feasts of Israel**, our knowledge of them enhances our faith in God of the Bible, and that in all His instructions to Israel there is a larger purpose for all people of God. **Our Lord Jesus kept and celebrated every one of the feasts during His life** and for that reason alone we are to pay attention to them and search out their meanings. [The feasts are based on the lunar calendar, phases of the moon, rather than our calendar that is based on earth's revolution around the sun.]

Passover is the first feast, festival of salvation, when Israel was delivered from bondage ***by the blood of a lamb***. Israel was commanded to select ***a lamb without blemish, four days before Passover*** (Ex. 12:1-5), and kill it on Passover, 14th day of Nisan, the first month. (Lev. 23:5.) Clearly, in both Testaments, ***the blood of the Lamb delivers from slavery – the Jew from Egypt and the Christian from slavery to sin***. It is no coincidence that our Lord was sacrificed on Passover. (Matt. 26:27.) **Our Lord Jesus, the Passover Lamb, rode to Jerusalem on a colt, on Palm Sunday, 4 days before Passover.** (Luke 19:29-44.) **He was killed on Passover, the 14th of Nisan.**

The Feast of Unleavened Bread (Lev. 23:6) is the second feast. Leaven in the Bible symbolizes sin. Unleavened bread, eaten during that time (7 days) symbolizes a holy walk, ***as with the Lord***. (1 Cor. 5:7-8.) We, the New Testament believers in the saving Gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-4) during communion partake of **unleavened bread, that symbolizes sinless body of our Lord**. He is described as "*the Bread of Life*". [Jewish "*matzah*"-bread, used during this time, is made without leaven, and is pierced and striped -"*with His stripes we are healed*". (Isa.53:5.)]

The Feast of the First Fruits (Lev. 23:10-11) is the third feast, and it is held on the following Sunday that we, as Christians, celebrate as **Resurrection Sunday**. These feasts were ordained by God, and every one of them has a prophetic meaning. The believers in Christ will be one day resurrected as Christ was, "**Christ the first fruit, afterwards they that are Christ's at His coming.**" (1 Cor. 15:23.) The feast of the *First Fruits* was the last one that the Lord was seen personally fulfilling on earth.

Pentecost is the fourth feast, celebrated fifty days later. (Lev. 23:15-16.) (*Pentecost* means *fiftieth day from Passover*.) It also occurs on Sunday, "*the morrow after the Sabbath*" (Saturday). (Lev. 23:11,17.) *Two loaves, baked with leaven represent sinful man* who will be redeemed and resurrected. God was predicting there that the church will be comprised of two parts, **Jew and Gentile** – *in the kingdom of the Second Coming* (Zech. 12:10; 13:1), when "*all Israel will be saved*". (Romans 11:26.) The Lord rejoined His disciples after His resurrection, teaching them for 40 days (Acts 1:3-4), and He commanded them to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit would come. (John 14:26; 16:7.) **The Holy Spirit came on the Day of the Feast of Pentecost**, and three thousand souls were harvested.

The Feast of the Trumpets, Rosh Hashana, is the fifth feast and it takes place in September. *Trumpets* (ram's horns) have been used in Israel from the time when a *ram* was caught by its horns and Abraham sacrificed it in place of Isaac. (Gen. 22:13.) [Without Abraham and his son Isaac, and Isaac's son Jacob (called Israel) we would not have Israel and Jews, and without Jews we would not have the Bible – and even the Messiah Himself.] God commanded trumpets' use in Lev. 23:24. They were used also in the Year of Jubilee. (Lev. 25:8-10.) *Trumpets played a big part in the conquering of Jericho*. The coming **Rapture will involve Trumpets**, as we read in 1 Thess. 4:16-17 and 1 Cor. 15:51-52. The timing for the Rapture is "*imminent*" i.e. "*ready to take place at any time*", and **thus the date for the Rapture is not given. We are told to be ready for it at any time, but yet be working diligently until He does come for us. When the Rapture takes place, it will be the miracle of miracles, for the living believers will be caught up and graves of believers will be opened**, and we all will be instantly changed from mortality to immortality. "*Behold, I shew you a mystery; we shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead (in Christ) shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*" (1 Cor. 15:51-52.) (See also 1 Thess. 4:16-17.) This feast occurs on the seventh new moon of the year, a significant time for conclusion of the age! When the Church will be taken out of the world, God will move on to the fulfillment of the next and the most sacred of Jewish feasts, **the Atonement**.

The Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur (Lev. 23:27), the sixth feast, was the holiest and most somber feast in Israel, and still is. This was the day on which the High Priest of Israel entered *with fear and anticipation* into the Holy of Holies, where God Himself dwelt (Lev. 16). The High Priest would first make a sacrifice for his own behalf, and then a sacrifice on behalf of the sins of all Israelites. (Lev. 23:26-32.) If God did not accept their repentance and sacrifices, it was the High Priest that was to die there. Israel does not now have a temple or a place to offer sacrifices, but they still hold this day as **the most holy day**. There is nothing in the New Testament for the fulfillment of *the Day of Atonement*. Its fulfillment is not connected to the Church because *our sins were atoned* by Jesus' death in our place. **All these feasts are fundamentally Jewish feasts** and each one is or will be fulfilled *for the Jews*. *We, as Christians*, benefit from the feasts as we become believers in the Jewish Messiah, Jesus. **The Feast of the Day of Atonement** will not be fulfilled until the Lord returns at His

Second coming. He will then, at the end of the Tribulation, “*make all things new*”, “**and so all Israel will be saved.**” (See Zech. 12:10; 13:1, 6 and Romans 11:26.)

The Feast of Tabernacles, the seventh feast, will be a happier feast. (Lev. 23:42-43) *Tabernacles* represent the Lord’s shelter in the world to come. *His Great Tabernacle or Temple* will exist in Jerusalem during the Kingdom Age. Jesus commemorated this feast (John 7:2) that was to look forward to the coming day when the Jewish nation would dwell in the land with peace and prosperity. The Lord will establish His Tabernacle in Jerusalem (Ez. 37:26-27) and the world will come every year to appear before the King and worship Him.

These seven feasts of Israel forecast the entire career of the Messiah of Israel, the Jews, the Church, the Rapture and Israel’s coming Tribulation and redemption. (Jer. 30:7; Matt. 24:21; Rom. 11:26; 1 Thess. 4:13-18.) These feasts are laid out in the calendar year in a manner that reflects, in proportion, also the history of the Church. Those first feasts that the Church observes, *crucifixion, burial and resurrection*, occurred very close together. Then there was a fifty-day pause before the 4th feast, **coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost**. From that time on there has been a long pause. The next fulfillment will be *the Big Harvest, the Rapture of the Church*, followed by 7-year *Great Tribulation*, and after that **Thousand year Kingdom of our Lord**. (Rev. 20:4.) We can picture these seven feasts as matching to the creation week. The biblical history has described some six thousand years, and seventh thousand year will be the Kingdom of our Lord. [Since Tribulation ends at **the Second Coming** (the Day of Atonement), then it must have started seven years before.] As the scriptures predict (2 Thess. 2:3), *the man of sin* (Antichrist) will present himself as God in the middle of the Tribulation (3.5. year point - on the 10th day of the first month in the 4th year) and demands to be worshipped in yet to be built *Temple of God*. (Dan. 9:27; 2 Thess. 2:3-4; Rev. 11:1-3.) In **Exodus 12:2-6** God commanded the Jews to select their sacrificial lamb **on the 10th day of the month, exactly four days before Passover, to be killed on the 14th**. This was done in order that they can **examine the lamb for blemishes before sacrificing it on Passover**. We looked at Luke 19:28-40, where Jesus fulfilled this requirement by **riding on a donkey into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, four days before Passover**, so that people might examine Him as their Lamb to be killed on the 14th, the Passover Day. To imitate this, we can be sure that the Antichrist will plan to make a perfect counterfeit, arriving at the (yet to be built) Temple *four days before Passover*, representing himself as God. God’s Word gives us amazing details of things yet to come.

In summary: Feasts are on the Levitical calendar **appointments Israel has with God**. The spring and summer appointments have already been kept, for the *Feast of Passover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread and the Feast of the First Fruits* are all realized in removal of sin by Jesus’ death and the resurrection. The Feast of the *Pentecost* was fulfilled fifty days after *Passover* when, according to promise, God sent The Holy Spirit upon them. (John 14:26; 16:7; Acts 2:1-4.) **What remains are the fall feasts of Israel: Trumpets, Yom Kippur and the Feast of Tabernacles.** **Trumpets** (Rosh Hashana) **is a call to re-gather**. Since the re-birth of the nation of Israel in 1948, the trumpets have been sounding for re-gathering of God’s people. The Rapture is going to be a gathering of the Bride of Christ to Him. *Yom Kippur* is actually not a feast but a fast, a time of deep soul-searching and repentance for Israel. It corresponds to the *Great Tribulation*, the coming “*time of Jacob’s trouble*”, spoken of in Jeremiah 30:7, and Matthew 24:21. It is observed as “*ten days of awe*”. (See Joel 2:12-18.) **We all love our Lord and can hardly wait for His coming and for that reason we have been guilty of trying to calculate or guess when the Rapture will take place**, and from that attempting to also figure out the

timing of "*Jacob's trouble*" (Tribulation), but it seems that **such details are purposely concealed from us. All we can presume about God's timing is that when the last "Gentile" comes to know the Lord on this side of the Rapture, then the Father will say to the Son, "Go and get your Bride."** (Romans 11:25; John 14:1-3.) "***Even so, come, Lord Jesus.***" (Rev. 22:20.)

From our mailbox: An LDS person wrote: "*You keep saying that Jesus is God Almighty and not our brother. I will prove to you that he is our brother and that he came to pay the Adam's transgression, and by his atonement in the Garden of Gethsemane gained the resurrection-life to all mankind. He also came to give us an example, a model of how we are to live and become as he is now, a god. I will quote for you from our official teaching magazine, Ensign, what our prophets and apostles have taught about God and Jesus. They say: 'The Father of Jesus is our Father also...Jesus, however, is the firstborn among all the sons of God – the first begotten in the spirit and the only begotten in the flesh. He is our older brother, and we, like Him, are in similitude of the universal Father and Mother and are literally the sons and daughters of Deity... God Himself is an exalted man, perfected, enthroned, and supreme. Man is the child of God, formed in the divine image and endowed with divine attributes, and even as the infant son of an earthly father and mother is capable in due time becoming a man, so the undeveloped offspring of celestial parentage is capable, by experience through ages of evolving into a God.'* (Ensign, 2002.) *Because we are not responsible for Adam's transgression, but only for our own sins, Christ came to pay for what Adam did. By his suffering in the Garden, he earned immortality as a free gift for all mankind. Thus all will be resurrected. We do not consider what Adam did a sin, but transgression, for Adam only had done what he had to do in order than they could have offspring. God had given them a command to multiply, but they could not do that until they ate the forbidden fruit. That transgression was paid by Jesus. He lived a perfect life, as an example of how to live, so that we can be perfect also, as he commanded in Matthew 5:48. By obedience to the Gospel (3rd Article of Faith) and working hard we too can become as he is, a god. The Book of Mormon says, "for we know that it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do."* (2 Nephi 25:23.) *Note that our works are the most important step forward to our earning the grace of God."*

Reply: Where do I begin? I am sad to say that your (LDS) theology is wrong and un-biblical. Jesus is God Almighty, not our brother from the preexistence. He is the Second Person of Triune God. He came to earth that He had created **for one reason only**. (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1-3, 14; Col. 1:16.) His reason for becoming a man is clearly expressed in John 3:16. "***For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.***" He didn't come to be a great teacher, though *He was a great teacher*. It was not to be a great prophet, though *He was a great prophet*. It was not to be a great example for us, though He was that - *He lived a perfect life in all points*. **Jesus had only one reason for coming – it was to die for you and me. Jesus is God who became a man – not a man who became a god.** He is not *our older brother*, and a *son* of LDS god and his wife, but He is **God the Son**, immaculately conceived in the Virgin Mary by **God who is Spirit** (John 4:24). **He was born of a virgin** (Luke 1:34-35). Thus He did not inherit the sin-nature that we all are born with that is passed on by man's seed. God created a miracle, "*seed of a woman*" (Gen. 3:15), and thus sin-nature was not passed on to Jesus. Please understand that atonement was not accomplished in the *Garden of Gethsemane* where He went to pray, but on **the Cross of Calvary, where He died for my sins and your sins, even for the sins of the whole world.** "***The***

Wages of sin is death!" (Rom. 6:23.) **Jesus did not die in the Garden** – He died on the next day on the Cross of Calvary. He was crucified after all night trials and beatings by Roman officials. He died as our ***perfect blood sacrifice***, according to Lev. 17:11. Our salvation cannot come from *false beliefs about who Jesus is*, and how our sins can be forgiven. **We must know that He is I AM – God Almighty. Only God can forgive sins.** (Mark 2:7.) If our sins are still *on us* when we die, we will not go to heaven, but to everlasting hell. **We did not preexist. We are first born physical (natural) afterwards spiritual** (1 Cor. 15:46), **not the other way around as Mormonism teaches.** Jesus taught that He, God, is the only one who came ***from above*** (heaven), **we did not.** (John 3:13, 31; 8:23.) He said, "... for ***if ye believe not that I AM He*** (God), ***ye shall die in your sins.***" (John 8:24.) Again: *Only God can forgive sins.* Believing that Jesus is who **He said He is, i.e. God**, is the only way to salvation. (John 14:6.) **To become children of God, we must be born again.** (John 1:12; 3:3, 7.) Before we are born again, we are simply "***children of the flesh***", Adam's posterity, of whom Paul says, "***they are not children of God***". (Rom. 9:8.) Salvation cannot be earned, for "***it is the Gift of God, not of works lest any man should boast.***" (Eph. 2:8-10; Rom. 10:9-10.) "***Good works***" that God would that we do, do not save us, but we "show" our faith to others "***by our works***". (James 2:18.) Men can only see what we do, but God sees our heart. (Rom. 10:9-10.) The most important decision you can make in this life is to **believe in Jesus Christ, God, who became a man, and receive Him as your personal Lord and Savior.** There are no other works to be done for salvation than belief. When Jesus was asked *what are the works that they should do to be saved*, He said, "***This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He (the Father) hath sent.***" (John 6:28-29.) ***Faith in God is believing what God has said, taking God at His Word. "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."*** (Rom. 10:17.) Faith in the absolute truthfulness of God's Word leads us to salvation through Jesus' Christ, our Lord, who redeemed us from our sins. We are not saved by the miracles of Jesus or by knowing all the stories about His life on earth, but **by the Gospel that was declared as the only means to be saved.** Paul wrote, "**...I declare unto you the Gospel, which I preached unto you and which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved...For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for your sins according to the scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures." Without the Gospel, i.e. His death and resurrection in our place, there would be no salvation. (Acts 4:12; John 14:6.)**

What the Gospel is, is not often preached even in many Christian churches any more. We may hear teachings, as we heard in the LDS Church, how to live a good and moral life, which, of course, is also a biblical teaching. We may be taught how to raise good and obedient children, which is what the LDS Church also teaches, and which is a biblical counsel. We may be taught how to have a good marriage and how to live a good life and be an example to the unbelieving world. But would knowing, doing and following all that save anyone? Actually NOT. Even many Christians, when asked about their beliefs, may tell how becoming a Christian had changed their lives, but many may not even know how to present the **Gospel that saves.** (1 Cor. 15:1-4.) **We must declare this Gospel of salvation to all.** If we do not, but only talk about *what we as Christians do, or do not do*, we are not much different than Mormons or other work-oriented religionists, who by their good works present themselves as *Christians*. When we were Mormons and believed the "LDS gospel", we likewise listed many commandments and *life-style requirements* that if obeyed, would eventually take us to heaven, to the "*celestial kingdom*". We were taught that the first requirement for heaven is the membership in the Mormon Church, and living the LDS gospel, "*being obedient to the laws and ordinances of*

the Gospel". (3rd Article of Faith.) When we were LDS, *if someone asked what we believed about Jesus Christ*, we would have said pretty much the same as what this LDS man wrote - *that Jesus is our elder spirit-brother with whom we had lived in the preexistence*. We would have likewise said that Jesus was chosen there to become the savior and pay for "*Adam's transgression*". We would have said that his atonement *in the Garden of Gethsemane* gained resurrection for all mankind, and that by his life he gave an example how we too can earn our exaltation (godhood) in the celestial kingdom. If pressed further about our forgiveness of sins, we, as LDS believers, would have said that *God's forgiveness is conditional to our obedience to the gospel laws. i.e. obedience to the Mormon Church*. It all may have sounded good to many, but it is not the true gospel.

The true Gospel, "*the Good News*", is the most important message that God has given to us to share, but instead of presenting the Gospel, we often talk about *what we are doing and how we are living to be sure of our salvation, when it is not of us at all*. (John 3:16; Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 10:9-10.) The sad truth is, that we too, **as true believers in Christ**, tend to do what false religions do – *focus on ourselves, and how well we live our Christian lives, when salvation is not of us at all*. (John 6:28-29; 14:6; Eph. 2:8-9.) We must get back to the Word of God, forget ourselves, *preach the Gospel, love the Lord with all our heart, mind and soul and our fellowmen as ourselves*.(Matt. 22:36-40.)

We would like to ask you all if you remember Kim, a young Mormon lady who works with the Air Force? Just fairly short time before she, a few years ago, contacted me, she had been *endowed, gone through the LDS temple*, and had become confused about Mormonism. That started her to look for answers from *those who had been LDS and also gone through the temple*. She found our website, contacted me and we started our long discussions by phone and by emails. We soon sent her a NKJV Bible so that she could see what the Bible actually says, without Mormon explanations and interpretations of clear doctrine presented in the Word. We also sent her many LDS books and materials to verify Mormon doctrinal teachings, some of them that she had not even been aware of. In few months, she was ready to leave the Mormon Church, and remove her temple-garments, even though she was fearful. Her family, especially her mother, was furious with her even thinking of leaving *the Church*. When she again called one Sunday afternoon, we talked for the longest time and I again presented the biblical Gospel to her and asked if she was now ready to commit her life to Jesus and live for Him. She said "*YES, YES, I am ready.*" We prayed over the phone, both of us crying as we sensed the sweet Spirit of God connecting us. It was just a very short time after *she had received the Lord* (John 1:12) that doctors discovered a life-threatening tumor in her jawbone. We saw it as the enemy's attack on her and her faith, and we sent an "*urgent prayer request*" to all of you on our mailing list. You might remember that? She went through a very complicated surgery and her recovery took a long time, but she was healed, finally. The Air Force sent her to Kuwait for a time, and she came back to the US about a year ago. She was stationed in New Orleans and she called and asked if we knew a good Christian church there? We suggested either Calvary Chapel or SBC church. She also wanted to go to a Bible Seminary, study and maybe become a partner in our ministry. Is that great or what! She found a Calvary Chapel and just loved it. She was also accepted to the SBC's Seminary close by, and she was very happy. Forward to 2 weeks ago: Kim informed that she had met

there a devout Christian man, Abraham, whose parents are Calvary missionaries in Mexico, and who, in his “free time”, loves to do *street ministry*. Kim, even though not used to doing so, had joined him in sharing the Gospel, and learned to love doing it. Now to the point why I am telling you all this: Kim and Abraham (what a great name!!) **were married 9/20/15 in Denver! We are so happy for them both! God is so good.** She wants to bring her new husband to meet us. (Soon, we hope!) Please pray for them and *their plan* to do God’s work and eventually *be help in our ministry* wherever they will live.

It is so great to hear from these new sisters or brothers in Christ and how the Lord is leading them in their lives. There are a number of former Mormons whom we have had a blessing to bring to Christ and *out of bondage* who keep in touch with us. We thank the Lord for them, and for you, our partners in this work of the Lord. Without your support and prayers we could not have been doing this work for over 30 years already. The Lord has done amazing things, some that have been even hard to believe. We pray that your reward will be great for your concern and help to us for reaching the lost. The Lord is our Provider, and He does it through His own people. We only ask that you’d pray that our needs are met. At this time we need of more Bibles to give away. We have always bought nice leather-bound Bibles in gift boxes to give to those who are seeking and wanting to know the Word of God. When they receive a nice Bible, they are amazed! Many have, even years later, commented on *how the Bible we gave to them had become their most valued treasure*. They see that we value the Word of God and are willing to give them a gift that even *costs some money*. We have noted that people are more eager to study the Bible that is *even outwardly valuable!* It has worked well. When the Word of God is carefully studied, it will continue to change lives.

Many of you have contacted us recently and encouraged us in this work. We are thankful for that. We have not planned to stop or even slow down, not at all, but some of you have been concerned about my health and possible surgery that I might be facing and wondering if I can still do this work? I assure you all that I will as long as the Lord sustains me and us as He has done in the past, giving us faithful prayer-partners and supporters. Dennis still has to work full time in his carpentry work, but he helps me a lot in my writings and other ministry work evenings and weekends. He has to continue to work, for we don’t have any other income or retirement except a small Social Security. After we left Mormonism and lost our businesses so many years ago, Dennis made his hobby (wood-working) his new profession. He loves his work, and carries a sign, “**My Boss is a Jewish Carpenter.**” We are in Lord’s hands, and He directs us in all that are and do.

We were planning on starting our **Understanding Mormonism** classes next Sunday, 10/4, at Calvary Chapel, only to find out after they had already announced it, that all their classrooms were taken – and the only time that we could teach there would be in the Sunday evenings, but as it is now with my health, I have very little energy left after three or four in the afternoons. We had planned to have our classes Sunday mornings from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, but “*there is no room in the Inn*”. Calvary Chapel has grown so much and the church facility is not big enough to have a space to do all that could be done if we had a larger building. The only possibility we have now to teach is to have our classes at home Sundays from 11:00 AM till 12:30 PM or so -

but we could only have a maximum of 10 attending at a time. Our home is not large enough for more. There were already many times more who had wanted to come to our class... We will have to see what we can arrange. Prayer is needed for this matter also.

We are asking prayer for Lee Baker, a former LDS bishop, who was arrested in Indiana on 9/23/15. He has been there for the *Indiana LDS Temple opening*, challenging Mormon teachings as non-biblical. They had been demanded of \$3000.00 bond to free Lee till court trial. They have received financial help from Christians, and Lee's wife, Kathy, was able to post bond Friday, 25th, but they did not release him until 9/28/15. Lee has been powerful witness against Mormonism, and obviously local Mormons in Indiana are worried about losing members and they concocted a way how they could have him arrested. You can check on Lee's situation from <http://www.4witness.org/lee-and-kathys-court-update-9-25-14/>

Please continue to pray for our friends Dale, Dick, Sandy, Al, Tom, Dave, Caryl, Max, Pat and Merridy, who are in more or less permanent health trials. We also ask that you'd pray with us for Suzi, Bruce, Florence, Aira and Heber. It is comforting to know that our Lord hears our prayers and He helps in our trials. There are others that we are not naming at this time who are needing prayer for various reasons. The Lord knows who they are and what troubles them and He assists them, according what is best for them. (1 John 5:14-15.)

We are serving the Lord with gladness,

Rauni & Dennis Higley

You can contact us by email: hismin@xmission.com. Our website (still being worked on): www.hismin.com

A thought/question for the month: "Can you become a Christian if you deny the Trinity? I would answer, 'No.' If you don't believe in the Trinity, then you don't understand who God is. You may use the word "God" but you don't understand His nature. Second, you couldn't possibly understand who Christ is either—that He is God in human flesh. **The Incarnation of Christ is an essential component of the biblical gospel**, as John 1:1-14 and many other biblical passages make clear. **To deny the Trinity is to deny the Incarnation. And to deny the Incarnation is to wrongly understand the true gospel.** In saying that, I realize that such an answer is going to not only impact people that you may have witnessed to, like Mormons, but it also applies to some in the broader Pentecostal movement, called **United Pentecostals or 'Jesus-Only' Pentecostals**. Such individuals hold to a *kind of modalism*, that is taught also in the Book of Mormon - where God is sometimes in the *mode of the Father or the mode of the Son or the mode of the Spirit*, but *He is never all three at the same time*. (See Col. 2:9.) That is a deficient and heretical view of the Trinity. **It denies the distinct Personhood of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**" [I am not sure who sent this to me, but I liked it and agree.]

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