



March 1, 2018

*He Is Savior, acts 4:12

H.I.S. Ministries March 2018 Newsletter, covering February 2018

The last part of February brought amazing amounts of snow to Utah – and it surely was needed for our summer’s water supply. Utah is the driest state among the 50 states, and people tend to panic when there is no snow, as it was during the normally snowy months of December and January. Now worriers can relax. Just one storm a week ago, 19th and 20th of February, brought 32” of snow to our yard and patio (we live between two canyons), and much more to the mountains. However, it was not good for those having to be driving on the freeways – there were 458 accidents reported on those days. Now more snow and cold weather is promised. Ski resorts are happy, so are all Utahans. ☺

The Mormon Church boasts of being the **“only true church on the face of the whole earth”**. They claim that because they have living prophets and apostles that makes them **“the one and only”**.

We have received many letters saying that no matter what might be the arguments against Mormonism, **it is still the best organization to lead people into righteous living**. **Question:** Can your **“righteous living”** save you and take you to heaven? Not, according to the Word of God.

The LDS Church’s 3rd Article of Faith says that **“mankind may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel!”**! OK - what are **“the laws and ordinances of the Gospel”**? **There are none!**

When Paul was speaking to those in Corinth who had come to faith in Jesus, he reminded them what he had already taught to them, i.e. **what the Gospel is that saves**. (1 Cor. 15:1-4.) **“I declare to you the Gospel which I preached to you, which you also 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 our sins according to the scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”

That is the Gospel! The time of the prophets is past! (Matt.11:13; Luke 16:16.)

“The law and the prophets” ended in John the Baptist who was sent by God as **“a voice crying in the wilderness”** (Matt. 3:1-3) **to prepare the way of the Lord**, their coming Messiah. (Matt. 11:10.)

We must keep in mind what the Scriptures say. **There will be no more other “living prophets”** but Jesus, who is declaring God’s future plan for mankind. **Prophets wrote about the coming Messiah**. (Luke 24:25-27, 44-47.) **It all happened exactly according to the scriptures!**

What the scriptures had predicted is in Jesus Christ fulfilled. No more prophets, no more obedience to the law will be required. **“The Just shall live by Faith.”** (Hab. 2:4; Gal. 3:11.) **“The rest of the story”** about the future of mankind is told NOT by **“living human prophets”** but by the **resurrected Jesus who gave it** to John the Apostle, who wrote it down in **the Book of Revelation**, revealing what will take place before **the Lord’s Second Coming**. From that time on Jesus is our only **“Prophet, Priest and soon Coming King”**.

“God, who at various times and in different ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son.” (Hebr. 1:1-2.) **Clearly, the time of the prophets is past!**

Jesus revealed mankind's future till the very end. *The Book of Revelation* reveals (chapters 1-3) the end of the Church-age (that we are still in). After that comes the *Great Tribulation* (Chapters 4-19), then *Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ* and the *Great White Throne Judgment* of unbelievers (Chapter 20), and after that God will create a *New Heaven and a New Earth*, followed by never ending *Eternity with God* (Chapters 21 and 22). What more revelation would we need? **God has revealed it all to us if we just read and study.**

In 2 Cor. 11:3-4, 13-15 Paul gives a stern warning about ***"another Jesus, another gospel and different spirit"*** (all different than what the Word of God teaches). He tells also where teaching of these ***"others"*** come from – ***from the enemy of our souls, Satan, who disguises himself as an angel, even an angel of light.*** (vs. 13-15.) Paul repeatedly warned (Gal. 1:1-9) about ***a different gospel*** than they (apostles of Jesus) have taught. ***"... there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven (Moroni?) preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed."***

Joseph Smith received his ***"gospel"*** from ***"an angel from heaven"*** (not from an angel of God). Joseph Smith made ***his gospel*** to be ***obedience to the laws and ordinances*** of the LDS Church, required for ***salvation and worthiness***. This is ***"another gospel"*** as is ***Jesus of Mormonism*** likewise ***"another Jesus"***, not Jesus of the Bible, but ***"Jesus of the Latter-day Saints"***, who, they say, is a brother of mankind, brother of Lucifer, a created being – and thus a very different ***"Jesus"*** than ***Jesus of Christianity, who is God with us.*** (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1-3, 14; 8:23-24.)

Satan has been very busy from the beginning in trying to twist the truth, deceiving those who do not know the scriptures. Paul wrote to Timothy about that. ***"STUDY to be approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing (understanding) the Word of Truth."*** (2 Tim. 2:15; see also 3:16.)

Paul's letter to Galatians compares well to these religions of our day who also teach of ***"another gospel"***. In his letter to believers in Galatia, he was scolding those ***who had earlier believed the pure gospel of Christ***, but now were ***"turning away from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel"*** (Gal. 1:6). At that time this ***"another"*** was brought forth by unscrupulous ***Judaizers***, legalists who had tried to discredit Paul and the gospel of Christ and persuaded many to turn from Christianity to Judaism. They were claiming that the law was binding to Christians also and that salvation must be attained by the works of the law. Paul in his letter sets forth ***grace as opposed to law, faith as opposed to works, and spirit as opposed to flesh***. Writing to the Ephesians Paul again emphasized how we are saved – ***by grace alone, & faith alone in Jesus***. (Eph. 2:8-9.) To the Galatians he wrote, ***"...man is NOT justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ... for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified...if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."*** (Gal. 2:16, 21.) He continued, ***"O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth...Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh? ... Law is not of faith...Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us...What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, TILL the Seed (Christ) should come to whom the promise was made...the scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe...Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after the faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor."*** (Gal. 3:1-3, 12-13, 19, 22, 24-25.) Paul's letter to Galatians is a very timely letter to us all, especially here in "Mormon country", Utah. Please read the entire letter to Galatians now – it is short, only 6 chapters.

From our mailbox: I received a question about what Joseph Smith had taught about Enoch of the Old Testament and what we thought about that. He wrote, *“Mormons believe that Enoch was a prophet who was commissioned by God to baptize in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost. But the Old Testament does not mention baptism at all, or does it? But since the Holy Ghost is not talked about in Enoch’s time, it does not make sense to me that Joseph Smith said that Enoch was commissioned to baptize in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost. What would you say to that? My question is why do people need baptism only after Jesus came, but not during OT time? I have another question: Why was Jesus baptized by John the Baptist, anyway? The Holy Ghost descended upon Jesus when He was baptized. Aren’t we all given the Holy Ghost upon baptism? Any thought on this? If you can, tell me about Enoch too. Thank you.”*

Reply: Of course Enoch did not baptize nor was he commanded to do that. This *“commandment”* and more is found in the LDS scripture, the Pearl of Great Price, Moses 7:11, written by Joseph Smith, and is not true. **The Bible does not teach about baptism before the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.** (See Matt. 28:19-20; Romans 6:3-4, and about the Gospel see: 1 Cor. 15:1-4.) We as believers in Jesus Christ are to be baptized **into His death, burial and resurrection** (not into any man-made church) and then we are **to walk in the newness of life in Him to give Him glory and honor.** Baptism is for identification with Him and what He did for us, and that only after we have believed and are born again. **Baptism is not for our salvation but it is a public declaration of what we believe.**

The Old Testament priests were ceremoniously washed with water before they officiated in sacrifices, (Exodus 29:4) but that was not *“baptism”* the New Testament teaches. Anyway, water has no cleansing power from sin – it is simply just washing. **It is the blood that atones for sin.** (Lev. 17:11; 1 John 1:7-9.)

The Triune God was active throughout the Old Testament, but **the actual ministry of the Holy Spirit did not come until after Christ.** Jesus said, ***“It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter (the Holy Ghost) will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you!”*** (John 16:7.)

When the Holy Spirit came to indwell believers on the Day of the Pentecost, it was then that the Church began (Acts 2:1-3) just as Jesus had promised saying that after He goes away, He will send the Holy Spirit to be with and in believers forever.

John’s baptism was different in its meaning and purpose than *believers’ baptisms* after Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection. **John baptized with water unto repentance** – it was ceremonial and had no cleansing power from sin. John’s ministry was to call Israel to repent for forsaking their God – it was preparatory (to prepare Israel for the coming of her Messiah) (Matt. 11:10) and it was **partial** for His Second Coming will be later. John knew that Jesus had no sin of which to repent and for that reason he first protested against baptizing Jesus. Jesus simply asked him to do it ***“to fulfill all righteousness”***. (Matt. 3:15.) **By His baptism Jesus identified with all Israelites who were coming to be baptized unto repentance** (not for forgiveness, for that can only come through the blood of Jesus Christ that was not shed yet). **John’s message was to remind Israel about the scriptures that taught of the coming of the Holy One.**

Jesus’ baptism was symbolizing the way He would fulfill all the righteous claims of God against man’s sin. His immersion in water typified of ***“God’s judgment of sin”*** that would take place at Calvary. (He was to be put to death, buried and then resurrected.) His emergence from the water foreshadowed His resurrection – **all of it symbolized what He was going to do in order to take away the sins of those who come to Him for salvation.** (John 1:29.) **That is the Gospel** (1. Cor. 15:1-4) **and believing/trusting in what He did for us – we receive salvation.** (John 6: 28-29.)

We must come to faith in Him and be **born again** before we are baptized into His death! (Romans 6:3-4.) To the New Testament believers’ baptism serves similar purpose as circumcision did for the Old Testament male believers. It was an external sign of a covenant with God. As was circumcision, baptism likewise is an

external sign that those who come to faith in Jesus, have desired to be in covenant relationship to God. (Col. 2:11-12; Rom. 6:3-4.) **When Jesus was baptized (Matt. 3:13-17) God revealed to all who He is – the Triune God, God who is Spirit.** (John 4:24.) All the members of Trinity were evidenced there. The beloved Son had become a man. (John 1:1, 14; Matt. 1:23.) **He was there as a physical image of the invisible God.** (Col. 1:15; 2:9.) The Holy Spirit came in a form of a dove to anoint Jesus for His ministry as Messiah of Israel. The Father's voice was heard from heaven. **The Triune God was demonstrated there as one visible Person (Jesus), and two invisible Persons** (the Father and the Holy Spirit). (1 John 5:7.)

You asked about Enoch. Joseph Smith was obviously fascinated with Enoch. There is a lot to say about that subject in connection with Joseph Smith. I will just give you a brief review here: **“Coming forth of the Book of Mormon-story” resembles in part the Legend of Enoch as told in Freemasonry.** Albert MacKay's *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry* reveals that Enoch had (so the legend says) **a gold plate on which was carved the Tetragrammaton (YHWH) – i.e. ineffable or unspeakable name of God.** This plate had an iron ring for lifting. It was (as were Joseph Smith's "gold plates of the BoM") **placed in a stone box that was covered with earth. Enoch could visit this hiding place only once a year...** Joseph Smith's story of the *Gold Plates* says that the *BoM plates were also placed in a stone box, covered with earth and the plates were held together with iron rings, and that he could visit their hiding place once a year for three years...* Joseph Smith identified with Enoch and even gave himself a secret name, *Enoch*. (See D&C Section 78 – prior to 1981 editions.) **(If you want to know more about Enoch and Joseph Smith, let me know.)**

Questions from an LDS person:

“Where does it say that God knows the hearts of every person?

Also, why are Christians against the LDS work for the dead? Don't you know that Mormons do it for their salvation (baptisms, endowments, marriages etc.) because they never heard the gospel when they were alive. I have heard that Christians do not believe that there is a second chance after death. Isn't that unfair to judge them and not give them a second chance if they have never heard?”

Reply: God knows our hearts and our intentions. (1 Samuel 16:7.) **God desires that all would come to the knowledge of truth.** (1 Tim. 2:4; John 3:16.) God knows us all, He knows the end from the beginning. (Rom. 4:17.) Thus He knows who desires to come to Him and who does not. Look at Abraham. He lived in Ur of Chaldea, a totally pagan country where there was no one to tell him about God – so God did it Himself. (See Genesis 12 :1 and onward.) **God knew Abraham's heart and his desire for God.**

Our hearts and feelings can deceive us if we do not test all things by God's Word. (Jer. 17:9; 1 Thess. 5:21.) God has more ways than one to get His truth to those who seek Him and want to know Him. He can even make the **rocks cry out** if people would not share the truth about who He is... (See Luke 19:40.) God is perfectly able to reach out to everyone who wants to know Him. He has even commissioned nature itself to declare that He is God and He is real. (Romans 1:16-23; Ps. 19:1.) He gives us understanding, if we desire Him. (Job 38:36. Prov. 4:23; 2:10; Romans 5:5; Matt. 22:37.)

As to work for the dead, it is not biblical. After death comes judgment, not a second chance. (Hebr.9:27.) **God seeks the living, not dead,** and He wants us to come to Him while we are alive. (Hebr. 3:7-15.) God said, ***“I AM the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and God of Jacob. God is not the God of the dead, but God of the living.”*** If you truly seek Him, He will be found. ***“...seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and all your soul.”*** (Deut. 4:29.) He will not turn anyone away who seeks Him. **All answers to all our questions are in His Book, the Bible.** I hope this helped.

We have been very busy in our ministry and we thank the Lord for it. I normally do the larger portion of our ministry work, but during the very cold weather when Dennis is not able to do as much of his wood work (he does not have a heated workshop), he has had more time to teach and write which he loves to do, though he also has to earn our living... 😊

Dennis has been helping a Mormon lady, Zibbeth and her husband, Carl, and their daughters, who live in Australia. Dennis has been in regular contact with her since the 15th of January when we received the first request for help from her. We mailed her/them a box of books and other important materials and they received them about 3 weeks ago. That box also included **Chuck Missler's John study** MP3 and other biblical help. **Now the entire family is studying the Bible and they have already discovered that Mormonism is not according to the Word of God, the Bible. They are leaving the LDS Church and have already started attending a solid Bible teaching church.** Their Mormon bishop had come last week with one of his counselors trying to convince them to come back. They had an over 3-hour discussion about Mormonism vs. the Bible. She wrote that the Bishop has now instructed his ward members **not to be in contact with her family.** The bishop obviously sees that if they share with other Mormons what they already know, there will be more people leaving the church. Just last night Dennis got a long email from her saying that there are already other Mormon families studying these issues with them and indicating that they too might be leaving soon **for Jesus of the Bible. People who love the truth are awakening and responding!** It is amazing that this city where they live is the same city, Perth, Australia, where Dennis went in 2010 **to start a ministry to Mormons** with a brother and sister, David and Jennifer, whom we had helped a few years before in their exit from Mormonism. God's plan works. They and another Christian family Dennis stayed with when he was in Perth, Retha and Riann Brink, are already helping Zibbeth and Carl and their girls. **God who knows the end from the beginning** (Rom. 4:17) **has now opened the heavenly flood-gates of information and arranged people to help them.** The Lord God has done an absolute miracle for and with this couple. They were raised by active Mormon parents. Zibbeth's father has been a stake president, and *an Area Seventy* for the Mormon Church, and is currently serving as a Stake Patriarch in South Africa where this family is from. She has just a few days ago contacted her father and told him that they are leaving the Mormon Church. Naturally he is very upset that his daughter and her husband are leaving the Church and taking his 3 granddaughters away from Mormonism. We understand how upsetting this can be to family relationships. We went through similar things with Dennis' family when we announced that we were leaving. We ask your prayers for them and also for their LDS family so that their minds and hearts will open to the Truth of God found only in the Word of God, the Bible.

We'd like to let you know that we are also busily working here with several local LDS people – meeting with them individually at our home – hours and hours at a time - which we are happy to do – and we thank the Lord for bringing these souls to us. Please pray for them also. We are not ready to give their names out yet, but the Lord knows who they are. We are expecting that most of them will receive Jesus soon and become children of God. (John 1:12.)

We want to thank you for your prayers for us and for our Ministry. We thank you also for being our partners in providing books, Bibles, DVDs, CDs and what we need have to assist truth seekers and provide any LDS person we are working with locally and in the states and overseas what they need to learn what is truth is. We have been in pretty tight budget – and we are asking the Lord to provide, which we know that He will. This is His work, and we know that as long as He directs us to do it, He also provides.

Our health has not been the best, but we still have been able to do our work *as if nothing was wrong.* 😊 God is behind that too. Dennis is looking for another cardiologist, for our health insurance rejected doctors at the Heart Center he has been going to for about 15 years. He is on 3 different blood pressure medicines, and that has to be evaluated soon. Regardless, he feels good and has been able to work as before. My thyroid

ultrasound taken in St. Mark's Hospital 2 weeks ago showed that surgery is not necessary, at least not now. Yeah! Tumors on my left side thyroid have not grown since the last test (my right side thyroid was operated on and removed many years ago). I count this improvement as a "God thing" – for He is our healer. We are just asking that you will pray for our health and provision when you think about us. God is good.

Our prayer list has many names that we are asking you to mention in your prayers. The Lord knows what their needs or trials are, and He will respond accordingly as we remember to pray for - **Judy, Kathy, Max, Merridy, Sandy, Al, Mary, Tom, another Mary, Dave, David H., Jamie, Aira, Suzi, Patty, Don, MaryAnn, Heber, Bruce, Suzanne, Cheryl, Marlene and our unsaved loved-ones.** We pray daily for *the Peace of Jerusalem* (Ps. 122:6), persecuted Christians around the world and for our country and President, his cabinet and all who are working to make America safe and peaceful. We ask the Lord's forgiveness for our shortcomings as individuals in this land, and that He would bless our efforts for good in our country. (2 Chron. 7:14.)

We ask God's direction in all details of our lives so that we may be tuned to His will in all things. We ask that same for you and for all who are waiting for His appearing (that could be at any moment!) while we are working to **bring Him the Glory for the great things He has done.**

We are very blessed to be able to serve the Lord in Utah and from Utah.
In Him and for Him,

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We are in a process of having all 9 of our teaching DVDs, "**Understanding Mormonism**", placed to our website. **The Spanish Translation of our booklet, "The Truth About Mormonism"** will be added soon also.

Our newsletters can also be read and printed from our website: www.hismin.com

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"Thought for the Month of March" is Psalm 37:3-8.
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