



July, 2016

***He Is Savior, Acts 4:12**

His Ministries July 2016 Newsletter, covering June 2016

We hope your summer days are pleasant and not as hot as June has been here in Salt Lake City, Utah - mostly over 90 degrees. The last few days have been 100-103 degrees, which makes it nearly impossible to be outside during the daytime hours. During our very cold winter months I said that I'll try to refrain from complaining even if it gets hot in the summer!... but here I go again – complaining... I know that in just 3-4 months I'll wish it was warmer again. ☺ I need to just learn to adapt and be glad that we have changing seasons, even if almost extreme...

To those in the U.S. we wish you all a **Happy 4th of July!**

These last weeks of June have been very busy - lots of work, many people - and spiritually wonderful for us. A highlight to it all was having Cynthia and Scott Christensen from Omaha, NE, to come and meet us the very first time. I have been very close friends with Cynthia for years and in frequent contact by phone and emails, though we have not before met in person. Many years ago *the Lord arranged* for her to contact me to help her out of Mormonism. She went through some very difficult times when she denounced Mormonism. When Cynthia let her first husband know that she could not live the Mormon-lie anymore, he immediately went to see the bishop, whose advise was *"to give Cynthia 2-3 months to come to herself and return to the faith"*, but if she will not return to Mormonism, then *he was to divorce her*. Instead of *"returning back to Mormonism"*, Cynthia became a born again believer in the Lord Jesus of the Bible, and gave her life to the Lord. Divorce was devastating to her for it also shattered her relationship with their two children. Cynthia's late father, a local well-respected doctor and a Christian, was her support at that time, but her LDS mother was very upset, and continues to resent Cynthia's faith in the True Jesus. Cynthia and Scott met in a *Christian support group for the divorced*. Scott has been a strong Christian all his life, but he also had had a sad experience of being rejected by his spouse, and they divorced. Scott's and Cynthia's friendship eventually developed into love and marriage. Cynthia had told Scott about how we, Dennis and I, had helped her to overcome her devastation and grow to trust the Lord and His goodness in all things as Romans 8:28 promises to *those who love God*. After they married several years ago, Cynthia had often said to Scott that she would like to meet us in person and thank us for her freedom from Mormonism and finding the true God and Jesus Christ and be saved. Scott had agreed with Cynthia and said that he too would like to meet us and thank us. When they came, he said to us, *"Without you, Cynthia and I would not be married"*. [Of course he was giving us way too much credit – it all was and is the Lord's doing, we just were used by the Lord to help Cynthia to become saved.] **Scott took a week of vacation from his work and they**

drove 14 hours to come and see us! Wow! We had three great days together. We praise the Lord for giving us Scott and Cynthia as our “*forever friends*”.

There is such a relief and joy in the hearts of those who have been freed from the bondage of a false religion as Mormonism is. And when they become the Lord’s own *they want to thank Him* by driving or flying to Salt Lake City to meet us as whom the Lord has placed in their lives to open their eyes to see the true Jesus, and come away from *bondage called Mormonism*. During our years in **His Ministry** God has blessed us to experience these kinds of meetings over and over again. These new believers become our *spiritual children* who will be with us in heaven forever. (Gal. 4:27; Isa. 54:1.) **God’s promises are sure**. Coming to have a personal relationship with the True Jesus is the only relationship that guarantees eternal salvation. (1 John 5:13.) Eddy and Jacqui also made a long trip from Blaine WA to meet us in person and thus confirm that our work in Ministry is bringing fruit. They came out of Mormonism, Eddy first and then Jacqui, and they committed their lives to Jesus 3 years ago. They have been witnessing to Mormons and other lost persons ever since. I just got an email from Eddy who was asking *how to witness to a Jehovah’s Witness* he has met. I have collected a lot of information on what Jehovah’s Witnesses believe and how to help them to see truth, but I do not have that information on line. I directed Eddy to our friend, Christy Darlington (www.4witness.org), whose ministry is to both Jehovah’s Witnesses and Mormons.

Questions presented to us by Mormons and our answers to them:

We get emails often from LDS persons saying that they cannot comprehend what the Bible says. Why is that? Could it be that they do not read the Bible book by book, chapter by chapter, verse by verse, but instead open it at random, and read a verse here and a verse there? It may also be that someone sends them a verse or two, trying to prove a point assuming that they have read the context where it is from, but if they are not familiar with the context, they cannot understand from a couple of verses what is taught in them. We intuitively know that we cannot pick up a book, any book, and start reading in the middle of a paragraph and assume that from just few lines we will understand what it is trying to say or teach. We tend to leave our common sense at the door when it comes to the Bible and don’t treat it the same way. God says, “*Study to show yourselves approved to God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing (understanding) the word of truth.*” (2 Timothy 2:15.) Thus common sense tells that when we receive a verse or two from the Bible but are not familiar with the book or chapter where it is from, then, in order to understand, we must read also the context where these verses belong. Many Mormons have said to me that they have read the whole Bible, from Genesis through Revelation, but they still don’t understand it, and then say that for this reason they *need modern day prophets and the LDS Church to explain the meaning to them*. Reading the Bible is not just *getting through it all* that counts. After all, it is God’s book, and it has to be read carefully and thoughtfully, word by word. It’s words have much deeper meaning than we can even think. When I was a Mormon missionary, I was challenged by an older woman [“older” like I now am ☺], who asked me if I have read the Bible? I had to admit that I had not, but I promised that I will do it. From that day on I got up an hour earlier than my missionary companion and read the Bible one hour every morning till I finished it. I was not then seeking God through His Word, but I was reading it to find Biblical “*approval*” to Mormonism which I was promoting. **I didn’t find it!** Thus I did not understand the Bible any better after reading it all through. That may be the same with other LDS Bible-readers. Later, much later, *I realized why I did not understand it better then was because I did not have the Holy Spirit, for it is the Spirit of God that helps our understanding.* (Luke 24:45.) From John 14:17 we see that *the world* [i.e. unbelievers] **cannot receive or know the**

Spirit of God. However, even unbelievers, if they are ***seeking with their whole heart to know the True God***, God will reveal Himself to them through His Word and then they can continue to grow and become who God has intended them to become. (Jer. 29:11-13; John 1:12-13.) ***Our understanding will increase if we are truly seeking God.*** When God told Moses who He is, He said, ***“I AM that I AM”***. (Ex. 3:14.) This seems like an incomplete sentence, doesn't it? We would expect God to continue to say ***“I AM ___”*** and add something to that. God purposefully did not complete the sentence ***“I AM that I AM”***, for ***He indeed IS***. Who He is, is revealed throughout His Word. If you are hungry, ***He is the bread***. If you are in the dark, ***He is the Light***. If you are searching, ***He is the Truth***. If you are lost, ***He is the Way***. If you are in need of protection, ***He is your Shepherd – He is all we ever need***. ***The Word of God gives answers to everything we need to know.***

We were asked again just recently are we pro-life or pro-choice, and do we approve homosexuality?

[I understood that this question was perhaps presented to evaluate our total commitment to the Word of God to see if we are committed to the whole truth – i.e. more than just focusing and correcting Mormon doctrine.]

My reply: We intend to follow the Word of God, the will of God and obey Him. ***God is pro-life***. Abortion is murder and against His 6th commandment. His disapproval of homosexuality likewise is very clearly stated in His Word. The world has ignored God's instructions for life and happiness ***they could have*** if they would live according to His counsel. Instead people at large have chosen to live in opposition to His counsel. God's laws and morality are ignored. People are reaping the consequences of sin, world-wide. ***America has been known in the past as a Christian nation where God's commandments were honored, but in recent years our leaders have announced that we are no longer a Christian nation.*** As a nation we are disobeying God's counsel in just about all matters. Our highest courts have approved, and even demand our approval of practices like abortion and homosexuality, that God calls sin and abomination. We as people are not wise any longer. ***Wisdom is a God-given ability to use knowledge we have.*** When we study God's Word we come to know with surety what is His position concerning sin. ***Abortion is murder, “shedding innocent blood”*** and ***that God will judge*** (Ps. 106:37-39). God has said that He will ***give up*** those who practice homosexuality for it is an abomination to Him. (Rom. 1:24-32.) In 1:32 ***God condemns all who approve of those*** who practice this and those who abuse sex (2:24) or who pervert sex (1:26, 27) as well as those who practice the other sins listed in 1:29-31. People should have an innate knowledge that they are ***not only wrong*** by doing so, but that ***they are worthy of death***. Even those who unite with others in order to approve and promote these sins deserve the same ***penalty - that is what God says***. (1:32.) They know this is God's verdict no matter how much they try to ***rationalize or legalize*** these sins. God's position concerning sin is always the same. ***There are no “situational” excuses for sin.*** Ignoring God's Word is plain arrogance, and trying to make what God has said to agree with man's feeble explanations, is just plain foolishness. Many denominations in our day embrace the ***homosexual lifestyle***, some even believing that ***God made them that way***. ***Nonsense! God does not make mistakes. God created them “male and female”***. (Gen. 1:27.) ***That is what God says!*** DNA testing has proven that fact - ***God didn't put a woman in a man's body with male DNA***. Who we are, male or female, is not determined by our feelings. ***A person's gender is determined by DNA*** and by genitals we each were born with. We either except the facts or deny them. Feelings may change, but gender does not change even if we deliberately try to alter our gender either surgically and/or by hormonal treatments. ***We still cannot change our DNA that proves whether a person is male or female.*** ***True wisdom is acknowledging that God made us either male or female.*** ***We need to accept who we are and depend on Him and follow Jesus.*** ***God will never approve abortion, homosexuality or any other sin, but He has provided for us a way to escape from sin by repenting and changing our ways and receiving forgiveness that He offers through Jesus Christ.*** (Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 10:9-10.) ***“Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”*** (Isa. 1: 18.)

Question from an LDS person:

"The Bible that you believe in says that we are children of God, but I have read that you do not believe that we preexisted as God's begotten children born there to our heavenly parents. I know that we grew up to spirit maturity with our heavenly parents before we came to this earth to learn through testing and by obedience how we can become like God is now. Jesus is our elder brother, chosen in preexistence to become our savior. The Holy Ghost and all angels also are our brothers and sisters. Our prophets have taught "As man is, God once was; as God is, man may become." That God was once a man is a wonderful thing to know. He understands us for he went through the same training before he became a God, same as Jesus did also. Our first prophet, Joseph Smith Jr. taught, "If Jesus Christ was the Son of God, and John discovered that God the Father of Jesus Christ had a Father, you may suppose that he had a Father also. Where was there ever a son without a father?... Hence if Jesus had a Father, can we also not believe that he had a Father also... In this way both the Father and the Son, as also all exalted beings, are now or in due course will become Gods of Gods." (Mormon Doctrine, pp. 322-323.)

Answer: We did not preexist. Only Jesus who is Eternal God preexisted. He alone came from heaven above. (John 8:23-24.) God does not have a wife or wives. God is God from eternity past to eternity future. (Ps. 90:2; 50:21.) He never was less than God. ***God is Spirit.*** (John 4:24.) We are not children of "heavenly parents", not born to God and his wives, but created by God (Gen. 1:27). Paul writes in Romans 9:8, "***They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God.***" We are simply just *fleshly descendants of Adam*. Therefore Jesus said that ***we must be born again*** (John 3:3), born of the Spirit, to become God's children. (John 1:12-13.) We ***"become God's children"*** when we believe and receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior and are born again. We will never become gods – there is only one God forever and ever. (Isa. 43:10). What Mormonism teaches (that God was once a mere man), would make Him a changeable God. God never intended us to be anything other than what we are, His creation - and He has never been anything other than He always has been – one true eternal God. (James 1:17.) Mormonism, as you write in your last quote, teaches polytheism. That is pagan doctrine, not Biblical. Please realize that ***there is no salvation in any other but in Jesus Christ who is God with us.*** (John 14:6; Matt. 1:23; John 1:1, 14.)

We want to thank you for praying for my thyroid and heart troubles and Dennis' heart health also. God has heard these prayers and we have been doing better than for a long time. It is amazing! When we say that we have to smile; why is it amazing when He answers prayers? He has promised that He will do that. ***"Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him."*** (1 John 5:14-15.)

We are very thankful for God's calling to us for this ministry, and that God has raised many of you to be our partners so that we are able to provide Bibles and other needed teachings materials to help Mormons to see the truth and be saved. We praise God for what He is doing through you. It gives us joy when we see results of this work. There is also joy that literally shines from the faces of the new believers in the Lord. As we have said before, we have, from the start, operated on the faith that God will provide as we seek to serve and worship Him, and thus we do not worry or make appeals for money, although our ministry

operates solely on donations that we freely receive from God's own people. All these over 30 years God has proven to be faithful and He has also provided work for Dennis to take care of our personal needs. We could write a book of many miracles He has brought before us. God's past provision for our basic needs is our guarantee of His future provision. We both are in our 70's without any other retirement but small Social Security, thus Dennis ability and strength to do woodworking to support our personal needs is a huge blessing of God. **Our Lord, He is GOD!**

We just ask you to continue to pray for our health, and that we have needed wisdom to help many more out of the bondage of Mormonism to freedom in the Lord.

There are many prayer requests we would like to present to you. I will just list their first names for the Lord knows who they are and what their particular needs are:

Dale and Sharon, Max, Pat, Merridy, Sandy, Al, Judy, Suzi, Tom, Dave, David, Heber, Bruce, Caryl, Jennifer and her soon to be born baby. Please pray also for Jacqui's brother, Jacob, with whom they have had many talks with, but who does not seem to have real interest in truth.

Please pray for the LDS people we are counseling. There is so much sadness in their hearts when they realize that they have been lied to by their Church, and especially when their own families reject them for their new found faith in the Lord Jesus of the Bible. Many of them here in Utah have Mormon employers and they have fear of losing their jobs and everything they have worked for. We experienced all that when we separated from Mormonism, and we can fully understand their trials and testing times - spoken of by Jesus. (Matthew 10:32-39.) He loves them as He loves us, and He will take care of them as He is taking care of us. He will do that for all who are willing to follow Him.

Life is short. Eternity is endless. "For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?" (Matt. 16:26.)

We pray for all of you and thank the Lord for giving us faithful friends that we will have forever. What can be better than that!

Please contact us if you have questions or comments and also let us know how we can help you.

In His love,

Rauni & Dennis Higley

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Thought for the month:

"Closer we are to the Lord, more dangerous we become to Satan.

Note: Closer to the Cross, smaller the crowd."

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We are IRS approved 501 (c) (3) ministry. **Your gifts** to help us provide materials, free of charge to all LDS persons requesting them, **are tax deductible**. Our postal address is H.I.S. Ministries, 2890 E. Willow Bend Dr. Sandy, UT 84093-2044. We appreciate your prayers and your help very much.

