



January 1, 2013

## H.I.S. Ministries January Newsletter covering December 2012

### **Happy New Year 2013!**

Our prayer is that from the very beginning of this New Year we will experience *Heaven's population growth explosion*. It will take place if all who are truly saved will share the Gospel of Christ of the Bible (1 Cor. 15:1-4; Rom. 10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-9), their love for Jesus and His love for the lost (Luke 19:10).

Most people in our nation, and in the world also, are expecting more hard times to come – and during the hard times people are more likely to seek God than times of prosperity and security. We need to be available to love and teach them. When we look back into the times when *true Christianity* grew the most, it was during the times of hardships, persecution and even death to those who believed the gospel of Christ. There was then no need to worry about false professions of faith. Where Christians are persecuted, put in prisons and even killed for their faith in Jesus, as is the case now in Iran, Indonesia and other Muslim countries, and in India also, there are no “fakes” among Christians. During the last decades in the Western world it has been the opposite – false professions have been more the rule than the exception especially among those seeking to benefit from Christianity. Many have “miraculously converted” and become Christians just before they announced that they were going to seek a political office – be it a governor, senator, congressman or even the president. We have seen known members of the Mormon Church claiming to be Christian without believing in Christ of the traditional historic Christianity, salvation by grace alone without works, etc. and that so that those who are Christians would vote for them. This may soon change – praying in the name of Jesus is already forbidden in most public gatherings, schools and courts even though Muslims are allowed to pray in the name of their god. The Bible and Christianity cannot be taught in public schools , but Islam is among the “approved religions” that can be taught in many schools and it is growing by “leaps and bounds” in the USA as around the world. We are entering times that the Bible prophesies will happen before the Great Tribulation. True faith in God of the Bible is harder to find among men (Luke 18:8). We see that the Bible prophesies about the end times, as in Matthew 24 and the Book of Revelation, are not studied or understood. The hope for the Rapture is all but lost among major denominations, yet it is clearly taught in the Word of God. It is unknown among Roman Catholicism that a long time ago put purgatory and indulgencies in its place. The Reformation did not restore Christ’s promise that “I will come again and receive you unto myself”. Reformed theology taught in our day by Presbyterians and Lutherans pretty much denies the Rapture and the Lord’s coming for His own.

When some evangelicals have tried to bring back the early church teachings (biblical teachings, I may add) about the Rapture, it has often turned into “date setting”, even though the Lord has said that no one knows the day nor the hour (Matt. 24:36-44), and when nothing happened on the “set date” the coming Rapture became ridiculed. For that reason the Rapture and even the Second Coming are *avoided topics* by many Christians, and even preaching of the Gospel has been neglected. Instead many denominational Christians are focusing on “*taking over the world for Christ*” – saying that the Lord will not come until they have made the world ready for Him. They are also teaching God has forsaken the national Israel, and that the *church is Israel and the kingdom of God* on earth – and thus they are building “*heaven on earth*” rather than expecting the Lord to come and take them to heaven. *This is deception* in light of biblical teachings. Those who are looking for “Christ” to come and approve their kingdom may find that they have been working to establish a one world government and religion for the Antichrist. It is that plan that the Bible foretells. This coming world leader (Antichrist) will set up a world-wide economy, a *system for buying and selling* (Rev. 13:16-17), and he will announce “*peace when there is no peace*”. (Jer. 6:14.) However, the scriptures teach plainly that before God will pour His wrath on the world and its false systems, Christ Jesus will come and *catch His own to meet Him in the air* (1 Thess. 4:13-18) and take us to safety “***until the indignation*** (His judgment on the unbelieving world) ***is past.***” (Isa. 26:20-21.) Paul warns that unbelief results from *not loving the Truth* that would save them. Because of their unbelief God will give them up and *send them a strong delusion* allowing them to believe *the lie they have chosen* instead of Truth. (2 Thess. 2:10-12.) This *strong delusion* will make them believe that this world leader (Antichrist) is Christ - after all they have been building “the kingdom on earth” for him.

Knowing the Word of God that keeps us from being deceived. There are many religions in the world participating in their own way in building the supposed “kingdom of God” on the earth. The Mormon Church has been saying for over 180 years that ***the Mormon Church is the Kingdom of God.*** (Mormon Doctrine, p. 415.) **However, the True Kingdom of God will not come until King Jesus is here, and when He comes He will sit on David's Throne as was promised to Mary.** (Luke 1:30-33.) Until then, all kingdoms of this world belong to Satan, who is now *the god of this world and the prince of the power of the air.* (2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2.) **By observing the world's condition, and keeping our eyes on Israel, for it is “the apple of His eye”** (Zech. 2:8-9), we can observe where we are in *God's time-table*, for God will not allow Israel to be destroyed. All the nations of the world are against Israel, and threats of her destruction are in the news almost daily. The Lord has said, “*And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.*” (Luke 21:28.) This all means that our time is short – we all must be about the Lord’s work and present Jesus to the lost world as the author and finisher of our faith, who gives eternal life as His gift to all who would come to Him. (Hebr. 12:1-2; Eph. 2:8-9.)

**Our work is for today – yesterday is gone and tomorrow has not come. “Today is the Day of Salvation”.** “*Today - lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, while it is said: TODAY, IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS IN REBELLION.*” (Hebr. 3:13-15.)

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## From our mailbox – questions from Mormons:

**"In the Bible James 2: 17 says that faith without works is dead. Why do you teach that works are not needed for salvation, just faith?"**

### Reply:

Works are an outward proof of the reality of faith. True faith produces "works" as evidence of faith that otherwise would be invisible. Works do not save or add to our salvation. We have only one Savior, Jesus Christ. If our works could save us or add to our salvation, then we would have two saviors – Jesus and ourselves. Faith and works do not mix when relating to our salvation. Paul wrote in Romans 4:2-5, "For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. What saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Now unto him that works is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that works not, but believes on Him that justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness."

James 2:14-26 is often misused by those who do not know or pay attention to what the entire New Testament teaches about *faith vs. works*. Our works do not gain us salvation. James is talking about those who "say" they have faith, but there is no visible evidence of it other than what they say. James 2:19 notices that even the devils believe in God! Faith alone saves, but true faith is never alone, but shows our surrender to the Lord. In other words, when a person truly believes on the Lord, has faith in Him, it involves total commitment to the Lord. This commitment results in a changed life, and from that new life others can observe that his faith is more than words – it is real. It was likewise Abrahams's faith that was counted to him for righteousness and thus he was justified by faith in the sight of God. (Gen. 15:6.) Later Abraham's faith was put to test (Gen. 22) and his actions demonstrated that his faith was real – his heart was committed to love and obey God. God had already justified Abraham by his faith the moment he believed as we saw in Rom. 4:4-5 and Gen. 15:6, but we would not know that for sure without his obedience to God we read about in Gen. 22. God sees to our hearts and justifies us by our faith, but people can see only from our actions if our faith is real. We may hear a person say that they believe, but God alone knows if their faith is genuine. Paul wrote, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." Paul continued on to say what is to take place in our lives after we are saved, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (Eph. 2:8-10.) In other words, works follow those who truly believe. We do good works because we are saved, not to become saved through them.

Jesus was asked about everlasting life and how to gain it. "Then said they unto Him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered and said unto them. This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent." (John 6:28-29.) Again: We are saved by grace of God through faith, not of works. (Eph. 2:7-9.)

The "wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Jesus gave His life and paid our sin-debt as our perfect blood sacrifice. Jesus is the *Lamb of God* who takes away our sins when we believe on Him. (John 1:19.) *Jesus is God with us*, as Matt. 1:23 and John 1:1, 14 say. In order to have our sins forgiven, **we have to know that Jesus is God for only God can forgive sins.** (John 8:24; 17:3; Mark 2:7; Luke 5:20-21.) When we are born again, at that moment of new birth we *become sons of God* and thus we are secure in Him and we know that we are saved. (See 1 John 5:13.)

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**Another Mormon wrote:** “*You must be motivated by hate by trying to convert us from Mormonism into your brand of Christianity. I think it is unchristian to question us. We are Christians – why don’t you do something positive for your own faith rather than bash Mormons.*”

**Reply:** You say that you (Mormons) are Christians. Was it not Joseph Smith who declared that all Christian sects were wrong and an abomination to God? [It is still recorded in your scriptures: PoGP, Joseph Smith History 1:19 – or in earlier editions 2:19.] **Obviously your religion is not Christian, since Joseph Smith condemned all Christianity.**

I have a question for you: If Mormons are Christians, as you say, why does the Mormon Church send tens of thousands of missionaries **to convert Christians to Mormonism?** And **are Mormons motivated by hate when they try to convert Christians into Mormonism?** However, if we hated Mormons, why would we want to help you and bring you to salvation? We do it because Christians are commanded by Jesus to evangelize the lost. We share the truth about God, Jesus and salvation as is taught in the Holy Bible. (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 19:8 etc.) Evangelizing the lost is the most positive and loving thing to do. We are doing our best in helping Mormons come to know the Truth that is found only in Jesus who is God with us, and be saved. (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1, 14; 8:23-24; 14:6; Rev. 1:8.) Mormons **proselytize** and try to convert people to their brand of “Christianity”. We evangelize the lost to Christ.

**This same Mormon wrote again and said:**

*The Bible is not trustworthy. It is filled with errors. That is why we have the Book of Mormon and living prophets who teach us what is true – as “families are forever”, and that hell is not eternal, but has an end. Our God is fair – he does not send people to eternal hell as your God does, but gives them eternal life that they deserve in one of the three heavenly kingdoms. Why don’t you read the Book of Mormon and pray about it, and pray also if the LDS Church is true and has living prophets?*

**Reply: There are no errors in the Bible.** Have you ever studied the Bible, book by book, verse by verse, or only listened to your LDS leaders who claim, without any proof, that there are errors in it? I would challenge you to test the Bible **by studying** each book, and not skipping over anything as you read and study. The Bible is 66 books that can be read separately. I’d recommend that you’d start with the Gospel of John, and after that Paul’s letters to Galatians and Romans. They, as does the entire Bible, refute what is taught by the Mormon Church. It is curious to me that you say there are errors in the Bible, but you do not point out what and where. It is also curious to me that if you think that the Bible is full of errors why are you not using Joseph Smith’s “*translation of the Bible*”? He supposedly corrected what was wrong in it.

You say that “families are forever”. Families indeed can be forever, but only if each member of the family is a born again believer in Jesus, for only those who have received Jesus have become children of God and can live with God forever. (John 1:12-13; 8:24.) Before being born again, we are simply children of the flesh and they are not children of God. (Rom. 9:8.) We **become** God’s children **when we receive Jesus**. (John 1:12-13). There is no preexistence. **We were not born** to God, but are born as descendants of Adam, **created by God**. Jesus alone came from “above”, we did not. He is God who became a man. (See John 8:23; 3:13,31; 1 Cor. 15:46.) **We must be born again to become sons of God**, as Jesus said. (John 3:7; 1:12.)

The Bible teaches only about heaven and hell – and both are eternal. Even the Book of Mormon teaches about endless torment and eternal hell (1 Ne. 15:35; 2 Ne. 2:28-29; 28:21-23 etc.) and not

about three heavenly kingdoms! God is fair. **If we are in Christ Jesus we will not come into judgment** (Rom. 8:1) for our sins are forgiven by the blood of Jesus. For our sins to be forgiven, we must **know Him** (John 17:3) **and believe that He is God in the flesh.** (John 8:24; 1 John 1:7.)

The Bible does not even suggest that we'd pray about the Book of Mormon if it is true. The Bible commands that we study and test all things to see what is true. **Spirits, books, prophets and all teachings are to be tested by the Bible.** (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Thess. 5:21; 1 John 4:1; 1 Tim. 4:1.) God has given us a mind and ability to reason and understand , and if what Mormonism teaches (as the BoM, or teachings of Joseph Smith and later LDS prophets, etc.) does not agree with what Jesus taught, and what the Bible says, then we are to reject that. Paul warned that there will come those who teach "*another Jesus*", "*another gospel*", and have "*another spirit*". (2 Cor. 11:4, 13-15.) These are teachings of the Mormon Church. Teaching or accepting "*another gospel*" will bring *God's curse.* (Gal. 1:8-9.) The Gospel that Paul and apostles taught is found in 1 Cor. 15:1-4 and when compared to gospel taught in LDS 3<sup>rd</sup> Article of Faith, we see that LDS gospel indeed is "*another gospel*", as is their "*Jesus*" who is a created being and Lucifer's and mankind's spirit brother, but Jesus of the Bible is God Almighty who became a man. (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1, 14; Col.1:15; 2:9; Rev. 1:8.) They (LDS) likewise have "*another spirit*" for the Holy Spirit who gave us the Word of God would not give witness to anything that does not agree with the Word of God, the Bible. (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21.)

Jesus alone is our living prophet. (Hebr. 1:1-2.) He is our "*Prophet, Priest and King*". He is the prophet "*like unto Moses*" prophesied in Deut. 18:15. Jesus Himself referred to this in John 5:46; 6:14. (See also Acts 3:22-23,37 and Luke 24:25-27, 44.) The time of human prophets is past as Hebr. 1:1-2 says. God now speaks to us through His Son, Jesus, who is the *Word of God* and the *Truth* personified. (John 1:1,14; 14:6; 17:17.) "*Prophets*" mentioned in the New Testament are not *foretellers* but spirit filled interpreters of what the Old Testament prophets have said. The Old Testament prophets prophesied of a coming Redeemer, a Messiah, who will come as the Savior and Lord. These prophecies were fulfilled in Jesus. What they had said is indeed finished. It is Jesus who gave us *the Book of Revelation* (Rev. 1:1) and in it He spells out the future – from the church-age that we are still in (Rev. Chapters 1-3) to the Rapture that takes place before the Great Tribulation (1 Thess. 4:13-18; 5:9; Matt. 24:21; Rev. 4-19), and after that of His Second Coming with His Saints. (1 Thess. 3:13; Jude 14; Zech. 14:5; Rev. 19:8-14.) After the 7-year Tribulation and thousand- year reign of Christ comes the Great White Throne judgment of all unbelievers (Rev. 20:11-15). Then the Lord creates a *New Heaven and a New earth.* (Rev. 21:1.) This earth is made fresh and purged out of sin, the curse, decay and death, and *it shall remain before the Lord .*(Isa. 66:22.) **"Even so, come, Lord Jesus."** (Rev. 22:21.) **The Word of God is true and trustworthy.** Just as Amos 3:7 promises, **God has revealed all that He is doing now and all that He will do in the future. He is the same yesterday, today and forever.**

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We pray that the New Year will bring many to Christ through Gospel declaration that we all must be part of – either in person or through prayer. Prayer for those of us "in the field" that we accomplish much. Prayers and support of the faithful encourage us and strengthens us and we thank you for praying – not just for us, but for all who work here in various ministries for the Lord.

We have been blessed during this past year by many new believers in true Jesus. They have risked all and "*came out from among them*", and we thank the Lord for each one who has received Him.

There have been disappointments also. We have a broken heart for those who rejected Jesus and His Truth for temporal benefits – be it family relations, jobs or other things that they thought were too hard to give up. We continue to pray that they will have a change of heart before it is too late. (Hebr.

9:27.) We are still working with many who have not yet closed the door completely, even though they are fearing what will happen if they leave Mormonism. Some have said that their spouses have threatened divorce and loss of their children if they do not stay in Mormonism, even if they do not believe in it. They need prayer, God's direction and courage.

Please pray with us for Tom who has been falsely accused of wrong doing in financial matters and may end up in court for that. We pray that he will be able to have peace of mind and trust that the Lord will clear this for him. Regardless, it is heartbreaking to be wrongly accused.

We ask you to join with us in prayer that Bruce's business will take off and prosper and that his stressful home-life will improve according to the will of God and according to His directions.

Please pray for Heber that the Lord will open the doors for his desires to be taken care of.

Prayer is again needed for health blessings for Max, Pat, Merridy, Dick, Sandy, Debbie and Dale.

Our dear friend Chris Hohnbaum had another stint put in his heart 2 weeks ago. Let's pray together that he will be able to continue to be healthy from now on.

Please pray for Sandra and John – they are struggling with serious demonic attacks. Devil does not let those, who have previously taken oaths in Mormon temples, escape from his grip easily.

We thank the Lord that Dennis' last appointment on 21<sup>st</sup> of December with his cardiologist showed improvement. He has had very high blood pressure and he has seen his cardiologist many times in past several months. He is taking 3 different blood pressure medicines – and praise God that this last one seems to work better, even though he still must take all three of them.

We thank you for continuing to keep us in your prayers for health and strength as well as for our financial situation that it is not very good, but regardless of that we have managed to respond to requests for materials needed and we have been able to, during this year again, send books, DVDs, CDs etc. literally around the world anyway. We thank the Lord that Dennis has had enough work to keep our personal expenses covered and even helping in some ministry expenses.

We do not solicit donations, but some have asked if they still can send a gift for 2012, and how they can still have a tax benefit for 2012. It can be done via PayPal [www.hismin.com/content/ministry-donations](http://www.hismin.com/content/ministry-donations) by 12/31/12, or by mail, if postmarked by 12/31/12. We thank those of you who have stepped in to help us. We trust that the Lord is rewarding you for your faithfulness to Him.

We are 501 ( c ) (3) ministry and donations given to H.I.S. Ministries are tax deductible. In January we will send receipts for donations received during 2012 for your income tax deduction . As you may know, we are not an "underwritten" ministry, nor do we sell anything to make money but freely give as we have freely received blessings from the Lord. (Phil. 4:6-7,19.)

In His service,

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**(See also attached Helen Radkey's report on how she was banned from LDS Genealogical Facilities on 12/14/12.)**



